

# snap shots

Volume 13 Number 10

June 2008

## June Field Trip: Inside the JFK Library and Museum

On Sunday, June 1, PHSNE's annual field trip will take the society to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston. Members will have the chance to go behind the scenes with the library's chief archivist (and PHSNE board member) Allan Goodrich.

Allan will guide a tour of the archives and its increasingly digital conservation facilities, and discuss some of the Library's lesser-known holdings.

"I'll talk about how we're coping in a digital world while staying in analog," Allan said in describing the program. His staff has been scanning the Kennedy White House archive of presentation photographs — and discovering differences between 45-year-old file prints and contemporary scans. And he'll talk about some new finds: "A couple of months ago we printed up two or three rolls of negatives JFK's brother Joe shot in Spain in 1939."

The Library also holds the largest extant collection of the work done by Boston photographer Josiah Hawes after the end of the Southworth & Hawes partnership.

The arrangements for this year's field trip will be informal. Travel to the Library is on your own. The cafeteria will be open for lunch, and the program will begin at 1:30. PHSNE members should check in at the information desk at the front door for admission to the archives. Directions to the Library and more information are available on its Web site, [www.jfklibrary.org](http://www.jfklibrary.org).



Courtesy of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum

The little girl in the flowered hat at bottom center is JFK's mother, Rose Fitzgerald. The Fitzgerald family photographs are among the JFK Library's seldom-seen treasures that will be shown to PHSNE members.

## *It's Time to Get Ready! Get Set! Rollfilm Shootout!*

Summer is coming, which means it's time to think about the December PHSNE program.

Just as we did in December 2006, we'll turn the program over to a show of member photographs shot with American-made cameras. Then it was 35mm cameras. This time, it's rollfilm, and you've got the summer to choose your camera, buy some film, and get out there and shoot some pictures to be a part of the program.

You can shoot with any American made-camera that uses paper-backed rollfilm.

The show will be digitally projected, so your images, whether prints or transparencies, will have to be scanned in advance. You'll have to submit them at a fall meeting — no later than November — to be included in the program.

While rollfilm has all but disappeared from the drugstore, it's still available in several sizes from sources like B&H Photo. The 120 size is most common, and because so many U.S.-made cameras were 620, you may want to reroll 120 film onto 620



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## Shows and Exhibitions Around New England

"*Georgia O'Keeffe and the Camera: The Art of Identity*" at the **Portland Museum of Art** brings together 60 photographs of Georgia O'Keeffe and 18 works by the artist to examine the relationship between her art and photographs made of her over her long career. For the first time, the exhibition will pair paintings and photographs to establish two opposing public images of the artist. The exhibition includes works by famous photographers such as Ansel Adams, Alfred Stieglitz, Eliot Porter, Todd Webb, and Arnold Newman. The examples of O'Keeffe's paintings and works on paper mark major moments in the development of her art. Through September 7, 2008. (PMA, Seven Congress Square, Portland, ME, 207-775-6148, [www.portlandmuseum.org](http://www.portlandmuseum.org).)

"*Boston Close Up: Windows on a New Century*" at the **National Heritage Museum** in Lexington, MA, presents a street-level view of daily life in Boston in the last years of the 19th Century. The exhibit, organized by Historic New England, is drawn from a collection of 533 cyanotype prints in the Historic New England Library and Archives. The photographs include views of Washington Street, the waterfront, and Charlestown taken in 1899, 1900, and 1901. The prints (most likely commissioned by the Boston Elevated Street Railway Company for insurance purposes) capture details of ordinary life in commercial and residential streets. The show includes several views of the same sites today by Peter Vanderwarker that reveal continuity as well as a century of change. Through

