



# HEARD

## NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS

[www.heardnaturephotographers.com](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com)



Volume 33, Issue No. 1

January, 2017



### ***PRESIDENT'S LETTER***

WOW! What a great past 12 years with Jim Ross as our President. Congratulations Jim for a job well done. Jim's final endeavor as President was hosting a super holiday party with more than 80 attendees, a terrific Member's Choice and great food.

January is the start of a new year and a new leadership team that you so graciously elected in November. Ron Marabito will take on the duties of the President. He served the last 2 years as Treasurer and the previous 10 years as Field Trip Coordinator. Anita Oakley and Larry Wecslar are your new Co-Vice President's. Anita has filled this position before along with playing a significant role in running the Annual Photo Contest. Larry is new to the team, but full of great ideas for programs and organizing the meetings. Peter Gilbert is filling 2 positions this year as Secretary and Treasurer of the Club. Peter has been Secretary before and has been responsible for the Photo Contest in the past. Tom Martin is the other new team member who will be your Membership Coordinator. He'll keep you in badges and greet you when you arrive. Ed Pierce is your Refreshment's Coordinator which you all know, since he has filled this position for many years. Terree Stone is your new Field Trip Coordinator, but this is not new to her. She has served in this capacity before and has been a Vice President. Jack Twiggs and Jack Harrison are Assistant Field Trip Coordinators and will assist Terree. Both men served in this position last year. Jackie Ranney is your Contest Coordinator. She has performed this task to perfection for a couple of years now. Rob Hull, our resident Professional Photographer will continue in the roll of Webmaster. Last but not least, we have Larry Petterborg filling the position of Newsletter Editor and GSCC Representative. What a great job Larry is doing. Well: That's our team. Please take time to say hello and have a conversation with members of the team.

Before I started writing the letter, Larry Petterborg asked that I give you my vision for the New Year. First and foremost, it is to survive the first year. Next is to try to improve the educational aspects of the club. I will be approaching the Heard Director soon with the idea of having a one hour education session either before or following our regular Saturday meetings. The presenter may or may not be the program of that day. Last: as of this moment, is the creation of the Clubs By-Laws, which we have been lacking. I prepared a first draft of the By-Laws recently and have since sent it to a committee for review and comment. When that is finished, it will be presented to Board of Directors and then to the membership for approval.

Thanks for your confidence in me as your new President. Now, let's have some fun and enjoy Mother Nature and each other.

R. E. (Ron) Marabito, President

## Below are the January Refreshment Volunteers:

- John Stone
- Terree Stone
- Ed Pierce
- Donation Refreshment fund if necessary



Be sure to sign up at the next meeting to bring snacks to a future meeting. If you would prefer to just give some **money** for refreshments, that's ok too. Please make donations to the club by way of Club Treasurer, **Peter Gilbert**. Thanks to all that contribute to making our meetings more enjoyable!

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### **A reminder from the new Club Treasurer**

If you have not yet paid your 2017 club membership dues and would like to, folks can see me at the January meeting, or mail me a check for \$20 made out to HNPC, to

Peter Gilbert  
3075 Willow Grove Blvd. Apt 3202  
McKinney, TX 75070

Add any family member also renewing or joining in the check memo section, for my records.

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## **FRIENDS OF HAGERMAN NATURE PHOTO CLUB MEETING**

### **JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup> at 1pm at VISITOR CENTER**

#### Agenda

- Photographing Owls at HNWR, presentation by Trey Neal, professional photographer
- Courtney Anderson, General Biologist at HNWR (and photography minor in college!) will speak about the new photo documentary at Hagerman NWR. Learn what species are needed, type of photo she is looking for, and the reason for creating this massive gallery at the refuge. Use your photography skills to help the refuge in a scientific light. Also, a great chance for you to showcase your work for years to come on the refuge's website.
- Photo sharing on the theme "Seen in December/January at Hagerman NWR" (send your photo to [fohphotoclub@gmail.com](mailto:fohphotoclub@gmail.com), add your name to the file - we would love to hear about how you got the shot, camera settings, etc, too!)
- Call for new leadership for the club.
- Announcements - this is a great time to share info about upcoming contests, workshops you know of, etc and it helps if you bring info to distribute or that we can send out in a future email.

Bring your photographer friends with you to this first meeting of the new year!

