Photographing the Night Sky at Kitt Peak

Since we were planning an extended weekend stay in Tucson, AZ, Grace and I decided to take advantage of the Advanced Observing Program at Kitt Peak National Observatory. I had always wanted to look through a serious telescope in a place where the night sky is dark, away from city lights. The program is open to all visitors but requires reservations and is usually booked out for several weeks in advance. After a 90-minute drive from Tucson, we arrived on the 6,768-foot mountain top at about 4:00 p.m. in the afternoon and were welcomed and briefed by our guide who would spend the night with us. After dinner in the cafeteria, we were taken to one of the many observatories. Unlike the domed observatories shown in the photograph, ours had a roll-away roof, so that we were exposed to the below-freezing cold of the night. Fortunately, we had packed warm clothes and handwarmers. The telescope was a 16-inch reflector, with a finder refracting telescope to which we attached my Nikon D300 body directly with an adapter supplied by our guide. The telescope was aligned and steered via laptop computer. The first object we viewed and photographed was the Orion nebula. Our guide had suggested 3 minutes exposure at ISO 1,600. It shows the gas filaments very well but is a bit blown out in the center. I took several more pictures at ISO 800, 400 and 200. Using HDR EFEX Pro, I tried to do an HDR image but did not like the result. While we were looking at other objects, including the Pleiades cluster, the Crab nebula and Saturn (we clearly saw the bands and the four Galileian moons), I set up my other camera outside with an observatory dome in the foreground, to take my first star trail picture ever. In the darkness, it was not easy to do a good composition - flashlights are not allowed in the vicinity of the observatories. I exposed for 45 minutes at f/7.1, ISO 200. I was surprised to see there was so much ambient light in the photograph, since the moonless night appeared to be totally dark except for the stars.

TOM TAUBER

~ more photos on page 5
After completing my 2-year term as Society president, I will step into a new role as Education Chairman, provided the nomination is approved.

I agreed to take on this position to help fulfill suggestions that I heard over the last few years. The most often request made by newer members, is the desire to have their work critiqued-- not just judged.

Many of our education nights will be structured to include more evenings of members critique. Members, in all classes, will submit work just for comment and constructive criticism. Unlike on competition nights, more time and opinions will be heard.

These non-judged nights have a variety of formats that will include external judges, standards committee members, and “free for alls” where everyone will be encouraged to comment on the images. Most of the nights will be projected image only, but we will have nights on prints, too. Since printing is a separate art form, we plan to have at least one class on prints. These classes will encompass calibration, paper selection, mounting, matting & framing with emphasis on both competition and wall hanging. The “art” of making good prints will also be explored, giving you tried and true tips on improving the output from any printer.

Other nights will be “show & tell” where the image maker presents his or her photos and talks about the who, what, when, where, how & why-- all of this with active involvement from the other participants. Our first Instruction Night of the year will be one titled “What I saw on my Summer vacation” (it was a hit in elementary school).

Two years ago I gave a class on flash that focused on equipment. I intend to expand on that with a class on “basic studio” setups showing “how to” and the types of common studio lighting. This will be done with a tethered camera so you can see the results in real time.

Over the years we have invited outside experts to present classes (with mixed results). I intend to rely more on the accomplished photographers in our midst to present most of the instruction.

We will continue to explore new tools & techniques, as well as software and processing. I can’t imagine the advances in this area over the next two years.

There are nine scheduled Instruction Nights each year, and I hope to use a couple of those 5th Mondays, if available. I have an incomplete list of ideas for the 18+ Instruction Nights for my term so I am open to ideas. Please e-mail me with anything you would like us to cover, or if you would like to participate by teaching a class. The instruction schedule needs to be in place at the beginning of the club year so let me know as soon as possible. Bob@photosbybobhunt.com

The thing I look forward to most in the new position is that I can actually live by my tag line “It’s all about the photography.”

BOB HUNT, President
**Invitation**

All DPS members are invited to the opening of a show of ERIK KISSA’s photographs on Friday, April 5 from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the lobby of the Grand Opera House, 818 Market St. in Wilmington. On view Mon-Fri through April 29. Enter via the box office between 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. All of the images that will be on display have been exhibited in International Exhibitions.

“Sky Light” by ERIK KISSA

**In Memoriam: JESSIE MARSH**

Delaware Photographic Society member JESSIE MARSH passed away on Saturday, March 2, 2013 at the Methodist Country House.

