



In Focus

Tri-State Photographic Society

Volume 21

Issue #9

December 2014

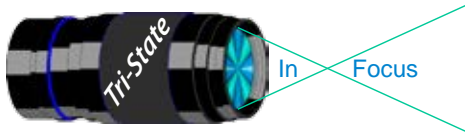


Motionettes at the Krohn Conservatory - 2014

by Donna Loughry

Canon 60D, 18-280, ISO 100, 1/45s, f4.0.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Something to Photograph when you cannot get outside...

This information recently came to me via e-mail from PSA. The project sounded intriguing and I thought some members who are not PSA members might be interested in doing this for your own benefit. You would not be able to upload your image to the PSA gallery unless you are a PSA member.

This would be great if you want something to photograph during the winter months and cannot get out. You could easily incorporate some of these topics into our monthly Pictorial topics. Enjoy!

Donna

A Photo Project for all PSA Members

Are there times you just don't feel like picking up your camera? Are you worn out from all of the tours during the annual Conference and don't even want to think about taking another picture for a while? Maybe the weather out there just isn't good? Or maybe, you just can't find a good subject.

How successful would a concert pianist or a long distance runner be if they didn't practice daily. Do you think your skills remain sharpened if you put your camera on a shelf to collect dust? Not only are you losing some of your technical sharpness, but also it is easy to forget some of the workflow that you use to process your images.

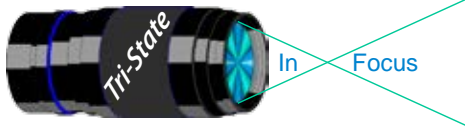
A 365-photo-a-day project can be a tool you might use to practice daily. This project is how you discipline yourself to use your camera daily by giving yourself an assignment a day.

Your interpretation can be very simple such as the illustrations shown for the assignment of *Stripes* or as complicated *Forks and Spoon* taken for Utensils. If you miss a day, you can do it the next day if you want, or just skip it and move on to the current day's assignment. If you get behind, don't try to make up the days you have missed, move on to the next day and continue from there. The only "rule" is not to go to your archives.

How about making this a New Year's resolution that can be fun. Here is a suggested assignment list for you to use. More information can be obtained on the PSA website, under the PSA Gallery page.

Dennis Hirning, APSA, MPSA /365-Day Gallery Director

The Daily Topics list is on the next page - Ed.



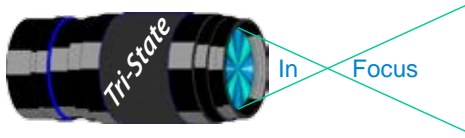
PSA Daily Topics List for January & February

January

01-First	08-Island	15-Rude	22-Hope	29-Smoke
02-Impossible	09-Repetition	16-Impact	23-Shave	30-Old
03-Roof	10-Faint	17-Expand	24-Aquatic	31-One
04-Guard	11-White	18-Border	25-Flower	
05-Small	12-Choice	19-Dazzling	26-Towering	
06-Moment	13-Smash	20-Control	27-Weak	
07-Allowance	14-Fluffy	21-Dust	28-Lead	

February

01-Shore	08-Cloth	15-Fall	22-Automatic
02-Rustic	09-Replace	16-Paper	23-Begins with T
03-Fork	10-Condition	17-Realistic	24-Fence
04-Air	11-Brake/Break	18-Remove	25-Surprise
05-Bottle	12-Labor/Work	19-Cracker	26-Melted
06-Travel	13-Bounce	20-Yard	27-Wave
07-Web	14-Red	21-Cold	28-Two



Observing and/or Photographing the Heavens

The Night Sky in December 2014

December 2014

10th Jupiter “dazzles” to the left of the Moon in the evening.

11th The Moon and Jupiter are easily seen this evening. Jupiter is to the upper left of the Moon in late evening.

19th Saturn is below the Moon at first light.

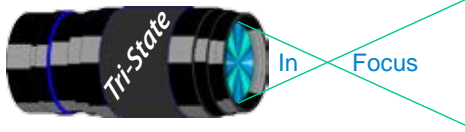
21st Winter arrives in the northern hemisphere at 6:03 p.m. EST, the moment of the winter solstice.

