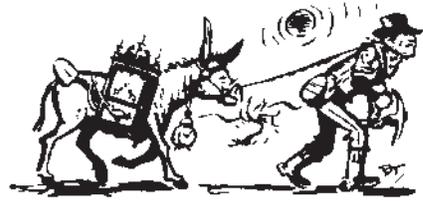


THE Tic Talk Times



April 2004
Vol. 23, No. 9

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

Meeting minutes, Mar. 5, 2004

Busy Mart, Beautiful Clocks

Our March meeting was called to order by President Charles Register at 8:00 p.m.

Welcome to our guests Jim Glidwell, Mike Rosen, Les and Sherry Arnold, Aaron Kaplan, David Lutz, Gordon Christian, Ray Brown, David Stempniak and Anna Perez!

We had a busy extended mart in March (below).



Charles received a letter from someone looking for information on a stolen pocket watch. The description states that the watch is solid gold and 4 inches in diameter. There is an inscription on the inside of the watch that states that it was a gift to John Victor Gilbert from the Proctor Railroad Company of Duluth, MN upon his retirement at the turn of the century. If you have any information about this watch, please contact Catherine Shaw at

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This month

Going Once, Going Twice...

“Spring Into Business” continues this month with the return of the Chapter 69 Live Auction. Auctioneer Larry Squires will preside over the sale of watches, clocks, tools and other horological items.

The rules of the auction are as follows:

- Consignors will be charged a flat fee of \$5.00 per item to be auctioned.
- Bidders will pay \$1.00 to register for bidding.
- At the end of the auction, winning bidders will pay the sellers directly. They will then receive a payment voucher which will allow them to pick up their item.
- Consignors can bid on their own items to protect their minimum. A bid paddle is included in their fee.

That’s pretty much it! So get ready for auction fever – bring your cash, bring your items to sell, and join in the excitement! We’re anticipating that items will be sold at the rate of about one a minute.

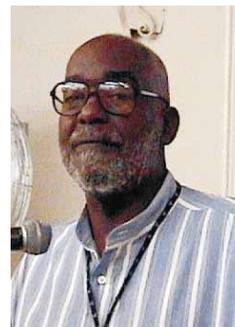
If you’re planning on selling something, please get there as early as possible to assure a spot in the auction and give buyers ample preview time.

Once we know how long the auction will be, we’ll decide on whether or not there’s time to do a Beginner’s Corner. If we do, Dave Weisbart will present a short talk on early lathes.

Message from the president

Thank you

Thank you, thank you, thank you chapter 69 for your help and support. We’ve had quite a few new members and visitors in the recent months which is great, however I’d like to impress upon you that we must keep it up to replenish our membership. I will accept all of your input and ideas



for recruiting new members.

We will even plan a meeting where children 13 and up will be welcome and the program will be geared toward them.

So survey your families and neighborhoods and be prepared to offer invitations.

Don’t forget our mini mart May 15, 2004, if there is something you’d like to do, please contact Doug Adams at our next meeting.

The cooperation at our last meeting to make editorial changes to the by-laws was gratefully appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting (the auction).

Sincerely,
Charles A Register



Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 1)*

(610) 408-9148.

We need volunteers for the Goodtyme Supermart on May 15th. Doug passed around a sign-up sheet.

It was mentioned that the merger passed by an overwhelming majority.



Instead of a Beginner's Corner this month, Dave took the floor to discuss the changes to the By-Laws as proposed by the board. The main focus was to change the election and installation times for the board members so that be in office for a number of months

and get familiar with their responsibilities before they would have to tackle membership renewals, audits, etc. There were also changes in the committee structure that were proposed. The committee changes will better reflect how chapter 69 is run and organized today. Dave described and discussed each proposed change. A motion was then made to vote on the proposed changes. The motion was seconded and the changes voted on by a show of hands. The majority of members voted to accept the proposed changes.

We were reminded that next month's general meeting will feature a live auction! Don't miss it!

This month Dean Armentrout did a presentation called "The Art of French Gilt Bronze".

Rather than go into detail on the movements, this presentation concentrated on the incredible skill need to create and fire gild these beautiful clock cases. Dean explained that the scenes depicted are generally allegorical. He brought in two of his own clocks (above). One showed a young Hercules slaying a lion. The other showed a musical theme. Dean went on to discuss how the bronzes were created. Using slides he described each step. First the figures were created using sand casting or lost wax casting techniques. Next, the bronzes were chased and finally fire gilded using 24 karat gold. We were then treated to slides of more gilded clocks. Several depicted what Dean said was the "noble savage". These were of Native Americans, Pacific Islanders and Africans. On these, the human figures were given a black patina finish. Sitting in contrast to the bright gold of the rest of the case, these figures are quite stunning.