Jessie was a long-time DPS member, joining in 1979. She is remembered by many as “Mrs. Hospitality.” Week after week Jessie was at the door greeting first-time visitors and new members. She would graciously introduce each of them to the assembled membership. She organized the covered dish dinners making sure a proper diversity of food would be on the tables with enough for everyone. Jessie did not take pictures, but no one did more to promote photography and the Delaware Photographic Society over the years. Jessie’s late husband, Cerd, was also a DPS member, and served as the Society’s Treasurer for many years.

Jessie was a Fellow of the Society, and was made an Honorary Member in 2007. She will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew her.

THUMBNAILS

- Instruction Night is held the first Monday of the month at 7:30 pm.
- Competition nights are held on the second and third Mondays at 7:30 pm.
- Program night is the last Monday of the month November—March at 7:30 pm.
- Location: duPont Pavilion, Cokesbury Village, 726 Loveville Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707

Guest speaker programs are presented in the Cokesbury auditorium on Level C.

- Membership dues should be addressed to: TO BE DETERMINED
  Dues: $35 individuals; $60 couples; $20 new members, 1st year; $17.50 Juniors

- The Reflector is published by the Delaware Photographic Society. Material may not be reproduced without written permission. Please send announcements or articles to Theresa Yanick at tmyanick@comcast.net

- Members are encouraged to participate in the Yahoo group, DPS-Exchange, DPSExchange@yahoogroups.com

- Visit our Web site at: www.dps-photo.org

This program is made possible, in part, by grants from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.
Instruction Night – Here Comes the Judge - You!, April 1

Don’t miss this April 1st opportunity to gain some insight into what judges may be looking for in an image and to develop some possible criteria of your own when you are asked to judge or to offer commentary. We will begin the evening with suggestions for judging and for giving feedback. Following this our three recruited judges will open the discussion as they score and comment on a few images. Then it's your turn. We will break into small groups giving everyone a chance to judge and to comment upon the remaining images. At the end of the evening we will reconvene to share what we have learned. ~ JANE STROBACH, Education Director

Instruction Night – Beyond Photoshop, May 6

Many of us have learned to enhance our images with programs such as Elements or Photoshop CS. On Instruction night May 6th three of our members will lead us beyond Photoshop as they share some of their favorite software applications. When faced with those challenging exposure situations (very light and very dark areas in the same image) ALISTAIR GILLANDERS will come to our rescue with his expertise in HDR (High Dynamic Range). He will be guiding us through Photo Matrix. BOB HUNT will share some tricks for fixing those little blemishes on your otherwise lovely model when he demonstrates Perfect Portrait. For a more artistic look TRISH VIERLING will lead us through some of the applications found in Topaz.

You do not need to be an expert in Photoshop to benefit from these presentations! The evening will have something for all levels of expertise. ~ JANE STROBACH, Education Director

Our Judges for March

A special “thank you” to our judges for sharing their expertise with the members of DPS. We value your professionalism and time spent with us. ~ BOB MCCAFFREY, Judges Chair

For Projected Images, March 11, 2013

JERRY BILTON
MIKE BROWN
MIKE RIDDLE

For Prints, March 18, 2013

BILL LINDSEY
www.lindseysstudio.com
CHRIS MACAN
www.ChrisMacan.com
JEFF DONOVAN
www.jeffdonovan.net

Editor Notes

When submitting files for the newsletter, the following guidelines should be followed. Send all images for publication as 8 bit sRGB Jpeg images with maximum 1050 pixels for the longest dimension and at least 900 pixels longest dimension. This is large enough for good quality and small enough to manage email/file sizes and so on. Text can be in a Word document or e-mail file.

If you would like to share an award, event or article please forward all information to tmyanick@comcast.net. Now accepting articles/images for The Reflector May issue. Deadline April 15, 2013.

THERESA YANICK, The Reflector Editor

80TH WIEP PEOPLE’S CHOICE WINNERS

Local - DEE LANGEVIN, Townsend, DE - Cuckoo Trio
Non-Local - PHILLIP KWAN, Toronto, Canada - Snowy Owl Flying
2013 Photo Show Competition, April 29

Want to have some fun? Then come to the April 29 meeting to see all of this year’s entries in the print and the two projected image categories of the competition, as well as the entries in the club’s new exhibition category, the up-to-one-minute video. Want to have even more fun? Then have an entry in any, or all, of the three competition categories and the video exhibition category. It is still not too late to give it a try. Check out recent issues of The Reflector for more details. The rules to the competition can be found via a link on the competition page of the DPS website. You will need to register your entry or entries online in the same area of the club’s website where you enter for the monthly projected image and print competitions. The deadline for registration in all categories is April 22. All of the projected image entries must be in my hands by that date; they can be submitted on a CD, DVD or USB thumb drive, which will be returned to you after the competition. You can simply bring to the April 29 meeting your mounted print. If you have any questions, please contact me at osbergdk@gmail.com.

