

snap shots

Volume 11 Number 1

September, 2005

Middle East Images

*September program presents
a collection of rare hand-colored lantern
slides from the early 1900's*

The September 11 program of the Photographic History Society of New England at Waltham High School will present a large group of scanned images selected from PHSNE member Gunter Mueller's collection of over 700 hand colored lantern slides of the Middle East. The glass originals, which date from 1900 to the 1920s, are the work of the American Colony Photographers, an organization headquartered in Jerusalem, which was then in Palestine.

The American Colony Photographers had its roots in the American missionary movement. Its members emigrated from the United States to Jerusalem in the 1880s and after they had established themselves in their new surroundings they pursued the business of selling photographs and lantern slides to tourists to sustain their organization and their missionary work.



Gunter Mueller

“One has to appreciate the time, effort, and talent that went into the creation of these now rare hand-colored slides and the historical record they have preserved,” says Mueller. “The quality

of the coloring and the diverse subject matter — ethnic, occupational, landscape, vegetation, religious, historical — I believe make this collection unique.”

Mueller will narrate a projected video show of his digital scans of slides in his collections. He will also show color prints made from the originals.

Mueller, a retired mechanical engineer and manager, says he has been a serious amateur black-and-white photographer a collector of old photography for many years. “One of my retirement tasks is spending time researching



A hand-colored lantern slide, The Mount of Olives from the Jerusalem wall, is a photograph made by the American Colony Photographers.

some of the photography related items that I have in my collection. It is amazing that with the help of the Internet what only 20 years ago would have been an almost impossible task for the casual collector now becomes just a matter of putting in some time in front of the computer. I hope this presentation will encourage others to bring their hidden treasures into the open for others to enjoy.”

September meeting at 1:30 p.m. at Waltham High School — “Middle East Images,” by Gunter Mueller



Lowell Bursch Photo

A Program to Get Your Teeth Into

For the May meeting PHSNE members Bud Midgley and John Wojtowicz shared some of their more arcane collectables and stories. Here John tries out his CORECO dental camera based on a Wirgin 35mm rangefinder on Bud's pearly whites. Membership Chairman Adrian Levesque, a real-life dentist, stands by to prevent serious accidents.

Photography Events in the Museums and Galleries

By James Hill

At the **Museum of Fine Arts**, Boston (465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115, telephone 617-267-9300, www.mfa.org) "**Ansel Adams**" will present photographs from the Lane Collection, described as the "largest private holding of Adams' work in the world," from August 21 to December 31, 2005. The exhibition will showcase rarely exhibited photographs from the 1920s through the 1970s as well as such iconic Adams images as *Monolith*, *The Face of Half Dome* and *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico*. On display as part of the exhibition will be a Folmer Century Universal 8" x 10" camera from the 1930s (not an actual camera that Adams owned, but included to illustrate a type of camera Adams used), and a Kodak No.1 Brownie Camera of the type Adams took as teenager on his first trip to Yosemite in 1916 – loaned to the Museum for this exhibit from the collection of PHSNE's Jack Naylor.

"**Young America: The Daguerreotypes of Southworth and Hawes**," billed as the largest and most comprehen-

sive exhibit of the artistry of the Boston photographic partners Albert Sands Southworth and Josiah Johnson Hawes, will be moving from the **International Center of Photography** in New York City to the **George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film** (900 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607, telephone 585-271-3361, www.eastmanhouse.org) from October 1, 2005 to January 8, 2006. The exhibit will then visit New England at the **Addison Gallery of American Art** on the campus of Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, January 28 to April 29, 2006 (180 Main Street, Andover, MA 01810, telephone 978-749-4015, www.andover.edu/addison/home.htm). Also at the **Addison Gallery of American Art** (see above), "**Unfamiliar Territory: Photographs by Oscar Palacio**" from September 6 to December 31, 2005. The Columbian-born, Boston-based artist's color photographs are described as focusing on ". . . the intersection and overlap between the natural and the constructed . . . the subtle oddities of daily life and the harmonies and delicate beauty in what we often overlook."

PHOTOGRAPHICA IS COMING!

64th Photographic Show and Sale — Nov. 19 and 20

ARMENIAN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER

47 Nichols Avenue, Watertown, MA

TABLES ARE STILL AVAILABLE.

Call Ed Shaw at 617-965-0807 or e-mail ebshaw@bu.edu

Pat MacMillan Passes snap shots to . . .

