

A PUBLICATION OF THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



SEPT. 30, 2001  
**NHS-73**

**18TH. ANNIVERSARY ISSUE/1983-2001**  
**NIKON  JOURNAL**



**THIS ISSUE**  
PAGE 1 - THE OTHER NIKKORMAT  
PAGE 5 - THE NAME IS "NIKON" ...PART 2  
PAGE 8 - NEW NIKON F BOOK

**ROBERT ROTOLONI**  
**EDITOR/PUBLISHER**



# THE NIKON JOURNAL

VOLUME EIGHTEEN----NUMBER FOUR----SEPT. 30, 2001.

THE NIKON JOURNAL IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR BY "RJR" PUBLISHING, INC., AT P.O. BOX 3213, MUNSTER, INDIANA 46321 U.S.A. COPYRIGHT 2001 BY "RJR" PUBLISHING, INC. ALL OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE THOSE OF THE VARIOUS AUTHORS AND NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE NIKON JOURNAL OR OF THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

OUR 24HR FAX NUMBER IS....(219)322-9977  
OUR WEB SITE IS....http://www.nikonhs.org  
OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS....rotoloni@msn.com  
ANNUAL SOCIETY DUES ARE:  
U.S./CANADA...1YR \$30....3YRS \$75  
OVERSEAS.....1YR \$40....3YRS \$105

>>>>(NEW RATES EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2001)<<<<

## CONTENTS

INSIDE FRONT COVER  
NHS-73 EDITORIAL.....  
by ROBERT J. ROTOLONI

PAGE ONE.....  
THE "OTHER" NIKKORMAT!!  
NIKON'S ONLY SLIDE PROJECTOR!  
by DON DEDERA

PAGE FIVE.....  
THE "NAME IS NIKON".....PART 2.  
FROM THE HISTORY OF NIKON!  
by TATSUHIKO ARAKAWA  
TRANSLATED by KYOKO SAEGUSA

PAGE EIGHT.....  
THE "F-SPOT".....  
A NEW NIKON F TRILOGY!!  
LANDMARK BOOK COMING SOON!!  
by ROBERT J. ROTOLONI

PAGE TWELVE.....  
NHS-CON8 INFO PAGE!!!...SIGN UP NOW!!!!!!

PAGE SIXTEEN.....  
LETTERS...LETTERS...LETTERS...LETTERS...

PAGE SEVENTEEN....  
THE EVER-GROWING "NHS" e-mail LIST!!

PAGE TWENTY....  
CLASSIFIED ADS  
NEW MEMBERS & ADDRESSES

INSIDE REAR COVER  
VERY EARLY "FUJII BROTHERS" BINOCULARS!!  
by BOB THOMPSON

## NHS-74 DEADLINE!!

The deadline for the next issue of our NIKON JOURNAL, NHS-74, is NOVEMBER 15, 2001. Please, you must get all letters and contributions to me by that date because of the Holidays! Thank you! RJR.

## EDITORIAL

In the midst of completing this issue the World Trade Center atrocity shook the civilized world. Please see page 13 for my comments and news of some close calls some of our members had.

On a happier note.....this is the 18th Anniversary issue of our Journal! It seems to catch me off guard each time it rolls around for the years just seem to be going by faster. But here we are...18 years and still going strong! I want to thank all of you for making it possible!

We have a lead off article on the Nikkormat series of slide projectors made in the USA for EPOI but sporting a Nikkor optic. Don Dedera covers it in detail on page 1. Also this issue is Part 2 of Tatsuhiko Arakawa's memories of the beginning of Nikon right after the end of the war. Again he has some remarkable stories to tell!

I mentioned in NHS-72 that member Uli Koch's book on the Nikon F was coming soon. Now it is almost here! Starting on page 8 is a report on the long awaited and needed coverage the "F" so much deserves! Uli's book is nearly ready and the NHS will be involved! I will be a source for the book here in North America and Uli will be at NHS-Con8 to speak and sign books for those who attend. From my report I think you will see that this will be known as the "ultimate" Nikon F book!

I also have smaller reviews of 3 other publishing ventures by members of the Society. William Hansen's new book on identifying and pricing 35mm SLRs; Terence Sheehy's Classic Camera Collector magazines; and Gray Levett's new Nikon Owners Club and magazine. Also a reprint of an interesting article by Mike Symons that I can attest to as the truth, since I was there! Great memories!

The Society has been involved with bringing to its members the new Voigtlander series of lenses made for our Nikon Rangefinder cameras. The 35mm and 25mm lenses are already being shipped and the 21mm should be available by the time you read this. However, I must admit that the response to date has been less than gratifying and I do not know why! Gentlemen, don't you ever want to go out and shoot with your SP? Do you really want to use your 21 or 25mm Nikkors? Is not the forte of the rangefinder the wideangle? Please see page 13 for some further thoughts.

And now to the Convention! Naturally we hope that the atrocity in NY does not interfere with our meeting but so far response has not been earth shaking. A great deal of work is going into this convention and it is being done for your benefit! Our Cons do not make money! None have ever broken even! So why do it you may ask? Because it is not meant to make money! It is for the members to have an opportunity to get together with others having the same interests in life & enjoying each others' company while we learn a little and see some new things! I know it takes money to attend as well as time, but it adds a whole new dimension to collecting. To sit home admiring your collection is one thing....sharing it with others and just simply talking about it is quite another! I truly hope those who plan to attend contact me soon! It's getting close!!

I hope to see many of you in February in Arizona!!

---

---

# THE 'OTHER' NIKKORMAT

by DON DEDERA

"Every Nikon collection must have..." is the frequently seen or heard opinion regarding a spectrum of cameras, lenses and accessories. Carried to the extreme, the advice is of no use at all. Ultimately, every collection needs everything. Impossible! Probably not even Nikon has one of everything Nikon ever made!

That said, every Nikon collection--surely every Nikon F era collection--is incomplete without a Nikkormat/Nikommat slide projector. The brand name product meets Nikon's high standards of elegant design, superior construction, dependable utility and attractive finish. For the heyday of personal, educational and business slide shows, Nikon's unit was not the most popular, but it held its own for a little while in features and reliability.

Inferred from 36-year hindsight: the Nikkormat Automatic Slide Projector debuted in 1965 under the sponsorship of Nikon Inc., Garden City, NY, a subsidiary of Ehrenreich Photo-Optical Industries (EPOI). Advertisements of that year boasted that the product was "new" and exclusively equipped with the Nikkor coated 4 inch (100mm) f3.5 normal projection lens. And the motto: "Turn the switch, and catch your breath! There are your slides--more colorfully alive, more brilliantly sharp than you've ever pictured them."

But that's not all. This new Nikkormat is a truly modern automatic instrument with every modern feature and facility you can want. It was designed to let you indulge your every preference.

You can use rotary trays or straight trays, or no trays. You can even show your slides singly. You can get it to change slides automatically, or operate it remotely with push buttons, or just manually. Or you can connect it to a recorder for synchronized tape commentary. You can preview or edit slides easily. And you can adjust the light system to match the slide format using the condenser shift control.

You'll like the handsome, trim appearance, too. No case to clutter things because the Nikkormat is completely self-contained. Even the power cord is built-in. You simply pull it out to the length desired for use, and when you are through, it winds back into the housing on its own spring reel.

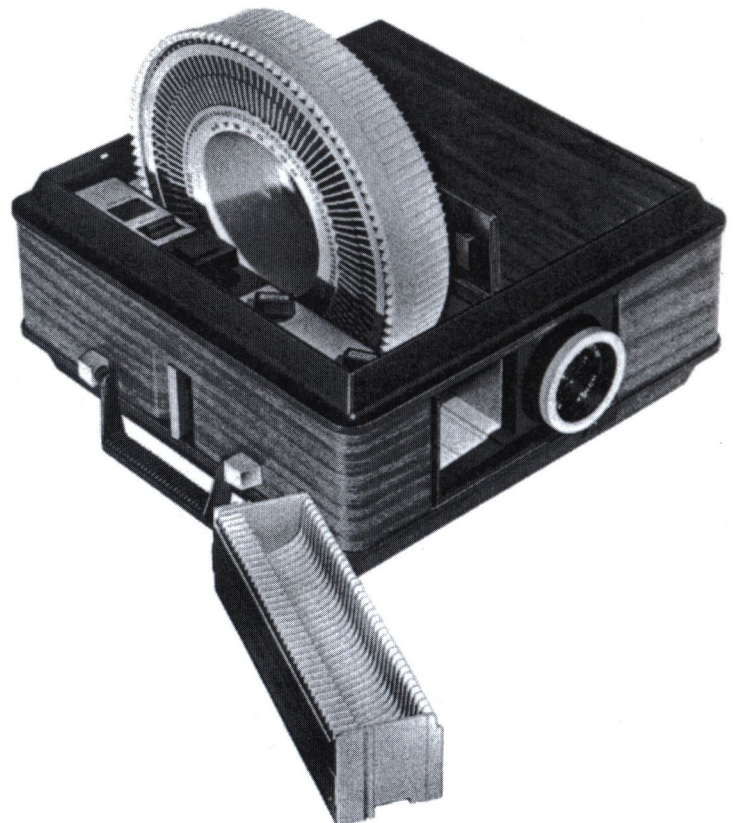
If some of the features of the Nikkormat sounded familiar to American buyers, it was no secret that the prime manufacturer was Sawyer's, Inc., of Portland, Oregon! Nikon's projector shared many internal and cosmetic attributes with Sawyer's projectors of that day, such as the Rotomatic series. Many working components, controls and circuitry are quite similar if not identical and interchangeable.

Sawyer's trademark ROTOTRAY and EASY-EDIT slide trays were standard Nikkormat issue equipment. In these years also at the Sawyer's Portland plant were produced related projectors such as Anscomatic, GAF Hush-a-matic, and other private labels.

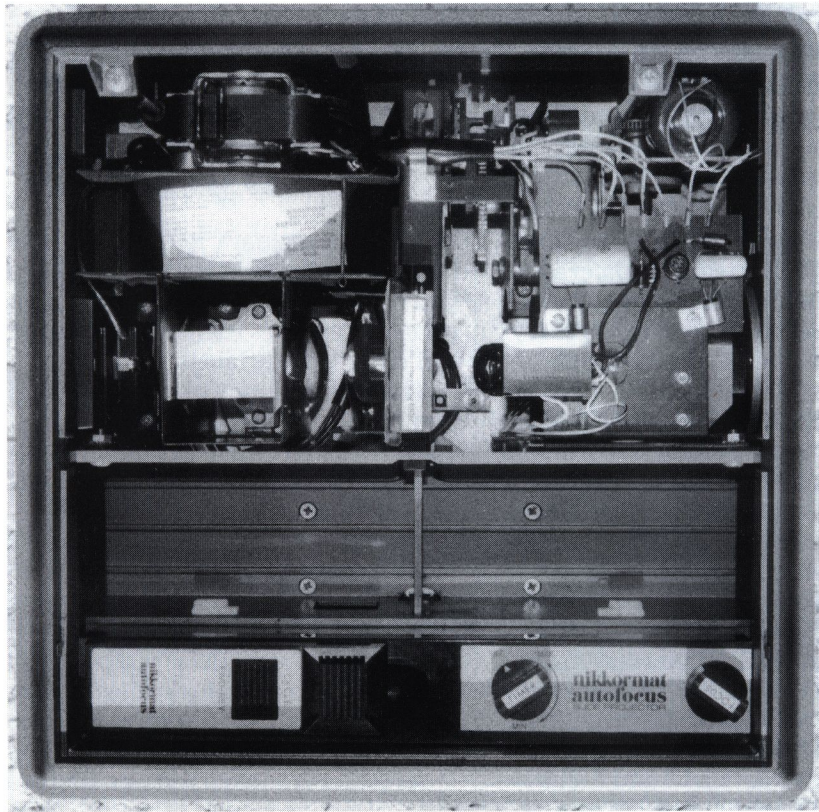
The most distinctive aspect of the Nikkormat (aside from that Nikkor) is the self-contained case with sliding flexible doors that cover the lens and power controls. The case is finished in a walnut-grain vinyl as might be seen on a 1960s "woody" station wagon.

Perhaps the weakest link in the Nikkormat was the spring-loaded power cord winder. Careless handling and cord twisting would cause the mechanism to bind & break. Nikkormats also tended to lose their little rubber feet. Plastic panels sometimes warped. But those were minor deficiencies in a product category notorious for malfunctions. Nearly all my Nikkormat projectors a generation later function as designed.

As set forth in the typology offered below, there were two distinctive models. The first, GC-1, was designated "automatic" for its ability to present a slide show unattended. The second model, GC-2, was labeled "autofocus" for its clever maintenance of focus. Because of its wrap-around housing, the Nikkormat operated quieter than the Sawyer's and other brands.



