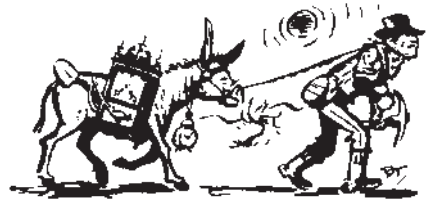


# THE Tic Talk Times



February 2003  
Vol. 22, No. 7

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

*Meeting Minutes, Jan. 3, 2003*

## Every Hamilton in the World (almost)

President Dave Weisbart called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. There were four guests:

Mike Bantel, Tom Brownlee, Aaron Bereher, and Bob DeFord.

Announcements of upcoming events were for the L. A. Regional on Feb 21st and 22nd, Inland Counties Minimart April 5 and the NAWCC National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina July 2 thru 6. Our very own mini mart will be held in May. The day has not been determined yet. Tony Baker has



*Mark's in danger of losing count of all his Hamilton wristwatches*

volunteered to do pre-registration and Charles Register will do security

*continued on page 2*

*This month*

## The Beat Goes On

Putting a clock in beat is essential to its proper operation. Sometimes it's straightforward. Other times it takes a certain finesse. This month, Larry Squires will show us how to set several different styles of escapement in beat. In addition to the common crutch adjustments, he'll also be demonstrating his techniques for putting a 400-day clock in beat. (Larry's known as a 400-day specialist.)

Dave Weisbart will offer the Beginner's Corner, a quick overview of some mathematical formulas that are useful for clock repair. These will include beats per hour, pendulum length, and the length of a spring in a barrel.

## FREE LUNCH

*Who says there's no such thing?*

The date is set for our Chapter 69 Goodyme Supermart. Mark your calendars for the morning of Saturday, May 17. Once again, we'll be using the convenient Tustin community center location. And this year, we're trying something new: lunch! Lunch will be served at a nominal cost for buyers, and free for sellers (one per application). We hope this will make the event more enjoyable for everyone (and might attract some of us who enjoy a "free lunch"). Tell your friends!

Visit us on the web at [www.nawcc69.org](http://www.nawcc69.org)

*Message from the President*

## Election time is coming

As chapter President, I receive mailings from various NAWCC sources. Now I've started getting flyers for various national candidates. (These will be available at the meetings between now and election time.) In reviewing these flyers, I am taken aback at the number of contributions these folks have made to the organization, holding many different chapter offices, serving on national committees, and organizing regionals, seminars and nationals. These are all people who are making a difference, and they deserve our respect and informed consideration for the offices they seek.

It may be hackneyed, but it is true: There are three kinds of people; those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who say, "What happened?" Our chapter has gone through a lot in the last year; we've achieved a balanced operational budget, while simultaneously losing over \$16,000 to the convention deficit. We've seen a steady decline in national membership, yet our chapter membership has grown. The audio-visual equipment has contributed a new dynamism to our programs. And in just a few months, one of the finest boards of directors Chapter 69 has had is going to be losing some key people.

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## Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

but we still need someone to volunteer for chairman.

Two of our members have been in the hospital. They are both out now and on the mend. We wish the very best to Bud Saiben, and Wayne Preston. All hope we will be seeing them at the meetings very soon.

Jim Espy has been handling our mailing list forever. He has expressed a desire to be relieved of the job. Jim has done a super job and we thank him for all his hard work. We need to find someone to take on this important task.

Tony Baker was in charge of our Beginner's Corner this month and did a superb job on showing us how to easily and accurately make spade drills.



The live program by Mark C was on Hamilton Watches. Mark has been collecting them for 20 years and showed us a good cross section of his vast collection.

There are only a handful of serious Hamilton collectors in the country and he says the bidding on pieces can get pretty fierce at times. He is in the process of trying to get examples of every high-grade watch produced by this prestigious company during its entire life.



