

snap shots

Volume 17 Number 3

November 2011

Preparations in Full Swing for Photographica 76 New Feature: A Silent Auction



John Dockery,
Show Manager

Photo by George Champagne

The 76th *Photographica* Show takes place on Saturday and Sunday, November 5th and 6th, 2011 at the Americal Center in Wakefield, MA. Once again we're looking at a sold out show with over 70 tables of photographic gear, images, and of course, the World Famous Dollar Tables.

While other photographic shows are experiencing a decline in attendance or have closed down due to the tight economy, *Photographica* attendance remains steady, attracting an average of well over 550 people on the floor at each show. The last few shows have been sold out of dealer space. When I'm asked why, my answer is the quality of the volunteers who make this a friendly show and the quality of the dealers, not only the items they bring to the show, but as people who love photography. Attendees stay longer and buy more items.

Both attendees and dealers tell their friends and help us get the word out. If you haven't been to *Photographica* for a few years, I personally invite you back and you'll see what I mean.

For the first time, *Photographica* will offer a silent auction for ten very interesting items each day. Check them out and make an offer. The winning bidder need not be present; however if you are interested in an item, we suggest you stay near the table as the bidding closes, one hour before closing, so you can make the final bid.

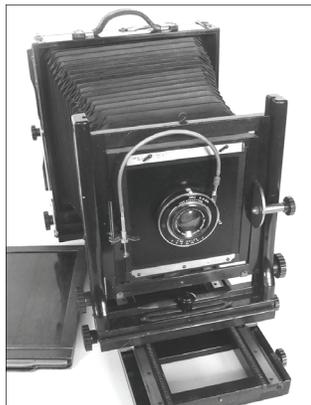
If you are able to help, even for a short time, be-

fore, during, or after the show, please contact me at john_dockery@hotmail.com. Show hours are 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. on Saturday and 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on Sunday. There is free parking for over 300 cars. General Admission is \$5.00, PHSNE Members \$3.00, Seniors \$4.00, Students and Active Duty Military (with ID) FREE. Complete information about the show can be found at phsne.org.



Silent Auction items:
Mamiya/Sekor 1000DTL
Pentax MX 28-210 lens

~John Dockery, Show Manager



Silent Auction item:
AnSCO 8 x 10
Full movement view camera

Renew for 2012!

Members who need to renew will receive renewal forms with the December issue of *snap shots*. But why wait for the fun? You can renew now by going to phsne.org/paypal and paying by credit card or through a PayPal account. First check the *snap shots* address label for your renewal date! By renewing early, you save PHSNE the cost of mailing the renewal application to you.

Update Your Contact Information

Please be sure to update your membership information when you renew. If you do not need to renew, please confirm your contact information and interests by going to phsne.org/membershipform and filling out the online form. If you prefer, you can print a paper copy and mail it to PHSNE at the membership address provided in PHSNE Membership box on page 2.

~Joe Walters, Membership Chairman

Chicago Ferrottype Company—Mandelette Postcard Camera

The Mandel-ette Postcard Camera, manufactured by the Chicago Ferrottype Company of Chicago, Illinois USA, was introduced ca. 1913. The hyphen has been dropped in modern usage.

This direct-positive camera with attached developing tank was marketed to street, or itinerant photographers. It produced photographic postcards in four sizes on direct-positive paper. The Mandelette and similar street cameras were portable and compact outfits. Due to their built-in processing capability, street photographers could offer the public inexpensive finished photographs on-the-spot.

Street cameras with integrated processing allowed photographers to avoid the expense and complication of maintaining a fixed business establishment. Many street photographers simply stood on busy sidewalks with their camera, tripod and sample photographs on display. The more lucrative locations were beaches, fairs, rodeos - places where people were relaxed, having fun, ready to spend a small sum on impulse purchases, and open to the idea of taking home a remembrance of their good times.



The camera body is made of leatherette covered wood with the developing tank protruding from the bottom. The black cloth extending from the back is a light-tight sleeve that allows the photographer to place his hand inside the camera body. With his hand in the sleeve, the photographer places a stack of unexposed postcards in the camera and moves one of these cards into position for exposure. After exposure the postcard is dropped through a slot into the tank for development. The developed photograph is removed from the tank with the print lifter and withdrawn through the sleeve.



Street photo ca. 1918
L. Dulfon collection

To fill the tank with developing solution it must be detached from the bottom. The print lifter was used to pull the developed postcard out of the tank. Complete camera outfits, with an intact sleeve, tank and lifter are more difficult to find than partial outfits.

The Mandelette shutter offers a single instantaneous speed. The camera was designed to be used outdoors on fairly bright days, mounted on a tripod. ~Article and camera photo excerpted with kind permission from Scott Bilota from Website vintagephoto.tv; click on "index/search" then Chicago Ferrottype

PHSNE Membership

PHSNE membership is \$15 for students, \$35 for individuals and institutions, \$40 for a family, and \$45 for foreign membership. Join or renew 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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PHSNE ANNOUNCES AWARD COMPETITION

To share New England's rich photographic history with visual art students, PHSNE has implemented a yearly competition. The winning student of this competition will receive a \$1,000 cash grant. The competition is open to full or part-time New England high school, art school, technical school, college, and university students who are exploring the visual media in any of several categories. It is not open to professional photographers or professionals in the visual arts who may be taking courses.

