



In Focus

Tri-State Photographic Society

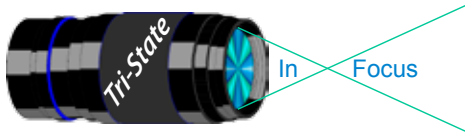
Volume 22

Issue #2

February/March 2015



Winter Steps
by Donna Loughry
Canon Powershot SX60HS,
ISO 100, 1/500, F 5.
*Tested out a new Point n Shoot -
It did pretty well!*



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.

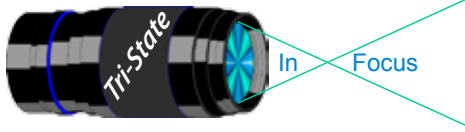
A 365-photo-a-day project can be a tool you might use to practice daily. This project is how you discipline yourself to use your camera daily by giving yourself an assignment a day.

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.



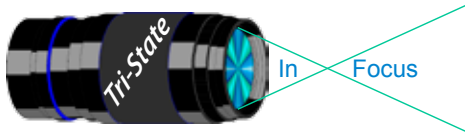
PSA Daily Topics List for March & April

March 2015

Day 1 Camera(s)
Day 2 Phone(s)
Day 3 Dessert
Day 4 Letter(s)
Day 5 Barrel(s)
Day 6 Glass(es)
Day 7 Package(s)
Day 8 Key(s)
Day 9 Steeple(s)
Day 10 Bridge(s)
Day 11 Smoke
Day 12 Bell(s)
Day 13 Card(s)
Day 14 Jewelry
Day 15 Hat(s)
Day 16 Piano(s)
Day 17 Bottle(s)
Day 18 Face(s)
Day 19 Time
Day 20 Trumpet
Day 21 Happy
Day 22 Dancer(s)
Day 23 Music
Day 24 Sandwich(es)
Day 25 Orange Drink(s)
Day 26 Twins
Day 27 Soup
Day 28 Wall(s)
Day 29 Graffiti
Day 30 Hand(s)
Day 31 Shoe(s)

April 2015

Day 1 Striped Candy
Day 2 A Favorite Food
Day 3 At last!
Day 4 A Street View
Day 5 Inspire
Day 6 Mess
Day 7 Grateful For...
Day 8 Before/After
Day 9 Be Positive
Day 10 Arrow
Day 11 Sweet Tooth
Day 12 Scale
Day 13 Composition
Day 14 Explore
Day 15 Listening To
Day 16 Around Town
Day 17 Eat
Day 18 Looking Back
Day 19 Letter
Day 20 Watching...
Day 21 Loving
Day 22 Morning
Day 23 Drop
Day 24 Drink
Day 25 Motion
Day 26 Cereal
Day 27 Communication
Day 28 My Drink Of Choice
Day 29 Lost
Day 30 Old Photo



Observing and/or Photographing the Heavens

The Night Sky in February 2015

Ann and I have photographed the night sky – some years ago – when the skies were both bright and beautiful and city lights were not *blurring the* bright targets of our cameras – and our eyes too, for that matter. As the cities have grown in size, the street lights have proliferated. Instead of focusing their beams down, the providers of the light have made their lights rounded so that they not only light the surrounding streets, but the heavens too. In other words it is difficult to use a camera or even our telescope to see the real beauty of the night sky.

One of the major observatories finally had to take Los Angeles, I believe, to court to force the city fathers -- or whomever – to change their pattern of lighting. The reflected lights were beginning to take one of the huge telescopes to a point of “blinding” it. Now, we have camped and canoed throughout parts of Canada where the Milky Way is literally *smear*ed all over the sky. The sight is magnificent.

