

snap shots

Volume 15 Number 8

April 2010

Spring Double Header Three Member Presentations, April 11 Photographica 73, April 17, 18—doors open at 9:00 AM. Both at Americal Center, Wakefield, MA

Monthly PHSNE meeting, April 11, 2010

The program originally scheduled for January 3rd, featuring individual presentations by three PHSNE members, is rescheduled for April 11th after a new year snow storm forced a cancellation.

Using recent technology, Ralph Johnston will present *Hitler in Poland 1939*, a digital stereo slideshow based on 70 year-old slides depicting the three-week war between Germany and Poland that led into World War II.

John Wojtowicz's presentation features high interest commercial and educational filmstrips. The filmstrips, dating to the 1930's, were rescued by a friend as the material was headed to a dumpster.

Rounding out the trio, Lew Regelman will present an old fashioned lantern slide show. This format was popular in the 1930's and 40's to educate and entertain viewers.

Additional details about the three-member presentations appeared in the January issue of *snap shots* and can be accessed on the website at phsne.org/archive/index.php/Publications/SnapShots.

Photographica 73, April 17 & 18, 2010

Photographica 73 will take place at the Americal Civic Center, 467 Main St., Wakefield, MA, on Saturday and Sunday, April 17th and 18th.

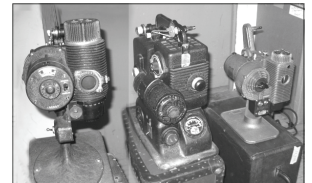


John Dockery, Manager
Photographica 73

Over half of the available dealer tables were sold before February 18th, an unusually high number this far in advance, and it is expected that the show will sell out once

again. If you're interested in having a table for the show, please do not delay in contacting the show manager at john_dockery@hotmail.com or phoning 781-592-2553.

Great bargains can be found at the dollar table. Sale items will include a number of inexpensive slide, 8mm, and 16mm projectors. Food choices abound in the area; however, you might want to save your appetite for the meatball submarine sandwiches (making a reappearance by popular demand) catered by Photographica Manager John Dockery's Mom and Dad.



Projectors for sale
at bargain basement prices



Looking for
something special

As always, PHSNE members are needed to help out with the varied positions required to make the show possible. If you have an hour or two—or more—to spare, please help stage this event. There's a task to suit everyone's skills, interests and time available. We need help with setup on Friday afternoon and cleanup on Sunday afternoon. Even a brief fill-in role will help a fellow member/volunteer take a quick break, and stopping to pick up coffee and donuts on Saturday morning will take little time and be much appreciated. For recent shows, the entire burden of putting on Photographica has rested on the shoulders of a few dedicated members. The future of Photographica depends on having more members take part in the preparations for and execution of the show. All PHSNE members who help out will gain free admission to the show for both days.

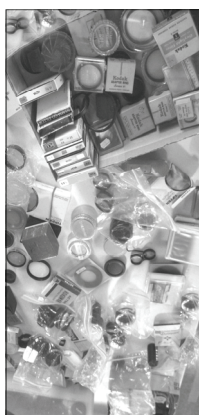
PHSNE Auction Successful

Buyers and sellers experienced a productive and rewarding afternoon at the February 7th PHSNE auction. Four thousand dollars in sales were recorded; after factoring in expenses, the net profit will support PHSNE activities including room rental, publications, and general operating expenses.



PHSNE member Jim Chasse examines a camera for sale

Many members helped with the setup and operation of the auction. The list includes, but is not limited to, Cindy Berry, Jim McDonough, John Dockery, Ernie Stonebrecker, Ruth Thomasian, Jim Chasse, Ron Polito, Walt Friesendorf, and John Wojtowicz. In addition, a small corps of volunteers spent months carting materials to the warehouse and cataloguing items for sale. Joe Walters, Bud Midgley, Dick Koolish, and Lew Regelman are the “regulars” who showed up weekly. Thanks to all who participated.



