

# The PHSC E-MAIL

Volume 2-12, Supplement to *Photographic Canadiana*, April 2003  
The Photographic Historical Society of Canada

## Speaker Change for Wednesday, March 19th

Expect a surprise meeting this coming Wednesday, April 16th as our scheduled speaker had to withdraw. We can look forward to hearing his interesting presentation at a later date. Program Chairman Gerry Loban is pulling out all stops to fill in the spot with another worthwhile speaker.

Being responsible for programs month-after-month can be quite a challenge as one faces the problems that come with the position. If you can offer suggestions for topics and possible speakers then, by all means, please come forward with the information. The responsibility is on the shoulders of EVERY member –not just one person.

Speakers/topics for the past series of programs have included: Peter Sinclair on 3D Lenticular & Stereo-jet; Grant Romer of GEH on Daguerreotypes; Robert Gutteridge on Old Movies; Bill Becker of the American Museum of Photography; George Dunbar on 20 Questions; Jennifer McKendry on Early Kingston Photography; Simon Bell on Chariots of Chrome; Stephen Bulger on the Market Value of Early Photography; the members favorite evening - Show & Tell; George Hunter on Memories of 60 Years; and Highlights of the Shean Collection; Gerry Loban on 19th century portraitist Julia Margaret Cameron.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This Wednesday evening we will also hear reports on the progress of the Society and its projects as part of our Annual General Meeting covering the past two years. The new slate of officers will be introduced to carry on the work until 2005. Be sure to be there to offer yourself in some small capacity. It is only with new blood and new ideas that we will see the Society continue with strength and durability.

## Register Your Bids for the Walter Shean Auction



Closing dates for the Walter Shean Auction Sale are approaching on April 29 and 30th. Get your registered bids to John Saddy via mail, e-mail or telephone. If you haven't received a catalogue then visit the PHSC website to view the listings, descriptions and large colour photos of each lot.

<http://www.phsc.ca/Shean.html>  
(address is case sensitive)

If you have a catalogue and want to see items quickly then go to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) and enter (for example) "Lot 123 phsc" without quotes in the search box.

This auction is gaining international interest and is your chance to bid on many hard to find items or collectibles you've been hoping to add to your own collection. Cameras, lenses, stereos, projectors, meters, books, magazines, slides and images ...they are all available here.

### LATEST NEWS.....

A mystery Canadian (?) box camera is revealed in the upcoming Vol 29-1 *Photographic Canadiana*. Renew your membership now to guarantee receiving a copy.

### Location/Date/Times 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:

#### April 16th, 2003

-A surprise meeting – speaker T.B.A.  
-this will also be the Annual General Meeting with introduction of a new slate of officers for the next two years.

#### May 11th, 2003 (Sunday)

-Annual Spring Fair at The Coffee Time Soccer Centre, 7601 Martin Grove Rd. Woodbridge. Opens 10am.

#### May 21st, 2003

-Larry Gubas of the Zeiss Historical Society will fly from New Jersey to discuss The History of Zeiss

#### June 18th, 2003

-Program speaker is to be announced

There will be a summer recess with programs recommencing for the Fall on September 17, 2003.

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)

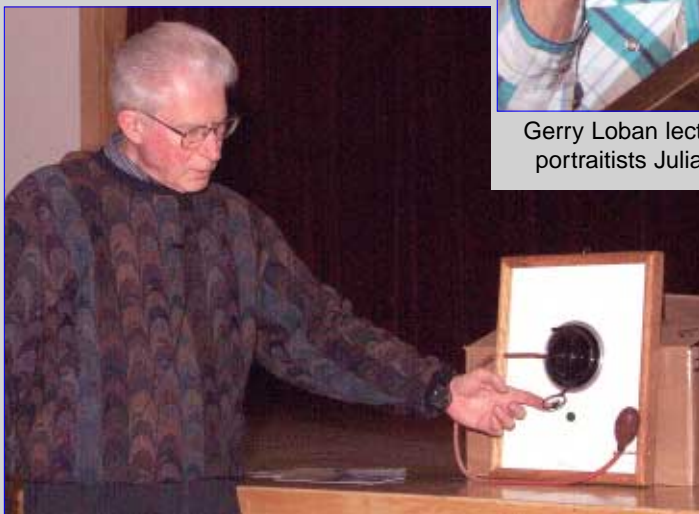
**POST A COPY  
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## Toronto Notes...

by Robert Carter

Our March meeting saw changes as scheduled speaker Alf Pyner had to bow out due to a health problem. He will appear at a later date.

John Linsky showed the rare Goerz Hypergon 9 cm wide angle lens to refresh members about this hot item that is one of the 552 lots in the Shean Auction Sale. John showed how a small propeller, mounted before the lens, helps to spread more light intensity to the distant corners and edges of the film plate which can be as large as 11 x 14 inches in dimension.



John Linsky describes details of rare Hypergon wide angle lens.

