

THE MAGAZINE OF 3-DIMENSIONAL IMAGING, PAST & PRESENT

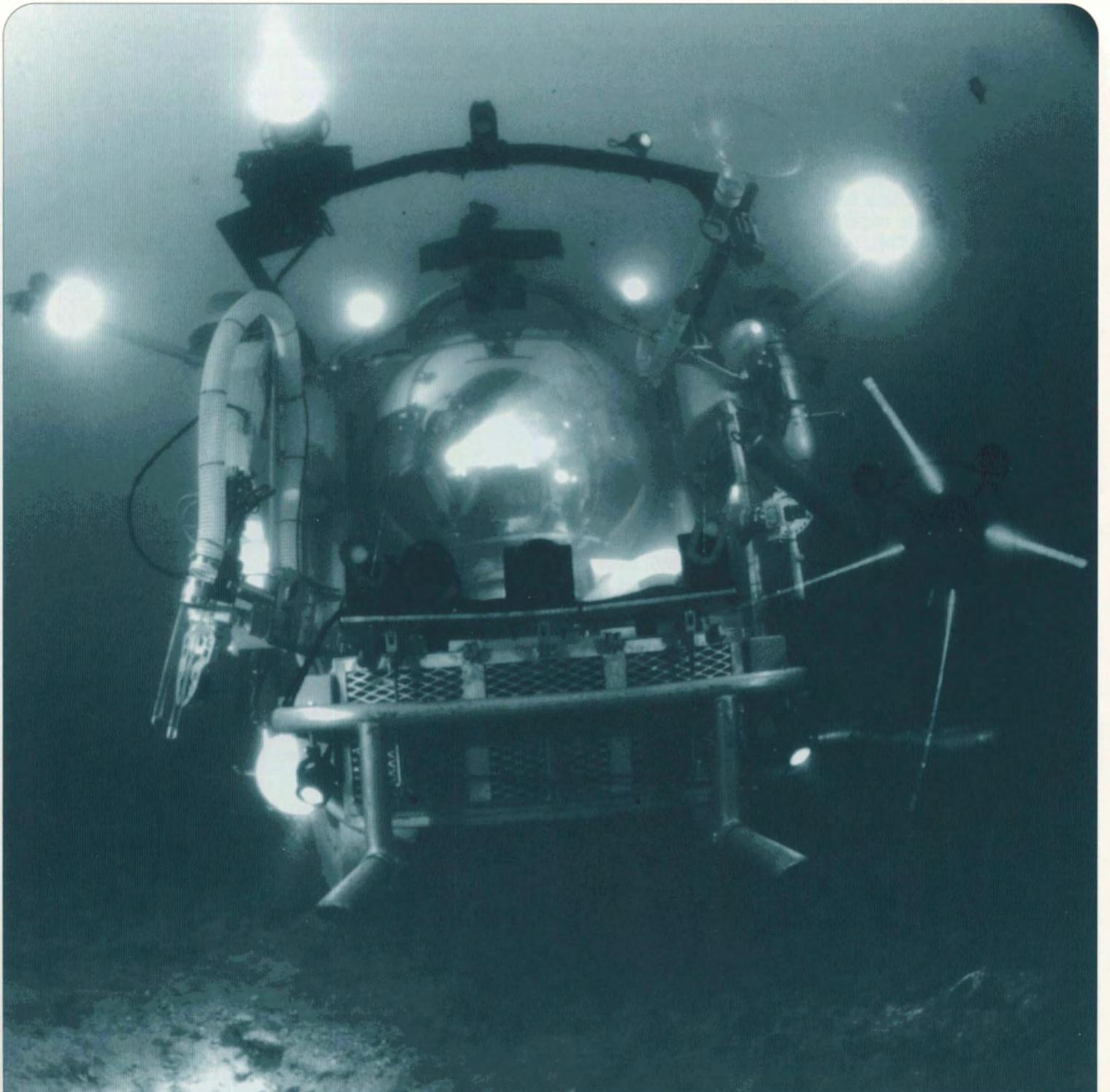


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STEREO WORLD



3-D GALAPAGOS • E.P. FRANK'S PARIS • LINDAU

Loose Chips

Last Minute
Items of Interest

View-master—the Final Move?

