

Meeting Minutes, Feb. 7, 2003

Larry the "Beatnik"

President Dave Weisbart called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. He thanked Al Kahn for bringing refreshments, and announced the following guest: Bill Angle, Charles Gusterson, Randy Roberts, and Patrick Kanahan. Charlie Davis was given a big hand for his 80th birthday!

Bob Linkenhoker reminded everyone to look in his or her February Bulletin for the election ballot and candidates statements. In addition to the vote on officers this year we are asked to vote on a proposed NAWCC By-law change which if passed would allow proxy



Larry Squires used the *Horolavar* book to illustrate escapements

voting for major changes in the corporate status of the Association such as dissolution or mergers. All

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This month

The Watches You Haven't Seen

This month, Gene Osten has been digging through the many drawers containing his extensive American pocket watch collection to come up with a program entitled "Unusual American Pocket Watches." We've all seen programs that show the more common factory-made lines of watches, but the pieces Gene will be showing us are some of the real rarities. He'll cover variations in escapements, trains, and complications. For example, did you know that Waltham made a repeater?

Gene's talk will almost certainly make you look a little closer at the watches you see in the marts. Don't miss it!

Bushings Workshop This Saturday!

Ray Marsolek will be giving the third in his series of hands-on workshop on March 8. The topic for this class will be clock bushings. Whether you're a beginner or intermediate clock tinkerer, you'll want to attend this session. Included will be demonstrations of important procedures like making sure your new bushing is properly centered, and that it has the right amount of side shake. Ray has also promised to cover "invisible bushings," an important

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Message from the President

Of War and Presidents

Well, I got your attention. My reference is not to the current awful quagmire, but to the situation in 1940, when Franklin Delano Roosevelt ran for an unprecedented third term as President of the United States. Up until then, all Presidents observed the unwritten precedent set by George Washington, who felt that even one term was long enough for a President, and two was more than enough. A third was unthinkable. But in 1940, dire times necessitated drastic measures.

In 1940, there was nothing written into the Constitution about presidential term limits. (That didn't come until 1951.) As a two-term president of Chapter 69, I do not have an option for a third. Our By-laws state quite clearly, "No elected person may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same capacity..."

I know my President's Messages may start coming off like a one-note samba, but let's face it: Volunteerism is at the heart of this organization. If no one comes forward to take on the tasks of making the group run, the group is in danger of going away. And this is far too fine a group to see such a thing happen.

With elections just two months away, we still need two people to come forward and accept

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Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

members were encouraged to read the material and vote. *As they say in Chicago, "Vote early and vote often."*

The next board meeting will be at the home of Murray Lefkowitz on Wed., Feb. 12, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

Dave announced upcoming events: The L.A. Regional Feb. 21-22, Inland Counties Minimart April 5, our very own Goodtyme Supermart May 17 and the NAWCC National Convention in Charlotte, NC on July 2 thru 6.

Dave asked for a volunteer to be in charge of the electronic membership list. Anyone interested please contact Dave.

Ray Marsolek will be having his third and final class on March 8, 2003. The class will be on clock bushing and will be held at Ray's home.

The club has received a check from National in the amount of \$5,264.75 for national convention expenses.

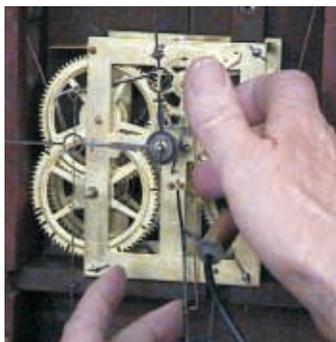
Dave announced the U.S Postal Service has issued a ten-cent "American Clock Stamp".

NAWCC has announced a new executive director. Her name is Carolyn Stuckert.

In THE BOYS REPUBLIC magazine this month, there is a picture of Bud and Pat Saiben and the Howard Replica Street Clock they donated. It was announced that Bud is back in the hospital. We all send him best wishes.

Beginner's Corner this month was done by Dave Weisbart. He had made up a hand out containing commonly used Math Formulas for clock repair and explained their uses.

Larry Squires presented a wonderful program on getting different type clocks in proper beat. He demonstrated various types of verge and crutch assemblies for pendulum clocks and showed ways to correct any out of beat condition (below). Also demonstrated was his



method of setting a torsional pendulum into beat. Very little was said about Cuckoo clocks. I guess we all know how to work on them or no one really wants to.

Show and tell had Angelo DiMino sharing an 8-hour Mao watch a friend got for him in China; Les Lesovsky had the bottom half of a clock made by the Frick Company. It was programmed to ring all school bells at



the same time (above, right). He also shared a nice Tuning Fork clock. Gene Osten showed us a fusee watch, and explained how the fusee mechanism is able to apply constant power to the escapement. Doug Adams had a nice watch in a Demi-Hunter case (right).