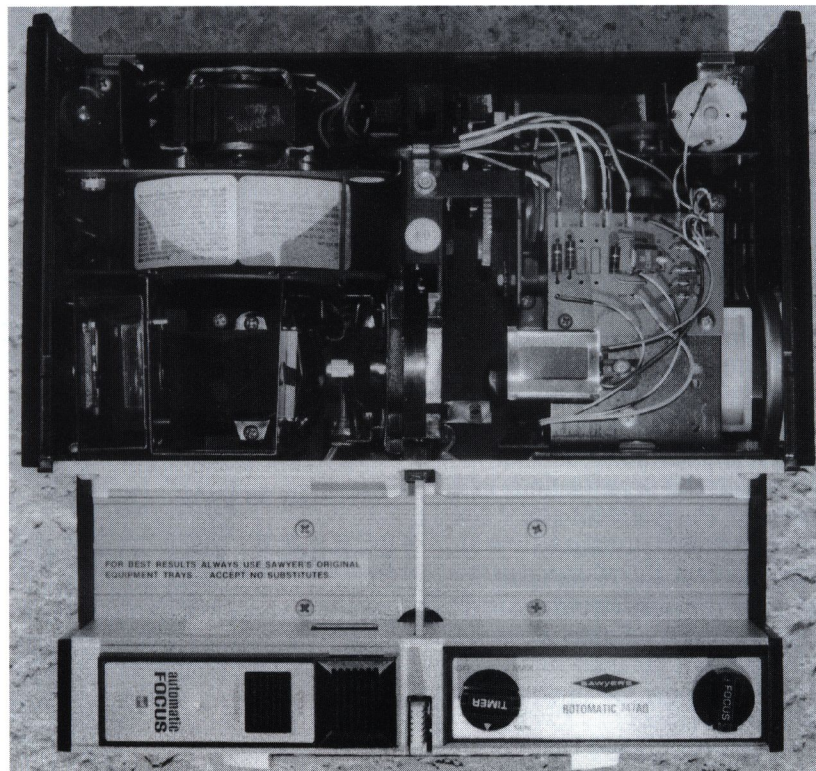
*This cut is from a brochure released by EPOI. Actually it was quite a handsome piece.*



*Bottom.. Interior view of the Sawyer's Rotamatic. Note the similarities with the above illustration.*

*Top... The interior of the Nikkormat Autofocus GC-2. The general layout of the parts is nearly identical to the Sawyer's model and many of the same components were used. However,*

*note that the Nikkormat is completely enclosed by its wrap-around housing instead of wide open like the Sawyer's. This allowed the Nikkormat to be somewhat quieter and a bit more sturdy!*



The existence of a "Nikomats" branded outfit presents minor, dual mysteries. Among Nikkormat camera collectors it is generally supposed that Nikomat items were targeted for Japan's domestic market--it being a somewhat easier name for Japanese customers to pronounce. (Be that as it may, the author purchased a new Nikomat camera in 1969 in a duty-free shop at the Tokyo airport. Nikomats were also retailed through the military post exchange system.) The only Nikomat projector known to the author bears the earliest serial number so far observed: GC-1 2810.

The specimen is new, old stock unused in the original Nikomat shipping box with labels identifying it as Carton No. 2 of a total of 11, from EPOI, Garden City, to Cove Camera of Glen Cove, NY. There is no clue as to date. Fair to guess--EPOI's contract with Sawyer's included an unknown number of Nikomats. For transshipment to Japan's domestic market? And how and why did a Nikomat fill an order to Glen Cove, NY? Apparently the oddball name did not sell in Glen Cove, and I obtained it from a New York City dealer six years ago. The mint instruction manual also bears the Nikomat name.

Emboldened by fraternity with Swiss friend Richard de Stoutz, I venture a draft Nikkormat/Nikomats typology. I am open to suggestions from readers.

#### Type 1

Introduced 1965. Unit, papers & packaging bear "Nikkormat" name, and the word "automatic." Anodized aluminum inspection plate behind on-off switch bears model designation GC-1 and stamped serial number. Observed numbers 6679, 9679, 9723, 11083. Exterior trim is wood-grain vinyl and black paint.



*The Nikkormat came with a 100mm (4 in.) f3.5 Pro-NIKKOR lens. Nikon had made the Pro-Nikkor series for quite some time and this lens was a great selling point for their new Nikkormat. A no name lens was supplied for the Sawyer's model, also of 100mm focal length, but an f2.8! Strange that the Nikkor was slower! I wonder who made the f2.8?*

#### Type 1a

Same as Type 1 except "Nikomats" name appears on inspection plate, shipping carton, instruction book, and probably other papers. Only known serial number is 2810.

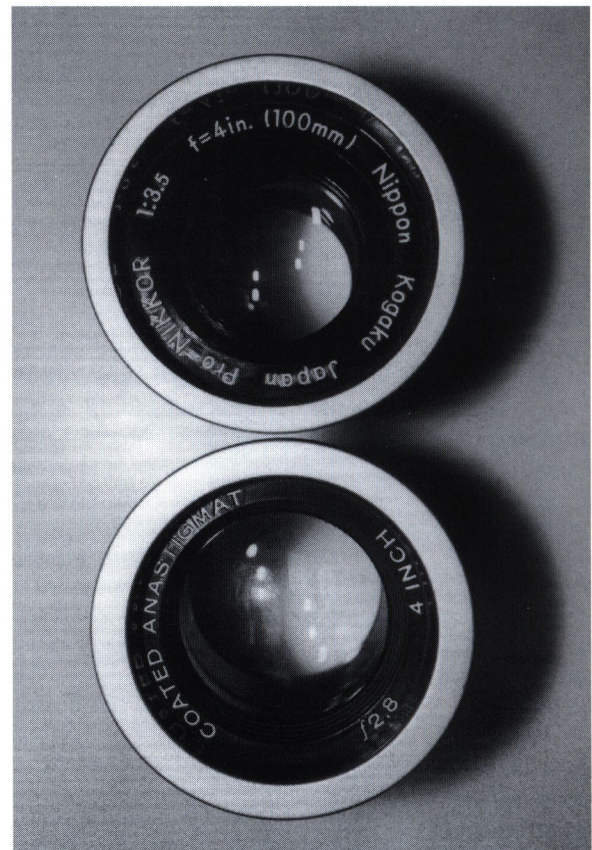
#### Type 2

196x to 196x? Unit, papers and packaging bear the "Nikkormat" name, and the word "autofocus." Anodized aluminum inspection plate behind on-off switch bears the model designation GC-2 and stamped serial number. Exterior trim is wood-grain vinyl and gold paint. Observed serial numbers include 2007, 3650, 26224, 28781, 30783.

The fate of Nikkormat/Nikomats projector production invites further study. Observed serial numbers would suggest a production in excess of 40,000 units. At a retail of US\$150, this suggests a revenue stream of about US\$6 million. Likely discounts, returns and promotions reduced this gross, but remember the 1960s US dollar was worth about ten times the current buck!

Sawyer's held on for years making its own improved models and others after the demise of the Nikkormat, but I believe competition from the likes of the Kodak Carousel eventually prevailed. Today there is no Sawyer's company in Portland, at least as far as I could determine. Advances and changes in picture taking and projecting scrambled a lot of photography eggs.

But present-day Internet auctions often showcase the old Nikkormat projectors. Depending on condition and completeness, or course, they sell for \$50 to \$250, with an added penalty of shipping that 16-pound, heavy metal main unit. On the plus side, if you can buy a non-working projector in decent external appearance, you can find tons of good replacement interior parts inside the Anscos, GAFs, etc. They sell cheap!



**nikkormat**  
Automatic Slide Projector  
for all slides in 2x2 mounts

**INSTRUCTION BOOK**

**nikkormat autofocus**  
SLIDE PROJECTOR  
for all slides in 2x2 mounts:  
super slides 35mm and smaller

Advanced Features Of This Projector  
 Pages 24  
 Getting Your Slide Show Underway  
 Pages 25  
 Slide Handling Systems  
 Pages 26  
 Automatic Focusing  
 Pages 27  
 Operating Controls  
 Pages 28  
 Quartz Infrared Projection Lamp  
 Pages 29  
 After Your Slide Show is Over  
 Pages 30  
 Caring For Your Projector  
 Pages 31, 32, 33  
 Accessories  
 Page 37  
 Guarantee  
 Page 38

---

**nikomat**  
Automatic Slide Projector  
for all slides in 2x2 mounts

**INSTRUCTION BOOK**

**Rotomatic**  
2X2 SLIDE PROJECTOR

**INSTRUCTION BOOK**

**ACCESSORIES**

**STACK LOADER**  
Converter projector permits automatic, slide projection without slide tray. Holds a stack of up to 40 slides. Ideal for projecting slides better permanent storage in slide trays.

**TAPE RECORDER SYNCHRONIZER**  
Connects projector to any automatic synchronizing device for sound slide showing.

**ASK YOUR PHOTO DEALER FOR A DEMONSTRATION**

**ACCESSORIES**

**PROJECTION LENSES**  
The "NIKKOR" lens supplied as standard equipment is ideal for most projection requirements. Additional focal length lenses will be available in cardboard, plastic, or stainless steel housings. See our advertisement on page 6 for approximate projection distance and sizes.

**EASY-EDIT SLIDE TRAY**  
Holds 30 slides in cardboard, plastic, or stainless steel housings. — mounted in any order.

**ROTOMAX SLIDE TRAY**  
Holds 30 slides in cardboard, plastic, or stainless steel housings. — mounted in any order.

**ACCESSORIES**

**SAWYER'S STACK LOADER**  
The STACK LOADER is a convenient adapter for all Sawyer's Projectors, permitting slide projection without slide trays. Slides are loaded into rear section of STACK LOADER... more changer arm "in and out" to advance slides to forward section of STACK LOADER. The STACK LOADER holds all paper mounted slides, Sawyer's plastic mounted slides and other slides whose thickness does not exceed 5/16".

**5" PROJECTION LINE** (ideal for showing slides in large groups or in situations where the projector is used for projection from the rear screen. Item # F-13, mentioned on page 6 for projection distance and focus.)

**SAWYER'S ROTOMAX AND EASY-EDIT SLIDE TRAYS** (shown in plastic, stainless steel, and metal cases.)

**GETTING YOUR SLIDE SHOW UNDERWAY...**

**OPEN PROJECTOR COVER**  
1. Roll back front cover to expose projection lens hood and rear end of slide tray mount. **CAUTION:** THIS REFLECTIVE COVERLET IS OPEN WHEN EVER PROJECTION LAMP IS ON.

2. Roll back rear cover to expose power switch panel and rear end of slide tray mount.

3. Lift up rear cover and field at center hinge to expose projector control console.

**PULL OUT POWER GORD**  
4. Pull retractable 30-foot power cord out from projection lens hood and push to end locking lever to secure cord at desired length. Plug cord into any 105-230 volt, 60 cycle AC electrical outlet. Keep retractable cord in its protective sheath. Do not use any unsatisfactory extension. Occasionally spray cord with liquid wax and wipe clean.

**ROOM LIGHT RECEPTACLE**  
5. To avoid unnecessary eye irritation, projector is equipped with a room light receptacle located below the control console on the rear of the projector. This receptacle is useful in an emergency, such as the case of a blackout while in use. When the projector lamp is turned on... automatically switches the lamp when the projector lamp is turned off. Plug room light receptacle into room 200 watt, 120 volt, 60 cycle AC electrical outlet.

**TURN ON PROJECTOR**  
6. Turn on projector by sliding down in open hole, and then clockwise, rear end of projector lens hood and rear end of slide tray mount. To avoid eye irritation, projector lens hood is turned on.

**RAISE OR LOWER PROJECTOR IMAGE**  
7. To raise or lower projector image, projector is equipped with a projection height adjuster. To raise projector image, simply raise lens hood of projector to desired height and push up adjusting control arm. To lower projector image, simply lower lens hood of projector to desired height and push down adjusting control arm. To raise or lower projector image, projector will stay in that position. Remove by pulling up on control arm locking projection.

**GETTING YOUR 'SHOW ON THE ROAD'...**

**USE EITHER 100-SLIDE Rotomatic OR 36-SLIDE Sawyer's SLIDE TRAY**

The Sawyer's ROTOMAX will accept paper-mounted slides, Sawyer's 35mm EPOI (Epoxy-Optical Image) slides, and 35mm EPOI (Epoxy-Optical Image) slides. The ROTOMAX will hold 100 slides in a single tray. The Sawyer's 36-SLIDE SLIDE TRAY will hold 36 slides in a single tray.

The Sawyer's ROTOMAX will accept paper-mounted slides, Sawyer's 35mm EPOI (Epoxy-Optical Image) slides, and 35mm EPOI (Epoxy-Optical Image) slides. The ROTOMAX will hold 100 slides in a single tray. The Sawyer's 36-SLIDE SLIDE TRAY will hold 36 slides in a single tray.

**nikkormat autofocus**  
SLIDE PROJECTOR

Versatility and Convenience  
 • Your choice of 3 slide handling systems...  
 • Remote operation permits forward and reverse operation...  
 • Remote light receptacle...  
 • Precision lens...  
 • Metal carrying handle...  
 • Slide carrying handle...

**Rotomatic**  
2X2 SLIDE PROJECTOR

Rotomax Slide Projector  
 • The world's most advanced...  
 • Superior construction...  
 • Precision lens...  
 • Metal carrying handle...  
 • Slide carrying handle...

