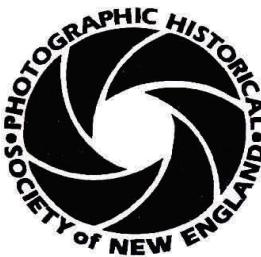


snap



shots

Volume 21 Number 10

June 2016

Alan Zinn Presents Program on Panoramic Photography Sunday, June 5, 2016, 1:30 P.M. Woman's Club Workshop, Newton Highlands MA

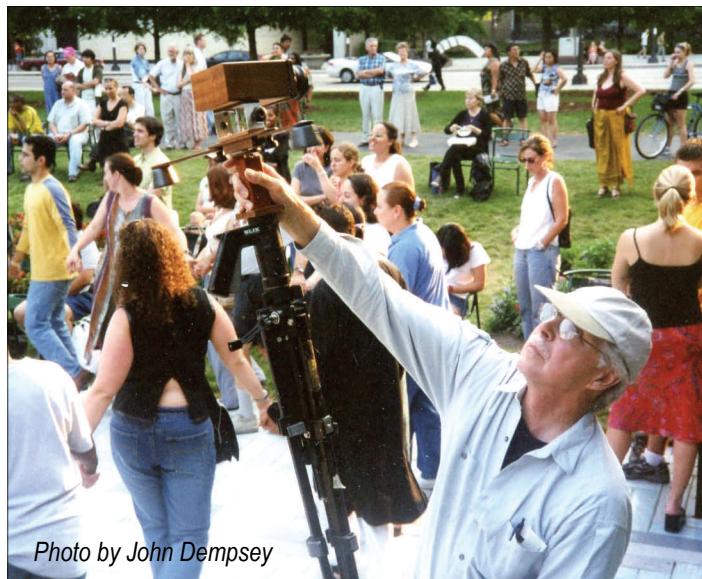


Photo by John Dempsey

PHSNE's June 5th meeting will focus on the panoramic camera, specifically the rotating Lookaround camera designed by speaker Alan L. Zinn in 1973. Using this camera for urban photography has become the main passion for Zinn who is retired and living in Brookline MA. At the meeting, Zinn will demonstrate the amazingly simple Lookaround camera and share some of his photographs.

In the mid '90s, Zinn's hobby was building to-order cameras and selling how-to books for them. The comprehensive drawings, photos and thorough instructions for making Lookaround cameras are now available as a free PDF file which he will furnish upon request: email him at lookarounds360@panoramacamera.us.

Check This Out!

A glowing review of *Photographica 85* appeared in the April 29th issue of *Antiques and the Arts Weekly*, accompanied by numerous photos and including reports of big ticket items that were offered and/or sold. Visit tinyurl.com/h6as5rx.

Zinn studied industrial design and fine art and has an MFA from Wayne State University in Detroit. Before retiring, he was teaching graphic arts in Michigan. His online SmugMug picture gallery is at lookarounds360.smugmug.com/Urban-Film-Panoramas.



Important Notice About Emails:

PHSNE is increasingly communicating with members via e-mail with the monthly Email Newsletter edited by David DeJean, *Photographica* emails, pdf copies of *snap shots* (with color images), and other announcements. If the label for this issue of *snap shots* says **No Email** on it, please send your email address to membership-chair@phsne.org with your full name in the body of the message or by signing up for email communications at phsne.org/emails.

PHOTOGRAPHICA—LOST & FOUND

Important notice to exhibitors and dealers

We found some items after closing. If you are missing anything from your inventory, please describe them and we will make sure they are returned to you.

Cameras Make a Comeback



Nikon 5300 digital SLR

to use quality lenses.

Most of the old lenses fit the new digital cameras. This is very good news for collectors; after years of declining value, those old high quality lenses may start to fetch good prices once again. While ever-improving iPhones can take excellent pictures, the photographer can't control F-stops.

Business is booming for photo travel tours and workshops, and most participants are using digital SLRs, often models previously used mostly by professionals. Prices for high quality cameras have dropped with some in the \$500 range. Visit tinyurl.com/jf4k44b for a further discussion of this topic (*Boston Globe*, March 26, 2016).

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).

snap shots, edited by Beverly Regelman, is published monthly, September through June, by the Photographic Historical Society of New England, Inc., 47 Calvary St., Waltham MA 02453. It is available at phsne.org/snapshots within a few days of mailing. 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 mailed to PHSNE.

Google Cardboard Makes VR Accessible - and saves a baby's life

Google Cardboard is a 21st century version of a 19th century Holmes Stereoscope, a device that allowed the viewer to see a pair of images in 3D. The media has been flooded with stories about this new development, and if you are interested in learning more, you can take your pick of informative sites.

Google Cardboard is an easy and inexpensive (even free) way to enjoy virtual reality (VR). Numerous apps exist to access or create VR, and there are many sources from which to obtain the cardboard viewers — or you can build your own using free online instructions.

Google Cardboard can use moving digital images on a smart phone. This makes it possible to create



computer models of an imagined world. This is not really "new" since one can make up stereo cards of things that never existed using draw-

ings and the usual photo tricks.

