

THE BELLOWS

21st GREAT YEAR

November 18, 1999

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. ^{XXI}, No. ²

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS

WHAT
WHERE
WHEN
WHY

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 S...turn right.)

Thursday, November 18, 1999.7:30 till 10:00 p.m. (Doors open about 6:30 p.m.)

Short business meeting..auction (one item per member please)..door prize..Show & Tell.. member trade and sell tables (free to members, please cover table during business meeting). Program There will be a very special surprise program. Don't miss it!!!

SURPRISE, SURPRISE COMING TO OUR NOVEMBER MEETING:

Shirley, with help from Dave and Bill has a nice surprise for all the members and guests who attend our November meeting. Don't miss a most pleasant meeting with a great surprise.

MARY MICHAELSON DIES:

Sadly, long time member Mary Michaelson has lost her long struggle with cancer. Mary was a very successful collector of images, cameras and other photographia. She came from Westport to provide a pleasant addition to our club meetings and she was a regular seller at our April Show. She will be missed!

Millennium Note

On April 21, 1831, the Rochester Savings Bank was granted a charter, making it the sixth savings bank in New York State and the first west of the Hudson River. It opened as a window of the Bank of Rochester-on Saturday Evenings-to receive deposits and on Wednesday evening of each month "for females only". By 1850 the bank had moved twice and had selected a site at the corner of West Main and Fitzhugh Street, where they built a new building to serve Rochester's growing population of 46,000. The new bank opened on February 28, 1857. In 1874 the bank hired a new clerk, a Mr. George Eastman. His salary was \$800 per year. Mr. Eastman rose to the position of assistant bookkeeper during his seven years at the bank before leaving to devote his full attention to the manufacture of photographic plates. - Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, 8-28-1999

This Month's Mystery Question: (with thanks to: The Photographic Historical Society Newsletter)

- Who was the inventor of the Kodak Autographic Camera?
- What did the name Autographic mean?
- Was it patented?
- How much was the inventor originally offered for the invention?
- How much did he finally get?

****BACKSIDE INFORMATION****

Meeting came to order at 7:32 p.m. 39 members and guests present. Minutes of June meeting were approved as read. Treasurer reported that deposit had been sent to the Western Washington Fair for 2000 Show.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Shirley announced that 2000 dues could be paid any time between now and end of February. Members reported the Gresham show was kind of a bust because of circumstances beyond their control forced them to move to a Grange building instead of being in the National Guard Armory as advertised. Tri-Cities Show had lots of free parking but only about 15 sellers and few buyers. However, the facility was very good with a nice food service. Our membership roster is slowly growing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Interested members signed up for the 2000 Show Committee. Their first meeting was held Wednesday, November 10th. Mike Immel reported that the interclub gathering would be held in the big room in the Boeing Rec. Center. There is a big drive-in door to use. Boeing Club will be joining us. The Gathering will begin about 8 a.m. and go until about 3 p.m. Motion was passed to spend up to \$100 on ads for the Gathering.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next meeting is November 18th..PROGRAM TO BE A SURPRISE!! Three Northwest shows coming up before our next meeting on November 18th.

PROGRAM:

Seven members presented Show & Tell items for our program.

AUCTION:

Seven items were presented for auction. Six sold for a total of \$82.00 One item did not sell.

DOOR PRIZE:

Ray Hackbarth won a camera pencil holder and Bob Forster won film

Meeting adjourned for selling and nummie munching at 8:23 p.m.

You can send e-mail to president Dave Studebaker at davelstud@aol.com
You can send e-mail to The Bellows at billkimber@webtv.net



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The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is: <http://www.geocities.com/eureka/park/3740/>

Dues are \$10.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922 (509) 674-1916. P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our last Saturday in April yearly show.

PRESIDENT: DAVE STUDEBAKER, (253) 582-4878

DID YOU EVER BICYCLE WITH YOUR CYCLE?

Bob Peters E-mails the following. (Note. I have no printer. If you have long E-mail items please snail mail me a hard copy. Thanks. Ed.) This was taken from "The Photographic Manufacturing Companies of Rockister, New York" 1st ed. 1997.

It may be interesting to know that the famous Speed Graphic camera evolved from cameras meant for bicycle touring.

The Folmer & Schwing Company originally set up to make gas appliances. Probably the switch from gas to electric lighting caused them to start making bicycles around the mid 1890's. Bicycles were new than and all the rage. F&S was quite successful and began selling cameras to go along with the bicycles to take when touring. After a time they also began making the cameras. These were light weight folding cameras called "cycle" cameras. By the turn of the century the camera business became bigger than the bicycle business (plus the enthusiasm for bicycles had cooled down a bit), so, the company concentrated on cameras. At around this time they came out with the famous Graflex SLR, which remained in production for some sixty years.

About 1905 the company was acquired by Eastman Kodak and remained a division of Kodak until an anti-trust action around 1926, when it was made an independant company again.

The Speed Graphic is a direct decendant of the folding cycle cameras meant to travel with you on your bicycle.

