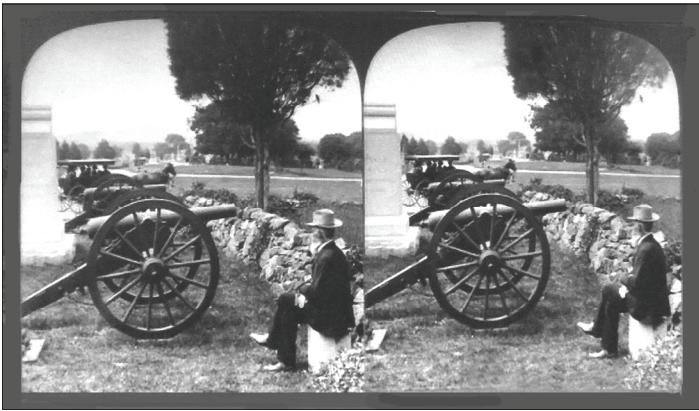


PHSNE Presents Civil War in 3D
Sunday, September 8, 2013
Program Features Slides Produced by Paul Wing



Wall charged by Pickett, Gettysburg

The Civil War has remained a popular, even passionate subject of interest for 150 years. One of the reasons is the large number of photographs taken during the conflict. Several thousand negatives are in government archives, and it is fair to say this was the first extensively photographed war.

Photographers who applied to the Union War department for permission to photograph battlefields were initially rebuffed; however, the famous and well connected society photographer Mathew Brady did obtain a pass from Lincoln with the stipulation that no government money was to be spent on the project. The high costs of the fieldwork had to come entirely out of Brady's pocket, and he is estimated to have spent \$100,000 during the course of the war.

While the exhibits of war photographs in his salons drew large audiences, one of the ways he hoped to recoup his expenses was through the sale of stereo cards. As a result, many of the iconic images of the Civil War were shot with stereo cameras. Since many of the photographs were used as source material for newspaper artists, Civil War photography is one of the earliest uses of photojournalism.

The images in this presentation were first presented to PHSNE over a decade ago by Andrew Griscom. The slides themselves were produced by Paul Wing, who put much time, effort and expertise into locating and

photographing over a hundred stereo cards with the assistance of several PHSNE and SNE members. Sadly, Paul Wing did not live to complete the project, but he has left us many interesting, thought-provoking images.

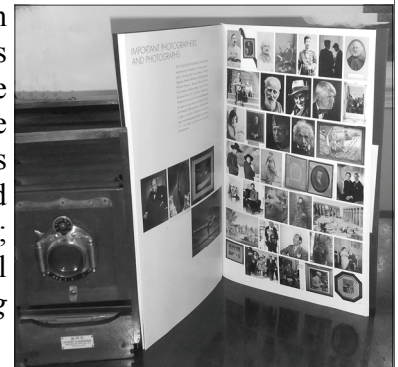
The photographic technology of the 1860's is well known, and experiencing a revival among fine art photographers. The military technology that appears in the images is also well known due to the popularity of reenactment groups. But beyond this are important personalities and stories connected with many of the images. Together they memorialize the Civil War.

Program presenter John Wojtowicz is a PHSNE Past President and Adjunct Professor of History at Massachusetts Community College.

Special Members Only Offer

Thanks to the kindness of Dinny Starr, we have approximately 250 copies of *The Naylor Collection, The Complete History of Photography*, a beautifully illustrated full color glossy 11x16 inch bound catalogue. It was created in 2005 to help sell Jack Naylor's "second" collection and was sent to museums and other potential buyers around the world.

We will distribute them to PHSNE members who attend meetings at no charge, one copy per family. It will also be available by mail, while supplies last, upon payment of shipping costs (\$4) with check made out to PHSNE and mailed to PHSNE, P.O. Box 650189, West Newton MA 02465. Packages will be sent book rate with no insurance. The cost to send overseas and Canada is estimated at \$24—or \$39 insured; if interested, email snapshots@phsne.org for details.



In Memoriam: PHSNE Remembers Members and Friends

Sad news reached us this summer about the passing of several PHSNE members and friends. We extend condolences to their friends and families.

John Bouchard, PHSNE member since 1985, passed away on July 4th. John and his widow Nancy, also a PHSNE member, were regular participants at *Photographica* shows. John Wojtowicz reports that “John had a reputation among repairers of modern cameras in Rhode Island as the guy to go to who actually knew how to fix the fifty-year-old stuff.”

