

NVPS NEWSLETER

GREAT PEOPLE and GREAT IMAGES SINCE 1998



September 2024 Issue

“Photography is unrivalled in its ability to capture a fleeting moment in time, each photograph a tiny victory over the inevitable.”

Phil Sharp
Portrait Photographer
London

This month's meeting

September 23: Judd Howell

Theme: Wildlife

At the September 23rd meeting, Judd Howell (NVPS member) will take us on a visual journey through the Galapagos Islands, a living laboratory of evolution.



Discover the unique wildlife and landscapes that inspired scientific breakthroughs in natural selection, speciation, and island biogeography.

While Darwin is a familiar name, Howell will also introduce us to Alfred Russel Wallace, another key figure in evolutionary science.

Meet the fascinating characters of this evolutionary story—both the winners and the losers. This is an event with stunning photography and thought-provoking insights.

Judd Howell began a career in wildlife biology more than 50 years ago.

His goal from the beginning has been to document wildlife in their habitats, and he continues to enjoy capturing images of wildlife and sharing those moments in an animal's life with others.



During the course of his career Judd has studied bald and golden eagles along 600 miles of the North Platte River in Wyoming and Nebraska, as well as the first nesting of Heermann's gulls in the United States when he came to San Francisco Bay Area to work in Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

He also began a study of migrating birds of prey in the Marin Headlands, now the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory. He went on to conduct a population study of tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore and to supervise a dozen USGS Scientists in several national parks in California and Arizona, before retiring from Federal Service as the director of the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, Md.



Judd, who currently serves as NVPS vice president, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology from Montana State, a master's degree in zoology from Arizona State, and a PhD in Wildland Resource Science (wildlife ecology) from U.C. Berkeley and is a Fellow Emeritus of The Explorers Club of New York.



He noted that a camera has always been a partner on his adventures and currently uses a Canon Mark IV with 80-200 mm and 200-400 mm Canon telephoto lenses.

NVPS meetings are on the fourth Monday of each month starting at 7:00 pm in the Oak Room at the Napa Senior Center, 1500 Jefferson, Napa.

For the meeting, members may submit two photos according to the guidelines at the end of the newsletter.

Field trips and workshops

Photo Walk

Take a walk on the third Saturday of each month in a variety of locations in the Bay Area. Meet in the Niles

District of San Francisco to carpool. The mission is to take photos, share, and learn from others. It's free. Master photographer Cooksey-Talbott and award-winning local artist Jacline Deridder facilitate the program and lead the walks. The next is Saturday September 21 to Davenport Beach. See the website for more information.

<https://s3-photowalk.com/>

Sponsored by photographic groups in Fremont. Everyone is welcome.

Events

Farmers' Markets

Farmers' markets are fun photo ops. And many provide you with the opportunity to sell your photos.

Calistoga: Saturdays.

St Helena: Fridays.

Napa: Tuesdays and Saturdays.

<https://www.visitnapavalley.com/events/>

Sonoma: Tuesday nights.

American Canyon: Sundays.

Vallejo: Saturdays.

Benicia: Thursdays.

Napa Open Studios

Saturdays and Sundays, September 21&22 and 28&29. Visit the studios of Napa artists including photographers. You may want to participate next year (if you're not already participating).

<http://www.openstudiosnapavalley.com/>

Member news

The Stove

“A photographer went to a socialite party in New York. As he entered the front door, the host said, ‘I love your pictures—they’re wonderful; you must have a fantastic camera.’ He said nothing until dinner was finished, then: ‘That was a wonderful dinner; you must have a terrific stove.’”

Sam Haskins

The Hanging

Have you ever been to a hanging? It’s not as gruesome as you might think. With a few people to help and a good hangman, it goes reasonably quickly, even if there are 53 to be hung.

Fun at the Eye Care Center of Napa (where the foot traffic is robust even though it’s not a public place). NVPS members hung 53 photos for the three-month exhibit.

The NVPS show is now up and getting good feedback at the Eye office, thanks to Betty Malmgren and the volunteers who transported photos and hung the show including George Bartolome, Gary Sampson, Mitchell Glotzer, Chris Sauer, Joe Sinclair, Sally Seymour, Lindy Johnson, Irena Miles, Woods Stoeltzing, Phil Venable, and Carolyn Younger.





