

Tic Talk Times



March 2009
Vol. 29, No. 8

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

Meeting Minutes Feb. 12, 2010

Regional Highlights

Our meeting was called to order at 8:00 by past president Dave Weisbart, as president Doug Adams was not able to attend our meeting.

The minutes from the January meeting as printed in the Tic Talk Times were approved by the members present.

Attendance was rather light this month perhaps due to activities the previous week at the Greater Los Angeles Regional which occupied many members and also because of the revised meeting date of the second Friday in February to avoid conflicts with GLAR. However, several members we had not seen in awhile, Charles Register and Bob and Arlene Salene made it to the meeting.



A Barbarshop Quartet with Chapter 69 member Woody Woodson provided entertainment at the GLAR banquet.

Pictures of the GLAR events taken by Steve Murphy, GLAR photographer, were shown at the meeting and many members of Chapter 69 were seen at the mart. Chapter 69 had members' contributions to the

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This month

The Antikythera Mechanism

In 1901, sponge divers working off the coast of the Greek island of Antikythera discovered the wreck of an ancient Roman merchant vessel. Among the treasures brought up were several bronze statues and a small, undistinguished lump of matter that was basically disregarded. Some months later, the lump split apart revealing, of all things, precision gearing!

Ever since then the Antikythera Mechanism, as it has come to be called, has puzzled scholars. Said to have been made about a century before Christ, its functions and purpose have remained a mystery until only very recently.

This month, we will present two video clips that give insights into the Antikythera Mechanism and its inner workings. One is from the History Channel's "Ancient Discoveries" series, probably broadcast in 2006. The other is from the publication Nature (2008), and it shows more recent developments using an 8-ton X-ray machine to get high-resolution, three-dimensional images that pro-

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Storm glass

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Sometimes Clock Accessory as found on Gilbert Show & Tell Clock.

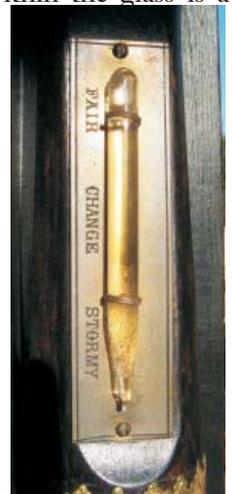
A storm glass is a type of weather forecasting device, composed of a sealed glass container, filled with liquid, that allows the user to forecast the weather by observing the appearance of the liquid in the glass.

The liquid within the glass is a mixture of several ingredients, most commonly distilled water, ethanol, potassium nitrate, ammonium chloride, and camphor. This specific mixture was developed by Admiral Robert FitzRoy and used on his voyage with Charles Darwin on the HMS Beagle.

During the historic voyage, FitzRoy carefully documented how the storm glass would predict the weather:

- If the liquid in the glass is clear, the weather will be bright and

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Whatever you're looking for...

Come to the Sixteenth Annual



GOODTYME SUPERMART



May 22, 2010 • El Bekal Shrine, Anaheim

Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

exhibit on the Artistic Design of Watch and Clock Cases and member Jana Smith presented one of the programs, "Ladies' Wristwatches of the 1920s & 1930s."



Jana Smith presents "Ladies Wristwatches of the 1920's & 1930's at the Greater Los Angeles Regional.

Dave was also the Banquet chairman and the entertainment was a barbershop quartet that included Woody Woodson, from our chapter. Another highlight of the banquet was the award of Fellow to Ray Brown, editor for the Tic Talk Times, president of chapter 133, and chairman of the Regional.

Dave discussed our upcoming "Goodtime Supermart" which will be held on May 22nd at the El Bekal Shrine in Anaheim. Last year we had an excellent turnout and look forward to the same this year.



Ray Brown receives FNAWCC award at GLAR from Jerry Thornsberry & Jim Gilmore.

For the Beginners' Corner, we substituted a PowerPoint slide show developed by Les Lesovsky and presented at the GLAR Exhibit showing the relationship between artistic design periods in furniture and architecture and how those design styles were applied in watch and clock case design.

Our featured presentation for the evening was a video presentation sponsored by NAWCC Chapters 75 "San Fernando Valley" and 133 "Western Electrics." The video "A Brief History of Clocks and Watches," was produced by the American Clock & Watch Museum of Bristol Connecticut and used examples from the museum's collections

to illustrate the development of the clock and watch industry in North America.

