

TRI-STATE IN FOCUS

Tri-State Photographic Society

January 2009



by Jerry Carpenter

A 2-Part New Year's Resolution

I put out a call on the list serve for photographs for this page of the newsletter. I was inundated with photographs. They were all stunningly beautiful! It was a very difficult decision to make.

It was very obvious that while we may not have been able to get out with our cars (in Cincinnati we were at a level 3 snow emergency), we did bundle up and walk outside for some stunning photography.

The first part of my New Year's Resolution is to take advantage of the photographic opportunities that come my way. Something we all try to do. The weather this past few weeks has provided some wonderful opportunities for photographs.

But not everyone could do it. In the past, I have always agonized over these "missed opportunities."

So, the second part of my New Year's Resolution is to let those "missed opportunities slide by, not agonize over them and enjoy the work of those that could take advantage. Life is much better when we don't worry over what we have missed and concentrate on what we have and can do. One other note on our weather---it changes & repeats! We *will* have Winter next year and more opportunities *will* present themselves.

This month, since I received so many, since I have recently figured out how to make/modify "Contact Sheets" and thanks to Richard for some free 11x17 paper, I will bring these printed photographs to the meeting so everyone can enjoy all of these stunning photographs.

Donna

From Trudy's Desk:

As a new member of the Tri State Photographic Society, one of my goals in joining the club has already been met...to become more aware and appreciative of the art of photography. I'm very impressed by the quality and variety of images our club members present in our competitions and importantly, the willingness of accomplished photographers to provide guidance and advice to other members.

I have been taking photographs since I was 9 years old but must admit I have always been a "point and shoot" photographer growing up in the decades of Kodak Instamatic and Polaroid cameras. The move to digital cameras has allowed me to become more aware of the quality (or lack of) in my images and I'm on the journey to become a better photographer.

A few learnings so far:

- Visualize the image before I shoot...Sometimes there isn't a quality image to be made even though the situation is interesting and I'd like to share the experience with others.
- Know your camera---what it is capable of doing and how to use the camera to get the image and effect I want.
- Don't fall into the mindset that Photoshop will make every shot a great image...you have to start with a quality image.
- Develop a personal style and interest and hone your skill and quality of images. Don't try to be an expert on everything at first.
- Kick the habit of snapping photos of everything you see and do on vacation. Learn to see the great images and take lots of those.

I'm looking forward to a great year in 2009 for TSPS and hope each club member benefits from our competitions and meetings. We have a wide range of photographic talent and interests in our club and I do hope we all can benefit and contribute to the art of photography!

Trudy

Editorial by Mogens

It has been a pleasure to work on the newsletter for the last two years, first alone and then with a tremendous contribution by Donna, who really did most of the work. Thank you to all the contributors of scoring data and other good stuff. We made a lot of changes to the format and to what is now included in the newsletter. Donna is collecting ideas for further improvements and for a closer integration of the web site and the newsletter. I am very excited about the ideas which have surfaced so far. Do not miss this opportunity for impacting the design and content. Come out with your ideas for what you want and do not want in our club publication.

Personally I would like to see more pictures, winners and just illustrations to a write-up. I do know the limitations for the members with slow internet access. Maybe we need an alternative downloadable text only version for those folks? I promised Donna that I will continue to do a monthly column on "What's That Button For?", and unless this ends up on the list of subjects the members do not want to see, I will be doing just that.

Mogens

The Lightroom 2.2 Seminar Review

For me, this Lightroom seminar fulfilled my expectations. It was put on by Kelby Training in association with Adobe. It covered all five modules: Library, Develop, Slideshow, Print & Web. The most time was directed toward the Library and Develop modules. Working with the camera raw settings was also included and very helpful.

Matt Kloskowski is an excellent presenter. He included a couple of live shoot sessions to demonstrate the complete process from taking pictures, importing files to the final print. The newest version of Lightroom, 2.2 now includes dodging and burning tools and reminds me of working in my wet darkroom years ago, only Lightroom is now so much more convenient!

