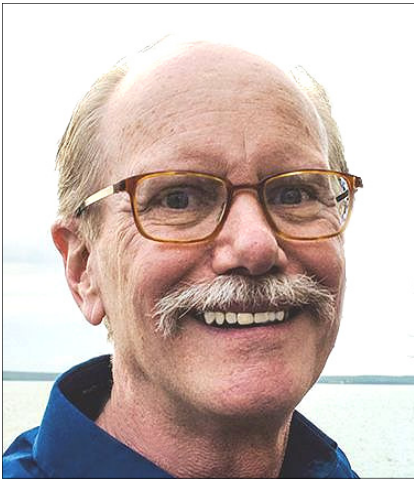


snap shots

Volume 22 Number 6

February 2017

Visit Cuba With Speaker Rich Perry at the February 5th PHSNE Meeting Woman's Club Workshop, 72 Columbus St., Newton MA, 1:30 P.M.



Having worked for many years as a teacher and administrator in both public and private education, I finally gave in to the artistic nudge that had then had become an infection, and had finally become a calling. While

still working in a school, I bought my first DSLR and started photographing my granddaughter. Soon I was taking fine art photographs and enrolled in classes at the Museum School and Massachusetts College of Art. For the last few years I have been concentrating exclusively on my photography both fine art and documentary.

I have been to Cuba twice. While there I met a variety of artists, the city planner of Havana, economists, professors, visited a tobacco farm and spent time with the farmer, as well as spending time on the streets with "regular" citizens. I was even granted unrestricted access to the goings on at a polling station on election day. I also had the opportunity to visit the International School of the Arts and to talk with teachers and students.

In addition to my work in Cuba, among my other portfolios are a series on the International Yacht Res-

toration School (I followed a class for two years). I also photographed work on the restoration of a 135' schooner built in the 1880's that continues to be re-built.

I also spent a year photographing a small farm in VT. I have made two trips photographing the Mississippi Delta and have another trip there planned for this spring. I will continue that project with several more trips in the future. It is a fascinating part of our country. My series, *That Which Was As It Is Now*, focuses on the old buildings in disrepair that give us a sense of the history of the area and the people who lived there. It is my homage to those who came before us and the lives they lived. Along the same line is a series of portraits of present-day people.

~Rich Perry

Visit Perry's website at richperryphotography.com.



Girl With Doll



Linens

SAVE THE DATE—Saturday, April 8, 2017



Photographica 86 will take place on April 8, 2017, following the Saturday-only format that

proved very successful last spring. As always, an auction will take place at the close of the show. The cameras pictured here will be among the many put up for sale.



Remembering Gerard Spiegel



PHSNE Life Member Gerard (Jerry) Spiegel passed away on November 18, 2016. Jerry was always at the PHSNE shows and first at the tables where quality cameras were just being pulled out. PHSNE members knew Jerry as a kind, knowledgeable, and fastidious collector

who enjoyed sharing stories and information about camera collecting. As our competitive standoffs dissolved, we met annually to discuss our market finds.

Besides collecting cameras, Jerry was also an award-winning photographer, with works held in museums, and he taught photography for many years.

Jerry was an engineer. He designed super-modern structures yet really loved old Victorian buildings. His engineering background shaped his interest in intricate cameras, but he appreciated the simplest designs as well. He researched each piece with an interest that ranged from the Daguerreian era to the Leica. Somehow he fit everything (almost) into a single guest room...but what a room! PHSNE just lost an early-generation collector from the 70's who valued the history as much as the chase or the deal.

~Peter Schultz

In Memoriam: Matthew Isenburg

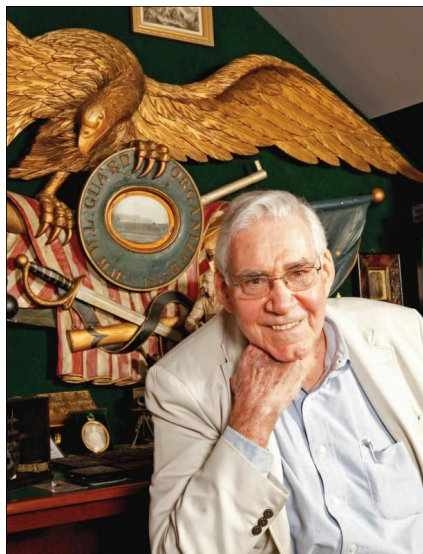


Photo by David Bohl

With great sadness, PHSNE reports the passing of Matthew Isenburg, a Charter and Life member of the society, on November 14, 2016. Isenburg was present at the initial meeting in Framingham MA on April 8, 1973 and was on the first Board of Directors, serving as Vice-President, through

1975.