A comparison of the instruction books for the Sawyer's and Nikkormat models. Note that some inside pages are nearly identical! Obviously the same "basic" units with some EPOI

dictated modifications. Also seen here is the "Nikommat" variation mentioned in the text. (All photos by Don Dederer)

# by TATSUHIKO ARAKAWA

# THE NAME IS NIKON

TRANSLATED FOR THE "NHS" BY KYOKO SAEGUSA...PART 2

In this second installment, Kyoko Saegusa continues her translation of chapters 2 & 3 of Tatsuhiko Arakawa's soon to be published book concerned with the rebirth of Japan after the war, and the events at Nippon Kogaku that led to the beginnings of camera production and the **BIRTH OF THE NIKON!**

## Two Reasons

The Production Subcommittee of the Post-War-Measures Committee further established the Civilian Goods Production Subcommittee and the Equipment Subcommittee on September 1, 1945. The former was supposed to determine which products would be produced, and the latter was to arrange for the equipment necessary for producing those products.

The Civilian Goods Production Subcommittee decided to form "special committees" under its wing to do further research. The special committees were: **telescopes, cameras, projectors, lighting fixtures, microscopes, measuring devices, eyeglasses, medical apparatus, scientific apparatus, calculators, watches/clocks, stereo photo imaging devices, spindles for weaving, and glass.**

**It was so Nikon-like to have committees under committees under committees!!**

Nippon Kogaku moved very quickly to build such a sub-structure to do extensive research and production planning, because, in order to switch to producing civilian goods and rebuild the company, it first of all had to know and pick what was likely to sell. Weaponry makers such as Nippon Kogaku especially needed authorization for the conversion from the GHQ. They had to submit a production plan with the application for conversion that explained what sort of civilian goods they intended to manufacture.

Of all the special committees, I was most interested in the camera and projector groups. I was a secretary for the Workforce Division, and was not in a position to make any comments on Production Division business. However, I had some misgivings about the abilities of the members in these two divisions.

It wasn't more than a few days after the war ended when I took out the cardboard box that I had left under my bed. I carefully took the lid off. The leather cases smelled a bit moldy, but when I took the two cameras out of the cases, they produced snappy, healthy shutter sounds that hadn't changed after 5 years of neglect, due to difficulty obtaining film. My pre-war camera history began when my father bought me a Togo camera when I was a boy. I then moved on to a Vest Pocket Kodak with meniscus achromatic lens, a 4.5x6cm format spring camera, a domestic twin-lens reflex camera, and ended with a Rolleiflex, which I'd always wanted. In the meantime, I was lucky to have acquaintances and friends who could explain to me the mechanisms and functions of all sorts of cameras. I was a member of the "Sakura Small-Size Movie Association", which met monthly at the headquarters of Konishiroku. Most attendees at

those monthly meetings were knowledgeable not only about movies but also photography, and they often talked about cameras.

Members of the movie association enjoyed Koji Tsukamoto's productions, which were shown almost every month at the meetings. They were mostly mountaineering movies. I love mountaineering, so the 16mm movies that showed the Japanese Central Alps left an indelible impression on me. Mr. Tsukamoto himself always operated the projector. I too had the experience of showing 16mm movies as part of the PR activities I did, for which I had a projection engineer's license issued by the police. As a consequence, I had operated just about every foreign and domestic projector. I was, thus, very interested in the camera and projector subcommittees, but this personal experience was not the reason I thought we shouldn't manufacture both cameras & projectors. There were 2 other reasons, which I'll describe in a moment, why I felt we should try cameras but not projectors, to rebuild the company.

The mainstay product should be something that can maintain the highest sales for a long time to come. I didn't think that projectors, whether they were for 16mm movies or slides, could be the mainstay product. Similarly, I could not find any product that was being considered in other subcommittees that would suffice either.

To be sure, major optics companies such as Zeiss and Bausch & Lomb sold binoculars in the market, but they were minor products, not what was on center stage for these companies. Furthermore, I thought that very few customers would buy binoculars of such first class but expensive brands: most people would be satisfied with middle to small maker's products. Measuring devices, land survey devices, and other apparatuses that required highly specialized techniques would have a limited demand, and quite a few foreign products in that area seemed to have penetrated our domestic market.

Cameras, on the other hand, could be sold to a vast public, and we could expect an unlimited demand if we succeeded in developing products that could satisfy customer's tastes and needs. That's one reason why I thought cameras should be our mainstay product.

The other reason was that camera production would enhance the corporate image and the name Nippon Kogaku would be widely known among the general public. Before the war, the majority of the cameras made in Japan were of mediocre quality. The Hansa Canon was the first camera that made it into the high quality market. It was produced by the Seiki Optical Institute, founded by Saburo Uchida, and was made possible with cooperation from Nippon Kogaku. I thought, if Nippon Kogaku could come up with cameras that could compete with the Leica, Contax and Rolleiflex, and if such cameras could make it into the domestic and overseas markets, the brand would become international and the company name would be known throughout the world. I thought that was the case with Ernst Leitz, famous as the manufacturer of Leica cameras. It had been known for its microscopes and such, but it

might have remained known only among limited users such as medical doctors and researchers had it not made that camera!

I was certain the Camera Subcommittee would put cameras on top of the list of products to be made in their report. But I was totally wrong!

### The Conditions for Those Who Are to Stay

The 15 subcommittees under the Civilian Goods Committee which in turn was under the Production Division, made a presentation on the results of their research on September 20, 1945, less than three weeks after they were formed. I quote from the book, *The Bright Dark Box*, Chapter One, concerning their report:

“Fifteen special subcommittees were formed, and most able technical workers were included in the committees. However, it would be too much to ask to come up with good ideas in less than a month, even if they had a lot of human resources. Ultimately, what was proposed included some seventy items that could be managed with the existing technology and facilities, such as land survey devices, microscopes, measuring devices, and so on. Clocks and watches and calculators were also included. In short, it looked like the general catalog from an optical machinery manufacturer.” (p.19)

This was probably to be expected. Subcommittee members did their best in their own ways; their only experience was to design, produce and deliver optical weaponry that had been ordered by the army and navy. It was beyond them to identify, produce and market products that might have some demand in the general marketplace.

The report from the Camera Subcommittee, which I was most interested in, listed four items: **cameras, camera lenses, camera accessories, and photography supplies**. The Projector Committee listed several items: small size movie cameras & projectors, standard movie cameras and projectors, and talky devices. Both reports gave me the impression that they had been put together in haste & left the decision up to the reader. I recall that the only movie related items that were actually produced later were diffusion disks for standard movie cameras (soft-focus filters), lenses for standard projectors, and slit lenses on talky devices.

Again I was certain that the four items listed by the Camera Subcommittee would surely be included in the main product list, but I was wrong!

The final decision on the selection of products for the reconstruction of the company was made at the Post-War-Measures Committee meeting, where the reports prepared by the special committees of the Civilian Goods Production Committee were submitted by the Production Division. The decisions made then and there were laid out in detail in “**the New Production Plan**” prepared by the “Special Committee on The Production Plan”. I first knew of the content of the plan after September 30th, when the third wave of lay offs was executed.

The company had decided that they had to let go of the majority of those male employees who had been told to wait at home. They would keep some of them as “core workers in charge of tidying up unfinished business”, and let go of all the others. Thus, in each unit, of those who were “able, healthy, and possessing special skills” among the men offi-

cially registered as employees as of September 1st, top full-time permanent white collar workers & about 20% of non-permanent and factory workers, were chosen to remain as core workers. The selection was done by September 20th.

At that time, I thought I would not be chosen to stay, since I had been with the company for only two years, and I had transferred from another company. I didn't have any plan, but I was single and carefree. I thought it would work out for me somehow. The idea of going back to the company for which I had worked prior to Nippon Kogaku did pop into my mind. However, it wasn't entirely a flight of fancy. Much later, when the plan to produce cameras at Nippon Kogaku had become a reality, and when the name “Nikon” was taking shape in my mind, I received a call at work from Ichiro Fukushima, executive manager, at the Tokyo office of Noda Shoyu (Kikkoman) whom I used to work for, asking me to work for him again in the advertisement department. I was very grateful to have received the call. I had left Kikkoman at my own convenience, but he must have kept track of me. I was very moved by the call, and just for a moment my mind was swayed. However, I could not possibly jump ship now. I thanked him profusely for remembering me, but I had to apologize to him for not being able to accept the offer.

I ended up staying on in the Personnel Section as one of the crew “tidying up the unfinished business”, and faced September 30th with very mixed feelings. Every male employee who wasn't on the list was laid off on the spot. We still didn't know if the company would survive. Who were more lucky, those who were leaving, or those who were staying? We bid farewell in few words, and wished good luck to each other as we looked the others in the eye.

### We Are Not Making Cameras

After three waves of lay offs had come and gone, and the work at the Personnel Section had slowed down, my attention again was turned to products which our company might produce. I heard that “a new production plan” had been issued a few days back, so I asked Noboru Hamashima what decision had been made at the Post-War-Measures Committee, where he was also a secretary. His answer that “**it has been decided that we won't be manufacturing cameras**” came as a surprise. He knew I often talked about the importance of making camera products as the mainstay for the two reasons I have mentioned above; that's why he gave me a straightforward answer. To me it was out of the clear blue. My surprise didn't stop there. I asked again if cameras and camera equipment hadn't been selected as items for production, and Hamashima said, “Godai opposed the idea and said that we only need to produce camera lenses, as we always have.” I couldn't believe my ears!

I had known that Masatomo Godai, Director of the Ohi Plant, had been the central figure in camera production at Nippon Kogaku. It says in *Forty Years* that “Nippon Kogaku began experimenting with manufacturing photo equipment around 1931. Masatomo Godai, who was an engineer, broadened his knowledge in this field from his trips to Europe and the US. Upon returning, he focused his work on development in this field.(p.546)” Godai visited five countries (Germany, Italy, France, Britain and the US) in February-August of 1930. The official purpose of his trip was to inspect the current status of the optical industries overseas, and he went as a commissioned worker to the



Ministry of the Army. He had since been the central figure in camera production, although the cameras were for the military. I had high expectations that he would strongly propose that cameras become the mainstay. I was naturally astounded that Godai, of all people, opposed camera production! It was not difficult to imagine that his opinion weighed very heavily in making the decision, as he was a member of both the Post-War-Measures Committee and the Production Division.

Why did he object? With that question in mind, I did some research on military cameras that were manufactured by Nippon Kogaku in pre-war Japan. The main products were the 5-meter telephoto camera, the periscope-style telephoto camera, the automatic aerial camera, the small aerial camera & the micro aerial camera. All the mechanical parts for these products were designed by Godai and his crew.

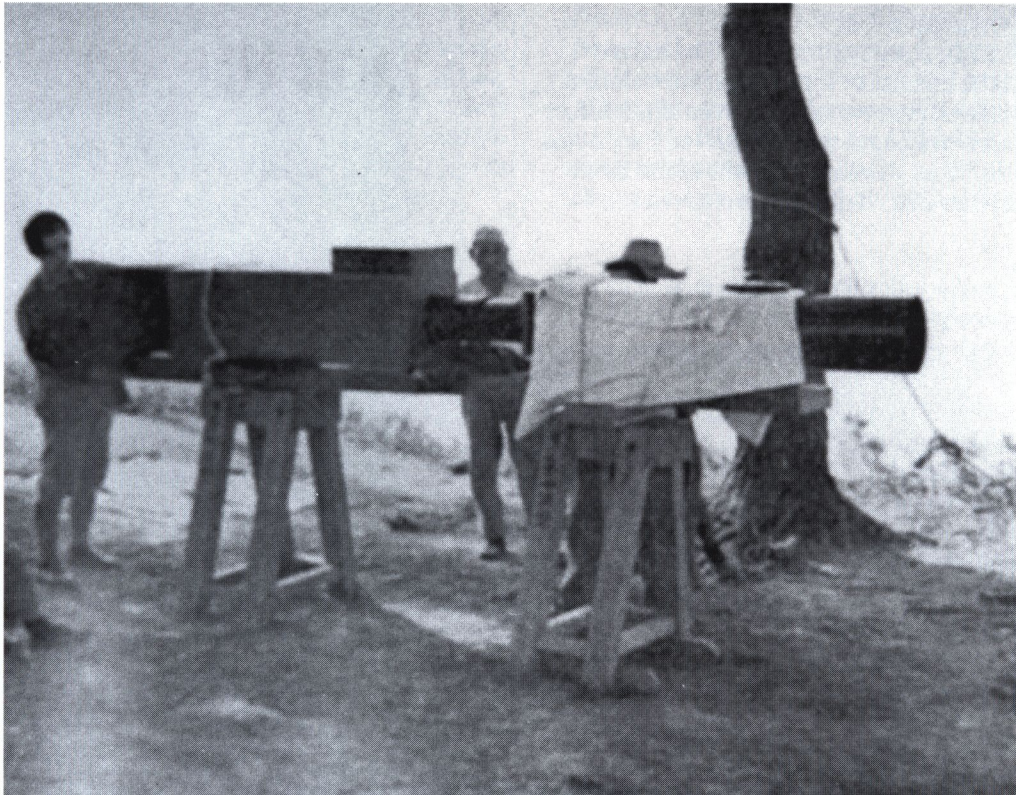
Of these cameras, the small aerial type began being developed at Nippon Kogaku in 1933. The lens had an 18cm focal length, and the shutter was of the compur style. One set the shutter by rotating the handle that holds the camera, and each of the twelve dry plates would fall into place as one pulled the lid of the holder. A separate film holder was manufactured. The camera had a full complement of functions. This was adopted by the Army as "the 96 style small aerial camera." This camera was made up of a lot of parts, and it required a high degree of precision to manufacture; only Nippon Kogaku was able to produce it. Later, the 18cm lens was not good enough as photos had to

be taken at higher altitudes. Eventually, it was replaced by "the 1000 style small aerial camera," manufactured by another company. The latter had a simpler structure, and was smaller and lighter.

