



# THE BELLOWS

27 GREAT YEAR

October 20, 2005

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXXVII. No. 2

**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, October 20th, 7:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:00 p.m.)

**WHY** A short business meeting..auction (one item lot per member please)..door prize..Show & Tell..Member's trade and sell tables (free to members, please cover during business meeting.)  
Program: Portland member, Ralph London will present...with slides..a talk on: Walter Dorwin Teague: Master Camera Design..who he was, and what & how he influenced camera design.

## RALPH LONDON TO GIVE TALK ON WALTER DORWIN TEAGUE:

Don't miss our October meeting program. It promises to be very interesting. Portland member, Ralph London will give a slide presentation and talk entitled: Walter Dorwin Teague: Master Camera Design. For those of you who may have forgotten, in the late 1920s Kodak wanted to enhance its line of all black cameras. They went to industrial designer Teague for help, and the rest is history. He created beautiful and elegant cameras such as the Beau Brownie and the Bantam Special...which many consider Teague's masterpiece. His design patents reveal that not all his creations became part of marketed cameras. Later, He also designed several cameras for Polaroid. Ralph promises two local Teague connections and a camera story involving a Teague grandson. This will be one of our best programs of the year and you are urged to attend and bring a friend.

Ralph London lives in Portland and has been a PSPCS member for many years. He collects mainly early wood and brass cameras from the 1840s to the early 1900s...plus the catalogs and ads in which they appear. He also collects selected colored Kodaks including the cosmetic cameras. Ralph and his wife Bobbi have had a display at our Show every year since we began displays in 1993. He is a retired computer scientist and now writes frequently for photohistory publications. For many years Ralph edited the Cascade Panorama for the Cascade Photographic Historical Society.

## PORTLAND SHOW PROVIDES PLEASANT DAY:

Here are some thoughts about the Mt. Hood Community College Photo Swap Meet held on October 8th. Merle Carey and I arrived about 7:20 a.m. and got our tables set-up with no problems. Everything seemed to be well organized. There were a few open tables but a good number of sellers were there. It was a bit of a surprise to find that only four PSPCS members had come down from the Puget Sound area to take part. Those who didn't bother to attend missed a nice Show. I found four "treasures" with which to start rebuilding my collection; and Merle found some items for re-sale on the internet. He and I sold a very respectable amount and I hear that most of the other sellers felt they had had a good day. The buying public number was not huge but there was a constant amble of people by our tables during the day. Based on the above I would think they will plan for a Show next Fall. If they do I'll be there.

**\*\*BACKSIDE INFORMATION\*\***

The September meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 36 members and guests in attendance to begin our 27th year. The minutes of the June meeting were approved as read. Treasurer reported that we had money in the bank and we should be ok as the 2006 \$20.00 dues are now due.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Our October meeting will be a regular Club meeting instead of a mini Show. The October meeting will be the time to sign up for the 2006 Show Committee. One position that needs filling is someone to help with Show advertising since the death of long time ad chairman, Ed Frey. Bill Kimber reported the new building at the Fairgrounds was nice but way to big to be used by our Show. It is hoped we will be able to offer all 8 foot tables to sellers this year...with no increase in table price.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

President Darrel Womack asked that members stand and observe a moment of silence for members Ted Rozanski and Robert Reed who died during the summer. They will be missed.

President Darrel asked for program suggestions and one was for members to bring in pictures they had taken for publication or contests etc. Nothing concrete was decided at this time.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

John Sparrow's 1st Place picture from the third Annual Cascades Mountain-Echo Photo contest was passed around and received very nice comments from the members. Who knew! Ms. Maxine Nagel reported that one of her pictures was shown during the weather segment on KING 5 Television. Way to go Maxine.

**PROGRAM & SHOW & TELL:**

Eight members had very interesting Shows and Tells about their summer finds. Thank you all for sharing. Wonder what will get brought in this month?

**AUCTION AND DOOR PRIZE:**

Just two items were presented for auction bringing in \$28.00 for their old owners.

Dave Tanner and John Sparrow won door prizes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. for more buying, selling and nummie munching.

\*\*\*\*\*

**THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION:**

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Western Photographic Historical Society:

What Kodak camera made from 1936-1945 had an art deco design finish and quality construction?!



**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](http://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, [ssparrow@eburg.com](mailto:ssparrow@eburg.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](mailto:DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET)



## A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

It is always a pleasure to receive correspondence from a PSPCS member. Here is the letter we received from long time member Mr. Jim Olds, Ed.

Mr. Bill Kimber and Board  
PSPCS

Sept. 12-05

Dear Mr. Kimber & Board of Directors

This probably will be an unpopular letter. In reference to the soundings of "Last Show" I'd like to add the following.

Five or more years ago, in fact the year after the show was moved to the Fair grounds, I offered to all who would listen the warning that it was a mistake to enlarge the show. Greed, increase acquisitions, the open avenue to stores providing new items and articals difficult to sell in their stores, all geared up to demand a greater selling floor. A mistake, a big mistake.