Gerry Loban was our main speaker for the evening discussing his favourite topic: 19th century portraitist, Julia Margaret Cameron. Gerry stressed two points about her photographic work: They were poorly done technically with improper exposures, dust spots and imperfect plate coatings. But her composition and subject matter were outstanding! At a time when contemporaries did mostly full body portraits with ornate props and backgrounds, JMC did close-ups with minimal props that look modern and timeless. JMC was unusual as women photographers were rare.

JMC was born Julia Margaret Prattle in Calcutta, India where her father was in the Bengal civil service. She married Charles Hay Cameron

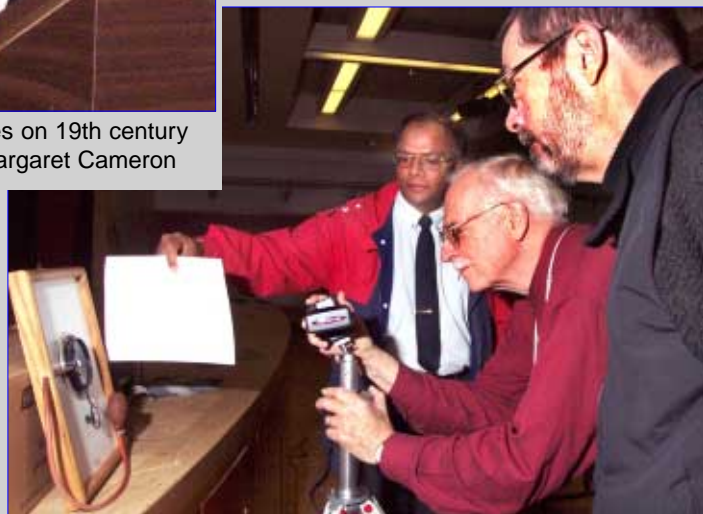
in 1838 when she was 22 and he 44. The Camerons moved to England in 1848, settling 11 years later in Freshwater on the Isle of Wight.



Gerry Loban lectures on 19th century portraitists Julia Margaret Cameron

where made by guess and experience. Prints from the contrasty slow speed wet-plates were made on printing-out paper (salt paper) that required bright sun to bring out the image with no developing step.

She took portraits of the famous people of the time seemingly to show their inner strengths and character. Alternately she pressed servants and neighbours into costumes and posing individually, as groups or tableau reminiscent of a painting or scene in a play. She entered her images in many exhibitions and was delighted when they were praised but furious when they were criticized.



Bob Carter and assistants shoots Hypergon details for web site.

The Camerons converted two cottages into an estate called Dimbola in memory of Ceylon. There they entertained famous people of the day, names known world wide. JMC was strong willed and outgoing, enjoying the intellectual stimulation of these poets, actors, and scientists.

Her life changed forever in 1864 when she received the gift of a wet-plate camera from her daughter and son-in-law. She took to photography with a passion. In 1864 photography required coating your own plates and processing them before the emulsion dried. Exposures



After having presented so many plaques to program speakers Gerry Loban is honoured with a plaque by President Bill Kantymir. Gerry is retiring from the position as program Chairman but remains as Librarian.

Photographs by Robert Lansdale



## Coming Events

**Until July 20th, 2003**, The Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto is presenting *Pop Photographica: Photography's Objects in Everyday Life 1842-1969*. Displayed are: watches, broaches, clocks, walking sticks, etc., which include photos as reminders of significant events. Information at [www.ago.net](http://www.ago.net)

**May 11th, 2003 (Sunday)**, Annual PHSC Spring Fair will be at The Coffee Time Soccer Centre, 7601 Martin Grove Rd. Woodbridge. Opens 10am. For table registration contact Mark Singer, (905) 762-9031 or [string@outer-net.com](mailto:string@outer-net.com)

**May 20th, 2003**, Christie's London will hold an auction of daguerreotype photographs by Joseph-Philibert Girault de Prangey (1804-1892). This landmark sale comprises 86 unique daguerreotypes, including the earliest surviving photographs of Greece and Palestine. Viewing in New York, April 16-19 & 21, 2003 and in London May 16, 18-20.

## Advertisements

Members are invited to submit one free advertisement to the classified section of each issue, limit 50 words, used at the editor's discretion.

### Wanted

A triple Convertible brass lens for an 8x10 view camera restoration. Contact: Bill Belier, 24 Sturton Rd., Toronto, Ont., M9P 2C6 or telephone (416) 247-3885.

### Position Wanted

Our Michael Oesch will return to Toronto for the beginning of May and is looking for gainful employment. Resume is available. Contact [moeschwalk@hotmail.com](mailto:moeschwalk@hotmail.com)

### Retirement Sale

A complete BW and Colour darkroom is for sale by former college photography teacher. All items in good used state, of commercial grade and at 20% of new cost. Includes 4x5 XL Beseler enlarger, 3 lenses, sink, reels, copy stand, slide show equipment. Prefer lot sale. For full list details contact Peter or Don Richardson at 1-800-665-9986.

## Daguerreotype Workshops Scheduled for May 2003



"Self Portrait B" by Mike Robinson, ©2003

Mike Robinson will again be conducting two full-day Daguerreotype workshops in Toronto,

**Sunday May 4th and  
Saturday May 10th, 2003.**

Each workshop runs from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and is limited to six participants. Attendees will gain hands-on experience producing a daguerreotype. Cost of the course is \$300 which includes materials.

