Creative Image of the Year:
Two Flashlights
John Avera
This image is creative because something is being created that we do not normally see. It is a unique image and required some manipulation to make it possible. Therefore, I found it to be the most creative image in the creative group.

Human Hand in Nature Image of the Year:
Asilomar Boardwalk
Carol Silveira
Depicts nature well with the wind blown sand and the gorgeous sky. The choice to capture the image with the strong diagonal lines of the walkway make it more dramatic and give it energy. The wind blown clouds and the water give it a depth and movement. The walkway is the human made addition. Very nice scene

Nature Image of the Year:
Lesser Sandhill Crane Fly-By
Jeff Hobbs
This image is beautiful. I chose it even though it is a little dark where the head is over the wing. Even with that issue, it is a wonderful capture of a bird in flight. The contrast between the red and the black is perfect. It is a wonderful capture and beautiful to look at. It was a little dark until I put the image in my computer and looked at it larger. It is stunning.

Pictorial Image of the Year:
Matterhorn Rock Garrapata State Park
Chris Axe
Beautiful image and the light with the setting sun is perfect. Exposure is right on and the image is sharp. The maker captured this image at a great time -- just after the sun is about to set, and it creates a beautiful image with a definite mood.

Travel Image of the Year:
Silhouette of a Joshua Tree at Sunset
Jeff Hobbs

The Joshua trees are a real challenge to photograph. Isolating a tree is difficult at times. The trees are wonderful to look at and, of course, they seem to move around during the night. Well, maybe not, and, they are sometimes fearsome to view. Here, you have a lone tree and you captured it in silhouette allowing the setting sun to light up the sky and give the tree a feeling of place as well as beauty.