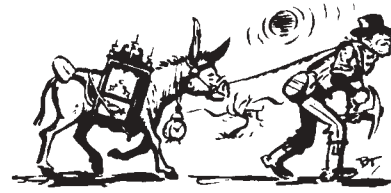


# THE Tic Talk Times



February 2011  
Vol. 30, No. 7

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

Meeting minutes - Jan. 7, 2011

## GLOCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

Our meeting began at 8:00 P.M. with outgoing President Doug Adams calling us to order. He welcomed guests Bob Duncan from Salt Lake City, and our speaker Jim Cipra and his wife, Pam.

At that point, long-time member Larry Squires was called upon to administer the oath of office to our new incoming board of directors. Present were: President Ray Brown, Vice President Phyllis Adams, Secretary Dave Weisbart, Treasurer Bob Linkenhoker, and Directors Ken and Doug Lynn, and Annette DiMino. (Incoming Director Ed Athey was absent.) All affirmed they would faithfully execute the duties of their offices.

Ray Brown took the podium and announced that our February meeting would take place on the second Friday (the 11<sup>th</sup>) to avoid conflict with the Greater L.A. Regional in Pasadena. He also said that a meeting of the new board would take place at his house on Thursday, January 13.

In his dual role as president of the chapter and chairman of the regional, Ray took the opportunity to remind us about the regional (Feb. 4 & 5). He said that table sales were already up about 10% over last year, and tables were expected to sell out well in advance of the event.

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This month

## Screaming at the TV

Do you ever find yourself watching a television show and noticing a blatant inaccuracy regarding clocks or watches? For me, one of the most annoying is when a Foley artist (the one who provides post-production sound effects) gets the ticking rate of a clock horribly wrong. I've also taken issue with some of the pricing on "Antiques Roadshow."

Our speaker this month is Les Lesovsky, who bristled at inaccuracies in the normally well-researched PBS show "History Detectives." The segment centered around the "Mayo clock", a high-quality timepiece that was located in the J.B. Mayo jewelry store in Chicago. Here is the text of the program description from the PBS web site:

Our contributor wonders if her family clock kept time for the entire Midwest during the 19th century.

According to the story, the clock sat in the family jewelry store in Chicago and regulated time in other towns via telegraph signals.

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## Bud Saiben

On January 14<sup>th</sup> of this year Bud Saiben passed away at the age of 90. We hardly ever think of Bud without also thinking of his beloved wife Pat who passed away in October 2007.

Through the early days of Chapter 69 Bud and Pat were some of the most avid supporters.

Bud served on the Chapter 69 Board of Directors in many capacities starting in the late 1970's until the late 1990's. In 2005 he and Pat were presented life memberships in Chapter 69 for their years of service.

Due to ill health Bud was not able to attend any events in the last 6 or 7 years but long time members will remember him as a rather irascible but still lovable figure at marts and meetings. One thing he and Pat will definitely be remembered for is their hosting of the annual pot luck dinner meeting held at their Santa Ana home in July of each year. From the late 1980's till 2007 this event brought old and new members to a purely social gathering where old friendships could be renewed and new ones made.

Bud and Pat are both fondly remembered by those that knew them. May they both rest in peace, together again at last.

— Bob Linkenhoker



*Bud & Pat Saiben*

## Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

Dave Weisbart then presented the Beginner's Corner on the subject of ship's bells. He briefly covered the use of the bells, which denote the sailors' watch (work shift) periods. Arranged in four-hour increments, one watch ends



and the next begins at eight bells. Bells are added at the rate of one every half hour. If a watch ends at midnight (eight bells), a single bell is struck at 12:30, two bells at 1:00, three bells at 1:30, and so on until eight bells occurs again at 4:00.

For clockmakers, the challenge is that the timing of the bells is in groups of two, that is, eight bells is actually

four groups of two. Dave covered three different mechanisms used to accommodate this irregular striking pattern.

Our program was presented by Jim Cipra. Jim is occasionally asked by friends and associates to become involved in acquisition and setup of high-end antique clocks. A beautiful, marquetry-covered antique tall case clock had been shipped from England, and Jim was on hand to help unpack it and set it up. The moment he saw how it had been packed, however, Jim raced to get his camera. Even before it was unwrapped, Jim knew that a clock packed the way this one was would not have survived a trans-Atlantic crossing unscathed.

He was right. In a horrifying picture show, Jim explained how the completely insufficient packing around this clock contributed to cracked wood, broken-off moldings, and separated veneers. Only a couple of minor miracles prevented the terribly packed movement and dial from suffering severe damage.

Jim explained each of the deficiencies in packing and the correct way to pack such a clock. His tips included packing the removable hood (bonnet) in its own box, packing the dial separately from the movement (which should have some protection for the crutch), and packing the weights separately from everything else. Rigid foam should be used to separate the case from its container, so the shocks of handling by the gorillas at the freight depots will be mitigated. He recommended bubble wrap and discouraged the use of Styrofoam.

Our thanks go out to Jim for his well-done and instructive presentation.

We had a robust Show & Tell: Dave Weisbart started by showing us a recent acquisition that matched our letters



of Q and R. His Ansonia "Queen" model (*left*) had come from an auction of items from the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. It's a rare piece, appearing only in Ansonia's 1883 catalog.