**Members, guests, and office patients are invited to a reception
from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18.**

The office is located at 895 Trancas St. (at corner of Trancas and Valle Verde). It's the office of Drs. Nancy Jameson, John Bosetti, and others. The show was set to end at Thanksgiving but now has been extended into mid-December.

The show is good exposure for the club. There are signs indicating photos are for sale, and there's also membership information on the club.

There are 27 show participants with 53 images hung.

George Bartolome
Zach Berkowitz
Elizabeth Bush
Dean Busquaert
Marissa Carlisle
Thomas Edwards
J. Fellers
Mitchell Glotzer
Fred Goldman
Judd Howell
Carol Howell
Nancy Hernandez
Lindy Johnson
Betty Malmgren
Irena Miles
Kevin Murphy
Karen Noyes
Jeffrey Rawlinson
Gary Sampson
Chris Sauer
Ann Seronello
Sally Seymour
MJ Schaer
Joseph T. Sinclair
Richard Stoeltzing
Phil Venable
Carolyn Younger

Photos at the Napa library

Embark on an adventure in the ancient land of the Mongols as Irena Miles shares her recent trek through Mongolia, a land of vast open spaces and rich history.



With a population of just 3.3 million people spread across a country nearly twice the size of Texas, Mongolia is the most sparsely populated sovereign state in the world. Nestled between the modern superpowers of Russia and China, it's birth place of the legendary Mongol Empire, the largest contiguous empire in history.

Discover the deep cultural significance of Mongolia's three million horses, which were not only instrumental in the rise of the Mongol Empire but continue to play a vital role in the country's culture today. Irena reflects with photos on her remarkable journey through this fascinating and remote part of the world.

580 Coombs Street, September 19, 6:00 – 7:30pm

Mare Island Field Trip

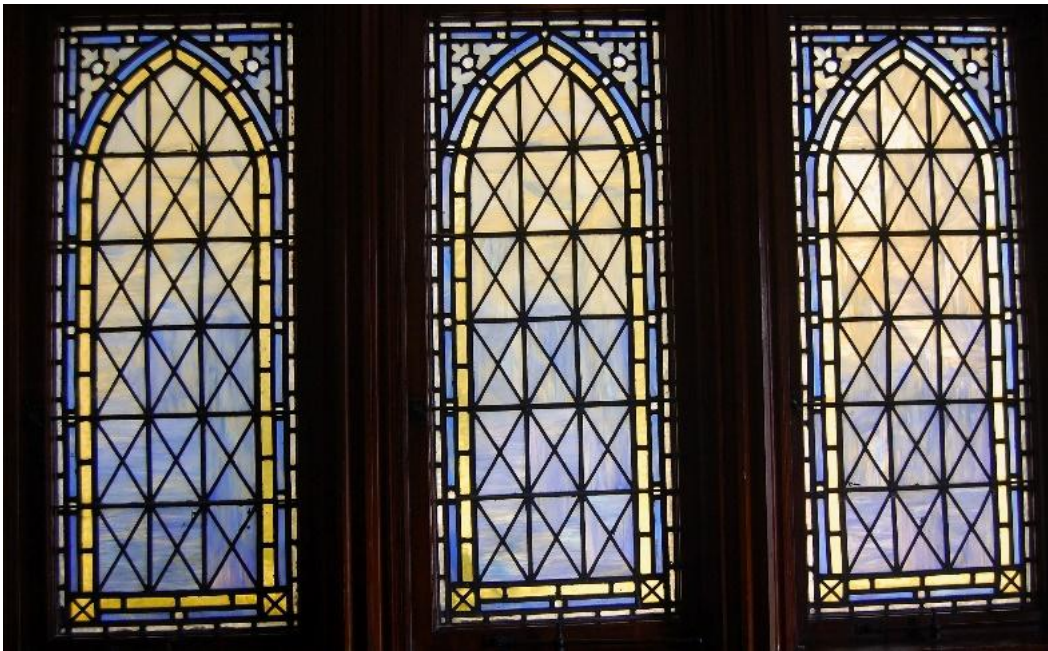
Mare Island is an extensive world of photo ops. A few photos (by Sundsboe and Sinclair) here illustrate a small portion of the possibilities.

