Tri-State In Focus
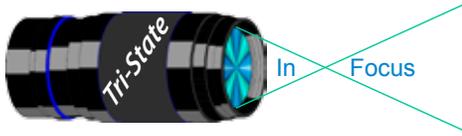

Lights in the Lake
by Donna Loughry
Canon 60D, 18-270, ISO 12800, 1/60, F 4.5.

HERE'S TO A HEALTHY & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Bracketing Effects In The Various Modes Of A DSLR.

When I am out shooting with loved ones and friends, I often have my camera set for bracketing my shots – for 0, -1, +1; 1 stop. During a recent trip to the Cincinnati Zoo to see the Holiday Lights, I set my camera's ISO to Auto. This was during the early evening when the light would be changing quickly. I had my camera set to Program mode so I did not need to adjust my settings in the darkening light. During the early evening, I noticed that most of the ISO settings were up in the thousands. Therefore, I tried setting the ISO to 12800 - the highest my camera will go.

While reviewing my images the next day, I noticed several things. All of the pictures taken at the higher ISO values were a bit grainy unless there were a lot of dark areas in the image anyway. However, when I set my ISO to 12800, my shutter speeds were quicker as would be expected and therefore, I had sharper images. I also noticed that even though it was rather dark, there was still quite a bit of detail in the non-black areas and the lights were colorful and not blown out. The images with the higher ISO values were better than I expected.

Being the curious person that I am, I decided to do an experiment with my camera and the effects of bracketing in the different modes. I set up a low light object on a black background. I took a series of bracketed photographs in each of the modes that I primarily use: Program, Av, Tv, Manual & Full Auto(sometimes). In each of the series, I took three bracketed shots with the ISO set to Auto and three more with the ISO set to 200. **Here is what I found:**

When my camera was set to Auto ISO, the aperture and shutter speed did not change in any of the modes. Only the ISO value changed in order to get the bracketed images.

When I set my camera ISO to 200, things changed. In Program & Aperture modes, the aperture & ISO did not change. Only the Shutter Speed changed. In Tv/Shutter priority mode, the Shutter Speed and ISO did not change but the Aperture changed by 1 stop for each shot.

In Manual mode, if the ISO was set to Auto, the three bracketed shots had different ISO values while the aperture and shutter speeds remained the same. If I set the ISO to a value, then I got three images with the same settings. The only way to get three bracketed images in full manual mode is for the photographer to change the setting between each of the shots – very tedious but it can be done.

In Full Automatic mode, there is no bracketing on my camera so there was only one shot. Because of this, I rarely use that mode unless the situation requires it.

What can we gather from all of this? During bracketing, it seemed to me like the camera is set to change first ISO, then Shutter Speed and finally Aperture depending on the auto and/or mode settings. It seems that the last thing the camera is set to change is the Aperture.

There is only one time when the camera will change the Aperture when bracketing and that is in Tv/Shutter priority mode with the ISO set to a value. This setup could be used during macro shooting specifically to get the blurred backgrounds we are all so fond of.

Now, back to my shots from the zoo. They all came out much better than I thought they would. The image on the front page is one of those images. It was taken with an ISO of 12800.

However, I do remember wondering what the ducks in the lake thought of all of those flashing lights not to mention the loud music!

Donna
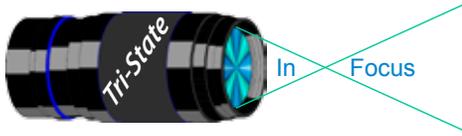
Something to Photograph when you cannot get outside…

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.
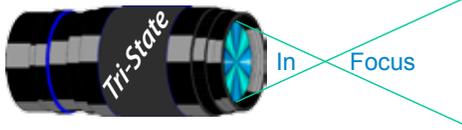
PSA Daily Topics List for January & February

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
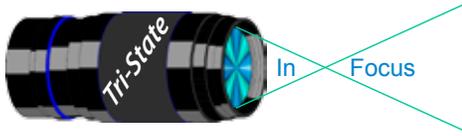
How to Prepare An Image For Pdi Display.

Many people have asked over and over again "How do I make my image ready for PDI competition?" This is a 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.

In Focus
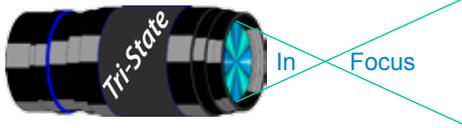
This is the image used to calibrate the Projector for PDI images. *(Note - do not use this image in the news-letter as it has been enlarged and therefore degraded.)* The file of this image is located on our website at http://www.tristatephotographicsociety.com/Documents/TristateProjector.jpg Once the 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.
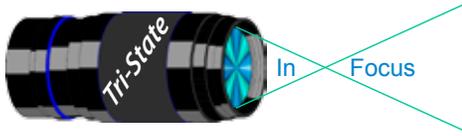
December Pictorial -
Open - Long Exposure

Slides - Accomplished
1 Jones, Margaret   Meigs Falls
2 Jones, Richard   Suspension Bridge

PDI - Tyro
1 Haakenson, Bryan   Morris Island Lighthouse
2 Smith , Randy   Three Candles
3 Charette, Nee   Restaurant Reflections

PDI - Accomplished
1 Charette, Nelson   Cincinnati Fireworks
2 Kraus, Mark   Thirteen Second Death Scare
3 Everman, Wilda   Quarter Second Mountain
                      Stream
4 Carpenter, Jerry   Christmas Lights In Gatlinburg
5 Voelker, Dale   Ash Cave, Hocking Hills
6 Thompson, Dan   Carousel Kaleidoscope

