

snap shots

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Photographica 68: A Revitalized Education Mission

New activities will mean new vitality for Photographica — if PHSNE's members will meet the challenge and participate

**By John Dockery,
Photographica Show Manager**

Photographica 67 last April was a hit in a new hall in a new location. It was the kind of success the show needed, and it gives PHSNE a chance to revitalize the event and move the organization into the future. But it's going to take commitment from PHSNE's members to take advantage of this opportunity.

The Americal Center in Wakefield, MA, is a great venue. The dealers, PHSNE members and show attendees all liked the facility — so well, in fact, that by the time we closed Show 67 we had already sold over 50 percent of the vendor tables for Photographica 68, October 6 and 7.

The Americal Center is much larger than previous Photographica venues and this extra space gives us a chance

to do something extra with the show, to engage in some evolutionary experimentation.

The number of vendor tables will stay the same. People liked the way the hall was laid out, with plenty of space for people to move around, to stop and talk, rather than feel herded past vendors. This is more important for Photographica in the long run than the extra revenue. I am proposing we use the space for some new activities for Photographica 68:

1. Discovery Tables

I'm reserving four tables throughout the hall for members to display their collections and talk about their interests with the general public. These Discovery Tables will be "Show and Tell" on a much larger scale.

I'll have a sign-up sheet at the September meeting, or you can email me at john_dockery@hotmail.com and tell me what you'd like to show, which day and for how long. The topics are limited only by your imagination — tabletop

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20th Century Tintypes: Minute Photographers Take to the Streets

Phil Storey's September 9 program starts off PHSNE's new year with a look at an enduringly popular process

Tintypes had one of the longest runs of any popular photography process -- from the 1850s until well into the 20th century. Phil Storey has been collecting tintypes for over a decade. In recent years he's focused his collection on the tail end of the tintype's popularity, roughly from 1910 to 1940, and this is the period he'll cover in the first program of PHSNE's new year Sunday, Sept. 9, at Waltham High School.

These 20th century photographs are the direct descendents of the 19th century tintype. But technology changes — card-



Phil Storey Collection

Spur-of-the-moment gag photos were a staple of tintype photographs.

board stock, monobath processing and cheaply mass-produced cameras with developing tanks attached — freed photographers from the studio and they took to the streets. From shutter click to finished product, the whole process only took a minute, and the men behind the cameras became known as "Minute Photographers" and they were everywhere. One 1914 ad for a camera kit extolled, "Fairs, carnivals, picnics, circus grounds, aviation fields, busy corners, in small towns and large cities—all that, and more is your field for profit."

Phil Storey, a long-time PHSNE member, originally gave this talk at last year's triennial Photohistory Symposium in Rochester, NY.

Part of Jack Naylor's Collection To Be Auctioned October 18 to 21

Guernsey's, the New York City auction house, will conduct an auction of some 2,000 items from the collection of PHSNE Life Member Thurman F. (Jack) Naylor in New York City October 18 to 21.

Items to be auctioned come from all areas of Naylor's collection, including daguerreotypes, prints, cameras, and books and ephemera. Included in the auction will be the 1862 Megaletoscopio made by the Venetian photographer Carlo Ponti, and Naylor's famous collection of spy cameras.

Naylor had been seeking a buyer for "The Naylor Collection," about 31,000 items related to the history of photography, that he hoped to sell intact, perhaps to a museum, for \$20 million. The lots in the October auction will come from that collection, and the remainder will be sold in an online auction next year.

More information on the sale and an illustrated catalog are available from Guernsey's, 1-212-794-2280, or on the Web at <http://www.guernseys.com>

Vincent Tassinari, PHSNE's Oldest Member

Vincent Tassinari of Arlington, MA, died June 11, 2007. He was 92 years old, PHSNE's oldest member, and a collector and dealer in cameras and lenses who was a regular at Photographica for a quarter of a century.

Tassinari became interested in collecting after he retired from Stone & Webster, the engineering and construction firm, in the mid-1970s -- he credited his retirement gift, a Canon AT-1, with being the spark that turned his retirement into another career. And it was PHSNE's pre-meeting sales tables that made him a dealer: "I figured if those guys could do it I could do it," he said.