## JANUARY MEETING SPEAKER

### JEFF PARKER



The speaker for January is Jeff Parker. Jeff leads wildlife photography tours all over the Southwest and to South America. He will be talking about jaguars and the Pantanal, as well as a little bit about Patagonia.

Jeff was captivated by nature's big screen long before he developed a passion for capturing it with the camera. Jeff credits photography with bringing a deeper awareness to issues of conservation. He especially appreciates how the lens highlights nature's needs throughout the Americas. He also enjoys helping other nature-lovers improve their photography techniques and also showing them great places to do so.

Jeff's photographs have appeared in many publications and websites including: Audubon Magazine, NANPA's Expressions, American Profile, American Airlines' Celebrated Living, American Profile Magazine, Texas Journey Magazine, Texas Parks and Wildlife Magazine, Texas Wildlife Magazine, and Cenizo.

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## IT'S CONTEST TIME AGAIN!!!



2016 Best of Show

Grand Canyon 2015 by Dennis Fritsche

It's a new year and the starting date for the 39<sup>th</sup> annual Heard Nature Photography Contest is rapidly approaching! Our all-digital contest will officially begin accepting images at 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2017 with a closing date of midnight on February 26, 2017. Are you ready???

The club website contains everything you need to know about participating in the contest – explanation of the divisions, per image costs (remember – all the proceeds benefit the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary!), and detailed information on how to prepare your images for submission. Invoices will be sent to every participant to help simplify the payment procedure and one doesn't have to have a PayPal account to participate (can make payment as "guest").

To add to the excitement, the contest is returning to awarding the "Best of Show" level for images in each of the four divisions – Youth-Junior, Youth-Senior, Adult-Beginner/Intermediate and Adult Advanced.

Please take a minute to review the winning images from last year's contest. They are still on the website and show just how talented our participants really are!

The award ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, March 19 at 2:00 p.m. and as in the past, the winning images will be displayed "on the big screen" as the awards are presented.

So.....review your images (no time limit for when they were taken) and come be part of the fun while supporting the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary!!

**2016 HNPC HOLIDAY PARTY**  
**WAS A BIGLY SUCCESS**







A record turnout of over 80 members, friends and guests enjoyed great food and photography on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at the Heard. We thanked Jim Ross for his many years of service as club president and welcomed Ron Marabito as our new leader. In addition, we celebrated Peter Gilbert's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. All in all, it was a good day. Thanks everyone that came and provided the grub. Happy New Year to all.





## Denise Remfert wins 2016 *Member's Choice* award!

Following many spirited rounds of elimination voting, over 170 nature images submitted by club members was reduced down to just three outstanding photos. Denise Remfert's picture of a cedar waxwing was then selected by the assembled membership to represent our club for the coming year. Congratulations Denise!!





## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Ft. Worth Japanese Gardens Field Trip, By Lee Hatfield



About 20 Heard members enjoyed a beautiful warm fall morning at the Japanese Gardens in Ft. Worth on Saturday, December 17.

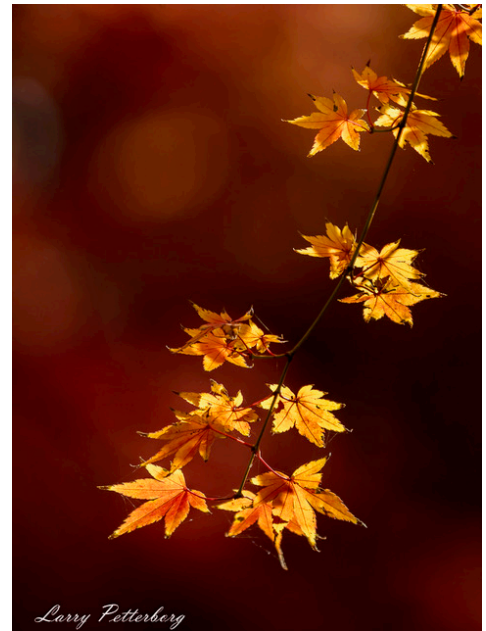
We were not only pleased and amazed at our good fortune for a fine morning shoot, but we were thrilled that much of the fall foliage was still intact and the colors were brilliant!

With subjects like playful wood ducks, heron, mallards and koi plus water reflections, waterfalls, and colorful leaves glistening in the sunshine, it was a full morning of activity. Some even found a couple of Japanese warriors practicing on a bridge!

