

The PHSC E-MAIL

Volume 2-2, Supplement to Photographic Canadiana, June 2002

The Photographic Historical Society of Canada

Our June 19th Meeting ...bring a friend!

Here is a speaker you won't want to miss! During the past three decades his dedicated research into the history of photography has well prepared him. Bill Becker, Director of the *American Museum of Photography* in Detroit, Michigan will reveal his selection of "The Ten Most Influential Photographers of All Time."



William B. BECKER has won four EMMY® awards during his 23-year career as a television journalist. He is now President of Becker Information Group, a communications firm specializing in corporate video production and the design and development of websites. That experience plus being a collector of historical photographs for more than 30 years, pushed Bill to create *The American Museum of Photography*, an award-winning virtual museum that is among the internet's leading destinations for photography seachers. With

thousands of visits per day we recommend adding it to your list of favourites – www.photographymuseum.com.

Bill both writes and speaks on the history of photography. He has been called upon to present his lectures at leading universities, museums, art galleries and photo historical societies throughout the States. His articles have appeared in *American Heritage*, *Camera Arts*, *History of Photography* and other publications. The Becker Photo Collection has been exhibited at museums across the United States and forms the basis of his book *Photography's Beginnings: A Visual History*.

But that's not all... this multi-facetted speaker is the author of *Brady of Broadway*, a one-man play about Mathew Brady, the photographer responsible for documenting the American Civil War. The play was produced by the Smithsonian Institution, presenting it in the awesome setting of the Great Hall of the Museum in Washington.

Now it is our privilege to hear him speak in Toronto about "The Ten Most Infuential Photographers of All Time." Don't miss this super meeting before our summer recess.

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:

June 19th 2002

-Bill Becker of the American Museum of Photography reveals to us "The 10 Most Influential Photographers of All Times."

After the June meeting the PHSC stands down for two months but Executive activity continues in the background. Programming will resume on September 18th. The Fall Fair will be held in October – final date to be announced later.

Program Director Gerry Loban needs suggestions from members for his Fall series of programs – fresh ideas are needed, different speakers from far and wide, tours, digital? Talk to Gerry Loban at 905 477-3382.

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

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OF THIS E-MAIL
FOR OTHERS TO READ
OR E-MAIL TO A FRIEND**

PHSC MEMBERS RECEIVE HONOURS

Three members of the PHSC have been selected by the Executive for the Gallery of Honour Award to recognize their years of dedicated service contributed to the advancement of the Society and its goals.

Jack Addison's posthumous award is in recognition of his services as the second President serving two terms 1977-78 and 1979-80 while also carrying the responsibility as editor from 1977 to 1981. From 1981 to 1988 he then served as Curator.



JACK ADDISON

Marge Addison supported husband Jack in his work for the PHSC by listing the first members into a scribbler in 1975, thus becoming Membership Secretary and serving until 1981. She also carried on the tasks as Curator helping to mount exhibits at the CNE. The Addisons are Charter members #004.



MARGE ADDISON

PHOTO BY ROBERT LANSDALE



Bill Kantymir presents award to Don Douglas

Don Douglas, member #081, has supported the Society by shouldering a variety of offices. Program Chairman, Mini-Fair and Spring Fair Chairman, also Vice President in 1985-87 then President and Past President from 1987 through 1991 – a long line of service that continues.

Jackson Samuels Honoured by Can. Society of Cinematographers



PHOTO BY JOHN NARVALI

Diane Cappelletto, manager of Kodak Entertainment Imaging presents member "Sammy" Jackson Samuels CSC with a special portrait to be displayed on "The Wall of Fame" gallery at the Kodak Head Office in Toronto.

A gala marking the 45th Anniversary of the Canadian Society of Cinematographers saw Sammy, one of the pioneers instrumental in founding the Society, being presented with a special Life Time Achievement Award. For his continuous service to his Society and to the Art of Cinematography he received, as part of the award, an Eskimo soapstone carving of a native drummer.



CSC Life Time Achievement Award

PHOTO BY DAVE BUTLER

Born in London, England, Maurice Jackson Samuels entered the British film business in 1940– Merlin Films and J. Arthur Rank. Immigrating to Canada in 1950 he freelanced then joined Associated Screen News. Sammy became a camera operator shooting corporate films and commercials gradually moving to feature films and rose to the rank of Director of Photography. The most notable television series he worked on was the 39 episodes of *The Littlest Hobo*, shot on location mainly in Vancouver.

