2024 Pinelands Juried Photo Exhibit

Finalist Biographies

Dennis Abriola

I am a retired Electrician who was born and raised in Vineland, New Jersey. When I was a young boy I remember loving the outdoors, always wanting to be outside experiencing nature, and curious about the world around me.

While exploring a spare room in my Mom's house I found an old box camera. I figured out how it worked, and it was magical. Remembering how I felt when the shutter released, being able to explore and capture a subject in its purest form. The day my Mom would pick up the film after getting it processed was a day of great anticipation and excitement. I would discover how I captured the world through the lens of a camera as seen through my eyes.

I am always impressed by the natural beauty of the landscapes, whether it is the reflections in the lakes and ponds or the flight of a bird sailing through the air. After shooting thousands upon thousands of pictures, it still brings me great joy and excitement to view the images for the first time.

I am a member of the South Jersey Camera Club, Stay Focused Camera Club, Photography Club of Cape May, Professional Photographers of America, and an Associate member at the Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts in Millville NJ. My website is <u>www.dennisabriola.com</u> and E-mail dennis@dennisabriola.com

Rob Auermuller

My career in the Pinelands National Reserve has allowed me to see the Pinelands in unique ways; from the most beautiful landscapes and amazing species to raging wildfires and the effects of a changing climate.

I am grateful to have called the Pinelands my "office" for the past 25 years. But as a result of this career choice, I have been trained to look at the Pinelands through a professional lens. Often when I recreate in this resource, I find myself distracted from what's in front of me, only to see safety concerns, maintenance issues or the consumptive use of the resources.

Photography has helped me refocus how I see the Pinelands. It has allowed me to slow down, relax and be able to recreate where I work. Photography has introduced me to new people, new places and ultimately a new perspective. Life On The Edge Drones has reconnected me with a resource that I respect, protect and enjoy. Please visit www.lifeontheedgedrones.com to see more.

Shawn Ball-Dillon

My name is Shawn Ball-Dillon and I'm a head photographer at Adventure Aquarium in Camden New Jersey. I make my home at the edge of the pinelands surrounded by trees. My curiosity and creativity has forever been stimulated by my time in nature and I hope to share that sense of wonder to inspire others.

Bob Ballantyne

I have always had an interest in photography with a special interest in photographing flowers. After retiring I found photography was a way to keep active and spend more time exploring nature.

I joined a nature camera club and found a neighbor who was also a member. We became great friends and now spend many hours photographing and exploring nature together. We discovered the Pine Barrens a few years ago and have found that it has unlimited and unique opportunities for exploration and photography.

Matt Baron

I love photography as it inspires me to capture beautiful moments in time that have forever passed. My mind is at ease seeing an otherwise ordinary scene and transforming it into the extraordinary with the help of my camera. It keeps me active and provides an opportunity to spend time in the beautiful outdoors. Photography, to me, isn't simply being in the right place at the right time; it's a true passion that requires learning, research, planning, and sacrifice, among many other things.

I've been an active Piney for the last six years since moving here from Maine. Most days after the conclusion of my workday, I'm either heading into the woods on a hike, exploring the endless swamps, or experiencing a beachfront sunset. You'll almost always find my camera bag in tow. I enjoy finding new, hidden, off-the-beaten-path spots and finding the best time to capture their splendor.

Dwayne Botnick

Born and raised in New Jersey. I am a proud veteran of the US Coast Guard and have devoted my professional career in the heavy equipment industry. My love of Photography started in high school in 1972 with Kodak & Fuji 35mm B&W film and a darkroom. Over the past 50 years, technology has evolved photography in a way that was only imagination & sci-fi years ago. One constant has remained...the person behind the camera. My passion is landscapes, seascapes and abandoned industrial remains. Through my travels, I have not found anywhere that replicates what we are so fortunate to have... the Pinelands! Visit my portfolio: Dwayne Botnick Photography

Trisha Chappell

Photography has always been extremely therapeutic for me, especially while exploring more in nature. I chose the Pinelands as my subject because I not only live close by, but it

offers spectacular views from the serene trails, particularly of sunrises/sunsets.

Ann Darlington

Ann Darlington is a self-taught landscape nature photographer inspired by the beauty of the natural world. Using photography Ann is compelled to capture that inspired moment and convey to the viewers that moment of wonder. Inspired by the words of Irish poet, John O'donahue,

"When we walk on the earth with reverence beauty will decide to trust us."

