ROCKY MOUNTAIN OUTDOORS

THE NEWSLETTER OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS **JULY - AUGUST 2011**

2011 Contest

Best of Show

Photography

Al Perry (Category 3, flora) Flowers Under Tree

Writing

Wayne turner (Category 25, magazine article) "The Rusty Tackle Box and a Big Bass," Lightning Ridge, Feb/ Mar 2010

Robert Stone (Category 22, books) "Day Hikes Around Los Angeles," Day Hikes Books, March 2010



Flowers Under Tree © Al Perry 1st place, Flora

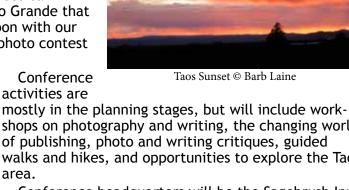
See pages 5-9 for all the winners of this year's writing and photography contest.

For photo highlights of the 2011 conference, see pages 2-3.

Mark Your Calendar for 2012 Conference

Taos, New Mexico has been chosen for the 2012 conference of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers & Photographers, with activities planned from Sunday, June 10 through Wednesday evening, June 13.

A pre-conference six-hour nature writing workshop with author Mary Taylor Young is scheduled Sunday, or early attendees can instead choose an all-day whitewater raft trip on the Rio Grande that day. The actual conference begins late Sunday afternoon with our usual opening reception following by a showing of all photo contest submissions.





Sunrise over Taos Mountain © Barb Laine

shops on photography and writing, the changing world of publishing, photo and writing critiques, guided walks and hikes, and opportunities to explore the Taos area. Conference headquarters will be the Sagebrush Inn/

Comfort Suites complex (see www.taoshotels.com), and more information, including registration details and a tentative schedule, will appear in the next newsletter and be posted at www.rmowp.org when available.



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Rocky Mountain Outdoors

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> Jan/Feb Mar/Apr May/June July/Aug Sep/Oct Nov/Dec

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Conference 2011 was Capital!



Lee Carr & Beto Gutierrez



Maryann Gaug and friends



Jim Baker



Jack Olson & Beto Gutierrez



(photos by Don Laine)

the guided trip into Cathedral Valley

in the northern reaches of Capitol Reef National Park.



Auctioneer Jim Baker

As usual, the auction brought out the best and the silliest in all of us. We raised over \$5000 for the scholarship fund -- a new record.

And a good time was had by all.

(photos by Jack Olson except as noted)



Kathy Turner



Beto & Clare Gutierrez



Al Perry & Tom Ulrich



the board of directors hard at work



Contest Winners at conference, left to right,

back row standing:
Richard Holmes, Ryan Weishalla, Al Perry, Frank Zurey
middle row standing:
Richard Youngblood, Beto Gutierrez, Jim Baker, Rick Lesquier, Kenita Gibbins,
Linda Martin, Sherry Zurey, Emily Harrington
front row kneeling:

Maryann Gaug, John Thornton, Wayne Turner, Linda Bundren, Mark Cromwell, Jack Olson



Kenita Gibbins handled registration while Emily Harrington collected the entries for Member's Choice.

Letter from Emily Harrington:

June 20, 2011

Dear Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers,

Capitol Reef, Utah was my first conference. I had a ton of fun and would do it again. I can't wait until

On this trip I did the Cathedral Valley 60 mile loop. Grandma, Poppa, and I went on our own. I saw a lot of cool rock formations and colors. It was a bumpy ride, but a lot of fun too.

We also did the Burr Trail loop that is 125 miles, but most of it is paved. It's not as bumpy as Cathedral Valley on the unpaved part of the road. The Burr Trail road has lots of rock formations and colors too. You see a lot of flowers and lizards. The bugs swarm

you and you end up with lots of bug bites. When you are almost done driving the unpaved road, you come across the switchbacks. You climb the side of a mountain. Immediately after the switchbacks you drive up a spur/wash road that is called Mulely Twist. You then will turn around, come back to the main road and eventually meet paved road. When you hit paved road you cruise!

Another thing that we did on our trip was The Scenic Drive. It was short and paved. There are two unpaved spur roads. One is Capitol Gorge.

We took this one first (luckily). You drive to the wash and then hike down the wash. We saw The Pioneer Register on the wall. When the pioneers drove down the wash they wrote their name and the date on the wall. We drove back to the main road and turned down the other spur road (bad mistake). This spur road was called Pleasant Creek Road. On the map it was the road to get us back to camp other than turning around at Capitol Gorge. This road was definitely for "Jeepers". You were very tilted on the side of a cliff and it was very rocky. I am NEVER going on that road again.