It just came to our attention that **Enid Starr**, widow of Jack Naylor, honorary life and long PHSNE member as well as *Journal* editor for many years, died in March. Visitors to Jack’s in-home museum will remember her gracious hospitality. Over the years, Enid and her daughter Dinny Starr gave PHSNE valuable historical paperwork relating to the organization, and other material, and the beautiful catalogs offered on page 1.

Mike Kessler, PHSNE charter member, was a well known collector, restorer, writer, and editor. He began collecting cameras in high school, eventually specializing in early American cameras, ads, and ephemera. He wrote the chapter “Unique Stereoscopes” in *Antique Photographica* (see page 3 for book review). Mike passed away on July 10th. He is survived by his wife Gladys who, with Mike, collected stanhopcs. Peter Schultz and Marshall Lapp, friends and fellow PHSNE members, wrote the personal tribute in the next column.

PHSNE Membership

New members are invited to join for half the rates for the first year. 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/join or phsne.org/renew, 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).

snap shots, edited by Beverly Regelman, is published by the Photographic Historical Society of New England, Inc., P.O. Box 650189, West Newton, MA 02465-0189. Articles and exhibition/book reviews are always welcome. Send to snapshots@phsne.org. Authors retain copyright to their original articles; however upon written application to the *snap shots* editor, PHSNE may grant non-profit societies with similar aims and interests a one-time right to reproduce a *snap shots* article as long as the author and source are credited and a complimentary copy of the publication is sent to the PHSNE mailbox.

Mike Kessler was among a handful of early pioneers in collecting photographica. Born in Kansas, Mike joined a professional skating tour as a young man and traveled across the country, landing in California. Collecting was in his blood. His touring led to collecting skates, after starting out collecting stamps and coins (as many of us have). When he switched to cameras, he found his passion—and profession, including masterful restorations.

His stories are legendary: traveling back and forth from California to Maine just to find the right item. Many of us knew Mike through his cross-country visits or stopovers. Others knew him as the long-time editor of the *Photographist* for the Western Camera Collectors Association. Some met him at *Photographica* shows where he would always have something we just had to have, or saw his presentations at the Rochester Photo-History Symposium.



Early photo of Mike Kessler
Provided by Gladys Kessler

We met Mike at camera shows in California in the early 70’s. Our mouths dropped when we saw his collection. How could we ever find such great items? We almost stopped collecting, but Mike had a way of keeping us in the game. Many of us have one great item with his distinctive sticker showing an Anthony satchel camera.

His insatiable curiosity meant that he could converse on a range of topics, whether science, art, or photohistory. Mike had an incredible eye, presumably from his training in graphic design, often finding great items that everyone else had missed. He would do anything to obtain an interesting treasure, such as reassembling many items that came from the Simon Wing estate, including Wing’s personal studio camera, tools, and displays. Mike called himself a “Wing Nut.”

Mike’s good humor while battling cancer was remarkable. His wife, Gladys, kept many of us informed during his final journey. She did this with humor, grace, and love. We lost an amazing resource, a superb talent, and our best friend.

~Tribute by Peter Schultz and Marshall Lapp

Ruud Hoff photo of Queen Beatrix Voted Crowd Favorite



Ruud Hoff

After 33 years on the throne, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands abdicated in favor of her son on April 30th, 2013. Prior to the event, an exhibition of 145 photographs of the popular Queen was on display, and viewers, along with readers of two national Dutch newspapers, were invited to vote for their favorites.

A photograph taken by PHSNE member Ruud Hoff took first place honors, chosen by 42% of the voters.

Ruud took the prize-winning picture during an annual private session with four other photographers in the garden of the Royal Palace. He worked for ANP, an agency founded by 40 Dutch newspapers, for 33 years and worked for five years for the Queen and for the Dutch Information Service in private assignments. The popular exhibit was held over for an additional month in Amsterdam, then traveled to cities outside the Netherlands.

