



# Photographica Digest

## Western Photographic Historical Society

Volume XXIII No.4

www.wphsociety.org

April 2016

### 2016 Camera Show

*Matt Cook*

The 57<sup>th</sup> WPHS Camera Show went off very well. As a special feature of the show, President Mark Sawyer set up a Tintype studio and made tintypes of guests, showing the entire procedure to guests and staff.



Mark Sawyer's Tintype Studio

Our volunteers at the door this year were: Terry Coleman, Talitha Pacholczyk, and Frank Zelis.

The Club tables were staffed by: Jerry O'Neill, Ron Kuykendall; Jozef Pacholczyk, Ed Jackson, Joe Ancuna, Candee Depozsgay, Gary Fielding, Clayton Wilson, and Martin Keschull.

The theme of this year's High School Photo Contest was, "The Spirit of Arizona". We received 63 entries from five high schools. Our Judges this year were: Bob Suomala; Talitha Pacholczyk, and Candee Depozsgay.

The First Prize went to William Juniper from Salpointe High; Second Prize, to Katrina Emnert from University High School; Third Prize was awarded to Dawna Herr from Cienega High School; and Honorable Mention Awards went to Addison Shinn from Catalina Foothills High, and Halley Solenberg from Salpointe.

The Awardees will be invited to attend our next meeting, Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30, to receive their awards and speak about their work.

At the time of this writing, Martin Keschull wrote me:

*"Just finished the first pass through the full results. Still a bit preliminary but the books mostly balance (with a couple of minor questions to answer)*

*We sold 33 tables, had three no shows, two table sales were last minute pop-ups. We set up 34 tables, and had two more we could have set up if needed.*

*The table sales netted \$1250 were just shy of our expenses which were roughly \$1300.*

*We had just under 100 attendees total, 79 paid which put us in the black. Thirteen people renewed their memberships and two new members joined.*

*We sold 104 consigned items that grossed \$2770. We sold 174 donated items that brought in \$731 plus \$554 from percentage of consigned sales."*



So, this was a very good show.

It was nowhere as big as shows from years gone by, but it had a constant flow of people coming through and talking with us about cameras and photography. There was selling and buying, but

*continued on page 2*

*continued from page 1*

the show appeared more social than commercial... and that was a good thing. With reports of major shows closing around the country the last few years, our WPHS Show has the potential for survival and growth into the future, because we're small enough as well as large enough to be able to carry on here in Tucson.

Let's start getting the word out for next year's show, the 58<sup>th</sup> WPHS Camera Show.

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## The Beacon That Never Fails

*Ron Kuykendall*

Some time ago there were several Beacon 225 cameras listed on eBay. I got the one listed "with a box". The camera, made by Whitehouse products of Brooklyn, was a point and shoot box camera marketed after WWII until the middle Fifties – I could find nothing about the company. Looks like a 6x6 Bakelite bellows camera with a streamlined viewfinder on the top, pull out the lens unit and there is a metal box instead of a leather bellows. The lens is a two element achromat with a simple governor – controlled between the elements shutter for consistency (no adjustments – "it's all set at the factory for you") and of course a red window. The camera is well balanced and natural to use. The two element lens is marginally better than a good meniscus lens of the period-soft images showing acceptable sharpness only between

about 9 and 35 feet on the camera I had. My interest in the camera was as one of a few 6x6 "tube" cameras made in the U.S. The other notable one being the Universal Meteor of the same time period.

More interesting than the camera however was the included flash unit. Using two batteries and a Press 25 bulb, the flash attachment nearly doubled the size of the camera. A large thumb screw fastened into the back of the viewfinder after inserting two Bakelite legs into the back of the lens unit-only when the lens had been pulled out and preventing collapsing the camera with the flash attached. The camera also came with accessories-a portrait lens, a yellow filter, a lens hood, a manual with little more instruction than how to insert the 620 roll of film, an adapter for M5 flashlamps, a neat flash tester consisting of a pressflash base with a flashlight bulb, and a stiff plastic leather-like case that one eBay-er described as fitting like an orange peel.

