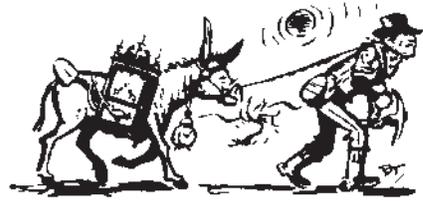


THE Tic Talk Times



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Newsletter of Orange County Chapter 69 of the
National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

Meeting highlights

Holiday Cheer

Vice President Terry Cunningham filled in for our President Dave Weisbart and opened the December meeting, or



perhaps it should be called "Linda Baker's Meeting" since she walked away with two gifts from the 50/50 drawing and one raffle!



President Dave Weisbart missed the meeting because he is

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This month's program

You Don't Have To Wind It?

Back when electricity driving a clock was a new-fangled idea, the Tiffany Never-Wind Clock Company produced some very interesting timepieces. We got a preview of some of the content of this presentation many months ago when co-creator Jay McAlister gave a program at Chapter 69. Now Jay and Roy Crowe have put together the newest slide presentation in the National Library on Tiffany Never-Wind clocks. It includes content not previously seen, with high quality graphics and a new script.

The Beginner's Corner will be good for anyone thinking of getting into serious buying, selling, and repairing of clocks. It's called "So You Want to be a Clock Man?" and will be presented by Terry Cunningham.

Security Reminder

The recent theft of a case of valuable watches from one of our members (*not* at a chapter meeting) should remind us all to be ever vigilant with our personal security. First and foremost, **do not conduct business in the parking lot of the Ebell Club!** Be aware if you are being followed, either in your car or on foot, especially when going to or from a jewelry store.

Message from the President

What's it like?

Since I've been back from Columbia for the holidays, the number one question I've heard has been, "What's it like?" What's it like in central Pennsylvania, what's it like at the school, what's it like where I'm staying, etc.

I'm a big believer in viewing life as an adventure. I like trying new things and experiencing new places. So my reports are generally pretty upbeat. The drive across America was certainly an adventure – even when my car started dying on I-40 in northeast New Mexico. At night. In a snow storm. The story of my rescue is too long to go into here, but suffice it to say that a good Samaritan mechanic put forth considerable effort to get me back on my way (and keep me from freezing to death).

Central Pennsylvania is a very different place than Orange County, to be sure. In downtown Columbia, there's lots of brick. Brick buildings, brick sidewalks, brick, brick, *brick*. The locals are friendly, and are warming up to the NAWCC school and museum since the recent change in administration. At a local diner, I found myself in conversation with a rather unkempt man who was missing most of his teeth. He said he'd heard the new director at the NAWCC school was

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Meeting Highlights *(from page 1)*

attending the NAWCC School of Horology. Dave sent an email to the group and expressed how impressed he is with the school and instructor. This is a compliment coming from Dave!



This being the Holiday meeting, entrance was free to those who brought goodies. What an assortment!

Bud Saiben successfully collected for the 50/50 drawing with his Christmas Ho-Ho-Ho hat. The cost, \$5.00 for 6 tickets.



Each member brought a gift for the gift exchange. Elf Marsha Cunningham distributed the gifts for the gift exchange and did quite a job. We didn't know what a great Emcee Marsha really is.



The Sing-A-Long was led by vocalist Cora Lee Linkenhoker. The words were on the screen, so we sang the real words, not the ones we've made up through the years.

— Julie Stevens



President's Message *(from page 1)*

really making a lot of progress in improving things! I guess the word gets around in a small town like Columbia.

I'm staying in a building that was built in 1815. It adjoins a historic bank building that is in the process of being turned into a museum. The owners of both buildings, my landlords, are a delightful couple who are very dedicated to preserving the history and charm of old Columbia. My apartment, on the third floor of the building, has not one bit of level floor thanks to 186 years of settling. No tall case clocks here! Still, it's clean, quite livable, and a short walk to the school.

The school facility is very good. My teacher, Roger Chastain, is very knowledgeable and is able to convey mechanical concepts well. The first class was the largest C-100 they'd had – 16 students! And I've heard that C-200 will have 17. Several of the people there are in the same boat as I am; they've been displaced in the corporate world and are looking for a reliable and enjoyable source of income.

And now I face a truly adventurous 2002. I'll spend most of the first four months in a Pennsylvania winter (the weather was unusually mild while I was there – a condition I'm assured will not last). I'll be learning a lot and making new friends along the way. I'm even considering giving a guitar recital for the public at the small theater in the NAWCC museum.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our January meeting, and I wish for all of you a happy, healthy, prosperous, and adventurous New Year.

