

**THE CENTER FOR HOME MOVIES (CHM)** is a nonprofit organization that began as the organizer and sponsor of Home Movie Day, an annual worldwide celebration of amateur filmmaking. In 2007, CHM produced *Living Room Cinema: Films from Home Movie Day, Vol. I*, a DVD compilation of films screened at Home Movie Day events. CHM also encourages the use of home movies in multidisciplinary research, study, and publications, and collects home movies and related materials of national and international significance, including the Wallace Kelly collection.

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..... **AMATEUR NIGHT** .....



television programs. The collection is open to scholars and researchers, and includes several complementary collections of papers, photographs, posters, and ephemera. The Harvard Film Archive's Cinematheque presents films to the public four nights a week, and frequently invites filmmakers to discuss their work.

## OUR DAY

### **Wallace Kelly**

Courtesy of Martha Kelly and the Center for Home Movies

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

16mm, b&w, Silent, 1938.

Music written, performed and recorded by Rachel Grimes, © 2010 BMI

Named to the National Film Registry in 2007, *Our Day* is a day-in-the-life portrait of the Kelly family of Lebanon, Kentucky. Wallace Kelly's amateur cast was made up of his mother, wife, brother, and pet terrier. The film documents a modern home inhabited by adults with sophisticated interests and simple pleasures and contains exceptional images of small-town Southern life, ones that counter the stereotype of impoverished people eking out a living during the Depression. Kelly (1910-1988), whose family ran the Lebanon Enterprise newspaper, was also an accomplished photographer, painter, and writer. He began shooting film in 1929 and continued until the 1950s. [Dan Streible]

*The day is close when  
the 8mm home movie  
footage will be  
collected and appreci-  
ated as **folk art**, like  
songs and the lyric  
**poetry** that was  
created by the **people**.*

— Jonas Mekas, 1963

**AMATEUR NIGHT** presents 16 amateur films from the collections of American film archives. Piecing together family moments, historical scenes, animation, drama, comic routines and travelogues dating from 1915 to 2005, this compilation demonstrates the eclectic array of entertainment, innovation and enlightenment found in home movies.

## WELCOME SAN FRANCISCO MOVIE MAKERS

### **Dr. Frank S. Zach**

Courtesy of the San Francisco Media Archive, [www.sfm.org](http://www.sfm.org)  
16mm, b&w, sound, 1960. [Excerpt]

*Welcome San Francisco Movie Makers* opens with a montage of classic San Francisco sights, setting the backdrop for the first meeting of the San Francisco Movie Makers Club. After an introduction of the club's members and its activities, filmmaker Dr. Frank S. Zach, along with his wife Helga, proceeds to demonstrate the proper use of 8mm and 16mm cameras and film sound recording techniques. Shot, scripted, edited, hand titled and over dubbed with music by Dr. Zach, this film seeks to encourage, teach, and recruit image makers. San Francisco Movie Makers was just one of plethora of amateur film clubs that sprang up between the 1920s and 1960s, giving amateur movie makers a place to meet to watch films, share technical tips, critique each others efforts, and make films together.

The San Francisco Media Archive is a non-profit institution dedicated to acquiring, preserving, and making available film and related material to historians, researchers, image makers, and the general public. The archive is composed of thousands of films, videotapes, filmstrips and other materials including important historical and contemporary documentaries, educational films designed to inform, feature films produced for entertainment, independent and avant garde films by cinematic visionaries, industrial sponsored films showcasing manufacturing and business, television and news films including newsreels, television news films, amateur films including home movies, cine clubs and community based films, promotional advertisements, and outtakes from collections around the world.

## BUTT SHAKERS

### **David H. Jarret**

Courtesy of the Orgone Archive  
Super 8, color, silent, 1959. [Excerpt]

The home movies of the Jarret family are true “orphan films” that were found at a flea market in Pittsburgh, where they were rescued by the Orgone Archive. The collection, much of which was severely water-damaged, spans the years 1958 to 1967 and includes family events and scenes from David Jarret's career as a firefighter. Though little is known about the excerpt included here, the title “Butt Shakers” is taken from the handwritten description on the box and is a colorful description of

brief remarks, the president shook hands with the well-wishers for more than 20 minutes. The Freedom Singers of Ricks College (now Brigham Young University-Idaho) regaled him with the singing of “We Are America” before Nixon reboarded Air Force One and departed. This film of the event is contained in the Nixon White House Staff Super 8 Motion Picture Film Collection, which includes films recorded between 1969 and 1973. The film was confiscated by the FBI after John Ehrlichman resigned as Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs.

The Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, located in Yorba Linda, California, is the presidential library of the 37th President of the United States. Originally operated by the private Richard Nixon Foundation, in July 2007 the library became a federal facility, one of twelve presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. The campus, jointly operated between NARA and the foundation, also includes President Nixon's birthplace, as well as the graves of President Nixon and First Lady Pat Nixon. The Archives, which opened in March 1994, houses approximately 6.2 million pages of records as well as extensive photographs, film reels, and recordings.

## LOWER 9TH WARD

### **Helen Hill**

Courtesy of Paul Gailiunas and the Harvard Film Archive  
[hcl.harvard.edu/hfa](http://hcl.harvard.edu/hfa)  
Super 8, Color, Silent. 2005. Commentary by Paul Gailiunas

Helen Hill (1970-2007), a native of Columbia, SC, was an animator, filmmaker and community activist. After having lived there previously, she and her husband Paul Gailiunas moved back to Mid-City New Orleans in 2000, along with their cat and pot-bellied pig. Following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, they (and their infant son Francis Pop) were displaced from their home and returned to Columbia while the city recovered. It was during a trip back to New Orleans to salvage their possessions, including many reels of flood-damaged super 8 home movies, that she filmed this reel of the Lower 9th Ward. The family moved back to New Orleans a final time in 2006 and it was there that Hill was tragically murdered.

The Harvard Film Archive began in the late 1960s as a teaching resource for film studies, and has grown into an ever-evolving collection of film and video, presently boasting over 20,000 items. The HFA has strong holdings in silent Soviet film, avant-garde cinema, documentary, and classic Hollywood fare, as well as smaller collections of home movies, educational films, theatrical trailers, and 16mm

amateur filmmakers, whether they are collections of fiction narrative films or the more traditional domestic or travel home movies.

## SMOKEY BEAR

### **Homer C. Pickens**

Courtesy of the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives

[www.nmcpr.state.nm.us](http://www.nmcpr.state.nm.us)

16mm, Color, Silent, 1950. [Excerpt] Commentary by Jimmy Pickens

The real life Smokey Bear was an American black bear cub who was caught in the Capitan Gap fire, a wildfire that burned in the Capitan Mountains of New Mexico in 1950. The bear, originally named “Hot Foot Teddy,” was rescued by Homer C. Pickens, Assistant Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and warden Ray Bell. Homer C. Pickens (1903-1991) joined the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish in 1931, working as trapper, patrolman, hunter and public relations administrator. He spent the first four years with the department tracking and hunting mountain lions before being transferred to Albuquerque, where he focused on public relations work, including making films of his work.

The Archives and Historical Services Division of the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives is the central archives of New Mexico State Government. The agency is mandated by law to collect, preserve, and make available to the public and all branches of government, permanent public records, historical manuscripts, motion picture films, photographs, and other materials that contribute to the understanding of New Mexico history. The New Mexico Historical Film Collection consists of motion picture films, videotapes, and related materials collected by the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives between 1969 and 1999, and the records generated over the course of their administration.

## NIXON VISITS IDAHO FALLS

### **The Nixon White House Staff**

**(John Ehrlichman, H.R. Haldeman, Larry Higby, and Dwight L. Chapin)**

Courtesy of the Nixon Presidential Library and Museum

[www.nixonlibrary.gov](http://www.nixonlibrary.gov)

Super 8, Color, Silent. Archival sound recording  
(White House Communications Agency).

On August 18, 1971, President Nixon stopped at Fanning Field in Idaho Falls, Idaho for 47 minutes on his way to the Grand Tetons in Wyoming. After making some

the frenetic dancing going on at the house party. The family lived on Grove Street in Pittsburgh’s Hill District. The center of Pittsburgh’s jazz scene during its heyday from the 1930s to the 1950s, the Hill has been called the “center for music and night life between New York and Chicago”

The Orgone Archive is a motion picture archive and screening outfit based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Originally founded in 1993 as Orgone Cinema by Jeff Armstrong, Michael Johnsen, and Greg Pierce as a break-even motion picture exhibition group dedicated to a sincere film culture in Pittsburgh, it presented unique monthly shows of home movies, industrial, educational, experimental, and documentary films, light and sound performances, and visiting film and videomakers at a photo gallery on the city’s South Side. Orgone is also (and was) a travelling cinema band that screens and performs films at home and nationally. Greg Pierce is the current custodian of this proudly fringe collection.

