

snap shots

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January 2011

MEMBER PRESENTATIONS : Historical Images in 2D and 3D Sunday, January 9, 2011, Americal Center, Wakefield, MA

Ralph Johnston will be combining old and new technology in two digital stereo slide shows, *Hitler in Poland 1939*, rescheduled from a few months ago, and a new program, *3D Cameras and Viewers*.

The first program includes approximately 100 slides, taken by a German officer, depicting the three week battle between Germany and Poland that ush-



*Massed cavalry about to attack German tanks;
The last battle fought on horseback*

ered in World War II. Caption slides have been translated into English and narrated into this synchronized digital sound program.

The second program features items from Ralph's collection, with commentary. The discussion spans the history of 3D and covers several formats: small glass plates, rollfilm, 35mm, and finally digital.

Lew Regelman's presentation will be an old fashioned lantern slide show featuring "new" slides — new in the sense that they have not been seen at PHSNE meetings before. Lew will project



Boys' School, Seoul, Korea

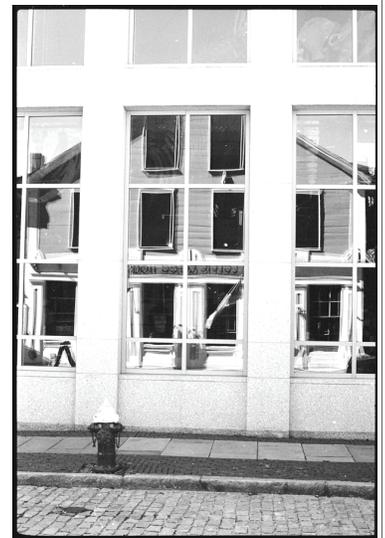
about 40 examples of the lantern slides that were widely popular in the 19th century and which predate the introduction of photography. Lantern slides

were used by many organizations both to entertain and educate viewers. The slides will represent a variety of themes and settings.

Caught on Film in New Bedford

Images by artists on location in vintage New Bedford, using the traditional medium of camera & film, will be on display from January 8th through February 5th at the Judith Klein Art Gallery, 752 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA 02740. The exhibit, titled *Caught on Film*, includes images by PHSNE member Whitey Morange and PHSNE President John Wojtowicz.

Gallery hours are Mon., Tues., and Thurs. 12-5 PM, Sat. 10:30 AM to 3PM or by appointment. There will be an artists' reception (AHA Night) on Thursday, January 13th, 2011, 5-9 P.M. Visit the gallery web site at judithkleinart.com or phone 508-965-7396 for further information.



*Old & New Bedford
Elias Roustom 2010*

Alan Kattelle, 1919-2010

Sadly we report the passing of PHSNE charter member, past president, and honorary life member Alan Kattelle on December 8, 2010. An obituary will be published in the February *snap shots* to recognize his many contributions to PHSNE and the field of photography. We extend sincere condolences to his family and many PHSNE friends.

This Question May Bug You . . .

PHSNE volunteers spend many hours going through boxes of photographic items stored at a local warehouse to prepare for the auctions. Every now and then they

come across unusual items. A recent find is puzzling: one inch long heavy metal (possibly lead) “Photobug,” with short metal extensions (that are not hooks). This is a black and white photo, but the actual type is red on



a black field. All four are identical; the one at the upper right is turned sideways to show the thickness.

Can anyone shed light on these mystery “critters”? How old are they? What were they used for? If you know anything about them, please e-mail the information to snapshots@phsne.org. We will publish any reasonable answers.

PHSNE Membership

PHSNE membership is \$15 for students, \$35 for individuals, \$40 for a family, and \$45 for foreign membership. Join or renew by credit card or paypal online at phsne.org/paypal or send a check in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar denominated international money order.

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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Photography 1889—1903 Journal Reprint Available on DVD

The Optical Magic Lantern Journal and Photographic Enlarger (OMLJ) was a British trade monthly that appeared from 1889 to 1903 which covered the magic lantern and illumination through to photography and the world of early cinema. The OMLJ featured news and opinions from each of the worlds and through its correspondence and advertising pages provides a unique insight into each of these areas at an important point in their history.

The publication only survives in a few national libraries and this limited edition DVD offers a rare opportunity for collectors, researchers,

educational institutions and libraries to acquire a digitized run which is searchable electronically.

The OMLJ covers a key period in the history of photography and the cinema. It appeared when the

hand camera was rapidly being taken up by amateur photographers and at a point shortly before the motion picture camera was introduced. The OMLJ through its editorial pages and advertisements charts the period in detail.

This DVD provides a high-quality facsimile of all 5000 pages. Go to magiclantern.org.uk/omlj or email: lmh.smith@magiclanternsoc.demon.co.uk for additional information and order form.



