

snapshots

Volume 21 Number 5



January 2016

**Attend the Members' Auction on January 10th, 2016, 1:30 P.M.
Come to Buy, Sell, or Just to Enjoy the Afternoon with Fellow Collectors
Woman's Club Workshop, 72 Columbus Ave., Newton Highlands**



Argus C3 Matchmatic with meter

The Members' Auction is the perfect opportunity to either add to your collection or down-size. Plan to join us on January 10th. (Note: this is not the usual first Sunday meeting time because of the New Year holiday weekend.)

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tion itself will begin at 1:30. Our own Marti Jones will serve as auctioneer extraordinaire. A light lunch will be available around noon.

Cameras do not have to be in working condition, but if not must be clearly labeled to that effect. You may indicate a minimum price if you wish. Be aware that darkroom items do not sell, unless rare or unusual, and the same is true for motion picture projectors and equipment.

The list of PHSNE items will be posted at

phsne.org by December 21st. We can't predict how many items will be brought by members or what they will be.

If you've attended our winter events in the past, you're well aware that we are hostage to New England weather. If there is any concern about road conditions, visit phsne.org for last-minute updates.

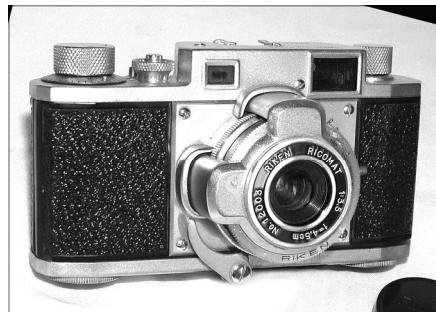
~Photos by Lew Regelman



Early ad for Korona Camera—and Korona Camera for auction



Pictured on this page are several of the items PHSNE will be offering at this year's Auction. We invite members and guests to bring up to six items on the day of the auction — cameras, images, photographica. Setup will take place from 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., viewing from 12:30 to 1:30, and the auc-



Riken Ricomat



Ansco Viking, 1946—1956

**The Warehouse Has Moved!
See p. 3 for details and photos**

Is Analog Creeping Back?

After printing numerous articles about the disappearance of analog film and services and the closing of camera shops, it's heartening to note that in some small corners, analog is becoming popular again. Just as a small number of audio enthusiasts are returning to vinyl for enhanced sound quality, a few photo enthusiasts are returning to film cameras for enhanced quality and better stability of images.

After years of steady decline, film sales have leveled off. New emulsion films are still being created, especially in eastern Europe. While collectors have always been interested in large format cameras, some



*Lomo LC-A 120; Phoblographer
Editor's Choice Award*

are actually photographing with them. Training workshops are springing up, classes are being offered at schools and universities, large format film is being sold, and there is an uptick in the sale of film cameras. The Impossible Project and new Polaroid cameras are part of this trend (see October 2015 *snap shots*).

PHSNE Membership

New members are invited to join for half the rates for the first year. Regular PHSNE membership (U.S. and Canada) is \$20 for students, \$40 for individuals and institutions, and \$45 for a family; foreign membership is \$50. 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 02465-0189. (Call: 617-826-9294; email: membership@phsne.org; or use the Web form at phsne.org/contacts).

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Alison Campsie writes at tinyurl.com/q25wr8l that, "As many get bored with crisp, megapixel-rich photos from digital cameras and iPhones, film photography appears to be enjoying a quiet renaissance, with some beautiful—and random—results.

She adds, "A lot of people come in here with their mum and dad's cameras and say 'can you show me how to use this?' Using film makes people think about what they are photographing. You only get one go, you can't take 50 pictures and delete them all."



Lomography 400-Madiwala-Hanuman. English: Hanuman Statue at Madiwala, Bangalore April 2015, Veera.sj, Wikimedia

Art Professor Darryl Baird of the University of Michigan-Flint notes that "There is still that magical moment in the darkroom upon seeing an image appear on paper. It's fun to watch." He notes that the University continues to offer classes in film photography or a combination of analog and digital.

One increasingly popular brand of analog photography is Lomography. Several models of Lomo cameras are now available, many producing very unusual and unpredictable results.

On the company's website, they ask the question, "What the Hell is Lomography?" (lomography.com/about) and answer it by defining Lomography as a "globally-active organization dedicated to experimental and creative photography. With millions of followers and friends across the world, the concept of Lomography encompasses an interactive, vivid and sometimes even blurred and crazy way of life... We promote photography as an inventive approach to communicate, absorb and capture the world."