In 1935 three companies, Nippon Kogaku, Tokyo Kogaku and Konishiroku, competed to produce the "micro aerial camera", for which the military specified a focal length of 7.5cm with a format size of 6x6cm, an automatic coil system and the use of **Kodak Brownie Camera** film! The camera was to be used by fighter airplane pilots as well. I heard that the first prototype made by Nippon Kogaku, under Godai's guidance, was immediately sent to the continent and tested by the air reconnaissance team in charge of the Russo-Manchurian border. Later, the preference with the micro aerial camera shifted to a much smaller and lighter camera that used 35mm film. A test was done attaching a handle to a Leica. This resulted, in 1940, in a new prototype by Nippon Kogaku and Konishiroku called the "99 style micro aerial camera'.

Everything the company made was for the military, but Godai was involved in manufacturing all the cameras made at Nippon Kogaku in pre-war Japan. It was probably inevitable that cameras would be excluded from the new production plan if Godai opposed it. I had come to terms with the notion that this policy would never be reversed.

What was lucky for me was a question Hamashima posed later on, which rekindled my hope, and two unexpected incidents that brought about a change.



*A very rare photo indeed! Arakawa-san sent me this shot a few years ago. As far as I can ascertain this is the first and only time this photo has ever been published! What is it you might ask? This, gentlemen, is a shot taken during the testing of the "5 METER (5000MM) TELEPHOTO CAMERA" made before the War and mentioned in the text! I have seen*

*one other photo of this item which shows it mounted on a flat bed truck! It has appeared a few times in official Nippon Kogaku historical literature. This photo is unique because it is a much closer view of the camera and also shows it being actually used. (Tatsuhiko Arakawa)*

# THE F--SPOT!!

## A NIKON F TRILOGY!

**A LANDMARK NEW BOOK ON THE 'F' SYSTEM BY ULI KOCH COMING SOON!!**

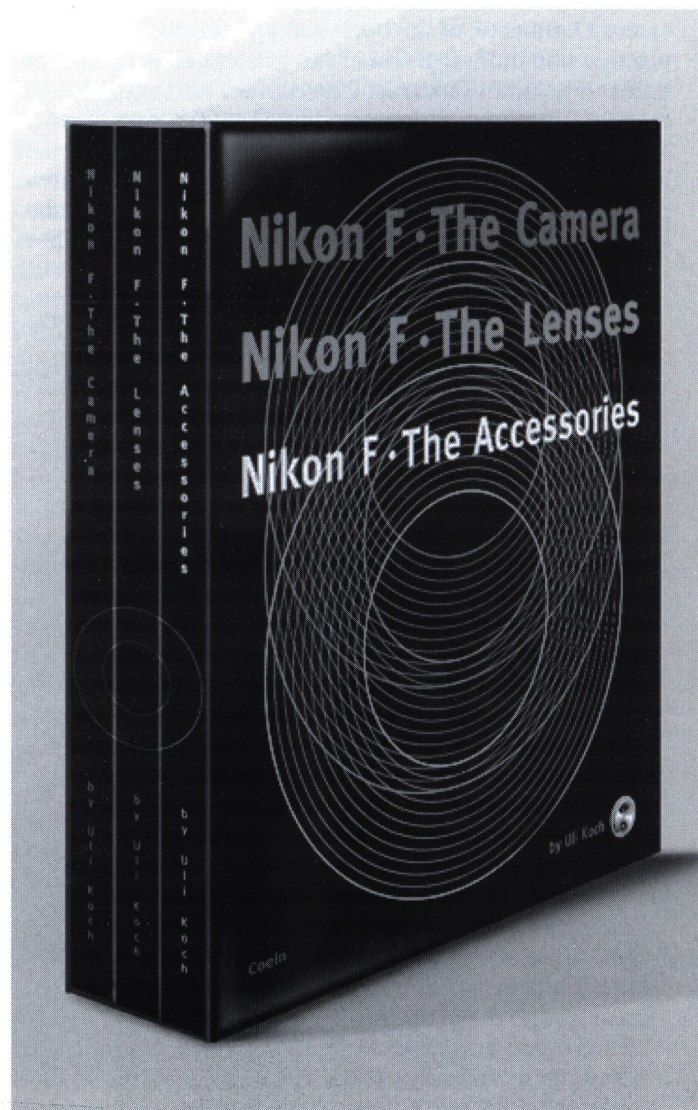
The largest, most detailed and beautifully illustrated book on the Nikon F is due out very shortly! Actually, it is three books, and not just one! As I have mentioned in previous Journals, member Uli Koch of Germany, has been working on what will undoubtedly be the "landmark" book on the venerable Nikon F for some time to come. Now as its release date draws close, I can give you a more fact filled report on its contents along with some photos. (For even better up to date information make sure you visit Uli's website at [www.nikon-f.de](http://www.nikon-f.de)).

First of all some basic points of interest. The entire publication, which will consist of three separate volumes encased in a handsome slipcase weighing over 4kg (almost 9 pounds), will contain 610 pages featuring over 700 photos including 150 in color! Now you know what I mean by detailed and heavily illustrated! The three volumes are entitled:

**NIKON F..THE CAMERA**  
**NIKON F..THE LENSES**  
**NIKON F..THE ACCESSORIES**

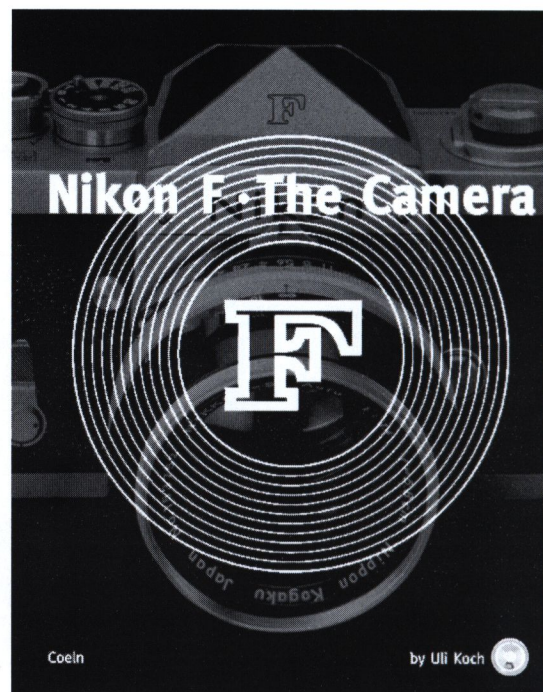
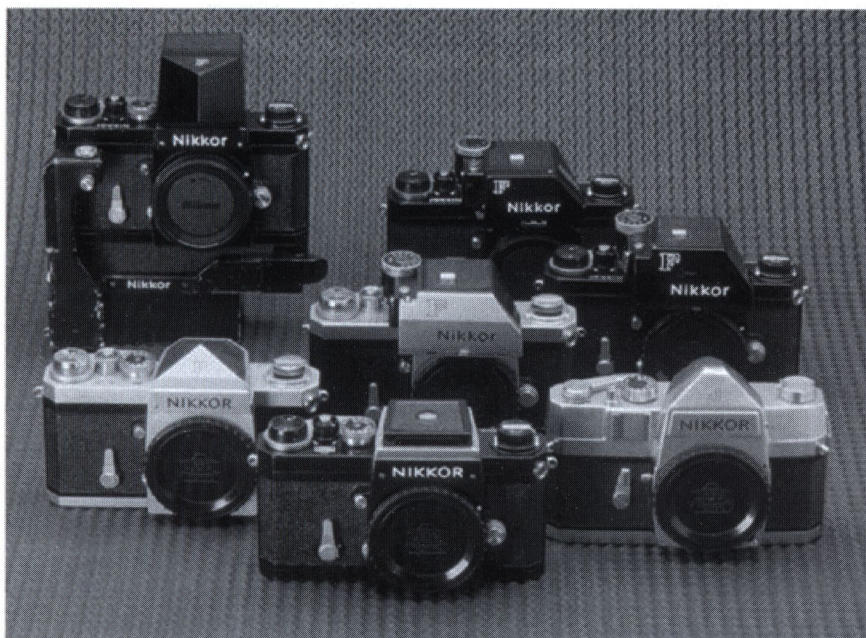
Let me quote some lines from Uli's website, which you should visit as it is well done.

"The tremendous success of the Nikon reflex cameras was based on the Nikon F--considered by many--as the flagship photographic instrument in the history of Nikon. This October a new trilogy about the Nikon F will be released in English. The Nikon F system is described in all its complexity at a level of detail never seen before. Countless photographs show all the different model variations of the camera, lenses and accessories throughout the 14 year production period. Numerous tables of serial number information and valuable data supplement this reference for collectors and users of this unique camera system. An artistically designed slipcase holds the three volumes. A total of 610 fascinating pages and more than 720 photographs highlight detailed images of the most successful professional camera system in the 1960s and early 1970s. Included are 150 exquisite color pictures...and the high quality printing justifies the selling price of \$179 US for this definitive book on the Nikon F."



*All three volumes will come to you encased in a handsome slipcover for protection. This is a great idea since a single book over 600 pages would be very difficult to handle and read and the binding would not hold up with time. Splitting such a large subject into 3 volumes is a wise decision.*

## THE GERMAN NIKKOR STORY



*The covers and a sample photo from the volumes on the camera itself and the accessories. Just to give you an idea of the subjects covered, a small sampling from the tables of content: Cameras--standard & special bodies (High Speeds, Fundus, military, Dummies, rapid wind, Nasa & space, red dot, Apollo, special engravings, cutaways, German Nikkor, "T" & <EP> bodies, special features & modifications), & a detailed discussion of the controls & parts of the camera body, including structural features!!*

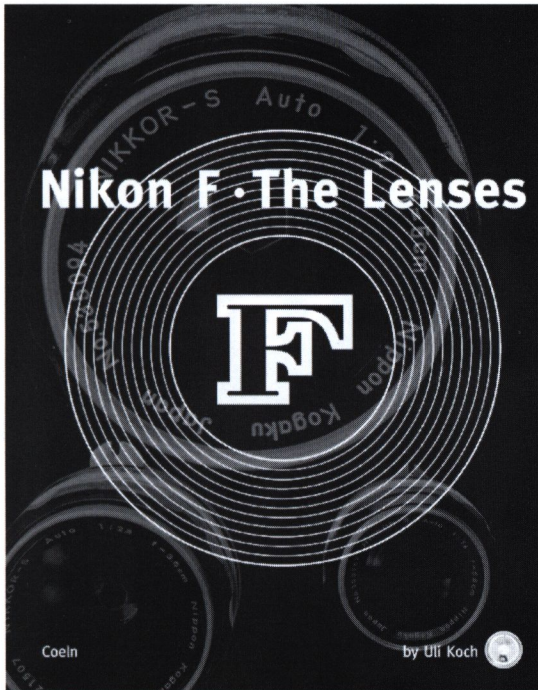
*Accessories--motor drives, motor accessories & battery packs, Powercon & Remopak, screens, prisms, meters, finders, Polaroid (Speed Magny) backs, panorama heads, close-up accessories (rings, bellows, copy stands, slide copiers), relay box, pistol grips, intervalometer, Microflex units, microscope & telescope adapters, flash units, Multiphot, etc, etc.! The list of covered items is long and detailed and will cover the various items to a degree never done before, all with photos!*



## THE MOTOR ACCESSORIES



## THE MIRROR LENSES



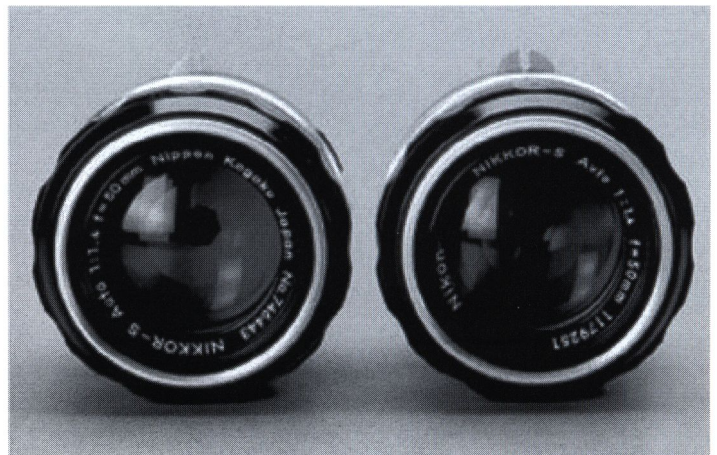
*Next to the bodies, the lenses will command the most interest from the reader. They are covered in great detail, but not limited to just a listing of various lenses and types along with their specs. Uli also goes into physical attributes of Nikkor lenses such as engravings, lens functions, filter and focusing rings, the bayonet mount and coupling prong, the diaphragm blades, and on and on! Whew!! But then he goes into each lens made for the early F era as well! He breaks them down into logical groupings including.. normals, wide angles, telephotos, long telephotos, mirror reflex lenses, range-finder era lenses usable on the F, zoom lenses, Micros, fisheye lenses, & special purpose types. He also devotes space to lens accessories such as..hoods, filters, caps and the NF tube.*

