

snapshots

YOU PRESS THE BUTTON
WE DO THE REST

Volume 12 Number 1

September 2006

Are You Shooting for the Great American 35 Exhibition?

Now is the time to be preparing your entry for PHSNE's December program, The Great American Thirty-Five Exhibition.

The program will feature slides shot by members. It's not a contest, but the rules are strict: All photographs submitted for the show must be shot with an American-made 35mm camera (and if you use a light meter, that must be U.S.-made as well).

Some PHSNE members are testing their equipment. John Wojtowicz says he's using "a Ciro 35 because it was there." The company that made the Ciro was bought out by Graflex, and this camera is stamped "Graflex, Inc." on the back. "It has a 50mm Graftar f 3.5 lens and Wollensak Century shutter,



Photo by J. F. Hemenway

Warming up for the big event, Jim Hemenway shot this infrared image of the Hartwell Tavern in Lincoln, MA, to exercise his Argus C3.

ter, and an interesting side-lever focus design," he says. "I have not yet seen any pictures. I rearound halfway through the roll of film, and am now shooting off the rest of the roll in a Kodak 35RF. This particular camera is a mutt. A pre-WW II Kodamatic shutter with a late (1948)

Continued on Page 4

Next Issue of PHSNE's *Journal* To Be Published in Early Fall

The next issue of PHSNE's *New England Journal of Photographic History*, produced by co-editors Adrian Levesque and Ruth Thomasian, will be distributed to PHSNE members in early fall. It will be a double issue, with color illustrations throughout.

Featured articles include Gunter Mueller's work on the hand-colored lantern slide collection he first presented in his "Middle East Images" program at PHSNE's September 2005 meeting. Newton (MA) History Museum curator Susan Abele describes how two boxes of beautiful and historically important images were rescued from a New Hampshire dump to become a centerpiece of the museum's photo collection — and PHSNE member Ron Polito documents the life of a Boston daguerreotypist whose work was found in one of those boxes.

The names of many other PHSNE members appear in the issue's table of contents, including: George Champine (on Kodak's Retina cameras); James Fenton (on his service as a British soldier/artist with a camera in the Far

East in 1945-1946); Ralph Johnston (on his Sherlocking to discover the origins of his new/old stereo camera), and Ed Lilley (on a youth's experiments with high-speed photography in the 1930s).

There's No September PHSNE Meeting, But Why Not Attend Stereo New England!

There is no PHSNE meeting scheduled for September, but PHSNE members are invited to the Stereo New England meeting on Sunday, September 10. The program features the 1948 show, "Highway U.S.A." and includes other projected 3D programs, an auction, and a photo-flea market. For a complete listing of the program see the organization's Web site at www.sne3d.org.

There will be an open business meeting from 12 to 1 pm and general meeting from 1 to 4 at the National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road (Rt 2A), Lexington MA 02421. For directions, see www.monh.org.

A Summer of Sales and Auctions of Cameras and Images

Skinner Inc. auctioned 132 lots of images and photographic equipment as part of its July 29 sale at its Boston gallery. Items sold included a Kwanon, the prototype Canon rangefinder, for \$138,000. For an online catalog and prices realized see www.skinnerinc.com/content/showauction.asp?fam=15&id=362, lots 257-389.

Stereographica Bidding Closes Sept. 16

PHSNE members Bryan and Page Ginns' 12th annual Absentee Bid Sale, featuring 500 lots of antique and collectable cameras, stereoscopes, images and optical toys, is open for bids by mail, fax and telephone as well as online. The sale will close at 3 pm on Saturday, September 16. To obtain a bidding number and view the online catalog go to www.stereographica.com, or see the Ginns' contact

information in the Membership Directory.

John Saddy Stereoview Auction Closes Aug. 29 and 31

John Saddy's Jefferson Stereoptics will close a two-part auction of stereoviews, Auction #06-3, on Tuesday, Aug. 29 and Thursday, Aug. 31. To view the online catalog or to register and bid online, visit www.saddyauctions.com/home.htm. Saddy may be contacted by telephone at 519-641-4431, or e-mail to john.saddy.3d@sympatico.ca.

Team Köln Schedules Photokina Auction Sept. 30

Uwe Breker's Auction Team Köln will hold an auction of photographica in Cologne, Germany on Sept. 30, to coincide with the annual Photokina trade show in that city. For information see www.breker.com.

Robert E. Pratt, former board member and *Journal* editor, dies

Robert E. "Bob" Pratt Sr., a PHSNE Charter Honorary Life member, and former board member, died on March 5, 2006, at his home in Taunton, Massachusetts, following a brief illness. He leaves his wife Jean Purcell Pratt and their daughter and two sons.

