



THE BELLOWS

24 GREAT YEAR

December 19, 2002

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXIV, No. 3

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, November 21st..7:30 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:30 p.m.)
WHY	This is our special Christmas party and gift exchange meeting. After our catered meal there will be a VERY SHORT business meeting prior to Santa's arrival heralding the beginning of our annual gift exchange.

HO..HO..HO....

Thats right. Its time for our annual Christmas party and gift exchange. Shirley and John will again be in charge of bring forth tables loaded with catered nummies. This is the meeting to which you are urged to bring your whole family..wife, husband, kids, significant other, Uncle Fred and even the family dog if he/she is party trained. Don't eat dinner..just arrive hungry and ready to partake.

Then, after a short meeting and before we all fall into a stupor, it will be time for our famous (or is that infamous) gift exchange for all of those who choose to take part. Remember, you do NOT have to take part. Just come, eat, exchange holiday wishes and then sit, watch and enjoy the spectacle. It is hoped that the same delightful Santa who helped us celebrate last year will find time from his busy year-end charity work and list checking (He checks it twice you know) to join us to help hand out gifts and provide a nice sitting lap.

If you would like to take part in the gift exchange just bring a wrapped photographically related gift for each member of your group who is taking part. Please bring a gift worth at least ten dollars that will make it's recipient happy...like something YOU would enjoy receiving.

As in past years we will draw numbers to determine the order of gift selection. Remember, the person picking can exchange their opened gift with any gift already picked. Number one gets to exchange, if they want, after everyone else has had their turn.

This is a most enjoyable meeting. Come one, Come ALL!! Bring your appetite, a photographica present, a big bunch of happy holiday wishes and ENJOY! HO, HO, HO!

THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION:

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Arizona Photographic Collectors:

What 1988 simple 110 camera, made in blue or megenta color, is sought after by a variety of collectors?

****BACKSIDE INFORMATION****

The November meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:30 p.m. There were 31 members and guests in attendance. Bill Kimber filled in as head PooBaa for president Darrel who was otherwise occupied. The minutes of the September meeting were approved as read and Shirley reported the Club had adequate funds until the dues start rolling in. She also reported that the Club CD was earning a pleasant rate of return and had been rolled over so it would not go flat on one side.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Bill Kimber gave a Show Committee report saying that all was in progress. The membership discussed the need for Shirl to work with Darrel to make sure that table receipts are mailed out expeditiously after the Sellers table payment is received.

The membership agreed they wanted our Christmas Party with a gift exchange again this year.

The membership expressed concern with the Club web-site and felt we should look into modernizing it and making it more user friendly. The Club officers said they would look into the matter and report back at a future meeting.

PROGRAM AND SHOW & TELL:

Members presented several interesting Show & Tell items. The program was member's reports on the four shows held in the Northwest in the past six weeks.

Kitsap Show: Very small..few sellers or buyers but several interesting items were for sale.

P.S.P.C.S. Inter-club Gathering: Also small..no one from other Clubs attended. Good food..a few good items sold. We should think hard if we want to continue this Gathering before we decide it's fate at our June meeting. Mike Immel suggested that if we do continue we could mail out notice post cards to past early-in buyers from our April Shows. A cost of about \$35.00.

Sigge's Vancouver B.C. Show: Reports said it was a good Show with lots of selling and buying by a good crowd of eager Canadians.

Portland Show: Had over 160 8' tables but sales were uneven with many sellers not doing as well as in past years. Many "buyers" seemed to be more of the "tire kicker-lense clicker" variety. The state of the economy in the Northwest may well have something to do with this.

Gary Sivertsen, our resident Show traveler, reported that the Tucson Show in mid October was a good mid-size Show.

AUCTION AND DOOR PRIZE: Jim Passi won the door prize.

A spirited auction saw seven of nine items sold for \$113. \$20 of which was donated to the Club.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m. for more nummie munching and wheeling and dealing.



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: <http://www.geocities.com/pspcs/index.html>

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, ssparrow@eburg.com P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our last Saturday in April yearly show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 darrelcam@jps.net

Stocking Stuffers

by Mike Kessler

Dear Santa,

Everything I want is either really *large*, really *heavy*, or really *breakable*! If I ever sent my wish list to the jolly old elf, that's the way it would probably read. Why is that? I don't have a clue except that nearly every category of photographica I collect was begun because nobody else wanted it. As a kid, all the smart collectors were collecting stamps or matchbook covers, so I collected rocks. Even with rocks I was an extremist. Not satisfied with tiny specimens glued into souvenir boxes, I lusted after a halftone boulder of Amethyst crystals on display at Knotts Berry Farm, right next to the foot-long Tourmaline crystal beckoning from its own half-ton chunk of calcite. Fifty years later I was offered both pieces but turned them down; thanks to the photographic collection there was no place big enough in the house to display them.