*Naturally he covers all of the run-of-the-mill common lenses, but he does it in loving detail and points out variations to look for. One thing to keep in mind: Nikon has produced a bewildering amount of variations in their reflex lenses over the years! I had a much easier time with the rangefinder era optics as they were not made for as long a time or in such large numbers, both of which tend to increase the number of variations to cover. So even the "common" lenses require a great deal of work and research! And Uli has done it! But he also gives due to those wonderful and weird lenses that Nikon is famous for! Here is a sampling of what is covered....*

*5.8cm/1.4, 15mm/5.6, 20mm/3.5, 21mm mirror lock-up, 80mm/4.5 AF-Nikkor prototype, 300mm/2.8 ED manual lens, 400/600/800/1200mm lens heads and their special focusing mounts and cradle, 500mm/5.0 & 8.0 mirror lenses, 1000mm/6.3 & 11.0 mirror lenses, the 2000mm mirror, RF lenses for the F (180,250,350,500 & 1000), all the zoom lenses including the prototype 3.5 to 8.5cm once covered here in the Journal, Medical Nikkor, all the Fisheyes from 6mm to 10mm, PC & GN Nikkors, the UV Nikkor and the Oscilloscope Nikkor, and on and on! As you can see, a very detailed listing. You will come away from this book with a complete knowledge of nearly every item ever made for the Nikon F era!!*

**CONTACT ME FOR FINAL COST  
WITH SHIPPING AT MY EMAIL OR  
FAX NUMBER. I WILL SHIP AS  
SOON AS THEY ARRIVE.**

**rotoloni@msn.com 219-322-9977**





*The author, Uli Koch, in a reproduction of a Nikon ad that should be familiar to readers of the Journal! Isn't it?*

I have included samples of the covers and slipcase in this report as well as some of the very high quality photos you will find within its pages. Believe me, the are very well photographed and imaginatively composed and show off the handsome Nikon F system is all its glory. From a personal point of view, I consider the Nikon F (the camera I cut my teeth on) and its vintage lenses and accessories the most handsome and well made Nikon equipment of all time, period! The F is a gorgeous camera when sporting its standard prism, and the lenses of the period still appeal to me the most. The photos I have seen so far tell me that this beautiful body of equipment is going to be given its just due in this trilogy. Uli Koch has done a wonderful job putting all of this together and I know that his work is going to be rewarded when this book goes down as the finest ever done on the Nikon F system!

Now for two more points of information. Uli has agreed to be a speaker at NHS-Con8 in Scottsdale in February where he will talk about what went into bringing this book to reality. He will also be more than happy to autograph your copy if you wish to bring it with you or purchase one there. This brings us to the second point.

I am currently negotiating with the North and South American distributor, James McKeown, to purchase this book in quantity so the Society can offer it to its members at a reduced price! **Plans call for a 20% discount off of the \$179.00 cover price plus shipping!** However, I can only offer this to members in the US, Canada and South America as Jim only has rights to these areas. Besides, a book of this size would cost so much to ship to Asia and back to Europe, that all savings would be wiped out. I am sorry I cannot offer it to all but the simple economics of shipping determines everything! However, plans call for an ample supply to be on hand at the Convention so those attending have the opportunity to purchase it there!! **So you now have two more good reasons to attend!!**

The \$179 price is fairly definite save for any last minute changes. The cost of shipping will have to be determined once I have the book in hand and can determine total shipping weight. If you are interested please contact me at my fax number or email address on the inside front cover. I hope to have books on hand before Christmas or even sooner! **Don't miss out on this major event in the world of Nikon collecting!!!**

# NHS-CON8 INFO!!

## **NHS-CON8 IS GETTING CLOSER!**

By the time you receive this issue of the NHS Journal, NHS-CON8 will be barely 16 weeks off. With the holidays approaching quickly, those 16 weeks will go by faster than one can imagine, and the Convention will be here! Those of you who have already sent in your registration form and fee, thank you very much and I look forward to seeing each and everyone of you. For those who are still thinking about it, **please do not delay in getting your form and fee in!** It is important that we have some sort of head count as early as possible to aid in our planning. As stated last issue, there is a discount for early registration and the fee is refundable up to a point in case you cannot attend! So there is no reason for you to delay if you feel you really would like to attend but cannot be certain of your circumstances next February. Here is again the registration information:

FEE RECEIVED BEFORE JAN. 1, 2002.....\$40.00  
 FEE RECEIVED AFTER DEC. 31, 2001.....\$50.00  
 FEE AT THE DOOR ON FEB. 24, 2002.....\$60.00

**YOUR FEE WILL BE REFUNDED IN FULL IF YOU NOTIFY ME BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON FEBRUARY 10, 2002. AFTER THIS DATE THE FEE IS NOT REFUNDABLE!**

I think this is quite fair to all concerned. Those of you who are reasonably certain to attend have ample time to get your discounted fee to me, yet everyone has till Feb. 10th to withdraw if circumstances require it. So please do not delay. Make your checks payable to **RJR PUBLISHING, INC.** and get them to me ASAP. Send them to the PO Box for the Society. And do it soon so you don't forget.

I have listed all hotel and meeting info in previous Journals, but I will do it once more so everyone has the information at their fingertips.

- WHEN:** FEBRUARY 22-24, 2002  
**WHERE:** CHAPARRAL SUITES RESORT HOTEL located in Scottsdale, Arizona.  
**WHAT:** One entire day, Sat. Feb. 23rd, of Nikon presentations in a spanking new convention center with state-of-the-art audio/visual projection gear, followed by a swap/sell session **WITH FREE TABLES FOR THE SELLERS!!**  
**MORE:** **A COMPLIMENTARY** dinner & drinks get together Friday evening at the home of Don & Nancy Deder, with transportation provided. Saturday evening "Western Outdoor" cookout & barbecue at the hotel. The wives will enjoy on Saturday activities with shopping, lunch, etc., coordinated by Nancy..

**HOTEL INFO!!!** The room rate is \$159 per day single or double, which is far below the rates that prevail for such rooms during the peak tourist season in Arizona! All rooms are suites, with private sleeping chamber & separate outer room. The rate also applies to those who arrive some days earlier or stay longer.

This rate includes free limo shuttle from & to Sky Harbor International Airport, only 20 minutes away. Also, complimentary prepared-to-order breakfast, evening cocktail hour, use of swimming pools, spas, tennis courts & a fully equipped fitness gym, & unlimited access to a business center with fax, online computers and copy equipment! At modest additional cost, Internet connection is available in every suite at all hours! For more info please see their web site at [www.chaparralsuites.com](http://www.chaparralsuites.com). **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL & BE SURE TO MENTION THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO QUALIFY FOR THE CONVENTION RATE!! THEIR TEL # IS 1-800-528-1456.**

Since last issue I can add the following information. Member Uli Koch has agreed to be one of our speakers and will talk about his new book covered elsewhere in this issue. The book should be out long before the convention (and will have limited availability through the NHS) but plans call for copies to be present for the Convention and, of course, Uli will be happy to autograph them for you! **So bring your copy or buy one there and get it signed!!**

Secondly, I have decided to hold a raffle for the first time at one of our meetings. The idea has come up in the past but we have never acted on it. However, for NHS-Con8 we will have one. Actually we will have three!!! We will raffle off one each of the new Voigtlander-SC Nikon mount lenses! Third prize would be the 35mm, second the 25mm & first prize the 21mm. Raffle chances will be \$25 each and members can buy as many as they desire. I plan to have tickets available soon and also at the meeting. Those who wish to purchase raffle tickets can send checks directly to me (made out to RJR Publishing) and I will send you your tickets. Also they will be available during the convention weekend. The drawing will take place after lunch on Saturday. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN! PURCHASE TICKETS BY MAIL AS THE RAFFLE IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY!!!!**

**ONLY ONE ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL REMAINS BEFORE THE CONVENTION. PLEASE MAKE YOUR PLANS SOON & CONTACT ME OR DON DEDERA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! YOU WILL HAVE A GOOD TIME IN A GREAT PLACE AT THE BEST TIME OF THE YEAR WITH YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS. REMEMBER TO CONTACT THE HOTEL SOON, PICK OUT SOME REALLY NEAT STUFF TO BRING & BRAG ABOUT, AND HAVE A GOOD TIME WHILE YOU SEE OLD FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES! OUR CONVENTIONS STRIVE TO BE A FUN TIME FOR EVERYONE, SO COME ALL!!**

## AMERICA & FREEDOM ATTACKED!

On September 11th an atrocity occurred in the United States that many thought could never happen. Well, it did, and the free world will never be the same! Some of our members were affected although, as of this writing, I know of no one who lost their life. Bill Kraus' brother, whose law office is only a few blocks from the towers, was there that morning for a meeting and left only 20 minutes before the first plane hit! Fred Krughoff, our webmaster, lives within walking distance of the towers. During NHS-Con6 I walked from his loft with him and his friend Rebecca, to a restaurant near the towers. I could not make contact with Fred until September 20th and our site was down. I feared the worst but Fred finally emailed to say he was OK. However, Rebecca was in the towers when they were hit! She did get out but saw others leap to their deaths from the upper floors! Thank god they are OK!

From my personal point of view I feel that America and the free world will never completely recover from this. We have been attacked & bloodied by a group of utterly godless barbarians who kill innocent human beings in the name of god! The ultimate insult to his very name!

I do not know the outcome of all of this but rest assured, no one living in a free and democratic country is safe from these barbarians and the sooner everyone else in the world understands that, the better. This atrocity was not inflicted on America, but on the free world! And if it can happen to us, it can happen to you. Stay alert and stay smart and stay with us. America does not start wars, we finish them! RJR

## THE VOIGTLANDERS HAVE ARRIVED!!!

As you read this the 35mm and 25mm Voigtlander lenses are in my possession and the 21mm optics are promised for the first week of October. So those of you who have placed your orders should have your new lenses in your hands by the time you receive this issue of the Journal.

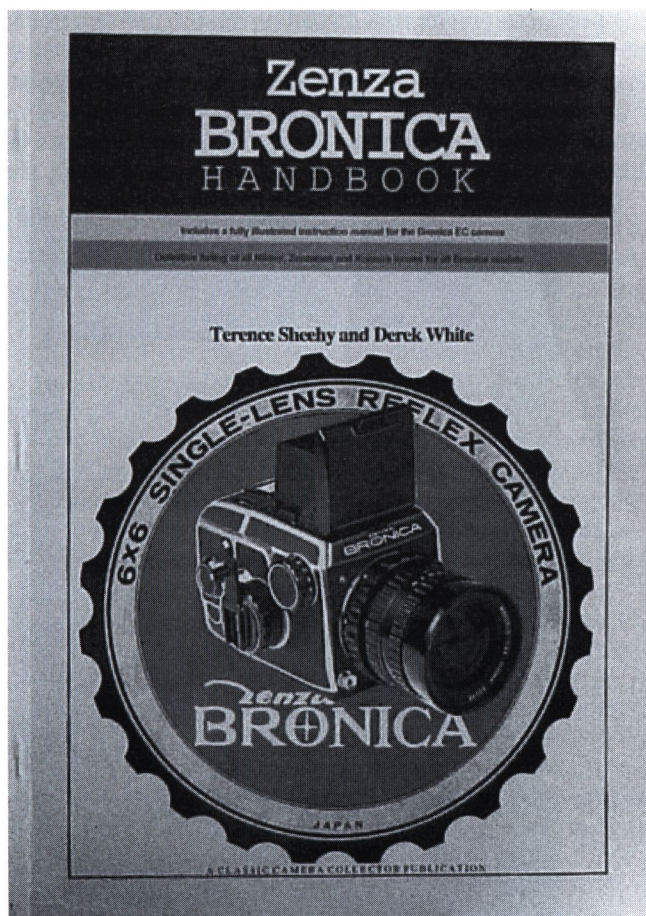
**However, I must confess that the response to these new lenses has been less than I had hoped for!**

