

PTCC Nature 1

Group AAA 25 images from 10 members

01-A woodpecker's acorn storage.jpg *Really like the graphic design and lines of the bark and the contrast with the round acorns. The vine at the right doesn't fit and is distracting to the eye. If had been in focus it and maybe another vine at the left in focus as well would have made a great framing.*

02-Along for the Ride.jpg *How did you ever see this? Great composition. The leaf at the top coming off the stems and the bud at the left and the almost but not quite focused background give it great depth.*

03-C'mon Sweet Face, Gimmie a Hug - Garden Snails (Terrestrial).jpg *I'll be the same photographer submitted this one and the preceding. Great layout. I really like the way they come from the bottom right with the antenna continuing the line to the upper left. Great focus and detail in the shells as well as body and antennae. My kind of close-up.*

04-Coast Watcher.jpg *Really nice depth of field. Really like capturing the thin fog or cloud line cutting through the mountains almost parallel to the line of surf and beach. I like the soft texture of the clouds contrasting the hard rock surface. I would like to have seen a bit more contrast to give it more drama.*

05-Cooper Hawk.jpg *Super image. Love the really warm feeling and colors of the post, AMERICAN KESTREL and the background. Almost perfect focus. The slight softness off the head doesn't really distract from the image. I might have placed it a bit more to the right to have it looking into the frame.*

06-Dappled light on maple (Acer.macrophyllum).jpg *Really beautiful lighting. The hint of blue sky in the background follows the glow of the leaves. Nice touch. Love the way you captured the glow of the leaves from upper left to lower right. Good depth of field and placement of the tree trunks and the way the bend.*

07-Early arriving Monarch.jpg *Great balance with the gold at top left and bottom right. And the contrast with the blue background really compliments the warm colors of the butterfly. You really captured the details of upper and lower wings coloration. I can almost see the scales of the wings.*

08-Flame Cactus.jpg *Ouch!!!! Love the needles and the way you have the lines curving from lower left to the top. Great movement. and the crown of thorns at the top in really nice comparing it to the wide angled greens alternating with the shadows at the bottom.*

09-Frozen.jpg *Nice texture and the graphics contrasting. Upper right repeating lines compared to the abstract patterns on the left and bottom. Placement of the scallop fossil is just right. Could you have given the fossil more contrast to make it stand out? What did this*

look like in color. Or were you just shooting B/W

10-Gray Whale2 Mexico.jpg *Layout is just right, off centered and showing a mystery object on the right. Was that a pectoral flipper? Love the barnacles on the left contrasting with the line of ?? on the horizon.*

11-Hanging out.jpg *Nice layout. Love the curve of the salamander. Really like the way you have the tail and the head showing against the light background. A little too dark to show any details in the salamander. The focus is good showing the salamander as well as detail in the post.*

12-Lichen (Disambiguation) On Granite Rock.jpg *I actually like the closeup much more than the entire rock. The inset is documenting the detail of the larger from but the inset would have been well really nice by itself. The texture is wonderful. I really like the contrast of the reddish brown coming at an angle in to the frame.*

13-Lilly Flower.jpg *This is wonderful. Perfect layout with the stamens as the focus and the petals giving movement to the right. I like the way you used the background to frame the flower. The hint of green throughout is really nice. And the hidden stamens in the right third is an unexpected treat.*

14-Lost coast .jpg *I like the balance and depth to the image. Just enough of the ocean to give it that contrast between hard and soft. You do show the distinction from one form to the next going into the frame. And the thin line of the surf adjacent the base of the cliff is really nice all the way to the back. The image just a little flat. I would have used a bit more contrast.*

15-Palm.jpg *Nice layout. The curve of the center darkness is really nice. I'm glad you have it offset and not directly coming from the corner. The small curves in the lower right help the flow. Really like the snaking thread in the upper left and the hint of threads in the lower left. The yellows in the fronds are wonderful. Love the graphic feeling.*

16-Pelecanus occidentalis.jpg *I really like the parallel lines. Soft clouds and textured water divided by the land form. I like the contrast between the upper two thirds and then the pelican in the vegetation. I would have moved the pelican to the right and have it looking into the frame. Really nice detail in the pelican especially showing the coloring on the head and bill.*

17-Portuguese Frog.jpg *This is a really nice use of focus. The frog is in the perfect spot just hiding behind the foreground leaf. The textures and colors of the background really give it depth without taking away from the main frog. It took me awhile before I saw the other frog (or are there two more) The balance of the dark in the upper left and then to the right of the main frog is really nice.*

18-Rock Cap Moss (Dicranum Polyssetum) on Granite.jpg *I like the play of the solid moss covering against the smaller patches on the granite. The dark framing at upper left and upper right is good. I like the subtleness of the background vegetation. The duff in the lower right is a nice balance to the upper left.*

19-Ruby-throated Hummingbird.jpg *Anna's hummingbird feeding on bottlebrush. Nice layout with hummer coming up into the frame. Great use of framing and contrast with the red against the green. The angle of the bottlebrush and the levels in the foreground are wonderful. And the parallel lines in the upper left adjacent the same angle of the hummer is really good. And of course the blurred wing across the detail of the red is really nice.*

20-Shelter cove cormorants.jpg *I do like the flow of the water against the rocky background. I would have used a different setting to make the water blurred and appear like mercury. I would have liked to see more of the bottom rock form and the cormorant grooming.*

21-Swan Mommy.jpg *Wonderful image. Especially the ducklings nestled on mom's back. Great lighting coming from the left. Love the exposure with the water so dark. Maybe having the Mom and kids a bit higher and to the left then it would show more of the reflection at the bottom.*

22-Twisting remnants of majestic valley oak.jpg *Spectacular! Layout, exposure, drama from the clouds are all really really nice. I especially like the greenery appearing in the multi-angular branches. I love the way you have the branches going off the frame at different angles instead of showing the whole tree. Depth of field is perfect showing the patterns in the brush in the hillside. WOW!*

23-Wild Hyacinth - Brodiaea pulchella.jpg *This is my kind of closeup. I too love photographing flowers. The curve of the Brodiaea leading to flower leaning to the right.....the sweep of motion this creates is great. And I like the little white flowers counter-balancing the purple of the Brodiaea. Depth of field and detail is just right. I really like the blurred background. Enough color and movement to show a field setting.*

24-Yellow-billed Magpie (Pica nuttalli).jpg *This is really nice of the magpie. Wonderful arrangement of the bird with the red buds on the branches. The Placement of the bird is nice with the negative space to the left balancing the branches on the right. and the line of the fence is placed perfectly below the branch to hint at the depth behind the bird.*

25-Young Black-tailed Deer Buck.jpg *Such a peaceful composition. Love the way the antlers are placed so as to let the ears come through. The white along the edge of the ear is really nice. The colors are wonderful letting us know this is a real fall setting. Love that it just has the warm tones matching the color and tones of the antlers. I would liked to have seen a bit more of the nose and flank.*

Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

- # 17 Portuguese Frog Sean Jin
- # 23 Wild hyacinth Dominique Gallet
- # 21 Swan mommy Sylvia Gardner

Winners:

- Third place #2 Along for the ride Betsy Collins
- Second place #13 Lily flower Sylvia Gardner
- First place #22 Twisting remnants Elke Ikeda