

THE Tic Talk Times



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

Meeting minutes Dec. 5, 2008

Horological Humor

The mart began at 6:30, a half hour earlier than usual for the Holiday Party. All the tables were full with sellers with the exception of one, we had a silent auction. There were six items and most of them sold! Instead of the required donation to get in the room, if a member brought a plate of goodies, they got in at no cost. We had more good food than we could consume! And, we had a 50/50 drawing that brought \$62 to the chapter.

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Upcoming Event

GLAR

The Greater Los Angeles Regional is coming! The Regional occupies much of The Pasadena Center with over 500 tables full of horological items, 1,800 participants, 4 outstanding seminars, chapter meetings, a special display of AC electric clocks.

Pasadena is also a world-renowned antique Mecca. Within a couple of blocks of The Pasadena Center are numerous antique stores, great restaurants, shops, art galleries, book stores, movie theatres and playhouses.

Registration is easier than ever. You can go on line to pre-register and

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This Month

Eureka! The Story of an Inventor



*Early 20th century electric clock made
by the Eureka Clock Co., Ltd.*

In horological circles, Timothy Bernard Powers is best known for his invention of the Eureka clock, which Timothy patented with assignments to Kutnow Brothers Inc. of New

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Message from the president

Now *That's* Volunteerism!

Those of you who attended the December meeting saw a sneak preview of our new podium, built by our newest board member, Doug Lynn. (Actually, he is not even officially on the board yet – he is going to be installed at the January meeting.) This is going to be a welcome addition to our meeting, making things easier and more organized for our presidents and our speakers.

This resulted from a conversation at our November board meeting regarding the need for a podium. While I was going to investigate the cost of a commercially available podium, Doug said he'd look into the cost of materials to build one. In a move that reminds me of something I might do (in areas where I am competent), he just went ahead and built it! And it's a "beaut."

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Greater Los Angeles Regional at Pasadena Convention Center in February 2009

December Minutes (from page 1)

President Dave Weisbart called the meeting to order at 8:00 and welcomed two guests, James Avelas and Joe Thompson. The minutes were approved with a correction to the GLAR dates in the Directors minutes. The correct date of the Greater Los Angeles Regional is February 5-7, 2009. There will be no board meeting this month. Dave



Taming the Mainspring from Disney's "The Clock Cleaners"

used a new podium made by member Doug Lynn.

Upcoming marts are: Sun City Mini Mart, Chapter 130, December 7, and the Greater LA Regional, February 5-7, 2009. The National Convention will be in Grand Rapids,

Michigan, June 10-13, 2009.

Dave Weisbart is the Banquet Chairman for the GLAR and he commented to be sure to sign up, we are in for a treat with the entertainment. We have a tentative date for our Mini-Mart, May 16, 2009.

Bob Linkenhoker attended the Del Mar Regional and said the tables were sold out and they had 150 walk-ins on Saturday (the day the public is allowed).

Dave picked the 50/50 drawing tickets out the basket – was this rigged? We collected \$131. The chapter's cut was \$65. We split \$66 into three winnings, \$40, \$16 and \$10. Larry Squires won the first drawing, \$40. Larry Squires won the second drawing, \$16! And he generously donated his winnings to the chapter. The third drawing was won by Nancy Squires!!!



Donkey Time Italian Style



The evening's entertainment was provided by talented Dave Weisbart. Dave made a video production, *Horology Follies*. He researched, found and put

together all the funniest video clips with a horology theme. The first was "The Clock" from the 1953 *Your Show of Shows*. Then, a clip Dave titled Rube Goldberg; *Goon Show* from British Radio that was on from 1951 to 1960. The voices were Peter Sellers and Spike Milligan as Eccles, titled, "What time is it, Eccles?" The next was from Monty Python, "Customs Agent." Then, "Life of a Cuckoo," showing what a poor cuckoo does when trapped inside the box all day, everyday. The next, "Clock Cleaners," was from Walt Disney in 1938, put to music. Next was, "The Donkey." The Donkey got the most laughs and we are still laughing! The final video clip, Charlie Chaplin's "The Pawn Broker."

Show and Tell began with the letter "N" or what was obtained at the Del Mar Regional. Bob Selene bought an



animated timepiece at the Del Mar Regional. It is similar to the Ignatz, has only one hand, small in size, all metal, spring driven. He said Timesavers imported these years ago and they sold out immediately.

