

THE Tic Talk Times



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April 2008
Vol. 27, No. 9

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

Meeting minutes, Mar. 7, 2008

American Clocks to Repeating Watches

This month's mart introduced themes starting with American Clocks. We had a good turnout with clocks available that had not been previously offered at our marts.

Dave Weisbart opened the meeting at 8:00 and welcomed guest Charles Montgomery and Jerry Stamps to the meeting. He thanked Julie Stevens for bringing the refreshments.

The minutes were approved and it was announced that the board meeting would be at Julie Stevens' house the following Monday. The theme for next month's mart is English Pocketwatches.

Upcoming marts:

- Our supermart is May 17.
- Ventura chapter #190, May 18
- The National is June 11-14, in Springfield, MO.

We received a thank you from the Buena Park Historical Society for our \$100 donation toward the Drager Clock.

Bob Linkenhoker announced that Bud Saiben is house bound and unable to come to the meetings. He also announced that National is selling a Manhattan Beach collection on eBay. It can be found under "Advanced Search", Seller's ID is NAWCC.com. This collection is mostly watches.

Dave Weisbart presented the Beginner's Corner, "Easy Canon

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This month

Video presentation, "The Masters of Time"

The show for April is a professionally produced program titled "The Masters of Time." This video follows two independent Swiss watch makers, known as Cabinetmakers, as they produce one-of-a-kind beautiful time pieces and present them to the public at the famous Basel Fair. Come and find out the amazing number of diamonds that the maker places in and on one of the watches he is producing. You might even find out why he bites his table as he assembles a tourbillon. The producers used a special lens setup so the fine detail of watch making and assembly could be viewed.



What is it? See page 3 for an answer.

I saw this show for the first time on TV in high definition. We can't offer this option (our equipment is good but not that good) but even in standard definition I believe you will have to go a long way to find a better produced and photographed video. Even my wife, who has no

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Presidents Message

Building on Success

We've heard that our themed mart from last month was quite a success. There were certainly more American clocks than we've seen in some time, and they seemed to have attracted more interested parties to come to the meeting.



This month's mart theme will be English watches and clocks.

This theme is a bit more esoteric, so it will be interesting to see what will be offered. Anyone have any Dent clocks for sale?

Plans for the May Goodtime Supermart are moving along nicely. We have some early registrations already, and of course we would like to see more. We'd like to see some first-time

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Make plans for the

GOODTIME SUPERMART

Saturday May 17

- Beautiful New Facility
- More Tables
- Pancake Breakfast

Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

Pinion Removal.” He first demonstrated with a Hermle movement. The shaft is not tapered and so the pinion needs to be pried all the way. But the shoulder inside is a brass ring which can move if you just pry the pinion off. With a PVC tube to support the plate, he places an old clock hand on the square and presses down on it with the chuck on a drill press.

What about a thin plate? Dave called this a “brass foil plate.” He used two steel rods under the thin plate to support it during pressing.

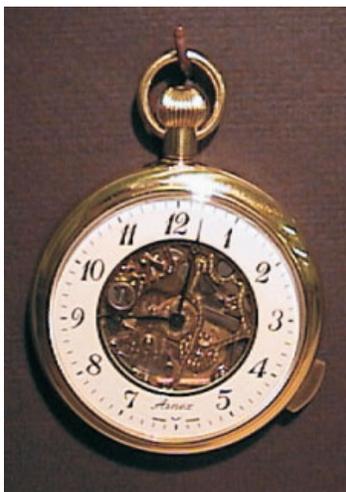


Doug Adams presented the evening’s program, “Repeating Watch Mechanisms.” The program was inspired by Doug’s Show & Tell last month, there was a lot of interest and questions.



The older repeating watch mechanisms were activated by a chain. The quarter repeater Doug demonstrated (*above*) has a small clock, circa 1730, with a half quarter repeater. He showed us a minute repeater and how to put a chain back in the watch. One of the reasons of a repeater? To tell time in the dark.

Show and Tell was the letter “F”. Gene Osten brought a Ferguson dial (*left*) and he also mentioned that American Waltham only made 600 repeater movements. Ferguson changed his dials, the hours are in red inside and the minutes are on the outside of the dial. The dial Gene brought has “Santa Fe Special” just under the center. Roy Earhart remade some Ferguson dials. The 4 at the 45 is blue instead of black. The dials have an 18 size minute hand and a 12 size hour hand. Bob



Presidents Message *(from page 1)*

sellers here, too. So if you have some clocks and/or watches in your collection that you’ve been thinking about parting with, take a table at our mart. This will be an excellent opportunity to reach lots of potential buyers at a very nominal cost. But whether you take a table or not, please register as soon as possible to make our planning easier.

