

URGENT OCTOBER PHSNE MEETING NOTICE!

**The venue given in the October issue of *snap shots* for the October 2 meeting is incorrect.
Paul Wainwright is still the speaker.**

The correct venue is:

**Woman's Club Workshop
72 Columbus St, Newton Highlands, MA 02461
October 2, 2016 1:30PM**

Paul Wainwright Presentation Features Use of Modern View Camera

Sunday, October 2, 2016, 1:30 P.M.

Special Venue: Digital Silver Imaging, 9 Brighton St., Belmont MA

The camera is modern; the methodology is not. At the October 2nd meeting, speaker Paul Wainwright will explain how he combines a modern Kodak view camera, Kodak sheet film, and modern lenses with techniques similar to those used in the late 19th century.



Wainwright specializes in photographing old buildings, such as meetinghouses. He will discuss how the view camera works but focus more on *why* he prefers this camera and what inspires him to photograph old buildings.

You are encouraged to see Wainwright's show at Digital Silver Imaging, the Belmont site of the Griffin Museum of Photography, through September 30th. For those who attend the October 2nd meeting, viewing the exhibit beforehand will enhance your appreciation of his work.

His web biography notes that, "Paul Wainwright is a photographer based in Atkinson, New Hampshire, who works in a traditional manner utilizing sheet film, a large-format camera, and silver gelatin printing. His work has appeared in numerous juried competitions and solo exhibitions, and is included in the permanent collections of both private and corporate collectors, including Fidelity Investments and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. He is a mostly self-taught photographer who brings to his images an eye for space and light, subtle details, and an appreciation of history. Working with traditional photographic media such as 4x5 sheet film and silver gelatin paper processed in a wet darkroom, he achieves in his prints a sense of quiet contemplation that comes from the slow, Zen-like pace of creating his images."

Wainwright invites you to visit his photography

page at [facebook.com/Paul.Wainwright.Photography](https://www.facebook.com/Paul.Wainwright.Photography) and/or visit his web pages PaulWainwrightPhotography.com and ColonialMeetinghouses.com. At the PHSNE meeting, he will have copies of his book *A Space for Faith: The Colonial Meetinghouses of New England* "in case anyone has not yet finished their Christmas shopping." The book received the 2011 Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH) as well as the IPPY (Independent Publisher) 2011 Gold Medal Award for Best Northeast Regional Non Fiction Book of the Year; it was also a finalist in the New England Independent Booksellers' 2010 Awards.



Sandown Interior, Paul Wainwright

Additional information and photographs can be seen at aspaceforfaith.com.

Save the Date: Saturday, November 12th

PHSNE is sponsoring a free guided photo shoot at historic Fort Adams in Newport Rhode Island on Saturday November 12th 2016. PHSNE members and their guests, photography students and photography instructors are welcome. Attendees will provide their own transportation and meet at the fort's visitor center at 10:00 A.M. Large format cameras and tripods are welcome and encouraged.

The two hour guided photography tour will give attendees access to the bowels of the fort and barracks that are normally not accessible to the public. Additional detail will be provided in the November *snap shots*, on the website, and in emails to members. **Note: There will be no regular meeting on the first Sunday in November.**

All You Want to Know About Drone Aerial Photography

Approximately 80 pages of information, tips, instruction, and advice about drone aerial photography appear on an interesting website: dronebee.com/drone-aerial-photography. The headings include buying guides, tips and tricks, and regulations.

The site is offered by “a bunch of UAV enthusiasts, dedicated to providing useful information for matters related to drones and the RC (remote control) world.” It covers news and latest trends. They cite regulations for both hobby and commercial purposes, adding the caveat that their information is not a substitute for professional legal advice. They provide contact information and invite questions.



DBPOWER-UDI-U 842-Predator-1; from website

Authentic? Or Fraud?

“Fingerprinting” Photographs

How can you tell if a photograph is a century old or more, a recent reprint, or anything in-between? This has always been a challenge for curators who, until recently, were largely guided by the image itself and the qualities of the paper. Dating photographs was a very inexact science.

In 1999, buyers of early 20th century Lewis Hines photographs came to suspect they were not authentic. They hired art conservator Paul Messier to determine whether they were or not. When he recognized how few tools and techniques existed to answer the question, he began to study the way photographs were analyzed and dated. In a *Boston Globe* article, Kevin Hartnett wrote, “Messier has helped develop a suite of forensic tools that allow conservators to establish facts about a photograph with the exactitude of a crime scene investigation (July 6, 2016).



paulmessier.com/#!/about/cjg9

Paul Messier

Messier’s methodology involved purchasing old photographic paper and analyzing the fibers that were used in the manufacturing process. He soon realized that rag fibers were common in the early 20th century; later wood pulp was the dominant ingredient, and the wood was from different trees and locales. For example, Hartnett notes, “If you encounter a photographic paper with eucalyptus, there’s a pretty good chance it’s a Kodak paper made in North America in the 1960s.”

Other tools and techniques that Messier introduced to date photographs are measuring paper thickness with a micrometer, measuring gloss with a gloss meter, and measuring color (fluorescence) with a spectrophotometer.

