



Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc.

2009 MEMBER "EXCELLENCE IN CRAFT" CONTESTS

Rules and Regulations

1. Contest is open to dues paying members of the Virginia Outdoor Writer's Association, Inc. who are members in good standing at the time of entry submission.
2. Entries must have been printed, published, or broadcast between January 1 and December 31, 2009.
3. **General Entry Rules:**
 - A. There are 9 (nine) categories, which include: 1) Writing Column; 2) Writing Article; 3) Photo and/or Art Picture Story Combination, 4) Photography, 5) Books, 6) Video and films, 7) Art—Illustration, Fine Art or Cartoon, 8) Newsletter or Magazine, and 9) Radio.

(NOTE: If chairman feels an entry was entered in the incorrect category, he or she will confer with at least two board members to ascertain the proper category.)

- B. All categories must have at least three (3) individual entrants to be judged. If there are less than three there will be no category contest.
- C. Upon completion of the judging, entries **will not** be returned by mail to VOWA members. All entries will be available for pickup at the annual meeting. Entries not picked up at the annual meeting will be recycled or discarded.
- D. The deadline for entries will be **January 31, 2010**. Send to this year's Coordinator:
Dan Genest
12500 Musical Lane
Midlothian, VA 23113
Phone: 804/771-3844; Email: dan.genest@dom.com
- E. The Coordinator will distribute to the respective chair. Entries are to be anonymous, with the names and/or bios at the end blocked out on photocopies.

(Note: Chair or Coordinator will not perform this task.)

4. Categories & Rules for 2009 entries:

A. **Bob Gooch Outdoor Column Writing Award**

Column must be a regular (daily, weekly or monthly) named column, by a single author, in a newspaper, magazine, newsletter, e-magazine or web site.

- 1) Limit of three (3) entries per member.
- 2) Submit four (4) legible copies. Three (3) copies must have the name blacked out. Leave the name legible on the fourth copy, which will serve as the master copy.
- 3) If publication date and name do not appear on the tear sheet, entrant must list publication and date.
- 4) Block out name and/or bio on three (3) photocopies.

B. **Writing-Feature Article**

Feature article with or without photos, of no fewer than 750 words, published in a newspaper, magazine, news-letter, e-magazine or web site.

- 1) Limit of three (3) entries per member.
- 2) Submit four (4) legible copies. Three (3) copies must have the name blacked out. Leave the name legible on the fourth copy, which will serve as the master copy.
- 3) If publication date and name do not appear on the tear sheet, entrant must list the publication and date published.
- 4) Block out name and/or bio on three (3) photocopies.

C. **Photo and/or Art Picture Story Combination**

Article with up to 750 words and a minimum of three (3) photos or illustrations all by one author.

- 1) Limit of three (3) entries per member.

- 2) Submit four (4) original tear sheets, or four (4) good quality computer copies in color (if photos are in color). If publication name and date do not appear on the tear sheets, entrant must list name of publication and date published. Three (3) copies must have the name blacked out. Leave the name legible on the fourth copy, which will serve as the master copy.
- 3) Block out name and/or bio information on the photocopies.

(Note: Portions of this category, either the article, photos or artwork may be entered in other appropriate categories.)

D. Photography

- 1) Limit of three (3) entries per member.
- 2) Submit one original print and three (3) original tear sheets or four (4) good quality computer prints in color (if a color photo).
- 3) If publication name and date do not appear on the tear sheets, entrant must list name of publication and date published.
- 4) Block out names and/or bio information on the photocopies. Three (3) copies must have the name blacked out. Leave the name legible on the fourth copy, which will serve as the master copy.
- 5) Do not send large, expensive mounted copies of art work. VOWA will not accept these as entries and will not accept responsibility for their safe return.

E. Books (Must have been published in 2008 or 2009)

- 1) Limit of one (1) entry per member.
- 2) Submit three (3) copies of the book (which will be donated to the judges).

F. Video and Films (produced in 2007, 2008 or 2009).

- 1) Limit of one (1) entry per member.
- 2) Submit three (3) copies (which will be donated to the judges).
- 3) Include station or outlet and its address and time(s) the entry was run or played.

G. Art—Illustrations, Fine Art, or Cartoons

- 1) Limit of one (1) entry per member.
- 2) Submit four (4) original tear sheets, or four (4) good quality computer prints.
- 3) If publication name and date do not show on the tear sheets, list publication name and date.
- 4) Block out names and/or bio information on the photocopies. Three (3) copies must have the name blacked out. Leave the name legible on the fourth copy, which will serve as the master copy.

H. Newsletter or Magazine (layout, design, or editing—indicate which).

- 1) Limit of one (1) entry per member.
- 2) Must be an organizational newsletter or magazine of an outdoor-related club, association, league, federation, etc., a government agency or outdoor-related institution.
- 3) Submit four (4) copies of the publication.
- 4) Block out name and/or bio information on the photocopies. Three (3) copies must have the name blacked out. Leave the name legible on the fourth copy, which will serve as the master copy.

I. Radio

- 1) Limit of one (1) entry per member.
- 2) Submit three (3) tapes (which will be donated to the judges).
- 3) Include station and address and time(s) entry was run or played.

5. Judging:

Judging will be conducted by the Georgia Outdoor Writers Association; VOWA and GOWA are exchanging judging duties this year. The VOWA chair will forward all entries to the Georgia chair and they will reciprocate.

VOWA's judging for GOWA:

- A. Winners of VOWA's previous year's contests (or winners of the last year the contest was held) will chair the judging of one category of the GOWA contest.
- B. Coordinator shall send all entries to each specific chair.
- C. Chair must acquire at least two (2), preferably, three (3) qualified judges who do not know the entrants.
- D. Judges and their qualifications must be named.
- E. Chair should state how contests were judged (methods).
- F. There will be strict adherence to the rules of submissions. Late entries or those that have not enclosed all proper pieces of information or have not followed all the directions will be disqualified.
- G. Judges shall return all entries to the chair (except where those being designated as donated to the judges) and chair shall return all entries to the Coordinator, in particular any originals or original tear sheets.

SEND ALL VOWA ENTRIES TO:

**Dan Genest
12500 Musical Lane
Midlothian, VA 23113
Phone 804-771-3844(H) Email: dan.genest@dom.com**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: January 31, 2010, firm.

WINNER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Winners will be announced and awards presented at the annual meeting in March 2010, at the DoubleTree Hotel, Ropute 29 North, Charlottesville, VA.

The overall theme for judging is that which best exemplifies VOWA's Declaration of Principles as follows:

ARTICLE II. Declaration of Principles Section 1. We, who inform through the various media of the out-of-doors and its enjoyment, are known as the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc. Through this Association, we strive to improve ourselves in our craft, and to increase our knowledge and understanding of the outdoors.

We pledge our support to the conservation of natural resources and to the best precepts for the consumption and recreational uses of these resources. Above all, we pledge ourselves to maintain the highest ethical standards in the exercise of our craft.