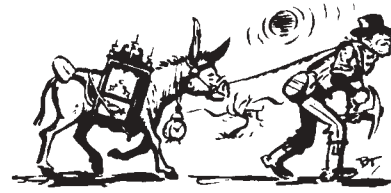


# Tic Talk Times



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

April 2011  
Vol. 30, No. 9

Meeting minutes, Mar. 5, 2011

## Bach Clock Talk

Our meeting was called to order by President Ray Brown at 8:00 P.M. Ray welcomed our visitor, Dan Bosch, and our newest member, Matt Kinney. He also thanked Bob and Cora Lee Linkenhoker for the refreshments. Bob and Arlean Selene also brought some yummy desert dates.

Ray announced the upcoming board meeting at Dave Weisbart's house on March 8. He said we'd be discussing the upcoming Goodtyme Supermart.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the Tic Talk Times.

Upcoming marts:

- Chapter 81's Inland Counties Faire, April 16 in Pomona
  - Chapter 190's Seaside Watch, Clock and Jewelry show, April 17 in Ventura
  - Chapter 69's Goodtyme Supermart, May 21 in Anaheim
- Goodtyme Supermart chair Doug Adams pointed out that flyers are available, and he asked for volunteers to distribute them at upcoming meetings of the other Southern California chapters.

Ray then introduced our speaker, Dave Weisbart. The presentation was called "Music in Clocks and Clocks in

*continued on page 2*

This month

## Not Your Typical Pocket Watch

If we're doing it right, each of our collections has a focus. For pocket watch collectors, it might be highly jeweled movements, or railroad-grade watches, or watches of a particular maker during a particular time period.



*Wilhelm Friedeman Bach & his brother Carl wrote for musical clocks*

For our speaker this month, Gene Osten, it's watches that are out of the ordinary. Many of the pieces in his collection have some quirky feature that sets them apart from standard-issue watches. For example, Gene will be showing us some American pin-set watches. The pin setting feature is not uncommon in Swiss watches, but almost unheard-of in Americans.

Did you know that Waltham made a chronograph? Gene has one. If we're lucky, he may even bring his Waltham repeater. He has also said he'd bring a 130-year-old watch that claims to have an "anti-magnetic shield." Given the state of understanding of magnetism at that time, Gene calls this claim "a monument to people's ignorance and gullibility."

Gene's presentations are always given with energy, humor, and abundant knowledge. You won't want to miss this one!

*continued on page 2*

President's Message

## We're Having a Birthday!

Yes, it's true, in 1971, the Orange county chapter was formed and we are now 40 years old. In celebration of our last 40 years of continuous service we are planning an anniversary dinner to be held in September. We will be asking for a show of hands at our April meeting of those interested in attending so we can plan for the party. If you have any ideas or stories to relate about our early years or anything to add to the plans let us know about those too.

Closer to home, we are gearing up for our Good Tyme Supermart to be held on Saturday, May 21 at the El Bekel Shrine in Anaheim. Last year we sold out and had to add some tables on the stage, so be sure to reserve your table early this year. If you can help out with the set up or tear down please contact Doug Adams who is our 2011 Mart Chairman.

See you at our April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, it's really that soon, no April Fool!

—Ray Brown

Whatever you're looking for...

Come to the Seventeenth Annual

### GOODTYME SUPERMART

Sponsored by NAWCC Chapter 69



Saturday, May 21, 2011  
El Bekel Shrine

## Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

Music.” Dave began with a brief overview of the different types of musical clocks and the time periods in which they were made. He said his focus was going to be on domestic musical clocks made during their “golden age,” which corresponded to the baroque and classical periods in music.

He presented several recorded musical examples. Some of these were pieces that had been transcribed from actual mechanical musical instruments by Jan Jaap Haspels. These were performed on the piano and harpsichord by Dr. Mark Sullivan. He also had audio and video recordings of works written for musical clocks. Among the composers represented were Couperin, Handel, Mozart, Beethoven, C.P.E. Bach, and Franz Joseph Haydn.