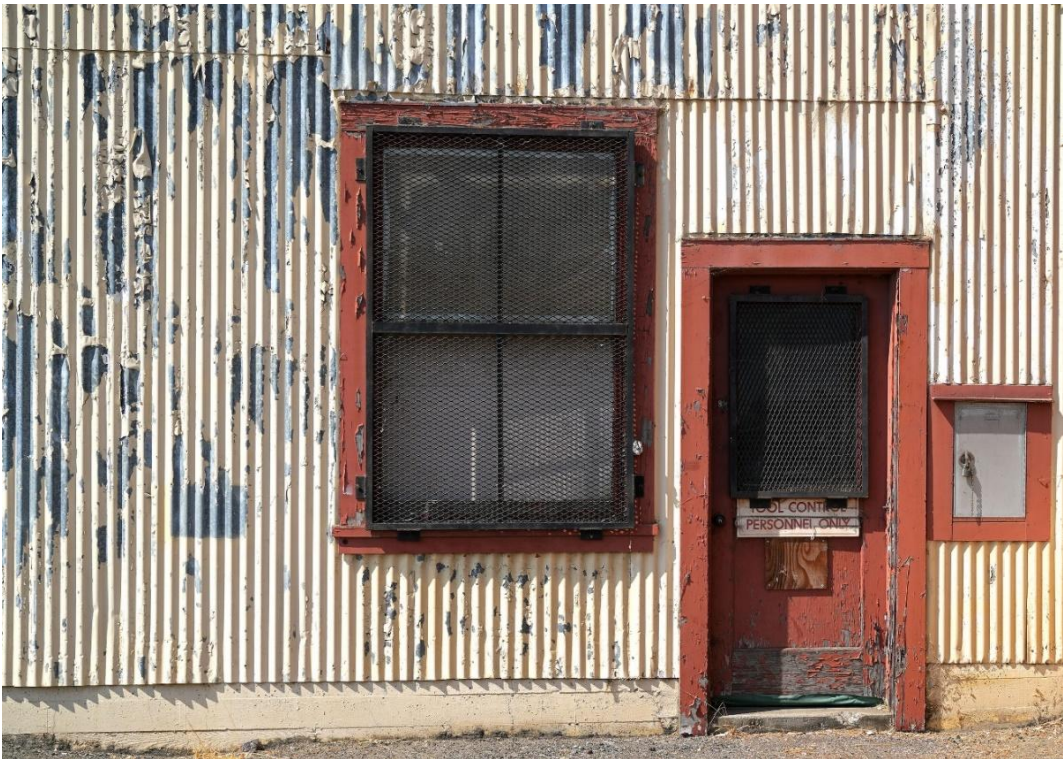




















Articles

Strategy for Editing ©2024 Joseph T. Sinclair

Have you thought through your strategy for editing and manipulating digital photographs? Here are some ideas.

Software Use one program. If you always use the same software, there's no steep learning curve each time new software comes with a new camera. And when the software technology improves by a giant leap, it's easy to keep up via the ongoing use of the same software updated.

Beware of photo editing software that depends on a specific camera. Smartphones (and their cameras) change every year. Digital cameras change almost as

often. Choose editing software that continues to be suitable for future as well as today's cameras.

Typically, smartphone editing software isn't as powerful as non-phone, photo-editing software (e.g., Photoshop). As top-rated smartphones have become professional cameras, it might be smart to keep your editing software separate.

Avoid simple software There is plenty of simple, cheap software available for photo editing. When a big breakthrough in editing comes along, the simple software may not offer it right away, if ever. And simple software never has the range of editing techniques that fully competent editing software does.

Full-fledged editing software, such as Photoshop, is the \$500,000 darkroom that we never had before digital photography. Why spend \$1,000, \$4,000, or \$10,000 for a camera system and then use simple editing software? (And by Photoshop herein, I mean any comparable full-fledged photo editing software too.)

Grow Photoshop is perhaps the most complex software you'll ever use. It's daunting. Nonetheless, you can easily learn to use the routine editing procedures you need every day to make better photographs. And you can grow with prolonged use. Every year you will learn new processing techniques. Before long you'll be something of a Photoshop whiz.

