

The PHSC E-MAIL

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The Photographic Historical Society of Canada

Sunday, April 3rd is the Annual PHSC Auction

This coming Sunday is the big day to add that favourite piece of photographic equipment to your collection. Come search through the boxes of items offered at the Annual PHSC Spring Auction held at the Canadian Legion Branch 344, 1395 Lakeshore Blvd. West, just east of the Boulevard Club. For those wishing to sell equipment the hours 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM are reserved for listing and tagging. Public viewing starts at 11:30 AM while the bidding starts at 12 NOON. Free parking located east of the hall.



THE PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA



ANNUAL AUCTION

Sunday
April 3, 2005

Bidding Starts at 12:00 pm

Public Welcome to Buy or Sell
for details call 416 622-0433

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



Since 1974

Canadian Legion Branch 344
Queen's Own Rifles
1395 Lakeshore Bl West (East of Boulevard Club)
Free Parking East of Legion Hall
Admission \$3.00

Cash only—no cheques or credit cards!

Vendor's Listings
10:00 am – 11:30 am

Viewing
11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Bidding Starts
Noon sharp!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PHSC, VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.phsc.ca



Toronto Notes

Reported by Robert Carter

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT LANSDALE



Mary Ledwell of the Archives of Ontario speaking to the gathering of PHSC members and visitors during the March program. Mary described the photographic holdings as nearly two million images.

It was a pleasure to have Mary Ledwell tell us the story of the Archives of Ontario and its photographic holdings. This fine institution, established over a century ago in 1903, is the largest provincial archive in Canada. Their mandate is to "acquire and preserve records in all media having enduring significance to the history of Ontario."

Most of the holdings originated in the various government offices. These are joined by a large number of private sector records from people, businesses and other organizations in this province. If you can picture in your mind 157 CN Towers standing end-to-end - this equals the height of the Archive's textual records! Now add 50,000 reels of microfilm, over 40,000 maps, 200,000 architectural drawings, and nearly two million photographs. Also available are 40,000 audio, video and film records. The photographic holdings alone grow at a rate of 15 to 20 thousand new images per year.

The photograph collection is of great value and interest to historians. It includes examples of every photographic format used since 1839 from daguerreotypes to digital images including two 18.5 by 2.5 feet panorama prints recently discovered under the floor boards of the Ontario Legislature at Queen's Park. The

images were taken and printed by Toronto photographer William Thompson Freeland in 1912/13. At the time, they were considered "the largest one-piece, one-exposure enlargement in the world."

Mary relates that in the early 1900s, it was common for the government departments to employ staff photographers to record ministry activities and programs. The images were available for communication and promotional use over the years. By the mid 1990s nearly all departmental photo libraries had closed with the Archives benefiting by the transfer of hundreds of thousands of images. Today photographs are taken with digital cameras and often outsourced creating new challenges for the Archives. Media used for the storage of digital files are not archival and cannot be read except with legacy hardware or resorting to expensive recopying as technology evolves.

Private collections, which represent about 45% of the photographic holdings, come from both professional photographers and amateurs. The holdings include the work of William Notman, John and Thomas Connon, Herb Nott, M O Hammond, Peter MacCallum and Julien LeBourdais. While the archives have both images and papers in the fonds,

they do not have any cameras or other historic equipment, leaving those items to museums with the necessary space and expertise.

Every effort is made to track down copyright ownership and see if it is still in effect and transfer the rights to the Archives. Images are carefully stored in archival quality packing which in turn is stored in a controlled environment specific to the media. All originals are handled with cotton gloves to reduce the risk of damage. The creation of working copies is underway to reduce pulling originals from storage.

Indexing the holdings is a major undertaking. For collections that come with

an indexing system, the index is retained. Collections without one are arranged according to the creator's functions and activities. Descriptions of all photographs are kept in the Archives "descriptive" database. Like the majority of museums and archives today, the Archives is moving from printed catalogues to public access via the internet. Scanning of the Archives photographs began seven years ago in 1998. Each print is scanned at a resolution of 600 dpi. Today, about 13,000 images can be viewed (low resolution jpegs) and ordered online as high resolution prints or CD compilations. The creation of an online catalogue and a move to new facilities is resulting in more accurate and complete indexing of the holdings.

The Archives is based at 77 Grenville Street in Toronto but the holdings have overflowed into rented facilities in the GTA. Over the next year or two, most of the holdings will be consolidated in a new building in Bolton, Ontario built and operated by Archive One. The building will have modern temperature and humidity controlled storage vaults with improved security. Glass negatives and glass cased images, fragile photo albums will remain at 77 Grenville.