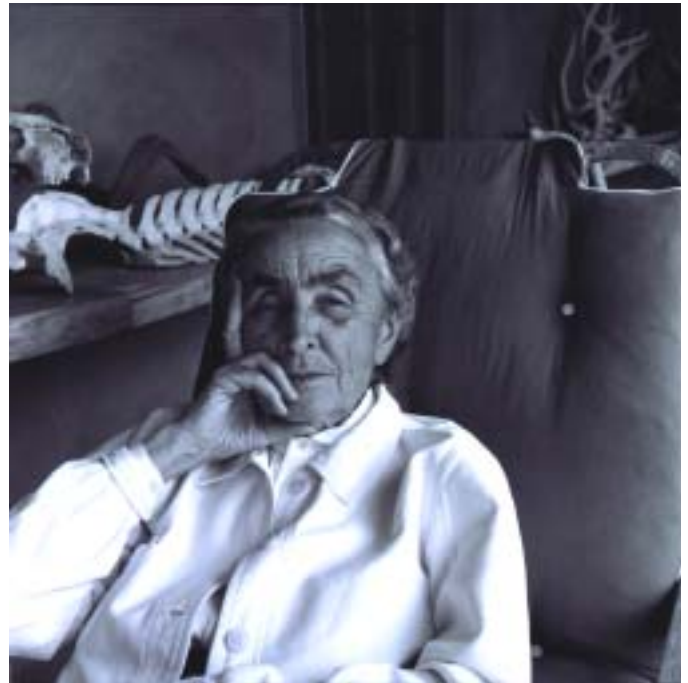
### PHSNE Membership

PHSNE membership is \$15 for students, \$30 for individuals, \$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, "2008.12" means your membership expires in December of 2008. Please check your label before sending in your dues.

Send payments, changes of address, and other contact information, to: Joe Walters, PO Box 137, Belmont, MA 02478, or e-mail [membership@phsne.net](mailto:membership@phsne.net).

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Courtesy of the Portland Museum of Art

"Georgia O'Keeffe at Ghost Ranch," photographed by Todd Webb in 1963, is included in the Portland Museum of Art exhibition, "Georgia O'Keeffe and the Camera: The Art of Identity."

August 10, 2008. (National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Rd. Lexington, MA, 781-861-6559, [www.monh.org](http://www.monh.org).)

"*Monumental France*" at the **New York Public Library's** Print Gallery shows off the range of print-making technologies used by Edouard-Denis Baldus, the pioneering French photographer of architecture and landscape. Baldus worked with large-format (typically about 18 by 13 inches) glass and paper negatives and made albumen and salt prints. The large prints of monumental subjects, photographed mostly in the 1850s, show an astonishing technical virtuosity in a medium that was then less than 20 years old. Through June 28, 2008. (New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street, 212-930-0830, [www.nypl.org](http://www.nypl.org).)

### Get Ready! Get Set! Rollfilm Shoot-Out!

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spools: contact John Wojtowicz at [jstw57@cox.net](mailto:jstw57@cox.net) for directions and tips.

The program rules are simple:

1. Dig out a U.S.-made rollfilm camera of any vintage.
2. Shoot rollfilm for either prints or transparencies. Images shot on 35mm film aren't eligible.
3. Submit your most interesting six shots with a story. (We'll call for submissions beginning at the September meeting. Your entries will be returned.)
4. Remember, this isn't a contest and there are no prizes. Entrants are asked to bring the camera used and tell us about the images while they are being projected.

## Destination: Camera Collection

### *In Nova Scotia, an unlikely setting for a great collection of photographica*

The postmaster of Middle West Pubnico, Nova Scotia, passed away in 1994. He left a collection of 323 cameras and accessories he had gathered over a 30-year period. Bernard d'Entremont's collection included some commonplace cameras, but also some rarities, such as a 1895 gas-powered enlarger, the likes of which not even Jack Naylor owned, as the literature on the collection points out.

Bernard's cameras make West Pubnico an alluring destination for vacationing camera collectors, but it is not in a photography museum. It can be found in the Acadian Museum and Archives, a community cultural museum in West Pubnico, Nova Scotia.

The museum is set in a *circa* 1864 homestead, and it is as impressive as the camera collection. The main level includes an extensive kitchen, living room, period bedroom, and chapel. In the upper level are many small exhibits: toys, fishing gear, Mi'kmaq artifacts, and memories of old school days.

An annex accommodates the camera collection, temporary exhibits and workshops, and a functional small printing press used to publish an Acadian newspaper in the 1930s.

On the second floor, the Research Center makes available an extensive collection of historical documents and



Photos by John Wojtowicz

The Musée Acadien in West Pubnico, Nova Scotia, isn't a camera museum, but it exhibits a collection of 323 cameras, including this 1902 Kodak Stereo II.

genealogical material. During a long ministry, Father Clarence d'Entremont gathered over a thousand photographs of local places and people, that today put faces with the names in the archive. The cataloging work continues, and his collection has been an invaluable source.

West Pubnico has a robust sense of not merely history, but of community, and it shows in the dedication and hard work it took to create and maintain places like the Acadian Museum. Plan on spending a good chunk of time when you visit. You will find there is a lot to like about the Pubnico area. For more information, visit [www.museeacadien.ca](http://www.museeacadien.ca) on the Web.

