

The PHSC E-MAIL

Volume 4-3, Supplement to *Photographic Canadiana*, June 2004
The Photographic Historical Society of Canada

Program for Wednesday, June 16th



GEORGE GILBERT

George Gilbert of New York returns to Toronto bringing his first-person account of his role in a Hollywood film honouring the Leitz family and its famed Leica cameras. (The Leica of today is no longer a Leitz product).

The story of the secret 1937-38 Leitz anti-Nazi underground-railroad tells of relocating Jewish and anti-Nazi non-Jews out of

Germany to foreign lands which were not accepting additional refugees after official quotas had been filled and closed. The deception's success, moving as many as 20-30 refugees at a time, was withheld for years at the family's request. As late as 1963, the family feared anti-Leica reaction by remaining Nazi sympathizers both in Germany and abroad. Their heroism was finally revealed (as promised) after the death in the 1980s of the last of the Leitz team members who had spearheaded the deception.

The story honouring the bravery of the secretly anti-Nazi, gentile Leitz family was broken in the press of the U.S. and England by a team of three Americans in the waning years of the 20th century. The team, led by Mr. Gilbert in the U.S., was only possible 40 years after the WWII's destruction of the Nazi regime and the opening of the death camps. Gilbert helped bring his colleagues together to generate a worldwide campaign honouring the Leica makers.

Support for the project in America has come from the photo-industry's former German refugees who themselves were unaware of the Leitz personal involvement. How and why the bold plan worked will be explained by Gilbert during his evening presentation.

FIRST THE STORIES AND TALKS – NOW A MOVIE

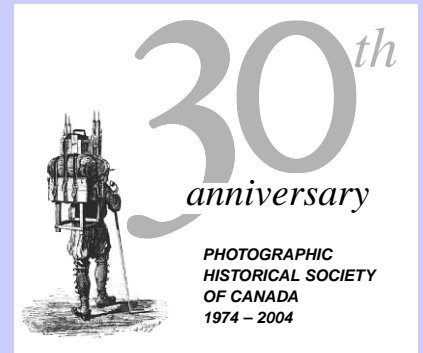
Mr. Gilbert, as central figure in the publicity campaign, was bringing his interest to a close when Hollywood attention, early in 2004, blossomed from a mere idea into the first footage of *The Magical Leica* – the working title for a movie production.

Gilbert was Founding President of the *American Photographic Historical Society*, editor for many years of the *Photographica* magazine and author of some 400 or more articles under five different names. He lectures widely and spoke before the PHSC in 1995. He'll describe his personal *scams and escapes* in the writing world by the second-name-route on June 16. He says he will be bringing gifts from the Photographic Historical Society of New York.

Come participate in our Society's 30th Anniversary celebrations before we take our usual summer breather. See you again in September.

LATEST NEWS

There is an interesting layout of photographs in the latest *National Geographic (Collector's Edition Vol. 8)* – 100 Best Vintage Photographs. There are many unique and rarely seen photos for our readers.



Location/Date/Times PHSC Monthly Meetings

are held on the third Wednesday from September to June in the Burgundy Room, Memorial Hall in the basement 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 Clint Hryhorijiw, 68 Waterford Dr., Toronto, ON, M9R 2N6, Phone (416) 240-1927.

Programming Schedule:

June 16th, 2004

-George Gilbert of New York will visit Toronto to bring us the story of *The Hidden Leica Story – Part Two*

This is our last meeting before the summer. Our programming schedule will commence again for the Fall series in September.

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

People and Things Seen at the PHSC Spring Fair

Over 750 eager photo collectors crowded the Soccer Center in Woodbridge last Sunday to scour tables for bargains and unique collectibles. Several tables displayed rare items only as exhibits as the table-holders hoped to make contact with anyone who might have something to add to the collection.



Our ladies at the front desk had brisk trade all morning selling tickets to the public.



Bob Gutteridge shows Tiit Kodar one of the cine cameras in his special Kodak exhibit.



Collectors eagerly scanned sales tables.

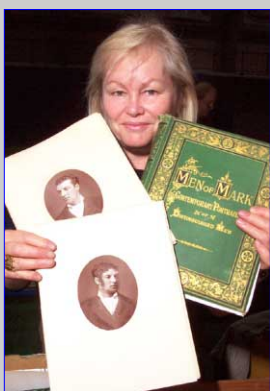


Francois Lemai of Montreal exhibited rare 35 Parvo cine camera & Holmes projector.



The photo collectors poured in when the doors opened at 10 AM quickly surrounded the 150 tables covering the soccer field. Noon brought another late rush of eager buyers.

PHOTOS BY ROBERT LANSDALE



Judy Rauliuk had book of 36 Woodburytypes.



Djuka Njegovan offered wooden studio cameras.



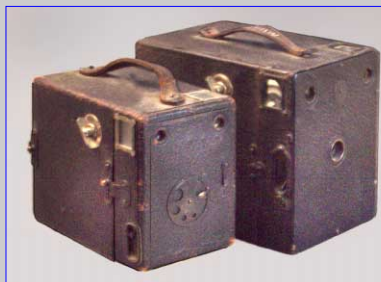
Bob Wilson with books, magazines and stereos.



