

THE BELLOWS

25 GREAT YEAR

September 18, 2003

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXV, No. 1

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, September 18th..7:30 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:30 p.m.)

WHY

This is the first meeting of our new year. 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: As is our tradition the program will be an expanded Show & Tell of the summer treasures acquired and stories of the ones that got away.

HOW TIME FLIES WHEN YOUR COLLECTING PHOTOGRAPHICA!

Would you believe it..this is the beginning of our 25th year as P.S.P.C.S., Inc. It really does not seem that long ago that the six of us sat around in Dave Studebakers living room and decided to start this club. I don't think any of us had any idea how successful it would become; and how many nice and interesting people we would meet over the years.

So, where are we in 2003 at the start of our 25th year? For the past 23 years we have put on one of the leading one day Camera Shows in the United States. It only took about six years for our Show to grow to its current position. However, as we begin the new year...with our 2004 Show date set for April 24th and our \$2,500 deposit paid...there are changes. Fewer sellers seem to want to leave their Ebay screens and bring their items to a "live Show". And, at the same time, digital photography may be about to reduce the general public's interest in film photography. Of course, on a positive note, this could turn all film photographic equipment into "a collectable" much sooner. Also, attendance at our Show is holding firm and our Show Experience Weekend with guest speaker has been a hit with our members. And, our Special Christmas Meeting keeps attracting a nice hungry crowd.

However, several years ago the Club had over 260 members and our Show tables were so much in demand that we had a three table limit and our 250 tables were sold out by the Middle of February. Today, we begin the year with under 200 members, no limit on the number of tables one may rent and the realization that our members are growing older; with few younger members joining. Our Club meetings use to average over 50 members per meeting. Last year the average was much closer to 35. The Club is still in the black financially but we have been running a bit of yearly red ink the last several years.

There seems to be the real possibility that in the future the Club may just "fade away" if the interest in collecting photographica wains; and as our members die. Lets hope not! Our membership still seems to have a true love of the hunt and collecting, "The Cameras That Photographed Our Past". So, see you at our first meeting of our 25th Great year! Ed.

THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION:

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Arizona Photographic Collectors:

What subminiature was made out of marbled brown plastic with gold plated metal parts?

****BACKSIDE INFORMATION****

The June 19th meeting of Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:28 p.m. with Bill Kimber filling in for President Darrel Womack who had another commitment. There were 30 members and guests in attendance. The Minutes of the May meeting were approved as read. Treasurer, Shirley, reported that the Club's checkbook was reconciled at the end of May and the Club's bank account was in the black for the 24th straight year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bill Adams reported on holding an October Interclub Swap Gathering; as the Club has done in past years. October 18th & 25th were the two available dates at the Bingo Hall. Rent would again be \$600. We would be able to set-up Friday evening and there would be on-site food service. After some informal pro and con discussion a motion was made and seconded that the Club hold the October Interclub Gathering on one of the available dates. The vote was 8 yea and 14 no. Motion failed. There will be no Interclub Gathering in October.

A report on Gary's annual garage sale said neither day was very good and the number of buyers was down from past years.

SHOW & TELL:

Six members had interesting Show items or stories to tell.

AUCTION:

With Mike Immel helping Bill Kimber four items were auctioned for a total of \$50.00.

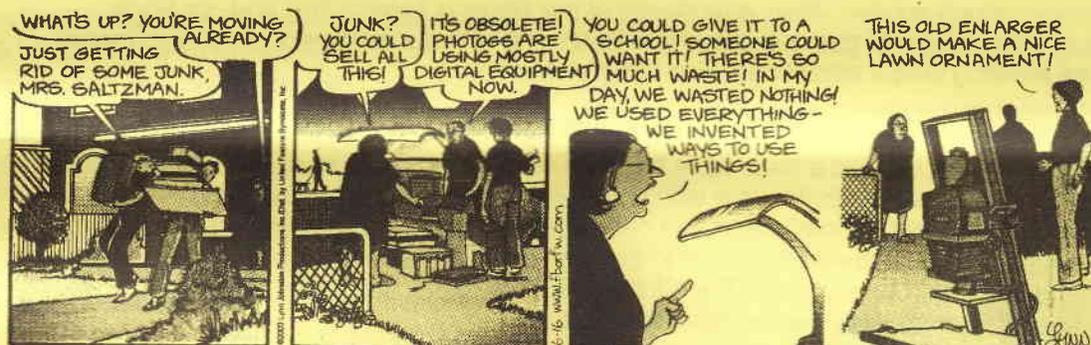
DOOR PRIZE:

Stan Kirlin's name was drawn but he and Elvis had left the building so Arnie Anderson won the cash door prize.