The shows have been getting better and better each year, so be sure not to miss this entertaining evening whether you have any entries or not. Remember that the competition begins at 7 PM, thirty minutes earlier than the normal meeting start time. ~ DAVE OSBERG, Photo Show Chair

DPS Performing Well in PSA Inter-club Nature Competition

After two rounds of the three-round 2012/13 PSA Inter-club Nature Competition, DPS is tied for third place out of 16 clubs entered in Group A, the top group in the competition. In the second round, STEVE BERKOWITZ earned an Honorable Mention award for his photo “Toucan”. Congratulations, Steve! The other five photos we entered in this competition were from JERRY AM ENDE, DEE LANGEVIN, DON PIVONKA, JANTINA TUTHILL and another from STEVE. All photos scored well. You can see them on page 6 of the February 2013 Reflector.

We are hopeful of moving up in the final standings with a strong third round. The next round’s photos are due to me by April 7, 2013. They need to be no more than 1024 pixels wide by 768 pixels high, JPEGs in either sRGB (preferred) or Adobe RGB. If you have one or a few nature photos that you believe might score well in this competition, please forward them to me at osbergdk@gmail.com.

Night Sky at Kitt Peak, continued

Kitt Peak National Observatory (partial view)

Orion Nebula, 3 minutes, ISO 1600
2013 Field Trips

Drivers needed for this fieldtrip!

EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY
www.easternstate.org

Planned for April 13, 2013

It certainly is one of the more “unique” places in PA. Spooky and creepy sort of comes to my mind, but then we are not going during Halloween. It is a very picturesque place close to the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Eastern State Penitentiary was once the most famous and expensive prison in the world but stands today in ruin, a haunting world of crumbling cellblocks and empty guard towers. Known for its grand architecture and strict discipline, this was the world’s first true “penitentiary,” a prison designed to inspire penitence, or true regret, in the hearts of convicts. Its vaulted, sky-lit cells once held many of America’s most notorious criminals, including bank robber “Slick Willie” Sutton and Al Capone.

Anybody who could help lead a group for this fieldtrip please contact JANTINA TUTHILL at jtuthill@comcast.net

Anyone who is interested in a fieldtrip to this prison in April please contact JANTINA at 610-457-4174 or jtuthill@comcast.net

THE WATERFALLS OF RICKETTS GLEN STATE PARK
http://www.naturephotographers.net/rb0801-1.html

Planning for April 27-28, 2013

It is more of a challenging hike with some slippery trails. The drive to the park is around 3.5 hours from Wilmington, so it will have to be an overnight field trip. There are camp grounds, and there are hotels. One very small hotel is the Ricketts Glenn Hotel. They have 6 rooms. The next closest hotels are in Wilkes Barre and still about 15-18 miles away from the park.

The Falls are magnificent and amazing as there are more than 20 in a span of 4 miles. There are no roads, and the only way you can photograph them is by hiking the trail. As for equipment to take, a solid tripod is almost a must. A couple of lenses such as a 24-70 mm or even a 10 or 14 mm would do. I have a rain cap over my camera since the spray of the waterfall might get it wet. A hotel shower cap sometimes will do.

You can understand that I need to make reservations in the small hotel if we have just a few people or more rooms in Wilkes Barre 8 miles away. I need some help with this. Some drivers and somebody to help lead. Any suggestions are always welcome.

Please let me know asap. Thank you.