Worldwide Pinhole Photography Day 2005

Pinhole Photography Day 2005 will be held worldwide on Sunday April 24. A great opportunity to practice and approach the world of pinhole photography, to experience fantasy, art, fun and meeting. All photographers around the world will be invited to take a picture with their pinhole camera during the whole 24 hours of Sunday April 24 and send it to www.pinholeday.org. A photo by each author will be displayed in a single international Web gallery on the WPPD site.

The event is open to all photographers throughout the world, to every no-lens photography aficionado and to those who have never practiced this creative and fun technique before. Pinhole photos are taken without any lens but simply through a small hole. Shots can be also taken by using ordinary stuff such as shoe boxes, peeled tomato cans or tea boxes.

WPPD is coordinated by an international group formed by Tom Miller (USA – Team leader), Paolo Aldi (Italy), Nick Dvoracek (USA), Gregg Kemp (USA), Tom Persinger (USA), Rosanne Stutts (USA) and Wolfgang Thoma (Belgium).

In 2001, 291 pinhole photographers from 24 countries took part in the web exhibition. In 2004, a good 1512 from 43 countries. Sunday April 24 will see many additional events organized in every corner of the earth, with meetings, displays, stages, courses and collective practices focused on pinhole photography.

Information and the full programme can be found at their website: www.pinholeday.org

MIKE OESCH HEADS WEST

This Saturday at noon Michael Oesch starts his marathon walk to Vancouver.— 5000 kilometers to complete a dream. A going-away party is on Thursday night 9pm, Waterhouse 2286 Queen St. East. Friday, 3pm – 6 pm, Mike is interviewed on CBC RADIO 99.1FM on **Here and Now**.

FROM THE NET

The Erna and Victor Hasselblad Foundation has selected American photographer Lee Friedlander to receive the 2005 Hasselblad International Award in Photography. The prize consisting of approximately \$70,000 US and a gold medal will be presented at a ceremony in Göteborg, Sweden in November. Lee is the 25th awardee to be honoured.

The World Health Organization will hold a photo contest for 2005. After the successful launch of the WHO Photo Contest in 2002, WHO now invited photographers around the world to participate in an international contest – “Images of Health and Disability 2005.” Photos can be submitted up to April 16th, 2005 in three categories (1) Colour photographs (2) B&W photographs (3) Digital Art photographs (images created or drastically manipulated by computer software or electronic filters). Prizes reach from 100 to 1,500 US dollars. Visit the ICF website: <http://www3.who.int/icf>

The Archives of Ontario have added two new photo exhibits to their website which compliments the existing M.O. Hammond exhibit. Added are the Thomas and J.R. Connon (of Panoramic camera fame) photo exhibit plus a report of a pair of 1912/13 panoramic photographs of Niagara Falls, that were found under the attic floor boards of the Ontario Legislature in Toronto. One of the panoramas has warranted its own place of honour in the exhibit section as it is being restored. Find them at: <http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/exhibits/connon/index.html> and <http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/exhibits/freeland/index.html>

For the first time, the public can access the collections of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) through *ROMimages*, an online image database. *ROMimages* highlights the Museum's vast collections, its history and research activities. Registered users can license or purchase images at: www.rom.on.ca

Planning out your activities for this fall then better include the Daguerreian Symposium to be held in Rochester, N.Y. from October 27th to 30th. Hotel reservations at the Clarion Riverside Hotel should be your immediate priority to guarantee a room. Phone (585) 546-6400 and mention the Daguerreian Society to get special rates. The Society always put on a good show with top speakers, a trade show with thousands of shiny daguerreian images, a silent and active auction, and a round-up banquet. The George Eastman House and the Intern'l Museum of Photography will mount a special exhibition of *Young America: The Daguerreotypes of Southworth & Hawes* – over 150 works – worth the trip itself. Complete information will be posted on the Society's website at www.daguerre.org/home.php

David V. Tinder in Dearborn, Michigan is nearing completion of research for his *Directory of Early Michigan Photographers* as he gleans information from 1900 and 1910 US Federal census. Then he will attack the scanning of images for the book. Dave is donating his 85,000 Michigan photographs to the University of Michigan.

Kodak is showing the direction the corporation intends to follow as NextPress Solutions Inc., part of Kodak's Graphic Communications Group, predicts strong growth in the digital book publishing market using their digital printing system. Along with standard production there are numerous applications for short runs or even one-off runs. Within five years digitally printed books will represent one-third of all books printed. Imagine ordering an out-of-print book and having it printed and delivered overnight. Canadian regulatory authorities have approved Kodak's \$980 million take-over of Vancouver based Creo, the manufacturer of pre-press systems, high-end scanners and Leaf-brand digital backs. This will make Kodak a major player in the commercial printing industry.

