

# THE Tic Talk Times



May 2004  
Vol. 23, No. 10

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

*Meeting Minutes: Apr. 2, 2004*

## Auction Fever

Our April general meeting was called to order by President Charles Register at 8 p.m.

The minutes from the last general meeting as printed in the Tic Talk Times were voted on and approved by the membership.

Charles welcomed our guests for this month. It was great to meet John Rosenbaum, Jeff Adelson, Alan Bober, David Stempniak and Anna Perez.



*A few of the items up for auction at our April meeting*

Charles told us that the American Clock and Watch Museum had solicited Chapter #69 for a donation. The membership voted to send the museum a \$100 donation.

The NAWCC has several awards to recognize service to the organization. Nomination forms for these awards have recently been received. Members can be nominated for the Fellow Award, the Silver Star Award and Gold and White Certificates. The form and suggested requirements for nomination are

*continued on page 2*

*This month*

## Return To The Past

Remember when movie theaters had “double features”? Back when you didn’t have to take out a second mortgage for popcorn and drinks? Well, this month we have a video double feature for you. Not only that, we have something for watch people *and* clock people.

We’ll start with the shorter video, “Vienna Regulator Fakes, Marriages and Miniatures” by Phil and Lynne Rasch. They’ve packed this presentation with useful information for anyone interested in collecting the elegant wall clocks known as Vienna Regulators; beginners and advanced collectors alike should get a lot out of it.

Then we really return to the past with a 1948 film produced by the Hamilton Watch Company called “What Makes a Fine Watch Fine?” While somewhat lighter in content for knowledgeable collectors like us, it’s a fascinating time capsule of not only production techniques of the mid 20th century, but also social attitudes about watches at that time. For example, when a gentleman gives his son a wrist watch, he pulls a pocket watch from his own vest and explains about *his* father’s penchant for promptness.

We’ll also have a great Beginner’s Corner for all you budding *shopmeisters*. Dean Armentrout will demonstrate and discuss using a jeweler’s saw.

We hope you’ll come to our Double Feature in May. (And refreshments are still free!)

*Message from the president*

## It’s Mart Time!

Ready or not it’s time for the 2004 Good Time Super Mart! There’s just enough time to clean up your workshops, garages and closets and bring out those forgotten projects and magnificent efforts that may be eligible for sale or trade. Now is the time to share these jewels with the membership at the show. The menu is set – the chef says lasagne with the trimmings – so you all come and enjoy. The appraisers have sharpened their skills, security is set, and Doug and his crew will prepare the room. We hope to see you there May 15, 2004, at the Tustin Community Center!

—Charles Register

**DON’T WAIT TO REGISTER!**

**Spend your time inside the mart, not in line!**

**Bring your completed registration for for the Goodyme Supermart to the May general meeting. You’ll be glad you did!**

**Get Well Wishes**

Our friend and scheduled speaker for this month, Jim Glidewell, has suffered a small stroke. At last report, he is doing well and we wish him a speedy recovery!

## Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

available from chapter secretary, Jana Smith or at [www.nawcc.org](http://www.nawcc.org).

We were reminded that Chapter #81 was having its 7th Inland Counties Faire on April 17 at the Palomares Park Senior Center. Also, Chapter 75 will be having its 2004 Watch & Clock Mini-Mart at the Granada Pavilion on July 25.

And finally, don't forget our own Goodytime Supermart will be help on May 15 at the Tustin Community Center. On-site registration starts at 8:30 a.m. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. for trading. Lunch will be served and it's only \$3.00 for delicious lasagna and salad. Please contact Doug Adams if you can help out at the event.

For our Beginner's Corner this month, Dave Weisbart discussed early lathes. Dave gave us an overview of the earliest lathes and how they probably worked. He then talked about how lathes evolved and what the biggest improvements were. He included hand-outs that featured illustrations of some early lathes.

This month's program was a live auction run by Larry Squires. 22 lots were entered into the auction and 27 bidding paddles were given to the sellers or sold to other members. Most of the items did sell including a beautiful 15 jewel Elgin pocket watch, a box of Bulletins, a Kroeber mantle clock, and a transitional wall phone! Larry did a great job as auctioneer and many of us are enjoying our purchases! Thanks to all who helped make the auction a success!

April's Show and Tell featured horological items beginning with the letters "U" or "V".

Doug Adams showed us his Ulysse Nardin pocket chronometer. It features a pivoted detent and a flat hairspring. It is circa 1880.



Charlie Davis brought in a U.S. Horological Trademark Index. This impressive tome contains all trademarks on watches and clocks registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office between January 1870 and December 1960. This book is available on-line at [www.trafford.com/4dcgi/robots/03-2164.html](http://www.trafford.com/4dcgi/robots/03-2164.html)



Gene Osten shared a pocket watch by the United States Watch Company of Waltham. Sounds familiar? Don't be fooled! Gene explained that in 1885 another watch company opened for business calling itself the "United States Watch Company of Waltham". Of course, the Waltham Watch Company sued and so the movement of Gene's watch is inscribed, "A new watch company established at Waltham."



Bud Saiben showed us a photograph of a beautiful lantern clock. It's from about 1825 and the asking price is \$75,000!