PHSNE's New Board Members and Officers

Board members and officers were elected at the business meeting on December 6, 2015. The composition of the Board is as follows: President, Walter Friesendorf; Vice-President, John Wojtowicz; Treasurer, Gregory Crisci; Secretary, Lawrence Woods; Members at Large: John Dockery, Jay Goldman, Adrian Levesque, Joel Moses, Sabine Ocker, Lew Regelman, Henry Weisenburger; Immediate Past President, Richard Morange; ex-officio member and Membership Chair, Joe Walters.

PHSNE Moving Day

Did you ever wonder where cameras were sorted, stored, and catalogued in preparation for PHSNE auctions? Where they were painstakingly repaired by PHSNE members when necessary? Where spare parts were found to make cameras "whole" again?



The warehouse crew: left to right Lew Regelman, Joel Moses, Whitey Morange, Mihai Chebac, Allan Goodrich, Dick Koolish, Joe Walters

For over three decades, PHSNE rented space in a warehouse in Natick MA, about fifteen miles west of Boston. In recent years, a crew of volunteers meet weekly, year-round, to prepare for the auctions that take place at *Photographica* shows.

Recently it became evident that they were outgrowing the facility. A larger warehouse space was located in nearby Waltham that would provide more storage capacity and more work space.



Packed and ready to go

The big move took place in mid-November. For the first time there is a separate room for repair work. It has been named the Bud Midgley room to honor the

late PHSNE member whose expertise at identifying and repairing cameras was extraordinary. A photo of Bud hangs on the door.

Likewise, a photo of George Champine, our late webmaster, will be on the door of the technology room which will house a new computer to support the warehouse's activities.

The next few weeks will be devoted to organizing the new space and preparing for the Member's auction.

Auction Purchase Fun to Use



At the October Photographic auction, I had the highest bid on a Yashica (Kyocera) T4 35mm camera. Despite it being low cost, of largely plastic construction, and highly automated, it does in fact have a bit of a cult following among amateurs and pros.

A Google search resulted in multiple websites by a variety of users showing their images taken with Yashica T4s and T5s. The coated 35mm f3.5 Tessar lens by Carl Zeiss is understood to be very sharp. The quick and precise auto-focus and programmed auto-exposure make for an effective street camera. Quiet operation and a tight and mostly weatherproof shell enhances the street shooting opportunities.

My very first outing with this new toy was a walk around Harvard Square in Cambridge, including the Harvard Museum, Harvard Yard, and the Square itself. The accompanying samples were pleasing to my eye despite an occasional user error interpreting symbols for exposure and restricting flash usage to force available light in compliance with museum rules.

Notwithstanding pilot error (mistakenly using an infinity selection for focus), exposures were spot on, and most of the negatives were very sharp. (Personal reminder – Read the Manual!!) The camera is compact, light, and inconspicuous, making it a solid travel companion. Purchase prices vary widely, with yard sale finds in the \$20 to \$40+ price range.



Interior, Harvard Art Museum

EBay shows completed purchases from the low \$100's to the mid \$200's, my winning bid was toward the very low end of this range.

~Story and photos by PHSNE member Joel Moses

Extraordinary Sales at WestLicht Auction

Selling prices at the 28th WestLicht auction which took place on November 20th far surpassed expectations in many instances. Bidding wars contributed to a total final sales of 1,968,600 euros (just over \$2,000,000) more than double the original estimate.

The most notable sale was of a Fisheye Nikkor



5.6/6.2 mm SAP which sold for a whopping 156,000 euros, exceeding its 20,000 euro starting price by 680%. The pre-auction listing described it as “the most rare Nikon lens in existence” (tinyurl.com/jhumafk). It covers a 230 degree picture angle and has an aspherized front surface. The manufacture date was approximately 1964. The total production for this lens numbered three!

Another significant sale was a black Nikon S3M; at 60,000 euros it exceeded its 20,000 starting price by 170%. Other sales included an MP Gold “60 Years PRC” which sold for 48,000 euros and a 1959 Leica M3 black paint camera sold for just under 41,000 euros. The selling price for a Luxus Megalethoscope (Carlo Ponti c. 1865) was 45,600 euros.

Visit tinyurl.com/halovzc to view the complete list of auction results.

PHSNE Meetings

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

Upcoming meetings:

February 7—Frances Jacubek, Associate Director, Griffin Museum, How to Curate a Show

Driving directions to Woman's Club Workshop, 72 Columbus Ave., Newton Highlands MA:

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 (#72) 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 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.

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PHSNE
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Photographic Historical Society of New England
Next Meeting: Member's Auction
January 10, 2016, 1:30 P.M.; setup from 11:00 A.M.
Woman's Club Workshop, 72 Columbus Ave., Newton MA