Filters galore

PHSNE Membership

PHSNE membership is \$15 for students, \$35 for individuals, \$40 for a family, and \$45 for foreign membership. Please send checks in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar-denominated international money orders. An application is available at phsne.org/membership.

Members should check the expiration date on the *snap shots* mailing label before sending in dues.

Send payments, changes of address and other contact information, to Joe Walters Jr, PHSNE Membership Chair, P.O. Box 650189, West Newton, MA 02465 (Call: 617-826-9294; email: membership@phsne.org; or use the Web form at phsne.org/contacts).

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Once again, former President and Board member Marti Jones served as auctioneer par excellence. She delighted the audience with timely jokes and kept the auction moving smoothly.



Auctioneer Marti Jones

The auction included fifty-one cameras and photographic items brought in by members on the day of the auction. PHSNE offered an additional sixty items (twenty-five of which were sold on consignment). In addition to cameras, sale items included lenses, filters, tripods, photo books, and other items of photographicica. The most expensive item was a complete Sinar studio outfit; other high-end items included Graflex 4 x 5 Speed and Crown graphics. Glass stereo views, glass plate film holders, and rare stereo cards were among the more unusual items.



Bidders await the next item

The dollar table was, as always, a big draw. Hundreds of items were scooped up by eager bargain hunters.

While much of the east coast was digging out of a snowstorm, Boston was enjoying a brisk clear sunny day. Participants were able to get home in plenty of time to watch the Superbowl.

The next PHSNE auction will take place on September, 2010.



Checking out the ever-popular dollar table

A Different Kind of Pub, South American Style!

Holger Schult



On my recent trip to Buenos Aires, a city of 13 million people, I caught up with a friend of mine who I met through the IDCC (Internet Directory of Camera Collectors), Jose Ramón. He took me to a very unique pub, just out of the city centre. Opened in 2002 as The Buenos Aires Museum of Photography. Alex Simik had the right idea - serve alcohol and food to you while you look around the cameras and exhibits.



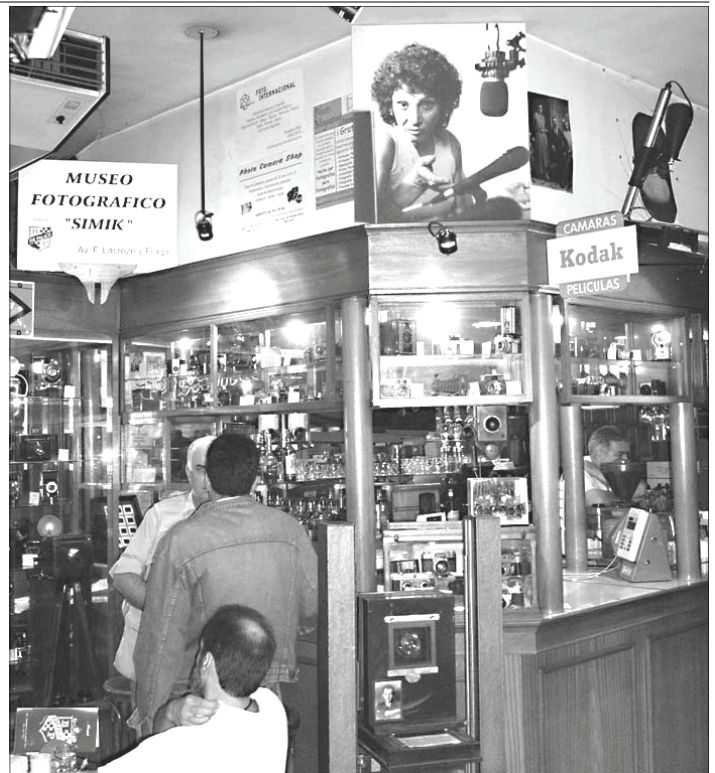
You just HAVE to see this place! I went with two Argentinean friends. We got there at 4pm, and didn't leave till 4am! Well - there was LOTS to see, lots of camera talk, and lots to drink, open 24 hrs.