About 16 of us met at Macaroni Grill for lunch before heading home or off to the many other photo opportunities in the Ft. Worth area.

Many thanks for allowing me to be your field trip coordinator and thanks to all who participated in this field trip as well as all the other trips over the past couple of years! It's been great fun and I'll see you all down the road!






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## **FUTURE FIELD TRIPS**

Happy New Year to everyone below is a list of the first few field trips we have scheduled. If you are interested in any of the trips, please sign up at the meeting or email me so I can send specific information to you prior to the trip. We are looking forward to seeing you on our upcoming outings.

*Terree Stone, Jack Twiggs, Jack Harrison*

<b>Field Trips</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>Jan</b>	Dallas World Aquarium	01/21/16
<b>Feb</b>	Heard Museum Trout Lillies	2/18 or 25
<b>March</b>	Dallas Arboretum - Dallas Blooms	03/18/16

This is a living schedule, in other words it could be changed due to weather conditions, etc.

### **Dallas World Aquarium – Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> – 10 am.**

The Dallas World Aquarium is located near the West End section of downtown Dallas. It is a combination indoor Aquarium and Zoo. They have numerous exhibits of fish and sea life from around the world, as well as many birds and mammals. There is a combination of open, glass and wire enclosures for wildlife. You can take a mono-pod, but tripods aren't allowed. They are located at 1801 N. Griffin Street, Dallas – there is a fee for parking depending on the lot. We can plan on meeting there at 10am on Saturday. I'll be emailing those that have signed up to see if we can carpool. Below are the admission fees, location map and times of daily talks and feedings. If we have 15 or more that sign up we might be able to get the group discount.

## Admission

- » Adult – \$20.95 + tax
- » Child – \$14.95 + tax (2 thru 12)
- » Child – free (under 2)
- » Senior – \$16.95 (65+)

(All major credit cards accepted)

**Group Admission** – 15 or more adults can receive a discounted rate of \$15.95 + tax each if total amount is paid by one person (can not pay individually)

**Military Admission** – active duty and retired military personnel, plus one guest, can each purchase admission for \$18.95 + tax (photo ID required)

## Feedings and Talks

10:30 am – Otters (Orinoco)  
11:00 am – "Sloths are for Kids" Talk (Orinoco)  
11:30 am – Sharks (upper and lower levels Mundo Maya)  
12:00 pm – Penguins (South Africa and Mundo Maya)  
12:30 pm – River Dive (Orinoco)  
1:00 pm – Jaguar Conservation Talk (Mundo Maya)  
1:30 pm – Caribbean Creatures  
2:00 pm – Continental Shelf Dive (Aquarium)  
2:30 pm – Jaguar Conservation Talk (Mundo Maya)  
3:00 pm – Otters (Orinoco)  
4:00 pm – Penguins  
4:30 pm – Sharks (upper and lower levels Mundo Maya)  
Orinoco Crocodiles are fed on Saturday – 11:30 am

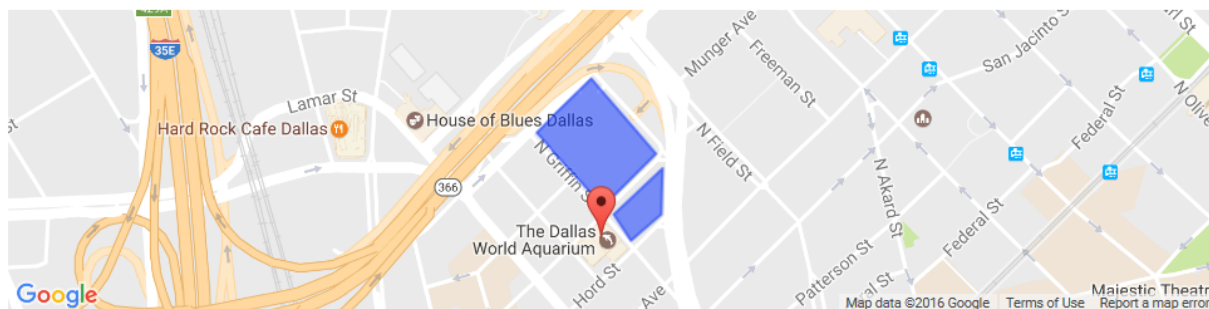
## Location

1801 North Griffin St.  
Dallas, TX 75202  
Phone: (214) 720-2224  
info@dwazoo.com

After-hour Emergencies: (214) 263-0307

## Parking

Although the DWA does not own parking areas, parking is available at surrounding parking lots, varying in price from \$5.00-\$10.00. City-operated parking meters are also available.



