

THE Tic Talk Times



June 2011
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Newsletter of Orange County Chapter 69 of the
National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

Meeting minutes, May 6, 2011

Trip to Beijing

Our May meeting was brought to order by Vice President Phyllis Adams at 8:00 P.M. Phyllis thanked Les and Julie Lesovsky for providing our refreshments. She also reminded us that the Goodtyme Supermart was coming up and we still needed some volunteers. Doug Adams, this year's mart chair, filled us in on which duties still needed some helpers. As of this meeting, fewer than 10 tables were left.

We were reminded that the National convention is being held in Overland Park, Kansas, this June.

Phyllis provided our Beginner's Corner. It was really more of a Show & Tell – she showed us a series of photos she had taken during the time she worked in the World Trade Center in New York around 1977. She told the story of seeing climber George Willig scaling the outside of one of the towers utilizing the tracks used by the window washers. She also showed a picture of a woman celebrating the Spring equinox in the plaza.

Doug Adams provided the evening's program. About seven years ago on a visit to Beijing, he noted an old stone building in the center of the city. After learning that it was an ancient observatory tower, he enlisted the help of his Chinese assistant, Maggie, to get into the observatory so he could see the old astronomical instruments.

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This month

A Tale of Two Cities

Our program this month will be presented by Chapter 69 president, Ray Brown. In 2010, Ray traveled to London and while there made a trip to the Greenwich Observatory where he



The Royal Observatory at Greenwich

saw the observatory's astronomical instruments and several of Harrison's prototype clocks that provided a solution to the problem of finding accurate longitude on a ship at sea. Ray will provide some background on the observatory and Harrison's unique clocks and will show pictures from his visit to Greenwich.

Three months later, Ray traveled to Illinois to visit relatives, and working with Bruce Hannon, an NAWCC member and professor at the University of Illinois, successfully restored an electric self-winding clock in the office of the Dean of Agriculture at the U of I. Before returning home, Ray made arrangements to visit the Elgin Obser-

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Message from the President

A Successful Mart!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers for their efforts in organization and holding our Supermart. Their work began months before with planning and getting the word out by flyers and emails to NAWCC members both in Chapter 69 and other local NAWCC members. Saturday morning is set up and resolution of last minute issues that almost always come up even with careful up front planning. The return for all this hard work is a financial boost to Chapter 69, which has been keeping us in the black for the last few years.

I also want to thank all our table holders and attendees who ultimately are the measure of the marts success. This year we again sold all tables and had comparable or better attendance compared to previous years. I was unable to attend this year, the first mart I have missed in a long time, but I have been told that, except for some early morning scrambling, the mart ran smoothly and all had a good time.

Board meeting minutes May 9, 2011

President Ray Brown called the meeting to order at 7:45. In attendance were: officers Phyllis Adams, Bob Linkenhoker, Dave Weisbart; directors Annette DiMino, Doug and Ken Lynn; and guests Cora Lee Linkenhoker and Doug Adams.

Upcoming programs were discussed. Ray Brown will give the June program on his trip to

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Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

The tower was built in 1442 adjacent to the original city wall built during the Ming dynasty. In 1673, a Jesuit astronomer, Ferdinand Verbeest, replaced the original Chinese-made instruments with upgraded versions. Doug had many pictures of the beautiful grounds as well as the fascinating bronze instruments. These included:

- An Armillary Sphere made in 1673 that was removed from the top of the observatory around 1744. He also showed a 19th century picture of the original 1439 armillary, which is now in Nanjing. Doug referred to this as a “zenith sundial” and said it displayed the time of year.
- An Altazimuth which measured the azimuth coordinates of heavenly bodies.
- A Theodolite made in 1715 for the purpose of determining azimuth and altitude of celestial bodies.
- An Astronomical Sextant made in 1673 for the purpose of measuring the angular distance between two stars as well as the angular diameters of the sun and the moon.
- An Equatorial Armilla made in 1673 for the purpose of determining true solar time as well as the right ascension difference and declination of celestial bodies.
- The Quadrant made in 1673 for the purpose of determining altitudes or zenith distances of celestial bodies.



