

Second Place Photography – Age 14-18
Michael McCloy – Southern Pines, North Carolina



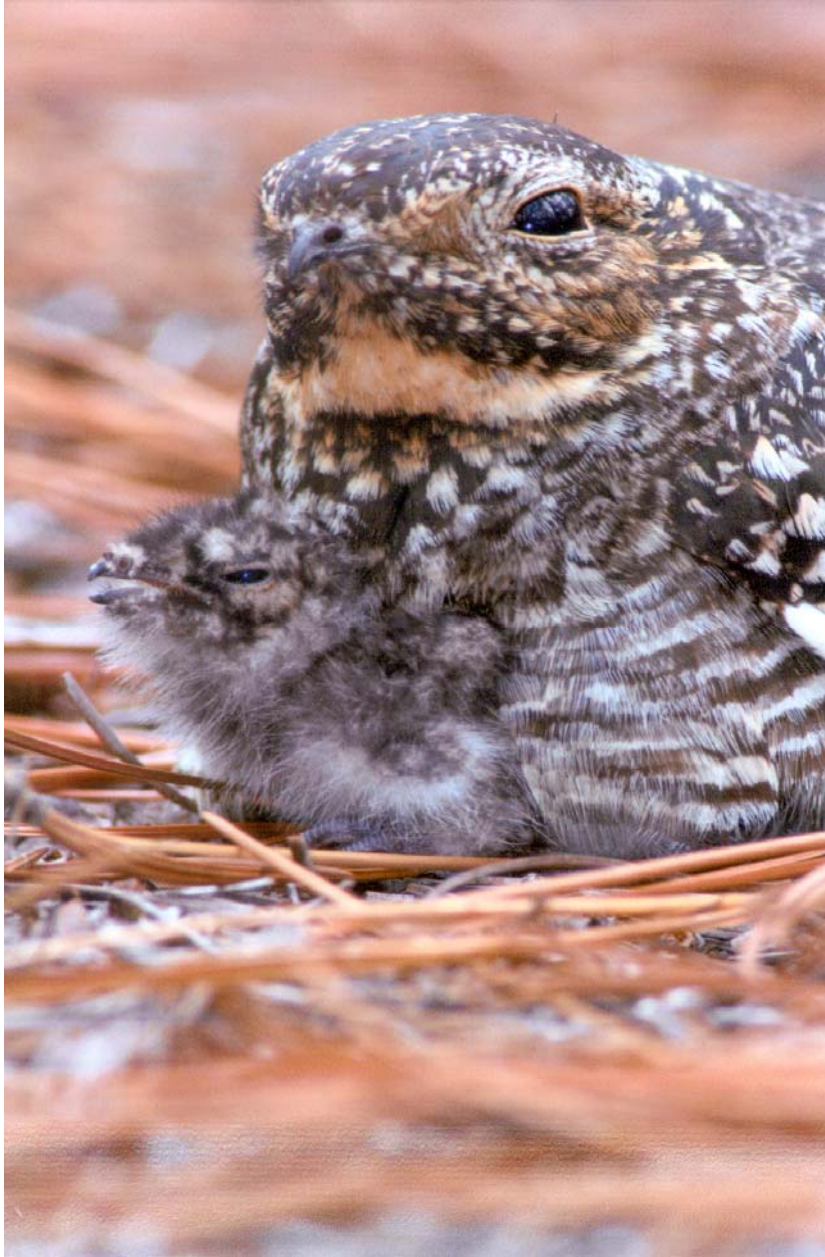
**Red-cockaded
Woodpecker**

Canon EOS Digital Rebel
XT (8.0 Megapixels),
Sigma EX 100-300mm f/4
APO IF HSM lens, Sigma
1.4X Teleconverter,
Manfrotto 3001 BN Tripod,
Canon 430 EX flash, Better
Beamer Flash Extender,
Homemade flash bracket

Shutter Speed- 1/640
Aperture- f/6.3, ISO 400

Sandhills Gamelands,
Richmond County, NC
May 27, 2007, 8:01 AM

A friend and I were set up
in a blind for about two
hours, taking pictures of
the adult Red-cockaded
Woodpeckers as they were
bringing food into the nest-
hole for the youngsters.
This was quite a low nest,
only eleven feet off the
ground in a Longleaf Pine.
Out of all the shots I took,
this came out the best.



**Common Nighthawk
and chick**

Canon EOS Digital Rebel
XT (8.0 Megapixels),
Canon EF 400mm f/5.6L
USM, Sigma 1.4X
Teleconverter, Manfrotto
3001 BN Tripod, Canon
25mm extension tube,
Canon 430 EX flash, Better
Beamer Flash Extender,
Homemade flash bracket

Shutter Speed: 1/125
Aperture- f/8, ISO 400, -1
1/3 exposure compensation

Southern Pines, NC
July 24, 2007, 3:49 PM

After locating this
nighthawk nest on 10 July,
I went out almost every day
to observe and take
photographs of the adult
sitting on the nest, as well
as the chick. While in the
process of obtaining this
photo, I snuck up to within
10-12 feet of the bird,
partially hiding behind a
tree and being careful not
to alarm it in any way. I set

the tripod as low as it would go, almost at ground level, in order to get a more smoothly blurred background as well as a more intimate perspective on the bird.



**Prothonotary Warbler
(male)**

Canon EOS Digital Rebel
XT (8.0 Megapixels), Sigma
EX 100-300mm f/4 APO IF
HSM lens, Sigma 1.4X
Teleconverter, Manfrotto
3001 BN Tripod, Canon 430
EX flash, Better Beamer
Flash Extender, Homemade
flash bracket

Shutter Speed- 1/200
Aperture- f/5.6, ISO 800,
+1/3 exposure
compensation

Francis Beidler Four Holes
Swamp Audubon
Sanctuary, SC
April 14, 2007, 2:53 PM

While walking along the
boardwalk at Beidler Forest,
I heard a Prothonotary
Warbler singing shortly
ahead of me, not too far off
the boardwalk. I walked up
until I was able to observe
the bird at close range, and
then shot away!