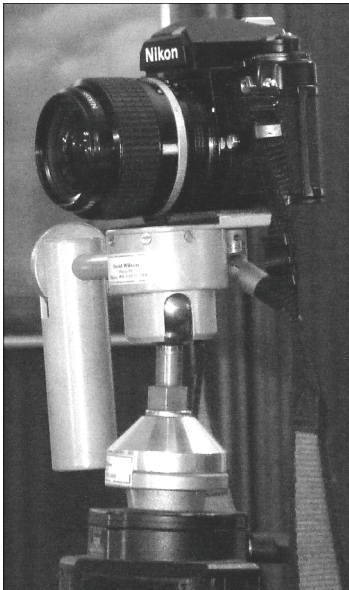


snap shots

Volume 20 Number 4

December 2014

PHSNE to Hold Annual Holiday Party, Extended Show and Tell, and Annual Meeting December 7, 2014, Woman's Club Workshop, Newton Highlands MA, 1:30 P.M.



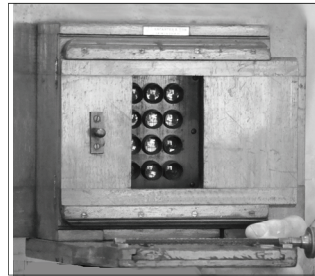
Custom-made tripod head
By David Wilson

The annual PHSNE holiday party is a three-part affair—a festive holiday lunch, a brief annual meeting, and an extended show and tell in which members share favorite photographic items. These will be on display for all to see.

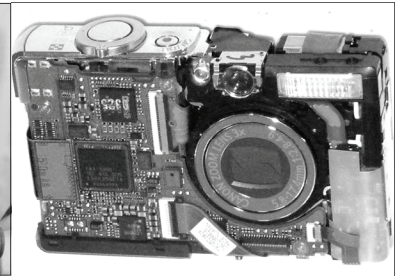
Several items have drawn considerable attention in recent years. Neil Gordon brought a motorized panoramic camera and a large panoramic photo, and

Armando Vergara showed a massive print, taken with a Japanese camera he bought at a flea market; it took three people to hold it up. Other items that have been shared recently are shown in the photos at left and below.

Join us for an afternoon of holiday festivities, and bring unusual photographic items you wish to share.



Multiple Exposure
Carte de Visite Camera
Collection of Stephen Shohet



Outer shell removed to show
insides of disk camera
Collection of Jay Goldman

Photographica 82 is History; Photographica 83 is Already in Planning Stages

Show manager John Dockery was thinking about *Photographica 83* even as 82 was winding down. The show will take place on a weekend in April, 2015 with dates to be determined and details to follow next year. Kudos to Dockery for his tireless efforts, and thanks to the many volunteers who helped make the show and auction possible. PHSNE welcomes four new members who signed up at *Photographica*.

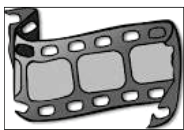


Photographica 82—Early Saturday morning. Dealers checking out their tables—and others. Photo by Joe Walters

Negatives Sell for \$34,000

Q: Why should 13 recently discovered negatives, that are over 60 years old, sell at auction for over \$34,000?

A: Because they are negatives from President John F. Kennedy's 1953 wedding.



The images included JFK slicing the wedding cake, the wedding party and attendees, the family dog enveloped in Jacqueline Kennedy's wedding dress, and private moments between the bride and groom.

There are contradictions in the *Boston Globe's* accounts of the history of the images. On October 5th, announcing the find of the negatives, they wrote that the "pictures were taken by freelance photographer Arthur C. Borges of Fall River, who served as a 'back-up' photographer" and suggested that they were "likely outtakes that never made it to the family." In the October 16th report of the sale, the *Globe* writes, "RR Auction said the images, which are attributed to freelance photographer Frank Ataman, have probably never been published." It is likely that the latter account represents additional research and is more accurate.

An unnamed Las Vegas buyer was the winning bidder. The final price was \$34,073.

PHSNE Membership

New members are invited to join for half the rates for the first year. Regular 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).

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Magic Lantern Society Convention Was a Huge Success

PHSNE member John Ganson shared the following recap of the highly successful international convention that took place in New England last summer.