Dave Saiben

UPCOMING MARTS

- February 9 & 10, 2002: Greater LA Regional at the Pasadena Center, 300 East Green Street, Pasadena, California
- April 27, 2002: Chapter 81 (Inland Counties) mini-mart.
- July 3–7, 2002: The NAWCC Southern California Adventure (national convention), Anaheim Convention Center and Anaheim Marriott, Anaheim, California

It's in the library!

Five-Part Watch Course

Video: Watch Repair Course
by Robert J. Tascione

This synopsis is taken from reviewing the five part course on watch repair. Mr. Tascione is very thorough and covers introduction, disassembly, cleaning, re-assembly and staffing. This course however exceeds our time constraints but we will cover an introduction for about 30 minutes in an upcoming meeting. I think our new camera may present better images than what was used in the video, so that any one of the brilliant mechanics in chapter 69 may want to develop a similar program.

So as not to alienate our clock brethren, Mr. Tascione also has a five part clock repair video which, like the watch course, resides in our library. The chapter 69 library is an extensive resource for your reading and technical pleasure. Please stop by the library before or after the meeting to check your base of knowledge. Have a happy and prosperous new year.

— *Charlie the Librarian*

The Daniel Pratt Clock Companies

Daniel Pratt was born in 1797 in Redding, MA, and eventually was putting out wooden works clocks. The label usually reads, "Extra Clocks manufactured and sold by Daniel Pratt, Jr." Most of these clocks have manufacturing dates on them. He used brass movements after 1838, and from 1846 to 1871 had a store at 49 Union Street, Boston. He dies in 1871. Many of his clocks are still around and can occasionally be seen in the marts.

His business was continued after his death as "Daniel Pratts Sons", and you will find a few clocks with this label from the period 1871-1880. These labels are rare.

It has been reported that the business was continued under other names from 1880-1895, but after 1895 became known as "Daniel Pratt, Son, 339 Washington St., Boston" operated by Frank W. B. Pratt. After being in operation for well over three-quarters of a century, the clocks the business produced should have been better known by collectors.

From *The Official Guide to Antique Clocks* by Roy Ehrhardt

General Meeting Minutes December 7, 2001

Terry Cunningham, Vice-President, welcomed everyone to the Christmas Meeting. He read an e-mail that Dave Weisbart sent to all members from Columbia. Dave said the weather was spectacular there!

Terry also welcomed Jim Clark, a guest from Alaska, and Jerry Happ, a new member.

The minutes were approved as published in the Tick Talk Times.

Terry presented our caretaker, James, with an appreciation gift. James wished all of us a very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and/or Happy Chanukah and expressed his appreciation in having us here.

Announcements

Lloyd Porter is quite ill with Parkinson's disease and is home bound. We all wish him well, and speedy recovery.

Terry Cunningham said that it was also good to see John and Nancy Roth back to our meeting. They have not been here for about 9 months due to John's kidney and gallbladder surgery. We are happy he is back.

The L.A. Regional will be held on February 8th and 9th, and Chapter 81 (Inland Counties) will have their mini-mart on April 27, 2002.

Jim Espy announced that a shop in San Diego that is going out of business would have two tables at the L.A. Regional to try to liquidate all their clocks. If they do not sell them out at Pasadena, they will have whatever is left at the National Convention in July.

Roy Irick told us he got a phone call regarding our clocks on display at LAX. They will not be moved to the other wing because of the expense. Roy said they wanted us to allow them to be kept another year. If that is the case, it was decided that we would ask for them back. When the plans are confirmed, everyone will have to pick up their own clocks after they are delivered to us. If any person wants someone else to pick up his clocks, he needs to give that person written permission to do so.

50/50 Time

Bud Saiben collected \$120 dollars in which one/half would go to our Chapter and one/half would be divided among three winners. The winners each get \$20 and they were:

Linda Baker

Rose Marie Leonard

Linda Baker (yes, she won twice!)

Gift Exchange

Fun was had by all those who participated in the gift exchange. Tickets were given for each gift brought and then numbers were drawn for the order in which a person would get their gift. After they picked, it was opened in front of everyone.

Christmas Carols

Terry Cunningham and Cora Lee Linkenhoker led the members in Christmas carols.

Raffle

Sally DiMino brought some lovely wrapped raffle gifts. There were baskets filled with goodies, boxes filled with candy, cheeses and meats, and cookies. The lucky winners were: Ed Athey, Ed Brinderson, Bill Clark, Ellie Clark, and Linda Baker

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marsha Cunningham, Secretary