This month, each person who won a door prize got to pick a colored gift bag so each door prize was a surprise! Doug Adams won a bottle of sparkling cranberry apple juice. Dick Pridham got a Barnes and Noble gift card. Bernie Peralta won a video gift card. Dave Weisbart found movie tickets in his bag and Garret Graves took home a Mimi's Cafe gift card.

*Respectfully Submitted by Jana Smith, Secretary*

---

## 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](mailto:webmaster@nawcc69.org). You can also view the current and past issues at [www.nawcc69.org](http://www.nawcc69.org)

## A Bit About Vienna Regulators

From the web site <http://www.vienna-regulators.com/black/Vienna/ViennaStyles.htm>

Although we consider the Vienna regulator a form of art, clock making was a business and the clocks had to fit into the furniture style popular at the time of manufacture. Also keep in mind that there were many wars during the 19th century in Europe. As many of the wood veneers used were from outside Europe, materials were often hard to get and expensive. This may explain the considerable use of faux wood graining on many of the clocks.

The Vienna regulator was created about the turn of the 19th century. The earliest dating to about 1790. At this time Austria was aligned with France, and Napoleon had declared himself Emperor of the Roman Catholic Empire. The Empire style architecture and furnishings were in style. We call this the Empire period (about 1800-1835). Architecture displayed straight sided structures with pointed "roofs" (Dach). The laterndluhr and dachluhr style Vienna regulators are generally considered to be from the Empire period, although dachluhrs were made well into the Biedermeier period.

The clocks made before 1850 tended to be simpler than the clocks produced later. The lines of the clocks were finer, casework was narrower, and in general the clocks were more rectilinear than the later, often very ornate styles.

The earliest Vienna Regulators were literally three boxes stacked on each other—a large square on a narrower rectangle, on a larger square. These are the Laterndluhr clocks from the Empire period.

After the defeat of Napoleon, the middle class (bourgeoisie) started replacing the aristocracy in the civil service and Vienna settled into the Biedermeier period (1835-1848) where the bourgeoisie tried to imitate the traits of the aristocracy. The Biedermeier period was a time of oppression and censorship. The Austrian Emperor



decided that outside influences such as from France were detrimental to the country (and Monarchy). There were no outstanding Viennese writers during this period, and Vienna focused its creativity in the arts, including music, and craftsmanship. The revolution of 1848 resulted in an elected parliament and somewhat more freedom.



### Dave's Shop Talk

## Oiling Revisited

In the February issue of the Tic Talk Times, I enumerated the places in the movement where the NAWCC School of Horology recommends you place lubrication. There was one omission, and I'd like to offer further discussion of another of these points.

The omission was the inside loop of the crutch where the pendulum rod passes through. According to my teacher, Roger Chastain, you should smear a little bit of oil in there, but not enough to cause a "bridge" of oil between the shaft and the loop. I have been doing this all along, but forgot to mention it last time.

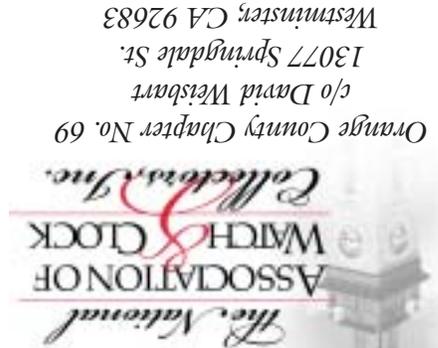
Also, I've had discussions with Paul Schmitt and others regarding the oiling of the pallet tips. While I stand by my contention that polished, hard and oil-free is the ideal, I do recognize that we don't work in an ideal world, and some clocks will benefit from an application of oil there. One application method is to place a tiny speck on the tips of every other tooth on the escape wheel – the oil will spread by itself to the other teeth and the pallet, and this method helps prevent over-oiling. I know that Paul favors a Teflon-impregnated lubricant that has recently appeared in the Timesavers catalog. There are also lubricants specifically designed for "impact" applications.

I have occasionally found need to pay closer attention to lifting levers which lift other levers. A burr or indentation at the point at which those levers intersect can provide just enough resistance to cause problems. My first procedure is to smooth out the indentation and polish the touching faces, but on rare occasions, especially where the angle of intersection is awkward I have tried applying a spot of "precision grease" with good effect.

Similarly, for chime hammers on which the hammer tail rests on some form of tensioning spring or on a post, a spot of grease there can ease the process of lifting the hammer from its resting spot.

Rules are meant to be broken, I guess, and while a movement should be able to run without any lubrication (for testing only – not for long periods), in the real world a speck of oil can help make the wheels go 'round.

**DATED MEETING NOTICE  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**



Orange County Chapter No. 69  
c/o David Weisbart  
13077 Springdale St.  
Westminster, CA 92683

**Our Next Meeting: May 7, 2004**

*Program:*  
**Video Double Feature!**  
**"Vienna Regulator Fakes,  
Marriages & Miniatures" and  
"What Makes a Fine Watch Fine?"**

*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:*

"Using a Jeweler's Saw" by *Dean Armentrout*

*Show & Tell:*

Horological items beginning with the letter "W"

*Board Meeting:*

**Wednesday, May 12, 7:30 P.M.** at the home of  
Julie Stevens  
31266 Flying Cloud Drive  
Laguna Niguel  
(949) 487-9080

