



In

Focus

Tri-State Photographic Society

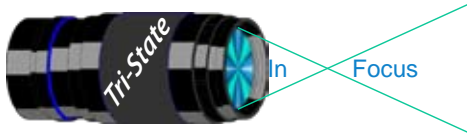
Volume 17

Issue #10

December 2010



"Finished" by Donna Loughry.  
Canon XSI , 1/200, f9.5, Auto White Balance



## On the Cover

### To Be or Not To Be Or Somewhere Inbetween

When photographing/recording events, there is a dilemma that every photographer has. If you are participating/involved in any event, you cannot document that event with your camera most of the time. If you are just watching the event, you have the time to evaluate the scene and catch some great shots. Rarely, however, with some planning, you can do both.

Late on Christmas Eve with my parents and my brother's family, we decided to make Christmas sugar cookies – the kind that are cutout, iced and decorated with sprinkles. It was a family event that included everyone – including me. Did I get any photographs of the event? No! I was too busy having a blast helping my 4 year old niece and 6 year old nephew roll out the dough and cut out the cookies while the rest of the adults did the baking, icing and decorating. Do I wish I had some images, yes! But I sure had fun making, according to nephew, 134 cookies! We celebrated by eating some with milk!

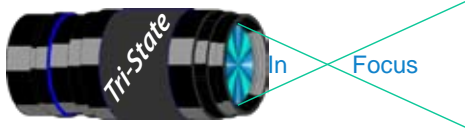
On the day after Christmas, with 5 inches of snow on the ground, my brother and his son decided to make an igloo. This time I wanted to document it. While his son eventually went inside because he was cold, my dad, brother and

I did finish the igloo. With temperatures in the 20's, I had my camera around my neck under my coat. I was able to shovel and push the snow to the person filling cardboard boxes for the snow blocks while my camera was warm under my coat. Throughout the process, I was able to take few minutes and get some shots of the process. This was how I got the pictures including the documentary shot above. (*That's my dad in the Igloo.*)

During other family events I either, stay out of the event and take pictures or I join the event and have nothing. The only way I could take part and take pictures was to have my camera ready either in my hand or within reach. I am now known in my family as always having a camera nearby, ready to take a photograph.

Are there any guidelines for making this decision? I have not found any except the old Girl Scout motto to "Be Prepared." Each one of us has to make the decision be involved, or not be involved. Or, if possible, figure a way to do both. Happy New Year!

*Donna*



## Observing and/or Photographing the Heavens

Have you ever looked at the night sky on a really dark night – no moon, no city lights, and no other distraction that will interfere with actually seeing the Milky Way in all its magnificent beauty? Well, it isn't likely unless you are in a location far from "civilization" as we know it. Ann and I have – as I am sure many of you have – camped and canoed in Canada when we were far away from any major city. We have seen the night sky when the Milky Way seems to stretch entirely from horizon to horizon. Now, if you haven't, you have missed a sight unparalleled anywhere else. Even the bright lights of our major cities – as beautiful as they might be – cannot compare with the Milky Way.

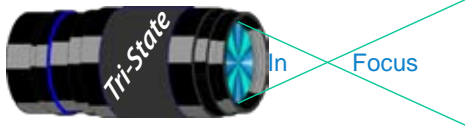
The Milky Way, the magnificent "smear" of light across the sky, has been called by many names in an attempt to explain its being there. For example, primitive societies have called it the "backbone" of night as if the sky were some great beast inside of which we live. In the modern world, we still call it the Milky Way because the ancient Greeks called it the milk of the breasts of the goddess Hera [Greek mythology: the Queen of Heaven]. We have gone out on a Canadian lake just to gaze at the sky. Beautiful! However, in many locations, it has become more and more difficult to see this sight since "darkness is becoming an endangered 'species,'" so to speak. Unfortunately cities have used lights that focus their light in all directions, but there are other lights that focus their light downward only.

Some of the great telescopes of the world were in danger of losing their potential because of the reflected city lights in the sky. Finally legislation has forced some city governments near the "giants" to utilize the downward focused lights. However, where this legislation has not been passed, photographing the skies in most places has become a fruitless endeavor whether it is just creating "star trails" or photographing the Moon. (This is certainly true in Greater Cincinnati.) However, some years ago I actually photographed three of the four Galilean moons of Jupiter from our driveway. I doubt that this is still feasible.

Ann and I have a refractor telescope that we have used for many years; but even where our Lake house is near Somerset, Kentucky, the light-polluted sky has taken much of the adventure out of seeing the night sky as it really is, not to mention photographing it. Or course, more and more the safety of doing such things has been diminished with so much misbehavior of some elements of our society. That is one of the reasons "star parties" have become popular – safety in numbers.