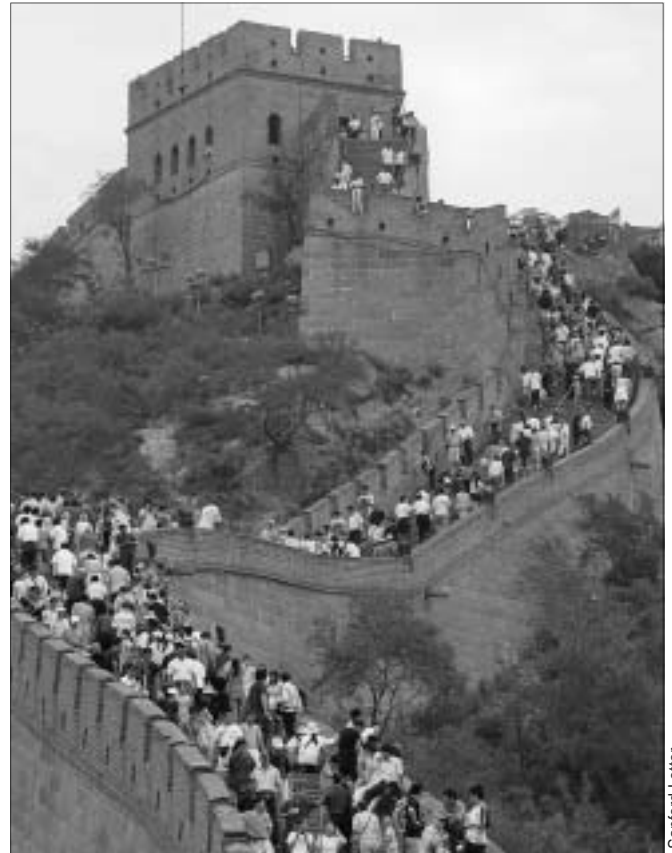
His son, Mark, and daughter, Pat Smith, often assisted their father at his Photographica tables. Tassinari's collection will be the centerpiece of a special auction to be held with Photographica 68 on Friday, Oct. 5.

Pat MacMillan, snap shots' First Editor

Patricia G. MacMillan, of Acton, MA, died May 15. She was a dedicated PHSNE volunteer and for 10 years the editor of this newsletter.

Pat worked as the functions manager of the National Heritage Museum in Lexington. She was a native of Wales, and was formerly employed at the Beacon Publishing Company.

In accordance with her wishes there were no services. In a request that was purest Pat, she asked that anyone who wanted to honor her memory do so by taking a friend to lunch.



Sanford Lottor

PHSNE Goes to the Wall Again

Look closely and you might recognize some faces in the crowd on the Great Wall in China this past June 23 — the faces of PHSNE members and friends on the 2007 PHSNE China Trip. PHSNE member Sanford M. Lottor took the picture with a Nikon D200 (digital) and 18-200mm lens.

PHSNE Membership

PHSNE membership is \$30 for an individual, \$36 for a family, and \$40 for foreign membership. Please send checks in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar-denominated international money orders for dues payments.

Current members can read their renewal date from the mailing label on snap shots. For example, "2007.12" means your membership expires in December of 2007.

Send payments, 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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Photographica 68: A Challenge to Revitalize the Show's Mission

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galleries of prints, albums of images, collections of cameras, demonstrations of techniques – whatever you're most interested in.

If they work, these Discovery Tables will give attendees a reason to stay at the show longer rather than just to walk around the show hall twice and then leave.

The Discovery Tables can also be an important tool to help recruit new PHSNE members by making opportunities for show attendees to meet and talk to actual PHSNE members and engage in casual photography conversation.

Too many times I've heard that Photographica isn't educational any more. The Discovery Tables will take at least \$500 worth of tables away from the vendors and PHSNE and to make Photographica more educational. If you'll meet the challenge.

2. Presentation Room

There is a beautiful meeting room that seats about 35 people. PHSNE didn't use the space in April even though it was available to us. In October I want to use the space for featured speakers to present lectures or slide shows. I have asked Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Ulrike Welsh to display her work, present a slide show and autograph copies of her book on Saturday in this room. I think an event like this could help get wider publicity and attendance for Photographica.

If you have any ideas for local speakers and topics that would appeal to the general public for future Photographica shows, or would like to present a program yourself, please let me know.

3. Friday Night Auction

With a major collection of more than 300 cameras, PHSNE has an opportunity to enhance Photographica 68 with a memorable auction the Friday night before the show. Lew Regelman has taken on the work of organizing the auction, and he will need a great deal of help over the next several weeks to sort the auction lots, pack and transport them, and staff the event.