There are books and magazines devoted to Photoshop to help you.

Go for it

If you want to get fancy, use two (or three) full-fledged photo editing programs. For instance, some photographers use Photoshop and ON1. There's overlap, but each has its own advanced techniques that the other does not.

Support Competent editing software provides competent support by the way of tutorials, videos, discussion boards, and even social media. Simple editing software may not do so.

There is online support for all software. There is probably a YouTube video(s) for all photo editing software. But that's not the full story. The top-end editing software has more online support. More online support means that even the most obscure technique, and all the normal techniques, have online support. For instance, for almost anything you want to do in Photoshop, you can find quick and easy support online.

Choose carefully In short, pick a full-fledged photo editing program (e.g., Photoshop) and stick with it. Do the editing on your desktop or laptop where it's easy to do. Even a tablet is easier for editing than a smartphone.

Costs Don't worry about costs. You're saving hundreds, perhaps thousands, of dollars a year on film you don't have to buy. And \$10 per month (Photoshop

price) for a \$500,000 darkroom is the bargain of the century. Some editing software is more expensive and available only for a high one-time price; but you can save money if you don't upgrade to every new version.

Style There is a philosophy that one should take great photographs in the first place rather than resort to using photo editing software. That's a nice romantic notion. However, it overlooks the fact that even prior to digital technology, most great photographs were *made* to some degree in the darkroom. Even professional photographers who didn't do their own darkroom post processing had their favorite photo processor (guided by the photographer's own custom instructions). Almost every photograph can use editing to make it better.

Photo editing software does a great job of enabling you to *make* better photographs.

“You don't take a photograph, you make it.”

Ansel Adams

Here's a partial list of top-end photo editing software:

- Adobe Photoshop or Lightroom
- ON1
- Corel PaintShop Pro
- CaptureOne Pro
- GIMP
- DxO PhotoLab Elite

- Affinity Photo 2

Featured photographer

Lindy Johnson

Confectioners, testing a new recipe, use an industry standard for determining the perfect amount of sweetness in their products. It is called *the bliss point*.

I understand this quest on a deep experiential level, when I take my best photos.

First, my eye is caught, and a small thrill of anticipation hits me.

Then, the miracle, the promise of instant capture with my camera.

Then, the excitement of my first view of the image, like the first taste of a delicious sweet.

I know we all experience this from time to time. The "bliss point" keeps us coming back for more.



Parking Lot



On Ramp



Safeway Steps



Walking Home

Officers & staff

Elected Board members

President - Phil Venable

Vice president – Judd Howell

Secretary - George Bartolome

Membership Secretary – Nancy Hernandez

Treasurer - Gary Sampson

Appointed board members & chairs

Member-at-large - Lanny Johnson

Master Communicator - Philip Shoots

Program chair - Mitchell Glotzer

Website manager - Carolyn Younger

Newsletter - Joe Sinclair

Exhibit chair - open

Ongoing-exhibits chair - George Bartolome

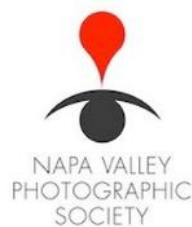
Hospitality coordinator - open

Field trips - Irena Miles (Karen Noyes, Ann Seronello,
Geoff Hansen)

Workshops - Phil Venable

Publicity - Zach Berkowitz

Zoom coordinators - Phil Venable
Digital projectionist - Peter Guenther, Phil Venable
Facebook posting - Karen Noyes
Fundraiser chair – open



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Newsletter Submittal Guidelines

Submittal deadline

The submittal deadline for newsletter text + photos (content) is the third Monday of the month.

Members' photos for the meeting

Members may submit images for the meeting and should be prepared to make a brief verbal explanation. To submit your photos for a meeting, send your images to the regular critique site in the usual format (no more than 2000 pixels on the longest side) no later than the Saturday prior to the monthly meeting. The file name for an image should be:

members first&last name_title or theme_order
number

Examples: John Everest_Harvest Time_01 and John Everest_After the Harvest_02

Send the files to: NVPS.Photo.Critique@gmail.com. Only photos taken by members accepted.