Our editor, Donna, has given me the "go-ahead" to write a short column each month pointing out the stars and the planets of the night sky for each month. In this column, I am going to point out where the planets and the prominent stars are "showing off" for us; so let's begin with January 2011 on the next page \* →

*John Deering*



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## January 2011 Heavens

The year 2011 has been named the year to honor our solar system. January is a great month for planets. Five of our nine are going to be visible; even Uranus will be visible with binoculars.

**January 1:** Look for Jupiter, our largest, high in the south at nightfall. (It will stand out! Even in most polluted skies, you cannot miss it.) Then with binoculars, look for Uranus just above Jupiter. It will appear as a tiny blue-green “star.”

**January 3:** The Earth is at perihelion – just 91.5 miles from the sun. Also, if the sky is clear – and “light-free” – the Quadrantid meteor shower is at its peak. (Many times we have looked for such showers and have been disappointed because of the “light-polluted” sky. But you can try to see the meteors.)

**January 4:** If you are going to be in Europe, Africa, or Asia – perhaps on a field trip – you will be able to see a partial solar eclipse.

**January 8:** If you are an early riser, look for Venus about four hours before sunrise; it will be high in the southeast.

**January 9:** Look for Mercury early in the morning – about 45 minutes before sunrise. First, look for Venus –always the brightest object in the sky except for the Moon – then look for Mercury, far to the lower left of the much brighter Venus.

**January 9/10:** Look for the largest planet, Jupiter, another really bright one. It will be to the left of the Moon as darkness falls on the 9<sup>th</sup> and below the Moon on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

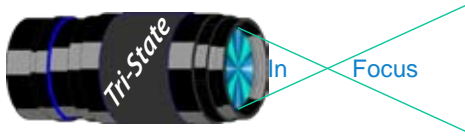
**January 24:** The planet Saturn stands to the upper left of the Moon as they rise late tonight. Of course, a telescopic view of this one is the most beautiful of all.

Keep in mind that our solar system is only one of millions (billions?) that are in the 4.5 billion year old universe. Even in 2010, over 100 new planets were discovered by astronomers. For years, earthly mankind thought we are the one-and-only planet anywhere. Well, we’ve come a long way since that anyway. How egotistical!

\* I am a many-year subscriber to *Stardate*, the astronomy magazine of the McDonald Observatory of the University of Texas at Austin. (Even if you are only mildly interested in astronomy, this publication is truly

informative and very interesting.) I shall lean heavily on this publication for locating the sights in the heavens for you. Several years ago I entered their “astronomy-without-a-telescope-photo contest. I used a slide named “Venus in the Lake” and won a first honorable mention. We were camped in Canada; one evening Venus was shining magnificently at twilight of evening and was reflected brightly in the water. Thus, “Venus in the lake.”

*John Deering*



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## Places to Go To View & Photograph Wildlife - Winter

Thank you to Paul Ice, Jerry Fritsch and Richard Jones for this information.

### Winter

**Jan/Feb** is a good time to see eagles, as they breed during this time. *Alton, IL (see special section below)* & *Land Between the Lakes, KY* get good numbers. Land Between the Lakes offers van and boat tours for eagles (Jan/Feb). You can also see (captured) elk and bison up close there anytime, but Oct-Feb is when the male elk have antlers. Land Between the Lakes also has (wild) Fallow Deer.

**Mid-late Feb:** duck / geese / swans migrate North. *Ottawa NWR* and *Magee Marsh (Ohio State Park, along Lake Erie)*. Massive numbers along Mississippi fly-way. If you go to Alton for eagles, look up for thousands of Snow Geese migrating. You may also see pelicans.

You can see Sandhills migrate north at the end of **February - early March** at *Ewing Bottoms*, near Seymour, IN. Also, fewer numbers at nearby *Muscattatuck NWR*. Muscattatuck is also good for geese, ducks, some swans, hawks, owls, deer and otters, as well as being a good spot for birds.

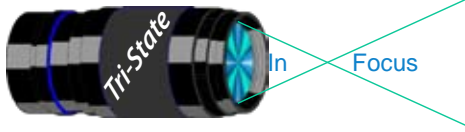
### Ewing Bottoms

The main attraction at the Ewing Bottoms in Indiana is the rather large numbers of Sandhill Cranes that spend January and February in the bottoms. The number of Sandhill cranes diminishes over the season. At its peak it may exceed 10,000.

In the midst of the Sandhills there may be a Whooping Crane. This bird is color banded and has a radio transmitter band on one leg. This bird has been seen on previous occasions with Sandhill Cranes. It appears to be a one of the Whooping cranes that were part of the experimental flock that were raised in Wisconsin and led to Florida by ultralight aircraft. Each year they return on their own to Wisconsin. There may be also a few eagles and tundra swans.