In later years the smart money went either into paper photos or daguerreotypes. A multi-million dollar collection can fit into a small cabinet. What was left? Glass. Now our house is filled with person-sized stereoscopes filled with glass views. My favorite images are Autochromes. A box of 50 Autochromes comes close to balancing the scales with a '65 Chevy engine block.

Even in cameras I tend towards the 8x10's rather than the pinhole jobs. An 8x10 daguerreotype camera isn't anything to be ashamed of though, and one of my favorite pieces in the collection is an 8x10 Schmidt detective camera.

That's why the latest addition to the collection literally wrecked my back, causing me to shuffle like Stepfetchit when I lifted it down off the kitchen counter where I had been admiring it. I

found it by accident, misidentified on eBay (stereopticons are those projector things while stereoscopes let you look at 3-D pictures). It didn't look that big in the jpeg, and it was something I had lusted after for many years — a combination stereoscope and six-tune cylinder music box. I had flown all the way to Philadelphia a year or so ago to look at a similar one, but I turned it down for its poorly refinished condition, something not reflected in its steep price. This one seemed to be in pretty much its original condition with both the music box and stereo card changing mechanisms working just fine. When halfway through the bidding the seller offered it to me for less than I had been planning to pay, I snapped it up. Only when it finally arrived, professionally stuffed into an oversize TV carton, and I had got it all unpacked did I realize that I was now playing in a bigger league. I haven't borrowed a scale to weigh it yet, but I'm a fairly strong six footer, and it's all I can do to lift it a couple of inches off the carpet so I can drag it from room to room.

It is a real beauty though, all polished mahogany with turned columns on either side and a glass window to display the shiny, nickel plated music mechanism. It's German or Austrian from around 1875 and plays two tunes when you pop a coin in the slot. I found several German and Belgian coins from the early 1900s stuck into some of its never cleaned nooks and crannies, but US pennies work just fine. As the songs tinkle out, a revolving belt of stereo views passes behind a pair of turned mahogany eyepieces. Even the cards weren't bad. After weeding out a handful of junk, I ended up with fifteen or so French tissue cards in respectable condition.

So the die is cast and I can't seem to fight it. Offer me a diamond in one hand and a rhinoceros in the other and guess which one I'd choose. Well, got to go now. My back's feeling better, and Gladys thinks the music box would sound better upstairs. Or did she say "attic?"

THANK YOU:

Inclosed you will find the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society 2003 gift calendar. It's Just our way of saying Thank You for being a P.S.P.C.S. Member...and a hint that it is time to contact Shirley with your dues for 2003. Dues are still just \$10.00 per year. Either see Shirley at our meeting or mail your Ten dollars to: Shirley Sparrow...P.S.P.C.S...300 Pease Road..Cle Elum, WA 98922. Thank you! Hope you're around to receive a calendar in 2004.

2003 SHOW COMMITTEE IS ON THE JOB:

Planning for your 2003 Show is under way. Saturday, April 26th is the date. Bill Kimber is chairman again this year; much to the delight of the other committee members none of whom said they wanted the job. (sigh, Ed.) Table prices, Show times and admission prices will remain the same. However, this year Sellers will be able to purchase up to five tables if they so desire. The Committee plans on making the weekend of April 24th, 25th and 26th our second Show Experience Weekend beginning with an expert Guest speaker for our moved meeting day, the Thursday before the Show. Don Tempel is in charge of arranging for the speaker and he hopes to have an announcement before too long. Remember, all sellers and interested friends are invited to this special meeting. We will again host a Friday evening hospitality room. Show member Walter Hughson is working diligently to insure that it will be a pleasant experience for all those choosing to attend. Your Show brochures will be in your January 2003 Bellows...please join us for our twenty-third annual Sale, Swap & Show.

HE'S BAAACK:

Just when you thought it was safe to not think about Northwest Camera Shows until ours on April 26th there comes word from Dwight Bash that he is having the 3rd Annual Portland Metro (Almost) Spring Camera Swap Meet. on Saturday, March 1st, 2003. It will again be held at the Washington County Fairplex with a Friday night set-up. Tables cost \$35.00 for one, \$65.00 for two, \$90.00 for three, \$115.00 for four. Same show hours as in the past. For all info. call Dwight @ 503-380-3375 or e-mail: Deebash@aol.com



So

What 1988 simple 110 camera made in blue or magenta color is sought after by a variety of collectors?

Answer: The Mick-A-Matic camera has the Mickey Mouse logo on it thus appealing to camera and Mickey collector buffs. This fairly recent camera may sell for \$40-60.



CHILD GUIDANCE PRODUCTS INC.
Mick-A-Matic - c1971.

Photo from McKeown's

SINCERE BEST HOLIDAY WISHES TO YOU & YOURS

