



THE BELLOWS

25 GREAT YEAR

May 20, 2004

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXV, 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 20..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 tomembers, please cover during business meeting.)
Program: Tales and shows from our 24th great Show & Sale. What you found..what you missed..what you should have purchased from the couple with the sack full of cameras.

SHOW EXPERIENCE WEEKEND 2004 WAS SUCCESSFUL:

Our 2004 Show Experience Weekend is now history. When you next see a Show Committee member please give them a "pat on the back" for a job well done. Every member of the committee did their job and the Weekend events came off splendidly.

It began on Thursday evening at our special Club meeting when Mr. Benjamin Ehrman gave a very interesting power-point slide lecture on the what is happening with the photographica collection at the Smithsonian. His audience..of over forty members and guests including members from Oregon and Alaska..seemed very interested and pleased to have had the opportunity to see Ben's presentation. Their pleasure was enhanced by the delicious food and drink provided by the Club with Shirley Sparrow in charge.

Friday evening's check-in and set-up went well. We had sold about 240 tables and about two thirds of the sellers took atvantage of the opportunity to set-up. The hospitality room was well attended after set-up and sellers once again seemed to enjoy the complimentary food and drink while renewing old friendships; or making new ones.

On Saturday The Show went well. We had 135 Early-ins which was only 6 short of last years figure. However, we had only 765 people through the door after ten a.m. This is a drop of about 190 buyers from last years figure. Still, those who came seemed to be buying and staying longer than in some past years. Most sellers seemed happy and several first time sellers were "blown away" by their Show experiences. As always (it seems) there were a few problems. The cafeteria food was ok but their prices were rather high..even with our free coupons. Probably the most annoying thing was the Fair's Saturday afternoon decision that we could not use the Gold gate at the end of the day. This would not have been so bad if it had not been almost impossible to get from their Orange gate to our Pavilion. The Show committee has promised to work hard to eliminate this end-of-day problem for next year. To those who were inconvenienced at the end of a long day we apologise.

THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION:

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Western Photographic Historical Society:

What was the last Topcon made before bankruptcy?

****BACKSIDE INFORMATION****

The April 22 meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:05 p.m. There were 41 members and guests in attendance. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as read. Treasurer, Shirley, reported our bank account was still in the black.

OLD BUSINESS:

Information was given by the Show Committee concerning our up coming Show & Sale. It was reported that there would be three buyers from Japan and one from Ontario, Canada.

NEW BUSINESS..SHOW & TELL..AUCTION..DOOR PRIZE:

None of the above were done so we could focus our attention on our Show Experience Weekend speaker, Mr. Ben Ehrman who is a volunteer at the Smithsonian's Photographic History Collection. Mr. Ehrman gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the photographica now housed at the Smithsonian. His attentive audience seemed very pleased with his presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. for more nummie munching and informal discussions with Mr. Ehrman.

NEXT PORTLAND CAMERA SHOW ON OCTOBER 30TH:

The 2004 MHCC (Mt. Hood Community College) Second Annual Fall Camera Swap Meet will be on Saturday, Oct. 30, 2004 at the Jackson Armory, 6255 N.E. Cornfoot Road, Portland, Oregon. This is now the only Fall show in Portland. Doors open for sellers at 6:00 a.m. with \$15.00 early admission at 7:30 a.m. This is, of course, way too early for any sane person but its their Show. The General Public gets in at 9:30 a.m. for \$5.00 (students are \$3.00). The Show ends at 3:30 p.m. There are 120 6 foot tables available at: \$30 for one..\$50 for two..\$60 for three..\$80 for four. If you order by June 30, 2004 you will receive a 10% discount. They sold out last year. For all information contact Neil Poulsen at (503) 359-7812 or by email at: neil.fg@attbi.com

CAMERA SHOW AT KITSAP COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS:

If you do not feel like attending the Portland Show on October 30th you could attend the Pacific Northwest Photographic Society, Inc.'s 4th Annual Photographic Swap-Meet held the same day..Saturday, October 30th at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. There are 24 tables available at \$20.00 each. Set-up Friday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. or 8 to 9 am Saturday morning. There is free parking and free coffee. The show will run from 9 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. For information contact Sherrie Lince (360) 551-7110 or email: pacphoto1@aol.com This is a small Show but who knows what treasures you might find.



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 \$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@COMCAST.NET



P.S.P.C.S. FACES FISCIAL DECISIONS:

As our 25th great year as a club, Dedicated to the Collecting and Preservation of Historical Photographica, comes to a close Club members must make some financial decisions. Here is the situation with some background.

When the Club was started in 1979 dues were set at \$10.00 by the six orginial members. In the past 25 years dues have never been raised. During the club's second year a yearly Show & Sale was started. Table prices were \$35.00 and admission was \$15.00 early-in and \$3.00 at ten a.m. Over the years the only change in these charges has been to raise the 10 a.m. admission to \$5.00.