"What an extraordinary weekend last July as aficionados of magic lanterns swarmed to Brookline (MA) for the biannual convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada. It was the Society's 16th international convention, and was it international! Attendees appeared from Australia, Great Britain, Continental Europe, Japan, and of course, across the United States. Of a total membership of around 130, some 65% showed up.



Presentations in a carriage house in Brookline, amidst impressive displays of magic lanterns and ephemera, ranged from a presentation on lantern slides of circuses, emphasizing one in the Boston area, to a breathtaking hand-held multi-projector in which the coordinated moving wooden projectors told their story on a rear projector screen. This



latter show was presented by a group of students and their director from the Osaka University of Arts as they revive a late 18th century Japanese classic art form. Also

included were Canadian Julie Henshaw's lantern slides of crossing the Canadian Rockies. Henshaw is author of *Mountain Wild Flowers of America*, published in 1906 but of such significance that it is currently being reprinted.

The history of magic lanterns began in the 1600s, sometimes referred to as the 'lantern of fright' for its ability to project fantastical images and frequent use by magicians and conjurers. The projection of photographic images was but a small part of the repertoire used from the 1840s until supplanted in the early 1900s by movies. By the late 1800s lantern shows dominated 'illustrated lectures', the Victorian equivalent of today's Nova or Discovery Channel, in which education was dramatized with spectacular imagery...The total audience for these lectures and shows was in the millions.

Read about the society at magiclanternsociety.org.

~Photos courtesy of Richard Balzer

DeVry K-1: A Very Unusual Camera



The short-lived DeVry K-1/ QRS 35mm Kamra was a pioneer. Introduced in 1928 by the Q.R.S. Company of Chicago, this unusual camera had a key-wound, spring-loaded clock-work shutter that enabled you to shoot 40 24x32mm frames in 20 seconds. Its body was “constructed of phenolic resin mixed with waste cotton cloth. If the camera is examined closely, fragments of woven cotton rags that went into the resin mixture can be seen. One can only speculate why they did not use conventional Bakelite but it is safe to say that the Q.R.S. formulation was proba-

bly cheaper to produce” (*archive.today/FKAV5#selection-213.0-236.1*).

The Kamra had two light-tight magazines, one for supply and the other for take-up, which allowed the camera to be opened after any number of pictures. With an extra take-up magazine, available at DeVry dealers for twenty-five cents when first introduced, you could be ready to take more pictures with the remaining film. The film is 35mm

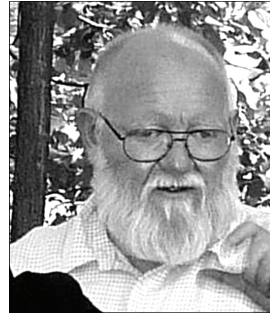
motion picture film prepared exclusively for the daylight loading magazines of the DeVry Still Camera. No standard 35mm film format existed at the time, and Q.R.S. used a 24 x 32 mm frame for the Kamra, a size not seen again until Nikon used it in 1947. Standard format later became 24 x 36mm.

It is impossible to get a double exposure on this camera. The crank must be turned a full revolution to bring a new frame over the aperture plate and in back of the lens; therefore you can't cock the shutter until this has been accomplished. The camera's time exposure setting disconnects the instant shutter action. One downside of the Kamra was that the brittle metal crank broke easily, and the model in the collection of PHSNE member Lew Regelman reflects that defect (see photo).

This camera will be displayed at the holiday party show and tell.

~Photos by Lew Regelman

Message from the President: PHSNE needs YOU



Whitey Morange

PHSNE is in need of your talents and your vision. We are a healthy, even wealthy organization, in knowledge, interest and experience, and our finances are solid and well managed. Leadership of the society, however, has devolved to an exceedingly small portion of the membership.

Three years ago, I was asked to join the board, and it has been a rewarding, exhilarating ride as the President this past year. I have tried to broaden the scope of what we do with other organizations and appeal more to current photographers and students. In this I was following the leadership of the past president, John Dockery. I have been aided greatly by the rest of the board and by those who have been perennially present and hard working when a task calls for all hands on deck, such as during *Photographica*.

