



Winter 2021 Bent Caption Contest - Results

First - #45, David W. Hughes

Second - #69, Edward S. Matukonis

Third - #46, Louis W. Spradlin

Fourth - #17, Stephen M. Simmons and #35, David W. Kortebein

The Winter 2021 caption contest image, above, appeared in the Winter 1981 issue of *The Bent* and shows the incredible courage of the Convention photographer as he sets up for the group photo.

___ 1. "The fickle finger of fate - Just as Arnold was about to capture his prize photograph - WHAM!"

-----2. "This is better than sticking my head into the sand"

___ 3. "Stop looking at your cell phone and pay attention!"

___ 4. "We really need to update our data privacy policies!"

___ 5. "Fire torpedo one and prepare to dive!"

___ 6. "This sure beats last week's photo shoot at the airport."

___ 7. "There isn't any traffic as long as I can't see it.", quoth the Ostrich."

continued

___ 8." Whose bright idea was it to let the Senior Engineer use his camera?"

___ 9 "Next time I will just let them take their own selfies ...!"

___ 10. "I wonder if anyone will notice I'm taking a nap under here."

___ 11. "I sure hope an engineer is inventing a better way to do this!"

___ 12." Okay, so what is the plan for me to get into this group photo? "

___ 13." Wow, someone is taking a photo of someone taking a photo"

___ 14. "If I can't see it, it can't hit me" -- John Ostrich Smith."

___ 15. "Before STEM became the latest hottest, people used to take a variety of actions to hide the fact they had been assigned to cover an engineering convention."

___ 16. "Everybody smile real quick before I get run over!"

4 ___ 17. "Now, you guys'll tell me if a car is coming, right?"

___ 18. "What's wrong with this picture? The sun is backlighting the group and the photographer is in the boulevard!"

___ 19. "That engineer said *street photography* is a common hobby so my positioning for this shot should grab their attention."

___ 20. "These gullible geeks believe the hood is to improve exposure control - it's so no one recognizes me with the nerd herd."

___ 21. "Johnson thinks his StreetView concept could take off if he can learn how to scale up."

___ 22. "Conference attendees agreed the virtual reality felt so real. It was like the traffic was right behind them."

___ 23. "These extra large COVID masks sure are cumbersome!"

___ 24. "This picture should turn out great if this truck doesn't run over my feet!"

___ 25. "Hey, guy in the blue shirt in the front row, watch out for that open manhole! "

___ 26. "I tell you what, these 'phone cameras' I keep hearing about can't get here quick enough!"

___ 27. "Marilyn, please keep your dress down until I'm ready, and let me know when this traffic starts moving again."

___ 28. "I think we have another case of Targeting: an Engineer using his head to calculate Pi."

___ 29. "Depicted here is an early prototype of a Covid face covering. Later refinements added an elastic band around the ears which eliminated the need for the complex tripod structure shown here "

continued

- ___30. "Where is the sun?"
- ___31. "Hey, I'm trying to snap the eclipse!"
- ___32. "Twenty bucks if you don't knock over the tripod."
- ___33. "Mr. Curt Gomulinski, Executive Director of Tau Beta Pi, unveils the new official Tau Beta Pi Bent at the 2020 Unvention."
- ___34. "Mathew Brady, famous Civil War Photographer, takes a group photo of 1885 Tau Beta Pi Convention attendees."
- 4___35. "Hey, how many seconds are left on the cross-walk signal?!"
- ___36. "Do you think the photographer is going overboard with his PPE?"
- ___37. "It might be cumbersome, but it's definitely more effective than an N-95."
- ___38. "Sadly, the freeway episode of Candid Camera never aired due to insufficient footage."
- ___39. "There must be an easier way to take a selfie."
- ___40. "I hope I don't miss the food truck while I'm taking these pictures."
- ___41. "Whenever I wear my ET costume in public, I bump into something."
- ___42. "This is how I filmed my daily walks back in the 1980s before GoPro."
- ___43. "As this vintage safety poster implies, whenever you take pictures from the middle of the street, be sure there's a speed bump between you and the oncoming traffic."
- ___44. "You're telling me that taking a picture directly into the sun on a busy street with a hood over my head did not make much sense?"
- 1___45. "After further review, the ruling on the field is confirmed. "
- 3___46. "A brave man, he will long be remembered."
- ___47. "Wait, Hold On, I am backing up a bit!"
- ___48. "Transitory moment before the truck accident."
- ___49. "Harry Potter and the defective invisibility cloak."
- ___50. "Designing the first Covid-19 mask had its risks."
- ___51. "I can't wait for autonomous vehicles!"
- ___52. "Eat your heart out Allen Funt. Smile...you're on Candid Camera!"
- ___53. "Mr. Phil T. Graph was just getting set up for his first big "shoot" when the delivery truck ended his career."

___54. "There is no truck in my viewfinder, now please SMILE!"
continued

___55. " In the early development of airbag technology, a setback occurred when miscommunications resulted in Farnsworth, Lead Engineer for the effort, mistakenly thought upper management had instructed him to create a prototype for a Nikon airbag, rather than the desired Nissan airbag "

___56. "These new portable speed cameras are simple, safe, and effective."

___57. "You guys smile right now, I don't have time to count to three."

___58. "Ok I admit it. I slightly over-engineered my Covid mask."

___59. "This would be a lot easier if I wasn't facing into the setting sun. I need a MUCH BIGGER flash."

___60. "Bad hair day. I'll take the picture."

___61. "I knew this time machine would not work."

___62. "Don't worry, the cover is just for my protection."

___63. "Honey, you're going to tell me when the light changes, right?"

___64. "Oh, he is just doing his TBP initiation project: find dark matter."

___65. " The last thought of convention photographer, Len Scapon, was "I wish I would have brought my wide angle lens."

___66. "And after seeing the convention photographer dodging traffic trying to get a picture, I came up with the idea for 'Frogger'."

___67. "Arch villain, Professor Blanderfeld's evil plan to shrink the entire population of Tumwater, Washington, on to the head of a pin was thwarted by an absent minded van driver texting while driving."

___68. "Now that I have you all in focus, I need you to all stand on your heads so you'll be right-side up in the view finder."

2___69. "I know there's a mask mandate, but this is ridiculous."