



# Historic Camera Club Newsletter

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## F. Jay Haynes

F. (Frank) Jay Haynes was born to Levi Hasbrouck and Caroline Oliphant Haynes in Saline, Michigan on October 28, 1853. He moved to Wisconsin in 1876, and it was there he began pursuing a career in photography. Opening a studio in Moorhead, Minnesota, he became the Northern Pacific Railroad's official photographer. Beginning in 1879, Mr. Haynes traveled exhaustively for the Railroad, making photographs of the western frontier, Canada, and Alaska. His daring stereoscopic views of Fargo, Dakota produced by twin-lens cameras were particularly captivating.

An important turning point in Mr. Haynes' life and career occurred in 1881, when he first traveled to Yellowstone Park. He was awestruck by the Park's scenic beauty and unspoiled natural habitat. He became committed not only to taking photographs that featured Yellowstone's majestic splendor, but also to preserving its environment and natural resources. It has been stated that Mr. Haynes' breathtaking images of Yellowstone Park, taken with a camera capable of producing large negatives, ignited a tourist frenzy that included a President of the United States. As Yellowstone Park's official photographer, Mr. Haynes led President Chester A. Arthur, several cabinet members, military leaders, and foreign dignitaries on an extensive special tour in 1883, which received international attention.



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F. JAY HAYNES & BRO., Official Photographers N. P. R. R.  
Our New Album of the Yellowstone, containing 91 views, \$1.50, sent by mail. stamps accepted.

Mr. Haynes had clearly found a home and creative muse in Yellowstone, and spent several years finding inspiration along paths least traveled, making one particularly perilous trip in the winter of 1887. Seven years' later, he engaged in another winter's journey deep into the Park's interior. This expedition also included several commissioned and non-commissioned military personnel. The party's main purpose was to protect regional buffaloes from

slaughter. Mr. Haynes and his camera exposed Ed Howell as a particularly ruthless poacher. The stunning landscape photographs produced on this trip were circulated internationally, and further cemented Mr. Haynes' professional reputation.

By 1898, Yellowstone Park tourism was reaching record numbers, and F. Jay Haynes was instrumental in establishing the Monida-Yellowstone Stage Company to transport the influx of visitors. They were taken by stagecoach from the Monida, Montana railroad to the Park. This resulted in an Ashton, Idaho to West Yellowstone, Montana extension of the Union Pacific Railway branch, the Oregon Short Line, in 1907. The company's name was changed to the Yellowstone-Western Stage Company, with Mr. Haynes serving as its president until its dissolution in 1916.

After enjoying five years of retirement, sixty-seven-year-old F. Jay Haynes died of heart failure at his home in St. Paul, Minnesota on March 10, 1921. As a lasting tribute to the man who introduced Yellowstone Park to the masses, a mountain was named after him. Jack Haynes, who had succeeded his father as official photographer for the Park, continued to celebrate the Yellowstone mystic in art until his death in 1962.

Ref.:  
1909 Campbell's New Revised Complete Guide and Descriptive Book of the Yellowstone Park (Upper Basin, Yellowstone Park, Wyoming: H. E. Klamer), pp. 30, 34, 65, 78.

1922 Down the Yellowstone (New York: Dodd, Mead and Company), pp. 113-114.

1916 Haynes Guide (St. Paul, MN: Haynes), pp. 172-173, 182.

1990 Object and Image: An Introduction to Photography (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall), p. 174.

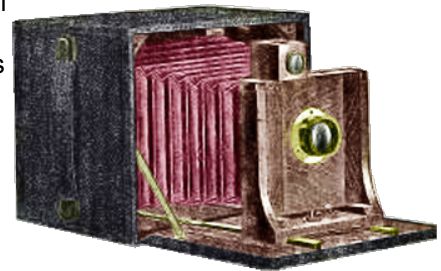
1883 The Photographic Times, Vol. XIII (New York: Scovill Manufacturing Company), p. 238.

1920 Report of the Director of the National Park Service to the Secretary of the Interior (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office), p. 187.

2005 Where Custer Fell: Photographs of the Little Bighorn Battlefield Then and Now (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press), p. 21.