I would like to remind everyone that our library is once again open for business, with Phyllis Adams as our “Madam Librarian.” This is a great resource for information on whatever horological topic you’re interested in – one that not every chapter has available. To see what’s in the library, you can go to our web site for a complete listing. In addition to the books and videos, the chapter also has a nearly complete set of *Bulletins*. To check out a *Bulletin*, see me at the meeting and provide the issue number. I can have it for you at the following meeting.

Finally, we will once again have stacks of NAWCC membership applications with our chapter invitations available at this coming meeting. If there’s a clock, watch, or antique store in your neighborhood, please take a stack of these and get them placed in the store. As anyone in marketing will tell you, it’s a numbers game: The more folks who know about us, the more members we’ll end up getting.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

— Dave Weisbart



Selene brought an E.N. Welch watch made for the Columbian Exhibition, the theme was 1492 – Columbus. It is a back wind. It is a scarce watch, not a high grade, yet scarce. Bob said it sounds like an old Ford. Bernie Peralta brought a 5-minute repeater (*left*) and gave to Doug to clean up. It is an Arnex, Swiss. It has a push button instead of a slide.



This Month (from page 1)

interest in watches except to tell time, enjoyed the show, so I believe every one of you can get something out of it.

Since the show runs fifty minutes so there will be no Beginners Corner this month.

— *Bob Linkenhoker*

So... What is a Tourbillon?



18th century *tourbillon* by Bréguet

A tourbillon is a type of mechanical clock or watch escapement invented in 1795 by Abraham-Louis Breguet that is designed to counter the effects of gravity and other perturbing forces that can affect the accuracy of a timepiece. This is accomplished by mounting the escapement in a rotating frame, so that the effect of gravity cancels out when the escapement is rotated 180°. The effects of gravity were particularly problematic when pocketwatches were carried in the same pocketed position for most of the day. In a tourbillon, the entire escapement assembly rotates, including balance wheel, escapement wheel, and pallet fork. The rate of rotation varies per design but has generally become standardized at one rotation per minute.

The tourbillon is considered to be one of the most challenging of watch mechanisms to make (although technically not a complication itself) and is valued for its engineering and design principles. In modern watch designs, a tourbillon is not required to produce a highly accurate timepiece. Nevertheless, the tourbillon is one of the most valued complications of collectors' watches and premium timepieces. High-quality tourbillon wristwatches made in Switzerland are very expensive, typically retailing for tens of thousands of euros. There are also some less expensive but much poorer quality versions that use Chinese-made movements.

Modern implementations typically allow the tourbillon to be seen through a window in the watch face.

Board minutes, March 2008

Was held this month at the home of Julie Stevens
Members in attendance: Dave Weisbart, Ray Brown, Cora Lee Linkenhoker, Bob Linkenhoker and Julie Stevens.

- The Treasurers Report was given by Bob Linkenhoker.
- We are on the calendar at the Masonic Lodge for July 11 instead of July 4.
- The Goodtyme Supermart is scheduled for May 17, 2008. Suggestions were made regarding possible candidates to chair the event. Dave is tasked with following up with these people. Flier distribution was discussed.
- Phyllis Adams is the librarian and it was agreed to authorize what she feels she needs.
- The upstairs neighbors met in the parking lot, so we allowed them in the building. They were quiet.
- Future meeting themes were discussed.
- The next meeting will be on April 7, 2008.

For your amusement

Harvey's grandfather clock suddenly stops working right one day, so he loads it into his van and takes it to a clock repair shop. In the shop is a little old man who insists he is Swiss, and has a heavy German accent. He asks Harvey, "Vat sims to be ze problem?" Harvey says, "I'm not sure, but it doesn't go 'tick-tock tick-tock' anymore. Now it just goes 'tick...tick...tick.'" The old man says, "Mmm-Hm!" and steps behind the counter, where he rummages around a bit. He emerges with a huge flashlight and walks over the grandfather clock. He turns the flashlight on, and shines it directly into the clock's face. Then he says in a menacing voice, "Ve haf vays of making you tock!"



In addition to enhancing the charm of the piece, the tourbillon acts as a second hand as it rotates once per minute. (There are many "Tourbillon" fake/replicas of premium brand watches that emulate this feature with the oscillating balance wheel visible through the watch dial. However, these are usually conventional lever escapements, not tourbillons.)

In the late 20th century, the first research into multi-axis tourbillon movements was done by British clockmakers Anthony Randall and Richard Good, eventually producing two- and three-axis tourbillon movements.

From "<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourbillon>"

**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, April 4, 2008

Program:

**VIDEO PRESENTATION
"The Masters of Time"**

Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:

No Beginners' Corner this month.

Show & Tell:

Horological items beginning with the letter "G"
or a timepiece with a tourbillon enhanced movement

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