Initially, Isenburg's collecting focused on Leicas. His interest soon morphed into the early days of photography, especially the age of Daguerre. Isenburg amassed an extensive collection of about 20,000 items that included early and important daguerreotypes and the greatest number of Daguerrean cameras in any one place. He was a co-founder and a long-term president of the Daguerreian Society which will host a celebration of his life in the spring of 2017.

In 2012, Isenburg sold a large portion of his collection to the Archive of Modern Conflict (AMC) of Toronto, Canada for \$15 million (see September 2012 and February 2015 *snap shots*), the largest sum ever paid for a private collection at the time of the sale. The collection, which is being donated over a period of ten years to the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa, will be part of a newly established Canadian Photography Institute designed to house a world-class collection of photographica.

Isenburg wrote or co-authored numerous articles and books about his collection and about the early history of photography. He served in the navy during World War II.

Honorary Life Member Ed Shaw recalls that Isenburg was a hard worker on PHSNE's behalf, especially as a fund-raiser in the early days. He was a frequent speaker for various photographic groups. Isenburg participated in the 2003 PHSNE tour to Peru organized and led by Shaw. PHSNE sends sincere condolences to Matt's friends and family.

PHSNE Membership

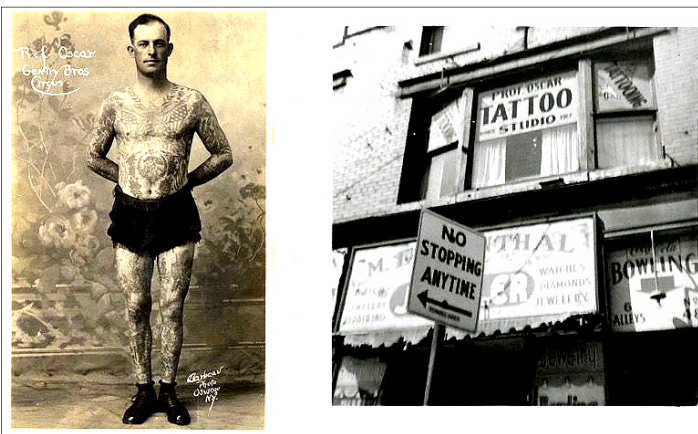
New members are invited to join for half the rates for the first year. Regular PHSNE membership (U.S. and Canada) is \$20 for students, \$40 for individuals and institutions, and \$45 for a family; foreign membership is \$50. Join or renew online at phsne.org/join or phsne.org/renew, or send a check 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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Wanted: Photographs of Boston Tattoo Shops, 1880-1962

“Research is underway for a new book and exhibit documenting the rich history of tattooing in Boston from the time of the Civil War until 1962. With biographies of over forty Boston tattoo artists and tattooed performers, as well as previously unpublished flash (art), photographs and ephemera, this project will stand as a landmark contribution to the study of American tattoo history and culture. Publication is expected in 2018, with an accompanying exhibit to be announced soon. If PHSNE members have any leads on early photographs and ephemera related to tattooing in Boston or Austin & Stone's Dime Museum, we would love to hear from you [derin@tattooedboston.com].



L Prof. Oscar Bouchard, ca. 1928; R The Scollay Square Tattoo Shop of Prof. Oscar Bouchard, ca. 1950.

Boston's gritty Scollay Square, a mecca of dime museums, burlesque theaters and gambling halls, was the city's center for electric tattooing from the late 1880s until 1962, when Massachusetts banned the trade and razed the neighborhood. During those eight decades, Boston's tattoo artists—hungry, enterprising, and multi-skilled—passed through the city on bicoastal junkets, commuted to Scollay Square from their homes in adjacent communities, or spent their lives and careers in tiny shops over the lunch counters and pool halls there. Many cobbled a living as day laborers, sign painters, truck drivers and factory hands, moonlighting in the city with their needles and ink. Some spent summers on the carnival circuit, tattooing the locals and, in fringed satin trunks, displaying their own prodigiously tattooed bodies. These hardscrabble lives reveal important crosscurrents of influence between Scollay Square and other major tattoo centers—from London and Vancouver to New York City, Norfolk and Los Angeles.”

Visit tattooedboston.com or contact Derin Bray at derin@tattooedboston.com to volunteer information..

