

THE BELLOWS

27th GREAT YEAR

May 18, 2006

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXVII, No. 9

WHAT NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS

WHERE DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5...go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy. South... Turn right.)

WHEN Thursday, May 18th 7:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:00 p.m.)

WHY A short business meeting..Show & Tell..auction (one item lot per member please)..Door prize..Member's trade and sell tables (free to members, please cover during business meeting)
Program: Please bring the new "treasures" you aquired at our Show and any interesting stories and antidotes from our April Show Experience Weekend.

BY GOLLY WE HAVE DONE IT AGAIN:

For the 26th year P.S.P.C.S. has put on what many feel is the best Camera Show, Swap & Sale in at least the Western half of the United States. Mike Symons gave a very informative and well presented talk to begin our Show Exprience Weekend. It was a pleasure to have heard him speak. Also, the friday evening hospitality room was full of sellers eating tasty food and sipping on the drink of their choice as they chatted with new and old friends and shared tales of the hunt. Please give a smile and a "job well done" pat on the back to your Show Committee members when you see them. The final figures are not quite in but it is safe to say that we had another successful show. We sold about 140 8 foot tables and had over six hundred buyers, not counting sellers and their assistants, roaming among the "treasure" covered tables. I heard of dealers who sold well..(Did you notice the end of the day bare tables at the Ed Fry estate sale?)...and I talked to one dealer who had sold almost nothing...but said, with a smile, he would be back next year.

And yes, there is going to be a P.S.P.C.S. Show next year on Saturday, April 28th at the Fair Grounds in Puyallup. Judging by the number of people who asked me if the Club planned to put on a Show in 2007 (YES!) I guess people do read The Bellows. During the past year I had stated that the Club was concerned that the cost of doing the Show outweighed the financial return and, more importantly, that the interest was still there...on the part of both sellers and buyers..of having a Show in this era of E-bay etc. and the switch to digital photography.

We found there was still enough interest by sellers (over 140 tables sold) and the number of buyers, although a few less than last year, was more then enough to justify a 2007 Show. We already plan to streamline our advertizing expenses which will help our bottom line next year. This year the Club benefited from the 25% we received from the net sales of the Ed Fry estate and this should help us come close to breaking even when all the bills are paid. However, in an attempt to "stay ahead of the curve" President Darrel is going to form a small committee which will spend the next months before our 2007 Show doing an exhaustive search from Seattle to Tacoma to determine if there is a venue available that would better meet the Show's needs in 2008. Who knows, by 2008 35mm film cameras may have become the new hot collectible.

It was a fun Show this year which the Show committee felt ran smothly. The display tables by Club members were better than ever and we will have a report on them in the June Bellows. Ending at 4 p.m. (instead of 5 p.m. as we had in past years.) was a good move. We missed some old friends that didn't come this year. (age is stalking us all) But any Show where Siggi comes wearing a tie can't be all bad.

If you participated in this year's Show and have some thoughts, complaints, compliments or suggestions for our future Shows please Contact Darrel, Shirley or me. We would love to hear from you.

****BACKSIDE INFORMATION****

The special Show Experience Weekend meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order promptly at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday April 27th. There were close to fifty members and guests in attendance including the Londons and Meyers from Oregon and Dick Weber and wife from Port Orchard. Bill Kimber came in four minutes late with the Meyers and blamed his late arrival on them...which no one believed. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as read. Treasurer Shirley reported that when the Show gate money came in there would be enough funds to cover current expenses.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bill Kimber and members of the Show committee reported that all was in readiness and we were, "Good to Go" for the rest of Show Experience Weekend. (And, it turned out, we were.)

PROGRAM:

It was now time for our special guest speaker, Mr. Mike Symons of Victoria B.C., who proceeded to give a very nice and informative power point presentation on the Nippon Kogaku Company of Japan and it's line of Nikon cameras and accessories; using pictures of items from his own extensive collection. The attentive audience asked a number of questions and seemed to really enjoy Mike's presentation.