Source of this astronomical information is ***StarDate -- the amateur astronomer's guide to the night sky: The University of Texas at Austin -- McDonald Observatory***. If you have the inclination to become an amateur astronomer, this is the publication for you. Ann and I have subscribed for many years. We have a three-inch refractor telescope, and we have used it many times –when the sky was not nearly so *light-polluted* as it is now

and when it was safe to go into some out-of-the-way places – places that are more and more scarce -- unfortunately. For a long time, we were a part of the Cincinnati Astronomical Society and we'd go as a group to a park with our telescopes. It was a very enjoyable experience.

After I had retired from “principalling,” I was teaching English and Education at NKU and also teaching two Advanced Placement English classes at two local high schools. Each year I'd take the classes of 10 to 12 students (great kids) to the CAS for an evening of viewing with the regular astronomers. They always had an interesting program for us. It was always an interesting evening. We'd read some Carl Sagan first and the kids “loved” it.

*By John Deering
"a would-be astronomer
if I were smarter"*



A Christmas Wish List From A Nikon User to the President of Nikon

Dear Nikon President,

2015 is coming and there are several things Nikon Camera users would like to see Nikon introduce in 2015.

First, we would like to see a replacement for the D300/D300s. We have been waiting for years for its replacement. It would have a 24MP or more APS-c sensor and a heavy build like the D300. It would have 2 Compact flash memory card slots or 2 XQD slots. It could be called the D400. It doesn't need movie capability. If we want to make movies we will buy a movie camera that is more ergonomically friendly for movie making!

Second, we would like you to make cameras that have two memory card slots. The slots should both be for the same memory card types, preferably 2 Compact Flash Cards or 2 XQD cards. Putting slots for two different card types in a camera as you keep doing isn't rational.

Third, we would like you to make auto focus extension tubes. If you can make teleconverters, you should be able to make these.

Fourth, please make super telephoto lenses that focus closer.

Fifth, for DX(APS-c) format users please make high quality DX lenses and make more of them primes. Currently you just keep

tweaking the same mediocre quality focal length zooms.

Sixth, for those of us who are using the Micro 4/3 Nikon (CX) cameras, we need more lenses. Make the CX cameras part of a system like the DSLR system.

Seventh, we don't need minor tweaking of DSLR models. We need more giant leaps in technology such as when you introduced the D1.

Eighth, we would appreciate easier to understand user manuals that are indexed better and perhaps written by a person for whom English is their native language. Some passages in your manuals are hard to understand and contain stilted English.

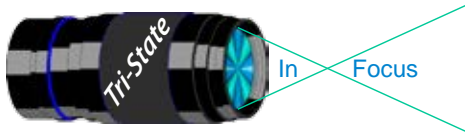
We also have a list of things we don't need you to make.

We don't need more point and shoot cameras, you currently have 30 point and shoot camera models in your line. Have pity on the camera stores that have to stock all of these models.

We don't need more slightly tweaked versions of lenses such as the 18 - 55mm, the 55-200mm, and the 18 - 200mm lenses.

Sincerely your loyal Nikon user.

By Richard Jones



How to Prepare An Image For Pdi Display.

Many people have asked over and over again “How do I make my image ready for PDI competition?” This is a description of how I do it which seems to be successful for me.

We all have our favorite way of processing our images - from shooting jpegs to shooting in raw files and making some adjustments ourselves. Note that, *if the image you took is bad, no amount of making adjustments will fix it.* That said, when we display an image, the amount of light, color & contrast falls off depending on the distance between the projector and the wall due to the light scatter in the air amongst other issues. Figure the distance between the projector and the wall, is about 10-15 feet.

On my computer with it's monitor, I prepare my image to my satisfaction. Everyone has their own way of preparing/correcting/editing their images with their favorite software. You can adjust these steps to fit the software you use. Note: Step 4 is an optional step that I use for my computer. The rest of the steps are pretty general.

- 1) **Backup.** Save the image as a PSD file at full size so you can redo the entry file as needed.
- 2) Because I use layers in processing my image, I flatten the image and make sure that it still looks good.
- 3) **Resize the image.** In *Photoshop*
 1. (image/image size), in “pixel dimensions”
 2. set the longest side to 750 pixels.
 3. The shorter size should automatically adjust to less than 750 pixels.