Most interesting to me was the wooden case the camera arrived in. Carefully crafted of wood with metal corners like a trunk, it had compartments for the camera, the flash unit, and one for all the accessories. In the top were hand cut sockets for eight #5 flashbulbs. The camera had arrived with a roll of Kodak film loaded but not exposed.

Correspondence with the seller revealed he had received the camera as a gift when a preteen but had never used it. The box had been made by his grandfather for him.

If you have any information or comments, I would welcome your emails at [rlkuykens@comcast.net](mailto:rlkuykens@comcast.net) or to the Western Photographic Historical Society website-[WPHSOCIETY.ORG](http://WPHSOCIETY.ORG)

References:

- McKoewn
  - Internet sites
  - Various eBay offerings
  - My own collection-cameras, magazines, etc.
- 



**The WPHS is always accepting Consignment or Donations for our upcoming**

**Please contact**

Imre de Pozsgay

775-287-9538

idepozsgay@hotmail.com

**Meeting Notice**

We are meeting at the Ward 6 Tucson City Council offices at:

3202 E. First Street, Tucson.

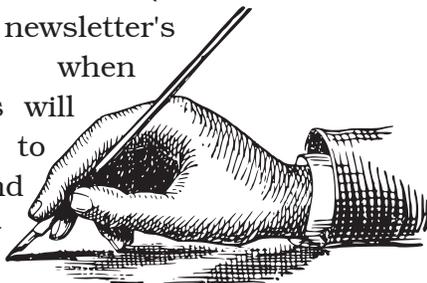
The meetings, for at least the first six months of 2016, will be normally on Thursdays. **The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Call for Articles**

*Brian Nemetz (Editor)*

The Photographica Digest is always in need for articles. I encourage members to share their photographic knowledge by writing articles.

Articles can be submitted to the editor directly at [wphs\\_editor@comcast.net](mailto:wphs_editor@comcast.net), to any board member or via the WPHS website. Articles need to be in electronic form (i.e. a word processor files). Articles can be saved in almost any common file format, including MS Word, Open Office Writer, or plain text. Please keep the formatting of the article's text simple: no fancy paragraph styles, carriage returns only at the end of paragraphs, single spaces between words (avoid multiple spaces to 'align' text - use tabs instead). Photographs (or other images) may also be submitted with articles. Images should be saved as a JPEG and be at least 1088 pixels wide (this matches the newsletter's column width when printed). Images will be converted to B&W, resized and cropped as necessary.



**www.wphsociety.org**

Western Photographic Historical Society

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[www.wphsociety.org](http://www.wphsociety.org)

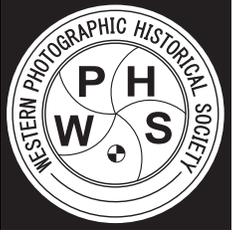
**Board Members**

- Mark Sawyer..... President (Open)..... Vice-President
- Jozef Pacholczyk..... Secretary
- Martin Kebschull..... Treasurer
- Imre de Pozsgay..... Consignments
- Robert Suomala..... Programs
- Matt Cook
- Candee de Pozsgay
- Ed Jackson
- Brian Nemetz..... *Photographica Digest* Editor
- Jerry O'Neill..... Ex Officio

**Committee Members**

- Jerry Day..... Student Support
- Clayton Wilson..... Setup
- Mark Sawyer..... Education
- Ron Kuykendall..... Donations





# Western Photographic Historical Society

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## UPCOMING EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

Apr 7<sup>th</sup> Monthly meeting.  
Bob Koons will speak about the Perfex cameras.

May 5<sup>th</sup> Monthly meeting.  
Ed Jackson will show photographs from his personal portfolio.

We'd like your help in developing new programs especially product presentations. Please contact Robert Suomala, Program Chair, at 520-399-2796.

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

### Next WPHS Meeting April 7<sup>th</sup>

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!**

WPHS is a non-profit  
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