## ALFRED HITCHCOCK HOME MOVIES

### **Alfred Hitchcock and others**

Courtesy of the Alfred Hitchcock Estate and the Academy Film Archive

[www.oscars.org/filmarchive](http://www.oscars.org/filmarchive)

16mm, b&w, silent, ca. 1930. [Excerpt]

Commentary by Patricia Hitchcock O’Connell

In 1928, Alfred Hitchcock and his wife Alma purchased a cottage in Shamley Green, a village 30 miles southwest of London, in the county of Surrey. Alma, a screenwriter, editor, and assistant director, was pregnant with their only child Patricia at the time, and the house provided the family with a restful family weekend retreat where they entertained many of their friends from the film world. They maintained the cottage until moving to Los Angeles in 1939. Other reels in the Hitchcock family’s home movie collection tend to show him in front of the camera rather than behind it, showing his lighter side, including more scenes from Shamley Green, on holiday, and on the set of his films *Blackmail* and *Frenzy*.

Dedicated to the preservation, restoration, documentation, exhibition and study of motion pictures, the Academy Film Archive is home to one of the most diverse and extensive motion picture collections in the world. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences was founded in 1927 and began acquiring film material in 1929. The Academy Film Archive, established in 1991, holds private home movies of Hollywood legends like Steve McQueen, Esther Williams and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

## **BABY SQUIRREL AND CHICAGO BUS RIDE**

### **Stuart Dimond**

Courtesy of the James Dimond Collection, Walker Art Center  
www.walkerart.org  
9.5mm, b&w, silent, 1927-1930. Music by 4 Five VI

Stuart Dudley Dimond (1891-1985) was an engineer who worked for several Minneapolis companies and later became chief electrician for the Soo Line Railroad. Dimond was also an amateur filmmaker and shot this 9.5mm film footage of his family and a trip around Chicago between 1927 and 1930.

Pathé Baby was the trade name for a 9.5mm home movie system introduced in France in 1922 and in America in 1925, making it the first practical home movie format accessible to the average consumer. The films were only 30 feet long, requiring 90 seconds of cranking. An innovative freeze frame mechanism lengthened the showing time by pausing for title cards which, in reality, occupied only a few frames of film. [Kevin Phillips]

Formally established in 1927, the Walker Art Center began as the first public art gallery in the Upper Midwest. The Walker's Home Movies series includes enlightening footage of the upper Midwest in the early 20th Century including a double decker bus ride through downtown Chicago; the unveiling of a newly built locomotive for the Soo Line Railroad in Shoreham, MN; scenic views of Camden State Park, MN; propeller airplanes probably at Fort Snelling, MN; and beautiful footage of Minnehaha Creek and Falls, MN.

## **LAST GREAT GATHERING OF THE SIOUX NATION**

### **Arthur P. Howe**

Courtesy of the Nebraska State Historical Society  
www.nebraskahistory.org  
8mm, b&w, Silent, September 1934. "Omaha Song" from the album *Songs of the Sioux*. Canyon Records, www.canyonrecords.com, All rights reserved.

The Last Great Gathering of the Sioux Nation, which attracted some 1,000 Native Americans from nearby reservations, was held at Fort Robinson, Nebraska in conjunction with the dedication of twin monuments to the memories of Lt. Levi Robinson and Oglala Chief Crazy Horse. Both the Gathering and the dedication of the monuments drew huge numbers of participants and spectators, including

war, Harris, along with other newspaper men, civil defense officials, and local government officials were invited to Nevada to witness the 16-kiloton "Shot Annie" in Operation Upshot-Knothole on March 17, 1953. He described the week's events for the Augusta community in articles for his newspaper.

The Walter J. Brown Media Archive & Peabody Awards Collection preserves over 200,000 titles in film, video, audiotape, and transcription disks dating from the 1920s to the present. The archives are housed in the Main Library on the north campus of the University of Georgia. Its mission is to preserve, protect, and provide access to the moving image and sound materials that reflect the collective memory of broadcasting and the history of the state of Georgia and its people. The archives currently holds 55 family home movie collections containing over 1,100 reels of film documenting all aspects of American life during the last century.