Her work has been shown at many exhibits locally, including the Friends for the Abbott Marshlands; Pineland Preservation Alliance; Trenton City Museum, Ellislie, Mansion; Friends of Forsythe, National Wildlife Refuge; D&R Greenway Land Trust; and RWJ Gallery.

Additionally, Ann served as the chairperson for the Friends for the Abbott Marshland's 10th Juried Photography Exhibit 2022 as well as the current chairperson for the upcoming 2024 Juried Photography Exhibit.

David DesRochers

David's passion for nature photography was sparked by a trip to Glacier National Park in the summer of 2000. Since then, he and his wife Cathy have traveled the world to witness and photograph the wonders of our natural world. David is a member of the North American Nature Photography Association and an Associate Naturalist with The New Jersey Audubon Society. Over the past 18 years, David has shared his knowledge teaching workshops, leading tours, and writing articles.

David's photos have been recognized in several international competitions and have been published in books, magazines and on calendars. New Jersey doesn't have the majestic mountains of the west but there is still beauty to be found in our state's natural areas. The Pinelands has diverse eco systems, unique beauty and variety of wildlife offering photographers endless opportunities to create captivating and impactful images. www.desrochersphtography.com

Robin Eiseman

Robin Eiseman began taking pictures as a teenager for her high school art class in the 1980s. She wanted to take more but her parents turned down her repeated pleas to install a dark room in their house. Since then, Robin's lifelong love of photography has blossomed into a passion for photographing the night sky.

Living in Philadelphia, Robin frequently travels to the Jersey Shore and the New Jersey Pinelands to shoot the Milky Way and enjoys shooting the moon over the Philly and New York skylines. Combining her love of travel with her love of astrophotography, Robin has photographed the stars in the US, Canada, and Scandinavia. By day, Robin is an environmental lawyer, with a focus on cleaning up hazardous waste sites. In her free time, Robin enjoys knitting, hiking, and kayaking with her husband in the Pinelands.

Diane Emerson

My love of the Pinelands started when I was a child visiting my great-grandfather's cranberry farm in Hog Wallow. The red berries, sandy paths and the fresh scent of the pines immediately embraced my senses. My father spent his boyhood summers at the farm and later my parents and I would return to skate on the bogs. As a photographer, I want viewers to be inspired by the detail and beauty of nature at both its peak and faded glory. Still life photography is my passion, but I recently had the pleasure of visiting the Pinelands with two amazing photographers who introduced me to its magical early morning light.

We visited the Wading River where I shot "October Morning Reflection". When I turned to my left, I saw two dead cedar trees that had grown together over time. I called them "Old Friends".

Aleja Estronza

Photography isn't just a hobby for me; it's my reason, my drive to pause and simply take a deep breath. With my camera in hand, I discover a way to disconnect from the world's hustle and immerse myself completely in my surroundings. Whether I'm gazing skyward or capturing the beauty around me, photography gives me "Sanity in Nature"—a miniature getaway for the soul.

The Pinelands is, for me, the ideal retreat, offering a perfect escape. Nestled just far enough away to provide respite, its ever-changing landscape ensures that there's always something new to discover, making every day an adventure.

Kimberly Farro

I grew up in a town surrounded by the NJ Pine Barrens and have loved photography and nature since I was a teenager. I received my first DSLR camera from my mother as a gift at age 19 and have been behind the lens ever since. I started out shooting landscapes, nature, and wildlife. My favorite subject to shoot has always been birds.

I went to college for business with a concentration in marketing and advertising and took a digital photography course for fun which helped grow my passion for photography even more. Currently, I am the Director of Marketing for a local physical therapy company with over 30 locations and I do all of the content creation photography and videography myself. I also own a business, Kimberly Farro Photography LLC, where I shoot mostly portrait work including boudoir, maternity, couples, and family work, but my true passion still lies with nature and wildlife photography.

What I love about photography is that it gives you the ability to tell a story without saying a single word. It is important to me because I use it as a creative outlet; it's a way to express

myself to others and let them see something through my eyes, the way I want it to be seen. I often choose the Pinelands as a subject for my work because I love being out in nature and the peace it brings me. I have the utmost respect for the Pine Barrens and all of the creatures within its ecosystem. Being able to capture them through my camera and bring a piece of them home with me without disturbing them brings me great joy.