Of the seven club members who attended, those not familiar with Lightroom said they gained a good understanding of what it can do. Users of Lightroom, like me, gained additional tips and a better understanding of its capabilities.

This was my second NAPP seminar and I am continuing to be impressed with the quality for the price. Now I need to gain more knowledge in using CS3. Matt demonstrated nicely how CS3 (or CS4) could be used in conjunction with Lightroom to further enhance pictures.

All in all it was a great seminar covering a lot of material. I will be using the complimentary instruction manual on future photographs.

John Kubler

January Pictorial -
Open (Informal)

~~Slides - Tyro~~

~~Slides - Accomplished~~

~~Prints - Tyro~~

~~Prints - Accomplished~~

No competitions held

January Nature -
Insect Closeups (Informal)

Slides - Tyro

- 1 Szabo, John Lunar Moth In Tree

Slides - Accomplished

- 1 Thompson, Dan Whitetail Dragonfly
- 2 Fritsch, Jerry Spring Azure
- 3 Walter, Garry Ten Moth
- 4 Devine, John Great Spangled Fritillary

Prints - Tyro

- 1 Kempf, Becky Green
- 2 Kubler, John I Was Here First
- 3 Geiger, Ken A Face Only a Mother Could Love

Prints - Accomplished

- 1 Jones, Margaret Common Rose Butterfly
- 2 Kraus, Mark Bug Porn
- 3 Jones, Richard Damsel Fly
- 4 Carpenter, Jerry Orchid Mantis

TRISTATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY COMPETITION CATEGORIES - 2009

<u>Pictorial (1st Friday)</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Nature (3rd Friday)</u>
Voting on Competition Issues	January	Insect Close-Ups Slides/Informal Prints
Horses Slides/Informal Prints	February	Open Slides/Informal Prints
Open Formal Prints/Slides	March	Animals Longer Than 8 Feet In Length, Width, Height, Or Wingspan Slides/Informal Prints
Timepieces Slides/Informal Prints	April	Birds In Flight Slides/Informal Prints
Open Slides/Informal Prints	May	Open Formal Prints/Slides
Working People Slides/Informal Prints	June	Open Slides/Informal Prints
Open Formal Prints/Slides	July	Ducks Slides/Informal Prints
Boats Or Ships Slides/Informal Prints	August	Mostly White Or Mostly Black Slides/Informal Prints
Open Slides/Informal Prints	September	Open Formal Prints/Slides
Wheels Slides/Informal Prints	October	Open Slides/Informal Prints
Open Formal Prints/Slides	November	Sea Life, Flora Or Fauna Slides/Informal Prints
Two Photos Of Same Subject (Before/After, Seasonal, Etc.) Slides/Informal Prints	December	Open Slides/Informal Prints

Reminder:
Limit 1 print for Competitions.

*Additional print(s) will be for
Display and Discussion.*

TRISTATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY COMPETITION CATEGORIES - 2010

<u>Pictorial (1st Friday)</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Nature (3rd Friday)</u>
Open Slides/Informal Prints	January	Wild Animal Babies Slides/Informal Prints
Books Slides/Informal Prints	February	Open Slides/Informal Prints
Open Formal Prints/Slides	March	Sand Slides/Informal Prints
Rural Images Slides/Informal Prints	April	Peaks Slides/Informal Prints
Open Slides/Informal Prints	May	Open Formal Prints/Slides
Nightscapes Slides/Informal Prints	June	Open Slides/Informal Prints
Open Formal Prints/Slides	July	Animals With Antlers Or Horns Slides/Informal Prints
Musical Instruments Slides/Informal Prints	August	Poisonous Or Venomous Slides/Informal Prints
Open Slides/Informal Prints	September	Open Formal Prints/Slides
Hobbies Slides/Informal Prints	October	Open Slides/Informal Prints
Open Formal Prints/Slides	November	Raptors Slides/Informal Prints
Architectural Detail Slides/Informal Prints	December	Open Slides/Informal Prints

