

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

2nd Annual Photography Contest

Sponsored by the Friends of Hagerman NWR

OVERVIEW

In order to increase awareness and appreciation of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, the Friends of Hagerman NWR is sponsoring a photography contest. Ribbons will be awarded for First, Second and Third place in each of 5 categories as well as Best of Show. Winners will be determined by a panel of judges, who will review the submitted photos without reference to entrant name.

Winners' photographs will be displayed at the Refuge Visitor Center, and published on the Friends of Hagerman web site.

The Friends of Hagerman Nature Photo Contest Committee will coordinate and conduct the contest for the Refuge and Friends of Hagerman NWR.

CONTEST DEADLINE

Entries will be accepted from August 1, 2011 to September 15, 2011.

RULES

ENTRIES THAT DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE RULES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

The contest is open to all photographers EXCEPT U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employees and their immediate families AND the Friends of Hagerman Board of Directors, including the Nature Photo Club leader and their immediate families are not eligible.

All submitted images must be taken within the boundaries of the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge during calendar year 2009, 2010, or 2011.

Entry fee of \$5 must be presented for each submission of up to 10 images. Each entrant may submit as many images as desired in any combination of categories for which they are eligible.

Submitted entries must be the original work of the photographer, and the photographer must own the copyright to the image. The photographer retains the copyright of the submitted images but must agree to allow the Refuge to use and publish the submitted entries without further compensation to the copyright holder.

Photos that have been published or sold may not be submitted.

Submissions must be digital and must be submitted on a CD or DVD. Photos that were taken with a film camera must be scanned in and submitted on a CD or DVD.

High-resolution (300 ppi) JPEG or TIFF images, measuring at least 2000 pixels on the longest side, may be burned on the same CD or DVD or submitted on as many additional CDs or DVDs as needed. These will be used for judging and publication/exhibition if selected as a winner.

Each image must be labeled with your first and last name, image title and the category it is to be entered in. For example: JohnSmith-Little blue heron-Wildlife.tiff.

Each CD or DVD must bear the photographer's name, phone number and e-mail address.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS, except those submitted as Artistic, must accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in the viewfinder. Photos that have been altered beyond standard dust removal, minimal cropping, and correction will be disqualified. This includes the addition or deletion of any objects in the photos.

CATEGORIES

Entries will be judged on technical excellence, originality, creativity, visual impact, and artistic merit. All decisions of the judges are final.

Wildlife – Animals and birds in their natural habitat.

Flora and Macro – Flowers, trees, and shrubs in their natural habitat. This category includes images of insects, plants, and animals taken with specialized macro equipment or settings.

Landscape – Expansive and dramatic views of the land and its features. Photographs in this category may include images of people enjoying the Refuge.

Artistic – Artistic compositions in nature, both natural and manipulated in post processing (black and white, infrared, stitched panoramas, multiple-exposure, digital manipulation). Photographs in this category may include images of people enjoying the Refuge.

Youth – Any image entered by a photographer under 18 years of age. Each photograph must fit into one of the categories above.

ENTRY INFORMATION

ENTRY FEE: A check or money order in the amount of \$5 (US) per 10 submitted photos must be included with your entry and made out to the FRIENDS OF HAGERMAN NWR. There is no limit to the number of photos that may be submitted.

ENTRY FORM: Each submission MUST be accompanied by a completed entry form with ALL information clearly filled out. See last page for entry form.

SUBMISSION: Entries can be dropped off or mailed to the Hagerman Visitor Center at:
Hagerman Photo Contest
6465 Refuge Road
Sherman, TX 75092-5817

PRIZES

If there are less than 6 entries in any category other than youth, no judging will be done in that category. Prizes include:

Best in Show – Special ribbon

Each category awarded will receive:

1st Place - Ribbon

2nd Place - Ribbon

3rd Place - Ribbon

Winning photos will be printed and exhibited at the Refuge Visitor Center and other venues.

CONTEST TIPS

Visit the Refuge often to take your pictures. The more times you visit, the more likely you will be able to get the photograph you want.

Submit photos to more than one category. You increase your likelihood of winning by entering photos in the less popular categories. Wildlife is the most popular entry and is often crowded with similar entries.

Read and follow the contest rules. If you are unsure about something, contact us for clarification.

Try to come up with a unique image and submit your best work.

Make sure your entries are in focus, sharp, and have good lighting.

Do not be discouraged if you don't win. Try again the following year and enter other photography contests to gain additional experience.

JUDGING

It is very important that we have your correct e-mail address with your entry so that we can contact you if needed.

This year the contest judging will be closed. Closed judging will allow the judges more time to examine each entry carefully.

There will be three judges for this year's contest:

Rick Cantu – Rick has worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for the past 19 years and has spent much time observing nature, either while working or enjoying various hobbies. Rick is a relative newcomer to digital photography but his nature images have appeared in regionally published calendars, newspaper articles and magazines. Rick placed first in the 2008 Grayson County Photography Contest in the wildlife division and was recently named the grand prize winner in the 2009 and 2010 Southwest Region Employee Photo Contest.

Mary Karam – Mary studied B&W photography under Travis Ueoka at Brookhaven Community College. She has several photography credits including cover images for several area books and magazines and has also contributed several images to the area newspaper. Since 2005, Mary has also been the owner/director of the Mary Karam Gallery in Denison, TX.

Thomas Judd – Tom earned a B.A. degree in Cinema and Photography from Southern Illinois University in 1980 and has made a career as a working photographer ever since. While experienced in many areas of commercial photography, as well as having taught beginning photography mini-courses at the University of North Texas, he has always kept a place in his life for making photographs that are purely for artistic enjoyment. He has been at the forefront of digital imaging including archival printmaking techniques for over a decade. His fine art photographs are widely exhibited, have won numerous awards, and are held in

private collections throughout the United States.

Winners will be announced at the Friends of Hagerman Second Saturday Nature Program on October 8, 2011.

CONTACT US

If you have questions regarding the photography contest, please send an e-mail to Friendsofhagerman.com or fohphotoclub@gmail.com

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge 2nd Annual Photography Contest
Sponsored by The Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

Photography Contest Entry Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Entry Information:

Category	Title
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	

Categories: Wildlife, Flora and Macro, Landscapes, Artistic, Youth

___ I have enclosed \$5 for every 10 images entered (total = \$____)

___ I am a current Friends of Hagerman Refuge Member (membership is not required)

Entering the 2011 Friends of Hagerman Nature Photo Contest grants the Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service the right to reproduce, publish, and publicly display the submitted photographs in print or electronic form for educational and promotional purposes and/or create items for sale in 'The Nature Nook at Hagerman' without further compensation. Reproduction and display of images will include photographer credit. The submitted photographs will become the property of the Refuge. All other rights to these images will be retained by the photographer.

Please mail entries to Hagerman NWR Visitor Center located at 6465 Refuge Rd, Sherman, TX 75092 Between August 1, 2011 and September 15, 2011.

I understand and agree to the contest rules and conditions and certify that all photo entries were produced by me and taken at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Participants under the age of 18, a parent or legal guardian must complete the following:
I have read the contest rules and hereby grant him/her permission to participate in the contest.

Print Name

Signature

Date