

# Tic Talk Times



September 2007  
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Newsletter of Orange County Chapter 69 of the  
National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

*Meeting minutes, Aug. 3, 2007*

## Delft Klokt

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by President Doug Adams. The members welcomed guests Steve Mann and JoAnne Gomez. The members then thanked Bill Acuna for providing the evenings refreshments.



*Julie Lesovsky gave a fascinating talk on Delft clocks*

Doug announced the upcoming events:

- September 16 – Chapter 4 Merrimart in Bellflower, CA
- October 26 – Santa Anita Chapter 116 Halloween Mart
- November 15, 16 & 17 – Southwest Regional at Del Mar
- June 11 to 14, 2008 – National at Springfield, MO.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the July 2007 meeting be approved. Motion passed

### **New Business:**

Doug informed the members that the election of the chapter's board members occurs in November

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*This month*

## It's About Precision

Our program will start with a Beginner's Corner by Ray Brown explaining the set up of the MicroSet™ clock and watch timer. He will demonstrate the how beat error and rates are measured using the acoustic sensor and how information can be recorded and displayed using a computer interface. We will see real-time measurements of a pendulum clock using both acoustic and optical sensors and see how the results of escape wheel error can be identified and measured.

Bryan Mumford is renowned as the inventor of the MircoSet device. He knows perhaps more than anyone else on the planet about the variables affecting the timekeeping of clocks.

At the October 2004 NAWCC Ward Francillon Time Symposium, Bryan gave a lecture called "Measuring Clock & Watch Performance." This presentation was recorded and is available from the NAWCC library. The presentation has two major parts, the first part, which will not be shown at our meeting, covers the development of time standards such as quartz TCXO, rubidium, and GPS basis for measurement.

The second part, which is applications oriented, provides more information on the use of several sensors including the acoustic and optical sensors demonstrated in the Beginner's Corner, plus the use of

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*What every member should know*

## Proposed Changes

The board of directors of chapter 69 is considering a significant change to the board's structure. The motivation is simple: As our membership has decreased somewhat, the membership requirements for the board have not, leaving us in a position of needing more than 10% of our general membership to be on the board. Furthermore, several chapter members have volunteered to help with the various tasks that the chapter needs to operate, yet these volunteers did not want to be involved at the board level.

The current thinking is that while we need eleven volunteers to perform all the tasks, we do not need eleven people to make the decisions on how to operate the chapter. We also want to be able to utilize fully those good members who would like to volunteer without being board members.

Therefore, the board is considering reducing its size from four officers and seven directors (eleven total) to four officers and four directors (eight total). The existing, specifically-defined "standing committee" structure, in which each director was responsible for one of the eight tasks (such as hospitality, library, door admission) would be replaced by a system in which the "standing committees" would be re-titled as "standing duties." Each director would hold supervisory

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## Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*



*Julie and Les displayed a nice selection of Delft-style clocks*

with installation in January. Doug then stated that the board had discussed reducing the number of board members from 11 to 8. A straw poll of the members showed that those in attendance were in favor of amending the by-laws to

reduce the number of board members.

### Old Business

Bob Linkenhoker reported that the financials for the fiscal year was \$381.30 in the black and the merrimart brought in \$430. Doug informed us that the largest expenditure for the merrimart was the rental of tables.

### Beginner's Corner

Bob Linkenhoker gave a presentation on watch batteries. It seems that there is a multitude of numbering systems so how does one know which battery should be used in their watch? A group of members of AWI put together a booklet of four sections in 1998 that listed the cross reference of various manufacturers to an AWI number which can then lead you toward selecting a workable battery.

### Program

The evening's main program was Delft style decorative clocks (*Delft klokt* in Dutch) by Julie Lesovsky. Delft is a city in the Netherlands where a local college gave classes on ceramics. In 1600 the style of blue on white glazed pottery imported from China became popular. After the Dutch traders were cut off from trade with China artisans in Delft developed their own blue on white glazed

porcelain depicting traditional themes such as windmills, ships and Dutch girls in native costume. Typically, at least one of these themes would be on each piece of Delft porcelain.

Several American companies such as Waterbury and Ansonia made clock cases of similar design. In general, the Delft style cases for clocks were designed for 8 day movements while more modern cases have quartz



movements. Many of the kitchen style Delft cases have German pendulum movements though some were made by American companies and some were made in France. Julie advised that stains on the porcelain are a problem – Ray Brown suggested using denture cleaner to rid the stain.

Doug announced that there would be a board meeting at the home of Dave Weisbart on Monday August 6 at 7:30.

Show and Tell featured a Waterbury clock identified as Juno in their 1867 catalog as shown by Dave Weisbart (*bottom left*). The case is made of pot metal casted by Nicolas Mueller. Dave also displayed a “what the heck is this”. It turned out to be an invention of Dave’s used to view the lock and drop of escapements in order to adjust the escapement properly.

Phyllis Adams showed a plaque painted in Holland by John Lucan, 1649 to 1712 (*top*).

Doug Lynn displayed a Delft China plate as well as an 1863, civil war, watch made by Waltham.

Scott VanSant (*left*) brought a Delft style clock made in Germany with a tin can movement.



Doug Adams displayed a railroad grade watch made by Waltham. It has a 23 jewel movement with an up/down indicator and is lever set. Doug also brought a 16 size Waltham watch with a 14 k case. The movement is a 21 jewel Riverside Maximus (*below*).

Door prizes were won by Evelyn Buster, Ron Abbott, and Gene Osten.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.



## Another One Bites the Dust

Thursday, August 30, was a sad day for local clock tower enthusiasts. The 77-year-old clock tower at Newport Harbor High School was demolished. It took less than 10 seconds to bring down the tower.

The building had been declared seismically unsafe back in 2003. A \$36 million replica of the hall is going to be built in its place. It's due to be completed in 2009. Let's hope the new clock isn't digital.

*(Side note: I spotted this story on the front page of the Register while making a "house call" to repair a tower clock! The newspaper vending machine was right at the entrance to the tower clock, and the headline read, "Clock Tower Is Out Of Time." Weird. - D.W.)*



### GET WELL WISHES

Pat Saiben is recovering from a nasty fall. We all hope she's back on her feet soon!

Photos: O.C. Register

### Mumford *(from page 1)*

magnetic and inductive sensors for special applications. The special requirements for measurement of watch movements will also be covered. Finally, Bryan will show how his system can be used to make time-lapse movies of clock movements using the Synchronome as an example.

Yes, it's a technical program, but if you want to know more about what goes into making your clock or watch run on time, you shouldn't miss it!

### By-Laws Changes *(from page 1)*

responsibility for a set of duties (typically two), and would be in charge of the volunteers willing to perform them. A director might or might not take on one of the tasks him/herself. The assignment of duty responsibilities would take place at the first meeting of each new board.

We would like to make this change effective starting with the new year. Please give some thought to these changes and bring any suggestions you may have to the meeting.

**DATED MEETING NOTICE  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

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*The National*  
**ASSOCIATION OF  
WATCH & CLOCK  
Collectors, Inc.**



**Our Next Meeting: Friday, September 7, 2007**

*Program:*

**VIDEO PRESENTATION**  
**"Measuring Clock & Watch**  
**Performance"**  
**by Bryan Mumford**

*Beginner's Corner Mini-Seminar:*

"Using the MicroSet™ Clock and Watch Timer" by Ray Brown

*Show & Tell:*

Horological items beginning with the letters "XYZ"

*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