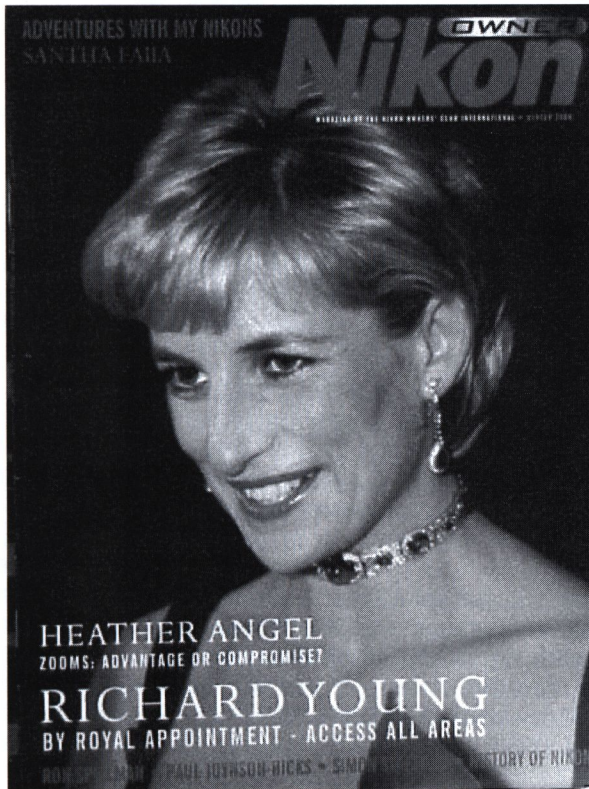
Why is this, I ask myself? Don't Nikon collectors ever use their cameras for actual shooting? Or do they just pack them away and dust them off once in a while? Don't they ever get the urge to go out there with an SP or S2 or even the lowly S, and take some pictures? Are not the range-finder cameras best for shooting with wideangle lenses? So compact, so light weight, so quiet. And if Nikon collectors do get out there what do they use? Maybe a 35/2.5 or 1.8 or even a 28mm. They are not too expensive. But do they use their 25mm and 21mm Nikkors for street shooting? What percentage even own a 25mm (maybe 20%) or the very rare 21mm (1%??)? I really can't imagine someone at this point in time putting their 21 or 25 on an SP and going out for some "shots"! **So why not use these new Voigtlanders?** I mean you can get a 21 or 25 and really shoot with them! They are not overly expensive and the quality is there! An S2 with the 21 or 25 is a dream to shoot with and the finders are beautiful! **People, if you want Cosina to continue to produce items for our Rfs, including a possible body, then this venture must be successful for them! Now is your chance, but you must let me know soon! RJR**

## CLASSIC CAMERA COLLECTOR

British member Terence Sheehy recently sent me copies of his latest publications on the early Bronica cameras, which are of interest to me because of their use of Nikkor lenses. Terence also publishes "Classic Camera Collector" magazine as well as other specialty magazines on various marquees. He brings together vintage advertising, promo and instructional literature as well as test reports done by various publications from the past. I find it interesting in that one of the best ways to collect information about a long discontinued item is from the literature of the period. He does this as well as supplementing it with some of his own product shots. He tells me...."all my books are hand assembled, stapled & edge bound by me personally. The production of each title is a complete manual experience, as they are designed, photographed & typeset by me with each page being pasted into position before laser copying, just using the skills that I have acquired from 30 years experience as a graphic designer & totally without the use of computers. U.S. & Canadian buyers can purchase from Petra Kellers (Pkell1014@aol.com) while Europeans can buy directly from me (39 Beechwood Ave., Orpington, Kent, BR6 7EZ England). A catalog is available..."

From my point of view, and I am a little biased, the more literature that is made available to collectors the better. So much has been published during the 20th century that no one person could possibly find the time to go through it and assemble all the info they needed without the help of publishers like the NHS & Terence & all those other collector groups & societies out there. They are doing a service to us all by preserving & presenting this information in a usable form. We should all do our best to support such efforts. RJR





## NIKON OWNERS' CLUB

I am sure the entire Nikon world knows of Gray's of Westminster, the "Nikon only" shop in London. Gray Levett, who has been an NHS member for years, recently founded a new club for Nikon Owners with its own full color quarterly magazine and interactive web site. I quote a recent letter from Gray...."after 15 years of resisting starting a club for Nikon enthusiasts, late last year I launched the Nikon Owners' Club International. The club has taken off like a rocket and we now have members in over 43 countries around the world. I produce a classy quarterly color magazine "Nikon Owner" which has had national press. Come see us on our website....[www.nikonownersclub.com](http://www.nikonownersclub.com)"

Just what does membership get you & what does it cost? Here's the info straight from the pages of the premier issue of "Nikon Owner". "Membership includes preferential insurance rates on your equipment; special price packages for members only; extended 3 year warranty on all new Nikon gear; special photographic workshops for members only; special equipment clinic days; discounted rates for repairs for your Nikons; 4 issues per year of their magazine Nikon Owner." The cost for this package is 69 pounds per year for the U.K. and Europe (89 pounds for the rest of the world).

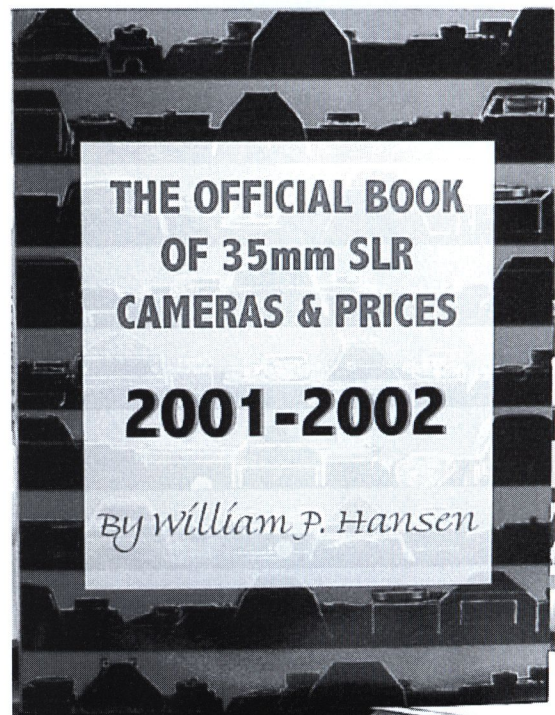
I have already received 2 issues of their magazine and I can assure you that it is a very high quality, professional, full color publication full of all types of information such as the latest equipment from Nikon; workshops sponsored by the Club; shooting various subjects taught by pros; digital photography with your Nikon; how-tos and pictorials. It is an interesting and very well done journal. For more info please check out their website.

## NEW SLR PRICE GUIDE!

Another NHS member has published a book (already in its second edition in less than a year) that I was not aware of until recently. William Hansen has compiled an extremely useful guide book for the general collector who wants to know the basic facts about what looks like every 35mm SLR ever made! This is really a useful book for anyone who deals in photographica or the collector who prefers the SLR over other types of cameras and, therefore, needs a book more limited than McKeown's. If you are primarily into the 35mm SLR, or it seems to be what you come across most often (it probably is), then this book is a great reference. Looking at tables at shows tells me that the 35mm SLR is at least 60-70% of what is on display, so there is a great deal of activity in this sector. Bill's book can be looked at as a supplement to McKeown's. At 8.5x11 with a soft cover and about 3/4ths inch thick, it isn't hard to keep with you in your travels. And it is full of information.

The title is "The Official Book of 35mm SLR Cameras & Prices". The initial book was 268 pages with over 800 photos and listings for over 1700 cameras! The second edition, which came out in the same year, is 282 pages with 925 photos! And he is currently working on his 3rd edition! It looks like it will continue to grow. Each camera is given a short bio including features, dates, comments and a price range. And over half include a good quality photo for easy identification. The back cover blurb says it all..."covers every major 35mm SLR made over the past 65 years...U.S. and international models cross-referenced....all cameras listed alphabetically by model name for quick location..."

Bill works for KEH camera in Atlanta so he has access to the probable price range based on their huge experience with the used camera market. But even if you only collect SLRs, this book is a great reference guide. For more info and price with shipping check out KEH's website at.....[www.keh.com](http://www.keh.com) under shop new, miscellaneous, books... or call sales at 404-892-5522.





## A "NIKON TALE" VISITS TO A PAWN SHOP

This Nikon related story began about 15 years ago in the "tenderloin" district of Seattle: 1st Avenue. Fellow Nikon collector, NHS member & good friend Bill Adams & I entered one of the many pawn shops in that area, an outfit by the name of Friedman's. When we asked the owner if he had any older Nikon equipment, he shuffled around the counter & pushed a dusty old box in front of us. Inside was a rather scruffy & pedestrian looking Nikon S outfit. Yawn! There was the body in a leather case with a chrome 5cm/f2 Nikkor (Tokyo), a chrome "old series" 3.5cm/f3.5, a chrome 8.5cm/f2.0 "Tokyo" Nikkor, & a chrome 13.5cm/f3.5 Nikkor, plus a Varifocal Zoom finder. All the lenses & the finder had their original brown leather cases. When we asked him his price, he stated "\$500 and no bargaining. The price is firm!" Bill & I glanced at each other & smiled. \$500 for that "common" Nikon stuff? No way! First of all, we both had everything that was there. In those days, a Nikon S was selling for between \$100-140. The other chrome lenses regularly sold for \$40-60 at camera shows & the finder was worth between \$25-35. No bargain there. We thanked the owner and left chuckling to ourselves. I think our comment to ourselves was "Typical pawn shop prices! Forget it!"

Every time I visited Seattle after that I always checked out the pawn shops. Every time I went to Friedman's I asked about the box of "old" Nikons. "Still \$500 & no room for bargaining!" I think they got tired of seeing me, & after a while I didn't even ask to look at it. It became a bit of a joke between Bill & I. I'd tell Bill I'd made a tour of Seattle pawn shops & had visited the old chrome Nikon S outfit again. Every year the dust got thicker, but the price was never lowered, despite the serious offers. Forget it!

We now move forward to February 1991. I agreed to meet Robert Rotoloni at the Tacoma airport. He and fellow NHS member John Angle were on their way to Tokyo to meet with Nikon officials and tour the factory. Since they had an overnight layover, I decided to give them a tour of the better Seattle camera & pawn shops. One of the stops was to show them the dusty old Nikon S outfit at Friedman's. Bob and John were eager to purchase as much older Nikon goodies as they could carry during their short layover.

I picked them up in a driving rainstorm, rain that lasted all day! Even the terrible weather would not prevent these 2 "Nikoholics" from a chance of finding the "mother lode". We found an parking garage & started the tour, running from one shop to the next. Both Bob & John muttering about how much better snow & cold was to this "liquid winter". From the 6 shops we had visited we found nothing. Desperation had set in, as these two Midwesterners were determined not to leave town empty handed. Surely there must be some old Nikon "stuff" in this waterlogged city.

Finally we hit the 1st Street pawn shop district. I told Bob that at least we would see the \$500 Nikon S outfit at Friedman's. I had described each component to Bob, so he was totally aware of what the outfit consisted of. He appeared to pick up his pace as we rounded the corner. With our

coats over our heads to shield us from the driving rain, we entered Friedman's. The owner looked at us dripping all over his floor but recognized me. When Bob asked him if he had any old Nikon "stuff", he smiled at me, reached under the counter & handed Bob a business card. My heart sank as I recognized Bill Adam's card. Bob looked puzzled as he turned it over to read the back side. Right away I recognized Bill's neat writing, and saw the message, "Sorry boys... inflation caught up with this outfit, so I beat you to it!" You could have heard a pin drop. We had been duped by our friend Bill Adams! Bob swore softly to himself, then smiled as he turned to me. "Were you aware of this, Mike?" "No, Bob, this is as much a shock to me as it is to you." Bill knew we were coming & assumed we would be hitting the camera stores and pawn shops. If my memory serves me correctly, he had dated his message to the day before! As we later found out, he was actually able to buy the outfit for \$480, with a Zeiss Biogon 35/f2.8 thrown in to cement the deal! He left the business card with the pawn shop owner, knowing we would make this one of our stops. We all knew Bill was correct about inflation catching up with the asking price over the years since we first looked at this outfit.

After just returning from a large camera show, I saw examples of the "common" Nikon S selling for over \$500 for camera and lens alone! Inflation has really hit this side of the collectible camera market, and Bill made us painfully aware of this 10 years earlier on a rain-soaked Seattle day! (This article was written by member Mike Symons and appeared in the May-August 2001 issue of the Cascade Panorama, published by the Cascade Photographic Historical Society. Published with their permission.)

## WEB SITES TO SEE!

This list will appear in each issue and will contain sites that the members may find useful. If you discover a site you feel the members would be interested in please let me know and I'll run it in future issues. RJR

- [www.nikonhs.org](http://www.nikonhs.org).....THE OFFICIAL "NHS" SITE
- [www.cameraguild.co.jp/nekosan](http://www.cameraguild.co.jp/nekosan).....good Japanese site.
- [www.cameraquest.com](http://www.cameraquest.com).....Stephen Gandy's great site.
- [www.tonyhurstnikon.com](http://www.tonyhurstnikon.com)....Back cover Tony's new site.
- [www.nikon.co.jp](http://www.nikon.co.jp).....Nikon Japan's official site.
- [www.nikon.co.jp/main/eng/d-archives/index.htm](http://www.nikon.co.jp/main/eng/d-archives/index.htm)...A section of Nikon's site dealing with historical archives!!
- [www.zoom-net.com](http://www.zoom-net.com).....New site for the international collector's magazine "Classic Camera".
- [www.yoshino.ne.jp/kato/english.htm](http://www.yoshino.ne.jp/kato/english.htm)...A commercial & information site worth looking at.
- [www.fieldgrassandgale.com](http://www.fieldgrassandgale.com)..They update their selling list weekly and have many Nikon items.
- [www.pacificrimcamera.com](http://www.pacificrimcamera.com)....Items for sale but also see their "photographic pages" for information on Nikon Rfs.
- [www.graysofwestminster.co.uk](http://www.graysofwestminster.co.uk)...Official site for Grays "Nikon only" camera shop in London!
- [www.nikonownersclub.com](http://www.nikonownersclub.com)...This is Gray's site for his new Nikon Owners Club. See it for the latest in offers for club members and upcoming events and promotions!