Along with doing these three loops, we stopped at the School House, Gifford House and other places. We got tons of pictures in our cameras and heads. We took sunset pictures almost every night and on Saturday we did the sunrise shoot with Jack.

I would like to thank some people . . .

Don and Barb - Thank you for organizing and making this conference happen. Thank you also for letting me take care of Molly. She sure is a cute dog.

Tom - Thank you for judging the contest, critiquing my pictures and offering 4 days to stay at your place in Glacier, Montana in the auction. I am very excited to come up there next year.

Jim - Thank you for being the auctioneer and helping raise \$5,096.

Mike - Thank you for bidding \$2,000 for a trip to Beto's ranch, only to decide to give away what you won in order to support the scholarship fund. That was very generous.

Kenita - Thank you for doing registration.

Jack - Thank you for doing the sunrise shoot, making a photo recommendation sheet, and getting the "fifteen minutes of fame" people.

Poppa (Frank) - Thank you for making the slideshows and being in charge of collecting photos.

Maryann, Mark, Al, Linda & Rick - Thank you for doing slideshows or "fifteen minutes of fame".

Cecilia - Thank you for giving your presentation on tracking animals.

Richard - Thank you for making certificates and helping with member's choice awards.

> Beto & Clare - Thank you for giving a trip to your ranch in the auction, doing a slideshow about your ranch and I can't wait to come and visit.

Wayne & Ryan - Thank you for helping raise money at the auction

values, workshops, gathering auction items/supporters, and planning the conference.

by buying a copy of my picture. I will have them in the mail soon. Board Members - Thank you for helping make this conference happen and thank you for making Emily and Molly at the auction

> Members - Thank you for coming to the conference and entering the contest. An event like this is fun because of all of you that I was able to meet.

I had a lot of fun at the conference. Seeing everyone's pictures and composition ideas was cool and it gave me some new composition ideas. It was funny to see the humorous photo contest and neat to see all of the winning photos. What a great week!

> Sincerely, Emily Harrington (age 11)

(ed. note: A new student member, Emily attended the conference with her grandparents, Frank and Sherry Zurey.)



Happy Flower © Emily Harrington 3rd place, Novice

Annual Contest Results

Those who have submitted entries to the annual RMOWP contest and even casual observers of the contest can attest to one thing: the entries get better each year, which must give the judges more and more headaches trying to pick the best.

According to contest organizers Frank Zurey and Richard Holmes, the number of entries this year was similar to recent years with 26 individuals entering, submitting 435 photos and 26 written items.

Certificates, with a background image of last year's first place in scenics winner (Al Perry's Bryce Canyon photo), were presented to all winners, and the three best of show winners also received awards of \$50 each.

The Judges

Photography - Tom Ulrich

A freelance photographer since 1975, Tom Ulrich is highly acclaimed around the world for his nature photography skills. Many of his more than 350,000 images have been used by numerous magazines and other publications. Tom has been the recipient of many prestigious awards, most recently, the North American Nature Photographers Association Fellow Award in 2005. For many years Tom has lead photo tours to remote parts of the world. Additionally, Tom conducts photography seminars and workshops around the country and lectures at numerous universities.

Writing - Mary Taylor Young (Newspaper & Magazine articles/columns/editorials; Newsletter & Web Writing)

Award-winning nature writer Mary Taylor Young has been writing professionally for over 20 years. She has published 13 books and hundreds of articles in periodicals such as Ladies Home Journal, Outside and Wildlife Conservation. Two of Mary's books have been regional bestsellers and two have been finalists for the Colorado Book Award. Her titles include On the Trail of Colorado Critters: Wildlife Watching for Kids and Land of Grass and Sky: A Naturalist's Prairie Journey. Her "Words on Birds" column appeared in the Rocky Mountain News from 1993 until its demise. The first volume in her new Colorado Nature Guide Series, The Guide to Colorado Reptiles and Amphibians, came out last spring. Mary writes from her home in Castle Rock, Colorado where she lives with her husband and daughter and many wild neighbors.

Writing - Russ Bromby (TV/Movie/Video; Books) Russ Bromby was editor of *Colorado Outdoors* magazine and Chief of Communications for the Colorado Division of Wildlife during a 30-year career with the State of Colorado. He is a member of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Outdoor Writers Association of American, and the Association for Conservation Information. Since retiring from the Division of Wildlife in 2002, Russ has been doing contract editing and writing.