Dean reminded us that even though many of these clocks have survived with their original gilding, the gold can easily be damaged or even removed. He as removed all of his gilded clocks from his own home because he lives right next to the ocean and the salt in the air was beginning to react with the bronze right through and to the detriment of the gold gilding! For cleaning, he suggests a very weak ammoniated water solution and a gentle touch.

Thank you, Dean for another great presentation.

Show and tell for the month was horological items beginning with the letter "T" or items purchased at the Pasadena Regional.

Gene Osten brought in a pocket watch that he bought at the regional. It is an unusual Waltham from about 1870 that features a rare nail setting mechanism.



Doug Adams also brought in a find from the regional. His was also a 19th century pocket watch. As some of you know Doug collects E. Howard pocket watches in their original cases. You can tell when an E. Howard has been recased because these watches were not built to the size standard that other watches of the period conform to. Doug's new watch is key wind and set and is in a coin silver case.



Roy Irick brought in an interesting French clock (left). Dating from about 1830, this clock features an unusual coup perdue or "lost beat" escapement and grid iron pendulum.

Ray Brown brought in a clock marked Hardy & Hayes Co. on the face (opposite, top). Hardy & Hayes was an upscale jewelry store. How is this a "T"? Well, the clock made for Hardy & Hayes by the Tiffany Clock Company.

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Meeting Minutes *(continued from page 2)*



The clock features a Tiffany “never wind” movement. The movement is kept running with two electromagnets and a torsional pendulum.

Bob Linkenhoker brought in a Japanese clock that was in Terrible shape when he got it! Bob reproduced the original face onto photographic

paper on the computer! It looks great now!

Bub Saiben brought in two Tiny clocks. The clocks look the same, but one strikes and the other doesn't. These clocks are Welch Baby Pattis (below).

The door prizes were won by Tony Baker, Charlie Davis, Bob Selene, Mason Compton and Surrey Bell.

The meeting was then adjourned by Charles.

Respectfully submitted by Jana Smith, Secretary



Dave's Shop Talk

Clock Fans

No, I'm not talking about people who are fanatics about clocks. I'm talking about the governors of strike and chime trains – the little fans or flies at the top of the train that regulate how fast it can go.

I recently got in an old Gilbert clock that had their patented alternative to the fan. This consists of a couple of rounded brass weights mounted on spindly strips of brass which are attached to a sleeve that goes around the last arbor in the strike train. The weights spin inside a shallow barrel. As the train goes faster, centrifugal force causes the weights to push outwards, applying pressure to the inside of the barrel and slowing the train down.

What a god-awful replacement for a simple, inexpensive, efficient, and time-tested device (at least in terms of performance longevity). I can just see the conversation in the factory: “Let's replace this cheap brass fan blade with weights attached to thin strips of brass, then as the movement runs, it will repeatedly bend and apply lots of lateral torque to those thin strips. That should keep repairmen busy for decades, but we can say it's ‘patented!’”

Getting back to the fan, one repair error I've seen time and time again is attempting to affix the fan to the arbor so that it cannot spin when the arbor stops. I suspect this is usually done when the fan becomes too loose and fails to slow down the train.

These fans are *intended* to slip some on the arbor. One function of that is to dissipate some of the energy that's so abruptly blocked when the strike train is stopped at the end of its run. If your fan is too loose, remove it from the arbor and bend the brass that rubs against the arbor so that the fit is more snug.



At left is an Ansonia “Triumph.” This case style was used by several other manufacturers of the era, including Waterbury (“Oxford”) and Kroeber, Gilbert and New Haven (“Occidental”).

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. You can also view the current and past issues at www.nawcc69.org

**DATED MEETING NOTICE
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

The National
**ASSOCIATION OF
WATCH & CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.**
Orange County Chapter No. 69
c/o David Weisbart
13077 Springdale St.
Westminster, CA 92683



Our Next Meeting: April 2, 2004

Program:

LIVE AUCTION
Larry Squires, Auctioneer

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

Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:

Early Lathes by *Dave Weisbart* (time permitting)

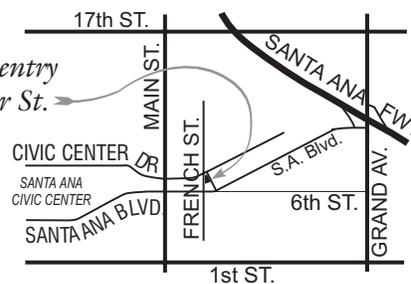
Show & Tell:

Horological items beginning with the letter "U or V"

Board Meeting:

Wednesday, April 7, 7:30 P.M. at the home of
Jana Smith
20722 Hopetown Ln.
Huntington Beach, CA 92646
(714) 343-9445

*Parking and entry
off Mortimer St.*



Ramp
available