Doug also showed some clocks in the exhibit hall. These included Leroy, Seth Thomas and Shortt master clocks, and Synchronome slave clocks. He also told how some European countries plundered the observatory, only to return the stolen items after WWI.

Our Show & Tell started with Les Lesovsky displaying a night watchman’s clock (*above*). He showed how a paper tape recorded the watchman’s rounds as he inserted special keys into the device at each station.

Bob Ciampa displayed a fake Rolex wrist watch.



Doug Adams shared his Waltham Vanguard. It has a 23-jewel movement, an up-down indicator, and is lever-set (oddly on the left side). There is a train engraved on the back of the case. He also showed a watch he picked up at the Inland Counties mart – a Gueblin purse watch. The case telescopes open to expose the dial. This action also winds the watch.



Dave Weisbart showed an announcement in *Time* magazine regarding a video display at the L.A. County art museum. The video (scenes shown below) is called “The Clock.” It runs 24 hours and shows various timepieces, all displaying the time that’s current as the viewer watches.



Door prizes were won by Gregg Bunch, Julie Stevens and Dave Weisbart.

*Respectfully submitted,
Dave Weisbart, Secretary*

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 by U.S. Mail (\$5.00 Extra)

Dues for 2011-2012 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

Board meeting (from page 1)

the Greenwich Observatory. Dave Weisbart will give the Beginner's Corner on pivot polishing. [Subsequent change – Dave will not be able to attend the June meeting.] We are planning on a video presentation in July. We need a program for August. Doug offered a program on photography and its use in horology, possibly for September.

Plans for resuming the Directors' Pot Luck Picnic were discussed briefly. The Picnic is scheduled for July 9 at Ed Athey's house in Floral Park (Santa Ana). The next board meeting will be held there. Ray will coordinate picnic logistics with Ed.

Lodge logistics were discussed. Ray will open the doors in June and July. In June Phyllis will take the money and Annette will be in charge of membership duties in Cora Lee's absence.

Plans for the Goodyme Supermart included Dave helping to load the lodge tables into Doug Lynn's van on 5/20. Annette, Ellie Clark and Cora Lee will be working in the kitchen. Coffee and donuts in the morning, lunch will be served starting between 10:30 and 11:00. Lunch will consist of beef and turkey sandwiches (42), chips and a beverage.

Table set up will begin at 8:00. Scheduled to help are Randy Ema, Bob Linkenhoker, Doug Adams and Charles Schleiden. We discussed the timing sequence for registration and admission.

Doug Adams will close the list for pre-registration on Sunday, May 15. Doug Lynn will bring the "Security" hats.

Plans for the 40th anniversary banquet were discussed. Current plans are to hold the banquet at "Fireside at the Riviera," a high-quality restaurant right at the Westminster off-ramp of the 405 freeway, on Saturday, September 24 at lunch time. Their banquet room can hold up to 40 people. Meal prices were discussed, and Bob moved that the chapter subsidize the cost of the meals so that members and their guests can attend for just \$20. The motion passed.

Bob reminded us that the operating deficit for our fiscal year as of April 30 was just over \$1200. We are entering our fund raising season. Profit from the Goodyme Supermart and dues from our membership are expected to cover the shortfall.

A discussion regarding the difficult-to-manage wheels on the podium was tabled until the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Weisbart, Secretary

This month (from page 1)

vatory, which was set up in 1910 by the Elgin Clock Company to provide accurate time measurements. The observatory in Elgin used the same type of transit telescope used in Greenwich and Ray will show pictures of that observatory and discuss how the techniques at Greenwich and Elgin served a common purpose.

Beginners' Corner

In addition to the main program, Ray Brown will provide a brief description of a method for applying woodgraining patterns to various surfaces. Although Ray used this technique to apply a woodgrain to the dash of a classic car he is restoring, the process can be applied to most any surface and allows for the reproduction of many grain patterns including burls and straight woodgrains and different wood combinations including inlays and composite patterns.

**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, June 3, 2011

Program:

LIVE Presentation

**"A Tale of Two Cities –
Greenwich & Elgin"
by Ray Brown**

Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:

"Applying Woodgrain Patterns" by Ray Brown

Show & Tell:

Horological items beginning with the letters X, Y or Z
or marine chronometers

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