JANTINA TUTHILL, Fieldtrip Coordinator 610-457-4174 or jtuthill@comcast.net
**Spring Foto Fling**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH**

8:30 AM TO 4:30 PM

Maple Shade Municipal Complex
200 Stiles Ave., Maple Shade, NJ

**YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO ENTER COMPETITIONS**

**COMPETITION CATEGORIES**

- DIGITAL
- NATURE
- PHOTOJOURNALISM
- CREATIVE
- OTHER
- PHOTO SEQUENCE

- PRINTS
- LARGE COLOR
- LG MONOCHROME
- SM COLOR
- SM MONOCHROME
- PRINT STORY

Detailed Rules Available On the DVCCC Website
http://www.dvccc-photo.org

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**PROGRAM SPEAKER, SPONSORED BY TAMRON**

Mike Moats
Nature Photographer

Mike Moats is an award winning master macro photographer. His articles and images are published in major photo magazines and is sponsored by Tamron, Leibaby, Nik Software, Fuji, Outdoor Photogear, Hunt’s Photo, Photoflex and Hicon Focus. Mike moderates the macro forums of the three online photography sites, writes for Tamron’s blog and has written a how-to macro book and four e-books on macro and the business of nature photography.

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**MORNING SESSION**

- 8:45 am Check In
- 9:00 am FREE Continental Breakfast
- 12 Noon Lunch Break

COST FOR THE DAY $30
F/T STUDENTS $15 (with ID)

**FREE ADMISSION to members of council clubs!**

**VENUE TABLES**

**DOOR PRIZES**

**PHOTOGRAPHY HANDOUTS**

**FREE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

**TEN CONTESTS**

Attendees may enter PRINTS between 9 — 9:30 AM ONLY.
Attendees submit DIGITAL entries in advance. Check website: http://www.dvccc-photo.org
Compete for 20 Medals! Awarded by THREE guest judges.

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**AFTERNOON SESSION**

- 1:00 PM Photo Travel Exhibition by Mike Riddle
- 2:00 PM “MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY”
  Beyond Flowers and Bugs
  Presented by Mike Moats, Sponsored by Tamron
  Mike says...
  When I tell someone I am a pro macro photographer, they generally say, “Oh, you’re one of those bug shooters.” When I tell them that I don’t shoot a lot of bugs, they respond with the statement that I must shoot a lot of flowers. This program is intended to expand the macro photographer’s options for photographing fascinating close-ups that can be found in the macro world.

- 3:15 PM “MAKING SUCCESSFUL PHOTOGRAPHS”
  Mike says...
  I have been very fortunate to have had many of my macro photographs published in major photo magazines, won photo contests, and lots of success at selling my images through art shows. From these experiences, it has helped me to understand what it takes to make a successful photograph and in this program, I will pass this information on to you.

- 3:45 PM AWARDS/DOOR PRIZES
February Showcase Images, Projected

“Worth the Wait” by RALPH BARON
Class A Open High Score

“Capone’s Cell” by ED FORD
Class A Open High Score

“Bringin’ Home the Fish” by JERRY AM ENDE
Class B Open High Score

“Icy Hot” by ALISTAIR GILLANDERS
Salon Assigned High Score

“Fire and Ice” by THOMAS RAY
Class A Assigned High Score
“Mutt and Jeff” by JERRY AM ENDE
Class B Assigned High Score

“Got Milk” by JANTINA TUTHILL
Creative High Score

“Pier at Dusk” by GARY CAIN
Class B Open High Score

“Swing Down” by HELEN GERSTEIN
Salon Open High Score
February Showcase Images, Print

“Palmer’s Penstemon, Blossom & Buds” by GARY WALTER
Class A Assigned High Score

“On the Hunt” by LARRY HINSON
Class B Open High Score

“Abandoned Prairie House” by GARY WALTER
Class A Open High Score

“White Pocket Patterns” by ROBERT TUTTLE
Salon Open High Score

“Grief” by ED FORD
Class A Open High Score
“Twofer” by MARVIN GERSTEIN
Salon Assigned High Score

“1943 Boeing Stearman N25-3”
by ALISTAIR GILLANDERS
Salon Open High Score

“The Old and the New” by TOM LOVATT
Class B Assigned High Score

“Along the Schuylkill” by JON MASSEY
Class B Open High Score

“Denali and Wonder Lake” by TOM TAUBER
Salon Open High Score
The 80th Wilmington International Exhibition of Photography was a great success.

Thank you to everyone who put the many hours necessary to make it come off—from the judging to the visually entertaining outcome. Thanks especially to those who were there for all aspects of the event assuring that all the bases were covered.

I would like to mention, of course, DIANNE CARNEGIE who anchored the office set up and helped with general oversight along with her husband RICHARD who did the heavy lifting. Thanks also to all the regulars who helped move—especially JEFF SMITH who stored the frames at his place for one last year.

I’d like to mention JIM SMIGIE, KATHY HILMER, KARL LECK, the GERSTEINS, JANE STROBACH and the many others who volunteered their time for the judging and exhibition.