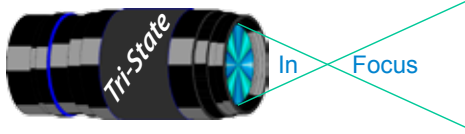
Years ago Dana-- our son -- and his family were with us; so I took one grandchild at a time (yes, with a life jacket on each one) out onto the adjacent lake in our canoe to see – and behold – the Milky Way in its entire splendor. If you have ever seen it, you know exactly what I mean. There is no other sight like it. However, now even where our Lake house is – to us was now – and as dark as the sky at first appears, there is no way of seeing the *real* sky. Oh yes, the Milky Way is up there somewhere, but now the lights of the ever enlarging city of Somerset and the accompanying light have obliterated the heavens there. Yes, we could see the major planets when the sky was clear, but now we have to be concerned about the personal safety almost any place we wanted to be.

There is *mischie*f almost anywhere a photographer or an amateur astronomer might want to be. We think it is a shame! Well, the things I’ll describe for you here are visible on their own rights. Oh, by the way, did you see the Space Station pass over us last week? It was beautiful to see also.

Here is the night sky for February. My source for these dates: *StarDate –SKY ALMANAC 2015*

February:

- 3rd – Jupiter is “close” to the left side of the Moon this evening. Not really close, of course. If it were, we’d part of Jupiter via gravity. Hey, that would not be much fun. In fact, it would be no fun at all!
- 5th – Jupiter rises at sunset, remains in view all night, and shines its brightest. After the Moon and Venus, it’s the brightest object in the night sky. (Keep in mind that Venus is second in line for brightness to only the Moon. On a dark night, if you see one bright “light” in the sky, it is Venus. It is so beautiful the ancient Greeks and Romans named the goddess of beauty for Venus.
- 12th – For you early risers, Saturn is to the lower left of the Moon at first light.
- 13th – Saturn is close to the right of the Moon – again for the convenience of you early risers.
- 19th – For the rest of us who get up at normal hours, Venus, which shines as the Evening Star, and Mars look down on the Crescent Moon as night comes on.
- 20th -- The Almanac calls this the “featured event” of the month: The crescent Moon, Venus, and Mars form an especially tight grouping in early evening.” Here is how to see them: look at the Moon! Now look for a small spot at the “5” spot (as on your watch) and a brighter and somewhat larger spot near the “5.” That is Venus. You neither have to stay up late nor rise and shine for this. (No pun intended! Yes, it is.) Sandwiched between the Moon and Venus is Mars.



Observing and/or Photographing the Heavens

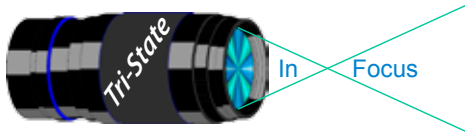
The Night Sky in March 2015

- 2nd Look for Jupiter close to the left of the Moon tonight. *
- 8th Daylight Saving Time begins in the United States at 2:00 a.m.
- 12th Saturn looks like a “golden” star close to the right of the Moon -- just for early risers.
- 13th Saturn is to the right of the Moon at dawn.
- 20th IF you are in Europe, Asia, and or Africa, you can look for a solar eclipse. Sorry, if you stayed home, you’ll not be able to see it. Spring arrives today also! Welcome spring! What has taken you so long?
- 22nd Venus is the Evening Star tonight. The Crescent Moon and Venus are low in the west at nightfall.
- 29th Jupiter is close to the left or upper left of the Moon at night fall.
- 30th Jupiter is to the left of Moon this evening.

Have you ever considered how far away Jupiter is from the earth? No? Well, I am going to tell you: As we all know, light travels 186,451 miles per second. (I figured this out for ya!) At this speed, it takes light 8.25 minutes to arrive on earth. Hey, that is a short one. How about Pluto? Try 6 hours!