In *Photoshop Elements*:

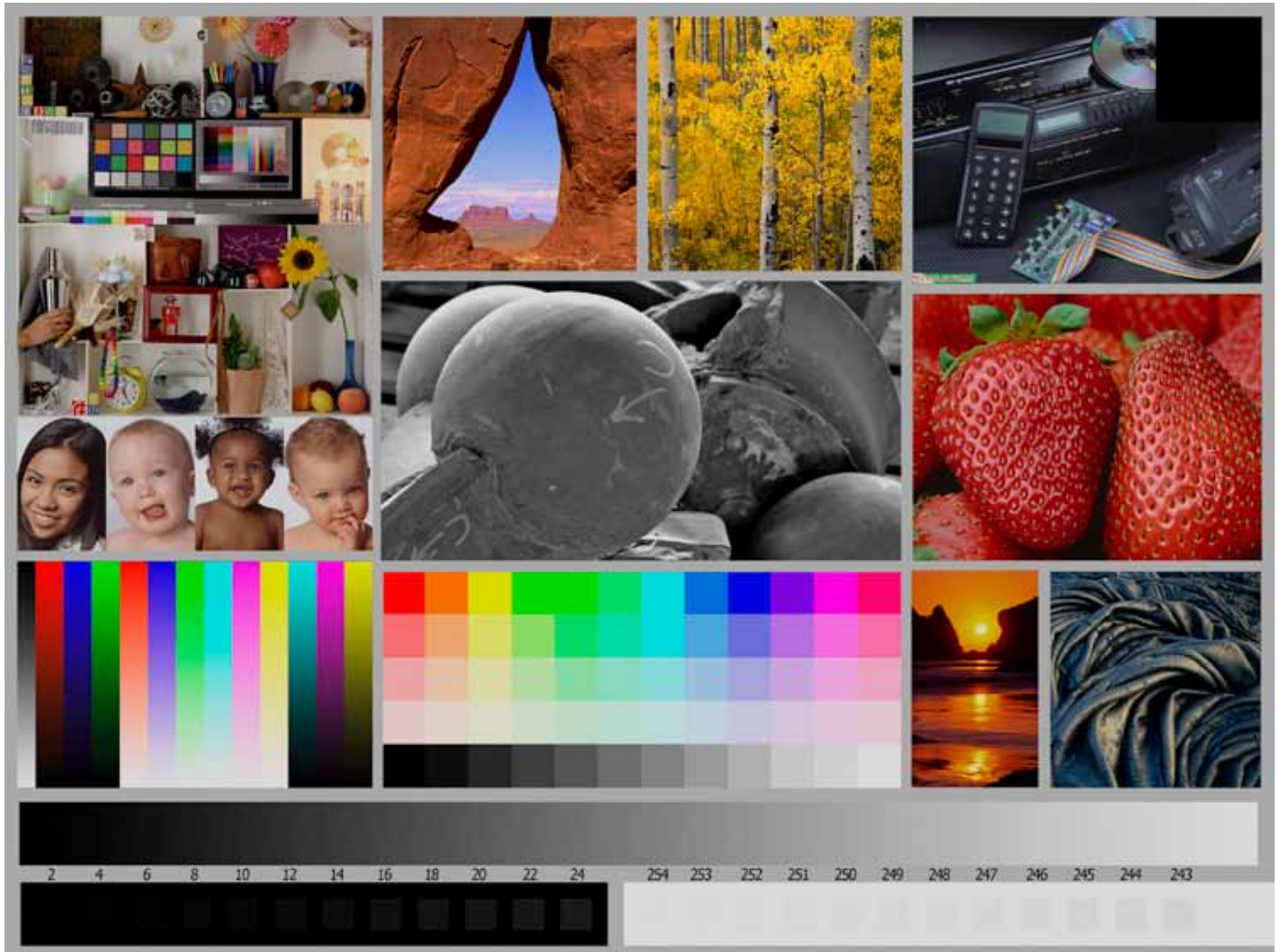
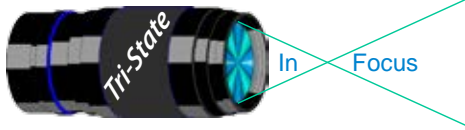
1. Open the image to be re-sized
2. Image>Resize>Image Size
3. A box will open - The top two boxes will show the image size in pixels.
4. Change the largest size to 750.
5. If the Resample box is checked at the bottom all other adjustments will automatically adjust.
- * Review the image to make sure it looks good

