



Photographica Digest

Western Photographic Historical Society

Volume XXVII No. 1

www.wphsociety.org

February/March 2020

2020 ANNUAL CAMERA SHOW

Martin Kebschull

I realize it a bit late for some, but we WILL be having our 2020 show on Sunday, March 1 at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) on the south east corner of River and Alvernon. This will be our third show in this location.

This is a smoke-free Kosher facility. This inclusive of the buildings, grounds, and the parking lot. Please be respectful of this. There is a concession stand that will be open, which has a separate eating area. Food is allowed in the event space.

Unfortunately, for the folks planning to spend the night in town, the hotels in the area, near the facility, tend to be pricey, although there are some that are quite unique/historical. However, I believe you will find that the hotels be quite a bit cheaper closer to the interstate.

As in previous years, Mark Sawyer will be demonstrating the wet plate photography, which always intrigues those he talks to about the process. Plus, you can walk away with your portrait for posterity!



We will have a nationally recognized authority on Hasselblad cameras, Richard Nordin, in attendance. He will give a presentation during the show. He is also making his latest book, the 'Hasselblad Compendium', available and a greatly reduced rate. This book is considered by many to be a primary research asset.

As a departure from previous years, we decided to LOWER the cost for tables for those who reserve and send payment prior 2/23 to \$30 each. Tables reserved and paid for, during the week prior to the show will be charged \$40 per table. The cost for a table will be \$50 on the day of the show. In addition, there will be no member-discount on table rental. We are trying to address the concerns expressed over the past

few shows that there have been a 'sea of empty tables' at the shows in the past. This is mainly due to folks asking to reserve table(s) and not showing up (or show up and not pay for all that were reserved). We plan to try to reduce the number of tables we put out, to minimize the number of empty tables.

As in past few years in this facility, most of the tables are 8-foot-long, with a few tables, close to the door that are 6 ft.



As a word of caution, for those of you that are planning to get a table at the show. Several dealers reported that items disappeared from their table last year. This is an unfortunate side effect of being an event that lets in the general populace. Please have someone watch your table if you must step away. We are attempting to make a volunteer (or 2) available to help out watching your stuff if you have to walk away for a short period of time. This is something new for us. This capability is dependent on having a sufficient quantity of volunteers that we can allocate some to this effort.

Hope to see you at the show!

Meeting Notice

The March meeting will be held at Room Kuiper 308 at the Lunar & Planetary Lab, just east of the Flandreau Planetarium on the University of Arizona campus.

New Location for March

MONUMENT CAMERA NEW OWNERSHIP

Martin Kebschull

Monument Camera has changed hands.

As of the eighteenth of January, this year, the ownership of Monument Camera changed hands from Rick Wilson to Lee Walker. Rick had been looking for someone to take over the business and was going to close in June if no one took over from him. Rick will be staying on for a few months while Lee gets his bearings.

The store always had two aspects: buying and selling cameras as well as offering repair services. The business has suffered when Rick's long-time associate Stacey, who handled repairs, could no longer do so. I didn't know it until this writing, but Stacey was self-taught in this role.

Lee is semi-retired from the software engineering business world where he built a career being a leader of large teams of software engineers and developers for the healthcare field. As of late, he has been an online Computer Science Instructor for a major university.

If you don't know him, Lee has a broad creative side. He has restored several large format cameras and is an avid user of them. I saw one of the ones he restored, and the woodwork is stunningly beautiful. As such, it comes as no great surprise to hear that he is getting started learning the repair end of the business. Rick says he has been getting started with small jobs like flocking and is catching on fast. Lee tells me that, realizing that he will not be able to do the most complex chores (... yet), he wants to build up a database of folks that can work on cameras and equipment.

But that is just one aspect of the business he will be attempting to build on.

Primarily, his major goal is to maintain Monument Camera as a fixture in the community and build on the tradition that Rick has built over the past 40 years. So in that vein, along with the service side, Lee intends to continue the side of the business concerned with buying and selling cameras and expand more into medium and large format gear.

But more than just maintaining the store as a fixture, he wants to expand the brand.

He wants to carve out part of the space in the store and reconfigure it to be a gallery, studio, and meeting space for workshops. In an adjacent room he plans to build out a darkroom. He wants to bring in folks from the community to hold talks and workshops on various topics, for instance wet plate photography.

Additionally, he wants to expand into fabricating customer

parts for vintage cameras using 3D printing technology. In part, to remake parts that are unobtainable. Examples are large lens caps, lens flanges, adapters, etc. But also, to make parts needed to reuse equipment in ways they weren't originally designed for.

In the broader picture he has a vision of the Monument Camera being a hub in the community for like-minded experimenters and creative folks spanning the age ranges. For instance, he told of a regular stream of young folks ranging from 16 to their late 20s who regularly come into the shop for film, film cameras and other analog-related gear, such as mounting old glass on their digital cameras. They are not just looking for gear but are looking to connect with the culture around cameras and photography. It is an encouraging sign for the future.