Retired, Sammy restores antique clocks and watches - a return to 1943 RAF training as an instrument repairer.

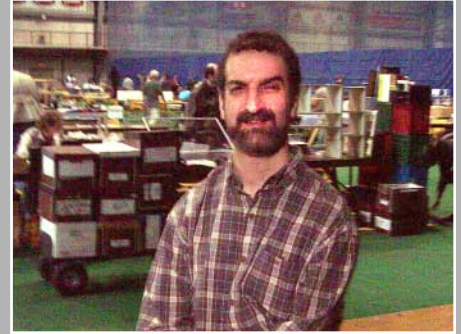
NOTE: A week ago while gardening, our nimble Sammy fell off a step ladder injuring an eye, a rib and his derriere. He is now recuperating at home after 2 1/2 days in the hospital. There will be no gardening for a while!

SPRING FAIR at THE SOCCER CENTRE.....

"Over 900 happy customers toured the 135 tables at this year's Spring Fair," says Chairman Mark Singer, "which must indicate that

the word is spreading about our Soccer Centre location and about our wide choice of photographica. Dealers came from as far away as Montreal and Chicago.

"The majority of material appears to be user equipment and accessories sought by most of the attending public. Since SLRs have been around for over 35 years you need an eagle eye to spot



SPRING FAIR CHAIRMAN MARK SINGER

"As an added benefit, I would hope to see a 'testing station' set up at our Fairs to allow camera buyers to test shutters (particularly electronic) before making a final purchase.

"It was good to see the exhibit of cinematography as mounted by Robert Gutteridge. It's been a few years since we've had such presentations by members and we encourage future participation. Only the Toronto Camera Club took advantage of our free-table offer to promote the benefits of their society to the public. Our PHSC booth was again prominent with Membership Chairman Werner Drechsel describing goals and advantages of our PHSC group. Our display attracted some 50 additional e-mail addresses from those wishing to be informed about upcoming events.



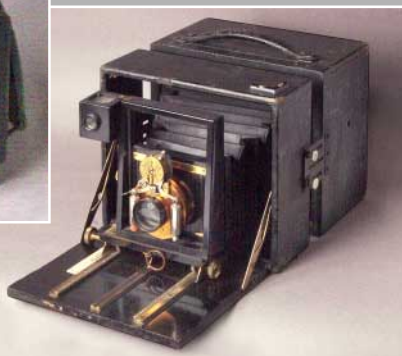
A TABLE FULL OF GOODIES GREET'S EARLY ARRIVALS



THE CROWD CHECKS OUT TABLES IN THE SOCCER CENTRE



ABOVE: A HAND-BUILT PRESS CAMERA ca 1945. AT RIGHT: A 5X7 BLAIR FOLDING HAWK-EYE ca 1893. BELOW: A BLAIR ROLL HOLDER DATED 5.24.1892



ROBERT GUTTERIDGE MOUNTED HISTORICAL CINEMATOGRAPHY DISPLAY



the classic models - bodies have changed little, the contents altered much. Although brass and wood cameras, early images and vintage literature are becoming difficult for the collector to access, we still have exhibitors who specialize in these to a greater extent than several other camera shows in the Toronto area.

"Our thanks to all who volunteered and made the show so successful: Julie Boccioletti and Doreen Ham at the front door; Ed Warner, Egon Kelner, Tony Fernandes, Russ Forfar, Jerry Puhl and Tiit Ködar - on ticket taking, unloading and general security."

GEORGE DUNBAR & JOHN LINSKY - OUR MAY SPEAKERS

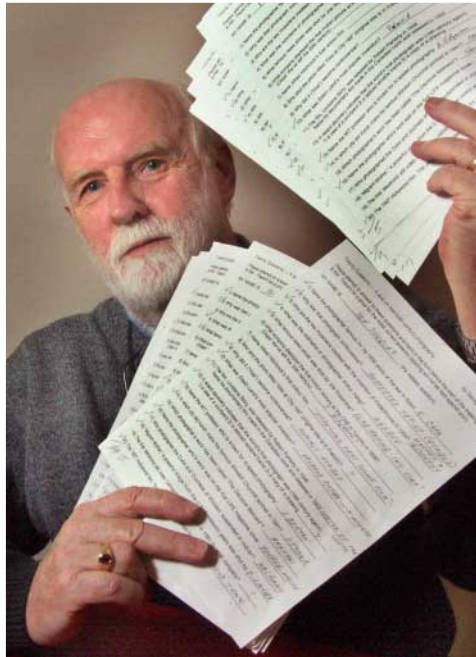
Reported by Robert Carter

We started the evening with a 20 question quiz on 19th and 20th century photography. Most questions were about images which made the quiz a real challenge.