Photography Winners

Image from Last Conference - 1

1st

Ryan Weishalla "Old Faithful And Big Dipper At Night

2nd

Linda Martin "Lean 'n Mean"

3rd

Frank Zurey "Grand Prismatic Spring"

Honorable Mention

Richard Holmes "Steamy Sunrise" Linda Martin "West Thumb Sunrise" Mark Cromwell "On the Move"

Scenics-2

1st

Ken Papaleo "Sand Line"

2nd

Richard Holmes "Mt. Moran Sunset"



Sand Line © Ken Papaleo 1st place, Scenics

3rd

Mark Cromwell "The Palisades"

Honorable Mention

Ken Papaleo "Windmill"
Linda Martin "Wild Goose Island Sunrise"
Frank Zurey "Grand Prismatic Spring Panorama"

Flora - 3

1st

Al Perry "Flowers Under Tree"

2nd

Frank Zurey "Bandana Daisy"

3rd

Maryann Gaug "Lone Pine"

Honorable Mention

Linda Martin "White Trillium" Richard Holmes "Pasque Flowers" Richard Youngblood "Yellow Plumeria"



Lean 'n Mean © Linda Martin 2nd place, Image from Last Conference

Fauna - 4

1st

Mark Cromwell "Avocets"

2nd

Ryan Weishalla "Pika With Grass"

3rd

Richard Youngblood "Scarlet Tanager"

Honorable Mention

Beto Gutierrez "Texas Oriole" Al Perry "Coyote on the Hunt" Terry Guthrie "Hummingbird on Zinnia"

People in Nature - 5

1st

Richard Youngblood "Early Morning Fishing" **2nd**

Ken Papaleo "Nice Vest"

3rd

Linda Martin "At Morning Glory Pool"

Honorable Mention

Frank Zurey "Medano Creek Surge" Richard Holmes "Mountain Painter" Terry Guthrie "Engulfed in Steam"

Historical - 6

1st

Linda Martin "John Murphy Barns"

2nd

Mark Cromwell "Gas Station"

3rd

Terry Guthrie "Barn on Mormon Row"

Honorable Mention

Beto Gutierrez "Undisturbed Entryway"
Terry Guthrie "Cabin in the Cove"
Mark Cromwell "Kress Building"

Cultural - 7

1st

Ken Papaleo "Breckenridge Parade"

2nd

Beto Gutierrez "African Heritage Day"

3rd

Ken Papaleo "Ridgway Balloon Festival"

Honorable Mention

Frank Zurey "Sturgis Rally in Deadwood 3"
Al Perry "Greatest Generation"
Linda Martin "Japanese Garden"

Events - 8

1st

Beto Gutierrez "Annual Rut"

2nd

Linda Martin "Catch A Rainbow"

3rd

Al Perry "House Fire"

Honorable Mention

Sherry Zurey "Flare Up of Yellowstone Fire"



American Painted Lady © Linda Bundren 2nd place, Novice

Altered/Composite - 9

1st

Linda Martin "Barred Owl Pano"

2nd

Al Perry "Mushrooms"

3rd

John Thornton "Thermal Garden 2"

Honorable Mention

Rick Lesquier "Zion Digi Watercolor" Al Perry "Sandhill Crane Landing" Terry Guthrie "Colorful Cabin"

Black and White prints - 10 1st

Frank Zurey "Security with Mom"

2nd

Frank Zurey "Rattle Snake"

3rd

Jack Olson "Clepsydra Geyser"

Honorable Mention

Kenita Gibbins "Girl Above the Sea" Al Perry "Lone Tree"

Frank Zurey "The Cub Dance"

Photography - Novice - 11 1st

Emily Harrington "Devils Tower Framed" **2nd**

Linda Bundren "American Painted Lady"

3rd

Emily Harrington "Happy Flower"

Honorable Mention

Emily Harrington "Longs Peak"

Photography - Published Images - 12

Frank Zurey "Mimosa Borealis"

2nd

John Thornton "Flying Squirrel"

John Catsis "Mule Deer Buck"

Honorable Mention

Kenita Gibbins "Cowboy's Dilemma" Frank Zurey "Leigh Lake Sunrise"



Colorful Cabin © Terry Guthrie Honorable Mention, Altered/Composite

Member's Choice Photographs (voted by conference attendees)

1st

Beto Gutierrez "Red Baron" **2nd**

Al Perry "Polar Bear on the Rocks **3rd**

John Thornton "Day Lily"

Honorable Mention

Jim Baker "Fish Camp" Frank Zurey "Grizzly Bear Cub with Mom"



"Do these bloomers make my butt look big?" © Georgette Sotos *1st place, Humorous*

Humorous Photographs

1st

Georgette Sotos "Do these bloomers make my butt look big?"

2nd

Frank Zurey "This is the tornado shelter??? "There is no way I am going to the basement!"

