

NVPS NEWSLETER

GREAT PEOPLE and GREAT IMAGES SINCE 1998



April 2023 Issue

This month's meeting

April 27 – Mitchell Glotzer

Theme: Live Performance Photography

I started photographing live concerts and comedy photography at the Uptown Theatre in Napa in 2010 as

the House Photographer which I continue to do to this day.



Prior to moving to Napa with my wife, Dori, I practiced law in Boston. I took one darkroom class in Boston and was immediately hooked. We moved to Napa in 1994 and opened New York Bagels until 2000 after which I worked at a local Title and Escrow Company until happily retiring in December.

I also became the House Photographer for the Blue Note Jazz Club when they opened their doors in 2016 which I also continue to do to this day.



Although I primarily consider myself a concert photographer, I have photographed events, weddings, wine bottles and landscapes over the years all of which keep my skills as sharp as possible but I am most passionate photographing live music which seems to have blossomed overnight here in Napa. Who ever thought that Napa Valley would be known not only for it's great wine but also as a live music destination. I

consider myself to be very fortunate to being in the right place at the right time.

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 and guests may submit two photos for critique. Submit by the Saturday before the meeting according to the guidelines at the end of this newsletter.

Field trips & workshops

Kuehne workshop

Lance Kuehne's wine country workshop turned out well. Went to his favorite places in April to take photographs in Napa Valley. He is friendly, knowledgeable, and a good instructor, and he happens to be an excellent fine-art photographer as well. Afterward he provided a map of all the places visited. Worthwhile and reasonably priced.

<https://www.lancekuehne.com/>

He has workshops scheduled for the rest of the year.

Events

HealthQuest exhibit

NVPS members Tom Edwards and his wife Gloria Gutierrez are featured in Backstreet Art Exhibits in the back hallway inside Napa's HealthQuest fitness center.



“HealthQuest members Tom and Gloria enjoy the lush, jungle landscape of Bali on a recent vacation where they continued to gather unique experiences and inspiration to fuel their passion for art and creative expression!” it says in the artists’ statement. Gloria is showing four paintings, and Tom has ten photos on display. HealthQuest Club members can submit image samples of their work to be considered for an upcoming showing.

Bridges exhibit

The Jeff Bridges exhibit in the Napa Valley Museum continues until April 30. Bridges, Academy Award-winning actor, is a giant of American cinema, with dozens of leading credits to his name; but he is also a renowned photographer whose work has been published in numerous books and exhibitions.

The Napa Valley Museum is on the grounds of the Veterans Home of California in Yountville.

City hall exhibit

The Napa City Hall now has images on display by Marissa Carlyle, Nancy Hernandez, and George Bartolome. The theme of the exhibit is *Human Environment in Napa*.

Bank exhibit

Nine metal print of Joe Sinclair’s are now on exhibit at Mechanics Bank in Napa.



George Bartolome and Betty Malmgrem hung the exhibit in early April. The exhibit will run until July.

Thanks to George for arranging the exhibits at the city hall, senior center, and bank.

Member news

A reminder to members

Please help promote NVPS by including information that you are a member when you hang shows or contribute photographs. It would help the club get more visibility and may attract new members.

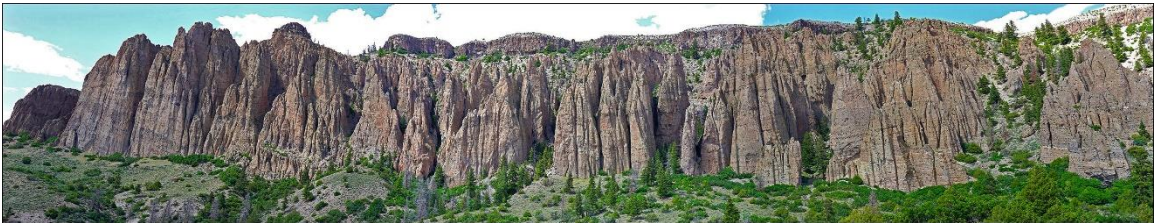
Also please invite guests (potential new members) to our meetings, as appropriate.

New newsletter format

A slightly new format makes reading on a phone easier.