Our hobby is a specialty. I believe a yearly sale is desireable in a limited space, barring those wholesale-like businesses. The Show should be limited to a maxium of two tables each participant, held in a "very" central location with great dignity such as things were when it all started out thirty years ago. The show should be limited to antique cameras of say thirty years or more old. Collecting won't die but various clubs like Chicago and others are doing their level best to make it so.

I'm sorry another year will be spent at the Fair grounds. I can no longer attend because the costs exceed income, However, if "collecting", the center object of it all is resurrected, I'll be there as always.

Very concerted and thoughtful time should be spent by the board into this matter. It's my belief things can continue but certainly not in the manner that it is at present. Poor planning and lack of comopolitan thought is the real culprit!

Sincerely, Jim Olds

## RESPONCE TO JIM'S LETTER: Ed.

Jim, thank you for taking the time to write your thoughts and feelings concerning our Show. Fresh thinking is always welcome. Let me respond to several of the points you make in your letter.

There were two reasons we moved to the Fair Pavilion years ago. First, was the lack of parking at our old facility. There was not even room for the sellers to park, let alone eager buyers. The second was our desire to allow as many sellers as possible to rent tables. We had a three table limit and sold out our 250 tables in less than a month. At the most we had one or two stores renting their two tables and we were pleased for the extra local Show advertising they provided by passing out our flyers in their stores etc. We requested sellers not bring new items but rather fill their tables with "user" items as well as the antique and collectible items for which many of us searched.

In any Show only 10% to 15% of the items for sale fell into the antique & collectible area. Far short of the amount needed to mount a Show of any size. The tables of "user" items was the "engine" that drove the Show and allowed collectors an oppertunity to participate. Every new buyer who came to peruse the "user" items might become interested in older items and gain a better understanding of the "Cameras that Photograped Their Past." Who knew what old photographic "treasurer" might be sitting neglected at their home.

Continued on page four....

Times have changed since those days. The internet has taken away some sellers and buyers and now the growth of digital photography has made the number of buyers seeking user film cameras to shrink more each year. I, for one, would love to hold a antique and collectables Show gathering...which is pretty much what PSPCS did each October for many years. Why did we stop? No one came to sell, or too buy.

I wish I knew what the answer to doing a succesfull Show, filled with the types of items you and I love, but at the present time PSPCS is trying to adapt to the changing photographic times, an older membership and an expanding internet. What will happen after this year? Only time will tell.

Thank you again for your thoughts and comments. I hope we will see you here in the years to come.

Sincerely, Bill Kimber The Bellows Editor

\*\*\*\*\*

MORE AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED:

The number of club members bringing in photographic items to auction at our meetings has been getting smaller. Why not take a flyer on that unused "treasurer" you have in your basement or garage. It costs you nothing to put an item in the auction. And, if you feel you have a real treasure make your minimum bid reflect your love. Who knows..you may get a opening bid. As they say, "It only takes one". Otherwise, bring an item you would like to trade for some coin of the Realm and pass it on to some other lucky club Member who always wanted one of those.

TIME TO SIGN UP FOR OUR CLUB SHOW COMMITTEE:

This October Club meeting is when you eager members sign up for our April 29th Show Committee. This will be our 26th Show and we need your help to make it even better than last years. Come and join us. We meet in November and the first four months of 2006. The tasks are easy, the perks large and the meetings at different members houses enjoyable. Fresh thinking and helping hands are just what we need. Take part in your Club's biggest event of the year and find out what goes on behind the scenes as you help put our 26th Great Show together. If you would like to join the Show Committee, but can't be at this club meeting to sign up, just give me (Bill Kimber 253 564-4046) a call and I will happily add your name...now an official Club doer...to the Show Committee list. Thank you.

BOB KELLY IS A "BRICK" OF A GUY:

It seems you can retire Bob Kelly but you can't slow him down. Bob writes that he will present a display about Argus light meters at the annual Michigan Photographic Historical Society Show in Novi, Michigan on October 23rd. This is a "by invitation" only display and one can only speculate on the vast number of other Argus light meter displays Bob beat out. Bob will also spend some time in Ann Arbor researching Argus cameras. Let us hope PSPCS may convince Bob, now that he is retired from the "Lazy B", to do a Club meeting program after he returns with his head full of new Argus Knowledge.

What Kodak camera made from 1936-1945 had an art deco design finish and quality construction?

Answer: The Kodak Bantam Special w/ Kodak Anastigmat Ektar f2 lens designed by Walter Dorwin

Teague for Eastman Kodak. Perhaps the most handsome U.S. made camera was produced in two shutter variations, Compur Rapid and Supermatic. They now bring between \$200 & \$400 depending on the shutter & add 50% for the box.



Photo courtesy ritzcam.