After Mike's presentation president Darrel presented Mike with a certificate of thanks from the Club which intitles Mike to free P.S.P.C.S. Membership for life...or, the end of the Club; which ever comes first.

DOOR PRIZE:

President Darrel announced that he had gotten a special door prize for this meeting (a neat metal photographer sign) and everyone should be sure to sign in..thus becoming eligible for the door prize drawing. Mike Symons realized he had not signed in and rushed over and did so; becoming the fourty sixth member signed in. Bobby London drew a number and wouldn't you know...she drew number 46. The members seemed most pleased that Mike had won this extra "thank you" from the Club.

The meeting then adjourned for more Nikon discussions and nummie munching about 8:15 p.m.

THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION:

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Western Photographic Historical Society:

What camera made in 1940 sold for 15 cents and included a Pepsodent toothpaste box?



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to Bill Kimber 1413 Weathervane Dr., Tacoma, WA 98466-5712 (253) 564-4046, billkimber@webtv.net

The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is www.pspcs.org

Dues are \$20.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922 (509) 674-1916, sesparrow9@msn.com P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our 4th Saturday in April yearly show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET



FOR SALE:

Norm Showalter e-mails to say he sold some Bolex instruction books to a fellow at our Show and now finds he has some more to sell. If you are that person or someone who would like Bolex instruction materials you can contact Norm at: tintype21@cableone.net Also, Bill Kimber has some Bolex instruction manuals he would love to sell. (see The Bellows for address etc.)

GRESHAM SHOW IN MAY:

The Bellows has just received word that the Columbia Gorge Camera Club is presenting it's 11th annual Gresham Camera Swap Meet to be held on Saturday May 20th from 9:00 to 4:00. This is at the Gresham Grange..875 NE Division St. in Gresham, Oregon just east of the Portland city limits. (Off I-5 east take the 238th exit..go south to Division..turn right. Go west and just past Cleveland Street you will see the grange on your right.) Tables are \$20.00 for a half table and \$35.0 for a full table with a free assistant per table. (I guess for a half table you get to bring in half an assistant.) Admission is \$4.00 with an Early Bird fee of \$10.00 beginning at 7:30 a.m. This is a very nice SMALL group and their Show has reflected their size in past years. However, it would make for a great start on a long weekend vacation in the Columbia River Gorge. For all information contact Krystal Sharinghousen (503) 380-1898 or cell: (503) 239-8912.

SPEAKING OF VACATIONS:

Your editor was out "treasure hunting" and helping to finance several Indian casinos in Eastern Washington last week. As luck would have it we stopped for breakfast on Saturday in the tiny town of Pataha (next to Pomeroy) which is on highway 12 between Clarkston and Walla Walla. I asked the cafe owner if there were any shops about which might have cameras. She said no but had I ever visited the Pataha Flour Mills Historical museum located about a block south of the main highway? It seems that this famous old mill...which once made the world famous XXX brand flour from 1878 until 1943...was now a museum, open for free tours. It is also a restaurant and a church. But what interested me most was the fact that Mr. Neil Keatts...a long time local farmer...has his over two hundred item antique camera collection on display in the Mill. We drove right over. He has some very nice pieces and it was great fun to see what he had collected and wonder how he found so many wonderful photographic items in this sparsely populated area of the state. I longed to be able to hear his, "tales of the hunt". So, if you are ever on highway 12 going through Pomeroy stop, stretch and spend a few minutes at the Pataha Flour Mills Historical Museum with Mr. Keatts' fine camera collection.

PHOTOHISTORY XIII:

The time is fast approaching for the next Symposium on the History of Photography to be held in Rochester, New York. The dates are October 20 to 22, 2006. This Symposium is held every three years. There will be 15 presentation talks, a banquet and Photographica Trade Show & Sale. Not to mention getting to tour George Eastman House and International Museum of Photography and Film. Having been once your editor can only wish he could go again. Just the tour of George Eastman House and the Trade Show was worth the trip...not to mention everything else. For info go to: www.tphs.org or to: Photohistory13@frontiernet.net or write to: PhotoHistory XIII...P.O. Box 10153...Rochester, NY 14610-0153. For a photographica collector it is like making a pilgrimage to Mecca is for a Muslim...something everyone should do at least once.