Size and cutting

MagnaChrome will print the size (aspect ratio) of the rectangle or square that you specify. There is no extra charge. You can even use a calculator on the MagnaChrome website to determine what the price will be. You simply plug-in the dimensions of your photograph in inches and it will make the calculation. MagnaChrome's pricelist, however, is determined by fixed dimensions. And the online ordering system doesn't allow you to put in your calculation. So, you have to match up the cost of your custom size (sq. inches) with a cost in the standard pricelist. (A flaw in their ordering system).



Unusual aspect ratio

In addition, MagnaChrome will do custom cutting on your photograph. For a \$75 setup fee and 30% more per metal print, MagnaChrome will cut your photograph into any shape you specify.

<https://magnachrome.com/>



Creative cutting

Keep in mind also that you can save postage charges by picking up your metal prints. MagnaChrome is located a few blocks north off Highway 4, a few miles east of Interstate 680 in Concord at 5036 Commercial Circle, Suite D (about an hour's drive from Napa).

In addition MagnaChrome will dropship for you; that is, they will send a photograph to the person-address that you designate.

Use the code *NVPS15* in the checkout page for a 15% discount for members of NVPS. And if you have any problems or questions, you can call Teresa Lutz and talk to a real person at 925-246-9858 or email her at teresa@magnachrome.com.

Other photo finishers, such as Bay Photo, provide a variety of services and products that may interest you (e.g., standard cutout shapes such as ovals). MagnaChrome does only metal prints and limited framing.

The newsletter is not the proper place to promote any particular vendor. Nevertheless, if the vendor offers something special, convient, or of unique interest to members, it is worth members' attention. In this case MagnaChrome provides a 15% discount to members, prints any aspect ratio at no additional cost, the potential to avoid shipping costs, a cutting service, and the convenience of talking to a real person on the phone.

Animal photographers needed

Sally Seymour has provided a list of animal organizations that can use volunteer photographers:

- Napa Humane: Lisa Alexander
(lalexander@napahumane.org)
- Ripple Effect Animal Project: Deassa Binstock
(pitbullover4kahi@Hotmail.com)
- We Care Animal Rescue: Julia Orr
(Julia.orrpr@gmail.com)
- Sunrise Horse Rescue: Denise Berghorn
(denise@sunrisehorserescue.org)
- Jameson Humane: Shannon Roskosky
(Shannon@jamesonhumane.org)

Mustard winners

The Napa Valley Register has reported on the winners of the first *Photo Finale*, part of the *Napa Valley Mustard*

Celebration. The show was held at the Jessup Cellars Gallery in Yountville through March 31. And the top three winners in Landscape are members of NVPS! (If you also were honored, please let us know.) The winners (landscape) are:



First place: Dean Busquaert



Second place: MJ Schaer



Third place: Nancy Hernandez

According to the *Register*, the open invitation photography competition was the brainchild of Napa Valley photographer (and NVPS member) MJ Schaer, who started working on the idea in September 2022. Schaer, who served as director as well as founder for the inaugural photo competition, said he was pleased with the response, which brought in 72 submissions from 44 photographers.

Mustard photographs by Nancy Hernandez are now on display at the Napa Senior Center.

Library show application

Napa Valley Photographic Society (NVPS) has submitted an application for consideration for Art in the Library 2024 for a group show. Thanks to the 10 members who submitted images to go with the application. Five were selected by a subcommittee:

Musician in Old Havana, Jean Timken; *The Guys*, Zach Berkowitz; *Red Rowboat*, MJ Schaer; *My Newborn, My Love*, Judd Howell; and *Egret Acrobatics*, Carolyn Younger.



Musician in Old Havana

Free portfolio website

If you are a subscriber of Adobe software (e.g, Photoshop), you get a free portfolio website hosted by Adobe. The portfolio software is incomprehensible but nothing you can't master by the end of the year (if you start now). There are numerous themes to choose from, and you can customize each. And you have the use of any Adobe font. A simple theme and the Ainslie Sans font are used in the portfolio website below, but you can get as fancy as you want.

The themes are *responsive*. They automatically adapt to all devices. And the portfolio software enables you to

check how your website looks on each device. Your URL is [x].myportfolio.com. For instance,

<https://josephsinclair.myportfolio.com>

What can you do to sell your photographs online? You'll need to research it. Become an Adobe member (free) to get the full story. Check it out.