It began with Robert Capa's famous 1936 photo from the war in Spain and the controversy about its authenticity. It was suspected to be a posed shot. Next was a question about the two musicians who invented Kodachrome – rumors exist that this famous picture of the two includes a site gag (the true violinist is playing the piano and vice versa). Every one seemed to know that Arthur Fellig's nickname was Weegee, but few knew how he earned it – he started as a darkroom assistant charged with squeegeeing water off washed prints ready for the dryer. Everyone knew Joe Rosenthal's famous news shot of the raising of the American flag at Iwo Jima – and many also knew the controversy about it being posed - which it wasn't. Joe actually snapped the act of raising the second flag. The first one was too small and the troops decided to replace it. George also asked "who displayed the first movie at the CNE" and "what company introduced the first still video camera." Member Don Douglas was the winner of the quiz with 15 correct answers.

John Linsky provided a mini Show & Tell about three of his favourite cameras. The first was a "Brenda Starr Cub Reporter," a bakelite camera using 127 film. It was made in Chicago by Seymore Products. Brenda Starr is a comic heroine from the 1950s/60s. The basic camera was made with various faces as promotions. This faceplate is in 4 colours, showing a lounging Brenda in skimpy dress and high heels while holding a telephone to her ear.

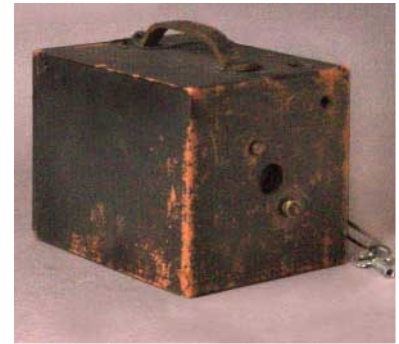
John's next item was a box camera discovered in an antique shop which had no cameras on display but the owner apologetically pointed John towards a high shelf at the back with various box cameras including this one with its shabby leather covering.



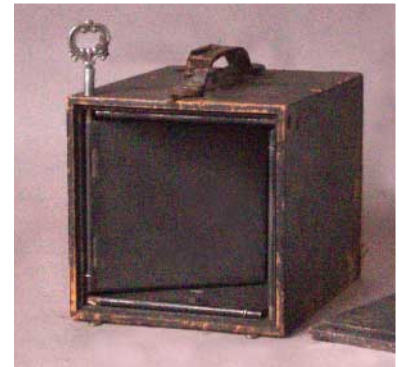
George Dunbar with fist full of questionnaires

It turned out to be a scarce 1896 quadruple plate box camera with its back falling off. Ed Warner made a latch clip and found an old key, thereby returning the camera to operating condition. The camera holds four 3.5" square plates in septums, each hinged at one end and stored against an inside wall - thus its name the "Quad." The key is used to swing each septum in turn into the focal plane for an exposure. The plate is then returned and a second plate is rotated into position and so on for four shots. In the darkroom, the plates can be swung out for removal and reloading. John chose to leave the leather in its original condition "as found."

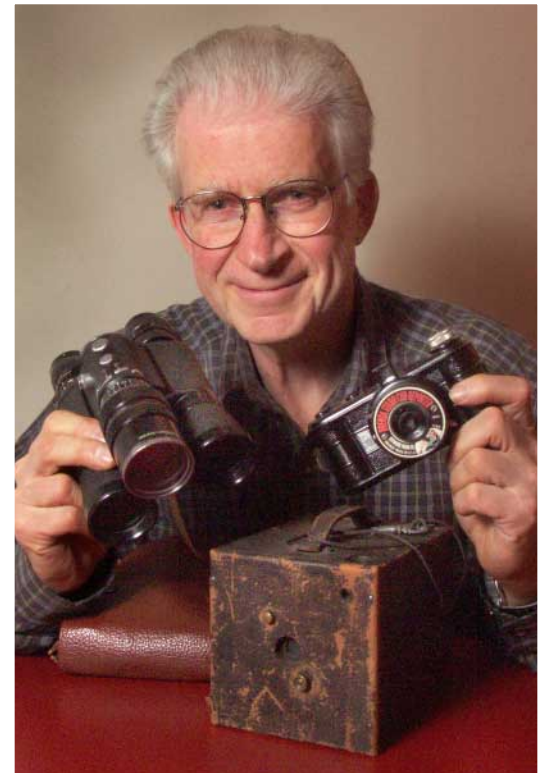
John's final favourite was a camera, circa 1956 - the *Cambinox*. It consists of a pair of 7x35 binoculars with a 16mm still camera nestled between the two objectives. The camera was originally purchased by member Walter Kopacs from Kling Photo in Toronto and is complete with the hard to find special film cassette. The *Cambinox* has interchangeable telephoto lenses with a choice of four



