Come to the Members’ Auction, February 10, 2013

Americal Center, Wakefield, MA

February may be the shortest month, but it’s crammed with special events: Groundhog Day, Valentine’s Day, Presidents’ Day, Martin Luther King Day, the Super Bowl—and the PHSNE Members’ Auction.

Everything is in place for this year. Auctioneer extraordinaire Marti Jones, past president of PHSNE, is ready to go. Items of interest have been culled from the boxes of stored materials at the warehouse and prepared for this event by a small but hard-working core group of volunteers, especially Joe Walters, Dick Koolish, Whitey Morange, Allan Goodrich, Bud Midgely, John Dockery, and Lew Regelman.

While we have selected items from the warehouse, this auction is primarily for members to downsize or build their collections. Members are invited to bring up to six lots to be sold alternatively with the PHSNE items. Plan to drop them off between 11:00 A.M. and 12:30 P.M. Viewing time will be 12:00—1:00 P.M.; items may not be examined while the auction is taking place. Dollar table sales begin at 11:00 A.M., and the auction will begin promptly at 1:30 P.M. One caveat: large slide or movie projectors do not sell, unless extremely old, and they will only be accepted for the dollar tables.

Special items in this year’s auction include a Nikon FE2 with an MD 12 motor drive, a Vivitar Series 1 70-210 mm lens for Nikon cameras, an Olympus OM1 with a wide angle 28 mm lens and Series 1 zoom lens, and a Kodak Retina III Reflex with a 135 tele lens. Additional high quality items are expected as we go to print, many from the Richard Ornstein collection.

Come at 11:00 to leave your items and/or hunt for bargains at the dollar table; then stay for pizza and the auction. There will be updated information at phsne.org, especially if the weather is an issue.

Volunteers are needed in many areas: preparation and set-up, runners, cashiers, record keepers, and cleanup. Please write to auction@phsne.org with the hours you are available and the tasks you are able to undertake.
Build a Camera for a Buck

Found online — Directions to build an origami camera with a single dollar bill. As you might expect, it takes very careful folding and a great deal of patience. Go to origami-resource-center.com/support-files/dollarcamerawonpark.pdf for detailed instruction posted by Won Park and diagrammed by Marcio Noguchi, or search “origami camera” for a variety of sites, several of which have videos.

According to Park, “To take a photo, hold the camera as shown and point it at the subject. Press forward with your thumbs, and the flaps will unlock sharply with a “clicking” sound. To take another photo, re-lock the tips.”

If anyone is able to complete this project successfully, send us a photo; we will print it in snap shots and give you much-deserved credit. And if you’re inclined to “cheat” a bit, you can blow up a photo of a dollar bill and fold with a larger sheet of paper.

John Wojtowicz Presents 3D Civil War Program

John Wojtowicz, PHSNE member and past president, is presenting The Civil War in 3D at Sandywoods in Tiverton, RI on Sunday, January 27th, at 4:00 P.M. The hour-long presentation will feature photographs from the Civil War, the first war to be extensively photographed; additional time will be set aside for questions and comments.

Come see these Civil War images as they were originally meant to be experienced. The required 3D glasses will be provided for viewing. The program is free and open to the public. Visit sandywoods-farm.org/eventsandclasses/127thecivilwarin3d for directions and additional information.

Besides working tirelessly for PHSNE, Wojtowicz is an adjunct professor at Massasoit Community College in Brockton, MA.

Online Stereo Photography Site

Animated hand-colored stereo views of Meiji era Japan are available online at pinktentaclen.com/2009/10/animated-stereoviews-of-old-japan. Taken by T. Enami (1859-1929), the photos depict a wide range of subjects including sumo wrestlers, geisha girls, Buddhas, torii gates, the Tokyo Industrial Exposition of 1907, scenics, and more. The online images were created with animated GIFs from Flickr images that were posted by Okinawa Soba.

The hand-held stereoopticon was a major source of entertainment and education in the 19th century. Still images could be viewed with this special device. In the 1950’s, polarized 3D films were produced. Currently, new technology, including the animated stereo described above as well as 3D movie advances, have brought stereo into all areas of photography and motion pictures.
Show and Tell Features
Rare Mikut Camera

PHSNE member Steve Shohet recently brought a very unusual camera to a meeting for Show and Tell, the Mikut plate film camera for color photography. This camera is so rare that Jim Mckeown thinks there are less than a dozen left worldwide.

Introduced at about the same time as Kodachrome and Agfa Color, the plate camera had to compete with the more user-friendly color films. It had blue, red, and green color filters which recorded 4 x 4 cm images side-by-side on a 5 x 15 cm plate. Using mirrors and prisms, the camera divided and redirected the light from the lens.

Viewing the images in color requires placing the three exposures in a special projector, the Mikut Additive Projector. The three images are merged by mirrors, and a color image results.

~story and photo by Lew Regelman
Coming Attractions?
A notice appeared in December’s snap shots about Early Phogoraphy in New England: From Heliography to the Handheld Kodak, 1830-1900, a symposium to be held in Deerfield, MA on Saturday, March 9, 2013. As of this printing, the speakers have not been announced.

We are trying to determine if there is sufficient interest by members to arrange a field trip to the event. This would be in addition to the regular monthly meeting which will be held on Sunday, March 3rd.

Check historic-deerfield.org for updated information about the program. If you would be interested in attending, please contact us at snapshots@phsne.org.

Adirondacks Photos on Display in Albany
There are only a few weeks left to take in an exhibit of 19th century Adirondacks photos at the New York State Museum in Albany, N.Y. Through photographs and writings, Seneca Ray Stoddard was a leading figure in inspiring people to visit the Adirondacks in the post-Civil War era. His work captured how people came and how people made the Adirondacks a sought-after destination.

The exhibition will feature over 100 of Stoddard’s Adirondack scenes. Visit nysm.nysed.gov/exhibits/special/SenecaRayStoddard.cfm to view sample images and for additional information.

PHSNE Meetings
Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. at the Americel 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:
March 3—Gus Kayafas, Palm Press

Driving directions to Americel 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 MBTA buses #136 and #137 stop in front of the building. Details are available at mbta.com. Use weekend schedule.

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.