Lens Cleaning—Another View

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The recent note in the PD that recommended “huffing” on a lens as part of a cleaning procedure reminded me that there is still a lot of misinformation going around about cleaning optics.

If you never intend to use a lens for forming an image then “huffing” might be OK. But on the other hand if you want to do more than just display the lens then “huffing” is not really acceptable. In high school biology classes of my era we coughed or sneezed in a petri dish* and watched the bacteria grow. This convinced me that the human mouth is a very unclean place. I suspect some of the “fungus” we see on old lenses might come from bacteria or mold introduced by “huffing” and subsequent storage in a humid environment.

No one is immune to the effects of the aforementioned misinformation. Fifty plus years ago I was working on an infrared scanner for military applications. One member of the team was a physicist who had majored in optics. The scanner

included a relatively thin aluminum parabolic scanning mirror that was 9 inches in diameter and had a focal length of 6 inches (a major technical breakthrough at that time). The physicist insisted on trying to clean the mirror with a chamois skin and denatured alcohol as he had been taught in a well regarded institution of higher learning. Unfortunately the higher learning did not include the fact that the chamois skin has a slight oil content which always resulted in obvious streaks on the mirror’s surface. After the cleaning had failed 4 or 5 times I whisked the mirror away and returned 10 minutes later with it as clean or maybe cleaner than it had been when received from the optical shop. The physicist was aghast when I explained that using the liquid green hand soap in the men’s room and rinsing with hot water had done the job. The soap was spread with a gentle touch of the fingers and most of the rinse water was simply shaken off and the few drops that remained on the edge simply evaporated from the warm aluminum surface. The message here is clear. Keep it simple but don’t introduce other sources of contamination.

National Stereoscopic Association 32nd Annual Convention takes place in Miami July 11-17, 2006. To attend one of these is to immerse oneself in Stereo to the max in every way possible. View almost non-stop stereo theatre in all its dimensions from 16mm format to 6X6 cm pairs on gigantic screens as well as stereo movies. This is backed up with workshops on all phases of 3D, a 2 day stereo trade fair, 3D competition, equipment exhibits, countless stereo exhibitor sales rooms, art gallery show, the Friday night auction and after that the adult stereo show. This is really a non-stop day and night convention with so much going on you won’t be able to see it all. Visit <<http://2006.nsa3d.org/>> for lots more information. Even if you are just curious or interested in Stereo Photography, it would be well worth the trip to really get hooked. They also have a photo tour, harbor cruise, glamour photo shoot, banquets, and special breakfasts scheduled. Check it out!

So What camera made in 1940 sold for 15 cents and included a Pepsodent toothpaste box?

Answer: The Cub plastic camera used as a promotion. Made by the American Advertising and Research Corp. includes a simple lens and shutter. It took 28 X 40mm size negatives on 828 film. Prices now range from \$12 to \$20.

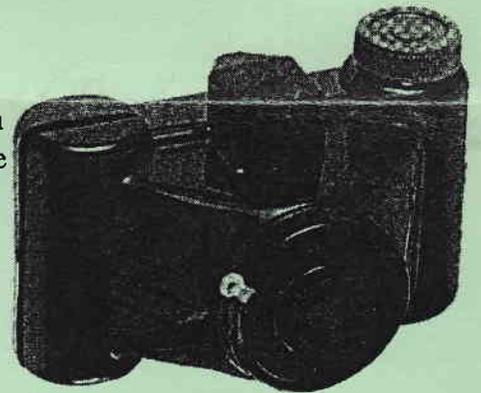


Photo from *McKeown's*