Robert Ferguson

The New Jersey Pine Barrens have intrigued me for the entirety of my life. The habitat, the colors, the smells, the Northern and Southern-affinity flora and fauna colliding together in harmony; the place is mysteriously beautiful. Locating animals is frustratingly intoxicating, but tremendously rewarding. The bottom line is I'm addicted to the Pinelands and could wax poetic for days...

I have forever been a believer of conservation through education, even before I really grasped the idea. I've also always been a share-junkie. The two fit together perfectly. I live to share my experiences with the world. I live to bring people closer to nature. I, of course, live to be in nature, myself! I want to bring the natural world to people's computer screens and household walls, in hopes that it motivates them to get out and enjoy it themselves.

This is a critical time in our history here on Earth. The world has changed many times over, but never on such a grand scale has it changed directly by the human species. We are at a turning point and the future looks bleak for a high percentage of our species. I've always felt that if you aren't part of the solution, you are part of the problem. Photography is one way to make a difference and get people excited about the natural world around them. Here's the truth:

"People protect what they love." - Jacques-Yves Cousteau

Anthony Ferraina

Anthony Ferraina age 69 photographer and naturalist. I always loved nature and the pine barrens. I grew up in the pine barrens so taking photos of the trees, forests and animals was just very special to me. The beauty of the Pine barrens is evident just take a walk on any trail or marvel at its lakes; sunrises and sunsets, maybe you will be lucky enough to see several species of Owls. The Jersey Pine Barrens is a special place home to some special folklore and stories, but no matter where you go it is a great place to experience. Enjoy what you do and do what you enjoy.

Gregory Fischer

Gregory Fischer is an environmental scientist at a local consulting firm. In his free time, he enjoys birding, herping, and exploring everything nature has to offer. His photography mostly focuses on wildlife; he believes that photographing and sharing images of animals in their natural habitats is one of the best ways to get people interested in conservation. The New Jersey Pinelands serve as an excellent backdrop for wildlife photography, with beautiful and unique forests, wetlands, and coastal areas.

Keara R. Giannotti

Keara R. Giannotti is a naturalist and the founder/director of Camp Creek Run, a nonprofit 50-acre camp & nature preserve dedicated to connecting children with the natural world. As an environmental educator, she embraces nature study as both a science and an art form. Her goal with nature photography is not only to capture the beauty of the subject, but to create composed, descriptive pictures that document intimate, macro details of plants, animals, and fungi to be used as reference to deepen her own understanding and share it with others. Keara finds joy in the process of discovery and documenting the details and diversity of life and considers every moment outdoors an opportunity to observe and learn. She shares her snaps and science & nature musings on Instagram (@Keara.Giannotti), and also on her website, LetsGoGetLost.org.

Michelle Gober

Photography is important to me because it is a challenging hobby that is very rewarding. I chose the Pinelands for my subject because this is where I spend most of my time. It offers so many opportunities.

Amy Golden

Dr. Amy Golden, a retired dentist, is a Salon member of the South Jersey Camera Club. She is also a Trustee and Ambassador for the Black Run Preserve and her home borders its watershed. She is an avid advocator for protection of the Pinelands National Reserve. Amy organized and oversees the Black Run Preserve Juried Photography and Artwork Show; the goal is to illustrate the unique beauty of this piece of Pinelands, while educating others about its value and importance to our environment, our own health and our well-being.

Rafal Goraczniak

Whether exploring the Pine Barrens of New Jersey or the high desert of the Colorado Plateau, photography helps me see beyond what meets the eye. It allows me to capture unique but realistic images with a surreal twist. Through careful composition and understanding of light and color, I aim to create photographs that transport viewers to another world.

In my work, I strive to highlight the beauty and intricacies of nature. I hope to inspire others to slow down and truly see what is around them by capturing these moments. We often overlook the small details that make life beautiful in our fast-paced society.

Photography has taught me patience and mindfulness. It has taught me to appreciate every ray of sunlight filtering through leaves or every ripple on a calm lake's surface. Through my lens, I have discovered a whole new perspective on life. So, when I pick up my camera and venture out into the world, it is not just about taking pictures; it is about immersing myself in nature's wonders and sharing that experience with others through my photographs.

