

snap shots

Volume 25 Number 4

December 2019

Enjoy a festive afternoon with your fellow PHSNE members. If you wish to participate in the Members' Auction, you may bring up to 6 items from 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. and/or bid on any of the items for sale. Included in the auction will be cameras, images, and ephemera. Besides the items brought in by members, there will be many cameras donated to PHSNE— and possibly refurbished by the warehouse crew; these will be listed on the PHSNE website in late November. A few are shown on this page.



PHSNE Holiday Party, Members' Auction, Annual Meeting, Board Elections **Sunday, December 8, 2019**

**Note date change; first Sunday falls within Thanksgiving weekend;
meeting takes place on second Sunday**

Woman's Club Workshop, 72 Columbus St., Newton MA

Lunch: noon



**Auction:
1:00 P.M.**

**OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

**Marti Jones
Auctioneer**



Thank you!

It takes great effort to keep PHSNE running smoothly, to arrange interesting monthly meetings, to maintain the website, collect, store, and prepare items for auction. Thanks to all volunteers who worked so hard during 2019.

Board Members

President: Joel Moses; Vice-President: John Felix; Secretary: Larry Woods; Treasurer: Greg Crisci; John Dockery; Lew Regelman; Paul Roberts, Henry Weisenburger

Warehouse Crew

Allan Goodrich, Dick Koolish, Lew Regelman, Joe Walters

Editorial Support

Journal: John Felix, Ryck Lent, Ron Polito
Snap shots: Ron Polito, Joe Walters

Other

- Membership Chair, Tech Support, and ex officio board member: Joe Walters
- Webmaster: Ryck Lent
- School outreach: Holly Worthington
- Program coordinator: Jay Goldman and Dana Gee

A hearty thanks to PHSNE members who contributed articles, led meetings, or participated in other ways and apologies to anyone whose name was inadvertently omitted.

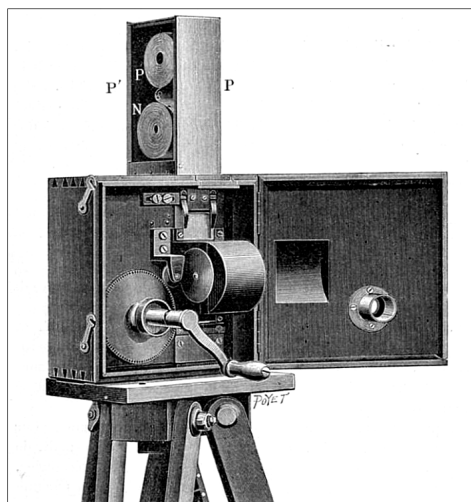
Look Up at the Camera

PHSNE members who attended the October meeting heard an interesting presentation about aerial photography—early days through drones—from Joseph Turner. The photograph below was taken after the meeting by a drone camera.



A Photographic “Whodunit”

Many sources, including Wikipedia, credit the Lumiere brothers, Louis and Auguste, with the invention of the motion picture camera. However, a bit of digging online turned up information suggesting that it remains a mystery as to who actually invented the first motion picture camera. Some historians credit Leon Bouly with the invention of the Cinematograph; others consider Louis LePrince the “father of cinematography,” and there may be other candidates.



Cinematograph, <https://tinyurl.com/y59pj5yl>

There is a widely held story that Leon Bouly invented the device known as the Cinematograph, and the Lumiere brothers were able to patent the name when Bouly was unable to “pay the rent” on his patent in 1894

(<https://tinyurl.com/yxbojfs>). According to this source, “Léon Guillaume Bouly is one of the most mysterious characters in the history of cinema. Three years before the Lumière brothers, he patented a ‘camera’ to obtain automatically and without interruption a series of analytical pictures of movement in other words the ‘Cinematograph’. In this apparatus, . . . the [flexible roll] film is not perforated and is intermittently driven by a rotating cylinder in combination with a working pressure charged to immobilize the film when the shutter opens the lens.” This article goes on to say, “Today, modern historians agree that Leon Bouly before the Lumière brothers, was the true original inventor of the term cinematography,” but this is not a view shared by all.

Those crediting Louis LePrince with being the “father” of cinematography claim that his experimental film *Roundhay Garden Scene* is the “earliest surviving motion picture” (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinematography>). Additional details and other theories and timetables are presented on the Wikipedia site.

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 www.phsne.org/join or www.phsne.org/renew, or send a check in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank or dollar denominated international money order. Please 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-chair@phsne.org; or use the Web form at phsne.org/application).