Activities

Programs/Presentations

February - Alaska Wildlife in Katmai National Park

March - Tom Conway on Large Format Photography

April -

May -

Refreshments

February - Bob & Becky Kemp

→ **March** - Mark Kraus, Jerry Fritsch

→ **April** - Donna Loughry, Margaret Jones

→ **May** - Trudy Flowers, Bob Ebersole

June - John Jackson, John Kubler, Ann Deering

→ **July** - Jeff Snyder

→ **August** - Dale Voelker, Don Wiedeman

→ **September** - John Devine, Dave Leiby

October - Margie Stigler, Melissa & Harold Taylor

→ **November** - Donald Haskell, Jerry Carpenter

December - Everybody

→ **More people are needed to help with refreshments!** (Most months have only two people.) Please contact Wilda or Katherine to volunteer. If you have questions or would like to sign up, please talk to Katherine Miller or Wilda Everman.

Field Trips

If you have field trip destinations you would like to see the club go to, let Jerry Carpenter know.

Competition Awards Banquet/Potluck

Date: March 14th **Time:** 6 PM

Cost: \$5 per person. Please pay John Szabo.

A sign up sheet will be circulated at the next several meetings. Please fill in your name, total number of people coming and what type of dish you are bringing (appetizer, side dish or desert).

Deadline for sign up will be the meeting on March 6th.

For any additional questions, contact Katherine Miller.

March Club Show & Exhibit

Our 2009 Club Show & Exhibit will be at Sharon Woods, March 21 thru March 29, 2009.

Saturday March 21 - day for setup,

Sunday, March 22 - 1-4 PM, Meet the Photographers Reception.

Sunday, March 29 - day for taking down the display. Everything must be down by the end of the day.

If you have questions or can help please contact Joy Sallee or Richard Jones.

What's that Button For?

This month: The WB (White Balance) button/dial

The “Tip Of The Month” is gone. Instead we will try something a little different. Have you checked the number of buttons on your digital camera? I have about 20 buttons, dials and switches, and that’s just on the outside. When you include all the menu settings it is just overwhelming. Looking for answers in the manual, forget it. This year I will discuss some of the buttons and hopefully provide some help. Here we go!

I bet that nearly all of us are using the Auto WB setting most, if not all of the time. After all it’s automatic. Auto does not mean that the camera is choosing the RIGHT setting. In bright sunshine with a good blend of colors the WB is pretty good but otherwise it is a matter of being close. For some folks close enough. The “Photoshoppers” in our crowd know that you can adjust just about anything in post-processing, but do you really know the correct K

setting for the images? Using Grey cards is helpful, though a little cumbersome. On the other hand, what about using the built-in WB selector on your camera, especially for pictures taken in incandescent light (no flash). Just try it once to see the image quality difference between Auto and manual WB.

Is this important for you? Let me suggest this: In the past you did not shoot at sensor sensitivity higher than ISO 400 or you would get a lot of noise. In the latest generation of digital cameras you will get sharp, low noise images up to ISO 3200 and together with VR lenses you will shoot in ambient light in spots you never did before. And here is the point: When doing so, the manual WB setting will give significantly better colors than with the Auto setting. Try it out and don’t forget to switch back to Auto when done!

Mogens

2009 Tri-State Officers & Chairpersons

President
Trudy Flowers
Vice-President
Mark Kahles
Secretary
Joy Sallee
Treasurer
John Szabo
Website
Rob Coomer
Banquet/Refreshments
Katherine Miller
Wilda Everman
Equipment
Dale Voelker

Location & Setup
Bob Ihrig
Exhibits/Publicity
Joy Sallee
Field Trips
Nancy Beers
Jerry Carpenter
Membership
Jerry Carpenter
Nature Slide Chair
Jerry Fritsch
Mark Kraus
Pictorial Slide Chairs
Margaret Jones
Donna Loughry

Digital Print Pictorial Chairs
John Jackson
John Kubler
Digital Print Nature Chairs
Mary Jo Offut
Dan Thompson
Newsletter
Donna Loughry
Points/Awards
Margaret Jones
Programs
Jeff Snyder
Caroline Statkus
PSA
John Devine (until July 09)
(Don Weideman - July 09)