Articles

Cutaways ©2023 Joseph T. Sinclair

Now that MagnaChrome offers cutting metal prints at a reasonable cost (for the intensive work it requires), It's time to leave behind the idea that a photograph print must be displayed by a rectangle or square. In the new reality, where the LED wall screen will be the new frame of choice for photographs, one-off photograph prints will have to be something special. That is, a photograph will have to offer something more than a rectangle or square frame to reach a decorative value that surpasses an LED wall screen. Keep in mind that wooden rectangle or square frames are not enough for one-offs, because such treatment can also be given to a LED (i.e., a wooden frame around it). You need something innovative.

Cutting your metal prints into shapes that don't conform with the traditional rectangle-square is one solution to the problem. That might work for many

photographs, but not all. Many photographs will require additional treatment, such as innovative new frames or materials that do not conform to the shape of rectangles or squares.

It's beyond the scope of this article to discuss what innovative new frames and materials might go well with metal prints. Nonetheless, it's appropriate to briefly discuss why rectangle-square frames have enjoyed such a long tradition.

First, a traditional frame is easy and inexpensive over which to stretch canvas thus traditionally catering to painters. Second, a wooden frame is easier and less expensive to make than a frame that does not conform to such a format. Third, everybody else is doing it.



That everybody else is doing it will not count for much in the great age of innovation. There is a call for artists to think outside the frame. Much of the history of art in the last 150 years has been the disintegration of prior art forms that artists have used for centuries. Now, we have a new vehicle, which lends itself to making odd

shapes and to integrating with other materials such as wood, metal, or glass. And that innovation is metal prints. They are much more versatile than anything that has come before, and they look great too. So, let's get back to easy and inexpensive cutting.

There are five types of cutting, which make sense. The first is cutting away portions of a mental print (a photograph) that one doesn't want in the picture. This leaves you out of control of the final product, as the resulting shape will be random. But will it be usual to see in a gallery or museum a lot of random-shaped metal prints someday? Perhaps.

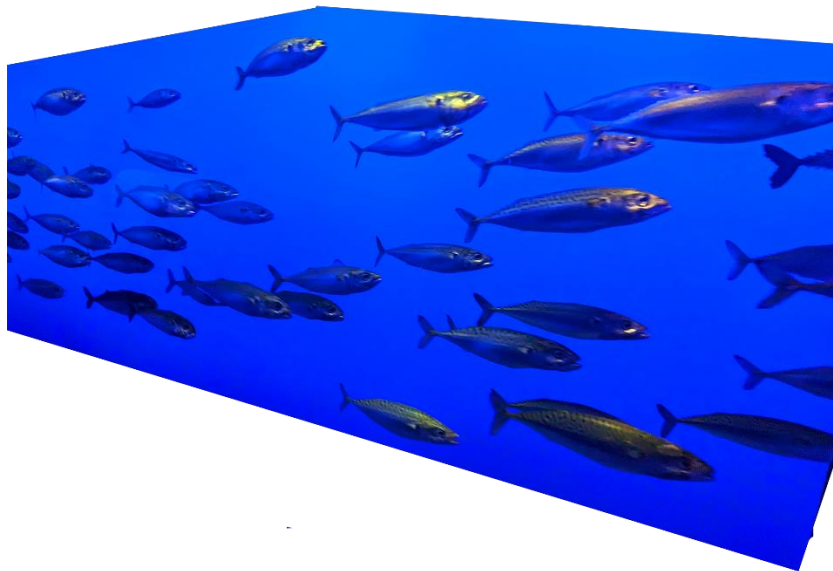


Original



Black parts cut out (random shape)

The second type of cutting is a purposeful cut. One that purposely cuts away part of a metal print to achieve a particular shape that coordinates with the photograph. This can be much more orderly and less random. The purpose is to achieve a photograph that makes sense together with its purposeful shape.



Purposeful cutout

Third, one type of cutting is the silhouette. You simply cut away all of a photograph except for the subject. For instance, for a bird, one might cut away the entire photograph except for the bird itself, leaving a metal print that's the silhouette of the bird. If any type of cutting can be said to be common already, this is the technique.

