



Report on Our First 3D Stereoscopic Weekend

May 3-4, 2003—Holiday Inn, Fairlawn OH



I think it is a fair statement to say that our first NSA Regional Meeting in Cleveland, a.k.a. 3D Stereoscopic Weekend, was a success! 100 people registered and attended the event and enjoyed the various activities on Saturday May 3rd and Sunday May 4th. I received many compliments and I am confident that most attendees will come back next year. Talking about next year, I understand that **John Waldsmith** is already looking for a bigger space. Originally we had planned this event for 60 people. With 100 people attending, things were a bit crowded in the projection room and at the Trade Show. Now that we know what to expect, we can plan better next year.

From my point of view everything went as planned. The only unexpected problem was the Da-Lite 96 inch screen which showed distracting shadows due to lack of flatness. Instead of the tripod Da-Lite screen we used the PSA screen.

I would like to personally thank every-

one who contributed to the success of this event. This includes the presenters, exhibitors, the people who helped setup the room, man the registration Table and everyone who attended this event. I do not want to list everyone by name because I am afraid I will forget someone. Special personal thanks go to **Steve Kiesling** who took care of the sound system and to **Paul Talbot** who helped me (among other things) carry all the equipment on Saturday and items for sale on Sunday. And, of course, many thanks to **John Waldsmith** for taking care of the contracts and communications with the hotel.

I hope to be able to repeat this next year and make it a tradition in this part of the world. Instead of more talking, I will let the pictures say the story, courtesy of our official OSPS photographer, **Joe Hamblin**.

George Themelis

3D STEREOSCOPIC WEEKEND Summary of Activities

Saturday May 3rd

Programs & Exhibits

9:00	Opening remarks, Dennis Petti
9:15	OHIO 2nd PSA Exhibition, G. Themelis Chairman
10:00	Scenes of Yosemite National Park, John MacDonald
10:30	The best of Don Peck, Don Peck
11:00	What do we Collect, J. Waldsmith
12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break	
1:30	Michigan Magic, and Holy Land, Steve Kiesling , 2x2x2 presentations
2:30	What do I Photograph, G. Themelis
3:00	Vistascreen—A 3D glimpse of the 1950s, Keith Wilson
3:30	PSA Stereo Sequence Exhibition, H. Lee Pratt , Chairman
4:00	Welcome to Charleston, Bill Moll

7:30 pm: Stereoscopic Auction

**Sunday MAY 4th
Trade Show**



Left: George Themelis is setting up the twin RBT projectors under Steve Kiesling's supervision. Steve took care of the sound. I think it was a good idea that we kept the doors closed until everything was set up first.

Right: Putting up the large PSA silver screen was not an easy task but it went smoothly thanks to the help by John MacDonald, Paul Talbot, John Bueche and Richard Golan.



Left: George Themelis and John Waldsmith are addressing the attendees at the beginning of the stereo presentations on Saturday. OSPS President, Dennis Petti introduced the programs and the presenters.

Right: At 9:00 am the room is not filled to capacity yet. A bit too early for those who were driving from outside Cleveland.



Left: By 10:00 am the Stereo Projection room was filled to capacity.

Right: Mike Henderson came prepared for a variety of stereoscopic formats (Wolfgang Sell is behind on the right and Martha Dombeck and Lindel Salow of the Detroit club are on the left.)



The Ohio PSA Exhibition was our first program on Saturday. As the Chairman of the exhibition this year I was especially pleased that I was able to present the awards to Joe Hohmann (left, 3 HMs) and Dennis Hanser (right, holding the PSA Gold Medal). Both Joe and Dennis also won a Judge's Choice award.

Next to Dennis is his wife Susan. Ron Zakowski and his wife Betty is in the left. John MacDonald in the back.



Left: Dennis Petti introduces Don Peck. Don was one of our OSPS members who presented a program on Saturday. Don's son and his wife were in the audience and so was John MacDonald's wife. Let's see more OSPS members present programs next year!

Right: During Keith Wilson's entertaining presentation we learned about the Vistascreen system and also about 1950s England.



The Exhibits on Digital Stereo, Stereoviews, and Modern and Vintage Stereo Equipment, attracted a lot of attention. Seen here are Monte Ramstad with Dennis Petti, Lois Waldsmith, Ron Fross, John Stuart and George Themelis, Joe Hamblin. Not shown is Jay Horowitz who contributed to the Digital Exhibit.





Left: Auction action! **John Waldsmith** with his wife **Janet** and mother **Lois** at the auction podium during the auction on Saturday evening.

Right: Potential auction bidders check the goods during the auction preview. OSPS member **John Theis** is at the center. **George Themelis** is standing next to John, holding an Alan Lewis achromatic lorgnette.



Stereoview dealers during the Trade Show on Saturday.

Left: Dealer **Jim Parshall** of Dayton, Ohio.

Right: Dealer **Andrew H. Guzik** from California. The customer at right is **Robert Wilson** from Toronto.



Left: **Harold Kaiman** visits the OSPS Trade Table, manned by **Chuck Weiss** and **Dennis Petti**.

Right: **Tom Heckhaus** at the trade show. Tom brought some of his extra stereo equipment for sale/trade.



Left: **DrT (George Themelis)** and **Paul Talbot** at the trade show with 4 tables full of stereo equipment.

Right: **Jodi Paich Kohlstrom**, Director of the **Johnson-Shaw Museum**.