## **FAIRY PRINCESS**

### **Margaret Conneely**

Courtesy of the Margaret Conneely Collection, Chicago Film Archives, www.chicagofilmarchives.org  
16 mm, Color, Sound, 1955

Margaret Conneely was an award winning and prolific amateur filmmaker who began making films when she joined a Chicago amateur film club in 1949. She was active in amateur filmmaking both locally and internationally for nearly half a century through the Amateur Cinema League and the motion picture division of the Photographic Society of America and Chicago's amateur club, Central Cinematographers. Her films drew on her domestic experiences, but she embedded her stories of seemingly normal domestic life with a light and innocent-looking strand of wicked and even sadistic humor. Conneely eventually parlayed her skills as a photographer and filmmaker into work as a medical photographer at Loyola University medical school. [Nancy Watrous and Charles Tepperman]

The Chicago Film Archives is a regional film archive dedicated to collecting, preserving, and providing access to films that represent the Midwest. Its purpose is to serve institutions and filmmakers of the region and elsewhere by establishing a repository for institutional and private film collections; to serve a variety of cultural, academic and artistic communities by making films available locally, nationally and internationally for exhibition, research and production; and to serve our culture by restoring and preserving films that are rare or not in existence elsewhere. Particularly important to CFA's holdings are collections of Chicago

image materials for over twenty years with a focus on home movies, documentaries, and productions by H. Lee Waters. Waters was a prolific filmmaker, and his collection contains the largest number of itinerant films in the country.

## **FEATHERLANE FARM/MEET THE NEIGHBORS**

### **Mortimer Goldman**

Courtesy of the National Center for Jewish Film, Brandeis University  
[www.brandeis.edu/jewishfilm](http://www.brandeis.edu/jewishfilm)  
8mm, Color, Silent, 1948. [Excerpt] Music by 4 Five VI

“Meet the Neighbors” is a segment from Mortimer Goldman’s film “A Day on the Featherlane Farm,” which documents egg farming in Ocean County, New Jersey. After the Second World War, the Goldmans bought a farm on Old Freehold Road in Toms River where they raised chickens. Mortimer Goldman was also a photographer who, along with his partner, operated the Peskin-Goldman studios in Toms River, Brick Township, and Lakewood, New Jersey from 1955 to 1984. Goldman died on August 4, 2009 at the age of 93.

The National Center for Jewish Film (NCJF) is a unique nonprofit motion picture archive, distributor, and resource center housing the largest, most comprehensive collection of Jewish-themed film and video in the world. NCJF’s first priority continues to be the preservation and restoration of rare and endangered nitrate and acetate films. The Center has long been recognized as a leader in the revival of Yiddish cinema, rescuing watershed Yiddish films from virtual oblivion. By producing and distributing pristine film and videocassette editions of such historic works with new English subtitles, NCJF effectively reintroduces modern audiences to a unique cultural and cinematic experience.

## **ATOM BOMB**

### **Louis C. Harris**

Courtesy of the Louis C. Harris Home Movie Collection, Walter J. Brown Media Archives, University of Georgia Libraries  
[www.libs.uga.edu/media](http://www.libs.uga.edu/media)  
16mm, Color, Silent, 1953. Commentary by Louis C. “Hap” Harris, Jr.

“Atom Bomb” was filmed by Louis C. Harris (1912-1978), an editor at the Augusta [Georgia] Chronicle from the 1950s until his death from cancer at the age of 66. As part of the Civil Defense department’s campaign to educate the American public about the power of atomic weaponry and the need to prepare for possible

Arthur P. Howe, a pharmacist and civic leader in Crawford, a small town in Nebraska’s northwestern Pine Ridge. Many of those attending the unveiling ceremony were tribal leaders and dignitaries, and this is perhaps the only time they are captured on motion picture film.

The mission of the Nebraska State Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and make accessible evidence of the human habitation of Nebraska. The Society is one of the primary homes for orphan films in the Midwest, and is the only public repository of moving images that relate to Nebraska by virtue of their production or content. The society’s audiovisual holdings include hundreds of reels of home movies, as well as local television news film, political ads, public service announcements, local talent films, newsreels and video oral histories. Its growing collection dates from 1900 to the near present, making it a comprehensive look at the state on film. [Paul Eisloeffel]

## **HEART MOUNTAIN RELOCATION CENTER**

### **Naokichi Hashizume**

Courtesy of the Japanese American National Museum  
[www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org)

8mm, b&w, Silent, 1945. Commentary by Kimie Hashizume Ouchi

Naokichi Hashizume (1901-1991) was born in Tsuruga, Japan, and worked as a gardener in Los Angeles’s Silver Lake district until the outbreak of World War II. In the wake of Pearl Harbor, the family of five was relocated to the Santa Anita Assembly Center in April 1942, losing everything except what they could carry with them. In September of that year, the family was transferred to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming, one of ten interment camps that held Japanese Americans during the Second World War, where they were interned until the end of the war. Following their release in 1945, the family moved to New Jersey before returning to Los Angeles, where Mr. Hashizume resumed his work as a gardener.