Bob, born in 1931, was in the printing business. He worked at Standard Modern Printing Company in Brockton, Massachusetts, for more than 30 years. With that

background he was the perfect person to edit and design PHSNE's newsletter, which he did starting with the August 1973 issue. As he wrote in his first editorial, "this edition of our newsletter is a 'publication,' not merely a 'Xerox' copy." It was a 4-page fold with a professionally designed layout.



Bob Pratt

He went on with "a plea for suggestions to make this newsletter a success" saying, "If it is to succeed on a monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly basis, we will need help from ALL our members!" The next issue reverted to a Xerox-copy format — it took a while for members to become involved with the publication that evolved into *Photo Nostalgia* (January 1974 issue) and in 1982 *The New England Journal of Photographic History*.

Bob's close friend Bryon Owens (another PHSNE Charter Honorary Life member) has fond memories of their camera-collecting adventures at auctions, camera shows, and flea markets. Bob was passionate about collecting subminiatures. Bryon remembers Bob as being a take-charge kind of guy who stayed in the background and never wanted publicity. He just loved cameras. When Bob's wife provided us with a recent photograph of him, she said, "Robert wasn't one for having pictures taken of him — he was always behind the camera taking them for everyone." That was Bob, whose work in the background, as an editor and board member, helped build PHSNE.

— Ruth Thomasian

Membership News

New members — Philip Baker, Dartmouth, MA, interests include social-political gatherings and environmental portraits; George Ehrenfried, Cambridge, MA, color photography processes; Rachel Esser, Dorchester, MA; Andrea & Adam Forgash, Forest Hills, NY, cameras, images, stereoviews, and 19th C. glass images; Karl Neugebauer, Watertown, MA, daguerreotypes, history, and black-and-white photography. For contact information e-mail ALevesque@aol.com with "PHSNE" in the subject line.

PHSNE membership is \$30 for an individual, \$36 for a family, and \$40 for foreign members. Please send checks or money orders drawn in U.S. funds for dues payments. Communicate all changes of address and other contact information, to: Adrian Levesque, 4 Sugar Hill Drive, Nashua, NH 03063, or e-mail ALevesque@aol.com.

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ADVERTISEMENT



Leica M3 - Prototyp of pre-production »0-Series«, c. 1952 with exceptionally rare original »Summicron 2/50 mm«.



»Le Scénographe«, 1874



Original Daguerreotype Sliding Box Camera by »Voigtländer & Sohn«, 1845
The only one known worldwide with original landscape lens for outdoor Daguerreotypes. Format: 16 x 21 cm (6 1/2 x 8 1/3 in.)



»Le Lens« by »Lerebours«, c. 1839-40
A true museum piece with original patina!



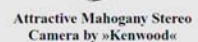
Camera Obscura - Tent by Vincent Chevalier, c. 1825



»Bruns Detective Camera«, 1893
Excellent exhibition piece and collector's item!



Pre-Leitz Microscope by »C. Kellner's Nachf. Fr. Belthele in Wetzlar«, c. 1863



Attractive Mahogany Stereo Camera by »Kenwood«



»L'Appareil Photographique Americain avec Laboratoire de Voyage« by J. Domenech & Jonte, Paris, 1869
Original wet collodion camera, with original travel darkroom by J. Domenech & Jonte, Paris. A sensational exhibition piece of top museum quality!



Leica A (#700) with »Elmax«, 1925
Excellent original condition



»Le Mégascopie de Bertsch«, c. 1880
Extremely rare Solar Magic Lantern (!)



Stereoscopic-Photosphère (9 x 18 cm), 1892
One of the most attractive stereo cameras ever!
Highly desirable

Chambre Microscopique de Bertsch, c. 1860
One of the very first miniature cameras in the world!



»Prototype Camera« by Steinheil, c. 1922
Early 35 mm camera, pre-Leica (!)



Superb Mahogany Stereo Sliding Box Wet Plate Camera, c. 1850
Probably French



Original Prototype Lens »Summaron 2.8/35«, 1958
Lens of pre-production series no. 000.0234 (!). The first of only 6 ever produced



Leica Compur, 1930
with original box (same serial no.!)



Dubroni:
»Photographe de Poche«, c. 1890
World's first instant camera



Handbag Camera by »Dr. Rudolf Krügener, Frankfurt«, c. 1890
Giant rarity! The only one known worldwide!!



Giant Lens »Photographe à Verres Combinés« by Jamin, Paris, c. 1855
52 cm high! - Displayed on the World's Fair in London!



Leica 250 GG Reporter, 1936



Camera Lucida by »L'Ing. Chevalier, Paris«, c. 1820
With original wooden box with label: Court supplier to the King (Ludwig XVIII.) and the Princes.
- A giant rarity!

