

2019 Virginia Master Naturalists Photo Contest Judges



Steven David Johnson is a conservation photographer and Professor of Visual and Communication Arts at EMU in the Shenandoah Valley. His photography of the natural world has appeared in Orion, BBC Focus Magazine, Ranger Rick, National Science Teachers Association Press books and numerous conservation publications and journals.

Steve is vice-president of the Virginia Wilderness Committee and an Affiliate of the International League of Conservation Photographers. When not in the office, you'll probably find him crouched next to a vernal pool photographing Appalachian salamanders.

You can view a selection of his photography at his www.stevendavidjohnson.com and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/stevendavidjohnson/albums>



Bob Schamerhorn is an Award -Winning Nature Photographer and lifelong wildlife enthusiast. He studied Art and Design at Virginia Tech and has worked in art related fields for over thirty years since. His photography has been published in numerous conservation-based publications, including two Virginia Wildlife Magazine covers and a few months in the Virginia Wildlife Calendar. In 2018, the National Audubon Society Photography Awards "Top 100" voted one of his images in at number eleven. The very next year he won "Best in Show" in the Mammals category of the 2019 North American Nature Photography Association Awards (NANPA). His fine art nature photography has been shown at over sixty different art festival venues since Fall 2013, with twelve top art awards in just the last couple of years. He considers himself, "Experienced, but not an expert!"

See Bob's work, his workshops, and exhibit schedule at <http://www.iphotobirds.com>

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Diane Lepkowski is a nature photographer with a passion for birding and the natural world. She is outdoors whenever possible, seldom without a camera (or two!) in hand. Since becoming a seriously obsessed birder in 2008, Diane has used her photography to share her passion for enjoying, studying and protecting our feathered friends. She has offered presentations for organizations including the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum, Massanutten Regional Library, and Rockingham Bird Club and is a part-time instructor with James Madison University's Lifelong Learning Institute. Her photography has been published in *Blue Ridge Country*, *American Butterflies*, and *Nature Friend* magazines; and is featured on her website at <https://birdtrek.smugmug.com/>. Diane serves on the Rockingham Bird Club Executive Committee as a Vice-president and has volunteered with the Rockingham County Fair's photography contest. Because her nature photography doesn't yet pay the bills(!), Diane continues her 34-year career with Rockingham County, serving as Deputy Zoning Administrator and Deputy Subdivision Agent.



Joshua Gooden is a Shenandoah Valley photographer with a passion for historic architecture and the valley's landscape. He can often be found exploring the small towns of the valley or photographing sporting events and small businesses. In high school, he often contributed photos to *The Valley Banner*, a weekly newspaper and snapping photos for his high school yearbooks. His photography has been published in *Shenandoah Living Magazine*, *The Valley Banner*, *Page News and Courier*, and the *Daily News-Record*. Joshua serves as the Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator for Rockingham County as well as the youngest ever elected Mayor for the Town of Elkton. He enjoys showcasing all that Rockingham County and the Shenandoah Valley has to offer.