But the simple truth is that the faces are always the same, the leaders are those who have led for the past decade, the workers those who have always worked. We need to broaden the base of volunteers.

The time is ripe for PHSNE to start to look ahead. Photographic history did not stop when digital technology came into vogue. In fact, more pictures are being taken every day now than have ever been taken before. The tools we use to make images change faster and faster every day and the Photographic Historical Society should be celebrating and chronicling the way in which the art and craft is changing. We need to stay current, and to do so, we need to have your insight and input.

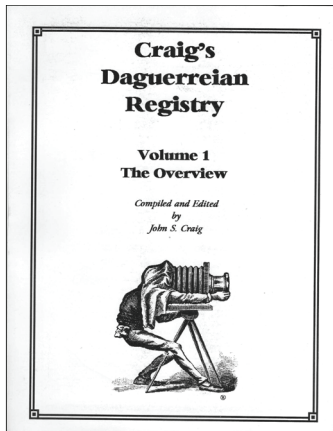
Consider joining the board, adding your voice as we move this wonderful society forward over the next decade. We are always open to new faces, and any one of the current board can give you a picture of what it entails to be in a leadership position.

Elections for the board are every two years, with the next one coming up in December of 2015, but don't wait until then to think about how you might want to be involved. There's work to be done now, and we need you. Contact me or any board member to explore opportunities to volunteer.

~Whitey Morange, PHSNE President



John Craig Volumes Donated to PHSNE



PHSNE wishes to acknowledge a recent generous donation of *Craig's Daguerreian Registry* from Martin Magid of Bloomfield Hills in memory of the late Jack Naylor. The registry, compiled and edited by PHSNE's first president John S. Craig, is in three volumes, *The Overview*, *Pioneers and Progress: Abbott to Lytel*,

and *Pioneers and Progress: Macdonald to Zuky*.

John Craig is well known to the photographic world as a dealer, photo journalist, photo historian, regular columnist for *Shutterbug*, and author on Daguerreian subjects. He died in 2011.

Magid wrote, "In 1990, I was an unpaid consultant to the Michigan Department of History for its exhibit *Still Memories: A Century of Michigan Photography*. At my request, Jack Naylor loaned us a complete Harvard Camera outfit, which was put on display. I think I was a PHSNE member at that time.

In memory of Jack, I will be pleased to send my Craig's volumes to PHSNE. John Craig was a telephone correspondent in the '90s, and we finally met and became friends when his wife Joyce and I were fellow teachers at a new-judge training course in about 1995."

PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month, September to June, at 1:30 p.m. preceded by a mini trade fair at 12:30 and an open meeting of the PHSNE Board at 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming meetings:

January 4 —Members' Auction

February 8—Karin Rosenthal, about Vivian Maier (note—NOT first Sunday in February)

Driving directions to Woman's Club Workshop:

From I-95/Rt-128 exit 20 take Rt-9 East toward Brookline/Boston. Turn left at Woodward St, right onto Lincoln St, and left onto Columbus St. WCW will be to your right. The WCW is about 1.4 miles inside 128.

Coming west on Rt-9 from Boston, turn right on Walnut St then left on to Lincoln St, then right onto Columbus St. The WCW will be to your right.

Limited time parking rules do not apply on Sundays. Park on Columbus or Lincoln. There is a public parking lot on the other side of Lincoln opposite the Church.

Public transportation:

MBTA, Newton Highland Station on the Green Line (Riverside Branch). Exit via Walnut Street exit. Go down Lincoln St (directly across Walnut) and turn right on to Columbus St.

PHSNE Online

PHSNE's Web site is online at phsne.org. See [facebook.com/phsne](https://www.facebook.com/phsne) and the president's blog at phsne.org/presidentsblog for items of PHSNE interest. Comments are welcome, so join the discussion of photo history. Visit phsne.org/archive for PHSNE history and *snapshots* issues. Scheduling changes due to weather conditions or other factors will be posted on this website.

Requested
Address Service
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Photographic Historical Society of New England
Next Meeting: Sunday, December 7, 2014, 1:30 P.M.
Woman's Club Workshop, Newton Highlands MA
Annual Meeting and Holiday Party



West Newton, MA 02465-0189

P.O. Box 650189

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