2011 Renewal Drive Underway

The renewal drive for the 2011 membership year has started. About 50% of the renewals have been received as we go to press. Thanks to these prompt members who are saving the Society the expense of a second notice.

All members who need to renew should have received a renewal package with the December issue of *snap shots*. All other members (e.g. Life) should have received a request to update their contact and interest information for the Membership Directory. We plan on publishing a new Directory in 2011, so it is very important to renew and update your contact information now.

See PHSNE Membership block at left for information if you do not have the renewal package.

~ Joe Walters

Leica Look-Alikes



Leica II, 1935, Regelman collection

Did you ever wonder why there were so many Leica look-alikes—and how they could be advertised so openly as copies? Some were made in the Soviet Union in the years leading up to World War II;

many more were manufactured after the war ended, especially in Japan, when the victorious allies nullified German patents as part of the war reparations.

According to the Leitz Museum website, leitzmuseum.org/CameraMakes/LeicaCopies/getcopies.html, "There were over 300 different Leica copies manufactured in the 1934-1960 time period. Russia, China, Japan, Italy, Czechoslovakia, even the USA made Leica copies. Some are of excellent quality, some are not. All are collectible."



Zorki 1D (Cyrillic), Regelman collection

There are numerous companies still selling Leica look-alikes on the Internet. One source is Pacific Rim Cameras which notes on its website (pacificrimcamera.com) that "One of the problems encountered when talking about Leica copies is defining what qualifies as a copy, and what does not. Most of these cameras are not exact copies of any one model."



Nicca (Japanese), Shuchat collection

The web site defines a Leica copy as a "focal plane shutter 35mm rangefinder camera with interchangeable lenses in 39mm thread mount."

More than a dozen of the Leica look-alikes were made in large quantities. Most likely some of them are still in use today.



Yashika YE, 1959, Kuroneko Camera

In the USSR, Leica copies were manufactured between 1948 and 1978; a list of models can be found in the Wikipedia entry for Zorki. After the fall of the Soviet Union, fake Leicas bearing the Leitz name were made in Russia.

In the U.S., the government seized control of the Leitz Company in New York which repaired cameras but was unable to manufacture new ones. Peter Kardon, a Russian immigrant to the U.S. and subcontractor to the Leitz Co., produced the first American Leica copy. However, he ran into several obstacles that prevented the Kardon from being made in large quantities.



Kardon, photo from McKeowen's

Other Leica copies included the FED, manufactured in the Soviet Union; the Leotax, Minolta-35, Nicca, Canon III, Tanac IIC, and Yashika YE, all made in Japan; and the Periflex, produced in England.

At the most recent Photographica, two cameras were auctioned off, one a Leica and the other a Zorki. It was hard not to notice how similar they were in appearance and operation.



Leica copies, Shuchat collection

Thanks to Terry Shuchat of Keeble and Shuchat, Palo Alto, CA, for letting us photograph his cameras for this story. More information about his collection, which is open to the public, will appear in an upcoming issue of snap shots. ~Beverly Regelman

From the Board:

Webmaster's Update

It has been two years since PHSNE's website was revamped. *phsne.org* is a valuable source of information for members and friends, especially those not able to attend meetings. Categories of information include:

- Calendar of Events
- Contact information
- Next meeting program description
- Next Photographica Show information
- Map to meetings and Photographica Show
- Photos and videos of PHSNE events
- Members' pages
- *Snap shots*, video and image archives
- Journal information



George Champine

We recently added a banner headline on the home page to alert friends and members to important information about upcoming events. Also on the home page is a map showing the location of people who have accessed our web site.

Another element in our electronic outreach is the monthly e-mail newsletter written by George Champine and Joe Walters that describes upcoming events that are of interest to the PHSNE community. About 300 e-letters are sent to members who register their e-mail address.

Your Webmaster is constantly looking for new ways to improve our outreach to the antique camera and image community, and welcomes all ideas. ~George Champine

Check Web for Meeting Updates

Occasionally meeting information changes at the last minute due to weather conditions or illness. Late changes are posted at *phsne.org*.

PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month, September to June, at 1:30 PM 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 AM.

Upcoming meetings

February 6—Members' Auction

March 6—*Cased Images in 19th Century Photography*, Dennis Waters; rescheduled from November

Driving directions to Americal Center

I-95 to exit 39, North Ave. toward Reading/Wakefield (right turn on North from the south; left turn from the North). Drive approximately 1.5 miles, 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.

Public transportation

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*.

PHSNE Online

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

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

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Next Meeting: Sunday, January 9, 2011
Historical Images in 2D and 3D
Americal Center, 1:30 P.M.

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