Since its debut in 2014, Google Cardboard has been used to drive expensive cars, attend concerts, play video games, and much more. But the most important function it has served is to save a baby's life. According to a posting at cnn.com/2016/01/07/health/google-cardboard-baby-saved, "A toy-like cardboard contraption that sells for less than \$20 online has helped save the life of a baby who was so sick that doctors told her parents to take her home to die. . . . Doctors at Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami used the device to map out an operation they say they couldn't have envisioned otherwise." Information on the site explains how the lifesaving surgery was accomplished using Google Cardboard.

It is likely that a number of PHSNE members will be experimenting with Google Cardboard. We invite you to share your experiences with this new technology. Send anecdotes to snapshots@phsne.org, and we will publish them based on timeliness and space available.

Film Projection Becoming a Thing of the Past

Cameras may be making a comeback (see p. 2), but film projection is on its way out. In an April 7th movie review, *Boston Globe* reporter Ty Burr wrote, "You may not go to a more thought-provoking funeral than the one held for the art of film projection in Peter Flynn's lovely documentary "*The Dying of the Light*." Burr goes on to say, the film is an elegy



to a century of watching movies and to the craftspeople who made it possible."

The film takes viewers on a tour of "ghost" theaters whose doors have closed in recent years. It depicts the history of film projection, starting with early magic lantern projection in the 17th

century through the era when television caused many of the extravagant theater palaces to close their doors.

More than 90 percent of movie theaters in the U.S. are now using digital projection, a dramatic increase in the past decade. Studios prefer digital projection because it saves on shipping costs; theaters like it because they can operate more efficiently.

One scene in the movie features retired projectionist George Christ who "recalls seeing his first movie, Will Rogers's *Steamboat Round the Bend*, in 1935 and that there was a fire in the 'the-ay-ter' when the print caught a spark. Says (projectionist David) Kornfeld of the highly flammable nitrate print stock, 'You start with gunpowder. What could go wrong?' (The industry switched to "safety film" in the 1950s.)"

The documentary pays homage to the "gear heads who could improvise a quick mechanical fix, aesthetes who could gauge and alter the quality of light, and plain old movie lovers . . . They are the unacknowledged priests and priestesses of cinema."

Dying of the Light, written and directed by Peter Flynn, will have a short run in several local theaters that will probably end before this issue of *snap shots* is printed, but keep an eye peeled for re-showings of this four-star rated film. To access the full *Boston Globe* write-up, visit <http://tinyurl.com/zddrl3u>.

Oops . . .

Long-time PHSNE member and fellow Kodak retiree Nick Graver is a friend from my days in Rochester. Recently he came to Boston to attend *Photographica* and stopped by to view my collection. Looking at the framed Kodak Commemorative coin on the wall, he told me an interesting story about an error on the medal.

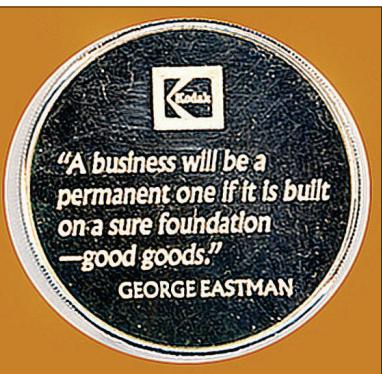


George Eastman with camera



The 1998 coin celebrates the 100th anniversary of the first Kodak Camera in 1888. The images customers received from this first camera were *round*, but the coin clearly shows *square* photographs.

Nonetheless, it is a beautiful coin and a valued collectible. The coin is made from one ounce of fine .999 silver.



~ Lew Regelman The back of the commemorative coin

Springfield Museum Presents Painterly Photography Exhibit



*Frederick H. Evans
Alvin Langdon Coburn in
Eastern Clothing, 1901*

Many New Englanders head to or pass through western Massachusetts during the summer months. Plan a stop at the D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield MA which presents *Photo-Secession: Painterly Masterworks of Turn-of-the-Century Photography* through August 28th.

"This exhibit celebrates the intrepid group of photographers who seceded from the Camera

Club of New York in 1902 in an effort to establish photography as a full-fledged fine art. Drawn from a private collection, the 73 works in this exhibit include classic examples of Pictorialism by the most ambitious artist-photographers, including Alfred Stieglitz, Edward Steichen, and Clarence White."

See tinyurl.com/jj2p77e for additional information.

Reminder: PHSNE does not meet during the summer months, and there is no July or August issue of *snap shots*. The next PHSNE meeting will take place in September, 2016. Information about the program will be printed in the September *snap shots*.

Have a great summer. May you find the camera or image of your dreams at a summer tag sale.

PHSNE Meetings

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

Upcoming meetings:

There are no meetings during the summer months. Information about the September meeting will appear in the September issue of *snap shots*.

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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Photographic Historical Society of New England
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Woman's Club Workshop, Newton Highlands MA
Alan Zinn, Panoramic Photography