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Exaktas Enjoyed a Long Run; Came in Many Models and Shapes And Were Produced by a Variety of Manufacturers

Made only a few years apart, pre- and post-WII Exakta cameras may have little in common from a design standpoint. Over the years, different models were produced in various parts of the world, and it may be difficult to trace where various models were manufactured.

Exaktas were initially manufactured by the Ihagee Company, located in Dresden, whose name stands for the letters IHG which, in turn, are an acronym for Industrie und Handels Gesellschaft (Industry and Trading Company). However, after the war, Ihagee Kamerawerk (Ihagee West) in West Germany also produced Exaktas; the company was not tied to its eastern counterpart. Furthermore, Exaktas were made in Japan by various manufacturers after 1973. Camera-wiki has a list indicating which models were manufactured where (<http://camera-wiki.org/wiki/Exakta>). The brand name “Exakta” has also been used by Japanese manufacturers Petri and Cosina and by Pentacon GmbH, among others. Pentacon still owns the name but hasn’t used it for more than a decade.



Pre-war Exakta, c. 1937; post-war Exakta, c. 1954

The pre-war version was ergonomically awkward according to one PHSNE member whose pre- and post-WWII models are shown above. Pre-war Exaktas are horizontal in shape; many post-war models are vertical.

Introduced in 1933, the VP Exakta was the first SLR using 127 film; the Kine Exakta, launched in 1936, was the first SLR for 35mm film. Early models of the Kine Exakta had the viewfinder at waist

level, but subsequent models had interchangeable waist/eye-level viewfinders.

“Most controls—including the shutter release and the film wind lever—are on the left-hand side, unlike most

other cameras. The film is transported in the opposite direction to other 35mm SLRs. In classic Exaktas—made between 1936 and 1969—two film canisters can be used, one containing unexposed film and a second into which is wound the exposed film. A sliding knife built into the bottom of the camera can be used to slice the film so that the canister containing the exposed film can be removed while preserving the unexposed film in the main canister. The knife was omitted in the Exakta VX500, one of the last ‘official’ Exakta cameras.

The shutter release on classic Exaktas is on the front of the camera, rather than the top. It is pressed with the left forefinger” (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exakta>).



Exakta Varex VX



Also manufactured by Ihagee, from the 1950s through the 1960s, is the Exa. It’s a smaller version of the Exakta, very simple, with the same dual viewfinder system.

More Losses for the New England Photographic Community



PHSNE regrets to announce the loss of PPANE (Professional Photographers of New England) and NEIPP (New England Institute of Professional Photography). We received the following announcement in October:

“As you are aware, membership enrollment has significantly decreased in the last few years. Students are now finding other ways to learn. Unfortunately, the time has come to say goodbye to PPANE and NEIPP.

Disbanding an organization that so many of us enjoyed was not an easy decision for the board to make. Operations will cease on Oct 31, 2019. We hope that you’ve learned some valuable information from our wonderful instructors to help your success and made some lasting friendships along the way.

We also would like to thank all the vendors, especially ACI, H+H Color Lab, and Hunts Photo for supporting the photographic industry. Again, we thank you for your loyalty through the years. May you have much success in your endeavors.

Respectfully, PPANE Board and NEIPP Trustees”

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 meeting:

January 5—Vladimir Khazan, history of photography

Driving directions to Woman’s Club Workshop, 72 Columbus St., 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 <https://mbta.com/>

Connect to PHSNE Online and by email:

PHSNE’s Web site is online at <http://phsne.org>. See <https://www.facebook.com/PHSNE/> for items of PHSNE interest. Comments are welcome, so join the discussion of photo history. Visit <http://phsne.org/member-services/archives/> 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, and *Photographa* show announcements. Sign up at <http://phsne.org/emails>

Websites of Interest—relating to preservation of film, movies, and documents

https://www.calarchivists.org/Publications/Preserving_Your_History—This site points to 4 “brochures” on preservation for the family, or I would say a typical modest collection. Short, not technical, it contains useful suggestions for the family or small collector wishing to preserve documents and photographs and/or preserve some new history.

<https://www.filmpreservation.org/preservation-basics/the-film-preservation-guide>—This website offers a more detailed guide book on motion picture film preservation from the National Film Preservation Foundation. The printed book can be obtained for a mailing fee, or the pdf electronic version can be downloaded for free. From the description, “It introduces film preservation to nonprofit and public institutions that have collections of motion picture film but lack information about how to take care of them”. While detailed, it is non-technical and would be useful to the home enthusiast with a collection of movies—family movies or others. They can just ignore the sections specific to the concerns of museums and other non-profits.

https://www.getty.edu/conservation/publications_resources/pdf_publications/pdf/atlas_silver_gelatin.pdf—This one is technical, designed for curators, conservators, etc.