Larry Squires then showed us his 30-hour grand sonnerie wall clock (*top*). The unusual movement had a weight for the time and springs for the quarter and hour strike trains. The front featured some fine geometrical marquetry inlay.



Tony Baker displayed a large, complex grandfather clock movement by J.J. Elliot (for Tiffany). It featured an eight-bell carillon on top with a four-gong Westminster chime on the back. It tied in to our program because it had sustained damage

due to incorrect packing – the gongs had been broken off the back.

Ray Brown showed us his Remind-O clock. He told the story of the cab-driver inventor of the clock who needed to have multiple reminders to pick up his fares.

A Swiss deck watch/chronometer was displayed by Doug Adams. It had an "R" connection, namely a reverse fusee. The watch, made in the 1880s by Courvoisier, featured a pivoted detent escapement and a free-





## This month *(from page 1)*

History Detectives takes on the case, and discovers how regulating time became critical as America moved into the industrial age.

We visit a clock appraiser and a time-keeping historian and some interesting results from the Chicago Tribune historical archives.

There follows an odd disclaimer:

*Patricia Atwood would like to acknowledge that she misspoke about self-winding regulators not having pendulums. She meant to say that self-winding regulators did have pendulums but they were mostly spring-driven unlike the Mayo regulator which is powered by a hanging weight.*

Les was incensed enough about the misspeaking and other errors that he put together a Powerpoint presentation to provide the truth about the Mayo clock. At the meeting, we'll watch the History Detectives segment, then Les's rebuttal. Should be fun!

For our Beginner's Corner, Ray Brown will demonstrate an interesting method for invisibly marking your possessions for future identification.

— D.W.

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## Meeting minutes *(from page 2)*

sprung helical hairspring *(below)*.

Door prizes went to Bill Clark, Ray Brown and Larry Squires.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Weisbart, Secretary



## Chapter 69 Board Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by President Ray Brown. In attendance were board members Phyllis Adams, Bob Linkenhoker, Dave Weisbart, Doug Lynn, Ken Lynn, Annette DiMino, and Ed Athey. Also in attendance were guests and members of the program committee: Doug Adams, Tony Baker, Gene Osten, and Cora Lee Linkenhoker.

The first order of business was discussion of upcoming programs. Dave Weisbart, who was scheduled to offer the February program, asked to have his program moved to the March meeting. It was believed that Les Lesovsky would be able to present his program in February. The following people offered to present programs: Gene Osten in April, Doug Adams in May, and Ray Brown in June. Beginner's Corners for February (Ray) and March (Tony) were also scheduled.

There was a discussion of logistics in setting up and operating meetings at the Masonic Lodge. While Bob and Cora Lee can typically open the hall, assistance is needed at around 6:30 to take down round tables, set up rectangular tables and deal with the many chairs in the hall. In February, the Linkenhokers will be unable to attend; Dave Weisbart offered to open the hall and take money at the door. Ray offered to open the hall in March.

Dave mentioned that he was unable to both operate the camera for Show and Tell and simultaneously take notes as secretary. It was suggested that we find a new volunteer to operate the camera.

Publication targets for the Tic Talk Times were discussed. It was agreed that Dave will target the Saturday before the meeting as the deadline to publish the newsletter. This means that input such as program descriptions and President's Messages should be submitted by the previous Sunday. Dave will also submit Highlights to the Bulletin.

Refreshments and door prizes were discussed. Annette has volunteers for refreshments signed up through May. The sign-up sheet will once again be put out to get additional volunteers through the end of the year. Monthly budgets for door prizes and refreshments were also discussed. We currently have volunteers through May.

Two future board meetings were scheduled: March 7 at Dave Weisbart's house, and May 10 (tentative date) at Doug and Phyllis Adams's house. Ed Athey offered his house for a meeting later in the year. Ray informs us that he will be unable to attend the general meetings on May 6 and November 4; Vice-president Phyllis Adams will conduct those meetings.\*

This year's Goodtime Supermart will be chaired by Doug Adams. It will be held at the El Bekal Shrine on May 21, 2011.\* Bob Linkenhoker has agreed to accept payments, and Phyllis will help with tracking registration. Annette offered to manage the kitchen duties at the Supermart. Dave Weisbart will produce the flyer and will have it ready for the Regional in Pasadena.

Several items were discussed briefly for future resolution: Ray will propose having a chapter picnic this summer; the possibility of a 40th anniversary banquet was discussed; board members were asked to think about recruitment of new chapter members; banking requirements related to the new board need to be taken care of. Dave will update our BOD webpage with the new officer information and also post the current bylaws.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Weisbart, Secretary

\*Information finalized after the board meeting.

**DATED MEETING NOTICE  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

Orange County Chapter No. 69  
c/o Cora Lee Linkenhoker  
7186 Calico Cir.  
Corona, CA 92881

*The National*  
**ASSOCIATION OF  
WATCH & CLOCK  
Collectors, Inc.**



**SECOND Friday** ↗

**Our Next Meeting: Friday, February 11, 2011**

*Program:*

LIVE Presentation

**"The Truth About  
the Mayo Clock"**  
by Les Lesovsky

*Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:*

"Ultraviolet Marking" by Ray Brown

*Show & Tell:*

Horological items beginning with the letter "S"  
or items acquired at the Regional

*Board Meeting:*

No meeting this month

*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

