

TOLAND, James

Jim has been involved in photography for more than 40 years. He spent a full career with the US Forest Service and then opened a consulting business in forestry and environmental projects. For five years, in addition to his regular job, he was the designated “Forest Photographer” in a national forest. Jim has attended numerous courses in photography, including many oriented toward judging. He has been judging for over 20 years at N4C clubs, N4C competitions, other council competitions, four different county fairs, and other special competitions. Jim’s photos have appeared on the front cover and back covers of two technical magazines. They have also appeared in newspapers, brochures, advertisements, and a wide range of publications.

PHILOSOPHY: Photography as a hobby should be fun. Even in the heat of competition we shouldn’t take ourselves too seriously. Photography is, indeed, an art form. You must bring all the elements together to present an impressive image. When you do, you have a winner.

Macro photography is extremely difficult alone. But then to make your competition Macro Nature is just pure masochism. After I received the images I did a quick review and then asked John if it would be OK to broaden the category a little bit and make it Close Up and Macro photography as I didn’t feel many of the images really qualified as true macro. So that is the way I reviewed the images. You all did very well in a very difficult category. I commend you all especially considering the entire process of finding your subject, composing your subject image, lighting your subject, considering limited depth of field of your lenses due to the optics, camera, shutter speed to stop moving subjects and lens shake due to the shutter and mirror slap. This is all before bringing your image into Photoshop and manipulating it. That is a lot to think about. If any of you are interested I have some websites that I have found very interesting and extremely entertaining in the past and they are as follows.

<http://www.laurieknight.net>

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

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/macrophotography/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macro_photography

<http://photography.nationalgeographic.com/photography/photo-tips/macro-photo-tips/>