The program detailed the founding of the museum and its collections and described how the United States started as an importer of timepieces but gradually developed all the necessary skills and infrastructure to become a major worldwide manufacturer of clocks for the common man. The contributions of Eli Terry to mass production and Chancy Jerome's development of stamped brass components were some of the steps along the way. The development of inexpensive spring wound movements and the effect on clock case design was detailed. The development of watches by Waltham and Elgin were also presented. All in all, the video gave a very good overview of the key drivers in the history of clock and watch making in America.

Our show and tell had a good showing this month.



Watches or Clocks with the letter "G" or a purchase from GLAR were the focus this month. Ray Brown started off with a 1922 Keith~Landis clock that was a "Gift" from another collector. Some accused Ray of taking liberties with "G" but he was not fazed and explained that the clock

was an early electric battery clock used in automobiles or as a desk clock such as the example he brought to show and tell. In way of redemption, however, Ray also showed a

Gilbert mantel clock with simple calendar plus thermometer and a Fitzroy storm glass (right). Greg Bunch brought an c. 1850s OG mantel clock made by George Brown (opposite, top), another stretch at "G" but not as flagrant as Ray's. The clock was also a "Gift" and was brought by "Greg" so he was forgiven. Anyway, this 8-day clock was in good original condition and had a painting on the lower glass of the Promenade in Havana, Cuba that was completed in 1851. Geo. Brown was a grandson of J C Brown but became best known for his later manufacture of tin clockworks toys that are sought after by collectors. Doug Lynn brought a clock he bought at GLAR made by Graham in Bristol, Connecticut...a serious "G" example (below)! Finally, Bob Selene brought an excellent example of



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Meeting Minutes *(from page 2)*



a Hamilton Deck Watch used aboard ship which were set to the ship's chronometers which were not allowed on deck for obvious reasons. Bob made no attempt at connecting this watch to a "G" but we just assumed he was ahead of the rest of us and was anticipating the "H" letter for March.

Following show and tell was our drawing for

door prizes that consisted mainly of booze and food and were eagerly carried off by winners Bob Selene, Gene Osten, and Doug Lynn.



This Month *(from page 1)*

vide startling details. Finally, we have a spectacular 3-D animation sequence that shows each of the gears and what their functions are. These are beautifully produced, riveting documentaries that every lover of mechanical devices will appreciate. Don't miss this month's program!

For our Beginner's Corner this month Doug will drill down to the point of what else...drills! Doug will share his experience with using a variety of different drill types in the repair and restoration of clock and watch movements.

Storm Glass *(from page 1)*

clear.

- If the liquid is cloudy, the weather will be cloudy as well, perhaps with precipitation.
- If there are small dots in the liquid, humid or foggy weather can be expected.
- A cloudy glass with small stars indicates thunderstorms.
- If the liquid contains small stars on sunny winter days, then snow is coming.
- If there are large flakes throughout the liquid, it will be overcast in temperate seasons or snowy in the winter.
- If there are crystals at the bottom, this indicates frost.
- If there are threads near the top, it will be windy.

A storm glass works on the premise that temperature and pressure affect solubility, sometimes resulting in clear liquid; other times causing precipitants to form. However, the method by which this works is not fully understood. Although it is well-established that temperature affects solubility, some studies have simultaneously observed several different storm glasses forming similar crystal patterns at different temperatures. In addition, sealed glasses are not exposed to atmospheric pressure changes and do not react to the pressure variations associated with weather systems. Some people have proposed that surface interactions between the glass wall of the storm glass and the liquid contents account for the crystals. Explanations sometimes include effects of electricity or quantum tunneling across the glass.

Jim Espy FNAWCC

On February 4th Jim Espy left this mortal life to be with his Maker. He served in many positions for Chapter 69 during the 1980's and 90's. Jim served as Director for Chapter 69 and at least one term as Vice President. He was also instrumental in putting on the National Convention in the late 1980's. Any members from this era will surely remember Jim and his wife Millie. They moved into a retirement home in 1999 or 2000 and most of his collection was sold at that time including a tower clock with it's tower they had on their property in Yorba Linda. We are sad for his loss but at the same time rejoice that he no longer suffers. Rest in peace dear friend.



~ Bob Linkenhoker

**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.**



Our Next Meeting: Friday, March 5, 2010

Program:

Video Presentation

**"The Antikythera
Mechanism"**

Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:

"Drills" by Doug Adams

Show & Tell:

Horological items beginning with the letter "H."

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