Compiled by John Deering from StarDate -- Sky Almanac 2015

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



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*:

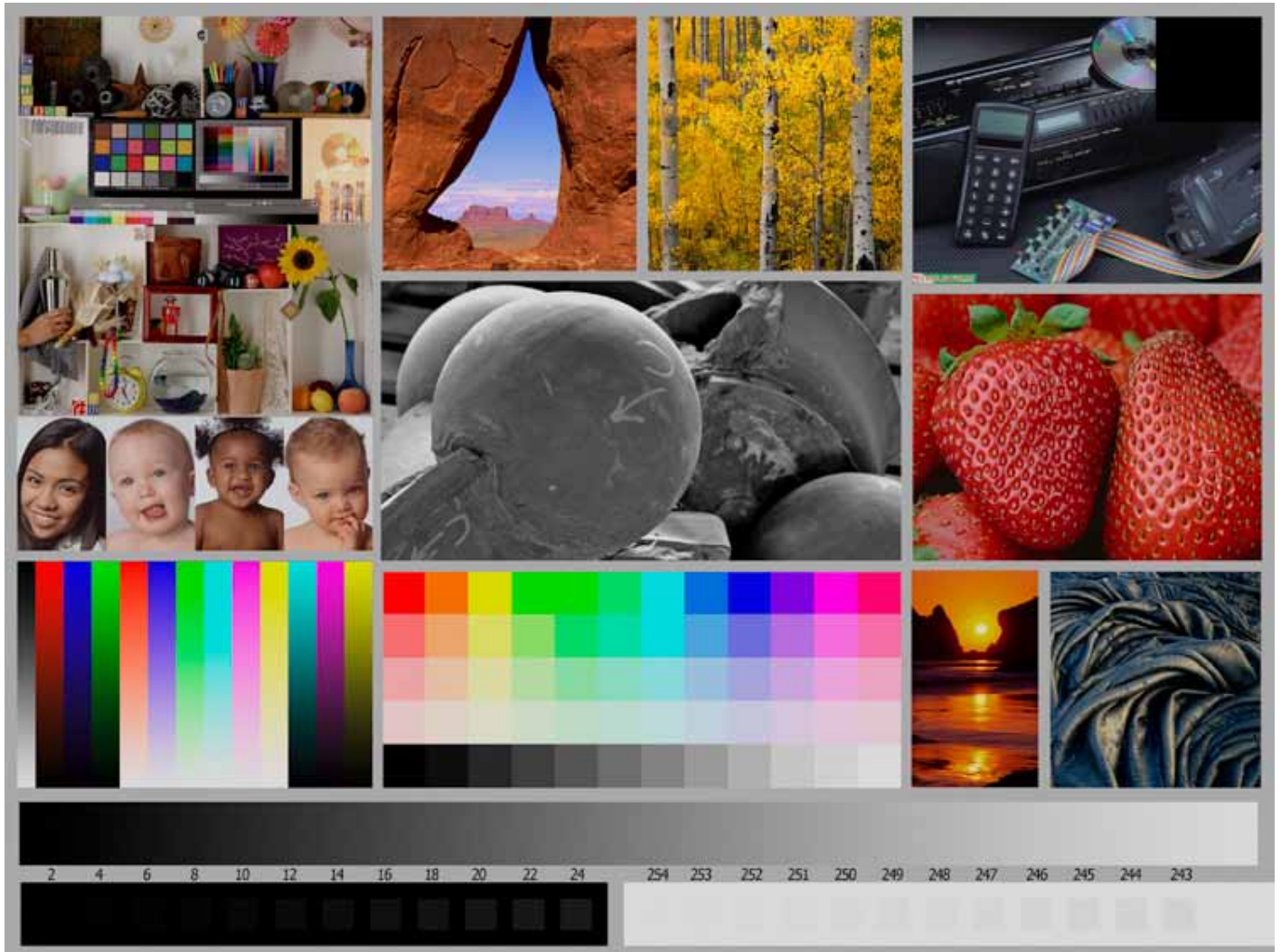
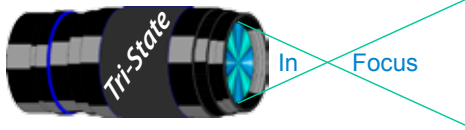
1. Open the image to be re-sized
2. Image>Resize>Image Size
3. A box will open - The top two boxes will show the image size in pixels.
4. Change the largest size to 750.
5. If the Resample box is checked at the bottom all other adjustments will automatically adjust.
- * Review the image to make sure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