## LETTERS..LETTERS

From Peter Brunner...

Excellent article on the Bronica/Nikkor adapters. It finally made it all clear, even to me! Incidentally, you can add a 3rd variation to the #81503: Your photo shows the right adapter with the later style engraving, but no "Bronica Camera Inc." Mine has the later style, but with the "Bronica Camera Inc." in a different font than the earlier adapter. Also, the leatherette is gray, like the early S bodies. It appears that the 2 you have are also gray.

While Nikon's at it (making RF parts, that is), how about some new parts to repair SP rangefinders. I'd love to use mine, but even in bright light it is so dim it is worthless. I'm sure that the rangefinder could be replated, but no doubt the cost would be prohibitive. I understand the dim RF is quite common in the SP--certainly my S2 and S3 don't suffer from the same problem.

From Alan Blake...

I saw the note about the index in the last NHS Journal. Thanks for the thanks, and I hope the members find it useful. Although no attention is drawn to it, the comparative Nikkor 25mm lens on page 4 appears to be an example of a mis-engraving with "W-NIKKO" instead of "W-NIKKOR"! I was fascinated by the Parallel 85 article. How about this for an explanation? These 85s were possibly commissioned for a specialized instrumentation set up & were subsequently "liberated" or more were made than needed & the surplus was marketed through normal consumer channels.

From Bill Adams...

Please note that there is no "h" in Voigtlander. Never has been. You can clearly see this in your picture of the 25/4.0 Skopar lens on page 4 of the 6/30 Journal. I trust you will clarify this in the next issue. More importantly, after reading Tom Abrahamsson's excellent 3/31 article on the new Cosina/Voigtlanders (he used an "h" too!) and your very informative 6/30 follow-up, I think the question has to be asked why Nikon isn't producing their own Nikkor lenses in conjunction with a new technology Nikon RF camera such as the Contax G1 and G2, the Konica Hexar and, of course, Cosina's Voigtlander Bessa-L & R. Yes, Nikon produced the millennium S3 in limited quantities, and at the astronomical price few can afford it and those that can aren't going to use it - they bought it strictly as an investment. Seems like Nikon is turning its back on an emerging market for high quality but affordable RF cameras such as those just mentioned. So, I think the question needs to be asked: Nikon, why are you standing on the station platform watching the RF train pulling away from you instead of showing some strength & leadership in this area?

From Uwe Flammer...

I read your report on the 85mm Parallel Nikkor 4 times. Interesting that Nikon made an attempt with this design in the early days. I have an M39 RF outfit & most of my lenses are recent Cosina/Voigtlanders, but I have some FED and Zorki stuff as well, and one Leica and Komura each. The Voigtlanders are built in parallel mount. All the other, older lenses have rotating mounts.

From my experience, the parallel mount is a true benefit, even if you do not use any TTL metering. If you want to

change the aperture setting at a given range, and your lens has a rotating mount, you always have to block the focusing ring with one hand and set the aperture with the other. A lens with a rotating mount is rather cumbersome to use, so it was a nice idea of Nikon to design a fixed mount, even in the times before TTL metering. I assume they did not do this for all lenses because their competitors did not force them to and the rotating mount was cheaper to produce.

I also read your article on the new Voigtlanders for the Nikon RF. You mentioned the shiny surfaces inside the mount compared to the blackened ones on Nikkors. I am sure the shiny surfaces will not cause any harmful reflections inside the film chamber, because they are covered by the camera's helicoid. You can easily check this by setting the camera to B, removing the back, and looking into the chamber with the curtains open. If you do the same with the M39 Voigtlanders on a Bessa you will be very disappointed because you will see a lot of shiny metal in there! Not only is the M39 lens mount completely chrome, but the backside of the camera's mount is chrome as well! To complete this nonsense, most Voigtlanders have chrome filter mounts as you mentioned. If you are using them on a Nikon RF body, the filter ring should be the only possible source of reflections.

About the serial numbers: On the Voigtlander M39 lenses, the numbers are stamped onto the depth of field ring at the bottom of the lens. Looks rather cheap. The serial numbers of my lenses are as follow:

Super-Wide Heliar 15mm/f4.5.....#9950522  
 Snapshot Skopar 25mm/f4.0.....#9920207  
 Ultron 35mm/f1.7.....#9961647  
 Nokton 50mm/f1.5.....#9960006  
 Color-Heliar 75mm/f2.5.....#9953053

As you see, there is no specific prefix related to the lens type.

Now what will follow? A complete set of Voigtlanders in Nikon S mount? A Nikon SP/SP2//SPX remake under the Voigtlander name? Or a Leica M6 competitor? After the introduction of the Bessa-T, even the strangest, most unthinkable products seem to become possible!

## NHS BACKISSUE & REPRINT SERVICE!

AVAILABLE "ORIGINAL" BACKISSUES OF THE "NIKON JOURNAL" INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING #S:

32,38,40,41,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,53,54,57,58,59,60,61, 62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72.

\$6.00 EACH IN U.S.A. POSTPAID

\$8.00 EACH OVERSEAS POSTPAID

HIGH QUALITY COPIES PRINTED ON 11X17 PAPER, FOLDED & STAPLED (INCLUDES "ONLY" THOSE ISSUE NUMBERS NOT LISTED ABOVE!)

\$4.00 EACH IN U.S.A. POSTPAID

\$6.00 EACH OVERSEAS POSTPAID

# 'NHS' e-mail LIST!!

**ROBERT ROTOLONI.....rotoloni@msn.com**

As a service to the members I will run an updated list each & every issue of the Journal, so keep me informed. Any addresses added or changed since the last issue are in bold italics!! This listing revised 9/30/01

PETER ABRAHAMS.....telscope@europa.com  
www.europa.com/~telscope/binotele.htm

TOM ABRAHAMSSON.....ttabrahams@aol.com

TED BACHO.....tedbacho@aol.com

DOUG BAKER.....dbaker9128@aol.com

JOB BAKKER.....visual.art@planet.nl

ROBERT BAKKER.....rscbakker@planet.nl

DAVE BARTH.....dvbarth@aol.com  
website...www.starattraction.com

HARVEY BENNETT.....hbb1121@aol.com

ALAN BLAKE.....arbel@btinternet.com

HANS BRAAKHUIS.....braak117@wxs.nl

URS BRUNNER.....brunneru@heag.ch

LUIGI CANE.....snapshot@micronet.it

DANILO CAPUANI.....cadani@katamail.com

SAM CLARK.....sclark@methodist.edu

BRUCE COWAN.....bruceco@home.com

LARS DACHNIO.....ldachnio@cityweb.de

PETER DECHERT.....pdek@att.net

DON DEDERA.....dondedera@aol.com

RICHARD de STOUTZ.....destoutz@swissonline.ch

UWE FLAMMER.....uweflammer@aol.com

JEFF FELTON.....jrfelton@earthlink.net  
jfelton@westernu.edu

STEVE FISCHER.....steveandcatefisher@home.com

**MIKE GALOS.....mikegalos@msn.com**

GLENN GERSON.....glgerson@aol.com

FRANK GOSEBRUCH.....frankgosebruch@gmx.net

DON GRESOCK.....gresockdw@stic.net

PIERRE GOUTET.....pierre.goutet@wanadoo.fr

BRUCE HANSEN.....hansena002@hawaii.rr.com

HARVEY HANSEN.....harvey@post8.tele.dk

MICHAL HANUSCAK.....hanuscak@architect.sk

**JONATHAN HARRIS.....jon@jonathanharris.co.uk**

**HARRY HARPS.....hharps@lycos.com**

RUDI HILLEBRAND.....Hillebrand@photodeal.ne.uunet.de

LIONEL HOUDE.....lionelhoude@aol.com

ALEX HURST.....corkflor@iol.ie

TONY HURST.....tonyhurst@eircom.net  
www.tonyhurstnikon.com

**ED IANNI.....efi1153@aol.com**

**BILL JACKSON.....william.jackson@uchsc.edu**

RENE JANSSEN.....rene@renejanssen.com

**GEORGE JENKINS.....jsuzgeo@aol.com**

DON JONES.....dajones@fselftd.freeseerve.co.uk

JAN JONKER.....janj@nl.packardbell.org

YUKI KAWAI.....kawai-tp@nifty.com

TONY KEKALOS.....tonyk@gtii.com

PETRA KELLERS.....PKell1014@aol.com

ROBERT KNOWLES.....rknowles@syv.com

ULRICH KOCH.....uli\_koch@t-online.de

CHRIS KOK.....kriskok@netvigator.com

BILL KRAUS.....william.kraus@atofina.com

FRED KRUGHOFF.....webmaster@romdog.com

REINHARD KUTTNER.....r.kuttner@chello.at

JERRY LADERBERG.....misterjelly22207@yahoo.com

RICHARD LANE.....carrlane@aol.com

JIM LEATHAM.....djleatham@flaglink.com

JOHN LEE.....jwlee01@alumni.poly.edu

GRAY LEVETT.....info@graysowestminster.co.uk

**MATTHEW LIN.....matlin@netvigator.com**

EBERHARD LOEFFLER.....eberhard.loeffler@balcab.ch

CHRIS LONN.....clonn1@san.rr.com

RONALD LoPINTO.....ronlopinto@prodigy.net

PETER LOWNDS.....plownds@estec.esa.nl

ERNESTO LUCIDI.....e.luci@tiscalinet.it

KARL MANTYLA.....kfotog@juno.com

MARK MASSARI.....mmassari@ucsd.edu

TOR MATHISEN.....anita.stenseng@eunet.no

**JOSEF MAYRHOFER.....foto@inode.at**

DON McCARRON.....mccarron@pb.net

**'CY' MEYER.....cymeyer@theriver.com**

CAROL MIKESH.....bjmikesh@aol.com

JOHN MILLHAM.....johnmillham@aol.com

**BRIAN MUGALIAN.....bmugalian@sandc.com**

DOUGLAS NAPIER.....douglas@dugwerks.com

WARREN NORRELL.....warren@minn.net

YASUYUKI ONISHI.....mxa00451@nifty.ne.jp

MIKE OTTO.....pacrim@teleport.com

CHRIS OZDOBA.....chrisozdoba@netscape.net

TED PAPPAS.....tpappas999@aol.com

RICH PINTO.....photovilla@aol.com

**BUD PRESGROVE.....budbudwatch@aol.com**

DAN RANDAL.....danran3@aol.com

OLIVER REDDAWAY.....oliver@research.canon.com.au

IGOR REZNIK.....igorcamera@aol.com

BOB ROGEN.....teamrogen@msn.com

JERRY ROLD.....jlrold@worldnet.att.net

**PHILIPPE SALOMON.....psalomon@bluewin.ch**

JOHN SANDERS.....sandersjm@aol.com

SERGIO SASSO.....saxser@tin.it

AL SATTERWHITE.....avsfilm@earthlink.net  
website...www.alsatterwhite.com

RUDOLF SCHENKER.....ruedischenker@freesurf.ch

PAUL SCHLOEGEL.....pschloegel@home.com

KEN SCHWARTZ.....kasdesign1@aol.com

STEVEN SCHWARTZ.....camerarts@msn.com

**BOB SIMPSON.....bob@stonemills.net**

JAMES SKLADANY.....jim321@webtv.net

PETER SMITH.....nikonsmith@aol.com

**GARY STONE.....stonehouse@thegrid.net**

ROGER SWAN.....swanfoto@iafrica.com

MIKE SYMONS.....msymons6456@telus.net

AKITO TAMLA.....atam@fine.ocn.ne.jp

ROBERT TRUDELL.....trudellr@lv.rmci.net

JEAN-PIERRE VERGINE.....jpvergine@compuserve.coml

NICO van DIJK.....nicovandijk@wxs.nl

PAUL-HENRY vanHASBROECK.....hasbroeck@aol.com

KENNETH WAGNER.....kenwag@aol.com

PETER WALNES.....p.walnes@fieldgrassandgale.com

ROBERT WARWICK.....triton.london@btinternet.com

NAOMA WELK.....naomawelk@aol.com

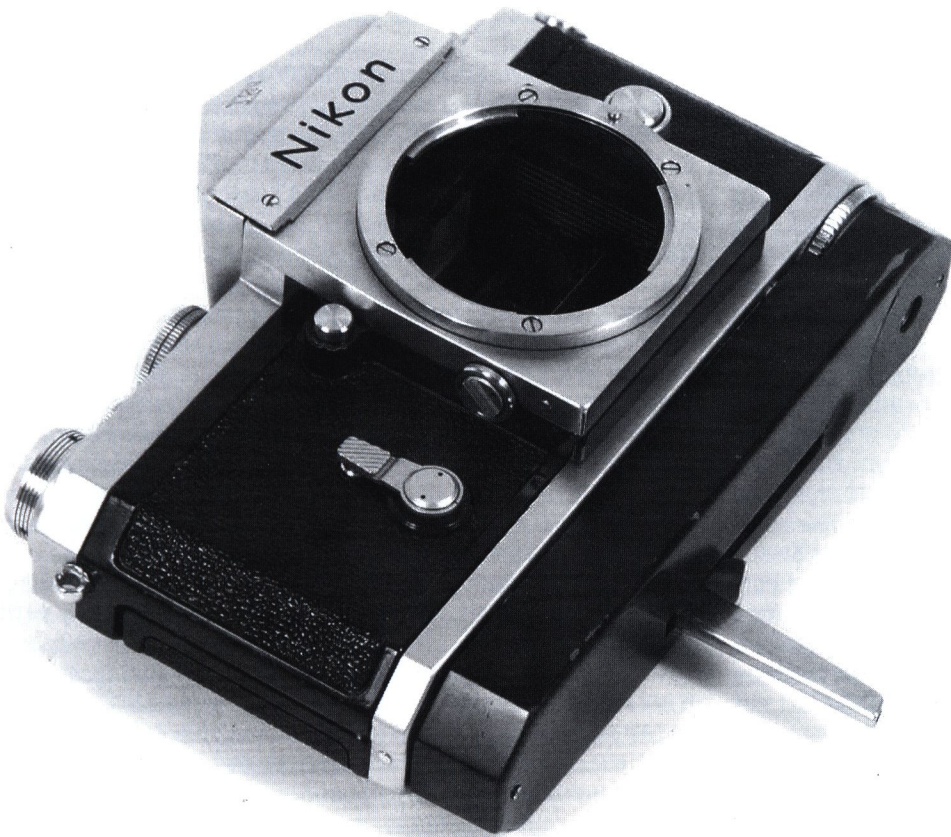
MEL WILNER.....dplmd@aol.com

**BRIAN WOLFE.....cameras@bpwlted.com**

**RAY YOUNG.....alexnyankovic@juno.com**

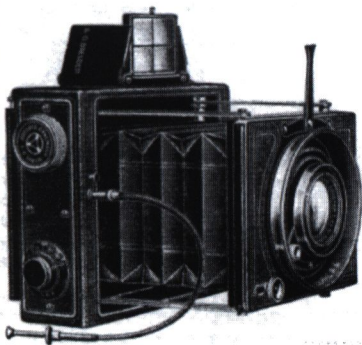
DALE ZICARELLI.....info@actioncamera.com