It was a lively and interesting presentation. One interesting side note; *Mark doesn't wear a watch.*



Show and tell had Larry Squires sharing a Hamilton watch he bought at a garage sale recently (left). Also the Hamilton watch given him at his high school graduation.

Gene Osten had an Elgin pocket watch, though it is marked "American" (top, left). He explained it was a cheaper line made by the Elgin Company who didn't want their name on an item they considered inferior to their usual product.



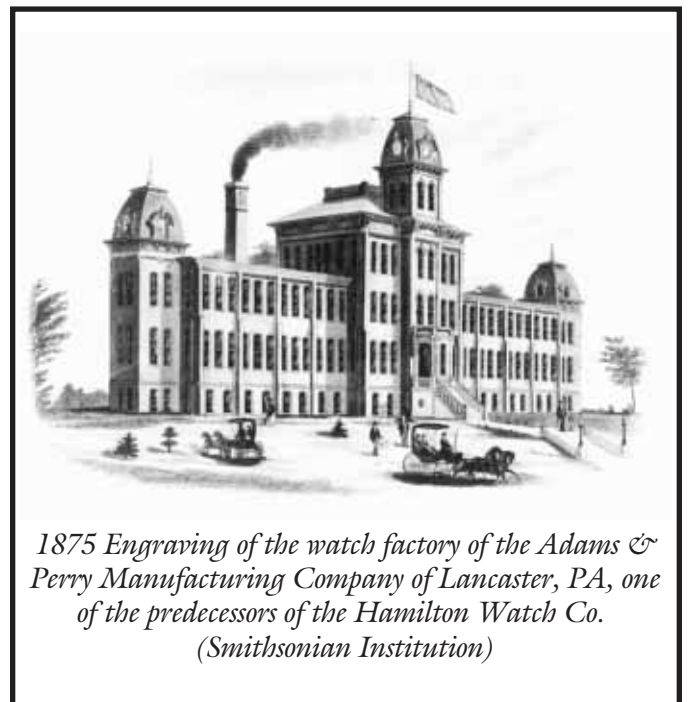
Charles Register showed a square Elgin pocket watch (above right). Les Lesovsky had a battery driven balance wheel clock movement made in Switzerland. It is very accurate over a long period of time but because of the manufacturing cost they could not compete with the quartz clocks we all know today.

Roy Irick brought in a Thomas Cole engraved clock (right). He also shared a book with many pictures of engraved clocks.

Ellie Clark, Julie Stevenson, Linda Caples, Tony Baker, and Cora Lee Linkenhoker won door prizes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cora Lee Linkenhoker, Recording Secretary



*1875 Engraving of the watch factory of the Adams & Perry Manufacturing Company of Lancaster, PA, one of the predecessors of the Hamilton Watch Co. (Smithsonian Institution)*



## President's Message *(from page 1)*

Running the chapter can be either a caretaking task, preserving the status quo and rolling merrily along, or it can be an activist task, looking ahead to what will make the chapter stronger and more active. I don't think there's any question that over the last several years, we have been on an activist path. This did not come about because of the "What happened?" members, nor the watchers. Making things happen is the name of the game.

The beauty of it is that anyone can make things happen. You don't have to consider yourself on a fellowship track. For that matter, you don't even have to be on the board of directors. You just have to have an idea of what you could do to make the chapter better. As an example, the library was recently cataloged by Bob Linkenhoker. His new list will make the book you're looking for easier to find.

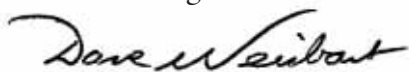
The chapter's most urgent need is for volunteers who are comfortable with technology, both computers and audio-visual. If you have any experience with Microsoft Excel or Access, we need you NOW to help with membership and mailing list functions. Our dear friend Jim Espy has been performing our mailing list maintenance seemingly forever, and has asked to be relieved of this job. It involves monthly updates of our own members (with more work in June, July, and August than the rest of the year), and quarterly updates taken from a report of national members that's issued by headquarters. Our current membership chair, Gene Osten, can handle the chapter membership, but has asked for help with the national updates.