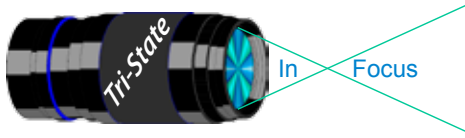
After following this procedure, you have a file that should be ready for PDI display. Send it as an attachment with title to tristatepdi@yahoo.com by Thursday Midnight before the Friday meeting. (*Note you can send attachments to this e-mail but not the Listserv.*)

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.



January Pictorial -
Open - Informal

Slides - Accomplished

- 1 Jones, Margaret Great Blue Heron
- 2 Jones, Richard Purple Galinule

PDI - Tyro

- 1 Denman, Ted Frozen

PDI - Accomplished

- 1 Voelker, Dale Hudson Hornet
- 2 Everman, Wilda Busching Bridge
- 3 Haakenson, Bryan Butterfly On Yellow Leaf
- 4 Thompson, Dan Pretty In Pink

Prints - Tyro

- 1 Charette, Nee Coming To America
- 2 Whitehead, Melvin Hand At Work At the
Ale Wine Pottery
- 3 Hathorn, Lisa Kate--723--3
- 4 Knipper, Ken Serenity
- 5 Beck, Ron Dragon At Gragotts

Prints - Accomplished

- 1 Kraus, Mark Barn Owl
- 2 Kubler, John Gladys At Play
- 3 Charette, Nelson Happy New Year
- 4 Loughry, Donna Floral Shadows
- 5 Carpenter, Jerry Icy Hot
- 6 Deering, John Memories Of My Boyhood
- 6 Sallee, Joy Three Guys

January Nature -
Landscape of a Season - Informal

Slides - Accomplished

- 1 Jones, Richard Summer On Napali
- 2 Jones, Margaret Summer In Navaho Country

PDI - Tyro

- 1 Denman, Ted Winter Beach Vacation
- 1 McGill, Teresa Fall Reflections
- 3 Charette, Nee Fall Tree
- 4 Beck, Ron Snow

PDI - Accomplished

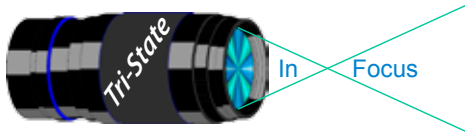
- 1 Voelker, Dale Summer In the Rockies
- 2 Kraus, Mark French Park Creek
- 3 Thompson, Dan Hayden Valley In Winter
- 4 Everman, Wilda Fall Comes To the Smokies
- 5 Kubler, John Utah Fall Colors
- 6 Carpenter, Jerry Gorgeous Gorge
- 7 Haakenson, Bryan Glow Of the Smokies

Prints - Tyro

- 1 Hathorn, Lisa Fallen Log In the Forest

Prints - Accomplished

- 1 Sallee, Joy Spring In Mt. Pleasant
- 2 McBreen, Jane A Walk In the Woods



February Pictorial -
Bridges - Informal

Slides - Accomplished

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Jennings, Miriam | The Last Rays |
| 1 | Kraus, Mark | Snow Covered Bridge |
| 3 | Deering, John | Sound Waves |
| 4 | Jennings, Maurice | Morning Bridges |
| 5 | Deering, Ann | Covered Bridge In Ohio |

PDI - Tyro

- | | | |
|---|----------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Charette, Nee | Oakalla Covered Bridge |
| 2 | McGill, Teresa | Fog On Bridge |
| 3 | Smith, Randy | White Covered Bridge |

PDI - Accomplished

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Charette, Nelson | Morning Fog |
| 2 | Haakenson, Bryan | John Roebling Bridge |
| 3 | Everman, Wilda | From Kentucky To Indiana
And Back |
| 4 | Thompson, Dan | Late Sun On Daniel
Carter Bridge |