Door prizes were won by Bob Tres/wine, Charles Gusterson/ clock book, David Weisbart/clock book, Patrick Kanahan/watch holder, and Charlie Davis/chocolates.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cora Lee Linkenhoker/Recording Secretary.



Get Well Wishes

Active, long-time member Jay McAlister is in the hospital, recovering from what they believe was a stroke.

Bud Saiben is also back in the hospital to treat a painful condition contracted after his open heart surgery.

We wish both our members speedy and complete recoveries.

Also, our dear friend Hoke Dillon, 91, has just moved into a nursing home. He is well, but needs a little assist in day-to-day living. We should all be doing so well at his age!

Tic Talk Times On Line

Would you prefer to receive the Tic Talk Times over the Internet? Send an email request to webmaster@nawcc69.org.

President's Message *(from page 1)*

directorships, and we need someone to take over as President.

In informal canvassing, the phrase I've heard most often is, "I don't have time." Folks, I normally work 10 hours a day getting my new clock repair business off the ground. I'm involved in music societies and find time to practice my classical guitar. In addition to the normal duties of President, I produce the Tic Talk Times each month. I do work for the NAWCC's national Membership and Publicity Committee. And, believe it or not, I still have a life.

Our own Doug Adams has been a Director here for many years, and even with his hectic schedule of flying all over the world, he still finds time to be President of Chapter 4, and give programs all over Southern California.

Gene Osten's new job also takes him all over the place, and he not only "re-upped" as a board member, he's been presenting programs and Beginner's Corners.

These are just a few examples. For decades now, lots of people have been finding the time in their otherwise busy lives to contribute to the chapter.

There's no question that taking on a job with Chapter 69 means shuffling a schedule here and there. You'll need to plan on giving up one extra evening a month for Directors meetings. For some positions, your only duties are at the general meetings. For others, meeting attendance is optional and you might have to put in a couple hours a month at home.

The most significant thing about being a director is not the amount of time it takes. It's the commitment you have to making our group succeed. Trust me, if you have that, the time to do your duty will appear. Please give this serious consideration. (I'd like to start writing about more interesting things, too.) If you have questions or would like to volunteer, you can reach me at (714) 968-1478, M-F, 12:00 to 9:00 PM, or by emailing me at webmaster@nawcc69.org.

I'm sorry that I'll be missing this month's general meeting. (I'll be in New York watching my best friend performing at Carnegie Hall!) Our presenter, Gene Osten, is always interesting to listen to, and it sounds like he'll have some very rare and unusual watches to show us. So I won't "see you there" (as I usually sign this column), but I hope you'll continue the trend of recent meetings and give Gene a great turnout.

Dave Weibert



Dave's Shop Talk

Flossing for clock movements

Many folks who tinker with clocks (including me before I went to the NAWCC school) think that an ultrasonic bath and a toothbrush are enough to get the old gunk out of the movement plates. And while these methods may give you clean and shiny plates, they often miss the gunk that's most important – the old oil that remains inside the bearing holes in the plates.

The analogy of dental flossing is apt. The floss gets the debris between your teeth that the toothbrush misses. Similarly, old oil hides in the bearing holes of clock plates. Why worry about it? Because the old oil, apart from containing abrasive particles, instantly contaminates the new oil. You can clean your movement, oil it and run it, and just days later see black ooze around the pivots.

The best way to get most bearing holes clean is to use some type of pegwood. Toothpicks work fine in many cases. I have sticks of pegwood that I purchased through the clock supply houses. I also have an inexpensive battery-operated pencil sharpener on my workbench. When the wood gets dirty, a quick dip into the sharpener reveals the clean wood underneath. Peg every hole, whether you can see gunk or not! You'll be surprised what

comes out.

Some oils, especially the greases that are used on mainsprings, can be resistant to even pegwood. Then a little technique that Paul Schmitt showed me comes in handy. I wrap the pegwood in a small piece of fine steel wool (I use 0000). I work the peg with the steel wool around in the hole and the bearing hole comes up clean and shiny. (Make sure you get rid of all the bits of steel that come off of the steel wool, too!)



*Victorian bracket clock by
R. & W. Sorely of Glasgow*

Bushings Workshop *(from page 1)*

technique for valuable movements.

Only six people can participate in this workshop! To sign up, see Sally DiMino at the meeting. You can also reach Sally at (714) 557-1876 or by email at salldim@aol.com

**DATED MEETING NOTICE
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**



Orange County Chapter No. 69
2855 Carlsbad Blvd.
Carlsbad, CA 92008-2902

Our Next Meeting: March 7, 2003

Program:
LIVE Presentation
"Unusual American
Pocket Watches"
by Gene Osten
Refreshments by the Lesovskys

Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:
"Tower Clocks"

Show & Tell:
Horological items beginning with the letter "G" or
items purchased at the L.A. Regional

Board Meeting:
Wednesday, March 12, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of:
Gene Osten

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