Bob Linkenhoker brought a newspaper article picturing a wall of the Physics Building at Redlands University. It is a sundial. Ray Brown brought

a 1949 Buick car clock made by New Haven. Ray is convinced it is a 1950 Buick car clock because when he was a young guy, his parents bought a 1950 Buick and drove it cross country. Ray's seat was the front, and he spent three days looking in front of him, right at the clock. Dave Weisbart brought a New Yorker catalog advertising the good life, including wristwatches. There was a Cartier, Chanel and more, with hefty prices!



Ray's 1950? Buick Clock lit up.

For the holiday festivities, we had five door prize drawings instead of the usual three. The lucky winners were Stan Goldklang, Anna Pond, Gene Osten, Cora Lee Linkenhoker and Ray Brown.

As a last minute note, it was mentioned that Ray Brown has an article coming up in the February Bulletin. Remember to vote for NAWCC Director and be sure to vote for Bob Linkenhoker.

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

This Month (from page 1)

York and London. The Eureka Clock Co., Ltd. had a short life but the clock's unique electrically driven balance wheel movement has made it a favorite of collectors of early electro-mechanical clocks. The history of the Eureka clock is well documented by Alan Shenton in his 1999 book "The Eureka Clock," but very little was known about Powers and how he came to devise this unique clock or his prior and subsequent string of inventions. Shenton's book has but one short paragraph on Powers stating, "Little is known about him apart from the fact that he gave his address as Broadway, New York at the time. He later came to England and one can only speculate that he returned to America at the outbreak of the First World War." Ray Brown was not satisfied with this lack of background on the inventor and using the internet search engines found, in a short time, many remarkable inventions plus a history of Timothy Powers which was in its way an Eureka moment too.

Beginners' Corner

The Beginners Corner this month will compliment the main program with some ideas on the repair and adjustment of the Eureka clockworks. Repair of the electrical contacts, setting the "timing", and adjusting the armature clearance will be explained. The use of a diode for arc suppression will also be discussed and a simple installation described.



Eureka Electromechanical Movement



Presidents Message (from page 1)

As I embark on my final year on Chapter 69's board, I'd love to see more of that kind of volunteerism: see a job that needs doing, and step up and do it. It's surprising how easily things get done that way. It's also surprising how personally fulfilling it feels when you do it.

I wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2009. See you at the meeting!

—Dave Weisbart

GLAR (from page 1)

pay for attendance, tables, and the Saturday night banquet at www.nawcc-glar.com.

As for the past two years, Saturday will be open to the public! So here's a chance to invite your friends and relatives to see what all the excitement is about.

This Saturday policy makes Friday more important, too. Members who want the best selection of merchandise better be there on Friday!

The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, February 5

Pre-Registered Packet Pickup:

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. — Exhibit Hall Lobby

Mart Table Setup:

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. — Exhibit Hall

Friday, February 6

Registration:

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. — Exhibit Hall Lobby

Seminar Program I:

8:45 a.m. — Seminar Room

"Early AC Clocks" by Ray Brown

Mart Hours:

Open to NAWCC Members & their Guest Only

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. — Exhibit Hall

Seminar Program II:

2:30 p.m. — Seminar Room

"Le Bulle-Clock" by John Hubby

Saturday, February 7

Seminar Program III:

8:45 a.m. — Seminar Room

"19th Century Clockmaking" by Andy Dervan

Mart Hours:

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. — Exhibit Hall

Open to the Public

Seminar Program IV:

2:00 p.m. — Seminar Room

"Ezra C Fitch, Watchmaker, Salesman, Inventor and Businessman" by Tom McInyre

Banquet:

7:00 pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**DATED MEETING NOTICE
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

*The National
ASSOCIATION OF
WATCH & CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.*
Orange County Chapter No. 69
c/o Cora Lee Linkenhoker
7186 Calico Cir.
Corona, CA 92881



Our Next Meeting: Friday, January 2, 2009

Program:

**LIVE PRESENTATION
"Eureka! The Story of
an Inventor"
by Ray Brown**

Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:

Repair and adjustment of an Eureka clockworks

Show & Tell:

Horological items beginning with the letter "O" or
An Eureka clock

Board Meeting:

To be announced

Time: 7:00 – Doors open
8:00 – General Meeting

Admission: \$4.00 – General
\$6.00 – Couples

Location: Acacia Grove Masonic Lodge
11270 Acacia Parkway
(in the Civic Center)
Garden Grove, CA

