

Tic Talk Times



June 2007
Vol. 26, No. 11

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

Meeting minutes, May 4, 2007

Story of Quartz

In the absence of our president and vice-president, Bob Linkenhoker called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

The members thanked Bud and Pat Saiben for the refreshments and welcomed them back to the meeting.

It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the April meeting as published in the Tic Talk Times. Motion carried.



Our speaker was from Statek, maker of high quality quartz crystals

Bob announced the upcoming regionals and marts:

- May 5 – Central Coast Watch and Clock Show
- May 19 – Chapter 69 GoodTyme SuperMart
- June 6-9 – National Convention in Chattanooga, Tennessee
- July 22 – Chapter 75 Minimart at Granada Pavilion

Bob requested that the members consider volunteering to become members of the chapter's board –

continued on page 2

This month

Get Me Excited!

It's not often that the NAWCC makes it onto our television screens. But that's what happened shortly after the Greater Los Angeles Regional in Pasadena this year. Huell Howser brought his cameras to the mart and exhibit rooms, capturing his impressions of our convention. "Get me excited about..." was one of his catch phrases as he tried to get the sellers at the convention to show some enthusiasm about their offerings (with only sporadic success).

But what really makes this program exciting is that it features people we know! Past president of Chapter 69 Roy Irick was featured as the guide to the exhibit of carriage clocks. Jim Cipra of Long Beach was on fire, packing as much great information as he could into the short time he and Huell had together. And our current vice-president Ray Brown represented the Western Electrics chapter.

Come watch this video with us, and you're sure to be saying, "Oh, there's so-and-so," and "That's what's-his-name!" It's a fast moving and fun look at a layman's take on the biggest NAWCC regional convention in the area.

For the Beginner's Corner this month, Ray Brown will show us that "Patent Searches Can Be Fun!" He will demonstrate a new U.S. patent

continued on page 3

News Shorts

Doug Adams Recovering

Our chapter president, Doug Adams, has been in the hospital getting his "plumbing fixed." (His plumbers are more pricey than Roto-Rooter, guaranteed.) He came through a 7-hour operation well, and is now dealing with enforced bed rest (and boredom). He is scheduled to be coming home as you read this. Our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

July Potluck Coming

Every year, Bud and Pat Saiben host our Directors' Potluck in July. This is a fun event where all members and their families are invited to dine al fresco on delicious, freshly grilled bratwurst and delightful dishes provided by the attendees. A finalized date will be provided, and a sign-up sheet will be circulated at this Friday's meeting.

SuperMart Profitable

Although the numbers are smaller than last year, preliminary figures show that our GoodTyme Supermart still generated a significant profit for the chapter. The board will be considering ways to generate more attendance and interest for future marts. Your input and suggestions are always welcome.

DUES ARE DUE!

(See page 3)

Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

elections will be in six months. Roy Irick suggested that the members thank the publisher of the Tic Talk Times, Dave Weisbart, and those that do the mailing, Bud and Pat Saiben.



Inside of quartz crystal component

The main program for tonight was presented by Gregg Bunch of the Statek Corporation, a manufacturer of quartz crystals. The program was in two parts, the first being a video which gave a brief history of timekeeping and the in the second part Gregg explained that natural quartz crystals are too impure to be of any use, thus the crystals need to be man-made.

Gregg explained the process of growing the crystals from a quartz "seed," and shared some very interesting details of how the crystals are cut to different sizes and mounted to provide accurate oscillation in many different environments.

The clever video showed the earliest timekeeping device was a stick in the ground and the time was determined either by the angle of the shadow or its length. Later, with nine services per day to attend, the medieval monks required an "accurate" method of timekeeping. At first, water clocks were used to set the interval. Then in the late thirteenth century, mechanical clocks came into being. Initially there was no dial, so the bell was used to summon the monks to prayer. In 1519, Galileo discovered the properties of the pendulum and used the pendulum in his astronomical observations. The pendulum was later connected to a mechanical clock. In 1450, the first watches were produced. And in 1840, cheap watches were made available in the US. Then in 1880, the Curies discovered the piezoelectric effect which led to the development of quartz as a timekeeping control device. Wrist watches first became popular during the First World War. Then in 1960's further miniaturization led to the electronic watch.