According to his website, “Paul Messier is an independent conservator of photographs working in Boston Founded in 1994, his studio provides conservation services for private and institutional clients throughout the world. The heart of this practice is unique knowledge and ongoing research into photographic papers. The Messier Reference Collection of Photographic Papers plays a vital role in this work.” Visit paulmessier.com/#!/about/cjg9 for additional information.

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, 47 Calvary St., Waltham MA 02453. (Call: 617-826-9294; email: membership@phsne.org; or use the Web form at phsne.org/contacts).

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Indian Camera Collection Holds Guinness World Record

With 2634 cameras, the collection of Dilish Parekh of Mumbai was entered in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the world's largest in 2003. In 2013 he was again named as the record holder, eclipsing his own total with 4425 cameras. The collection continues to grow and now stands at 4500.



India Book of Records

Parekh has been collecting for over 45 years. He has some valuable specimens, including Leicas, Canons, Nikons, Rolliflexes, and Voigtlanders, though his personal spending limit is \$15. The most valuable include a 1934 Leica 250, one of fewer than 1000 produced, a Bessa II that he claims was esteemed in Japan and used by royalty, and the Tessina L, one of the smallest and lightest 35mm cameras ever made. He limits his acquisitions to cameras produced between 1890 and 1960.

Though he has received offers to purchase the collection, he steadfastly refuses them and has asked his sons not to sell it after he dies. A short film about the man and his collection was recently made by Dheerankur Upasak, filmed on a Canon EOS 5D III with Pentax 50 mm f1.2, Tamron 90mm macro and Tair 11-133mm f2.8 lenses.

One source suggested that his collecting began with gifts from his grandfather; another that it was launched with the inheritance of 600 cameras from his father. In any case, he has stated, "Cameras are my life. I can't stay without them." For more information on this fascinating collector, do a web search for Dilish Parekh or check out these sources: tinyurl.com/jqkoe6u or tinyurl.com/z67dl82.

Photos of Revolutionary War Vets

It is surprising to learn that there are photographs of soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War—yes, the one that began in 1776. Daguerreotype images exist of a few who survived through the 1840's.

"Utah-based journalist Joe Bauman spent three decades researching and compiling the images. These early photographs – known as daguerreotypes – are exceptionally rare camera-original, fully-identified photographs of veterans of the War for Independence – the war that established the United States" (blog.eogn.com/2016/07/04/photographs-of-men-who-fought-in-the-revolutionary-war, Dick Eastman, July 4, 2016). Bauman published *Don't Tread on Me: Photographs and Life Stories of American Revolutionaries*, an e-book that is available at amazon.com.

In 1864 Rev. Elias Hillard, a minister and historian, tracked down six surviving Revolutionary War soldiers who were over 100 years old. To put this into perspective, the Civil War was taking place at the time, and the lives of these soldiers spanned the two major wars fought on U.S. soil. Hillard documented their oral histories.

"Samuel Downing, 102 Years Old. Born in Newburyport, Massachusetts in November, 1764. Died February 19, 1867. Enlisted in July of 1780 in Hailstown, New Hampshire. Served in the Battle of Saratoga in which British General Burgoyne was defeated."



"Lemuel Cook, 105 Years Old. Oldest Survivor of the Revolutionary War. Born in Northbury, Connecticut on September 10, 1761. Died on May 20, 1866. Served in the Battle of Brandywine and later Yorktown when British General Cornwallis surrendered to the Continental Army, ending the War."

The images and mini-biographies were found at varsitytutors.com/earlyamerica/rare-images/last-men-revolution. Additional images and more detailed biographies can be viewed at the site.

More recently, Maureen Taylor, an expert specializing in photograph identification and genealogy, produced *The Last Muster* featuring images of Revolutionary War survivors. She was the speaker at the September 2014 PHSNE meeting; access September 2014 *snap shots* for more information.

PHSNE Loses a Friend— Remembering Bob Cooke, 1937-2016



With sadness, we report that long-time member Bob Cooke passed away on August 12th. He was an active dealer who consistently manned a table at *Photographica* and also was a dealer at the MIT Flea Market.

Bob was an army photographer from 1955-1988. After many years in the insurance business, he opened BCP Photographica, a photo and camera equipment business.

His friend and *Photographica* show manager John Dockery relates this story: "Bob struggled for many years with illness but it was only the horrible snowstorms of 2015 that prevented his appearance at the Spring 2015 *Photographica*. Bob called to let me know that he would not be able to attend the show because the barn doors where he stored his photo items were completely blocked by massive piles of snow. I was told that he would return to the show in the fall, and he was there as promised. This shows you the cut of Bob's jib and should tell you a lot about the man. Bob Cooke was a great guy and I will miss him." Bob's obituary can be viewed at tinyurl.com/jgqyppr.

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:

November 12 (Saturday) - Fort Adams photo tour, Newport, RI (in lieu of regular Sunday meeting)

December 4 - Holiday party

Driving directions to Digital Silver Imaging, 9 Brighton St., Belmont, MA. Directions are available at digitalsilverimaging.com/contact.

PHSNE Online

PHSNE's Web site is online at phsne.org. See facebook.com/phsne 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.

FIRST CLASS MAIL
Address Service
Requested

Photographic Historical Society of New England
Next Meeting: Sunday, October 2, 2016, 1:30 P.M.
Note special venue: Digital Silver Imaging
9 Brighton St., Belmont MA 02478



Waltham MA 02453

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