



"Misty Memories Off Bloomingdale Avenue" by John Dallas Bowers



"Little Boy Under a Big Tree" by Jeanie Chadwick



"Gypsy" by Ross Watson

Focusing on nature

The top winners of this year's Taste of Radnor photo contest chose nature subjects

By Ryan Richards

The wonder of nature is a prevailing theme among this year's winners in the Second Annual Taste of Radnor Photo Competition.

"I feel as though we got a really diversified look at our township from the unique perspectives from our residents," said Wayne resident John Dallas Bowers, competition coordinator.

There were 30 submissions to this year's contest, according to Bowers. *Suburban and Wayne Times* photographer John Welsh judged the entries.

The winning submissions were on display at the Taste of Radnor, the annual fund-raiser for Radnor Studio 21 at Villanova University, on Sunday and at the Wayne Art Center, a contest co-sponsor, through Nov. 21.

There were seven winners in all.

Bryn Mawr resident Glenn Kaplan traveled to Chanticleer for his award-winning "Solitude." He captured first place in the Adult Amateur category.

The tranquil image includes a stone pump house. Perennials stand tall around the structure, in the background, as viewed through a section of stone wall — part of the garden's "ruins" — in the foreground.

"I created an image where I wanted to capture the pump house and use the stone wall as the frame."

It is a bucolic image you'll never find on the grounds. He explained that he used Photoshop software in his digital lab to merge the two images.

Kaplan is chief of neonatology for Main Line Health. He works in the intensive-care nurseries for premature and sick newborns at Lankenau, Bryn Mawr and Paoli hospitals.

The doctor said he enjoys landscape photography, and Chanticleer is among his favorite natural landscapes.

"I have a lot of photos of Chanticleer and I always enjoy going there," he said.

Kaplan is also fond of travel photography. He has photographed

Santa Fe and, most recently, Eastern Europe, including Prague and Budapest.

In the spring, he intends to visit Costa Rica, where he looks forward to capturing the lush landscapes and vivid waterfalls.

"It will be an interesting trip," he said.

Chanticleer is also the inspiration for Jeanie Chadwick's first-place winning photo in the Adult Professional category, "Little Boy Under Big Tree."

The black-and-white image is dominated by a large tree, as sunlight fills the background. A little boy playfully runs beneath the mighty tree, hence the title.

Chadwick said the tree is a copper beech tree. The child is her grandson, Gabriel.

"I took it four years ago when he was three. He is 7 now," she pointed out.

She spotted the large tree while visiting Chanticleer but didn't have a camera to capture its grandeur. When her grandson came for a visit, she headed back to the pleasure garden with him and a Minolta film camera with a fish-eye lens. She wanted the fish eye to capture the tree's arching branches. She asked Gabriel to play beneath the tree and she clicked several frames. After the print was developed, she was pleasantly surprised with the outcome.

"It's been one of my favorite shots every since," she said.

She said the light "hugging" the tree is "magical." She described the image as having a digitally enhanced quality, although it was taken with a film camera and processed in a darkroom, not on a computer. The scene is natural.

Chadwick, who is a professional portrait and fine-arts painter and photographer, said Chanticleer is her favorite subject. She is fond of the garden's whimsy and its diverse plant material.

To learn about Chadwick's photography and painting, visit www.jeaniechadwick.com.

Elizabeth Scott won first place for "The Creek I Love" in the Youth-14 and Under category.

The creek is Ithan Creek, according to her mother, Kim Scott, who says her 7-year-old daughter enjoys playing with her sisters and neighbors at the creek.

"She loves to take pictures," the mom pointed out, including while on vacation.

Other winners are, in the Adult Amateur category, Roberta Winters, second place, for "Mary Lee Garden," and John Dallas Bowers, third place for "Misty Memories off Bloomingdale Avenue."

Ross Watson won second place for "Gypsy" in the Adult Professional category, and Laura Ducceschi captured third place for "Leaves in Creek" in the Adult Amateur category.



"Mary Lee Gardens" by Roberta Winters



"Solitude" by Glenn Kaplan



"The Creek I Love" by Elizabeth Scott



"Leaves in Creek" by Laura Ducceschi