- 4) (*My optional step*) This next step may or may not need to be done with your image. But, I have found with my computer that if what is on my screen is already dark I may not need to do anything. Otherwise, I darken a light image by using a gamma setting of about .90. This is not much of a change but it has kept my images from looking dull and lifeless when projected.
- 5) **Save as a JPG.** I save the image file as a JPG file with baseline “standard” and a quality of 12 (maximum – least amount of JPG compression). JPG files are compressed by nature – you want the least amount.
 - * Remember - you can only open and save a Jpeg file 6 times before you notice pixelation and degradation of image quality.
 - * For the best display, I avoid opening and saving the Jpeg file after this point. If I need to make a correction at this point, I go back to my pre-jpg file to make the correction and then resave it as a jpg.
 - * Yes, the JPG is significantly smaller than your original file. But it is the correct size for sending to Jerry Fritsch for your competition entry.
- 6) **Review your image at 100%.** Photoshop Hint: Double click the magnifying glass in the tool bar to get 100% magnification. This is what will be displayed.

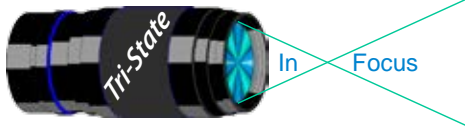
After following this procedure, you have a file that should be ready for PDI display. Send it as an attachment with title to **tristatepdi@yahoo.com** by Thursday Midnight before the Friday meeting. (*Note you can send attachments to this e-mail but not the Listserv.*)

I hope this helps everyone with the process. If you have any questions, feel free to ask. *Donna*

Thanks for Bob Ihrig for the Photoshop Elements instructions.



This is the image used to calibrate the Projector for PDI images. *(Note - do not use this image in the newsletter as it has been enlarged and therefore degraded.)* The file of this image is located on our website at <http://www.tristatephotographicsociety.com/Documents/TristateProjector.jpg> Once the image is open, right click on the image and choose "save image as" to save to the directory/folder where you want to keep the image. For any other questions, see Jerry Fritsch or Bob Ihrig.



November Pictorial -
Open - Formal

Slides - Accomplished

- 1 Jones, Margaret Temple Of the Sun
- 2 Jennings, Maurice Another Red Towel
- 3 Jennings, Miriam Fall In the Country
- 4 Jones, Richard Buddhist Shrine

PDI - Tyro

- 1 Denman, Ted Frisky Canadian Foxes
- 2 Smith, Randy Keeping Warm
- 3 Hathorn, Lisa Thomas the Attic Cat

PDI - Accomplished

- 1 Carpenter, Jerry Wow! My First Mermaid
- 1 Thompson, Dan Breaking Good
- 3 Everman, Wilda Baby Ava

Prints - Tyro

- 1 Charette, Nee Dick Huffman Bridge
- 2 Scheall, Ted Where Shall I Put This?
- 3 Whitehead, Melvin Friendship Park
- 4 Beck, Ron Picket Fence

Prints - Accomplished

- 1 Charette, Nelson Oriental Dance
- 2 Kubler, John Storm Clouds
- 3 Ihrig, Bob Bridge At Cataract Falls
- 4 Kraus, Mark He & She
- 5 Sallee, Joy Never Leave Home Without It

B/W Prints -Tyro

- 1 Hurtle, Jim Chicago, Cold & Rainy

B/W Prints -Accomplished

- 1 Voelker, Dale St. Mary Lake, Glacier NP,
Montana
- 2 McBreen, Jane Long Road Home
- 3 Loughry, Donna Branching Trunk

November Nature -
Against the Light - Informal

Slides - Accomplished

- 1 Jones, Margaret Seed
- 2 Voelker, Dale Peek-A-Boo

PDI - Tyro

- 1 Haakenson, Bryan Boneyard Beach
- 2 Smith, Randy Backlit Leaves
- 3 Charette, Nee Creek At Sharon Woods

PDI - Accomplished

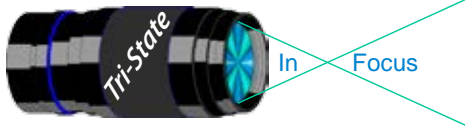
- 1 Thompson, Dan A New Day
- 2 Everman, Wilda Sunset
- 3 Carpenter, Jerry Moon-lit Owl
- 4 Charette, Nelson Glowing Flamingo

