

Greater New Braunfels Photography Club (GNBPC) Score Sheet for December 2025

Judge: R. Gary Butler

Assignment Theme Photos - " **Food** " Scoring System: 3-9 pts

Image Title	Score	Comments
Almuerzo!-Sue Eley	5	The exposure and DoF are well done. The colors of the food in the case draw the eye. The image would have more impact if the employee on the right were looking in & reaching towards the products
Around the Clock at the Pizza Factory-Shelby Caesar	4	IMHO the bright lights at the top are a distraction to the viewer's. The image could be improved if the operator's eyes could be seen and the metal bar on the right were removed.
Cherry-Barry Armer	7	The originator has set the capture conditions perfectly. The subject is sharp and all other contributing pieces are soft. This draws and holds my eye and makes me savor! For me the green background could be cropped some from the top and be less saturated. Very creative!
Cookie Break with a Purr-fect Companion-Jackies Wise	9	Well done and very creative. An explosion of Oreos with a Christmas theme. The author has captured the whites nicely against the black background. The colors of the mug and the cookies appear realistic. The work to prop up the cookies as though they were at different angles to the camera is quite clever.
Flower to Tomato-Craig Pellerin	8	The creator has done an exceptional job of setting up this macro shot (or shots if stacked.) For me the sharpness of the bud and the small ?tomato? in the center along with the sharp front edge give this image a good sense on depth. I believe that the portion of the flower in the upper right could be removed. Be careful of greens, they are easy to oversaturate.
Fruit Pyramid-Christiane Menelas	6	To my eye the image is technically well composed. I feel that the analogous colors work well. The artists decision to show the entire reflection, for me, yields an excess of neutral space. From my experience the creator might think about cropping some at the bottom.

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India Oven-Ralph Nordenhold	3	To my eye the composition with analogous colors works. I believe that this image has two significant problems, however. As I view the image the food in the center appears to have "blown out" whites. Also, the creator has used a DoF that is too shallow which for my eye leaves a large amount food on the plate out of focus.
Keeping the Doctor Away-James Moseley	5	I feel that the photographer has done a proper job of camera setup. To my eye the apples appear true to color and brightness. The DoF is correct with the entire group in clear focus. From my experience the creator of this image might try including the front of the bin, a "Sale Price" sign or something that would create a foreground in order to the image some depth. Another alternative might be to use a vignette (or a stronger one if already used) to focus the viewer's eye in the center.
Milk and Cookies-Barbara Beversdorf	7	The creator has used good composition and lighting to create an above average impact. The brightness and colors for me are "spot on." The DoF is well chosen so that the milk and cookies in front are sharp. This setup is seen frequently from my experience.

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Poisonous or not_-Sharlana Dillard	6	I am not sure that this image qualifies as "food" as they appear to be a type of Hypholoma. These contain sulfur and are poisonous to humans. That aside the general composition is, to me, well composed. The groups of mushrooms against the tree root command the picture and hold my eye. The orange bright spot in the background provides a small distraction and could, except for a "Nature" shot, be eliminated
Summer Harvest-Sandy Gilbert	6	As I look at this image I visually like the way the creator has aligned the cucumber, the ?Mint? and the beans in the basket. It leads my eye around the composition but holds it there. I believe that the greens are overly saturated and could be easily backed off in LRC using the point color tool. From my experience this would improve the image. The background countertop in just one corner is a minor distraction.
The Great Banana Plunge-Suzanne Daunt	9	Well captured at just the right moment. Four birds, all in focus and one upside down is a unique shot. The bird second from left should get an "Emmy" for Best Supporting actor. The soft background keeps my eye on the birds and the fruit. Coloring and brightness are exceptional.

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But I Was Here First!-Suzanne Daunt	7	To me this is good composition. The birds and banana are sharply in focus. The soft background even w/ a lighter spot does not distract. To my eye the greens at the left are not needed. The bird on the right seems to lose some detail in the chest.
Cheerful Tulips-Thomas Soutter	4	As I look at this image the flowers seem to have varying sharpness either thru insufficient DoF or (3 rd from L) highlights that are too bright. For me the background is disconcerting and draws my eye from the flowers. I believe that a more plain background with a color that complements the Yellows and greens might work better.
Golden Weaver, Rufizi River, Tanzania-Sandy Gilbert	6	This image has nice sharpness on the bird throughout and complementary colors. The beak open (?singing?) and the bright eye add to the image. The author has done a good job of shooting from a position that yields a soft background. From my experience the branch extending through the head of the bird and the shadow of the right branch on the bird are flaws in a Nature image.
Guarding the Door-James Moseley	7	I like the symmetry that has been created and the sharpness throughout the image. The pumpkins help to create a third layer to the image as I view it. The creator of the image has done well to give better than average impact to a very common scene
Hulk Smell, Not Smash-Shelby Caesar	5	I feel that the focus and the DoF on this image are correctly done. The colors and the brightness seem true and not overly saturated. To me the large amount of grass wants to pull the eye away from the real subject. I would suggest cropping this image – perhaps to a vertical.
Mockingbird Eating Yaupon Berry-Barbara Beversdorf	9	The sharpness of every bit of the Mockingbird, its berry and the leaves show technical excellence. It holds my eye and it has strong impact. The soft background is very interesting but not distracting. Well done!

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Nature_s Sculpture-Ralph Nordenhold	4	For me there is too much going on in the picture. I know that the rock is the intended subject, but the busy foreground and background are distracting to my eye. The creator might get an image with more impact if they chose a small portion of the rock (e.g. bottom left of center) to focus on.
Petals Remembered-Jackies Wise	8	Simple but technically well done. To my eye the set of Analogous colors is very pleasing. The background texture adds to the image without distracting. For me, I might crop just a small amount off of the left side. Good Job!
Preying-Christiane Menelas	8	Great capture with good camera setup. Sharp throughout. The creator knew where to stand – i.e. which way the owl would go. The only possible improvement would be if the owl had space on the left to fly into the picture.
Staring at you -Sharlana Dillard	7	The placement and the expression on the bulls face absolutely holds the viewer's gaze. What is he thinking? The darker face against the otherwise light surrounds also helps to fix the eye. The small tree on the left gives placement in the wild and the background does not distract. Readjusting positioning to get the face closer to the '1/3' point might improve the overall image.
Windsor Castle-Craig Pellerin	7	From my experience the photographer has chosen the viewing point to add impact to the image. The line of bottom of the trees on the left and the brick path and wall on the right lead my eye to the castle. The contrast in the sky adds good depth to the image. It is easy to over-saturate the greens and to my eye this seems to be the case especially in the grass.

R Gary Butler, QPSA, PPSA Bio.
Dec. 3, 2025

I worked for the Eastman Kodak Co. for 34 years and had the good fortune early in my professional career to be taught B&W and Color photography as part of my job. I also had access to the largest "Camera Club" in the U.S. for capture, processing and enlargement equipment.

I am retired now and enjoy landscape, wildlife and architectural photography. I use the Canon 5D Mark IV and the R5 cameras. I primarily use the EF 16-35mm, EF 24-105mm, EF 24mm Tilt/Shift, and RF 100-500mm lenses.

I joined PSA in 2016 and began participating in and then administering Digital Dialogue Groups. I am currently the admin for DD4. I began entering Exhibitions in 2017 and achieved my QPSA in 2021 and then my PPSA recognition in July 2024. I am also the Chairperson for the PSA Scholarship Committee. I judge both International and Local competitions.

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