

## **PTCC 2016 NATURE #2 – BACKYARD NATURE GROUP A**

*53 images from 18 members*

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### **01 Doe and Twins.**

A definite "Awww" moment. nice and sharp, well exposed,

### **02 Grasshopper sunning**

great macro, good depth of field, darkening background might even improve the photo

### **03 Acorn woodpecker**

neat tele shot. maybe brighten the light colors (red and white) to pop the bird a bit.

### **04 American Goldfinch**

sharp focus on the feeder and the stationary goldfinch . the moving goldfinch is a bit distracting, maybe remove him and darken/desaturate the background

### **05 Anna's at feeder**

wonderful stop action classic. i like the dark background which shifts all attention to the bird and edge of feeder.

### **06 passion flower**

beautifully sharp. the background is great .

### **07 fox squirrel at feeder**

cute photo. nicely sharp, could brighten the squirrel a bit. the corn is perfect, and the darker background helps isolate the subject.

### **08 Blue Iris**

focus seems soft, flower and green background are nearly same gray value, might darken background to help separate flower

### **09 sunburst flower.**

love the back lit approach, might lighten the flower just a bit the bring out the wonderful texture of the petals which is there.

### **10 fawns on golf course**

fun shot. well composed, fawns could stand out better if they were lightened (at least their spots)

### **11 bobcat.**

great action shot. hard to get. sharp. White fence is distracting and could be removed or greyed perhaps. darkening the first foreground of grass would help eliminate the depth of field problem

### **12 Brandt's Cormorant**

Super pose, sharp and nice and close. well composed. could brighten background more to help separate.

### **13 Brewer's Black bird**

nice and sharp, great wood texture and eye focus.

**14 budding echium**

Super sharp, wonderful macro with astounding depth of field. a cropped version featuring just the left 50% might be even more otherworldly.

**15 crab spider on Calla**

great composition and color. macro depth of field for back legs a small concern. I like the dark background which isolates the subject well.

**16 dancing Magnolias**

Spring is here! an enchanting scene, nice diagonal of flowers from upper left to lower right, might crop a bit tighter losing some bottom, to feature largest flower

**17 dove with Child**

good composition, nice and sharp, might darken gutter to lessen its attraction

**18 goldeneye with crab**

Wonderful, sharp, well exposed and composed.

**19 pocket gopher**

cute little devil isn't he. sharp, well composed and exposed

**20 egret with fresh caught rat.**

nice action shot , sharp and well composed and exposed.

**21 grey wolf**

nice shot, could be a bit sharper, the stick in the background distracts my eye.

**22 grizzly**

yeah I feel like this sometimes. nice and sharp, darkening background would help focus on the bear, might brighten eyes just a tad.

**23 gulls learned feeding behavior**

ould be sharper, center 40-50% carries the message, could crop out the rest.

**24 happy**

yes he is, a joyful exuberant expression of dog friendly Carmel Beach. great action, sharp.

**25 Honey Bees at work**

sharp focus on the hives, but the boxes dominate

**26 house hunting**

love this, he chooses, she approves, just like most of us. like the "way out of focus" background so nothing distracts from the story

**27 hummingbird sage**

spectacular, very sharp, darkening the lighter green background would help separate the subject and lead the eye

**28 iceland poppy bud**

a nice artistic image. very soft, but that looks intended, darkened edges may be a bit too dark, but the idea seems right.

**29 Condor**

great photo, very sharp. only suggestion to try would be to lighten the left background to isolate the bird even more. would make a great portrait or poster for Big Sur or bird projects.

**30 Is that crumb for me?**

cute little guy with attitude.

**31 lion den diorama**

the title explained what bothered me about the male lion. his eyes don't look right (for a live lion) but that's more the diorama than your photo

**32 Humpback Breaching**

spectacular and wonderful, sell/donate to Pt. Lobos, Aquarium, or wildlife activist group. its great for poster or other.

**33 mushroom on wine barrel**

love the color and the composition.

**34 mushrooms in oak litter**

super sharp, well composed, just a bit too HDR for my taste, but I understand that is the current "look".

**35 mushrooms on Pine Stump.**

wonderful, you might consider a vertical center crop that cuts off the part left of the central pine cone and half of the right mass of gold mushrooms, just an alternative.

**36 redwood grain**

neat texture shot.

**37 resting pelican**

nice and sharp, well composed,

**38 Scrub Jay**

neat action shot,

**39 scrub jays taking turns**

nice and sharp, well composed, like the dark background which focuses attention on the subjects.

**40 sea otter with urchin**

perfect! makes a poster for Pt. Lobos or aquarium, or other wildlife activists in Monterey Bay

**41 squirrel at lunch**

cute shot! sharp squirrel, and that's all that wants to be sharp, might darken green background above fence

**42 St Johns Wort**

great shot, sharp and nice color/exposure, might darken upper right grey a bit.

**43 summer tanager**

wonderfully sharp, great texture in breast feathers. might consider vertical crop to reduce impact of front green leaves,

**44 barn owl**

nice and sharp, might try a vertical crop

**45 bird of paradise**

wonderful artistic photo, seems like it should be oriented vertically, mine is horizontal.

**46 morning sun too bright.**

now that's attitude.

**47 trashline spider**

super macro, wonderfully sharp. nice graduated background.

**48 up for adoption**

nice sharp photo. good use of flat background to isolate subject.

**49 waiting for the bus**

this HAS to be PG, love it, its all about the feeling, well done.

**50 western blue bird w/ lunch**

great shot, nice and sharp, wonderful blurred but not flat background, might crop top and right side a bit to enlarge subject in frame and place bird's eye at one third position.

**51 Blue Centipede**

Love it. on light box I presume. neat macro shot and artistic curving shape, great color.

**52 red eyed frog**

nice focused macro, i know these guys are small. well composed and exposed.

**53 goose and juvenile**

goose is in focus, but gosling is a little soft.

**Winners GROUP A**

**Honorable Mentions:**

29 - Immature Female Condor : Mary Ann Avera

50 - Western Bluebird with lunch : Jeff Hobbs

51 - Blue antenna centipede :Margret Cordts

**Third Place**

18 - female goldeneye eating a crab : Richard Bucich

**Second Place**

40 - Sea Otter Eating Sea Urchin : Richard Bucich

**First Place**

32 - Male Humpback Breaching : John Avera