## Rochester Camera

The Rochester Camera, also known in collector circles as the Folding Rochester Camera was manufactured by the Rochester Camera Manufacturing Company from the beginning of the company in 1892 to 1895. This was one of the early cameras of the amateur boom that ushered in the concept of a self-casing camera. It was made in a 4 x 5 and a 5 x 7 inch format. Constructed of mahogany with heavy seal grain leather covering, brass hardware and a thick red leather bellows. The early version consisted of a solid body and a later version with a split body providing swing back. This camera featured a high-grade symmetrical lens, rotating diaphragms and shutter built into the wooden lens board. The word on the street indicates that there re are only two known examples of the split body Rochester camera known. Even more rare is



a one of a kind version made expressly for Kimball and Mathews of Columbus, Ohio, called the L.A.W. for League of American Wheelmen" association. This association was formed in 1880 and was focused on promoting racing and bicycle touring. The L.A.W. model was similar to the 1894 version. Only one of these are known to exist, however all of the Rochester cameras are considered rare.



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## Kolb Brothers

Ellsworth Kolb was born to Methodist minister Edward and his wife Ella in 1876 in Smithfield, Pennsylvania. Five years' later, on February 15, 1881, Emery Kolb joined the growing family. The senior Kolb became a pharmacist, but his business proved insufficient to support the family adequately. Therefore, the brothers quit school at young ages to go to work, with Ellsworth working as a steel mill laborer and Emery finding employment at Pittsburgh's Westinghouse Electric Company.

In 1900, a work injury forced Ellsworth to look for greater work opportunities in the West. First, he worked briefly as a linesman for the Manitou Telephone Company in

Colorado, then worked a snow plow on Pike's Peak, cleared roads in Yosemite and Yellowstone Parks, and then moved onto San Francisco to work as a carpenter's assistant. Ellsworth's love of the Grand Canyon region took him back to the region a year later, working as a porter at the nearby Bright Angel Hotel. Meanwhile, Emery developed a love for photography, and purchased his first small-view camera. After receiving a letter that he could find employment in the area in October 1902, Emery headed West to join his brother, armed with his 5 x 7 camera.



The brothers decided to go into business together in the small Arizona town of Williams, where they erected a makeshift tent studio. In the early lean days, Emery paid the bills by snapping photographs of local saloon girls, but eventually turned his lens toward the expansive landscape of the Grand Canyon. He photographed locations and trail groups before treating to his darkroom to develop his film, which was no easy task. The glass plates had to be coated with an emulsion that was light sensitive and could produce a rapid print. Because the Grand Canyon had no electricity at this time, prints had to be exposed in the sun.

Emery found a life partner in Blanche Bender, whom he married on October 11, 1905. Ellsworth married and divorced twice, but neither union lasted long. Still struggling to make ends meet, the brothers ventured into the remote North Rim of the canyon, where they took photographs of the seldom-seen desert bighorn sheep. The process was long and tedious, but the sales they generated made these frequent two-day treks profitable.

In 1911, the Kolb Brothers journeyed along the Colorado River from Wyoming to Mexico, which was recorded on motion picture film, believed to be the first of its kind in its region. Three years' later, their exploits were featured in a National Geographic Society publication. When the Grand Canyon was named a national park by the U.S. Department of Interior, Emery received an exclusive contract to operate his photography studio there, and renewed his contract every decade.

Ellsworth Kolb left the successful business in 1924 and settled in Los Angeles, California. He was an occasional lecturer, but he never achieved the level of prosperity or notoriety as his younger brother. Sadly, he died in total obscurity in 1960, and was returned for burial at the Grand Canyon's

Pioneers Cemetery. Blanche Kolb also died that year, and Emery Kolb followed sixteen years later, in December 1976. Mr. and Mrs. Kolb are also interred in the Pioneers Cemetery. As William C. Suran observed in his 1991 biography of the Kolb brothers entitled *With the Wings of an Angel*, "Emery Kolb was the last of the early Grand Canyon pioneers."

Ref.:  
2010 Arizona Stories (URL:  
<http://www.azpbs.org/arizonastories/seasontwo/kolbbrothers.htm>).

2008 Braddock, Allegheny County (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing), p. 38.

1986 Stereo World, Vol. XIII (Portland, OR: National Stereoscopic Association), p. 29.

1991 *With the Wings of an Angel* (URL:  
<http://www.kaibab.org/kaibab.org/kolb/kolb.htm>).

## Slim Aarons

Celebrity and high society photographer George Allen "Slim" Aarons was born in Manhattan on October 29, 1916, but spent much of his childhood in North Conway, New Hampshire. He enlisted in the Army during World War II, and became an accomplished wartime photographer. Awarded the Purple Heart, Mr. Aarons later joked that he learned from his combat experiences that the only beach he wanted to land on was "decorated with beautiful, seminude girls tanning in a tranquil sun." This perhaps explains his conscious decision to photograph beautiful people in picturesque settings after the war.