**Looking ahead for next year**, if anyone is interested in visiting Grand Island, Nebraska next March to see and photograph the Sandhill and Whooping Cranes plus geese, check out this webpage: <http://www.nebraskaflyway.com/the-spring-migration-of-the-sandhill-cranes> Check out the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary, Kearney, Nebraska <http://rowe.audubon.org/visit/plan-your-trip>. For a different experience: <http://cranetrust.org>

Please sign up for field trips in advance so that we know who plans to attend, [t.stone3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:t.stone3@sbcglobal.net)

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## NORTH TEXAS NATURE NOTES

In this space, I plan to highlight things for North Texas nature photographers to see and do. Please feel free to send me items of interest to share with the club. Thanks.

Did you get that new camera or lens you wanted from Santa? Great!! Now you just need some place to go and try it out. The following books might be what you are looking for to get inspiration and direction.



1. ***Explore Texas: A NatureTravel Guide*** by Mary O. and Jeff Parker. ([https://www.amazon.com/Jeff-Parker/e/B01DCHFQ7Y/ref=sr\\_ntt\\_srch\\_lnk\\_1?qid=1461609834&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Jeff-Parker/e/B01DCHFQ7Y/ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1461609834&sr=8-1))
  2. ***Backroad of Texas: Along the Byways to Breathtaking Landscapes and Quirky Small Towns*** by Gary Clark and Kathy Adams Clark. ([https://www.amazon.com/Backroads-Texas-Byways-Breathtaking-Landscapes/dp/0760350531/ref=tmm\\_pap\\_swatch\\_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=](https://www.amazon.com/Backroads-Texas-Byways-Breathtaking-Landscapes/dp/0760350531/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=))
  3. ***How to Take Great Photographs: Unlock the Secrets of Outstanding Lighting, Composition, Camera Controls, and More*** by Rob Hull. ([https://www.amazon.com/dp/1682030601/ref=nav\\_timeline\\_asin?encoding=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1682030601/ref=nav_timeline_asin?encoding=UTF8&psc=1))
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## FOR SALE

Nikon D7000 w/18-200 lens SB60 Speedlight, 2 batteries, charger, Lens case, UV filter, Circ Polarizer	\$1,100
Nikon D80, batteries, charger	\$80
Nikon D70S, batteries, charger	\$65
Canon 6D Full Frame Camera with Battery Pack, 70-300 mm ED f4lens. Batteries. 2 Chargers, UV Filter. Polarizer, SB600EX-RT SpeedLight	\$1,600.00
Nikor 50 mm f1.4 lens	\$200
Or take it all for	\$2,600.00

Contact Cliff Weaver at [texasweaver@gmail.com](mailto:texasweaver@gmail.com)

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## 2017 ANNUAL HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: February 4 – 26, 2017

Calling all nature photographers! Just a reminder that we are quickly approaching the 2017 nature photography contest with plenty of time left to review your past images and to plan future photography outings. Wondering what to submit? The categories for the Adult and Youth Divisions are listed on the last pages of this newsletter and are available on our website ([www.heardnaturephotographers.com](http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com)). As always, there are lots of choices!

With 2017 submissions being accepted between February 4 and February 26, detailed contest information on the website is ready for your review now. There's even a page explaining how to prepare your images for submission (especially the part about metadata). Please review this information before submitting images. Metadata is especially important for those of us who prepare the images for the award presentation and for displaying images on the website.

Quick note though: the actual page for submitting images won't be showing until February 4 !!!

If you have questions about the contest, please contact anyone on the contest committee: Ron Marabito, Peter Gilbert, Terree Stone, Anita Oakley, Jackie Ranney, Mary Binford or Rob Hull.

## MEET TOM MARTIN (HNPC Membership Coordinator)



1. How long have you been a member of the Heard Nature Photographer Club?

I am not sure, but I think I have been a member for about four years.

2. How long have you been "doing" photography? What sparked your initial interest in photography in general? How did you become interested in "nature photography"?

