

PADRE TRAILS CAMERA CLUB

Pictorial Competition #1 , September 28, 2015

Group A

01. A View of Stonehenge - Wonderful image. It's fortuitous that the clouds mimic the flatness of the roof rocks.

02. Abandoned – Wonderful desolate quality to the photograph.

03. Autumn Leaves in Zion - It feels like a color photograph of the leaves and a black and white photograph of the cliff wall.

04. Beauty and the Beast – Beautiful image. The blackness of the water makes everything pop.

05. Bird of Prey - I get whiplash just imagining taking this photograph. Good job, those white lines coming off the wings are amazing. Have you seen the famous photo of the jet breaking the sound barrier?

06. Broken Down Again – Driving into the sunset. Beautiful clouds and an appropriate image for HDR.

07. Budding White Hydrangea – It's a great flower to look at but challenging to deal with that much green. I'd like to see you play around with compositional elements and see if you can get the leaves to have more effect on the way it brings your eye into the image.

08. Bullet Train Rushes Past Mt. Fuji and Rice Paddies - Mt Fuji is so iconic. I love the slight blur of the bullet train.

09. California Beauties – Great angle and I love the glare of the sun.

10. Carmel Valley Spring Flowers - I can feel the undulation of the hills and it's so wonderful to see everything in focus all the way from the poppy that is just inches away to the far horizon.

11. Coming Through the Mountains – The mountains are an incredible backdrop. Wonderful framing on your part.

12. Davina & the Vagabonds at the Dakota in Minneapolis – What an unusual angle to take a photograph of a pianist. You feel like a fly on the ceiling.

13. Eastern State Penitentiary – What an amazing building. I'd like to see more photographs from your trip there. They look great in black and white.

- 14. Emily with Viola** - A stunning portrait and extremely good use of lighting.
- 15. En Pointe** – This is a sweet image. The vignette makes it feel like a spotlight that's shining down on the performer.
- 16. Fall on the Oirase River** – Beautiful long exposure. Try taking a little bit of yellow out of the color balance and see if you get the image to pop more. I love the movement of the water.
- 17. Fisherman on Inle Lake** - Incredible image. I might add just a touch more contrast on the left side of the photograph. That one was worth getting up early for.
- 18. Fishing at the Mouth of Mill Creek** – Good job, it looks like he just locked on to a fish. Try bringing the contrast down just a smidgen and darkening the fisherman and the back of the boat.
- 19. Frank Gehry's Lou Ruvo Brain Center** - Las Vegas – It's not easy to photograph large buildings and you did an excellent job. What incredible motion in the building.
- 20. Horsetail Fall** – This almost looks like a movie set, it's such hyperrealism. Even though this may be close to the way you saw it see what happens if you take a bit of yellow out of the color balance. You might get more of a feeling of depth to the image.
- 21. Little Girl on Float At Festa Italia** – Buonissimo! What a sweet photo. If you cropped the photograph I'd like to see a bit more of the image from the left side. She feels just a little cramped in the frame. She has beautiful eyes.
- 22. Looking Out of Car** – What a dream come true to be in a racecar at that age. It's also a self-portrait. I can see you in the side view mirror.
- 23. Moraine Lake, Alberta** – What a gorgeous photograph. I want to take one of those canoes out on the lake. Your composition is wonderful. I'd like to see the photo with a bit more contrast in the mountains to see how that looks.
- 24. Mushroom Cluster – Gymnopilus junonius** – Beautiful lighting. It looks like the mushrooms are in a portrait studio. I'd love to see you move back a couple of inches and finish the curves to some of the *Gymnopilus junonius* on the side.
- 25. One Sexy Bird** – Your title made me laugh. Great reflection in the water. It looks like there's a bit of a color cast across the image. Maybe a bit of green or yellow, it's hard to tell exactly, but you'll know what it is if you play with the sliders in your color balance.
- 26. Pastorale on Hecker Pass** – Very peaceful image. I'd like to see a bit more contrast in the foreground and try taking a bit of blue cast out of the image and see if the overall image looks better.

27. Reflections - Awesome angle. I get a bit of vertigo looking at it. I hardly ever get to say this, but try a bit of extra saturation or vibrance.

28. Salisbury Cathedral Alcove – I was bicycling through England and stopped by the Salisbury Cathedral. The stained glass is so inviting. Try opening up the shadows just a bit (it doesn't have to be too much) so the eye can travel everywhere in the image.

29. Soap Film – What an amazing photograph. A movie of this would make an incredible light show at a concert. I'd take out some yellow even though this is probably close to the way it looked to your eye.

30. Storm Over the Old Barn – The sky and the old barn go together so well. The holes in the top right of the barn look like stars. I'd like to see all of the right side of the barn so things feel more balanced.

31. Street Musician Paris France – He's playing a D major chord and by his facial expression it looks like he's feeling the music. I'd stop and listen to a song if I came upon him. I love the tattered building behind him and how you composed the photograph. I'd like to see an image of him playing after the woman walked into the building so she wouldn't compete with him for my attention.

32. Sun Shines on a Dew Laden Lupine – Wow, I didn't think a lupine could hold that much dew! They look like jewels. Did you have a starburst filter on your lens to get the dew to flare as much as it did?

33. Sunset at Goffs - HDR really excels at times like this when you shoot into the sun and have lots of detail that's backlit. Good job.

34. The Bellagio & Caesars Palace – Magnificent job of capturing the big picture. Try playing with color balance and see if you can get rid of a little color cast I see in the image. It might be from the Vegas lights reflecting off the sky but you might be able to get rid of it with a bit of fiddling in Photoshop or Lightroom.

35. The Sentry – The light in your photograph has a wonderful quality. I love the small reflections in the water. This is a minor thing but I'd love to see a photo that was taken two steps to the right so that the bush off the bow of the boat isn't showing.

36. Three Generation Memory – What a beautiful location and how wonderful to have three generations together. I'm not sure if this image of them taking their photo would stand the test of time and if a photograph of them all looking at your camera would be something that would reveal who they all are and last longer as a memory.

37. Tulips Down – I love this photograph. The tulips still look fresh even though they are hanging down. The quality of light is beautiful and the dark background and reflection are strong foils to the bright flowers.

38. Waiting for the Catch of the Day - You have the most bird crap then any of the images in this contest and still won a prize. I enjoy the large depth of field and claustrophobic feel of the walkway. The sky looks like a colored pencil drawing.

39. Who Me, In the Lupine Field – This is an absolutely delightful image. It's wonderful that you caught that 'Who, me' moment. I'd like to see just a tad more contrast in the foreground to bring the flowers out and your eye right to our inquisitive cow.

Honorable Mentions:

A View of Stonehenge
Autumn Leaves in Zion
Bird of Prey
Bullet Train Rushes Past M. Fuji and Rice Paddies
Sunset at Goffs
Waiting for the Catch of the Day

Third Place:

Carmel Valley Spring Flowers

Second Place:

Fisherman on Inle Lake

First Place:

Emily with Viola