-- John Wojtowicz

## *Go West, young woman: PHSNE's president on the lecture circuit*

Early this year I was invited to be the guest speaker for the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society annual Show Experience Weekend in April. I didn't hesitate to say yes, and the trip became an opportunity to see some fabulous collections and meet some wonderful people.

My first stop was to see the wonderful collection of Dr. Stephen Shoheit, of San Francisco. Steve and his wife Gerrie regularly attend the PHSNE Photographica shows, and they also own a beautiful Victorian bed-and-breakfast ([www.chateautivoli.com](http://www.chateautivoli.com)). I also met David Silver, a San Francisco collector and dealer.

Steve, Gerrie, and I flew up to Portland, where we were greeted by Ralph and Bobbi London of Portland and Rick and Cheryl Soloway of Tucson, Arizona. Rick is the current president of the Western Photographic Historical Society. Imagine seven photographica collectors all under one roof! We visited Charlie Kameron, who is known for his collection of Kodak cameras in original boxes.

Two days later we drove up to Tacoma, where I was able to see some other wonderful collections. Gary Sivert-

sen is a collector of toy and novelty cameras and had a wonderful display of figurines holding cameras. Next it was on to the home of Bill Kimber who also had an amazing display of cameras and related material.

Thursday evening it was off to the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society, which meets in Des Moines, WA, for the start of their Show Experience weekend. I gave a 45-minute talk and presentation on toy and novelty cameras and other interesting cameras I have picked up along the way. The talk was well received, and I can assure you that I represented our society well.

On Friday afternoon we were off to set up for the annual camera club trade show at the Puyallup, WA, Fair Grounds. The show on Saturday, with about 130 tables, drew some 450 people through the doors.

I had a wonderful experience out west, and PHSNE can rest assured, it is well-known and respected by other organizations. I am proud of our diverse group of members and am honored to serve as your president.

-- Marti Jones

## A Report on Photographica 69

Show manager John Dockery rates the most recent Photographica show and sale a great success: "More members contributed more of themselves, their time, their skills and shared their passion about photography at Photographica 69 than any show I've been apart of to date. And it made a difference. The 485 attendees soaked it up and were impressed by what they saw. If you went to Photographica 69 and there was nothing that you saw there that interested you or that you were not aware of previously, you need a new hobby."

It was a great show for other reasons, as well, said John. "Dr. Jim Bales' presentation on Dr. Harold Edgerton was really well received, not only by MIT alums, but by people who had never before heard of 'Doc.'

"There are too many people to thank and I don't want to list them all for fear I'll forget someone. They know who they are and they have my gratitude. They should also have the gratitude of all PHSNE members. Photographica is how PHSNE funds itself. If you think PHSNE's expenses are funded by the yearly dues you pay, you're just kidding yourself."

PHSNE President Marti Jones praised John: "He's a true champion to take all this under his command and PHSNE is grateful to have him in this position."

And Marti put out a call for more champions. "We want to continue to make Photographica a successful show, and to do that we need cooperation and also more volunteers. Please email me at marti0727@comcast.net or call me at 603-860-7411 if you would like to become more involved."

## '07 Journal On Its Way

The 2007 Journal, a little late but full of interesting pieces, is on its way to the printer in two weeks, and to member three weeks later. The editors are working on the 2008 Journal and looking for contributions. Please be in touch with Ruth Thomasian (617-923-4542, archives@projectsave.org) or Adrian Levesque (603-889-4056, ALevesque2@comcast.net.)

### 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. Upcoming meetings and events:

**Mark your Calendar: Sept. 27-28** — Photographica 70, Americal Center, Wakefield, MA (with an auction planned for Saturday evening, Sept. 27).

### 2008-2009 Meeting Dates

September 7	January 4	April 5
October 5	February 1	May 3
November 2	March 1	June 7
December 7		

### PHSNE Online

PHSNE's Web site is online at [www.phsne.org](http://www.phsne.org). Ralph Johnston is the Webmaster.

Join the PHSNE Forum online discussion: sign up and log in at [www.phsne.net/forum](http://www.phsne.net/forum), moderated by Joe Walters. For an archive of back issues of *snap shots* and meeting presentations, visit [www.phsne.net/pubs](http://www.phsne.net/pubs).



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shots**

**Photographic Historical Society of New England  
June 1 Meeting — Field Trip  
To the John F. Kennedy Library**

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