For information or to reserve a place, contact Mike at:

Century Darkroom / 245 Carlaw Avenue, Studio 502 / Toronto  
M4M 2S1 - CANADA  
tel. 416 469 8128 / email: [mike@centurydarkroom.com](mailto:mike@centurydarkroom.com)

## PhotoHistory XII – September 19-21 in Rochester From Fox Talbot to digital photography, with Brownie's grandson to boot

Every three years, lovers of photo history make a pilgrimage to the George Eastman House in Rochester, New York. Held consistently since 1970, **PhotoHistory** is the longest-running symposium of its kind in the world. This September 19-21, sixteen presentations will cover broad subjects such as "Humor in Daguerreotypes" and specialized topics like "Traveling on the Nile: Photographic Expedition, 1881-1882" or "Zeiss in the USA," as well as explanations from 30 leading photo historians on why they chose this subject for their life's career.

Other topics include new findings from the Fox Talbot correspondence in Lacock Abbey, Deardorff cameras, "Filmless (digital) Photography," "The Business of Photography" in the nineteenth century, "The Art of

The Album," and a look at the Brownie-camera inventor, Frank A. Brownell, presented by his grandson. Participants will tour the George Eastman House Museum, Eastman's mansion, and the museum's unparalleled collections of photographs and cameras. Come experience the charm and nostalgia of a full-scale Tent Camera Obscura erected in the Eastman House gardens! The weekend begins with a reception, Friday evening 9/19, continues with the Saturday lectures 9/20, and concludes with the Sunday 9/21 Photo Antique Show and Sale!

Check the web site of The Photographic Historical Society for the latest details and speaker profiles at [www.tphs.org](http://www.tphs.org) OR Email queries to: [tphs@rochester.rr.com](mailto:tphs@rochester.rr.com)

## The BIG One – The Annual PHSC Spring Fair – Sunday, May 11th, 2003



Mark Singer, Chairman of the Annual Spring Fair says that table registrations have been filling in rapidly as the Sunday, May 11th date draws closer. If you haven't got your table yet then phone Mark at 416-879-7168 or e-mail [string@outer-net.com](mailto:string@outer-net.com). For all others pick up a discount ticket at labs.

### WE'VE GOT THE ANSWER

The Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society's *The Bulletin* reprinted an article by Paul Garret, "Matchmatics in the Movies." This reminded editor Bill Kimber of the movie, *The Rocketeer* (Disney 1991) which took place in the 1930s and had scenes with newspaper photographers shooting away. The cameras were provided by PSPCS's late president Dave Studebaker and Bellows editor Kimber. The fee was good and the cameras insured, but there was always the chance cameras being ruined. It made Kimber wonder who provided all the wonderful press and movie cameras used in the current movie *Chicago*."

The movie has gained rave reviews and ran off with Oscars in the recent Hollywood presentations. To seek an answer we turned to PHSC resident movie prop and flashbulb entrepreneur, Larry Boccioletti: – "The movie "Chicago" was shot, in large part, here in Toronto and was wrapped up by December of 2001. And yes, the press cameras used in the movie were mine. They rented 20 press cameras –mostly Crown and Speed Graphics but several were Busch Pressmans. They consumed over 3000 #5 and #25 flashbulbs which I supplied. Bayonet base bulbs were used as screw base bulbs are expensive and the bulbs are only flashed for effect –not power of light. Flashguns were Graflex and Heiland fired from the button on the back of the gun.

"The down side to this magnificent rental was fear of damage to the cameras. I spent two hours demonstrating the handling of a press camera to the prop people, but in their translation to the extras information was omitted or was incorrect. Cameras were damaged when extras tried to close them without sliding the lens board fully into the body. One camera even disappeared. However I received full restitution for the missing camera and all repairs."

PHOTO BY LARRY BOCCIOLETTI



**SHEAN AUCTION DETAILS:** If you wondered what the items looked like in Lot 139 of the Walter Shean Auction, here is a new photograph –there was no photo in the catalogue. A query asked what cameras the cases would fit for both Lot 139 and Lot 140. Here is updated descriptions and corrections:

**LOT 139 Four Nikon Cases** (as above photo)

Two ER cases for Nikon FE; one ER case for Nikon FG, Exc. Cond. [+?]; one telephoto-lens hard case 6" long X 3" diameter. ID codes shown. Est. \$40.

**LOT 140 Nikon Eveready Case**

Case with ID CF37 fits a Nikon F401 as against previously described Nikon FE/FG. Long snout for up to 100mm lens - Mint, Est. \$35.

Keep up to date with additional information and any corrections by visiting the PHSC web pages for the Walter Shean Auction at: <http://www.phsc.ca/Shean.html>

Place your bids now to John Saddy, Tel: (519) 641-4431, Fax: (519) 641-0695 or [john.saddy.3d@sympatico.ca](mailto:john.saddy.3d@sympatico.ca)