Foth Derby Camera

In 2017, PHSNE will auction the Foth Derby 2 camera pictured here, along with a Foth Anastigmat F3.5 lens, in 2017. This well-made German camera is a model that was manufactured from 1931 to 1936.

In an advertisement introducing the camera, the sole U.S. distributors, the Burleigh Brooks Co., praised “its extreme compactness, irreducible weight, easy manipulation, fine optical equipment, superb mechanical adjustments, and economy in operation.”

With an initial price tag of \$30, the ad expressed “every confi-

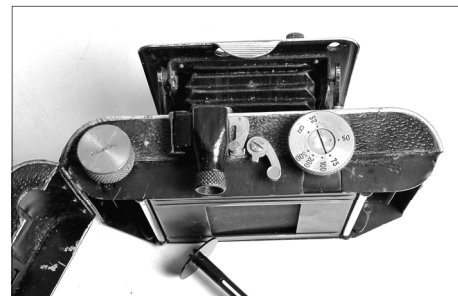
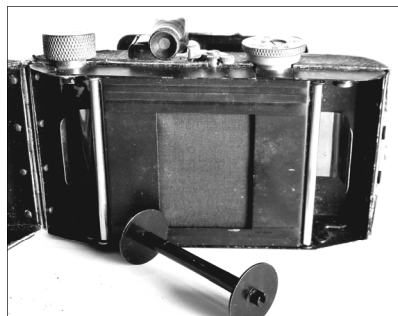
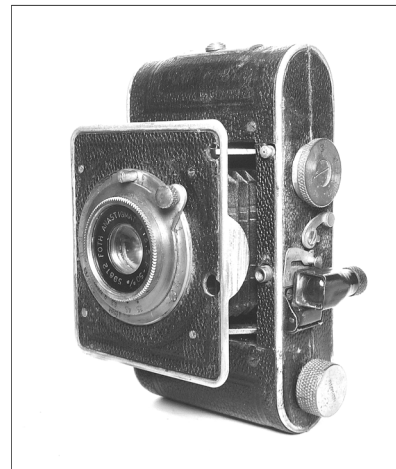
dence that this camera will prove equal to those selling at more than double the price” and offered to respond to any reasonable request for a free 10 day trial.

The Foth Derby's features include a focal plane shutter that can be set up to 1/500th of a second, and a built-in self-timer. The magnifying tube-site viewfinder enlarges the image to be photographed.

The Foth Derby is compact, very lightweight, and also easy-to load and shoot. Optics are

very good, producing sharp images. Its ability to take 16 pictures on standard vest pocket film keeps operating costs low; the ad notes that “upkeep is practically non-existent.”

Information about variants of this camera can be found at wiki.org/wiki/Derby.



Rock & Roll Photos at Shelburne Museum



Kate Simon, Madonna, NYC 1983

Backstage Pass: Rock & Roll Photography, on display at the Shelburne Museum in Vermont, consists of over 300 rarely seen portraits and candid snapshots of rock and roll and jazz icons including The Beatles, Elvis Presley, Bob Dylan, Janis Joplin, Kurt Cobain, Miles Davis, and many more. The images were

taken by over 50 photographers. A catalogue containing about 100 photographs, along with essays by music journalists and critics, will be published by Yale University Press.

The Shelburne Museum is the largest art and history museum in northern New England. The exhibit will run from February 11, 2017 through May 7, 2017. Visit shelburnemuseum.org for more information.



Kate Simon, Debbie Harry

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:

March 5—Patricia Fanning, *Artful Lives: The Francis Watts Lee Family and Their Times*

SATURDAY, April 8— *Photographica 86*, and auction, American Legion Post 295, Newton MA

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:

See mbta.com/rider_tools

Connect to PHSNE Online and by email:

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.

Stay connected to PHSNE via our emails: a *snap shots* e-copy, email newsletter, and *Photographa* show announcements. Sign up at phsne.org/emails.

Online Sites of Interest

- blogs.loc.gov/now-see-hear/2016/11/photo-blog-12-reel-mysteries/ asks for help identifying performers in obscure films
- marketplace.org/2016/08/31/tech/disappearing-jobs/instagram-there-were-daguerreotypes includes video interview
- tinyurl.com/zh8cpsr National Archives collection of Ansel Adams prints online – also available at catalog.archives.gov/search?q=*. *f.ancestorNaIds=519830&sort=naIdSort%20asc
- hyperallergic.com/299912/the-photographers-of-1870s-london-who-documented-their-disappearing-city/ features carbon prints over 100 years old documenting demise of historic buildings in London