I started shooting when I was a teenager after I discovered my dad's old camera, but I had no idea what I was doing. I have taken family photos all through the years, but I had no idea what I was doing. I finally decided to get serious about it, buy some quality gear, and take some classes about 12 years ago. I took several classes over three or four years at Collin College. I thoroughly enjoyed them and learned a lot. I started participating in a small, informal art photography group in Plano about seven or eight years ago, and I still find my participation with that group very rewarding. I discovered HNP, as I said, about four years ago. I'd always loved capturing the beauty of nature with a camera, but I was like the proverbial monkey with a typewriter. Go to enough spectacular locations and take enough shots, and you're bound to get one or two nice images. I still don't consider myself a proficient photographer, but HNP has given me opportunities, information, and friends to shoot with, so it's been great.

3. What has been your most memorable nature photo experience?

I can't point to just one experience, but having visited and photographed in places like Crater Lake, the Columbia River Gorge, Yellowstone, the Dakota Badlands, the Grand Canyon, the Big Bend, Austria, France, and Italy, along with all the places I have yet to visit keep me shooting and aspiring.

4. What have you not been able to do and most want to do in nature photography?

Shoot a great photograph.

5. What advice do you have for nature photographers in the club?



Four things. 1) Shoot! 2) Shoot! 3) Shoot! 4) Participate! (Be involved! This is an amazing, welcoming, and giving group. Take advantage of the opportunity, go on the field trips.)

6. Where would you take someone from out of town to take nature photos?

I would take them along the hike and bike trail through my neighborhood in McKinney's Eldorado. My wife and I go on frequent, long walks, and we're always amazed at the beauty and the wildlife immediately around us. In our yard, we've seen squirrels, raccoons, rats, armadillos, opossums, a fox, a bobcat, owls, hawks, crows, and host of other birds too numerous to mention. Along the hike and bike trail, we see, in addition to what we've seen in our yard, herons, egrets, ducks, geese (our winged friends from Canada recently arrived for another winter), etc. I occasionally just wander the area, and I always find something interesting to shoot.

7. Do you have a web site where members could go to see your images? If so, what is the URL?

I have no Web site. I purchased a URL several years ago where I thought I might post my photographs and poetry. However, I discovered that I'm too self-conscious to post either for the world to see. It took me over three years just to send in any photos from our HNP field trips, and I still agonize over showing them.

8. Is there anything else that you would like to share with the club?

HNP is a terrific group of people with which to share a common passion like photography. I thank you all for the opportunities and encouragement you have shared with me and for making me feel so welcome. Merci.



Pictured Rocks



Owls

Crater Lake





<http://www.psa-photo.org/>

<http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/>

### **2017 CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Ron Marabito  
Co -Vice – President: Larry Wecsler  
Co -Vice – President: Anita Oakley  
Secretary: Peter Gilbert  
Treasurer: Peter Gilbert  
Membership: Tom Martin  
Refreshments - Ed Pierce  
Field Trips – Terree Stone  
Field Trips: Jack Harrison  
Field Trips: Jack Twiggs  
Contest Coordinator: Jackie Ranney  
Webmaster: Rob Hull  
Newsletter Editor: Larry Petterborg  
GSCCC Representative: Larry Petterborg

[remarabito@gmail.com](mailto:remarabito@gmail.com)  
[lwecsler@yahoo.com](mailto:lwecsler@yahoo.com)  
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[peter.gilbert@att.net](mailto:peter.gilbert@att.net)  
[peter.gilbert@att.net](mailto:peter.gilbert@att.net)  
[ntmarti1@tx.rr.com](mailto:ntmarti1@tx.rr.com)  
[ed.pierce1@att.net](mailto:ed.pierce1@att.net)  
[t.stone3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:t.stone3@sbcglobal.net)  
[jandhharrison@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jandhharrison@sbcglobal.net)  
[jacktphotography@gmail.com](mailto:jacktphotography@gmail.com)  
[jackieranney@aol.com](mailto:jackieranney@aol.com)  
[info@greatphotography.com](mailto:info@greatphotography.com)  
[lpetterborg@gmail.com](mailto:lpetterborg@gmail.com)  
[lpetterborg@gmail.com](mailto:lpetterborg@gmail.com)

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## **Monthly Meeting**

**JANUARY 14, 2017**

**1:30 PM**

Heard Natural Science Museum  
1 Nature Place  
McKinney, TX

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



### CONTEST CATEGORIES – ADULT DIVISIONS

- Adult - Beginner/Intermediate
- Adult - Advanced  
Comfortable with the technical aspects of the camera. Proficient in the concepts of composition, exposure, lighting and post-processing techniques for creating images. May be skillful in more than one genre of photography (for example: landscape, portrait, macro, photojournalism, still life, etc.)