Victoria Golden

I love hiking and kayaking in the Pinelands, I'm usually there at least once a week. The Pinelands has its own art and I love capturing it all. It's always a fun surprise seeing what's blooming in Spring, discovering mushrooms in the Fall, and Winter in the Pinelands is more colorful than most places. It's all one big Enchanted Forest and I'm glad I can preserve some of my memories spent there with photographs.

Janice Griswold

I have always enjoyed the beauty of nature. For me, photography is a means to capture and hold on to that beauty. The Pinelands provides a diverse selection of flora, fauna and landscapes from which to choose in order to pursue that goal. I enjoy mainly landscape photography, especially twilight shots that include the moon and other stellar objects. Sunrises and sunsets are also favorite subjects, and the lakes and rivers of the Pinelands provide ample opportunities for that. Also, given the importance of environmental protection in the fragile ecosystem of the Pinelands, photography is a creative way to support and encourage this ongoing effort. In addition to natural landscapes, I like capturing the charm of local towns, buildings, and bridges with nature's beauty surrounding them.

Patrice Grossi

I have been interested and active in photography since I got my first camera, a Polaroid Instamatic, as a teenager back in St. Louis. I have lived in primarily urban/suburban areas; St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee, and now a resident of Mount Laurel, New Jersey. Over time my love of photography has been focused on nature, landscape, and botanical images. The Pinelands offers an environment rich with photographic opportunities. Lighting, shadows, and wind all play into the final image, challenging and often rewarding. Recently retired, I am excited to be able to dedicate much more time to exploring the Pinelands and working on my photography skills.

Jeff Heilbrun

As a visually hyperactive person, I continually look at the world as juxtapositions in shapes, colors and light. Photography allows me to immediately record what I see.

A decade ago I moved from a frenetic North Jersey town to a quiet, semi-rural community in the National Reserve. My previous mental image of the pine barrens was a bleak land where a jetport was going to be built. Now, as an avid hiker, amateur naturalist, and historian, I find it compelling to embrace the subtleties of this unique and expansive region with my photographic art.

Martin Kavanagh

I was born in Dublin, Ireland. Blessed with an innate love of art and the outdoors, I spent

hours of my childhood and youth drawing and painting and exploring the woods and the mountains around Dublin.

America is the land of opportunity and so I came here in 1978 to improve my lot in life. I retired in 2018 after a long successful career in the printing industry.

I love hiking and camping and my interest in photography began when I bought a camera to photograph the beautiful scenery I saw on my trips. Those first photos were really awful, so to improve my photography skills I took a home study course at the New York Institute of Photography. In 2005, my first Digital camera, a Nikon D 200, combined with Photoshop, opened up a whole new world of creativity for me.

My first exhibition was a collaboration of my nature photos and a friend's paintings of horses. She introduced me to the equine world and this led to my collaboration with Author Loren Spiotta-DiMare on a book, published in 2009, called "Beyond the Finish Line": Stories of Ex-Racehorses.

The Pine Barrens have always played a special role in my life. Over the years I've camped, hiked, and canoed there and absorbed and felt the magic and beauty of the green pines, white sandy trails, and tea-colored rivers. Now retired, one of my goals is to take photos that capture this wonderful beauty and share it with other folks. Getting a good photograph is always a quest and a challenge that I thoroughly enjoy, and I get a lot of pleasure when people comment on how much they enjoy my photographs.

Dave Male

Dave Male is a professional photographer from Medford. His company DSM Productions works primarily in the dance industry photographing dance schools, dance clothing catalogs and varied corporate clients.

Like many others, he became interested in birds during the covid lockdown. He saw the need for positivity during that trying time. And with that a daily post of bird photos called Feeder Friends began. While his early photos were taken in his backyard, he now joins others on location sharing experiences and images.

Dave has posted a new bird photo almost every day since then with the hopes of bringing joy and fostering an appreciation of nature.

Jordan Marsh

Photography is more than just my job; it's a vital part of who I am. My career has largely focused on the technical and scientific aspects of photography, yet I find great joy in travel and photography excursions to unwind from my usual work. I currently work for a small helicopter company located just outside the Pinelands, a region that intrigued me from the air with its unique landscape. In 2022, I spent a year living in New Jersey, and I used my free time to hike and explore the Pinelands extensively. Although I have since moved to

Pennsylvania, I seize every opportunity to enjoy the quiet and solitude of the Pinelands whenever my work brings me back to the area.