After the first several years the Show & Sale began to make a significant profit for the Club and after a few years the Club had about \$30,000 plus in the bank. Expenses increased but even so each year thereafter the Show & Sale would pay for itself and provide enough profit to cover our normal Club expenses such room rent, Christmas Party, Newsletter, Fall Gathering etc. which amounted to about \$3,000 per year. Our Club reserve remained untouched.

All this has changed. During the the past two years the Club & Show have had about \$5,000 more in expenses than they have received in income. If this trend continues, without changes, P.S.P.C.S. will be without the funds needed to remain a club in about 5 years.

The reasons for this Club financial change are many. All costs have gone up. Membership has dropped. Ebay etc. has reduced interest in our Show & Sale somewhat. Dues and Show table fees have not been raised in 25 years. We have tried to do more as a Club.

To address this problem President Darrel Womack has formed a committee to analyze the situation to see in what areas expenses could be trimmed and what incomes could be raised..short of applying for a grant from Microsoft . This committee will meet during the summer and report back at the September meeting with several different solutions for the membership to discuss and then vote on.

At this point every solution is possible. The committee needs to hear from you, the members, as to what your feelings and thinking are on this matter. Members are requested to send any thoughts or suggestions they might have concerning this Club financial problem to Darrel, Bill or Shirley by July first. Members attending our May and June meetings may drop off any written thoughts or suggestions for the committee to consider. It is a solvable problem.

PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE SHOW & SALE

The sixth Greater Seattle Photographic Image Show will be held on Sunday, August 22, 2004 at the Red Lion Bellevue Inn. Off I-405, exit #12..11211 Main Street, Bellevue. 8:30 am Early Entry for \$20.00. 10 am entry \$5.00 (children under 12 admitted free). Free parking in the hotel lot. There will be artistic and historic photography including Daguerreotypes, Cartes-de-visite, Stereoviews, Real Photo Postcards, Vemacular (snapshots), Tintypes, Travel Photography, 19th & 20th Century Orotones & Fine Art Photographs including contemporary photographs. For information call (206) 587-0187 or (206) 364-9997. If you are into images this is a Show you Should attend.

DISPLAY TABLES WIN AWARDS AT THE 2004 PSPCS SHOW

By Don Friend

We had 15 wonderful displays at the 2004 PSPCS cameras Show held at the Fairgrounds in Puyallup, Washington on April 24th. The judges for this year's event were Mike Comstock, Ben Ehrman and Don Friend. I wish to thank the judges for their positive comments and expertise. We had entries in 5 of the 6 categories this year, and we had two first time exhibitors. Ted Montemayor and Ron Gulsvig.

CATEGORY 1: (Cameras Manufactured Before 1925) Ralph and Bobbie London won first place with their beautiful assortment of Monroe cameras. Second place went to Mike Hanemann and his rarely seen Stereo Graflex. John Welch took third with his display of early darkroom equipment and ephemera. Gene Raddatz was fourth with his collection of pre 1925 cameras. All of these displays were of excellent quality and worthy of museum presentation.

CATEGORY 2: (Cameras manufactured after 1925) In this category we had two ties. Of the 36 points available we had two 34's and two 33's. Mike Immel with his wonderful display of Graflex cameras and Chuck Meyer with his exquisite Kodak Ektra tied for first place. Second place went to Stuart Curry with his prized collection of Argus Cameras and Gary Sivertsen for his very extensive display of subminiature cameras. Category 2 is always a tough fight with many excellent displays.

CATEGORY 3: (Images, Cases and Albums etc.) The only entrant, Bob Kelly, won first place for his images of Argus light meters. Bob is an expert with everything Argus and this was a well done and carefully presented display. Bob took great care in create large images of all of the meters and he also had them expertly displayed in a glass-covered case on his table. This was a very clean and well thought out display!

CATEGORY 5: (Non-Cameras, Toys etc.) Marcy Merrill won first place with her very exotic display of highly decorated cameras. It was one of the highlights of the Show. Sturat Curry won second place for his presentation of toy cars and figurines.

CATEGORY 6: (Other Photographic related items) Bill Kimber won first place for his display of "Kimber Treasures". The cameras and items in his display would make nice treasures for any of us! Ted Montemayor won second with a very cool display of an assortment of Microscopes and Astrophotography devices. He invited spectator participation and allowed all who were interested to look a wasp in the eye. Marvin Nauman took third place with his fascinating display that also encouraged viewer participation. Marvin demonstrated the process of restoring an early movie projector, and invited onlookers to help break it in. Fourth place went to Ron Gulsvig and his display of Sinar View equipment. Ron has used Sinar equipment for 40 years and had some of his finest pieces on display for all to see.

All the displays were well done and educational for everyone in attendance. I apologize if I misrepresented any of the displays. I thoughtly enjoy being involved in this part of our Show. Every Collector should be proud of his/her collection and willing to show it off to others. That, along with the hunt, is what makes colecting photographica fun!



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So

What was the last Topcon made before bankruptcy?

Answer:

The Topcon RM 300 was the last model made. It has a Pentax K Bayonet mount, a vertical metal focal plane shutter and speeds from 1-1/1000. Current price estimates are \$50-75.



(Like the RE 300, but lens mount changed to Pentax K bayonet.)