Though his home is far from New England, Ruud makes regular trips to the Boston area and attends many of PHSNE's



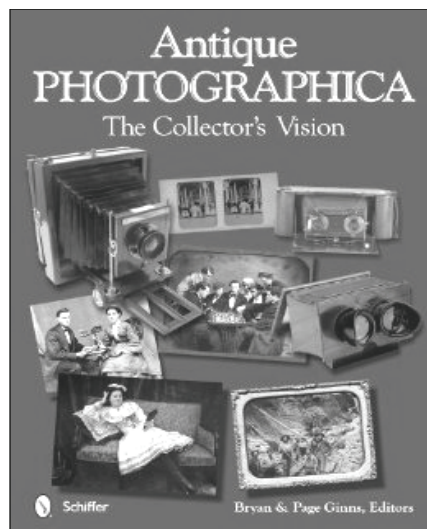
Ruud Hoff prize-winning photo of Queen Beatrix

shows and auctions. His collection features Kodak cameras, memorabilia, and pre-1880 photographica.

New England Hosts PSA Conference

Portland, Maine is the site for the 2013 PSA Conference to be held September 15th through 21st at the Portland Marriott Hotel, Sable Oaks. Registrants can participate in photo tours, classes, workshops, and photo shoots. There is an opening meeting with award presentations, an extensive print exhibition, a variety of programs, featured speakers in the evenings, social events, a vendor area with product demonstrations, numerous photographic activities, and a banquet on the last evening. For more information, including a schedule and list of programs and workshops, visit psa-photo.org/index.php?2013-psa-conference.

Antique Photographica— The Collector's Vision



Page and Bryan Ginns have been collecting and dealing in antique photographica for more than 25 years. *Antique Photographica — The Collector's Vision*, their newly released comprehensive study of antique cameras and photography from 1840—1940,

includes over 500 never before published examples of photographic equipment and ephemera. The book is published by Schiffer Publishing, Ltd. Of Atglen PA.

Many of the sections were contributed by PHSNE members: Greg French offers daguerreotypes, Sabine Ocker features cyanotypes, Ralph London and Dr. Michael Pritchard showcase English and American cameras, and Bryan and Page Ginns share French stereo daguerreotypes. Other sections include ambrotypes, autochromes, photographic postcards, cartes de visites, magic lanterns, stanhopes, megalethoscopes, and zoetropes. The publisher notes that, "Each collector has written a meticulous study to introduce their photographic passion."

Bill Becker, Director of the American Museum of Photography and virtual museum online at photography-museum.org writes, "*Antique Photographica* is a fascinating compendium of images and the devices that made them, along with devices used to view them. The approach, I think, is unique in that the book is made up of individual portfolios sampling some of the finest private collections."

Becker concluded, "*Antique Photographica* is the equivalent of a private showing of the highlights from each of these distinguished collections. This makes it different from academic histories of photography or even from the catalogue of a museum show; it's much more personal. The introductory essay by [PHSNE member] Grant Romer captures the spirit and passion of the collector perfectly, and would alone be reason to acquire this book."

Price as Ordering Number Catalog Describes Strange System

An unusual feature appears in the Condensed Price List of Poco Cameras in my April 1895 catalog for the Rochester Camera Manufacturing Company. For the twelve Folding Poco Cameras, in sizes 8x10, 6½x8½, 5x7 and 4x5, fitted with various shutters and lenses, the ordering number is the same as the price! The range is 65 to 12 — #65 is an 8x10 Bausch and Lomb Opt Co.’s Diaphragm Shutter at \$65, and #12 is a 4x5 Rochester Shutter and Rapid Rectilinear Lens for \$12.

To avoid confusion, each camera configuration requires a different price. Customers are instructed to “Order Poco Folding Cameras by Number” even though the catalog also says, “Prices given herein are subject to change without notice.” Ordering numbers, therefore, must also change without notice.

In 1895 the company changed its name to Rochester Camera Company. My 1897 catalog for Poco Folding Cameras uses the same numbering and pricing system. Eight of the options from 1895 remain (also 65 to 12) with six new ones (54 to 16). This scheme, however, is not in my 1898 and 1899 catalogs, the latter for the renamed Rochester Camera and Supply Company. That’s not surprising because the system seems hard to continue, even after just a few years.

~article contributed by PHSNE member Ralph London

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:

October 6—Press Cameras: Large Format Photography

October 19,20 — *Photographica*

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.

Free 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. 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. Scheduling changes due to weather conditions or other factors will be posted on this website.

Requested
Address Service
FIRST CLASS MAIL

Photographic Historical Society of New England
Next Meeting: Sunday, September 8, 2013
Americal Center, 1:30 P.M.



West Newton, MA 02465-0189

P.O. Box 650189

PHSNE

phsne.org

snap
shots