Dennis McDonald

Dennis McDonald received his Bachelor's Degree in Photojournalism from Syracuse University in 1974 and began his career as a photojournalist at the Burlington County Times. It was a great time to document the Pinelands as it became the country's first National Reserve in 1978. The landscapes and the people inside the United States Biosphere Reserve became a big topic for a local newspaper.

McDonald worked on many projects inside the Pine Barrens for the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress resulting in numerous photographs used in the iconic book: Pinelands Folklife published by Rutgers University Press in 1987.

His interest in the Pine Barrens continues to this day with articles published in SoJourn, a journal devoted to the history, culture and geography of South Jersey, published by Stockton University. His most recent photo essay was on a snapping turtle trapper from Medford, New Jersey.

Cynthia Mezick

Photography brings me indescribable satisfaction, joy and peace. It allows me to capture the beauty and reality of all that is around me. When I photograph a moment in time and then later view the picture, a good photograph can bring me right back to that time and place with great detail of how i felt, what I sensed and even how it smelled. When I can bring that detail to those who view my photography it is an added bonus!!

Ten years ago I moved to South Jersey and quickly learn to love the diversity and beauty of the Pinelands. I spent many years of my time with photography in Central Jersey, North Jersey and Pennsylvania. I never realized the incredible beauty found in the Pinelands. Now, many hours are spent in the Pinelands.

Wendy Milligan

My passion for photography as an art form, allows me to capture the majesty of nature and to expose the handiwork of God through my lens. My hope is that when others look at my images, they are taken on a journey where they pause, and experience the awe in the wonders I have been blessed to see and experience. It is a goal of mine that the viewer is inspired to love, conserve, and protect the beauty of our world. The Pinelands drew me in after attending a presentation by Richard Lewis. I purchased his book and my photography buddy and I began our exploration of the infinite splendors of the Pinelands. I was born and raised in New Jersey! Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy (Psalm 96:11-12).

Tony Mondelli

Photography has been a passion for me since I was very young. My first purchase once I had a kid's savings account, at about age 10, was an early digital camera. As an invention, photography is incredible because it makes it possible to distill an instant in time and then peer back into it long into the future. As an activity, I love the process of capturing an image because it's therapeutic, it takes me to beautiful and interesting places, and it's fun.

The Pinelands is where I spend so much time taking photos because it's home, and I love it here. We are fortunate to have a globally rare, historically rich, and aesthetically spectacular environment just beyond our doorsteps, and it continues to need our protection and care. If my images can help to raise the level of appreciation for the Pines, that would be most rewarding to me.

Liz Monteleone

Photography is important to me because photographs are something you will have forever. You get to cherish, reflect, and share with future generations. Moving to South Jersey opened my eyes to the vast beauty that the Pinelands has to share. Nowhere else do you have such a special ecosystem that supports so many plants and animals. It is a place of freedom and solitude for some who need to get away from the hustle and bustle of their daily lives. The area also reminds us of how fragile an ecosystem can be. And the need to protect it, so future generations will be able to enjoy it.

Susan Powell

My interest in photography started with a class in High School. Photography challenges me to take the time to examine things to see them differently, be creative and to create a photo that captures a moment that is often brief or overlooked. The Pinelands is a wonderfully diverse environment of plant and animal life from coastal habitats to forests, not to mention historic sites and small towns. There are endless opportunities every season to photograph the beauty of the Pinelands.

Frank Sauer

Frank Sauer is a fine-art photographer residing in Princeton, NJ. Over the past ten years, he turned his lens toward the natural beauty of New Jersey. He holds a profound belief that beauty is not exclusive to grand national landscapes – it is equally present in our local environments. He likes to come back to the same locations many times, experiencing the scenery in different weather and light and over the four seasons.

In support of preservation efforts, Sauer has been collaborating with local organizations on a variety of photo exhibits, most notably covering the Mountain Lakes Preserve in Princeton and the Abbott Marshlands in the Hamilton/Bordentown area. Over the last two years, he has also been visiting the NJ Pinelands, which he finds both fascinating and challenging to photograph. He is slowly building a portfolio of this region and is working towards getting ready for a new exhibit within another two or three years. A selection of his work can be seen at franksauer.smugmug.com.