Those of you who arrive early at the meetings have no doubt seen me at the front of the room methodically connecting the camera, projector, computer, VCR, and wireless microphone to their appropriate jacks. If you hooked up your own VCR at home, you can handle this, too. I will be in New York for the March general meeting, so we need someone who can take responsibility for this task at that meeting.

And if anyone wants free lessons in desktop publishing, a back-up newsletter editor would be most welcome.

The brain works in mysterious ways. As I was writing this, a dusty, old neuron in the cobweb-infested regions of my memory fired off a little song from the old "Romper Room" television show: "Do be a Do Bee, don't be a Don't Bee...". It was advice to petulant pre-schoolers to encourage them to think beyond themselves and become cooperative and contributing members of their families and peer groups. It still rings true. Are you a Do Bee?

See you at the meeting!



## *Dave's shop talk*

### Shake, Shake, Shake

Shake your arbors! Amazingly, *five* clocks that came through my shop this past month had problems related to the concept of "end shake." This is the play, or slack, of a wheel's arbor in between the plates of the assembled movement.

Every wheel must be able to move freely, at least a little bit, along the axis of its arbor. If the shoulders (the place where the diameter expands from the pivot to the arbor) are both rubbing against the plate, the clock can stop.

You'd think that factory-made clocks wouldn't ever have this problem, but they do. Also, on clocks with relatively thin brass plates, distortion of the plates can occur which can cause end shake problems. So make sure all your arbors move freely end to end when you finish assembling the movement.

Another place that end shake is needed is in lantern pinions. The trundles (wires) must be allowed to move end to end (which implies that they can spin in place as well). I learned this lesson the hard way back at the school in Columbia, and a clock I had this month reinforced it. It kept stopping mysteriously before it had run a week. After examining all the usual suspects, I noticed that the lantern pinions seemed a little shorter than I would have expected. Sure enough, someone had staked them all tightly shut. After I opened them all up about half the thickness of the cap, and confirmed end shake on all the trundles, the clock exceeded a 10-day run on one winding.

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### *A Note Found in a Clock*

"You dominate our parlor, standing as you do much taller than any of the human occupants of the house. Your dignity is immense and your moods steady—you can quiet me from elation just as you can lift me from melancholy. You are a friend to all of us, a regulator on the speed of our lives, and a faithful link between a generation now gone and a generation yet to come. You keep reminding us of our place in the scheme of all things with a special finger that points to our days and a little harvest moon that travels in our private heaven. You are a spokesman for time as you whisper a gentle cadence for the marching seconds, and ring your bell to mark the passing of each hour's parade. You have the special power to lift past into present, to make that which had lived be alive again. You are the voice of my home—may those who follow me listen too, and through the inward searching you inspire, also learn of peace, of beauty, and of love."

*From "Clocks" by Douglas H. Shaffer*

**DATED MEETING NOTICE  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**



## Our Next Meeting: February 7, 2003

*Program:*

**LIVE Presentation**  
**"Putting Clocks in Beat"**  
**by Larry Squires**

*Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:*

"Math Formulas for Clock Repairing" by Dave Weisbart

*Show & Tell:*

Horological items beginning with the letter "F"

*Board Meeting:*

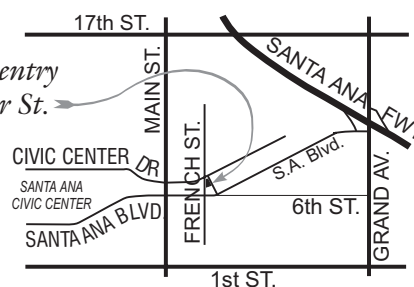
**Wednesday, February 12, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.** at the home of:  
Murray Lefkowitz

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

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

*Location:* The EBELL CLUB  
625 French Street  
(at Civic Center Drive)  
Santa Ana, CA  
(714) 547-6331

*Parking and entry  
off Mortimer St.*



Ramp  
available