DANIEL ZIRINSKY.....camrabug@aol.com



From  
the  
exotic...

...to the  
mundane



## Pacific Rim Camera

Vintage Photographic Equipment  
[www.pacificrimcamera.com](http://www.pacificrimcamera.com)

PHOTOGRAPHY  
EQUIPMENT  
FOR SALE  
BY THE  
PICTURE  
MOUNTAIN  
ANTIQUE  
STORE  
1000  
N. 10TH  
AVENUE  
SPOKANE  
IDAHO  
83402

## AUCTION NEWS!!

Strong activity for Nikons continues in the auction world, and I don't mean eBay! The three main photographic auction houses continue to present all types of Nikon RF and reflex items for sale. Auction Team Koln, Christies & Stan Tamarkin continue to attract quality items. The recent Spring Tamarkin sale was held on May 24th in New York. Here are some very interesting results.

Many of you are aware of the Tamarkin auction last October where a black Nikon SP sold for \$25,000, which is probably a record for a non-motorized black SP. Well, for the May auction Stan had yet another beautiful black SP up for bids and this one went for.. **no not \$25,000..but a more reasonable \$18,000.00!!** Wow! Nikons are alive and well!! Now for some other prices more in line with what the rest of us can pay and still cover the mortgage and car payment with a little left over for groceries.....

- Nikon SP meter w/booster & cases.....\$360
- Nikkor 28/f3.5 chrome.....\$470
- Nikkor 28/f3.5 black.....\$550
- Nikkor 50/f1.1 External mount.....\$2000
- Nikkor 85/f1.5 w/shade.....\$2000
- Nikkor 105/f4.0 w/shade.....\$1375
- Nikon S2 chrome w/1.4.....\$650
- Nikon S3 chrome w/1.4.....\$1900
- Nikon SP chrome w/1.4.....\$1800
- Nikon SP chrome w/1.4.....2.....ea..\$2100



And one more interesting item. If you thought the SP at \$18,000 stole the show how about this. The black plastic meter retainer which sold for 75 cents when new went for.....**\$435.00!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!** (Now where did I put mine???? It's somewhere!!!!!!)

To keep track of Stan's auctions see his web site for continuous info.....[www.tamarkin.com](http://www.tamarkin.com)

# FIELDGRASS & GALE

Please let us know your wants – we are buying daily from dealers and private individuals worldwide so we can probably help you!

BUYING ★ SELLING ★ TRADING

## LEICA NIKON CONTAREX

Also Leica copies (Leotax, Hansa, Kardon, etc)

SINGLE ITEMS OR COMPLETE COLLECTIONS

PLEASE CONSIDER US WHETHER YOU ARE SELLING YOUR CAMERA COLLECTION OR GRADUALLY BUILDING ONE.

JUST LOOK AT SOME OF THE RARE JEWELS WE HAVE SOLD RECENTLY:

Black paint M2/M3/M4, grey enamel M2, olive green M1 and M3 bodies, M3 Betriebsk #1004 with 'Summikron' (Lager vol.1 p.181), 2 very early production M3 bodies (numbers under 700150), 3 chrome MP (inc. no.366, p70 'Leica in Colour' van Hasbroeck), black MP no.123 (as illustrated p.81 'Leica Collectors Guide', Dennis Laney), M2M and M4M (both with motors), black M4 with 'Midland Canada' top plate, M4-P half frame, M3 prototypes, dummies, Betriebsk and cutaways. 50 year anniversary CL, M4 and M5. Chrome MP2 with motor!

Leica 0 (null series) no.126, Leica I Anastigmat no.221 (illustrated p.126 'Leica Collection', Shinichi Nakamura), dialset and rimset Compurs. Leica II 'Luxus' (illustrated p.34 'Leica in Colour' van Hasbroeck). Leica 72, (Canadian, German and prototypes). 250 'Reporter' both FF and GG, black IIIf and IIIg (Swedish army), pre-production Ig and IIIg bodies (some illustrated in Lager vol.1), 33/3.5 Stemar set, 35/3.5 Stereo Elmar (only 32 ever made!) and 90mm f7 Stereo lens. Mooly motors, chrome, grey and black!

Very many early prototype Leicaflex models, some with interchangeable prism, some with unusual motors and some finished in black paint. Also Leicaflex mk.1 and mk.2 bodies in black paint finish. Early Leica copies including several Hansas, Canon J, Canon JS, Canon S, Leotax Specials (various models, all with correct and original Letana Anastigmat lenses). Nikon rangefinder equipment including Nikon 1, black Nikon S3, S3 Olympic, black SP with motor and black S3M with motor. 35/3.5 Stereo Nikkor. Nikon F# 6400xxx.



Contact: PETER WALNES (LHSA AND NHS MEMBER SINCE 1982)

FIELDGRASS & GALE

THE BUSINESS VILLAGE,

BROOMHILL ROAD, LONDON SW18 4JQ

PHONE: +44 20 8870 7611 FAX: +44 20 8870 6551

Email: [p.walnes@fieldgrassandgale.com](mailto:p.walnes@fieldgrassandgale.com) • [www.fieldgrassandgale.com](http://www.fieldgrassandgale.com)

## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

**WANTED...**Dedicated and committed black and white photographers living in or around Mesa, Arizona, to form a group to share ideas and interests. Phone **Alvin Dattner** at 480-357-0070.

**WANTED...**Nikon, Bronica, Mamiya, Kiev, Contax, Ricoh, Canon RF..any literature & Promo/Display items including magazine articles. Will buy or trade. Also have a large Pentax collection including literature for sale or trade for similar for above makes including modern items from Nikon & Bronica. Also anything Bolex. Please contact: **Ian D.C. Shephard, 6 Hawthorn Ave., Brentwood, Essex, CM13 2EE, England. tel-(0) 1277-200530.**

**FOR SALE...**Get yourself Carl Zeiss instead of Cosina: 21mm f4.5 Biogon (originally for Contax 2a, fits Nikon RF), mint, caps, sorry no finder, \$400. **Wolfgang Kuester, Kreuzweg 15, D-64720 Michelstadt, Germany. Fax from USA 011-49-6061-925118.**

**SELLING/TRADE LIST...**My list is back now that I have moved and settled in. Many Nikon RF & Reflex items for sale or trade as well as quality products from makers such as **Bronica, Canon, Minolta, Pentax, Rollei, Zeiss** and others. Consignment items are always welcome. You can be added to my mailing list by simply letting me know! If you have a list make sure to send me a copy! I'm open to trades. **Robert Rotoloni, P.O. Box 3213, Munster, IN 46321. My NEW FAX # IS 219-322-9977 or you can email me at... rotoloni@msn.com**

## **NEW MEMBERS**

GREG ANTHONY  
251 CRESCENT DRIVE  
HERSHEY, PA 17033-2371

ERIC BAKER  
1622 W. WILSHIRE DRIVE  
PHOENIX, AZ 85007

JIM BUSSMAN  
5 WILLOW DRIVE  
LONG VALLEY, NJ 07853

ED IANNI  
19 BRADSHAW STREET  
CRANSTON, R.I. 02910

JAMES LAU  
28 DIABLO CREEK PLACE  
DANVILLE, CA 94506-2055

ROD SAGE  
2334 RIDGE CIRCLE  
BROOMFIELD, CO 80020

IAN D.C. SHEPHARD  
6 HAWTHORN AVE., BRENTWOOD,  
ESSEX, CM13 2EE ENGLAND

CHIP WALL  
615 EAST PIKE ST., #303  
SEATTLE, WA 98122

## **BLACK IS**

## **BEAUTIFUL!!**

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING BLACK BODY SERIAL NUMBERS TO OUR OFFICIAL "NHS BLACK LIST" FIRST PUBLISHED IN NHS-37!

6202453      6206489      6321879

## **NEW ADDRESSES**

GLENN GERSON  
35 WEST 86TH STREET  
NEW YORK, NY 10024

JONATHAN HARRIS  
THE BUSINESS VILLAGE, BROOMHILL ROAD,  
LONDON SW18 4JQ, ENGLAND

LIONEL HOUDE  
CHEZ MARCHAL, 1 RUE DE MAUDHUY  
57280 MAIZIERES LES METZ  
FRANCE

JAMES ISSLER  
25 EAST LYON FARM DRIVE  
GREENWICH, CT 06831

YUKI KAWAI  
695 VINE CT.  
ANN ARBOR, MI 48103-2843

MATTHEW LIN  
FLAT A, 27/F, SUNG FUNG COURT,  
HARBOUR HEIGHTS, 3 FOOK YUM ROAD,  
NORTH POINT, HONG KONG

CARROLL O. MEYER  
P.O. BOX 2614  
SIERRA VISTA, AZ

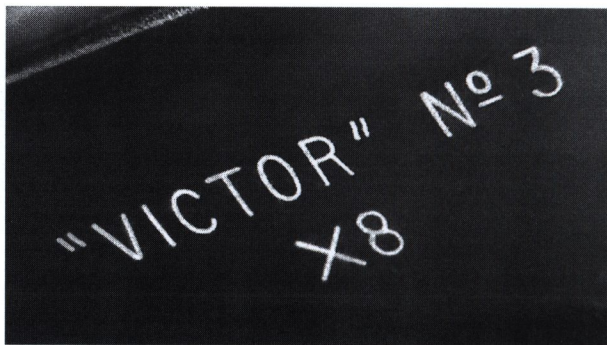
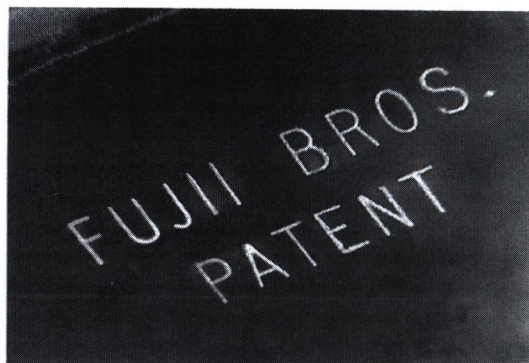
BRIAN MUGALIAN  
1715 CHICAGO AVE., APT. 712  
EVANSTON, IL 60201-6015

GARY STONE  
2014 GRANITE BAR WAY  
GOLD RIVER, CA 95670

BRIAN WOLFE  
BPW LIMITED  
10870 WEST WASHINGTON BLVD.  
CULVER CITY, CA 90232

**ONLY A FEW HUNDRED OF  
EACH VOIGTLANDER LENS  
WILL BE ALLOTTED TO THE  
U.S.! ORDER YOURS NOW!!!**

# odds 'n ends



Every since the publication of John Baird's article on the early Nikon binoculars (NHS-31, March 31, 1991), I've also been looking for examples of these binoculars for myself. I hadn't really expected to find anything, since John said the earliest were "...rare..." Fujii Brothers" (the predecessor to Nippon Kogaku)...made between 1913 and 1917". So I was quite surprised recently when this pair of Fujii Brothers glasses was offered to me. They had been heavily used ( not surprising, since they may be 85 years old??), but they were well made, & are still quite serviceable. It's nice to know that a little bit of "Nikon - forefather" equipment might still be languishing in a dusty bin somewhere, just waiting to find an admiring collector. Bob Thompson

Fujii Bros. binoculars, c 1913 - 1917  
Bob Thompson (puntabob@earthlink.net)



**Created For The 'NHS' by TONY HURST**