

# The PHSC E-MAIL

Volume 1-6, Supplement to Photographic Canadiana, March 2002  
The Photographic Historical Society of Canada

## Our March 20th Meeting...

Looks like we are in for a surprise as Gerry Loban works to replace our scheduled speaker who can't make the date. But be assured that there will be an educational program of interest. If you have suggestions for future programs (speakers, topics or places to visit) then please communicate your ideas to Gerry at our next meeting.

## NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>

Pack up your cash and old equipment and head for the PHSC Annual Auction on Sunday, March 17th. Location is the same as last year when we had an overflow crowd - Canadian Legion Branch 344, 1395 Lakeshore Blvd. West, just west of the CNE grounds and east of the Boulevard Club. Free parking is located east of the Legion Hall. Admission is \$3.00. Vendors 10:30 am - Viewing 11:30 am - Bidding starts sharp at 1:00 pm. IT'S CASH ONLY FOR ALL THE DEALS!

### The Photographic Historical Society of Canada



## ANNUAL AUCTION

**Sunday  
March 17, 2002**

Everything photographic  
Collectible and usable cameras  
darkroom equipment,  
images, books, etc.

**Canadian Legion Branch 344  
Queen's Own Rifles**

1395 Lakeshore Blvd West (East of Boulevard Club)  
Free Parking East of Legion Hall  
Admission \$3.00

Cash only — no cheques or credit cards!

**Vendor's Listings  
10:30 am - 11:30 am**

**Viewing  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm**

**Bidding Starts  
1:00 pm sharp!**

## Location/Date/Times for PHSC Monthly Meetings

are held on the third Wednesday from September to June in the Burgundy Room of the North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street, North York, Ontario. The meeting officially begins at 8:00 p.m. but is preceded by a *Buy & Sell* and social gathering from 7:00 p.m. onwards. For information contact the PHSC or Gerald Loban, 64 Fonthill Blvd., Unionville, Ont., L3R 1V7, (905) 477-3382.

## Programming Schedule:

### March 17th 2002

-PHSC Annual Auction at Royal Cdn. Legion, Branch 344, 1395 Lakeshore Blvd. West. See advert for details.

### March 20th 2002

-program change - to be announced

### April 17th 2002

-Robert Gutteridge shows clips of Old Movies that he's had produced.

-Annual General Meeting - reports

### May 5th 2002

-PHSC Spring Fair at the Coffee Time Soccer Centre, Woodbridge, Ont.

### May 15th 2002

-Ulrich Bartel talks Rolleiflex History.

### June 19th 2002

-Bill Becker of the American Museum of Photography will discuss "Early 19th & 20th Century Photographers."

FOR THE LATEST  
PROGRAM UPDATES  
CHECK THE PHSC WEB SITE AT

**<http://www.phsc.ca>**

TO CONTACT THE PHSC VIA E-MAIL

**[phsc@phsc.ca](mailto:phsc@phsc.ca)**

**PLEASE POST A COPY  
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NOTE THAT NOW OUR NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS IS **[phsc@phsc.ca](mailto:phsc@phsc.ca)**  
WHILE **<http://www.phsc.ca>** IS THE NEW WEB ADDRESS

## FROM THE 'NET

*L. J. Robichaud of Fastlens Consulting* (one of our future PHSC speakers) sends this news report from the Photo Marketing Assoc. Convention & Trade Show in Orlando, Florida.

Leica Camera AG, Solms introduced the **LEICA M7**, a new rangefinder system camera with aperture priority, automatic exposure plus Leica's unique rubber-cloth focal-plane shutter with vibration-free and whisper-quiet action which is now electronically controlled. The M6 features have been adopted into the new model with virtually all system components of the predecessor M series - including the lenses - still used on the M7.

Says Otto Domes, manager of the LEICA M7 development project, "Automatic exposure time control is certainly not a technical innovation.



LEICA M-7

But to incorporate it into a LEICA M without destroying the camera's soul was a great challenge. More than 350 newly designed or modified components are built into the camera. In the fast changing world of products and cameras it's quite unusual to be spending so much effort on developing a concept that is, in fact, nearly 50 years old. The high stability of the camera's value and the unique system compatibility over decades are the reward for our customers."