Additional information including a description of the project categories, requirements for participation, and an application form can be found at phsne.org. Proposals must be submitted in writing by February 1, 2012, and candidates will be notified by March 15th whether their proposals have been accepted. Entries must be completed by September 30th, and winners will be announced no later than November 30th.

A Symposium and Two Exhibits: Much to do and see in the Northeast

PhotoHistory XV



George Eastman House—Exterior
wikipedia

The world's only continuous symposium on the history of photography PhotoHistory XV, will take place at George Eastman House in Rochester, New York on October 21-23, 2011.

Founded in 1966, The Photographic Historical Society has been holding the symposium every three years. This one, however, follows PhotoHistory XIV by only two years at the request of members and attendees.

The trade show and Saturday night banquet will take place at the nearby Doubletree Inn. For a schedule of speakers, brochure, and registration information, visit tphs.org.

Discovery from the Air:

Aerial Photographs by William Garnett

An exhibit of aerial photographs, curated by PHSNE member Stephen Jareckie, is at the Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA, through December 31st.

Discharged from the U. S. Army Signal Corps on the East Coast in 1945, William Garnett "hitched" a ride home to California in an Army transport plane. Because the plane was already filled with homeward bound World War II servicemen, he was given the navigator's seat behind the pilot. Flying westward, Garnett was struck by nature's powerful designs in the landscape, with its abstract patterns, spread out below him. Garnett then decided to devote his postwar career to turning aerial photography into an art form.

Because Garnett was already a trained photogra-



William Garnett in his Cessna 170-B
Photo by William Allan Garnett

pher, he used his veterans' benefit from the G.I. Bill to learn to fly and earned his pilot's license in 1948. Garnett first bought a two-wing plane, but its struts blocked his camera angles. In 1956, he purchased his third plane, a high wing Cessna 170 B, which he used for making most of the photographs on display in this show. Garnett's object was to gain complete control in positioning his airplane and camera over subjects in the land below. By the mid 1950s, he had established himself as a pioneer aerial photographer. His first exhibition was at the George Eastman House in Rochester, NY in 1955.

Captions on the gallery labels were written by the artist's son, Jay M. Garnett. Information about visiting the museum can be found at the museum's Website fitchburgartmuseum.org.

New England Photography Biennial 2011 ***Danforth Museum, through November 13th***

Every two years, the Danforth Museum of Art celebrates contemporary photography through a highly selective exhibition of photographers who live or work in New England. 74 photographs were selected from over a thousand images submitted by 211 photographers. The resulting exhibition represents a cross section of some of the most exciting and innovative photography being created today by both established and emerging artists in the region.

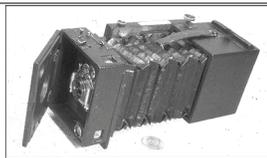
Juror George Slade, former Curator and Program Manager of the Photographic Resource Center, Boston, chose four works for their exploration of "the phenomena of reflections, layers, and complex visions." These images boast "no manipulation, taken as seen," in a world "still densely wondrous enough to mystify and entrance without digital enhancement." However, the bulk of the exhibition displays work in complimentary pairs, permitting comparisons between "form, content and spirit."

Additional information and a pdf of the Exhibition Catalog are available at danforthmuseum.org.



My Childhood Camera, 2010
Christine Osinski

LINK UP!



There are countless links to sites brimming with information about cameras, images, photo-history, and photographica. Here are some of the best we've found recently:



- *butkus.org*—over 3500 manuals that can be downloaded for free or copies purchased at reasonable rates; also features photographic accessories
- *cameraquest.com*—click on “camera profiles”; information

by manufacturer

- *Antquewoodcameras.com*—excellent photos and descriptions of nineteenth century wood cameras
- *ukcamera.com*—comprehensive encyclopedia of cameras
- *loc.gov/ammem/daghtml*—725 original daguerreotypes, many of Civil War era
- *canon.com/camera-museum*—history and technology of all Canon cameras
- *mrmartinweb.com*—Click on “camera” to reach online camera museum; photos and descriptions



Snapshots invites members to share some of the best sites they've discovered while surfing the Internet. Send your suggestions to snapshots@phsne.org.

~photos from PHSNE archives

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.

Upcoming meetings:

December 4—Annual Meeting and My Favorite Camera, Chapter 2

January 8—Al Holmy and comrades on Soviet cameras

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, between the school and the side of the building, behind the Center, and on Amory St and Main St. Handicap access and elevator are available.

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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Photographic Historical Society of New England
Next Meeting: *Photographica 76*
November 5th, 9:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M., November 6th, 9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.
Americal Center, Wakefield, MA 01880

West Newton, MA 02465-0189
P.O. Box 650189

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