Prints - Tyro

- 1 Scheall, Ted Sunset In Maui
- 2 Denman, Ted Nature's Network
- 3 Beck, Ron Tree Line

Prints - Accomplished

- 1 McBreen, Jane Tall Grass
- 2 Kubler, John Sunset
- 3 Kraus, Mark Back-lit Flower
- 4 Jones, Richard Sunrise In the Mangroves
- 5 Sallee, Joy Backlit Leaf



TRISTATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY COMPETITION CATEGORIES - 2014

<u>Pictorial (1st Meeting)</u>		<u>Month</u>	<u>Nature (2nd Meeting)</u>	
Open	Informal Prints	January	Patterns &/or Textures	Informal Prints
Unusual, Strange or Odd	Informal Prints	February	Open	Informal Prints
Open	Formal Prints	March	Frozen Water	Informal Prints
Triangles	Informal Prints	April	Animal Closeup(s)	Informal Prints
Open	Informal Prints	May	Open	Formal Prints
Mechanical Innards	Informal Prints	June	Open	Informal Prints
Open	Formal Prints	July	Weeds &/or Wildflowers	Informal Prints
Foggy Landscape	Informal Prints	August	Animals that can fly	Informal Prints
Open	Informal Prints	September	Open	Formal Prints
Friendship Park	Informal Prints	October	Open	Informal Prints
Open	Formal Prints	November	Against the Light	Informal Prints
Long Exposure	Informal Prints	December	Open	Informal Prints

Reminder:

Limit 1 print for Competitions.

A Formal print is Matted only - no Frames.

An informal print must be no thicker than 1/8th of an inch.

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

For PDI (Projected Digital Image)

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

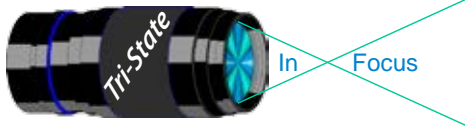
You can re-size the images in your digital processing software, usually under Image, then Image Size. Change the scale to pixels (not inches or cm), and modify the longest side (height or width)

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 tristatepdi@yahoo.com. The size of image will be adjusted. 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.

The file used to Calibrate the Projector for PDI images is located on our website at <http://www.tristatephotographicsociety.com/Documents/TristateProjector.jpg> Once the image is open, right click on the image and choose "save image as" to save to the directory/folder where you want to keep the image.



TRISTATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY COMPETITION CATEGORIES - 2015

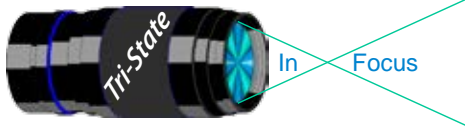
Pictorial (1st Meeting)		Month	Nature (2nd Meeting)	
Open	Informal Prints	January	Landscape of a season	Informal Prints
Bridges	Informal Prints	February	Open	Informal Prints
Open	Formal Prints	March	SkyScape/Cloudscape	Informal Prints
Urban/City Landscape	Informal Prints	April	Animals with Fur	Informal Prints
Open	Informal Prints	May	Open	Formal Prints
American Pioneer	Informal Prints	June	Open	Informal Prints
Open	Formal Prints	July	Flower(s)	Informal Prints
Abstract or almost	Informal Prints	August	Moving Water	Informal Prints
Open	Informal Prints	September	Open	Formal Prints
Urban Wildlife	Informal Prints	October	Open	Informal Prints
Open	Formal Prints	November	Trees	Informal Prints
Wheels	Informal Prints	December	Open	Informal Prints

Reminder:

Limit 1 print for Competitions.