Thanks to ALISTAIR GILLANDERS, who came through with all the computer manipulations that made the technical end of the exhibition successful.

The Photo Show could not have gone on without JOHN TOUTKALDJIAN who worked quickly and tirelessly to produce an excellent multi-media show that was seen by close to a thousand spectators.

I want to give special thanks to CAROLE CLARKE for promotion, advertising and advice and background coordination of the many details of the event. She proved her expertise in reaching out to all the media outlets this year and achieved excellent publicity for us.

Another special commendation goes to THERESA YANICK, who, as always, excelled in all responsibilities given to her. I was amazed how she was able to put our 80th catalog together for us—on time, looking good with no previous experience doing the catalog. Amazing!

PETE LOUNSBURY, WIEP Chairman
PNC Calendar Photographs Requested

The Delaware Photographic Society has a contract with the PNC Bank of Delaware to provide images for the calendar that the bank presents to their business customers. PNC pays the photographer $135 for each image selected, plus $200 for the image selected for the calendar cover. All DPS members are welcome to submit photos. Each year in July, DPS submits images for PNC’s selection. This year’s deadline for submission is July 31, 2013.

Photographs taken from all areas of Delaware, from all three counties, during all seasons of the year, in all types of weather are wanted for the calendar. Images must be in a horizontal (landscape) format, and must be in color. Any subject is acceptable, but attractive scenes are typically selected. Photos of a specific religious group should not be submitted. If recognizable persons appear in a submitted photo, a photo release must be included with your submission.

PNC prefers that each photograph be submitted as hard copy accompanied by a digital version of the image on CD. The digital version should be in TIFF format at a 3:2 aspect ratio (example 12” X 8”) with a minimum resolution of 300 ppi. However, a JPG file with minimum compression is acceptable on disk, provided it is 300 ppi at 12” X 8.” The hard copy version may be on a smaller paper size as long as the 3:2 aspect ratio is maintained.

Good quality slides are acceptable -- without the accompanying electronic version on CD. Slides should be submitted in plastic sheets.

Each photo must be labeled with the maker’s name, the location shown in the image, and a filename that corresponds to the filename on the accompanying CD. Any number of images may be submitted. Photos that were previously entered, but not selected, can be resubmitted.

Images will be returned to the maker in late December or early January. Every member that submits images will be given a copy of the calendar.

Submissions should be made to Jeannie Astifan at a DPS event, or mailed/delivered to her home. Contact Jeannie if you have questions or want to arrange for your submission at:

610-388-6563 or JHASTIFAN@GMAIL.COM or
JEANNIE ASTIFAN, 68 Balmoral Dr., Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Congratulations to the following members whose pictures were selected for the 2013 PNC Calendar:

EMILY REED, with four acceptances, including the cover, PETER LINDTNER, ELLIS UNDERKOFFLER, DAVID OSBERG, with two acceptances, JEANNIE ASTIFAN, SUSAN PETER, JOANNE MORETTI, TOM OATHOUT, and GARY WALTER.
Amish Mud Sales – Read before you go.

In accord with the Amish religion, Amish believe that their face should not be photographed. Pointing a camera to an Amish face is a rude violation of their religious belief. If an Amish man does not react defensively, this is not an agreement to be photographed but Amish humility. Many people present at the mud sale believe that photographing Amish is rude, and an obnoxious photographer may be asked to leave. An Amish Mud Sale is not a DPS field trip. A small number of photographers may be tolerated, but a group of photographers from New York was thrown out from a Mud Sale. Although the Mud Sales are open to the public, they are on private property.

Photographing Amish is a delicate activity requiring tact and sensitivity. Photograph an Amish only when he is not aware of being photographed. Use a small camera with a small lens. A compact camera with a swiveling LCD panel is the least obtrusive. Children can be photographed with the camera on your hip to get a better perspective, as well. The picture of two boys, taken with a Canon G12 compact camera, is an example. A small DSLR camera with a small zoom should be used in a nonaggressive manner. Unlike Paparazzi, we do not have to be rude to get a picture.

ERIK KISSA

Assigned Subjects 2013

APRIL – Automobile Detail

Assigned Subjects 2013-2014

SEPTEMBER 2013 – Urban Architecture
OCTOBER – Shadow
NOVEMBER – Playing Music
JANUARY 2014 – Low Key
FEBRUARY – Food
MARCH – Work
APRIL – Tool(s)