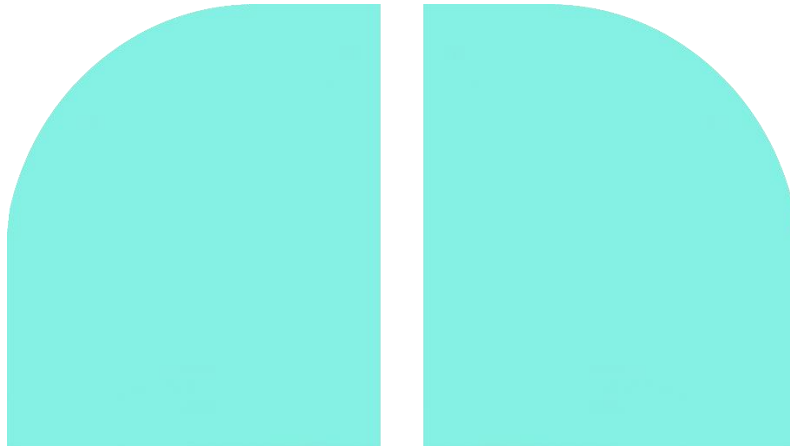


A fourth approach, which promises much potential, is to determine the shape of the picture first. Then find photographs or take photographs that fit well inside the non-traditional shape. Although Photoshop (or similar software) enables you to do this easily, the actual creative thinking behind this approach can be very complex, difficult, and likely time-consuming.

But it will be a part of the new photography. Artists will pay particular attention to shapes they can use that have an aesthetic value of their own, or at least provide an aesthetic complement for a photograph.



A predetermined shape



**Two or more predetermined shapes can
make a nice combination on the wall**

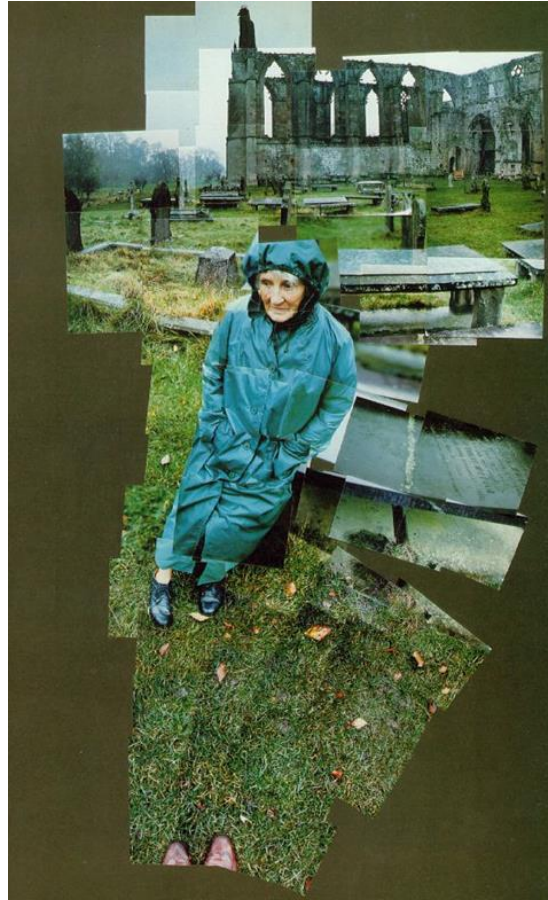
The fifth application is the collage. You can assemble a number of photographs into one metal print and cut it into any shape.



A collage on one metal print cut into a creative shape

The collage above is just a collection of travel snapshots to demonstrate the cutting possibilities. Not much imagination. But think of the creative possibilities for the use of this technique.

The following is a collage by David Hockney. It's on a gray background. It would look better as a cutout. (More on David Hockney in the next newsletter.)



Hockney's mother

The metal print, and its potentially nontraditional shape, makes possible a standalone product of the future. That is, you can mount any shape on the wall without a frame. And as discussed above, a metal print lends itself to a wide range of additional treatment well beyond that of traditional framing (although this article is simply about cutting shapes).

Where does this leave the photographer? Well, for standalone prints in innovative shapes, it leaves a photographer by himself or herself alone. That's not the whole story, however. A photographer who combines a metal print with other treatment may

involve a second person (a second artist). This is already a common practice, in effect. With the frame being a crucial part of a work of art itself, many photographers and patrons leave the framing to a frame shop to provide an attractive frame. Thus, the second person today is the owner of or a worker at a frame shop who has the artistic sense to make a good match between a photograph print and the frame.