Since 1996, when our monthly one-page meeting notice evolved into the more newsy **snap shots**, editor Pat MacMillan has kept it snappy! Month after month she put the words and photos together, keeping us informed and on track about our programs and activities. The Board of Directors wishes to thank her for her years of dedicated service to PHSNE.

. . . David DeJean New snap shots Editor

Hello, PHSNE! I am pleased and proud to be taking over the job of newsletter editor for one of my favorite organizations — and more than a little awed to be following in the footsteps of Pat MacMillan, who has produced this

publication for so long. Thank you, Pat. I hope I live up to your example.

I won't be able to do it without a lot of help. There's plenty of room for what you find most interesting about photographic history and contemporary news in **snap shots**, but you have to tell me what it is. I need to hear from you with news, with ideas, with pictures. I know we're an organization of fanatic collectors, and I'd particularly like to publish photos and stories from you about what you've collected — your long-time treasures, your newest finds. What are your favorite stories? What anniversaries of famous people, companies, discoveries should we celebrate? E-mail me text and photos or just say hello at ddejean@dejean.com.

— David DeJean

PHSNE Field Trip: Out to the Islands In Boston Harbor

It was out to the Harbor Islands for PHSNE's annual Field Trip on June 5.

Right: The George's Island Visitor's Center, part of historic Fort Warren, built for coastal defense the 1840s.

Below: Gentlemen, start your neckstraps. Willie Kantrowitz, Larry Rochette, Walt Friesendorf, and John Wojtowicz at the dock on a beautiful day for a boat ride in Boston Harbor.



Lowell Bursch Photos



Membership News

PHSNE membership is \$30 for an individual, \$36 for a family, and \$40 for foreign members. Please send checks or money orders drawn in U.S. funds for dues payments, and changes in addresses, phone, e-mail, and other status information, to: Adrian Levesque, 42 Deerhaven Dr., Nashua, NH 03064; or e-mail ALevesque@aol.com.

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The *Journal* is in the Mail!

The new Publications Committee, whose members include John Felix, James B. Hill, Ralph Johnston, Dan Jones, Adrian Levesque, Ron Polito, and Ruth Thomasian, is pleased to have put Journal No. 164 in the mail on August 1. As you will read in the Journal, the committee is already soliciting members to write pieces for Journal No. 165. The committee welcomes your participation – see their message on the *Journal's* inside back cover.

PHSNE Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of each month (unless it falls on a holiday weekend, as it does in September), at 1:30 p.m. at Waltham High School.

Directions

Waltham High School is at 617 Lexington Road in Waltham, MA. The high school is at the top of the hill, behind another school building.

From I-95 (Route 128) Northbound: Take Exit 27 and follow Totten Pond Road 1.2 miles east until it dead-ends into Lexington Road. Turn left and go .5 miles north. Turn right into the school complex.

From I-95 (Route 128) Southbound: Take Exit 28, Trapelo Road, east 1.3 mi. to Lexington St. Turn right and go south .8 mi. to school complex.

From Boston/Cambridge: Take Rte. 2 west to Exit 54B, then Lexington St. south 1.7 mi. to school complex on left.

From Lincoln and West: Take Rte. 2 east to Exit 53, Concord Ave. Go east 1 mi., then right onto Lexington St. and 1.3 mi. south to school complex on left.

PHSNE Online

PHSNE is online at www.phsne.org. PHSNE member Ralph Johnston is the Web master.



New PHSNE Member . . . Irene Hill, daughter of James and Elizabeth Hill, already knows how to say “PHSNE family membership.”

Upcoming Programs

October 2 — Bernard L. Gordon, "50 Years of Postcard Production"

November 6 — Steve Jareckie, "History of Japanese Photography"

November 19-20 — Photographica Show & Sale, Armenian Cultural and Educational Center, 47 Nichols Ave., Waltham, MA.

SAVE the Date!

Please join Ruth Thomasian and other PHSNE members in celebrating Project SAVE Armenian Photograph Archives' 30th Anniversary. Mark your calendars for Saturday evening Oct. 1, to enjoy wonderful food, Armenian music and dancing, a silent auction, and, of course, a grand photograph reception! All at the Newton Marriott Hotel. For more details and to RSVP, please contact Arpie Davis at 617-923-4542.

Address Service Requested

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P.O. Box 650189

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 11, 2005
MEETING NOTICE**