Note: There is no limit to the number of submissions but payment must be received via PayPal within 72 hours of PayPal Invoice. Checks and cash will not be accepted.

NOTE: In all categories, the “hand of man” is acceptable as long as it is incidental and not the subject of the image.

*Please note that the Youth Division categories are listed separately and are not all the same as the Adult Division categories.*

#### ANIMALS - CAPTIVE

Images of animals in a controlled setting (i.e. farm, zoo, ranch, etc.). May include mammals, marine life, reptiles and amphibians. Does not include pets.

#### ANIMALS - WILD

Non-captive animals.

#### BIRDS

Wild or captive birds.

#### CREATIVE INTERPRETATION

Nature-related images intended to express the photographer’s impression of the subject (i.e. creative blurs, abstract and digital manipulation.) Not to be judged on amount of manipulation but on artistic end result.

#### FLORAL

Images of natural or cultivated flowers, plants or gardens.

#### INSECTS, BUTTERFLIES & ARACHNIDS

Wild or captive insects, butterflies and arachnids.

#### ABSTRACTIONS IN NATURE

*Naturally* occurring patterns, lines, shapes and forms of animals, objects, or plants in nature; also may include macro and extreme close-up images in cases where the patterns, lines, shapes, etc. are the principal subject.

#### SCENICS

Expansive views that may include landscapes, cloudscapes, mountains, forests, deserts, etc. Nature should be the subject of the image.

#### WATERSCAPES

Images primarily featuring water such as seascapes, oceans, waterfalls, lakes, streams and rivers. Water is to be the primary subject.

#### BLACK & WHITE (New category!)

Black & white images of any nature subject consistent with any of the other contest categories.

#### FEES

Adult - Beginner/Intermediate – \$10 for each image

Adult - Advanced - \$10 for each image

*Note: It is the responsibility of the photographer to read through the category descriptions carefully and to choose the appropriate category for each image. Keep in mind that the image could fit into more than one category. The photographer’s selection will be final. Anything not meeting the criteria will be ineligible for judging*

**CONTEST CATEGORIES – YOUTH DIVISIONS**

- **Junior Youth** – Up to age 14
- **Senior Youth** – Age 15 - 18

Note: There is no limit to the number of submissions but payment must be received via PayPal within 72 hours of submission. Checks and cash will not be accepted.

NOTE: In all categories, the “hand of man” is acceptable as long as it is incidental and not the subject of the image.

*Please note that the Adult Division Categories are listed separately and are not all the same as the Youth Division Categories.*

**ANIMALS (including Pets)**

Images of animals in a controlled setting (i.e. farm, zoo, ranch, etc.). May include mammals, marine life, reptiles and amphibians

**ANIMALS – WILD**

Non-captive animals.

**BIRDS**

Wild or captive birds.

**CREATIVE INTERPRETATION**

Nature-related images intended to express the photographer’s impression of the subject (i.e. creative blurs, abstract and digital manipulation.) Not to be judged on amount of manipulation but on artistic end result.

**FLORAL**

Images of natural or cultivated flowers, plants or gardens.

**INSECTS, BUTTERFLIES & ARACHNIDS**

Wild or captive insects, butterflies and arachnids.

**WATERSCAPES & SCENICS**

Expansive views that may include seascapes, oceans, waterfalls, lakes, streams, rivers, landscapes, cloudscapes, mountains, forests, deserts, etc. Nature should be the subject of the image.

**BLACK & WHITE (New category!)**

Black & white images of any nature subject consistent with any of the other contest categories.

**FEES**

Youth Junior/Youth Senior - \$5 for each image

*Note: It is the responsibility of the photographer to read through the category descriptions carefully and to choose the appropriate category for each image. Keep in mind that the image could fit into more than one category. The photographer’s selection will be final. Anything not meeting the criteria will be ineligible for judging.*