Since its inception in 1985, the Japanese American National Museum has chronicled more than 130 years of Japanese American history—from the first Issei generation through the World War II incarceration to the present day. The Los Angeles museum is the first in the United States dedicated to sharing the experience of Americans of Japanese ancestry as an integral part of U.S. history. Through its comprehensive collection of Japanese American objects, images and documents, as well as multi-faceted exhibitions, educational programs, documentaries and publications, the National Museum shares the Japanese American story with a

national and international audience.

## NAUSHON SHEEP DRIVE

### **Alexander Forbes**

Courtesy of Irving Forbes Collection, Northeast Historic Film  
www.oldfilm.org  
28mm, b&w, Silent, 1915. [Excerpt] Music by 4 Five VI

Alexander Forbes, M.D., born in Milton, Massachusetts in 1882, was the youngest son of William Hathaway Forbes, Bell Telephone Co.'s first president, and Edith Emerson Forbes, a daughter of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Forbes assisted in the development of submarine detection devices during the First World War, and surveyed the northern Labrador coast in the 1930s. The Forbes collection includes some of the only American home movies shot on 28mm film stock.

Naushon Island, off the coast of Massachusetts, was owned by the Forbes family. The size of the sheep flock peaked in the mid-1800s, then gradually declined during the first half of the 20th century. The last formal drive took place in the 1960s.

Located in the Alamo Theatre, a 1916 cinema building, in Bucksport, Maine, Northeast Historic Film's mission is to collect and preserve the film and video record of northern New England (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts), and to provide public access to the history and culture of the region embodied in it. Incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1986, the archives' collections contain ten million feet of film and more than 8,000 hours of video in a three-story temperature and humidity controlled vault building, which also provides state-of-the-art storage for institutions from throughout the eastern United States.

## THE COKER AVENUE GANG

### **C.C. Minnich**

Courtesy of the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound  
www.tamisarchive.org  
16mm, b&w, Silent, 1930. Music by 4 Five VI

Knoxville, Tennessee native C.C. [Charles Clyde] Minnich purchased his first 16mm movie camera in 1928. Over the next four decades, Minnich would capture, on amateur film, images of his family's home life, and priceless historical moments in

Knoxville's history. All together, the Minnich Collection now held at the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound represents over 60 years of both Minnich family and Knoxville amateur moving image history. This 16mm clip, dating from the early 1930s, features infant Bill Minnich as the unwitting and beleaguered feature attraction of his father's cinematic attempt at making his own version of the popular "Our Gang" comedy shorts.

The Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound (TAMIS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to collecting, preserving and providing access to the moving image and recorded sound heritage of our region. Housed in Knoxville's East Tennessee History Center, the archive collects and digitizes local home movies, regional television (including The Cas Walker Farm and Home Hour), audio records and tapes featuring local east Tennessee musicians, and transcriptions of local radio dating back to the 1930s. TAMIS digitizes and preserves this material in-house.

## INNSBRUCK

### **Morris Margolin**

Courtesy of the Morris and Dorothy Margolin Collection, Archive of Documentary Arts, Rare Book, Manuscript and Special Collections Library, Duke University, library.duke.edu/specialcollections  
16mm, Color, Sound, 1953

Morris Margolin, founding partner of an accounting firm in Garden City, Long Island, NY, was, in addition to his professional work, an avid amateur filmmaker and photographer. He and his wife, Dorothy, took an extensive series of journeys in the 1950s -1970s, which Margolin documented through 16mm home movies, both with and without sound. Born in Jamaica, New York in 1908, to Russian immigrant parents, Margolin developed his passion for traveling and photography as a young man, but it wasn't until the late 1940s that he bought his first movie camera. In the early 1950s, he and wife Dorothy began their worldwide travels. He was a member of the Metropolitan Film Club in Manhattan, where he went regularly to show his films. [Linda Margolin]

The Archive of Documentary Arts is part of Duke University's Rare Book, Manuscript and Special Collections Library. Its mission is to collect, preserve, and provide access to photography and moving images that document the human condition. It works closely with the Center for Documentary Studies, the Arts of the Moving Image Program at Duke University, and the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival. Duke's Special Collections Library has been actively collecting moving