The remaining 60 employees at the View-Master plant Beaverton, Oregon, have been informed that the film processing and reel making operations will be moved to other locations and that the plant will close by about the end of July. (All other View-Master departments have already been moved to various Mattel/Fisher Price locations.) There are reports that film will be handled in Seattle where the new Pocket Viewers are made. Parent company Mattel said in late February that the decision had not been made regarding a new site for the reel making operation, mentioning the firm's site in Aurora, Illinois, as a possibility. There is concern that this key step in the product's creation could be moved to Mexico, where Model L viewer production has faced serious quality control problems. Also unknown is the fate of the personal reel mounts, now being produced sporadically on aging equipment that may or may not be moved and maintained.

Spring Show in Toronto

The Photographic Historical Society of Canada is presenting its Annual Spring Photographica Fair, as a part of its 25th Anniversary celebrations, on Sunday May 28, 2000 at the new location; The Soccer Centre, 7601 Martin Grove Road, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Antique, classic and modern cameras, images, books, accessories, etc. will be available from over 90 vendors. Admission is \$7.00. Doors are open from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Contact Fair Chairman, Mark Singer, 421 Horsham Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2R 1H3 or phone 416-879-7168. Also check out the web site at <http://web.onramp.ca/phsc> or e-mail address string@outer-net.com.

Mint Condition Anaglyphs

Besides making currency for the Canadian government, the Royal Canadian Mint, located in Ottawa and Winnipeg, produces a wide assortment of collector and commemorative coins, jewellery, and even watches for sale all over the world. Their current mail-order catalog features 3-D anaglyphs on each page illustrating the mint's products. To inquire about a catalog, call (800) 268-6468 in the U.S. or (800) 267-1871 in Canada, or you can add your name to the catalog mailing list through the mint's web site at : www.rcmint.ca/en/index.html via the "contacts" link or inquire at: Info@rcmint.ca.

Really Big Rock Stereos

Hyperstereo images from the NEAR mission, orbiting the asteroid Eros, can be found as anaglyphs at: http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/mission/near/near_eros.html.

If the mission continues successfully, more and closer stereos of details on the surface will be collected from multiple orbits.

Radar Mapping Anaglyphs

Images from the recent shuttle mission to create a "3-D" radar map of the Earth are on the web at: www.station.nasa.gov/gallery/images/shuttle/sts-99/srtm-data/ndxpage1.html and some are displayed as stereoscopic anaglyphs instead of computer generated relief map style images. One dramatic one (JSC2000-E-02743 PIA02721) shows NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the surrounding terrain in Pasadena, California. The image is actually a computer combination of an existing U. S. Geological Survey aerial photo with elevation/depth information provided by the Shuttle Radar Topography Mission's dual imaging system. With nearly 200 feet imaging antenna separation, it was certainly the largest single-unit stereo camera ever, and it would be interesting to see some pairs from it before they are computer processed into mapping use hyperstereo.

3-D Floor Puzzles

A series of three by four foot anaglyphic puzzles, designed to view while you are standing above them, will be available in July from Frank Schaffer Publications, (800) 609-1735, fax (800) 837-7260. They will retail for \$14.99 but may be less at some discount toy stores. Of the four different 3-D Floor Puzzles to be available, two feature dinosaurs and two show bugs.

Virtually Italian

Stereo World contributor John Bradley has noticed that the View-Master Virtual Viewers (Vol. 26 Nos. 2&3) on sale in Europe are marked "Made in Italy" rather than the "Made in Mexico" found on viewers sold in the U.S. He finds this a nice continuation of the old Sawyers tradition of manufacturing viewers in subsidiary plants, and a little surprising in light of today's cheaper production facilities in China and Mexico. Belgium is of course the best known example, but he has viewers in his collection made in India, Australia, France, England and Spain. ☺☺