3rd

Angleo Sciulli "For dinner you're having fried WHAT??"

Honorable Mention

Jack Olson "Yes ma'm, I can't lie. Those antenna do look stupid."

Frank Zurey "He's my designated driver."

Writing Categories TV/Movie/Video - 21

1st

Andy Lightbody - "Smokin' & Cookin' Recipes," Rocky Mountain Television, Spring 2010

This DVD contains everything you could possibly want to know about the Smoke Vault, a smoker offered by Camp Chef in partnership with the Browning Company. But it's more than just a smoker and is able to cook just about anything you can imagine from turkey to pork loin to veggies, soups and desserts. The video contains detailed chapters on assembly and operation of the unit, accessories, seasonings and how to cook, and includes a wide variety of recipes. At least 30 recipes are included from Seafood Shish Kabobs to Lemon Beer Can Chicken.

2nd

Andy Lightbody - "Word Wranglin' and Wrymin'," Rocky Mountain Television, Summer 2010

Pack String Poet John Nelson is featured in this DVD. John Nelson is a guide and outfitter turned cowboy poet. The 60-minute video features Nelson reciting his poetry in a variety of outdoor settings. Titles like "Just One More Day," "Teed Off," and "Mule Skinner Moral" are among the dozen or so offerings. As Nelson himself says in one of his poems, the verses are "full of cowboy wit and charm."

Books and Scripts for TV/Movie/Video - 22 1st

Robert Stone - "Day Hikes Around Los Angeles," Day Hike Books, March 2010

Part of the "Day Hike" series of books, this entry is an ambitious volume that hits the mark for an area that you may not think of right away as a hiking destination. Obviously successful in its 5th edition, this guide features the clean, easy-to-follow maps that typify the series. The book includes 135 hikes in L.A. area and gives you just what you need to know on a hike.

2nd

Robert Stone - "Day Hikes Around Santa Barbara," Day Hike Books, March 2010



Pika with Grass © Ryan Weishalla 2nd place, Fauna

This is another winner from the "Day Hike" series of books.
Featuring 113 hikes in the Santa Barbara, California area, the hikes are il-

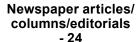
lustrated with the easy-to-use maps that are a staple of the series. Hike descriptions include hiking times and distances, elevation gain and driving directions to the trailheads.

3rd

Terry Guthrie - "Photographs in Rabun County, GA and

Surrounding Area," February 2011

This small hardbound volume is lavishly illustrated with photos from the county located in the far northeast corner of Georgia. Photos include mountain vistas, waterfalls, outdoor recreation on the Chattooga River and autumn color. Local barns are also shown as well as wildlife from bears to birds to butterflies. There is also a section on local wildflowers.





Undisturbed Entryway © Beto Gutierrez Honorable Mention, Historical

16

Lee Allen, "Rattlesnake Roundup,"

The New Southwest, October 15, 2010

This profile of "Southern Arizona's scientific snake savior" presents a nice blend of character profile and natural science in a clear and engaging style.

2nd

Lee Allen, "The Wildlife Refuge in our Backyard,"

The New Southwest, November 15, 2010

Clever lead into a profile of local refuges.

3rd

Lee Allen, "Arizona's National Scenic Trail," The New Southwest, December 15, 2010

Straightforward piece combining information, quotes and even a Chinese proverb!

Magazine articles/columns/editorials - 25 1st

Wayne Turner, "The Rusty Tackle Box and A Big Bass," Lightning Ridge, Feb/Mar 2010

Heartwarming, folksy memory of a boy's introduction to a lifelong passion for fishing, through the discovery of an old tackle box.

2nd

Lee Allen, "Nancy Stevens - Blind Since Birth," Women in the Outdoors, Jul/Aug 2010

Interesting profile of a blind outdoorswoman combining biographical information and quotes from the subject to reveal her character and life.

3rd

Lee Allen, "An Interview with a Deer Expert,"

Arizona Wildlife Views, Sep/Oct 2010

Engaging "man-and-beast" profile of a biologist and the species he has devoted his life to studying, providing in-

Newsletter Writing of Any Kind - 26

1st

Jack Olson, "Birth of a Tradition," Rocky Mountain Outdoors, Jan/Feb 2011

This well-constructed piece uses humor to tell the redemptive tale of a sunrise photo shoot that almost wasn't, then was.

2nd

Jack Olson, "We're Going To...a Reef?," Rocky Mountain Outdoors, Sep/Oct 2010

A clever lead draws readers in for a tour through the natural and human history of Capitol Reef NP, offering information while also entertaining.