**Shutter** - The cloth focal-plane shutter was completely revised and fitted with a stepless electronic automatic exposure time control with memory on the shutter release button. After selection of the aper-

ture, it calculates the right exposure time - even long exposures of up to 32 seconds. Two mechanically controlled shutter speeds of 1/60 and 1/125 second guarantee that the camera is ready for action even if the batteries fail. Despite the electronic control, the delay in triggering the shutter is only 12 milliseconds, far shorter than with an ordinary SLR camera.

**Viewfinder display** - The 33-segment viewfinder display has been devised on a microscopically small area of 0.7 x 2.3 mm, magnified 15 times in the viewfinder. In automatic mode the LED's indicate the shutter speed; in manual mode the proven and successful light balance has been retained. For longer exposures, the remaining exposure time is counted backward in seconds. For "bulb" exposures (B) the seconds of the exposure time are counted forward. When the camera is switched on, the film speed setting is indicated for two seconds. A flash symbol indicates the readiness and the success of the flash function. The brightness of the display adapts automatically to ambient light, guaranteeing optimum visibility in conditions ranging from bright sunlight to available light photography.



PANASONIC LUMIX DMC-LC5 -Leica lens

Leica switched from rebadging the Fujifilm FinePix digital camera to the Panasonic DMC body - a more Leica-like body equipped with a Leica lens. For more on the switch to Panasonic camera see: [http://www.steves-digicams.com/2002\\_reviews/lumix\\_lc5.html](http://www.steves-digicams.com/2002_reviews/lumix_lc5.html) and for lens comments try: <http://www.dpreview.com/news/0203/02030501stevepanadmlc5.asp> - Editor RL

Introduced at PMA was the new **LEICA DIGILUX 1**, a 4-megapixel compact digital camera with high speed and portability, ideal for reportage and field photography. Created in cooperation with Panasonic, the LEICA DIGILUX 1 combines digital technology with Leica's optical expertise.

The DIGILUX 1 features a 4-million pixel CCD image sensor and a LEICA DC VARIO-SUMMICRON f/2.5-7-21 mm ASPH triple zoom lens equivalent to a 33 to 100 mm lens for the 35mm format. Superior operating time is offered by a 64 MB



LEICA DIGILUX 1: Dimensions: 127 mm x 83.3 mm x 67.4 mm (WxHxD). Weight: 365g (without battery), 455g (with battery)



SD memory card and 3-hour power supply. The fast picture sequence of almost 4 frames per second and the extremely slight delay in shutter release enable spontaneous photography in all situations.

The **2.5" LCD display** of the LEICA DIGILUX 1 is 50 - 90% larger than that of comparable digital cameras. The resolution of approximately 205,000 pixels is extremely high, and facilitates the assessment of the focus setting, for example. A slot-on hood reduces reflections and enables an accurate assessment of the image even in bright daylight. The camera also has an optical viewfinder with diopter com-



pensation. Besides a built-in flash with guide no. 10, it is possible to connect a separate flash unit.

With more news from the PMA Show, the British Journal of Photography web page at <http://www.bjphoto.co.uk> reports:

#### •Silver saver service from PRSA

A Canadian firm demonstrated an award-winning new system for recovering silver particles from photographic processing chemicals at the PMA 2002 exposition. The Photochemical Recycling System (PRS) is engineered to recover the silver used in photographic and x-ray processing and to recycle the fixer. The PRS machine offers a closed-loop system for recovering the particles by injecting a measured amount of re-agent into the tank of fixer, causing the silver to precipitate to the bottom. The 'refreshed' fixer is then pumped into a separate tank in the unit and removed for re-use.

#### •Unveiling of Canon EOS D60

Canon has unveiled its latest digital SLR camera, building on the design of its EOS D30 with an improved resolution and additional shooting features. The EOS D60, features an effective 6.29 million pixel CMOS sensor, providing a 100% resolution increase on its predecessor. "Canon's long-term investment in CMOS chip technology means we are able to provide high image quality products at low production costs," says marketing manager Robert King. "The EOS D60 is an attractive choice to the professional photographer and the advanced amateur," he added.

#### •Digital Breakthrough

Foveon has released a side-by-side image comparison of its revolutionary three-layer X3 sensor against a conventional mosaic design chip. The still-life (picnic basket, open book and textiles) seems to verify the Californian manufacturer's claim that their chip produces sharper detail. Enlarged areas show that the Foveon chip captures text with greater clarity than its mosaic rival. Colour detail of textile also appear superior and less susceptible to artifact distortions. The X3

## LAST REMINDER TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Check the back of the address sheet enclosed with Photographic Canadiana to find the renewal form for your 2002 annual dues.



PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT LANSDALE

When approached by the Public Relations Branch of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, PHSC President Bill Kantymir provided antique photographic equipment to augment a photo exhibit "Gathering at Queen's Park - A Collection of Historical Photographs" which will run until August 5th. The display will be seen by visitors on guided tours of Queen's Park throughout the spring and summer. Nokomis O'Brien (above) who curated the show, admires the display of cameras including: No.4 Panoram Kodak ca 1900-24; No.2 Stereo Brownie ca 1905-10; Ensign Popular Pressman Reflex ca 1909-26; Korona Panoram View Camera - "Banquet Camera" ca 1900-50; and a Rochester Optical Co.- Empire State View Camera ca 1895.

sensor consists of three layers of image detectors, each capturing a separate colour, making Foveon the first manufacturer to deliver a full-colour chip and take advantage of the natural colour-separating properties of silicon. The manufacturer describes it as 'the most significant breakthrough in digital camera technology since the invention of CCDs over 30 years ago'. The



X3 will be first employed in Sigma's SD9 digital SLR.

Check more PMA 2002 offerings at:  
<http://asia.cnet.com/reviews/digitalcameras/>

## TRADE SHOW IN MONTREAL

**April 24 and 25, 2002** sees the Photo Trade Show and Camasco Group holding "Hit the Bull's Eye! Digital Imaging" with seminars and trade exhibit at the Wyndham Hotel in Montreal. It will examine digital photography, wireless imaging, photo opportunities related to photo printing at home, in retail stores, online and other related digital markets. Register free at <http://thephototradeshow.com>.

## OBITUARY NOTICE

Walter Shean, a long time member of PHSC, passed away Sunday, March 3/02 of heart complications - he was 69. Walter leaves his wife Janette, son Gregory, brother Boris and step-sons, Dean and Todd McInitosh. Though quite a drive from Sunderland where he lived, he attended our monthly meetings and was a regular at the fairs. Walter retired from teaching film-production at Campbell District Secondary School in 1998. His collection included rare hand-cranked movie cameras.

# THE FEBRUARY MEETING FEATURED GRANT ROMER OF ROCHESTER

Grant Romer, our February speaker, has been associated with the George Eastman House in Rochester N.Y. for almost 26 years. He is a very natural speaker with depth of knowledge to answer all questions and offer ideas with easy grace. Mr. Romer placed the Daguerreotype in perspective, encouraging us to look more closely at the more common variety images.



President Bill Kantymir presents citation to our speaker.

A decade ago, daguerreotype images exchanged hands for just a few dollars. Now the common variety command prices of \$60.00 to \$100.00. A recent auction reached a new high in the United States with an image that sold for half a million dollars.

The Daguerreotype was a very practical invention with its long term preservation exceeding 150 years spanning a few generations. Yet 90 to 95 percent of the millions of Daguerreotypes created during its 15 years of popularity have been lost. Only a small percentage of those remaining are in good shape, and even fewer are considered pictorially worthwhile (based on the subject matter or the named photographer).

Grant feels that the Daguerreotype is vastly undervalued as its characteristics distinguish it from other photographic images. In spite of the many studies to date, there is much to learn about these early images.

Early portraits used ad hoc set ups and borrowed extensively from the other arts, but near the end of the Daguerreotype era (1863-65) a unique photographic style emerged as if a maturity had arrived. Male portraits are most common but are least interesting when compared to ethnic studies.



Members and visitors listen to guest speaker Romer

Niagara Falls was a popular view for Daguerreotypists as tourists flocked to the site and sought photo records of their stay. Most collectors have at least one Niagara view while museums concentrate on extraordinary images containing technology advances such as the emerging trains.

To many, having their likeness "taken" was a very scary event – like facing a cannon or big gun. The Daguerreotype can be enlarged to a high degree so that you can study the wariness and fear inhabiting the faces of many subjects. Yet strip away the period clothes etc. and the subjects become people just like us today.

Most early sitters faced the camera for a flat front view – it was a strain for the photographer to encompass all the technical details. But later with proficiency in his technique the photographer could concentrate on composition and bring naturalness to his sitters.



Grant Romer of the George Eastman House speaks passionately about his favourite photographic topic - the Daguerreotype.

*For a full report of Toronto meetings  
visit our PHSC web site at:  
<http://www.phsc.ca>*

*and activate the names of the speaker under "past programs" for a slide show of the evening's events.*