Eva and Rick Bell had professional 35 lenses.



Sammy Samuels showed cine items and meters.



Sleuthing through the tables revealed a variety of interesting collectibles including: Maxim No 2 & No 4 box cameras, a 5x7 Lerochrome One-Shot camera, a Shanghai "Leica" 58 II with 50mm lens (1958), & hand made 9x12 camera, created by late Willi Patz, Rousel lens.

Coming Events

October 3rd, 2004 (Sunday), The annual PHSC Fall Fair will change its location as it moves closer to the city. Public transportation and ease of parking have been considered in selecting the new facilities. Wait for further announcements.

October 9th, 2004 (Saturday), The London Camera Club will host an all-day seminar on "Wild Photography."



Featured speakers will be renowned South Africa wildlife and wilderness photographers Barry Wilkins and Jill Sneesby. This is their ONLY Canadian appearance after the PSA convention in Minneapolis. Venue will take place at the London Convention Centre, 300 York St., London, ON. Fees are \$65 Cdn/ \$60 US if registered **before** August 1/04. Fees include the seminar, lunch, refreshments and many door prizes. Send registration c/o David Wellington, 54-135 Belmont Dr., London, ON., N6J 4J3. For more information on this event write via email : rmculver@execulink.com

October 24th, 2004 (Sunday), The 33rd Annual MiPHS Photographica Trade Show will again be held at The Novi Center, in Novi, Michigan. Besides equipment they have a separate room for collectors specializing in images. See their website at www.miphs.org/

CORRECTION

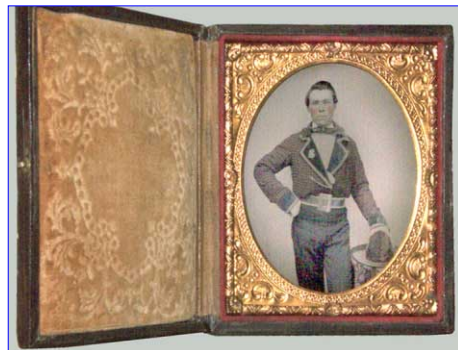
Per the death notice of Maurice Zubatkin in our previous newsletter the contact for those interested in Maurice's collection of film products and light meters is Larry Gubas at Ingubas@optonline.net

Images of Bygone Era Found in Attic

The Los Angeles Times reported that prints attributed to Dorothea Lange, renowned chronicler of the state's migrant workers in the 1930s, had turned up in a nearby attic.

Gene Lore had no idea that the images of desperation tucked away in his Thousand Oaks attic could be so enriching. There were photographs of pea pickers and cotton pickers, caved-in men with hung-down heads, women with worried eyes, children clinging to their skirts. Families stood in fields and sat by shacks, looking as worn out as the cars that had carried them from nowhere-good to someplace-worse. Dating from the mid-1930s, the photographs were shot by Dorothea Lange, the renowned chronicler of migrant workers in California, experts say. If Lore's sister hadn't been poking through a cabinet stuffed with their father's old papers, the rare photos eventually would have wound up in the trash.

To his surprise PHSC editor Robert Lansdale found there still is hope of coming across a rare find. While working the PHSC Spring Fair



he spotted a cased image hidden amongst other items. A tingling sensation and a quick sale brought the ambrotype image into his possession. It shows a young fireman in tinted costume with his hand resting on a fire helmet. His unit is identified as #3 of what seems to read as "Corralinn." The dealer could only say that it is American. Any ideas?

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.

For Sale

Those seeking a good selection of literature on early photography should contact Fred and Elizabeth Pajerski for their recent catalogue #73. Send request to fredpajerski@earthlink.net

Wanted

Lorne Shields has a passion for anything pertaining to Bicycle, Cycling and Motorcycle photos – any memorabilia from the 1860-1955 era. Contact him via phone at: (905) 886-6911 or via email at vintage-antique@rogers.com

Wanted

Michael Gilbert needs a 16.5 inch DAGOR lens for his 12 x 20 inch view (or banquet) camera. Actually, he wants it for panorama scenics in Hawaii. Spread the word if you know someone who might own one. Contact via e-mail at michael@pcop.net or leave a message with Al at (416) 923-1995.

Wanted Information

Irwin Reichstein of Ottawa received a surprise email from a distant descendant of Montreal photographer Benjamin Baltzly after they read a biographic *Note in History of Photography*. Now Irwin hopes descendants of James Inglis might also contact him as he is assembling the impressive history of that Montreal, Rochester & Chicago photographer/photo manufacturer.

The German Rollei Twin Lens Reflex has become a mini digital camera for the first time in the world.

As with the original Rollei TLR, the user looks down through a finder on the top of the *MiniDigi*, and loads an SD card with a roll-up lever to advance to the next photo. Made by Komamura Corp. in Japan, it costs 39,800 yen (\$491.21 Cdn).