3rd

Kenita Gibbins, "Musings on Ansel Adams,"

Denver Art Museum Gazette, November 21, 2010

The engaging lead says it all for those who know Adams'

famous photo, and holds enough drama to keep the uninitiated reading.

Web Writing - 27

1st

Lee Allen, "Riding High in the Grand Canyon," *Indian Country Today*, June 9, 2010

Good travelogue written in an easy-reading style that mirrors the landscape it describes. Useful information presented in a highly readable way.

2nd

Lee Allen, "Junior Jack Kamp," ESPNOutdoors.com, June 23, 2010

Plenty of alliteration (bagging bunnies) and plays-on-words (Jack-in-the-Pot) enliven this report of a rabbit hunting camp for kids.

3rd

Lee Allen, "Arizona Quail Slam,"
ESPNOutdoors.com, September 9, 2010
Well-done, straightforward report on three quail species in
Arizona and how to hunt them.



Grand Prismatic Spring Panorama © Frank Zurey

Honorable Mention, Scenics

President's Column

Not too Early to Think About Next Year

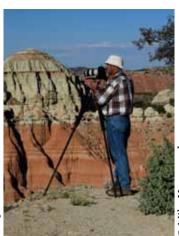
Al Perry

Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers is a relatively small group of writers and photographers who enjoy writing and photography, primarily in the Rocky Mountain region.

Aspects of the organization I admire include:

- 1. Relatively low cost (thanks to our budget-minded Executive Director, Don Laine and his wife, Barb).
- 2. Friendly nature of members that get together each year for the conference, field outings, contests and sharing of writing and/or photography. I look forward to seeing new and long-time members at each annual gathering.
- 3. Great location in Rocky Mountain region for annual conference.
- 4. Participation by members in the meetings, presentations, showcases and contests.
- 5. Annual photo workshop at Rocky Mountain National Park is one of the lowest cost workshops in a premiere location with talented instructors and a small number of participants. Go elsewhere and you could pay more and learn less.

If you are a RMOWP member, but have not yet attended our annual conference or photo workshop, you should consider the sharing of information and fun you are missing.



Newly elected President Al Perry

Mike Hammond

Elk, Marmots & Wildflowers Highlight of Photo Workshop

Nic Showalter

Ten photographers gathered in Estes Park, Colorado for the annual RMOWP-sponsored photography workshop in late June, photographing elk, coyote, marmots, wildflowers, beautiful skies, moving water, evocative sunrises, and dramatic sunsets in Rocky Mountain National Park. Participants came from Colorado, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Oklahoma and Illinois.



Heavy winter and spring snowfalls left three times the usual amount of snow on the ground and capping the peaks,

and even at the end of June accumulated snow remained at lower elevations where we have rarely encountered it before. An early morning hike to Dream Lake was possible only with ice cleats and hiking poles.

The schedule was brisk with little time for rest or even reviewing images. Participants were grateful for the opportunity to photograph in the national park and for the personalized attention and mentoring of our three leaders.

Every year's workshop expe- serve and assess the development of digital pho-



Fred Lord assists Stacie Acton, Patti Locke and Robin Tomasewski while Jim Van Namee moves to another position in the background

tography. New camera bodies with advanced functions and huge image sizes somewhat challenge the beginning-to-intermediate users, and not surprisingly the sophisticated equipment

does not necessarily produce the best artistic images or the greatest learning experience. Using available technology to complement each photographer's own unique and bold vision seemed to lead to the most progression in learning.

Our leaders - coordinator Nic Showalter and instructors Jared Griscoskie and Fred Lord - are already strategizing about how to change the approach for next year to foster more casual time and address the knowledge-void that emerging technology is creating for participants.

The photo workshop is sponsored by Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers along with Mpix.com and Zenfolio.com. The

2012 workshop, also based in Estes Park, Colorado, is scheduled Tuesday, June 26 through Saturday, June 30. See www.rmowp.org for additional information.



Jared Gricoskie describes the "hug rule" to Carla Nathan

Now Available: RMOWP Outdoor Journal, Vol. 1, Issue 1, 2011

This is a collection of outdoor writing presented during the writing critique at RMOWP's annual conference in Torrey, Utah.

The five pieces included are:

"Libido" by James E. Baker, Stillwater, OK
"Bialowieski National Park of Poland" by Kenita Gibbins, Denver, CO
"Thoughts While Driving" by Richard Holmes, Boulder, CO
"Rules for Reality" by Cecilia Travis, Golden, CO
"Coon in a Can" by Wayne C. Turner, Fairplay, CO

For a copy, please send \$10 for printing, postage and handling to Wayne Turner, PO Box 875, Fairplay, CO 80440.