He also discussed the national tastes in mechanical music, contrasting English, French, Dutch, German and American repertoire.

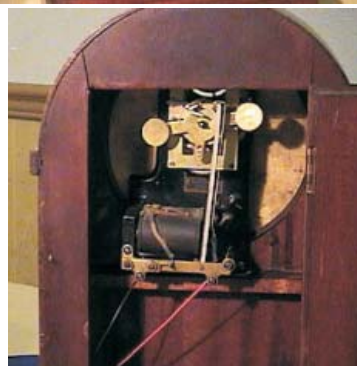


We then learned about several (mostly later) compositions that featured clocks depicted in the music. Dave talked about or showed video clips of opera and ballet excerpts from composers like Tchaikovsky, Manuel De Falla, Zoltan Kodaly, Richard Strauss, and Maurice Ravel. For example, Ravel's

first opera was called “L’Heure Espagnole” (The Spanish Clock). The story revolved around a clockmaker in Toledo, Spain, and his naughty wife! There was also a video clip of a Ravel ballet that featured “The Song of Comtois” in which a tall-case clock dances around the room.

Our Show & Tell was the letter “T”. Les Lesovsky started with various timers. He also showed a Jaeger tachometer that would measure the revolutions of a spinning shaft (*above*). He had acquired it from the late Bill Spry. Stan Wolcott caught up to Les before the meeting and told him that these tachometers were used in B-17s during WWII in Norton bomb sights. They were used to monitor the spinning of a shaft that was rotating at ground speed.

Doug Lynn displayed a novelty clock that featured a train with flashing crossing lights that played music.



Ray Brown brought a clock by the Trinity Clock Co. It was made around 1910. The movement uses a battery to wind remontoire weights every couple of minutes. The weight powers the lever movement.

Door prizes were won by Annette DiMino, Dave Weisbart and Julie Stevens.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20

Respectfully submitted, Dave Weisbart, Secretary

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## This Month *(from page 1)*

For our Beginner's Corner this month, Tony Baker will show some custom-made wooden test stands he's created in his shop. When faced with an unusual movement that didn't fit on any of his existing stands, Tony would simply fabricate one as needed. Both beginners and experienced clock repairers will find this short presentation useful.

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## Repeaters

A repeater is a complication in a mechanical watch or clock that audibly chimes the hours and often minutes at the press of a button. There are many types of repeater, from the simple repeater which merely strikes the number of hours, to the minute repeater which chimes the time down to the minute, using separate tones for hours, quarter hours, and minutes. Repeaters should not be confused with striking clocks or watches, which do not strike on demand, but merely at regular intervals.

The repeating clock was invented by the English cleric and inventor, the Reverend Edward Barlow in 1676. His innovation was the rack and snail striking mechanism, which could be made to repeat easily and became the standard mechanism used in both clock and watch repeaters

*Continued on page 3*

ever since. The best kind of repeating clocks were expensive to make; a separate train of wheels had to be added to the striking mechanism. To activate it, one pulled a cord whereupon it would strike the hours and quarters, or even the hours and five minute divisions (five minute repeating). During the nineteenth century such clocks gradually went out of use. Due to cheap imports from France, Germany and America, English clockmaking went into decline and repeating clocks became an unnecessary luxury.

Both Edward Barlow and Daniel Quare claimed the invention of the repeating watch, just before 1700. Both applied for a patent on it, which was decided in favor of



Quare in 1687. Repeater watches were much harder to make than repeater clocks; fitting the bells, wire gongs and complicated striking works into a pocketwatch movement was a feat of fine watchmaking.

So, repeating watches were expensive luxuries and status symbols.

Whereas repeating watches made in the eighteenth century struck a bell mounted in the back of the case, during the nineteenth century wire gongs were invariably employed as they took up less space. These appear to have been invented by the Swiss around 1800. Another type of repeating watch made during the period 1750–1820 was the dumb repeating watch, these had the two hammers for hours and quarters striking blocks within the case which made a dull sounding thud which could be felt in the hand.