In the future, one can imagine the photographer will need a different second person to provide nontraditional framing. That second person will be another artist. That is not to say that one person (the photographer) can't cover the creation of innovative framing too. In reality, however, the new framers will be specialty artists who think outside the traditional frame.



Cut with tabs and the tabs screwed to wood

There is nothing in regard to cutting and framing that detracts from the photographer's art. These are additional tools to showcase the vision of the photographer in any photograph. Photographers, who decide to conform to the traditional frame, will best process photographs to be displayed on an LED screen. For photographers who desire to create one-off works of art, the new metal printing, shaping, and nontraditional framing will prove a very productive escape from taking photographs to be shown only in squares and rectangles.



As with any revolution in art, current and past generations of artists will continue to pursue the old traditions. But new generations, and those current artists who look to the future, will experiment with new shapes and nontraditional framing more and

more. Come back in 25 years, and a photography art gallery will not look the same as it does today.

Featured photographer

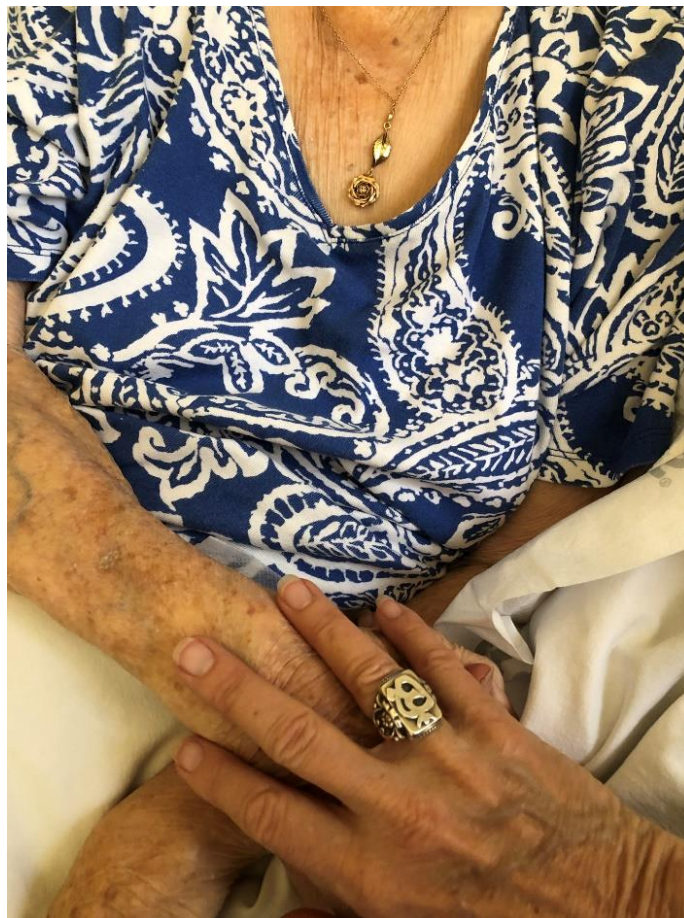
Elizabeth Bush



Shroom



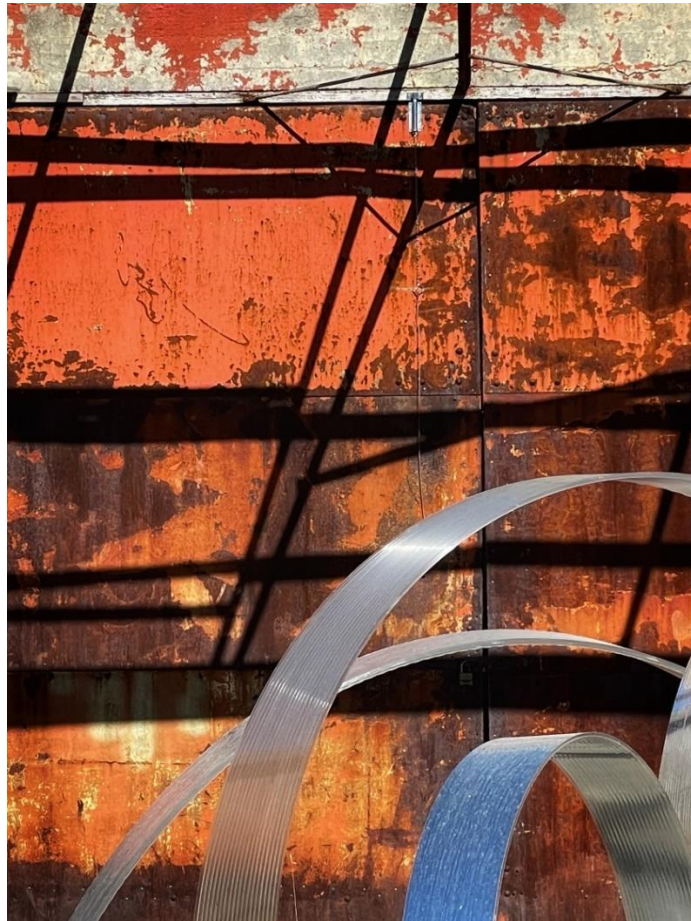
Oldies but Goodies



Mon & Me



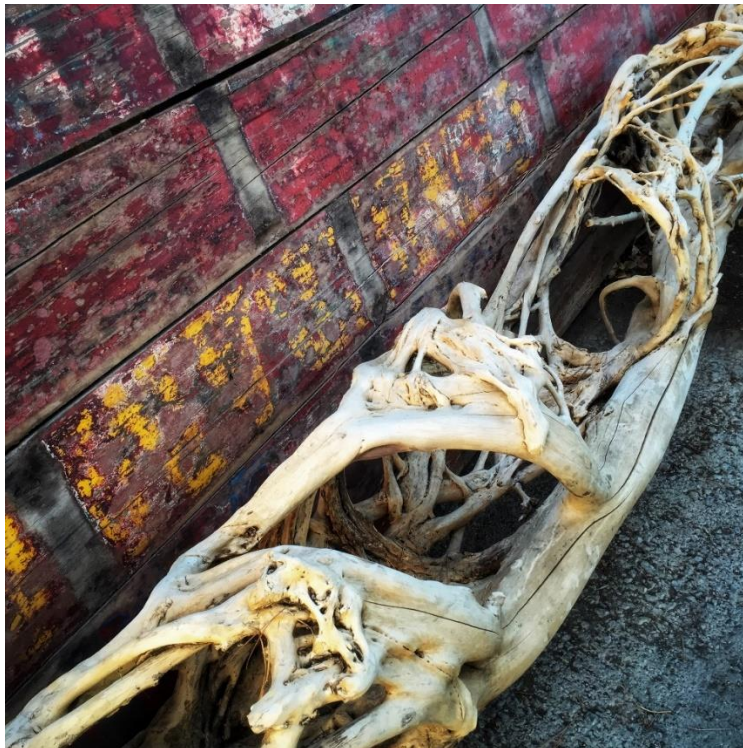
Sky over Mare Island Coal Sheds



Orange Building Healdsburg



Street Detail Crockett



Relics Sonoma



Dried Sunflower Head

Officers & staff

Elected Board members

President - Phil Venable

Vice president - Terry Smith

Secretary - George Bartolome

Membership Secretary – Nancy Hernandez

Treasurer - Irena Miles

Past president - Gary Sampson

Appointed board members & chairs

Member-at-large - Lanny Johnson

Program chair - Betty Malmgren

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 - Roland Dumas, Phil Venable

Digital projectionist - Angie Johnson (Roland Dumas, 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 1920 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 1920 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: HEAD PHOTO (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

Announce of field trips and workshops should include all information including 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 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 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.

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 issued will be published with membership-written articles given preference.

Equipment

Equipment for sale or giveaway can be listed here for one newsletter issue. Provide full information.

Photos for newsletter

Photos submitted for the newsletter should be: no more than 1920 pixels on the longest side. 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 non-member photos.

Send the photo file *attached* (not *embedded*) to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line: PHOTO (in all caps). Due to incompatibilities between Apple and Windows, photos that don't conform to the specs in this paragraph may be unusable and thus required to be sent by ZIP file.

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 300 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 SUGGESTION 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), lives in Vallejo (doesn't know Napa very well), and receives about 400 emails every day. Although the newsletter editor reserves the right to edit submissions, the newsletter editor's job is to *receive* content (information + photos) for the newsletter, not create it. So, please submit publish-ready content according to these guidelines.