Left: Stereoscope and eye-testing equipment from our visit to the Johnson-Shaw (Keystone) museum on Monday (photo by **Harold Kaiman**). This was an enjoyable visit/pilgrimage at Meadville, PA. During the visit we learned a great deal about the history of Keystone and had the chance to talk to the Museum directors in person. The displays were very nice and informative (seen in this display are two mannequins, easily confused for real people). Expect a detailed article about the history of the museum in a future newsletter article. For more information, visit the museum's web site at: <http://www.johnsonshawmuseum.org/>

3D Stereoscopic Weekend Impressions

By Tom Heckhaus

Hello Everyone at OSPS. I thought I'd take a few columns here in your newsletter to say a few words.

I've been a sometimes on some-times off stereo shooter for over 30 years. My Mother did freelance oil coloring of B&W wedding prints for a local photographer named Al Victor. Al also shot weddings in Stereo using a Realist. Because of this relationship with my family, Dad became interested in Stereo also. He purchased a Realist and Red Button viewer through the Studio when I was about ten.

I was interested in photography at an early age and shot with a Brownie Target 620. We also had a small B&W darkroom in the basement of our White-stone NY home. Of course in those days Kodak processed and mounted Stereo Slides. I had all but forgotten about Stereo until my Dad passed away in 1965. I inherited the Camera and Viewer and let it sit for years. My interest waxed and waned over the years. I took a few rolls in 1972 of my newborn daughter and then it sat again. The last time I shot a few rolls was in 1999 of a beach party in the Fire Island National Seashore.

I joined OSPS as a Newsletter Subscriber almost from the beginning. I met George on the internet years ago. I could never attend any NSA conventions as I was working a full time job. Fast forward to 2002. I read about OSPS Stereo Weekend in the newsletter. I retired from Ma-Bell after 36 years in 2002 and decided I would at least make it to the OSPS weekend.

Saying I had a wonderful time is an understatement. I've never seen Stereo Slides projected on such a large screen. The first days presentations were out of this world, I loved every slide I saw. I imagine my gasps and wow's were appreciated by the rest of the audience. During the many breaks I spoke to many wonderful folks. I finally met George after many years of correspondence on the World Wide Web. I also had the good fortune to meet Paul Talbot and have become a fast friend of **Keith** and **Kath Wilson** from the UK. I attended the evening auction and met

John Waldsmith and had a wonderful time spending my on hand cash. Sunday was even better, ad the trade show I met just about everyone and had lively conversations about Stereo Equipment of course.

Monday I went with **George** and **Chuck** to the *Johnson Shaw Stereoscopic Museum* in Meadville PA. It was a great trip and a wonderful museum. I really enjoyed all the exhibits. I met **Lance**, **Larry** and **Jodi** and enjoyed talking with them. The ride home we met up with John Waldsmith and the Museum Staff at a local restaurant Chuck, George and I enjoyed a hearty lunch.

I had such a wonderful time I extended my visit to attend the OSPS meeting on Tuesday. Again I was astounded at the Stereo Views and the good nature of the club members. My experience back home is that whenever there is competition the club is very cut-throat. Your club is always good natured and willing to help the new guy. I find that very refreshing.

In closing, anyone that missed this gathering should really make it to next years. I know I will be there. I've met and made lifelong friends. Because of OSPS my cross country trip has been made even more enjoyable. I've taken a side trip to Dallas and attended the Texas NSA regional meeting and met even more wonderful stereo enthusiasts. Thanks to **Paul Talbot**, I linked up with **Damien Deblas** of Bisbee AZ and spent a wonderful weekend in Bisbee. On my swing back I'll manage to get together with another stereo fan **Dr. Paul Milligan** in Gallup, New Mexico.

I'm currently visiting my niece in San Diego. I've already shot one roll of Stereo with my newly acquired TDC Vivid purchased from **Eddie Bowers** in Texas. So as you can see, my visit to Ohio has encouraged to shoot stereo again, and has really made this cross country trip a memorable experience. My thanks to everyone and as soon as I get back to NY I'll shoot some rolls and send some in for monthly competition.

Regards, good luck and happy shooting.

Tom Heckhaus

Venture Rewarded!

*A note from **Keith Wilson** in the U.K. about the visit he and his wife made to our convention.*

Would I get away with it? That was the question I had in mind when I made the booking for my wife, Kath, and me to visit the O.S.P.S. stereo convention. She's a keen photographer, but she's not a stereo worker. Could she be convinced that attending a stereo convention was an interesting way to spend a vacation?

I needn't have worried - we both had a great time. The convention was superbly organised, and we enjoyed some fantastic stereo images. We even managed to bag a few bargains in the stereo auction, and some more at the trade fair.

The variety of items on sale was, not unexpectedly, much wider than is usual in the U.K., but what was even more noticeable was the quality. Even low-priced stereo views, for example, were in good condition, whereas the equivalents in the U.K. are often dirty and faded to the point where they're hardly worth having.

The highlight of our trip, however, was not the goodies, nor even the splendid convention, but the people we met. From the minute we arrived, we were made to feel like we were part of the family. We've never before had a vacation where the people were so friendly and welcoming. Since this applies to everyone we met, it's a little unfair to name names, but **George Thelms**, **Joe Hamblin**, and their families certainly deserve a special mention.

After the convention itself, our visit to the O.S.P.S. meeting was also fascinating. In particular, it was interesting to see how different the judging arrangements were from those used at our own local (non-stereo) club. The hospitality was, once again, fantastic, and I must also mention that the donuts were delicious. We never have food at our club - a cup of instant coffee is the best we can hope for!

All in all, both Kath and I have concluded that we've never enjoyed a vacation more. We understand that the convention may be repeated next year, and if it is, we certainly hope to attend. In the meantime, our sincere thanks to all of you who made our trip so truly special.

Keith Wilson