Generally, repeating watches strike the hours and quarters, although the best London made eighteenth century repeating mechanisms (motions) were made using the Stockten system, named after the original inventor Matthew Stockten (known also as Stockdon or Stogden) who worked for the famous makers Daniel Quare and George Graham. These were made to strike the hours, quarters and half quarters (7.5 mins). From around 1750 watches this system was modified to repeat the hours, quarters and minutes (the minute repeater), the famous London maker John Ellicott appears to have been the first to produce these in numbers. During the nineteenth century following the improvements made by A.L. Breguet, the minute repeating mechanism became much more common but still to be found only in the best watches as it was expensive to make.

Repeaters are still found in the most expensive complicated watches, although such mechanical exercises are made by the Swiss for purely commercial reasons as their purpose is in the present day completely redundant.

*Excerpted from Wikipedia*

## Board Meeting minutes March 7, 2011

President Ray Brown called the meeting order at 7:35 P.M.

First up for discussion was upcoming programs. Gene Osten will provide the April program, Doug Adams is scheduled for May, Ray Brown for June. Ray said he may be able to put together a program on his trip to the Greenwich Observatory in England. Doug said he has a program on the Beijing Observatory.

Ray also floated a couple ideas for Beginner's Corners, including metal plating and wood graining. April Beginner's Corner will be done by Tony Baker, Ray will take May. Another suggestion was that Dave Weisbart could do a Beginner's Corner featuring his Rollimat pivot polisher. Dave said he'd be happy to do it, even though the Rollimat was far from a beginner's tool.

Lodge logistics were discussed. We may institute a sign-up sheet similar to the one used for refreshments to find members willing to volunteer to arrive early, set up tables and take money at the door for the general meetings. Ed Athey will open in April, Bob Linkenhoker in May, Ray will open in June

Bob announced that our fiscal year-to-date operating deficit is approximately \$1200. Lodge costs and door receipts were discussed. We've recently been averaging \$90 per month receipts while the hall costs \$240. The Goodtyme Supermart has made up this deficit in prior years. There was a brief discussion of raising the door admission, but it was decided to wait until after the Supermart to see if this was necessary. The chapter has ample reserves, but we'd like to avoid dipping into them if possible.

Boosting chapter membership and making our pre-meeting marts more robust were discussed. Most suggestions centered around revitalizing the mart. The idea of renewing themed marts (centered around a particular collecting specialty such as American pocket watches or French clocks) was brought up. Dave suggested tableholders at the Supermart get a free pass to a general meeting, useable between the Supermart and the end of the year.

The next board meeting was scheduled for May 9 at the Adams' house.

Regarding the Supermart, Doug will make sure each Southern California chapter president gets a packet of registration forms. Some will be mailed, others delivered. Chapters 136 & 81 will be done by Bob. Flyers will be distributed at other marts. Doug will take flyers to 133. Bob will give Verlyn flyers to take to 59. Dave pointed out that PDF on web site can be used to make more flyers. Discussion of contacting previous participants by email; Dave will provide previously used lists to Doug. Ray will provide a list of local contacts from another database.

Table logistics were discussed. Annette will in charge of refreshments: Sandwiches, donuts, coffee, soft drinks and chips

We discussed an anniversary banquet at The Fireside. Ray will check into reserving their room on a Saturday mid-day, in mid-September. Bob suggested taking a poll at the meeting.

Ed Athey offered his house for a July picnic, pot-luck, July 9 4:00 to 7:00

Meeting adjourned at 9:20.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Weisbart, Secretary

**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 1, 2011**

*Program:*

LIVE Presentation

**"More Unusual  
Pocket Watches"**  
by Gene Osten

*Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:*

"Shop-made test stands" by Tony Baker

*Show & Tell:*

Horological items beginning with the letters "U" and "V"

*Board Meeting:*

No board 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

