

snap shots

Volume 16 Number 2

October 2010

Photographica 74 and PHSNE Auction, September 25 & 26 Americal Center, 467 Main St., Wakefield, MA



Photo by Dick Koofish

Cameras and lenses,
Photographica 73

The 74th Photographica Show will take place on September 25 and 26, 2010 at the Americal Center. Show hours are Saturday 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and Sunday 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Admission is \$5.00 for the general public,

tables, contact him at john_dockery@hotmail.com or 781-592-2553.

Dockery is looking for help from the membership to man information booths, provide security, and perform other important tasks. If you are able to volunteer, please contact him at the address or phone number above.



PHSNE

John Dockery,
Show Manager

At 4:30 P.M. on Saturday, following the show, there will be a special PHSNE auction of photographic items. Non-members are invited to bid, so bring a friend!



Photo by Dick Koofish

Bob Cooke (seated) and Jim Wojdyl
at Photographica 73

Volunteers are needed to prepare for and run the auction. We need help loading the truck at the warehouse on Friday afternoon, unloading at the Americal Center, and loading unsold items back on the truck Saturday night. Auction day positions include runners, spotters, and recorders. To volunteer, please contact Lew Regelman at auktion@phsne.org.

\$4.00 for seniors and students, \$3.00 for PHSNE members, and \$30.00 for "Early Birds" who may enter the hall at 6:00 A.M. on Saturday and 7:00 A.M. on Sunday. All admissions are good for both days.

There will be 70 tables manned by camera and image dealers from all over the east coast, Canada, and Japan. Photographica dealers buy items as well as sell them. If you have equipment or images to sell, please bring them to the show. The show will also feature a huge selection of wet darkroom equipment on the ever-popular dollar tables.

Show manager John Dockery is expecting more than 600 people to attend the show. To secure one of the few remaining dealer

Photo by Lew Regelman



Three of many 35 mm and 120 format film cameras for sale at auction at 4:30 P.M.

Photo by Lew Regelman



Polaroid 110 prepared
for auction

Call for Papers:

PhotoHistory XV, October 2011

The world's only continuous symposium on the history of photography, PhotoHistory, will take place at George Eastman House in Rochester, New York on October 21-23, 2011. This date represents a new two-year interval between proceedings.

PhotoHistory XV will include a full day of presentations on the history of photographic practice, aesthetics, collecting, technology and sociology followed by a day of browsing at a photographic trade show which attracts dealers from North America and internationally.

The most recent PhotoHistory XIV was held in October 2009 and was the last on the traditional three-year interval, which first began in 1970. The changed two-year frequency for the symposium was suggested and voted on by attendees at the 2009 event that drew more than 200 visitors from the Americas, Great Britain, Europe, Australia and Japan. The symposium's venue, George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, is a National Historic Landmark.

The formal call for papers, abstracts of which are required by 31 December 2010, can be found online at people.rit.edu/andpph/tphs.

~Press Release, The Photographical Historical Society

PHSNE Membership

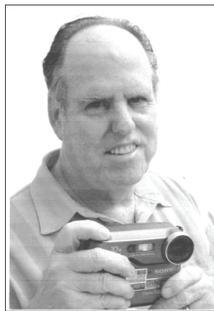
PHSNE membership is \$15 for students, \$35 for individuals, \$40 for a family, and \$45 for foreign membership. Please send checks in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar-denominated international money orders. An application is available at phsne.org/membership.

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 02465-0189 (phone 617-826-9294; e-mail membership@phsne.org; or use the Web form at phsne.org/contacts).

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PHSNE Co-founder Richard Sanford Publishes Four Books on Cape Cod



Richard Sanford

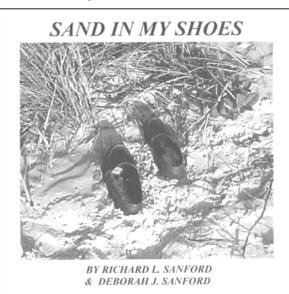
In a recent letter to the editor of *snap shots*, PHSNE co-founder Richard L. Sanford reminisced about how the club got started. "Way back in the early 70's, I met a few other guys who collected old cameras. I traveled to Ohio to their second camera show where I had a table and sold items. I started collecting Bolsey cameras that first day and met others who were in clubs, so

I got the idea of forming a local club in Massachusetts."

The four co-founders Sanford, Larry Rochette, Dick Bolt, and Brian Owen, were among the sixty-eight charter members who attended the first PHSNE meeting on April 8, 1973. Sanford was the first Secretary, and the club address was his PO box in Buzzards Bay.

Sanford wrote and published *Bolsey, the Man Behind the Camera* in 2003 which is still being sold online by Jay Tepper and others. He has recently written four books about Cape Cod, laser printed and spiral bound. Visit dixneatold-things.com for additional information or to purchase books.

Now retired and living in Florida, Sanford sells old video game systems on e-bay.



Book cover from set of Cape Cod books

Online Sale of Antique Photographica

Bryan & Page Ginns announced their 8th annual Absentee Bid Sale, featuring over 400 lots of antique and collectible cameras, stereoscopes, stereo views, lantern slides, optical toys, daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, autochromes, and related material. The entire catalog will be illustrated on-line from early September at stereographica.com and will feature real-time live bidding. Bids will also be accepted by mail, fax, and telephone. The sale will close at 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 25th. This is an especially fine sale with items of interest in all categories of antique photographica.

