

Greg,

I had a great year at the State Fair, far better than I have ever experienced before, and I was very surprised. I entered ten photos, eight color, and two black & white. I received three first place ribbons (blue) and one third place ribbon (white) and no "Honorable Mention". "Honorable Mention" is like a fourth place award, and they may give several of these in the same category. This year we were allowed to enter eight color photos and eight black and white, with only one photo in each category, so maybe that helped contribute to my success. Even though no money is awarded for ribbons, I am still very pleased.

Basic editing is allowed in all of the categories I entered. Basic editing includes cropping, sharpening, adjusting contrast, and some other adjustments. I think I did some cropping, some light adjustment, and some contrast adjusting in all of my photos. There is a special category for photos that have had major manipulation. Here are my photos.

Lorvey

Got a first place ribbon in the category "Wild/Zoo Animals" for my photo of the elephants protesting our vehicle blocking their intended path. I took this photo in Tanzania. Had my Sony camera in machine gun mode to capture the dirt in the air.



First place ribbon for the zebras posing for me (Category was Black & White-Animals"). Also took this photo in Tanzania. I took this photo in color and converted it to black & white on my computer.



Category=Farm Crops. These onions posed for me at a farmer's market in Florida. Got a first place ribbon. This is photo that my son said "You got a first place for that???"



My Mardi Gras photo got a third place ribbon in the People-Candid (Group) category. This has always been one of my favorite photos, taken with Peggy's P&S camera, a Canon S90. These people did not pose for me. They were just doing what comes naturally at Mardi Gras in New Orleans. I happened to press the button at the right time.

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I did not get any ribbons for the following photos, other than the enjoyment of entering them.

A photo of my grandson, Augie in the People-Portraits-Posed category. If I enter this category next year, I think I will use a photo that shows an individual more "close-up".



Garter Snake in the "Other Living Creatures category. I took this photo at the Crane Center near Alda, NE.

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Hailey Rose, my granddaughter. People-Unposed-One Person category.



Birds category. Took this photo in Florida. Really like the photo, but the judges didn't see anything special about it.

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A beautiful rose at the Rose Garden in Lincoln, Plants-Domestic Flowers category. I find this to be a very hard category to win anything. First of all, flowers tend to pose for everyone, so there are many great photos in this category. Also, I am not sure what the judges are looking for in this category, so I have some learning to do.



Some tree reflections in Florida. This is in the black & white category under plants & trees. I wasn't sure about this photo, but thought I would take a chance on it. The judges also were not impressed.

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