+++++

This cartoon is for Member, Mike Langley the "Enlarger King".

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



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

NOVEMBER FIRST & SECOND ARE FALL SHOW DATES:

Thats right. You are reading correctly. Due to a series of factors such as, but not limited to, the only date available, did not know about the other Show, forgot to check etc., both the Portland and Vancouver B.C. Fall Shows are on the weekend of November first. At least the Portland Show is on Saturday and Siggie's Vancouver B.C. Show is on Sunday.

The Portland Show: This is NOT a Dwight Bash Show at the Washington County Fair Grounds. My "Little Bird" tells me that the Fair People raised their price etc. and Dwight decided he would not play their game. It would seem doubtful that Mr. Bash will put on a Spring Show but time and Dwight will tell.

In the mean time here comes the Portland Photographers' Forum..teaming with the Mt. Hood Community College Photography Dept...to sponsor the Saturday November 1, 2003 PPF/MHCC Fall Camera Swap Meet. The Meet is going to be held at our old friend the Jackson Armory, 6255 N.E. Cornfoot Road, Portland, Oregon. (from the north take Hwy. 205..turn west on Columbia Blvd. to Alderwood Road..turn right to NE Cornfoot and left to Show) They say they want to make this an even better Show than ours! We shall see about that! There is free vendor coffee all day and a lunch wagon.

Tables for this one day Show are: 1 for \$30..2 for \$50..3 for \$60..4 for \$80 etc. There is a new parking area next to the Armory and they say Mt. Hood photography students will help you off load, find your table(s) etc. Now for the BAD news! Doors open for vendors at 6:15 a.m. Early admission (\$15.00) come in a 7:30 a.m. with General Admission (\$4.50) in from 9.a.m. to 4 p.m. When asked why the Show was beginning in the middle of the night our "Little Bird" was informed it was starting so early so all the professional phogs...who will be shooting November first weddings later in the day...would have a chance to stop by and buy. (Weddings on a November football Saturday..how odd! Ed.)

For all the information, or to tell him 6:15 a.m. is to damn early, call Neil Poulsen at 503-359-7812 or e-mail at: neil.fg@att.net

The Vancouver B.C. Camera Show & Swap Meet. The next day, Sunday, November 2, Siggie will hold his Fall Show at the Cameron Centre, 9523 Cameron at Longheed Mall, Burnaby B.C. (from highway 1 use the Cariboo exit, then Lougheed Highway east to Bell Avenue.) All of the 180 tables are \$30 each. The Show is from 10 a.m. untill 4 p.m. (\$4) Early bird at 9 am (\$15). Dealers can set-up Sunday morning only beginning at 7:30 a.m. For complete Show information, and to reserve table(s), call Siggie Rohde at 604 941-0300.

JIM McKEOWN HAS SUCH A DEAL FOR YOU:

In one of the more intriguing sale offers of the past few years Jim McKeown is offering a copy of his 11th Edition Price Guide to Antique and Classic Cameras 2001-2002 along with your choice of 1 Of 2 subminiature Leica cameras at a price that is hard to resist.

For only \$199.00 plus \$10.00 shipping (they make the money on the shipping, Ed) you get a price guide currently selling retail for \$139 and a camera currently selling at \$299. This is a \$438 sticker price for \$209! You choose between a subminiature Leica IIIIF or Leica M3 camera by Minox. These are useable/collectible cameras in a fully lined wood presentation box with film and warranty

To order, call 715-689-2153 and have your Visa or MasterCard handy or send a check or money order for \$209 to: Centennial Photo..11595 State Rd. 70..Gransburg, WI 54840. You can take a look at <http://www.camera-net.com> Please note the offer is limited to supplies on hand and Jim reserves the right to limit quantities.