Founded by advertising photographer Alejandro (Alex) Simik, there are cameras and accessories everywhere. Along the walls, IN the tables, even

the drinks fridge is built into a display cabinet! The place is just full of all things photographica - studio cameras, not only cameras manufactured in Argentina, but also accessories, advertising materials etc.



Alex's aim is not just to promote the evolution of photography, but photography itself. The Pub hosts a monthly photo competition, along with lectures and workshops on all aspects of photography, both film based and digital (and yes - they cater to both kinds of photographers- PC and MAC!). There is even a fully equipped studio available for hire.



I was invited to a club meeting, half Spanish half English and there was a lot of restoring going on at that meeting and I was presented with a 360 degree panoramic photo of the area the pub was in.

In fact the museum has been awarded a rating plaque by the Argentinean government as a treasure to the country, in recognition of both its preservation of the history of photography for the people of Argentina, and for Alex's creation of a unique tourist attraction.

As I said - if you ever get the chance to go there - do it! And if you don't - have a look at

their web site: simik.com.ar/museo It is in Spanish only. Lots of old camera pictures though.

If you are going to Argentina get in contact with my friend Jose Ramón, very nice guy (e-mail address on web site photographyhistory.com/idcclist). He has a very nice collection - he would love to meet other collectors, by email or in person. - and if you're lucky he may even show you some of his collection.

~ Abridged version of article published in Back Focus, The Journal of the Australian Photographic Collectors Society, December, 2009. Story and photos by Holger Schult.



Rare Images Continue to Bring High Prices at Auction

Hal Gould, Director of the Camera Obscura Gallery (Denver, CO), reports in the January 2010 issue of the *PFA* (Photography in the Fine Arts) *newsletter* that after some disappointing spring sales, “the auction houses put together an amazing collection of 1,100 important images for the fall sales.” He adds that “727 of the images sold for \$10,470,949” and further notes that Christie’s offered “four sales that generated \$5,881,400 and Sotheby’s offered a large sale of 243 lots, of which 192 sold for \$3,571,754.”

Several items sold for more than their pre-sale estimates, for example Robert Doisneau’s *The Kiss*, valued between \$7000 to \$10,000, sold for \$17,000. On the other hand “there were several lots offered without reserve, including Robert Mapplethorpe and Richard Avedon, that sold for considerably less than their estimated values.” Helmut Newton’s “well known *Sie Kommen* (undressed) was offered without reserve, est. \$40,-60,00, sold for \$20,000, and his group of 5 *Domestic Nude Studies*, with no reserve, sold for \$11,000, an absolute bargain”

Other sales of note included 100 stereographs, \$10,200; *Camera Work* #20, \$6,000; Henri Cartier Bresson’s *The Decisive Moment*, \$2,880; Dave Heath’s *Washington Square, 1958*, \$16,800; and 5 prints of Edward Weston’s nude studies of Charis Wilson, \$28, 125.

~PFA newsletter

PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. at the Americal Center, 467 Main St., Wakefield, MA, preceded by a mini trade fair at 12:30 and an open meeting of the PHSNE board at 11:00 a.m.

The Americal Center is in a highly visible location just outside of Wakefield Square, minutes from interstate highways 95/128. A rail line runs nearby and an MBTA bus line stops in front of the building (details available at mbta.com).

Directions to Americal Center, Wakefield

I-95 to exit 39, North Ave. toward Reading/Wakefield. Turn right at North Ave; then turn left at Main St. Destination is on the left: 467 Main St., Wakefield, MA 01880.

Parking available next door at the school, behind the building, and on Main St.

Upcoming meetings:

May 2—George Champine on the first photograph

June 6—Field trip to New Bedford. We will be car-pooling.

PHSNE Online

PHSNE’s Web site is online at phsne.org. George Champine is the Webmaster.

Join the PHSNE Forum online discussion: sign up and log in at phsne.org/forum, moderated by Joe Walters. For an archive of back issues of *snap shots* and meeting presentations, visit phsne.org/archive.

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Photographic Historical Society of New England
Next Meeting: April 11, 2010
Americal Center, 1:30 P.M.
Photographica 73: April 17, 18

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