Jim Schill

Photography, especially wildlife photography, is an important part of my life. First of all it affords me the opportunity to be out in nature in the glorious Pine Barrens with my wife by my side who just happens to be a very adept bird watcher. And secondly, I get so much satisfaction out of the numerous hours spent in the field either searching for specific subjects or randomly stumbling upon a subject worthy of photographing.

David Seals

As a middle school band director, professional musician, and father of 4 musicians, my life has been filled with sound. Photography gives me the quiet and peace that is missing from my noisy daily life. The whispering of the pines gives me a sense of calm and hours pass by like minutes while photographing the intimate landscapes that can only be found in the pinelands.

David Shaffer

I do not consider myself an artist, God is the artist. Photography allows me to slow down, discover new locations, and immerse myself in the solitude and beauty of nature. For me it's all about enjoying the experience, feeling the elements and if I'm lucky, returning home with a photo that inspires others to do the same. Landscape photography is the medium that allows me to discover new places and share the incredible beauty of our world with others.

I've recently chosen to focus on the NJ Pines Barrens since they pose a great challenge. Waking up at zero dark-thirty to drive an unpaved sand road to an undiscovered location will never grow old. My only hope is that I can create photos that are worthy of the splendor within the NJ Pine Barrens. Living full-time in Tuckerton, NJ allows me to enjoy the NJ Pines as often as possible!

Gavin Shwahla

"To rewild our planet, we must rewild our souls." This is the idea that informs my creative career as a filmmaker and photographer. As a wildlife biologist, I studied nature through the scientific perspective, but it is through photography and storytelling that I am able to connect with nature on a deeper level. In the pursuit of rewilding my own soul, I have found the wild heart of New Jersey in the Pinelands. With it, a profound love and connection to my home State, one that I didn't believe to be possible for me. Nowhere is New Jersey's unique, raw, natural essence more prevalent than in the ancient Atlantic White Cedar forests that line our southern coastline. When I walk through a grove of cedar trees, I am healed. This healing energy is what I hope my photography can capture and is able to share with the world.

Daniel Slipp

Born and raised in the area. Lifelong nature lover. The pines are my escape and photography is a visual storybook of my adventures.

Kenneth Thompson

I have always had a love for the outdoors, feeling a strong spiritual connection to nature, whether I am in a forest, on a beach, in a desert, or just simply gazing at the sky. I am especially drawn towards native plants and the mysterious world of fungi, and the New Jersey Pinelands offers endless opportunities to enjoy and photograph these wonders.

Most of my photography is "macro", or close-up photography. I try to capture subjects that may not be easily noticed or seen and I try to arouse the viewer's awareness and appreciation for all the "little things".

Hopefully, my work will help us to recognize that we all need to tread lighter in this world and preserve the gifts nature has given us, both big and small.

Patricia Worley

My love of photography and the Pinelands go hand in hand. Each serve as an outlet for my creativity and a means by which I can share the importance of the natural world with the viewer.

My accepted images in the Pinelands Photo Exhibition are the perfect example of how the two concepts blend. The golden light on the new growth is a reminder that time is fleeting, and one needs to take the time to enjoy life. The solitary Snowy Owl sitting on a snow fence on Island Beach State Park reflects the changing climate and how fragile our environment truly is. The simplistic winter scene reminds us of the history entrenched deep in our society. No matter how often I venture into the Pinelands, there is always a story to share through my photography.

As a nature and wildlife photographer, I feel fortunate to call the 1.1 million acres of the New Jersey Pine Barrens my home.

Greg Zanoni

At an early age, as I was watching my dad process his photographs in our darkroom, I became extremely interested in photography. I took miscellaneous photos over the years but with my semi-retirement, I now have the time to wait for the perfect shot.

Interestingly, I always thought I would need to travel to Alaska to capture the majestic Eagles, that I admire so much. The access to the preserved areas of the Pinelands has shown me that there are unlimited wildlife pictures to be taken – close to home.

My pursuit of the perfect Eagle shot piqued my curiosity to begin taking pictures of other wildlife, landscapes, and flowers.