Newsletter head photo

If you desire to provide a head photo for one issue, submit a JPG 2000 pixels horizontal. The vertical can be between 450 and 1100 pixels. Anything outside these parameters cannot be used. The file name should be your name plus the title of your photo, the word *head*, and the date:

name_title_head_date

Send the file to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line: NEWSLETTER (in all caps). Only photos taken by members accepted. And photos that have been published before on the NVPS website or in the NVPS newsletter are not eligible.

This month's meeting

Follow the guide for *Articles*.

Field trips & workshops

Announcements of field trips and workshops of interest to members should include all information such as leader + contact info, date, time, meeting place, miles to location, cost, and nature of the photography as well as a general description. These are *participation* events. Announcements can run in two successive issues *before* the event.

Events

This is an announcement of a photo exhibit, contest, or photo op of interest to members or one that includes a member or multiple members. It can run in two successive issues *before* the exhibit.

This category also includes a call for member participants in future photo exhibits or contests with complete information on applying and participating.

If an event is a duplicate of full information elsewhere, it should be a brief announcement with a hyperlink to the information online elsewhere.

Member news

This is a one-time *brief* announcement of a member's *past* achievement, such as an exhibit, a photo experience, a travel-photo experience, a photo learning experience, and the like. Use a hyperlink to indicate where full information is available.

If this is the sole information on a substantial achievement, it can be written like an article with full information; but it shouldn't be a duplicate of full information published elsewhere (use a hyperlink instead).

NVPS administrative news or other news is also appropriate for this category.

Articles

Articles (e.g., magazine-like articles) written by members can be posted in the newsletter for one issue. They will be assumed to be published by permission. They must be relevant to photography, of course.

Articles published by non-members are likely to be copyrighted. See *Copyrights* for the treatment of non-member articles.

Generally, only one article per issue will be published with member-written articles given preference.

For sale, give away, or wanted

Photographic equipment for sale, giveaway, or wanted can be listed here for one newsletter issue. Provide full information about item and full contact information.

Photos for newsletter

Photos submitted for the newsletter should be: no more than 2000 pixels, and no less than 1000 pixels, on the longest side. Logos can be a smaller size. File names should be:

author_title of photo_date

Photos taken by members will be assumed to be published by permission. Photos taken by non-members are likely to be copyright protected. See *Copyrights* for the treatment of non-member photos.

Send the photo file *attached* (not *embedded*) to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line: NEWSLETTER (in all caps). Photos must have an extension that indicates their protocol (e.g., .jpg); that is, Windows compatible. Due to incompatibilities between Apple and Windows, photos that don't conform may be unusable.

Photo captions

If you want captions for you photos, include them in the photo file name.

Submissions

For all information (text) submitted, use a file name that identifies the subject matter and author. Send the file to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line: NEWSLETTER (in all caps).

Subject-line email

Unless you use the subject-line words requested for text or photos, your submission might be lost in the 400 junk emails received each day.

In the email, explain your submission. Example: *This photo goes with my article on shooting wildlife.*

Copyrights

For articles and photos by non-members, NVPS must have written permission for publication. The exception is articles or photos in the public domain; for such articles or photos, the author and source of the public domain archive should be stated.

One exception to copyright protection is the use of copyrighted text or images in teaching, such as an article on photography.

One way to circumvent copyright problems is to use a hyperlink to the article or photo published elsewhere.

Typography

Use italics for emphasis. Use emphasis sparingly. Don't use bold or all-caps. Bold and all-caps are difficult to

read. Nonetheless, all-caps are acceptable for acronyms and designations.

Suggestions

Suggestions for the newsletter format or otherwise should be sent to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line NEWSLETTER in all caps.

Your editor

Your current newsletter editor is half-deaf with a short-term memory (25 seconds on a good day and getting shorter each month) and lives in Vallejo (doesn't know Napa very well). He receives about 400 emails every day thus requiring NEWSLETTER to be in the subject line of your emails. Although the newsletter editor reserves the right to edit or reject submissions, the newsletter editor's job is to *receive* content (information + photos) for the newsletter, not create it. So, your publish-ready content according to these guidelines will be welcome.