

THE BEST OF THE BEST IN BEAUFORT COUNTY PHOTOGRAPHY

The mantra of every good photographer is to carry a camera with you at all times. You never know when the perfect photograph will appear. The winners of the 2009 Beaufort County Tri-Club Competition can all attest to this. The annual competition was held on Thursday evening, May 21st at Magnolia Hall Theatre in Sun City. Each year the three Beaufort County photography clubs, **Camera Club of Hilton Head**, the **Photography Club of Beaufort** and the **Sun City Photography Club** join together in a friendly competition. The “Tri-Club” winners were selected by a panel of three professional judges: **Wendy Cooper**, Director of the *2CarGarage Contemporary Art Gallery* in Savannah and who specializes in fine art, portrait and commercial photography; **Drew Martin**, photojournalist from the *Island Packet* and **John Brackett**, a portrait, lifestyle and commercial photographer based on Hilton Head. The judges evaluated a total of 97 entres on composition, technical quality and interest or impact. Scoring is between 1 and 10 points.

The 2009 winners are as follows:

Novice: Dianne Faucette from the Camera Club of Hilton Head for “*Wet Flag*”. Dianne photographed this image of a flag painted on the side of a building, through her car window in the rain. Ribbons in the novice category were also awarded to: 2nd: Bob Kampwirth (Sun City); 3rd: Rick Donnelly (Sun City) and three honorable mentions: John Parsons and Susan Thomas (CCHHI) and Bill Hertling (Sun City).

Intermediate: Phyllis Kaupp-Seas from the Photography Club of Beaufort was awarded 1st place for “*Sunflower Gift*”. The subject was a model who had posed for artists during a plein air watercolor workshop in Charleston. Also awarded ribbons in the intermediate skill level were: 2nd: Denny Baer (CCHHI); 3rd: Carol Alexander (CCHHI); and two honorable mentions to Kathy Newman (CCHHI) and Dick Golobic (Beaufort).

Advanced: Lamar Nix of the Photography Club of Beaufort won first place with nearly perfect score (29) for “*Bulrush before fog bank*”. The image depicts a winter morning when the sun has just begun to peek through a thick, fog bank covering the far side of a California tarn. The dried bulrush in the foreground projected a harmonious silhouette. Mr. Nix, perched precariously on a steep bank, waited for just the right moment when the sun emerged momentarily again. His exposure was well matched to the sun's somewhat subdued intensity, producing the lightest tones just at the surface of the water on the horizon.

Advanced ribbons were also awarded to: 2nd: Jim Newman (CCHHI); 3rd: Sandy Dimke (Beaufort); and two honorable mentions to Fran Baer (CCHHI) and Juergen Thiessen (CCHHI).

In the Expert Level, Paul Nurnberg from the Photography Club of Beaufort was awarded first place for his photo “*Waiting*”. It was taken in the early morning fog on New Year's Day in downtown Beaufort. Mr. Nurnberg and his wife were out for a morning walk along the waterfront when everything began to line up perfectly to create that winning image: the fog, an anchored sailboat, and the sun just starting to break through the thinning fog. Everything was quite calm, a very unusual occurrence for the Beaufort River.

Ribbons in the Expert level were also awarded to: 2nd: John Wollwerth (Beaufort); 3rd: Chris Hefter (CCHHI) and honorable mention to Susan DeLoach (Beaufort).

The Camera Club of Hilton Head (CCHHI) took home a total of 8 ribbons; Photography Club of Beaufort received 6 ribbons and Sun City Photography Club was awarded 2 ribbons.