Directions:

Drive US Route 50 west from Lawrenceburg, IN. After passing the Muscattatuck National Wildlife Refuge and Seymour, IN, you will enter the small town of Brownstown, IN. In Brownstown route 50 makes a sharp right turn. Continue on 50 a few blocks, until you come to a sign marking the right turn to the town of Ewing. Drive half a mile to Ewing. At the center of this town make a left and descend toward the River. After crossing the bridge you are in the bottoms. Drive around on the county roads as the cranes may be along different roads on different days. Watch for cranes in the air to help find them. They usually will land in last year's cornfields. They aren't hard to find.



December Pictorial -  
Architectural Detail - informal

November Nature -  
Open - informal

Slides - Accomplished

- |   |               |                      |
|---|---------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Deering, Ann  | Seeing Detail        |
| 2 | Voelker, Dale | John Roebling Bridge |
| 3 | Shadix, Carl  | Ringling Museum      |

PDI - Tyro

- |   |                |                            |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Kempf, Becky   | Capital Building Staircase |
| 2 | Loughry, Donna | Seasonal Door              |
| 3 | Flowers, Trudy | Flemish Renaissance        |
| 4 | Roberts, Sarah | Parisan Women              |

PDI - Accomplished

- |   |                   |                               |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Ebersole, Bob     | Lighthouse Steps              |
| 2 | Carpenter, Jerry  | Shadows On a Shaker Staircase |
| 3 | Ihrig, Bob        | Cathedral Ceiling             |
| 4 | Thompson, Dan     | Appalachian Architecture      |
| 5 | Jennings, Maurice | Church Doors                  |
| 5 | Kraus, Mark       | Nature's Architect            |
| 7 | Jennings, Miriam  | Stairs                        |

Prints - Tyro

- |   |               |                    |
|---|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Schafer, Lane | Temple Of the Sun  |
| 2 | McBreen, Jane | Grand Old Lady     |
| 2 | Steele, Keith | After the Battle   |
| 4 | Adkins, Julie | Rusted & Weathered |

Prints - Accomplished

- |   |                 |                             |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Kubler, John    | Mt. Echo Pavilion           |
| 2 | Jones, Margaret | Gargoyles                   |
| 3 | Jones, Richard  | Tiara                       |
| 4 | Sallee, Joy     | Uxmal                       |
| 5 | Deering, John   | Almost Ancient Architecture |

Slides - Accomplished

- |   |                   |                           |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Deering, Ann      | Mother Nature's Handiwork |
| 2 | Jennings, Maurice | Queen Parrot Fish         |
| 2 | Jennings, Miriam  | Fire Pink                 |
| 4 | Thompson, Dan     | Happy Holidays            |
| 5 | Shadix, Carl      | Ringneck                  |

PDI - Tyro

- |   |                |                 |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Flowers, Trudy | Blue On Blue    |
| 2 | Loughry, Donna | Where's Rudolph |

PDI - Accomplished

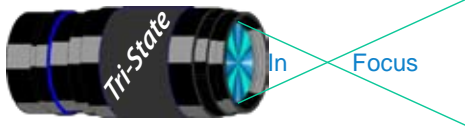
- |   |                  |                       |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Kraus, Mark      | Headstand             |
| 2 | Carpenter, Jerry | Dinner Time For Kitty |
| 3 | Ebersole, Bob    | Cathedral Falls       |

Prints - Tyro

- |   |                   |                       |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Kempf, Becky      | Little Tree In Winter |
| 2 | Kempf, Robbie     | Tern                  |
| 3 | McBreen, Jane     | Butterfly On Flower   |
| 4 | Schafer, Lane     | Morning Fog           |
| 5 | Miller, Katherine | Giraffe               |
| 6 | Reeme, Pete       | Ice Lights            |

Prints - Accomplished

- |   |                 |                   |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Kubler, John    | Plush & Cuddly    |
| 2 | Jones, Margaret | Pondhawk          |
| 3 | Ihrig, Bob      | White On White    |
| 4 | Wiedeman, Don   | Trail View        |
| 5 | Jones, Richard  | Eastern Goldfinch |
| 6 | Deering, John   | Wild Fungi        |
| 7 | Sallee, Joy     | Red & Black       |



**Please Note changes in meeting dates  
due to conflicts at the Center:**

**January Meeting Dates will be:**

Friday January 07, 2010 - Pictorial - 1st Friday

Friday January 21, 2010 - Nature (3rd Friday)

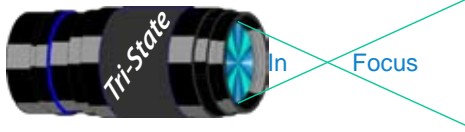
**February Meeting Dates:**

Friday February 11, 2010 - Pictorial - 2nd Friday

Friday February 18, 2010 - Nature (3rd Friday)