SELECTED RAY KIRLIN CAMERAS FOR SALE:

Attention you lovers of old cameras: Stan Kirlin is planning to bring to the September meeting about 12 cameras from his Dad's marvelous collection and put them up for sale in the \$150.00 to \$500.00 range. This won't be an Olympia garage sale run by little old ladies. But, if you want to add a really nice addition to your collection, sold at a fair price, be sure to attend the meeting!

The following is from the May-August 2003 Cascade Panorama and used with Thanks. Ed.

Lust List

by Mike Kessler

Some people daydream about little red sports cars or travel to exotic places. Collectors on the other hand often fantasize about things they can never own, unjustly locked away in public and private collections alike. Here are just a few of these items, the very thought of which makes my ears sweat.

Starting with the "Big Three" collectors — Matt Isenburg, Jack Naylor and Fred Spira — I'll begin with Isenburg. (Only one "Lust" allowed per collection, but I will violate my rule right off the bat.) It's a tie between his William H. Butler 1843 daguerreian outfit and what may be the most beautiful and compelling daguerreotype portrait of all time, his Southworth and Hawes "Mona Lisa" (Matt's term).

With Jack Naylor I get two picks as well — one for each collection. From the first all I want is a small but spectacular thermoplastic (a.k.a. Gutta Percha) photo album. They're tough to find in any condition and this one, with blue velvet inserts, was absolutely mint. I haven't actually seen his current collection but I would kill for the inlaid ivory and ebony Megaethoscope he recently purchased at auction.

Fred Spira's outrageously carved Megaethoscope supported by a lion and a serpent is verrrry tempting as well, but I will have to go with his fabulous combination music box and Praxinoscope.

As institutions go, thanks to Ben Ehrman I now know that my pick from the Smithsonian would be their Acme Camera and Changing Box. From the International Museum of Photography at the George Eastman House, my choice would be their wonderful example of a Lippmann color defraction photograph — the only one I've ever seen. Michel Auer doesn't have his collection anymore, but since it's now in some Japanese institutional collection, I'll pick (his) Scovill three-book camera.

Back to private collections, Paul Tobias has a wonderful traveling daguerreian/wet plate photographer's outfit consisting of a half plate and a quarter plate pair of Roberts (Boston) cameras which come in a scrumptiously decorative leather trunk. Then there's Allen Weiner, whose small but super high quality collection includes the best example of a Perry Stereoscope anywhere (it's promised to me if only I can outlive Allen).

Then there's a collection I saw many years ago in Indiana, which I've long lost track of. In it was a "take your own photo" machine that I still dream about. It was fashioned from quarter-sawn oak and mounted on a mushroom-shaped iron pedestal. Crowned by four blue and white enameled signs, it featured a circular, beveled glass mirror on one side with a small circular area in the middle where the silvering of the mirror had been removed. The idea was to center your face in the mirror, then press the button on the turned oak hand piece attached to the cabinet by a long, cloth covered cable. Inside the machine the button photograph was then moved through a series of chemical baths in the manner of the old automatic doughnut machines, scooped from one vat to another. The finished photo button then slid down a chute into your waiting hands. Killer!

Though this could go on more or less forever, I'll finish with the collections of Ralph and Bobbi London. Ralph, that ratty old posing chair in the basement would make an acceptable addition to the Kessler Collection, and Bobbi, you've learned too well that any time I sleep over in your guest room, you'd better do a quick check on the carved ivory stanhope chair (have you checked on it lately?).

Answer:

Pixie
Custom by
Whittaker of
Los Angeles
in the 1950s.
A very rare
variation of
the black
plastic model
wrist strap
camera.
McKeown's
books it at
\$300-400.

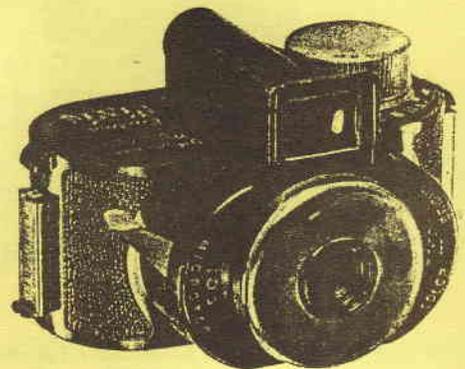


Photo from McKeown's