Lew Regelman

A Big Auction Is On Tap for Photographica

Along with an expanded educational mission, Photographica 68 will be special for another reason — a rich and wonderful auction. On the Friday night before Photographica, Oct. 5, PHSNE will sponsor an auction of member Vincent Tassinari's personal collection — more than 300 cameras, 200 technical camera books, many art books, lenses and accessories. The collection ranges from miniatures to medium-format Bronicas and Hasselblads to a few Graflexes and large wooden cameras. The emphasis is on 35mm equipment — Arguses like those in the case above, and Nikon, Minolta, Canon, Olympus, Kodak and Kodak Retina.

These new programs and a major auction come on top of the person-power required to run a successful show — to take tickets, unfold chairs, make change, organize, and attend to the thousands of details I don't have the space to list. It might look easy to many of you because the people who do these things have done them for years. But it's a mistake to assume they do not need your help.

Auctions and the Photographica shows are the major means by which this organization funds itself. The more successful these events are, the stronger PHSNE then becomes and the more new members it attracts. The past success of the Photographica shows is what keeps PHSNE going strong when so many other similar organizations have either failed or cut back significantly due to their lack of funds.

The nucleus of the new Photographica is in place. Now it needs you. To make Photographica 68 a success will require the help of PHSNE members who in the past might have wandered into the show, walked around for a bit and left.

Lew Regelman, the auction chairman, and I will gratefully take whatever time, talents and skills you can offer us. We're easy to find: John Dockery, 781-592-2553, john_dockery@hotmail.com; Lewis Regelman, 781-642-7867, regelzoo@mail.com. Please sign up at the September meeting or contact us. Make a commitment to help us make PHSNE grow and thrive.

A Unique Mother-and-Son Art Exhibition Shows Work by Alan and Laurie Kattelle

Alan Kattelle, Charter Member and former president of PHSNE, is known for his expertise in the history of amateur filmmaking, but visitors to his home in Hudson, MA, know he's also an accomplished metal sculptor.

His work is currently on display the Hudson Town Hall, 78 Main St., Hudson, through mid-September, in a joint exhibition that includes paintings, prints and collages by his mother, the late Laurie Kattelle.

Kattelle was an engineer by career choice, but his artwork, constructed from metal and wire scrap, began winning awards in the 1960s. His mother was a professional artist: born in 1886, she studied at Boston's Vesper George School of Art, worked as a fashion illustrator for Filene's, painted portraits, and illustrated children's books.

The Journal Wants YOU!

The co-editors of PHSNE's *New England Journal of Photographic History*, Adrian Levesque and Ruth Thomasian, welcome inquires about writing and submitting articles for publication. What makes an interesting journal article and the process of preparing a submission are described in "Writer Guidelines and Editorial Policy" document that's available upon request.

Please be in touch with Adrian or Ruth about article ideas. Ruth Thomasian, phone 617-923-4542 or 4563, e-mail archives@projectsave.org; Adrian Levesque, phone 603-889-4056, e-mail alevesque@aol.com. Please put "PHSNE Journal" in the subject line of your e-mail.

Upcoming PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month September to June at 1:30 p.m. at Waltham High School, preceded by a mini trade fair at 12:30 and an open meeting of the PHSNE board at 11:00 a.m.

- Oct. 5-6-7** — Photographica 68. No meeting.
- Nov. 2** — Don Buckland on "China, 1924"

Directions

Waltham High School is at 617 Lexington St., Waltham, MA. The high school is at the top of the hill, behind other school buildings.

From I-95 (Route 128) Northbound: Take Exit 27 and follow Totten Pond Rd. 1.2 miles east until it dead-ends into Lexington St. Turn left and go .5 miles north. Turn right into the school complex.

From I-95 (Route 128) Southbound: Take Exit 28, Trapelo Rd., east 1.3 miles to Lexington St. Turn right and go south .8 miles to school complex on the left.

From Boston/Cambridge: Take Rte. 2 west to Exit 54B, then Lexington St. south 1.7 miles to school complex on the left.

From Lincoln and West: Take Route 2 east to Exit 53, Concord Ave. Go east 1 mile, then right onto Lexington St. and 1.3 miles south to school complex on the left.

PHSNE Online

PHSNE is online at www.phsne.org. PHSNE member Ralph Johnston is the Webmaster.

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Photographic Historical Society of New England
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