*Editor's Note:*

*Deadline for the December Issue is February 1, 2011.*



## TRISTATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY COMPETITION CATEGORIES - 2011

<u>Pictorial (1st meeting)</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Nature (2nd meeting)</u>
<b>Open</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	January	<b>Black &amp; White</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Pets</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	February	<b>Open</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI	March	<b>Rows Of Things</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Through The Window</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	April	<b>Seeds/Seed Pods</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	May	<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI
<b>Fountains</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	June	<b>Open</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI	July	<b>Weather</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Antiques</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	August	<b>Lakes/Streams/Rivers</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	September	<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI
<b>Churches</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	October	<b>Open</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI	November	<b>Sunrise/Sunset</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Candle Light</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	December	<b>Open</b> - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI

*Reminder:*

*Limit 1 print for Competitions.*

*Additional print(s) will be for*

*Display and Discussion.*

*A Formal print is Matted only -  
no Frames.*

### For PDI (Projected Digital Image)

If you would like to participate in the **Projected Digital Images** competitions you can email them to Jerry at [jafritsch01@yahoo.com](mailto:jafritsch01@yahoo.com) up through the Thursday before each Friday meeting. They should be JPEG format (.JPG file type) with the longest side having 750 pixels or less.

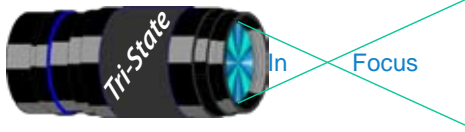
You can re-size the images in your digital processing software, usually under Image, then Image Size. Change the scale to pixels (not inches or cm),

and modify the longest side (height or width) to 750. The other dimension should automatically adjust.

If you don't know how to adjust the size, or can't, feel free to email the image to Jerry. He will adjust the size. For best color results, your JPEG image should also use a sRGB color profile.

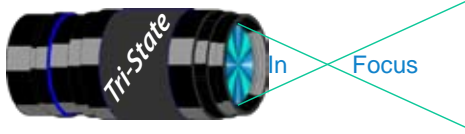
Please include your name, the image title, and if you are competing in Tyro or Advanced categories in the e-mail.





## TRISTATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY COMPETITION CATEGORIES - 2012

<u>Pictorial (1st meeting)</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Nature (2nd meeting)</u>
<b>Open - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI</b>	January	<b>Simplicity, Less Is More -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Anything Wood -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	February	<b>Open - Slides/Informal Prints/PDI</b>
<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI	March	<b>Power Of Three -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Tombstones -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	April	<b>Spring -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	May	<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI
<b>Tools -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	June	<b>Open -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI	July	<b>Blooms -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Hunting/Fishing/Outdoor -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	August	<b>Insects -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	September	<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI
<b>Photojournalism -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	October	<b>Open -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Open - Formal</b> Slides/Prints/PDI	November	<b>Landscapes -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI
<b>Hands -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI	December	<b>Open -</b> Slides/Informal Prints/PDI



## Refreshments

January  
February  
March  
April  
May  
June  
July  
August  
September  
October  
November  
December - Everyone

## Future Field Trips

### E-mail Address Change Reminder.

If you change your e-mail address there are lots of people to notify, and it is easy to forget someone who needs to know your new address.

Remember to let Bob Ihrig ( rdihrig@fuse.net ) know of any address change so he can update this on the ListServ. Please put "Tri-State" in the subject box.

## 2011 Tri-State Officers & Chairpersons

### President

Leadership Team

Bob Ihrig, Jerry Carpenter, John Kubler, Julie Adkins, Trudy Flowers

### Vice-President

Trudy Flowers

### Secretary

Becky Kempf

### Treasurer

Julie Adkins

### Website

Donna Loughry

### Banquet/Refreshments

Wilda Everman

### Equipment

Dale Voelker

### Location & Setup

Bob Ihrig

### List-Serve News Group Manager

Bob Ihrig

### Exhibits/Publicity

Richard Jones

### Field Trips

Nancy Beers

### Mentor Series

Mark Kahes

### Membership

Jerry Carpenter

### Nature Slide Chair

Jerry Fritsch

Mark Kraus

### Pictorial Slide Chairs

Joy Sallee

Dale Voelker

### Digital Print Pictorial Chairs

Miriam & Maurice Jennings

Jane McBreen

### Digital Print Nature Chairs

Bob Ebersole

Dan Thompson

### PDI Chair

Jerry Fritsch

Harvey Flowers

### PDI Equipment

Harvey Flowers

### Newsletter

Donna Loughry

### Points/Awards

Margaret Jones

### Programs

Jeff Snyder

### PSA

Don Weideman