For Show and Tell, Les Lesovsky displayed a natural quartz crystal found in Brazil. Les also brought a Peters Radio quartz crystal made during WW2 (left).

Gary Walters brought a Sangamo



wall clock with a 1928 Illinois watch movement.

Julie Stevens showed a JP Stevens & Brothers pocket watch.



Roy Irick showed a picture of a carriage clock then brought the real thing out of a box. The clock was a minute repeater made in Switzerland; Roy questioned whether or not it was a carriage clock since it has a Swiss watch movement rather than a platform escapement.

Door prizes were won by George Clifford, Dave Weisbart, Gene Austin and Bob Linkenhoker. Some of the prizes were donated by our speaker, Gregg Bunch.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.



Dues are Due!

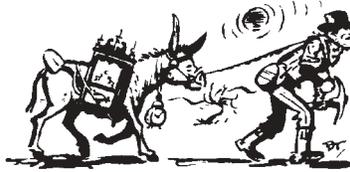
It's time to renew your membership to Chapter 69. Your support of our activities is very important to the chapter's well-being, so we're counting on every member to send in his or her renewal.

Please fill out the form on the right and bring it with you to the meeting. If you can't attend this month's meeting, please mail your dues today!

Don't Like to Stand in Line?

Get the annual pass option! This permanent badge gets you into every regular meeting without having to pay at the door. This pass gets you into 12 meetings for the price of 11.

For an individual pass, include \$44 plus your dues (\$54 total). For a couples pass, include \$66 plus dues for two (\$86 total).



Orange County Chapter 69 Membership Application

New Member Renewal
(check one)

PLEASE PRINT

Last Name

First Name

Spouse Name

Street Address / P.O. Box #

City, State, ZIP

NAWCC #

Phone

Email Address

Check here to receive the Tic Talk Times electronically.
Saves postage and printing! Get the newsletter in color!

Dues for 2007-08 are \$10.00.
Please make your check payable
to: "Orange County Chapter 69."

Check below for options. Amounts
are in addition to dues.

- Individual annual pass (\$44)
 Couples annual pass (\$66)

Complete this form and mail to:
Cora Lee Linkenhoker
7186 Calico Cir.
Corona, CA 92881

I Say To-may-to, You Say To-mah-to

There was an extraordinary encounter at our Goodtyme Supermart this past month. A gentleman and his wife came to my table. I glanced at his name tag. It read "Dean Osten." I said, "Oh, you must know Gene." (Gene Osten is an active member and past president of the chapter.)

"No," he replied. "I've never met him." Huh?

I knew from previous conversations with Gene that his last name was rather rare, kind of like mine. I knew he'd want to meet these people. I scanned the room for him, but he wasn't there. I explained to Dean that one of our members shared his last name, and that he'd certainly want to meet them.

The couple went on to look at the other offerings in the room while I puzzled over the seemingly random event. Then Gene showed up! I introduced the two Ostens and snapped a picture of the event.

It turns out that these Ostens (from Springfield, MO) are related to our Sally DiMino. When reminded of that, Gene did seem to recall the relationship.

In addition to different family trees, however, these Ostens pronounce their names differently: Dean says "Oh-sten," and Gene says it like Austin.

— D.W.



Gene, Olivia, and Dean Osten

This month *(continued from page 1)*

search engine available on Google, which can reveal a lot about the development of clocks in the US. He'll use as an example the No-Key Clock made in Wheeling, West Virginia in the early 1900's. This company had a very checkered history but most of what has been published covers its demise after moving to Mt. Vernon, Ohio. A patent search using the new search engine easily revealed some surprising information about the original invention of this clock and the identity of its inventor. The Beginners' corner will show how versatile this tool is and we will reveal the identity of the mystery inventor during our presentation.

**DATED MEETING NOTICE
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

*The National
ASSOCIATION OF
WATCH & CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.*
Orange County Chapter No. 69
c/o Cora Lee Linkenhoker
7186 Calico Cir.
Corona, CA 92881



Our Next Meeting: Friday, June 1, 2007

Program:

VIDEO PRESENTATION
"The Greater L.A.
Regional"
by Huell Howser

Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:

"Patent Searches Can Be Fun!" by Ray Brown

Show & Tell:

Horological items beginning with the letter "T" or
items with interesting patents

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