From: The Photographic Historical Society Newsletter ;

Rollei History Reveals Little Known Prototypes

Rollei TLR: The History, by Ian Parker is a newly published volume on the famous Rollei TLR. It also include in-depth information on prototype cameras that has been largely unknown. In particular, there is detailed information on the development of a scaled-up 9x9CM version of the famous 6x6 CM and 4x4 CM models. The 9x9 CM cameras were designed as studio cameras and built at the suggestion of Solomon Kahn, a Berlin portrait photographer. Available at A Photographers Place, 133 Mercer St. NY 10012 (212) 431-9358

Check your Attic, you never know

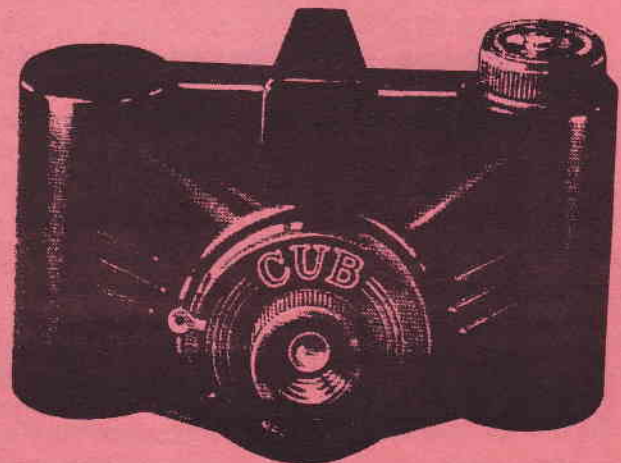
If great grandpa's trunk happens to have the ten volume set of **Photographic History of the Civil War**, it's time you dug it out. The 1911 publication sold briskly when published but was weighty and gathered a lot of dust. It also burned well in the stove when great grandma got tired of dusting the things. But should you find a set, latch on to them. The current asking price is \$1300, plus postage.

Photographic Exhibit at Seattle Art Museum Sept 30, 1999 to Jan 2, 2000

The Seattle Art Museum will soon host *An American Century of Photography: From Dry Plate to Digital - The Hallmark Photographic Collection*.

This exhibit will include nearly 250 photographs spanning the 100 year period. The exhibit is arranged in four chronological sections, each spanning about 25 years. Within each section, works are grouped by themes that underscore stylistic similarities or contrasts, as well as individual friendships or influences. The sections are: A Reluctant Modernism: 1885-1915, Abstraction and Realism: 1915-1940, From Public to Private Concerns: 1940-1965, and The Image Transformed: 1965-Present.

This information from the Puget Sound Camera Club's "In Focus" newsletter.



HUNTING MEXICAN TREASURE:

The following edited article is by member Mike Kessler who lives with the birds in lovely San Juan Capistrano. Mike is a regular seller/buyer at our April Show. This was first published in the Cascade Panorama's September 1999 issue and is used here with much thanks. Ed.

After a most enjoyable family vacation in Ixtapa, Mexico Mike, and wife Gladys, have flown to Mexico City for three days of antiquing. Here Mike picks up the story:

Fortunately our hotel, a colonial-style edifice in the "Zona Rosa" was located just one block from the main antique center of the city, an extensive indoor mall filled with dozens of interesting antique shops. Even better, on Saturday the hallways between the shops fill up with a bustling antique flea market. Then on Sunday, a couple of miles and a nine cent bus ride away, there's an even larger, outdoor antique market to tempt antique freaks like us.

Three days (and an arm and a leg) later we had amassed a very respectable accumulation of photographic and other treasures, including a rare, smaller version of the French stereoscope, the Taxiphote; a mint "Major Andre" Union Case; a pair of lovely Mexican ambrotypes, one a mustachioed dandy holding an ivory-headed walking stick; and two, matching, gilded, porcelain plates embellished with photographic portraits. Gladys added a couple of bizarre cooking tools to her "ancient kitchen iron" collection, plus a fabulous presentation album, dated 1907, dedicated to a famous Mexican educator by his teaching staff.

The best of all the "finds," however, came from one of the Antique Center's shops. There, in a glass case filled with fascinating "smalls," I spotted a cluster of three, gold watch keys clipped onto an elegant, filigreed watch chain. Yep! Each watch key contained a Stanhope--a nude, painting and a Pope. Watch keys are among the rarest of all Stanhopes, and to find three in one place is, well, almost unbelievable. Of course they were extravagantly priced but my offer, cutting the price nearly in half, was eventually accepted.

One key was rather plain, somewhat resembling a magic lantern in profile. Another took the form of a barbell with two, chased gold spheres gracing the ends of its inch and a quarter-long shaft, while the third and most elaborate one presented a blue, enameled globe on one end decorated with five-pointed gold stars, each containing a tiny "chip" diamond. On the other end was a short, gold tube containing the Stanhope image of Pope Gregory, topped with a cast gold figure of a reclining British lion.

The best of the three, however, turned out to be the "dumbbell." While examining the workmanship with a loupe, I discovered a ninscule, silver buton on the side of the shaft. I pressed it with my fingernail, and the "business end" of the key snapped out from one of the golden orbs. Just when I was thinking that things couldn't get much better, I decided to take a closer look at the image, a fine reproduction of a framed painting--detailed as only a collodion emulsion can provide--when I saw the name below the title of the painting: "Dagron & Co." This meant that the image, if not the watch key itself, was made by René Prudent Dagron, the inventor of the Stanhope process. That's like finding a daguerreotype camera signed by Daguerre. It's only the third such signed piece in our collection.

So there you are. From being Shanghaied into Paradise to a Christmas assortment of photographic treasures in only ten days. Forget the Rose Bowl, forget camera shows. I say, "VIVA MEXICO!"

Answers to This Month's Mystery Question(s)

Henry J. Gaisman invented the Autographic back for folding Kodak cameras. He was also the inventor of the Autostop razor which allowed a permanent single edge razor, about the size of a Gillette razor, to be sharpened before every shave. This saved the cost of the new throw-away Gillette blades and inconvenience of having to hand-sharpen a straight razor.

-The word Autographic means "self recording".

-Not convinced that it would work, the US Patent Office refused a patent.

-George Eastman offered Gaisman \$10,000 for an option on the invention and choice of either lifetime royalties or a half-million dollars to be received when the camera was ready for sale. Not being quite sure of the future, Mr. Gaisman took \$300,000 cash. His relatives are probably still unhappy.

-From: Collins: *The Story of Kodak*