Prints - Tyro
1 Denman, Ted   1.0 (One Point Oh) f/20
2 Hurtle, Jim   Time Stands Still At Rabbit
                       Hash Store
3 Hathorn, Lisa   The Spirit Moves
4 Whitehead, Melvin   Automobile On the
                       Expressway
5 Scheall, Ted   Edge Of the Dark Side

Prints - Accomplished
1 Kubler, John   Rushing Water
2 Loughry, Donna   Silky Waterfall
3 Ihrig , Bob   UFO
4 Sallee, Joy   Over the Hill
5 McBreen, Jane   A Perfect Ring

December Nature -
Open - Informal

Slides - Accomplished
1 Jones, Richard   Red Shouldered Hawk
2 Jones, Margaret   Indian Leaf Butterfly

PDI - Tyro
1 Haakenson, Bryan   Spring At Tremont
2 Charette, Nee   Cataract Falls In the Fall
3 Smith , Randy   Doe In Field

PDI - Accomplished
1 Carpenter, Jerry   Looking For Dinner
2 Kraus, Mark   Swallowtail Feeding
3 Thompson, Dan   Ice Over Stream
4 Charette, Nelson   Hey, Mom, Smile For the
                      Camera
5 Reeme, Pete   Alice, Are You Down There?

Prints - Tyro
1 Hathorn, Lisa   The Leaf In the Grass
2 Denman, Ted   Nature's Pallette

Prints - Accomplished
1 Kubler, John   Reflections
2 Sallee, Joy   Eagle Eye
3 Deering, John   When Ya See Me Comin,
                      Better Step Aside
4 McBreen, Jane   Waterfall
5 Deering, Ann   I Ran Into a Brick Wall

In Focus
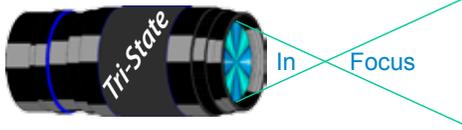
TRISTATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
COMPETITION CATEGORIES - 2015

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 <u>Competitions</u>.
A <u>Formal</u> print is Matted only - no Frames
and no thicker than 1/4 inch.
An <u>informal</u> print must be no thicker than 1/8th of an inch.
Additional print(s) will be for <u>Display and Discussion</u>.

For PDI (Projected Digital Image)

If you would like to participate in the **P**rojected **D**igital **I**mages 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.
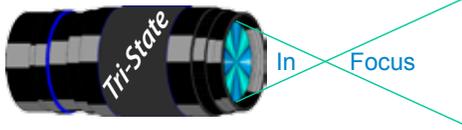
You can re-size the images in your digital processing software, usually under Image, then Image Size. Change the scale to pixels (not inches or cm), and modify the longest side (height or width) to 750. The other dimension should automatically adjust.

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.

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.
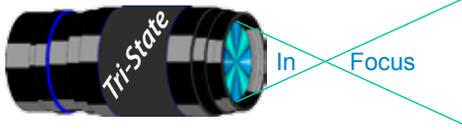
January 2015 Meeting Dates:

Friday, Jan. 02, 2015 - Pictorial - 1st Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Friday Jan. 16, 2015 - Nature - 3rd Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
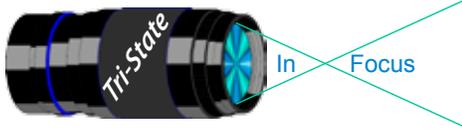Time: 7:00 pm

February 2015 Meeting Dates:

Friday, Feb. 06, 2015 - Pictorial - 1st Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Friday Feb. 27, 2015 - Nature - **4th** Friday
(Note 4th Friday due to a conflict at the Center)
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Editor's Note:

Deadline for the Next Issue is
Monday, February 2, 2015.

In | Focus

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.

2015 Tri-State Officers & Chairpersons

President	Donna Loughry	**Pictorial Slide Chairs**	Margaret Jones
Vice-President	Margaret Jones		Alt Mark Kraus
Secretary	John Kuhbler	**Slide Projector Operator**	John Deering
Treasurer	Wilda Everman		Alt - Dale Voelker
Refreshments	Teresa McGill	**Print Chairs**	Jane McBreen - Chair
Banquet	Teresa McGill & Wilda Everman		Roger Ginn
Equipment	Jerry Carpenter (Chair)		Ron Beck
	Dale Voleker		Ken Knipper
	Ron Beck	**PDI Chair & Equipment**	Bob Ihrig
	Teresa McGill	**PDI Pictorial**	Mark Kraus
Location & Setup	Bob Ihrig	**PDI Nature**	Bob Ihrig
List-Serve Manager	Bob Ihrig	**Newsletter**	Donna Loughry
Exhibits/Publicity	Open	**Website**	Donna Loughry
Field Trips	Joy Sallee	**Points/Awards**	Margaret Jones
	Lisa Hathorn	**Programs**	Richard Jones
Membership	Jerry Carpenter	**Refreshment Supplies**	Lisa Hathorn
Nature Slide Chair	Margaret Jones	**FaceBook Manager**	Nelson Charette
	Alt Mark Kraus	**PSA**	Joy Sallee - Club Rep. & PID
			Donna Loughry - Nature