Prints - Tyro

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Scheall, Ted | Past Railway Crossover |
| 2 | Whitehead, Melvin | Blue Bridge In Newport |
| 3 | Denman, Ted | Medora Bridge |
| 4 | Knipper, Ken | A Scenic Way Home |
| 5 | Beck, Ron | Johnson Creek Bridge |
| 6 | Hathorn, Lisa | Peeling Lichen On Foot Bridge |

Prints - Accomplished

- | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Sallee, Joy | Ravene Bridge |
| 2 | Jones, Margaret | James Bridge Over
Graham Creek |
| 3 | Ihrig, Bob | Houch Bridge 1880 |
| 4 | Carpenter, Jerry | Starstruck Bridge |
| 5 | Jones, Richard | Looking Up In a
Covered Bridge |
| 6 | Kubler, John | Walking Across |
| 7 | McBreen, Jane | Night View |

February Nature -
Open - Informal

Slides - Accomplished

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | Jones, Margaret | Resting Butterfly |
| 2 | Jones, Richard | Mother And Baby Prairie Dogs |

PDI - Tyro

- | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | McGill, Teresa | Chickadee |
| 2 | Bonhaus, Kevin | Bird In Water |
| 3 | Smith, Randy | Leaves With Starburst |
| 4 | Charette, Nee | Red Berries |

PDI - Accomplished

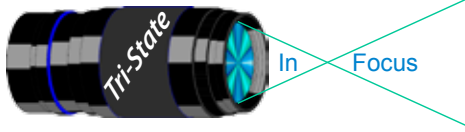
- | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Haakenson, Bryan | Sunset In Zion |
| 2 | Charette, Nelson | Yellow Bee Flower |
| 3 | Thompson, Dan | Unfledged Owllet |
| 4 | Everman, Wilda | Just Green |
| 5 | Voelker, Dale | On the Nest |
| 6 | Ginn, Roger | Tricolored Heron |

Prints - Tyro

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Denman, Ted | Wild Red Columbine |
| 2 | Whitehead, Melvin | Orchid |
| 3 | Spencer, Marquelle | Hole In the Ice |
| 4 | Scheall, Ted | Beaver Cut |
| 5 | Hathorn, Lisa | Gnome Home |

Prints - Accomplished

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Kraus, Mark | Winter Nuthatch |
| 2 | Kubler, John | Red Cardinal |
| 3 | Carpenter, Jerry | Colorful Chameleon |
| 4 | Sallee, Joy | Titmouse In Winter |
| 5 | McBreen, Jane | I'm So Cute |
| 6 | Loughry, Donna | Gliding Duck |



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.

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.

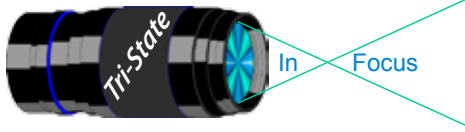
You can re-size the images in your digital processing software, usually under Image, then Image Size. Change the scale to pixels (not inches or cm), and modify the longest side (height or width)

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.

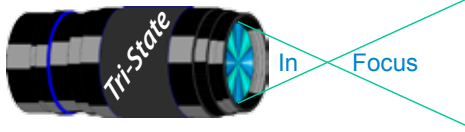
Please include your name, the image title, and if you are competing in Tyro or Advanced categories in the e-mail.

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.



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.



March 2015 Meeting Dates:

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

Friday Mar. 20, 2015 - Nature - 3rd Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

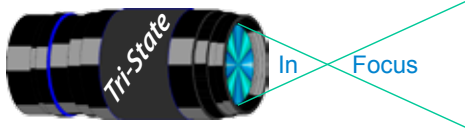
April 2015 Meeting Dates:

Friday, Apr. 03, 2015 - Pictorial - 1st Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Friday Apr. 17, 2015 - Nature - **3rd** Friday
Campbell County Extension Service Office.
Time: 7:00 pm

Editor's Note:

Deadline for the Next Issue is
Monday, March 30, 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.

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