Accompanied by his friend, cartoonist Bill Mauldin, Slim Aarons set out for Hollywood, where he established a quick and lasting rapport with the leading movie stars of the day. A frequent contributor to *Town &*

Country, Holiday, and Life, he focused his lens on the American and European jet set. Mr. Aarons was a stickler for simplicity and refused to employ artificial lighting or makeup artists. He allowed the subjects and the light of their natural surroundings speak for themselves. His subjects trusted his judgment and granted him and his cameras unprecedented access into their personal lives. Mr. Aarons summed up his approach to photography as, "Attractive people doing attractive things in attractive places." He became so recognizable in the tightly-knit Hollywood community that when James Stewart was approached by a fan for an autograph, he joked, "No, I am Slim Aarons." It is widely believed that Mr. Aarons inspired the voyeuristic photographer L. B. "Jeff" Jeffries in Alfred Hitchcock's 1954 classic film, Rear Window.

Mr. Aarons took his no-frills artistic philosophy to Italy, where he headed Life magazine's Rome photographic bureau. While there, he met and married Life employee Lorita Stewart, and the couple later had a daughter, Mary. During the 1950s, he photographed a seemingly endless array of bathing beauties and attractively landscaped swimming pools. A perfect example of Mr. Aarons' photographic ode to opulent lifestyles was his poolside portrait of American socialite C. Z. Guest. He photographed powerbroker David Rockefeller and iconic sex symbol Marilyn Monroe. His most famous photograph captured a spontaneous moment at Romanoff's Restaurant in Hollywood. Called "The Kings of Hollywood," it showed what Smithsonian magazine described as "a Mount Rushmore of stardom" - Clark Gable, Van Heflin, Gary Cooper, and James Stewart - sharing a laugh together on New Year's Eve 1957.

Although the 1950s clearly represent the pinnacle of Slim Aarons' career, he continued working well into his seventies. His photographs have been featured in

several compilation texts, including A Wonderful Time: An Intimate Portrait of the Good Life (1974), Slim Aarons: Once Upon a Time (2003), Slim Aarons: A Place in the Sun (2005), and Poolside with Slim Aarons (2007). Eighty-nine-year-old Slim Aarons died of complications from a stroke on May 29, 2006, but his work continues to be celebrated in worldwide exhibitions such as Amsterdam's Torch Gallery in 2006, Los Angeles' M+B Gallery in 2007, and New York's Yancey Richardson Gallery in 2008.

Ref.:  
2012 artnet " The Art World Online (URL: <http://www.artnet.com/artists/slim-aarons>).

2009 Gilded: How Newport Became America's Richest Resort (Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons), p. 218.

2008 Photographers Gallery (URL: <http://www.photographersgallery.com/photo.asp?id=149>).

2006 Skiing Heritage Journal, Vol. XVIII (Burlington, VT: International Skiing History Association), p. 46.

2006 "Slim Aarons, 89, Dies; Photographed Celebrities at Play." The New York Times, p. A23.

## Website Update

Activities have really slowed down this past month due to the years pile-ups of things to do. However membership is continuing at a steady pace and our Flickr photo sharing extension has now exceeded 1100 camera images. Please bare with us as we try to post all of our friends images. Remember that you can post images directly by signing in and then finding the page to add your photos to by clicking the Add Pic or PDF button on each datasheet page. .

We continue to add relevant information to existing datasheets by adding camera advertisements, photo images and catalog references.

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If you have images, articles or scans of documents to share please contact [admin@historiccamera.com](mailto:admin@historiccamera.com)

For all the latest information please go to our [librarium launch page](http://historiccamera.com/photo_history.html)  
[http://historiccamera.com/photo\\_history.html](http://historiccamera.com/photo_history.html)

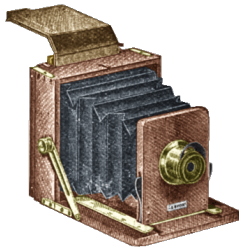
Here is a listing of the additional content generated this past month, excluding the ones published in this newsletter:

## *New Camera Listings:*

**Spratt  
Bros.,**

Tudor Works.  
Tudor Road, Hackney,  
LONDON.

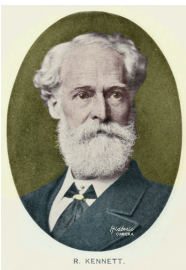
[Spratt Brother's  
Camera Listing](#)



THE FARRINGTON SET.

[The Farrington or  
Clydesdale Camera Set](#)

## *New Biographies:*



[R. \(Richard\) Kennett](#)



[Erich Salomon](#)



[Alphonse Bernoud](#)



[Elmer Chickering](#)

Send Comments & Questions to  
[admin@historiccamera.com](mailto:admin@historiccamera.com).