So please join with me in congratulating Lee in his new endeavor. I know I wish him the best of luck in pulling this off!

WPHS MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Matt Cook

Our March Membership Meeting will not be held at our usual meeting place, the Tucson Council Ward 6 offices, instead, we will be meeting at Room Kuiper 308 at the Lunar & Planetary Lab, just east of the Flandreau Planetarium on the University of Arizona campus.

Last Summer, Gary Sivertsen told the Board that Rick Nordin, author of the Hasselblad Compendium, the authoritative, encyclopedic treatise of all things Hasselblad, and Rick's wife, Karen, were planning to visit Tucson as Rick's houseguests this winter. Gary thought Rick might be willing to be our guest speaker at one of our meetings.

Because WPHS sponsors the guest speaker at the annual CCP Ansel Adams Birthday Celebration, we suggested to Rick that he plan the trip to include the February 29th birthday celebration as well as speak at our March 5th regular membership meeting. Rick agreed and said he could either speak about Hasselblad, or he could speak about the cameras used in the U.S. Space Program.

At our next regular meeting, when we announced Rick would be speaking about "The Cameras of the Astronauts", WPHS member, Vishnu Reddy, an Associate Professor at the UofA Lunar & Planetary Lab, thought there could be much interest in the Astronomy and Astrophysics departments and offered to ask his director if we could hold our March 5th meeting there.

Permission was given, so we have room Kuiper 308 (seats 190 people [and one Arizona Copperhound]) from 5:00PM to 8:00PM on Thursday, March 5th. Also, the Center for Creative Photography has agreed to advertise our event on their various media.

So, join us for the March 5th 2020 meeting of the Western Photographic Historical Society on the UofA Campus. If you get there early, around 5:00PM, the Second Street Parking Garage should be available. The Trolley is another good way to get to the meeting, too.

See you there!

**WPHS UNDERWRITES THE 4TH
ANSEL ADAMS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
GUEST SPEAKER**

Matt Cook

Every year since the John P. Schafer Center for Creative Photography started the annual celebration of Ansel Adams's birthday, Western Photographic Historical Society has sponsored the guest speaker's honorarium. This year, the speaker will be the Center's own Chief Curator, Dr. Rebecca Senf. "Becky" Senf has just published her book, "Making a Photographer: The Early Work of Ansel Adams."

This year's event will take place Saturday, February 29th at the Center for Creative Photography in the northwest corner of the U of A Campus, from noon to 4:00PM. Western Photographic Historical Society's Classic Camera presentation will be held on the second floor balcony, overlooking the CCP foyer. We will offer visitors, and especially children, the opportunity to handle and look through the viewfinders of cameras popular from the 1930s through the 1960s, and even practice loading film into the cameras.

As a special acknowledgment of the WPHS underwriting of Becky's presentation, the Center is hosting a 10:30-11:30 brunch for up to 16 WPHS members with Dr. Senf in the CCP's 2nd floor Conference Room.

Also at Noon, in Crowder Hall, just across from the Center, Dr. Senf will offer her presentation about her new book. Please join us as we help celebrate Ansel's 118th birthday.

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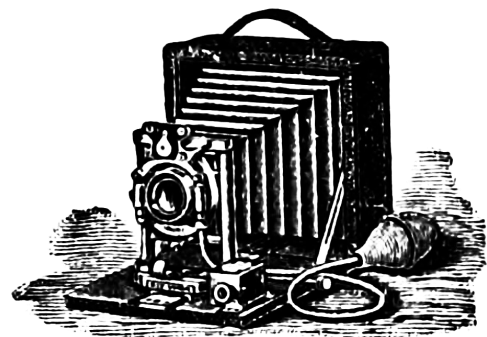
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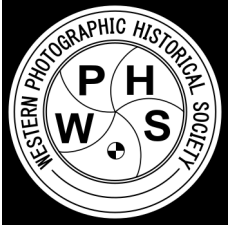
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Western Photographic Historical Society

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

- Mar 1th 2020 Annual Camera Show
Mar 5th Monthly Meeting on the U of A campus.
Apr 2th Monthly Meeting

We'd like your help in developing new programs especially product presentations. Please contact Matt Cook at mattcook24@gmail.com

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Next WPHS Meeting March 5th

Join us at a new meeting place, the Ward 6 Tucson City Council offices at:

3202 E. First Street, Tucson.

Consignment and member camera sales, show and tell and a brief program are featured every month (except the last two summer months). The meetings run from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM with show programs beginning at 7:00 PM.

All are welcome!

ATTENTION WPHS MEMBERS

The club is interested in purchasing your camera collection. Please contact me at:

Martin Kebschull

520-444-6149

WPHS is a non-profit
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