The Quad box camera showing key to swing plates into plane of focus.



PHOTOS BY ROBERT LANSDALE



John Linsky and three of his favourite cameras

focal lengths from 35mm to 180mm. The camera was made in Wedel, Germany by J.D. Moller Optical Works.

REVIEW SLIDE SHOWS OF PAST PROGRAMS AT <http://www.phsc.ca>

Coming Events

June 27-30, 2002, The Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada will stage its 10th international convention in Rochester, N.Y. - the home of photography. Events include three days of magic lantern presentations, sales tables and a grand auction. Meetings will take place at the Monroe Community College in Brighton, 4 miles south of downtown Rochester. For details e-mail Ed Lennert at elennert@aol.com

September 25 to 30, 2002, Photokina Cologne You can check out events for this year's big Photokina show at their web site www.photokina.de

to September 29, 2002 will see *Collecting Toronto - Through the Eyes of Larry Becker* a collaborative exhibition at the Market Gallery, South St. Lawrence Market, 95 Front Street East, Toronto, 10 am to 4 pm. Check highlights of this exhibit at: www.city.toronto.on.ca/archives

to June 13, 2002. The Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography in Ottawa will mount a retrospective exhibit of photographs by the late Malak. Known for his coverage of the National Capital, particularly the tulip festivals, he gained a high reputation for his commercial photography and pictorial journalism.

to September 2, 2002 at the CMCP galleries. Canadian Ken Straiton lived in and photographed Tokyo since 1984. He presents its complex urban space as an intense, hallucinatory, visual experience.

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

Early 1920s stereoscopic camera for a museum display - any brand will do. Contact Ed James, Box 69, Elkhorn, Manitoba or phone Romono at (204) 845-2630.

Wanted - Retired Photo Trade Reps

The search is on for any people who have retired from the photo industry or moved on to other careers. They

are invited to participate in this year's Photo Marketing Assoc. of B.C. annual golf event/reunion on Monday, June 24th in Langley, B.C. Phone (604) 531-8344 or Email fotosource34@shaw.ca

Wanted

Luis Cabral is looking for historical photographs of the Waldorf Astoria

Hotel in Toronto which was extensively altered while being converted to condominium suites 15 years ago. EMail cabral30s@hotmail.com

Information Wanted

Jon Soyka needs 16mm film and photos of Ice-boat action from the turn of the last century. Contact at jonsoyka@mountaincable.net

THEFT ALERT!

Werner Drechsel reports that his collection of Nikon and Hasselblad equipment has just been stolen and asks assistance in recovering it. If the equipment is offered for sale then please contact the York Regional Police or Werner as below.

Nikon F3 Body Ser #1373479

DE-2 Viewfinder for F3

Motor Drive MD-4 Ser #141481

SB-12 Nikon Flash Ser # U120751

Lenses:

Nikkor 24mm AI f2.8 Ser #525662

Nikkor 28mm AI-S f3.5 Ser #2116598

Zoom-Nikkor 43mm-86mm AI f3.5 Ser #872562

Micro-Nikkor 55mm AI-S f2.8 Ser #276667

Nikkor 105mm AI-S f2.5 Ser #992431

Nikkor 200mm AI f4 Ser #722011

Nikkor 300mm AI f4.5 Ser #532999

Hasselblad Camera with:

Carl Zeiss Planar T* 80mm f2.8 Ser # 5890810

**Please contact the York Regional Police,
Constable #1165, R.M. McBride,
at 905.773.1221 ex. 7200,
File # 02-85088.**

or wdrechsel@sprint.ca tel.905.709.6121