World's No. 1 Specialty Auction »Photographica & Film« 30 September 2006

On the occasion of world's most important trade show
photokina in Cologne, Germany

Exceptional rare collector's items and exhibition pieces of top museum quality!

Extraordinary »Leica« Rarities: Leica M 3 prototype of pre-production »0-Series«, early Leica A with Elmax, Leica 250 GG Reporter, Leica Compur, prototype lens »Summaron« of pre-production »0-Series« (only 6 lenses were ever made). Early Zeiss & pre-Leitz microscopes, and much, much more...
Classic Cameras: Complete outfit »Dubroni No. 1«, Camera Obscura tent by »Vincent Chevalier«, entire »Daguerreotype camera« outfit, Photosphère, Homeos, Carte-de-Visite camera by »Reygondand, Paris«, extraordinary »Sutton Panoramic water lens«, rare »Balloon-Camera« by Carpentier, Lyon, many scarce and unusual spy & detective cameras, several exceptional and rare 3-colour cameras: »Elmaln« by Emil Reckmeier, Koeln, »Thornton-Pickard«, »Le Mélanochromoscope«, several

panorama cameras, e.g. Circuit No. 6 outfit, Al-Vista, etc.
Modern Classics: Minigraph, Ermanox, Photo Gibus, Kodak Super 620, Kodak No. 1 & 2, Stirn's Vest camera and much, much more...
Stereo Cameras: Soho Stereo Reflex outfit, etc.
Subminiature Cameras: Unique »Gestapo« match box camera, entire collection by Sharan (!), Minox Riga, Kombi, Ticka, Petal, Tessina, etc.
Pre Cinema & Optical Toys: Exceptionally rare prototype of cast-iron German-made Art-Nouveau »Mutoscope«, »Praxinoscope Theater«, several Zootropes, Magic Lanterns and a large variety of slides, professional movie cameras, e.g. excellent »Lumière Cinématographe«, rare »Kine-Messier Camera«, »Kretzschmar Kinematograph« and projectors of all formats, early original movies and... much, much more.

For more information and large colour photographs of some of the upcoming „Highlights“ please visit our website at „www.Breker.com“ on page „New Highlights“ from mid August '06 onwards.

Fully-illustrated bi-lingual (Engl./German) COLOUR Catalogue: € 28.- (Realized Price list on Internet and in next catalogue). - Overseas (USA, Japan, etc.): € 37.- (approx. US\$ 47) incl. airmail
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Voigtländer All-Metal Daguerreotype Camera, 1841
The very first Replica made by Voigtländer in 1939, the rarest one!



Night Camera Goerz Matonox, c. 1925



»Rothschloss«, 1930
Extremely rare TLR for 18 x 24 mm!



Prototype of cast-iron German-made »Art-Nouveau Mutoscope«, c. 1900

Are You Shooting for the Great American 35 Exhibition?

Continued from Page 1

Anastar lens. I don't want to tell you how much I paid for a Kodak 35RF before I joined PHSNE and came to know better."



Ralph Johnston is shooting slides for the Great American 35 Exhibition with this Argus 21 that dates back to 1947-52.

Ralph Johnston is using an Argus 21 Markfinder manufactured circa 1947-52, loaned to him by Ed Shaw. "It has interchangeable lenses, a bright frame finder, and a behind-the-lens shutter. It turned out that I had not a single camera in my collection meeting the requirements. I have a roll of slides being processed now by Costco. No prize

Jim Hemenway is testing this Argus C3 (that's an infrared filter in the foreground) before he starts shooting slide film.



winners on it I am sure but I can't blame the camera."

Jim Hemenway has been shooting with an Argus C3. "The rangefinder is so yellowed that one can't see through it, so I'm just estimating the focus distance," he says.

Hemenway shot a couple of test rolls of negative film (including some infrared that produced the lovely image on Page 1 of the Hartwell Tavern) and plans to shoot some Kodachrome images for the program.



Adrian Levesque dug out his Kodak Pony 135, the first 35mm camera he used in the late '50s.

Adrian Levesque says, "I have chosen my first 35 mm camera, the one I used between 1958 and 1960, the Kodak Pony 135, model C. Since it hasn't been used for 46 years, it took a while exercising the shutter to get it to work properly. I have been testing it and now I'm waiting for the first slides to come back from processing. Once I know what the 1/50, 1/100 and 1/300 marked shutter speeds are, I can start taking photos."

For the complete Great American 35 Exhibition program rules, see the PHSNE Web site at www.phsne.org.

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NO MEETING IN SEPTEMBER
Photographic Historical Society of New England
Next Meeting: Sunday, October 1, 2006
'Blair Cameras' with Robert Ellis and Jack Billington

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