Coming Events

Sunday, April 3rd, 2005. The Annual PHSC Auction will be held once again at the Canadian Legion Branch 344, Queen's Own Rifles, 1395 Lakeshore Blvd. West (just east of the Boulevard Club). Admission is \$3.00. Vendors Listings commences 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, viewing 11:30 AM to 12:00 NOON, Bidding commences at noon sharp.

Saturday, April 9th, 2005. The Michigan PHS holds its Annual Dinner & Lecture, 6 pm at the Birmingham Athletic Club, 4023 West Maple Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI. Reservation form available at www.miphs.org.

Sunday, April 10th, 2005. The Western Canada Photographic Historical Association's (WCPHA) will hold its **Spring Camera Show & Swap Meet** on Sunday April the 10th at Cameron Recreation Centre in Burnaby, BC. Check the map at <http://www.wchpa.com/Camera%20Show%20Location.htm> Further information contact Tom Parkinson, WCPHA at tompark@telus.net

Sunday, May 29th, 2005. Mark your calendar for the PHSC Annual Spring Fair to be held again at The Soccer Centre on Martingrove Road in Woodbridge, Ontario. To register a table call Chairman Mark Singer at (905) 762-9031 or email him at string@outer-net.com

Photo Educators FORUM May 6th and 7th 2005

A Conference for Photography and Imaging Educators will be held at Ryerson University in Toronto on Friday, May 6th and Saturday, May 7th with a variety of workshops to choose from. Both days – \$275 or one day at \$175. Register information at (905) 726-3286 or check the web at www.photoeducators.ca

OPAW Workshops August 5–7 2005

Hosted by the Central Okanagan Photographic Society, the Okanagan Photographic Art Workshops will be held from August 5th to 7th in Kelowna, British Columbia. For full details check their web site at www.opaw.org

ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO March 5th to May 15th, 2005

The Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. West, Toronto, exhibits *Sweet Immortality* by Douglas Clark until May 15th, 2005 in the Sandra Rotman Gallery. Clark (1952-1999) was a prime animator of art photography in Canada. Through curating exhibitions, writing, teaching and his personal work, Clark left an extraordinary legacy. This exhibition focuses on Clark's expressive world of phenomenal strangeness and everyday beauty. In association with *Sweet Immortality* a selection of Douglas Clark's work is displayed at the Stephen Bulger Gallery, 1026 Queen Street West, Toronto, until April 2nd.

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 & Selling

Looking for a good Canadian home to sell an 8 X 10 Century Studio Model 10A on Century Camera stand. Very



good condition throughout. Age marks on exterior, bellows whole though some corner marks. Shutter is Packard Ideal. Brass lens is Alfred Koehler 10 X 12 f:5.5. Contact Bruce Attfield: attfield@ca.inter.net or 613-256-0206 for more detail.

Wanted

Alex is looking for the adaptor-fixture fitting to the top of the Nagel Pupille as a shoe for the vertical standing rangefinder. Call (416) 493-7510

For Sale

If you're a Leica M user then visit the website of Tom Abrahamsson at <http://www.rapidwinder.com> for a review of his *Rapidwinder* and *Rapidgrip* for Leica M cameras, and his *Softrelease*. Good illustrations.

Selling on eBay

James Marr in Hamilton says he can get best retail prices by selling internationally your vintage or contemporary photographica. A professional eBay seller (jay3jay3), he accepts equipment on consignment and avoids the pitfalls. Contact: 905 529-0582, email: jmarr2@cogeco.ca.

Wanted

Bicycle & Motorcycle photography, medals, ephemera, stereoptics, catalogues –all related items. Contact Lorne Shields, P.O. Box 87588, 300 John St. Post Office, Thornhill, ON., L3T 7R3 at (905) 886-6911, or e-mail at lorne-shields@rogers.com

Wanted Information

Fred Adcock of the Half Frame Group in the UK seeks history of the Yashica/Kyocera Samurai half-frame reflex that was distributed in Canada. Was it put into the hands of Canadian school children? Was the market for the X3.0 model first explored here? Send info to Brian Morris: bmorris@jetstream.net

Wanted Information

Bill Belier needs for his next column illustrations of ads for the Goerz Photo-Stereo-Binocle of circa 1899. Contact editor Robert Lansdale at boblansdale@idirect

Wanted Information

Michael Oesch working at the Hockey Hall of Fame has Stereo Realist images of the 1960 Stanley Cup finals. Stamped "Eddy Souris" they need to know who this photographer was/is. Send information to Craig at campbellc@hhof.com

Wanted Information

Helen Gillespie of the Licensing and Copyright Bureau seeks information concerning the Photographic Stores Ltd. in Ottawa ca 1940-80s. Reply to helen.gillespie@lac-bac.gc.ca