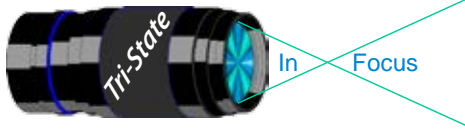
*A Formal print is Matted only - no Frames
and no thicker than 1/4 inch.*

*An informal print must be no thicker than 1/8th of an inch.
Additional print(s) will be for Display and Discussion.*



Topics for 2015 with Descriptions

Topic		Category	Guidelines/Suggestions
Landscape of a season	January	Nature	Image illustrating a season (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter.)
Bridges	February	Pictorial	Whole or part of a bridge(s) of any size, shape, use or condition.
SkyScape/Cloudscape	March	Nature	Just the sky, including but not limited to Sun, Moon, Clouds and/or Stars or other atmospheric conditions or elements with minimal other Nature objects in the frame. Example: Sunset Illuminated Clouds with a very few tree branches on an edge just to anchor the image.
Animals with Fur	April	Nature	Non-Domesticated animals with fur that is of any color, length or type. Definition of fur: fine, soft hair on an animal. May be course or fine, of any color and of any length. This does not include Feathers or Scales.
Urban/City Landscape	April	Pictorial	A scene which includes but is not limited to traffic, clustered housing, street games, people gathered on the street corners , waiting to cross the street, day or night or anything in between or any season.
American Pioneer	June	Pictorial	Depiction of people and life styles of times past in America. This would include but is not limited to living history exhibits or museums showing settlers, farmers, ranchers--their homes, ways of life, and activities.
Flower(s)	July	Nature	Any Single or Multiple, Non-Hybrid Flower(s) in a natural setting. Examples might be but are not limited to: a field of flowers or a flower(s) in the woods.
Moving Water	August	Nature	Including but not limited to Waterfalls, Streams, & Rivers.
Abstract or almost	August	Pictorial	An image of part of a subject so that it may not be obvious what the whole subject is. Definition of abstract photography: A photograph that does not attempt to represent external, recognizable reality but seeks to achieve its effect using shapes, forms, colors, and textures etc.
Urban Wildlife	October	Pictorial	Any non-domestic animal that might be found in a city or suburb. This could include but is not limited to: deer, squirrels, raccoons, Opossums, Coyotes, Insects, Lizards,birds such as pigeons, etc.
Trees	November	Nature	Whole or part of a tree(s) Including by not limited to bark, branches, leaves, flowers, seeds etc.
Wheels	December	Pictorial	Can be a wheel(s) (or gear(s)) of any kind. Definition of a wheel: a Circular frame or disk that revolves or can revolve around an axle or rod.



December 2014 Meeting Dates:

Friday, Dec. 05, 2014 - Pictorial - 1st Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Friday Dec. 19, 2014 - Nature - 3rd Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

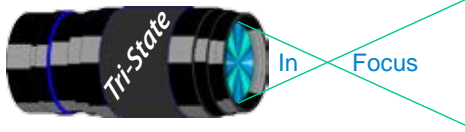
January 2015 Meeting Dates:

Friday, Jan. 02, 2014 - Pictorial - 1st Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Friday Jan. 16, 2014 - Nature - 3rd Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Editor's Note:

*Deadline for the Next Issue is
Monday, December 29, 2015.*



Website:

<http://www.tristatephotographicsociety.com/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/tristatephotographic>

PSA:

<http://www.psa-photo.org/>

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.

2014 Tri-State Officers & Chairpersons

President	Donna Loughry	Pictorial Slide Chairs	Margaret Jones
Vice-President	Margaret Jones	Slide Projector Operator	Dan Thompson
Secretary	John Kuhbler		Dale Voleker
Treasurer	Wilda Everman	Pictorial Print Chairs	Dan Thompson
Website	Donna Loughry		Jane McBreen
Banquet	Teresa McGill	Nature Print Chairs	Roger Ginn
Refreshments	Joy Sallee		Jane McBreen
Equipment	Dale Voleker, Jerry Carpenter	PDI Pictorial	Misty Griffith
	Pete Reeme, Dan Thompson	PDI Nature	Bob Ihrig
Location & Setup	Bob Ihrig		Randy Smith
List-Serve Manager	Bob Ihrig	PDI Equipment	Jerry Fritsch
Exhibits/Publicity	Teresa McGill (Richard Jones & Bob Ihrig)	Newsletter	Mark Kraus
		Points/Awards	Bob Ihrig
Field Trips	Teresa McBill Lisa Hathorn	Programs	Donna Loughry
		Refreshment Supplies	Margaret Jones
Membership	Jerry Carpenter	FaceBook Manager	Richard Jones
Nature Slide Chair	Richard Jones Dan Thompson	PSA	Lisa Hathorn
			Nelson Charette
			Joy Sallee - Club Rep. & PID
			Donna Loughry - Nature
			Jane McBreen - Print