Back to the Future

Flying cars? Moving sidewalks? In every arena forward-thinking people make predictions about what the future holds. Photography is no exception. It's fascinating to look back at prophesies about the cameras of the future that were made in earlier years. *Snap shots* invites you to take a second look at early predictions about the future of photography.

Consider "The Camera of 1950," an article in the August, 1938 issue of *Popular Photography*. Harry Champlin, owner of a photo lab, photographer, author, and inventor (of developers), predicted that "the exacting demands of commercial photography and newspaper work" would result in 70 mm film replacing 35, a prediction that, with the benefit of hindsight, was way off base.

A more accurate prediction was for automated cameras, though Champlin's timetable was way too optimistic. It is easy to understand why Champlin expected an automatic camera by 1950, given the introduction of Eastman Kodak's Super Six-20 in 1938. However, its built-in exposure control was



Photo by Lew Regelman

Minolta X-370 with automatic exposure, automatic winder, modern shutter—
Features of the "camera of 1950"
introduced in 1985!

very expensive, and WW II intervened. Automatic cameras were not commonplace until almost two decades after Champlin's target date of 1950 and with technology very unlike the Super Six-20. Similarly, Champlin's prediction about automatic winders was sound, though once again he was overly optimistic about the timing.

Champlin envisioned a shutter controlled by a photo-electric cell with a maximum speed of 1/5,000th of a second. However, the focal-plane and leaf design that he predicted would be replaced by a "radically different" type of shutter, is still in use.

While he did not foresee anything like the Polaroid technology, Champlin predicted there would be rapid processing by 1950. "Films will be taken from the camera and put into a small cylinder to which can be connected a cartridge containing a developing gas."

A camera with several of the features Champlin envisioned eventually appeared, but his "Camera of 1950" was not available until the 1980's.

As for digital photography, in August of 1981, Sony Corp introduced the Mavica with much fanfare, the name deriving from its function as a *Magnetic Video Camera*. Following its announcement, Leendert Drukker wrote an article for *Popular Photography* titled "How will Sony's video camera affect photography?"

Drukker explained that "instead of registering subjects on film as a latent image, they are screened on a solid-state charge-coupled device (CCD) and recorded on a 50-shot magnetic disk that requires no processing." As many as ten pictures could be snapped in a second. The three rechargeable and easily replaceable nicad batteries would last for 200 images per charge.



Sony Digital Mavica MVC-FD5,
the first digital model.

Rama, Wikipedia, CC attribution-share alike 2.0 FR

The disk, drive, and shifting recording head were probably the only moving parts of the camera, making the Mavica far simpler than standard 35mm cameras. Images could be viewed on a player hooked up to a tv set.

This technology was the forerunner of digital photography. As *Popular Photography* pointed out, "a CCD is compact, sturdy, reliable, stingy with battery power, and resistant to picture burn."

Film has continued to improve, as digital technology has grown. Clearly digital is the wave of the future. However, at this point in time, the quality attainable in film cannot yet be matched in the consumer market.

Plan ahead: the program for December will be a members' sharing session. Bring your favorite cameras and stories about them to the December meeting. Bring one or more; table space will be available for displays.

Area Exhibits:

Photographic Advertising at HBS

The High Art of Photographic Advertising: The 1934 National Alliance of Art and Industry Exhibition, through October 9, 2010 at the Bloomberg Center lobby of the Baker Library, Harvard Business School campus

This stunning collection, featuring 125 of the 250 photographs originally displayed in a 1934 exhibit in New York City, is sponsored by the National Alliance of Art and Industry (NAAI) and the Photographic Illustrators, Inc. At that time, a new generation of photographers with a modernist sensibility, including Margaret Bourke-White and Edward Steichen, were pursuing commercial photography as both an artistic endeavor and a profession. This marks the first time the NAAI collection has been on display since 1934.



Advertisement for Lord & Taylor, ca. 1934. 1934 Art and Industry Exhibition Photograph Collection, Baker Library Historical Collections (Photo: Gordon Coster)

"Visitors to this exhibit will have a chance to see magnificent works created by the top artistic and commercial photographers of the 1920s and 30s," said exhibit curator Melissa Banta, "This was a rich period of experimentation in photography when artists were pushing the boundaries between art and advertising."

For more information on the *The High Art of Photographic Advertising: The 1934 National Alliance of Art and Industry Exhibition*, visit the Baker Library Historical Collections Website at library.hbs.edu/hc/naai.

~Press Release, Harvard Business School

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, Wakefield, MA, preceded by a mini trade fair at 12:30 P.M. and an open meeting of the PHSNE board at 11:00 A.M. The Wakefield station of the Haverhill rail line is within 1/2 mile of the Center, and a bus line stops in front of the building. Details are available at mbta.com.

Upcoming meetings:

- October** _ no meeting
- November 7**—Dealing with daguerreotypes, Dennis Waters
- December 5**— Members' program: Your Favorite Cameras

Driving directions to Americal Center

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.

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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September 25 & 26 — Americal Center

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