

THE Tic Talk Times



December 2002
Vol. 22, No. 5

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

Meeting Minutes - Nov. 1, 2002

A Tough Call

President David Weisbart called the meeting to order at 8pm. He thanked Dick and Ann Pridham for the refreshments. The next board meeting will be at David Weisbart's home on November 6th.

Announcements

- 1.) Chapter 4 Merry Mart on November 17
- 2.) Chapter 118 (San Joaquin Valley) Mart at Fresno on November 23
- 3.) Chapter 130 (Riverside) at Sun City on Dec. 1
- 4.) L. A. Regional at Pasadena on Feb. 20, 2003
- 5.) National NAWCC Convention at Charlotte, NC, July 2-5, 2003
- 6.) Chapter 69 will have Mini-mart in May of 2003. A volunteer is needed for chairperson.
- 7.) Murray Lefkowitz reminded all to bring refreshments to December meeting. He also asked for volunteers to be responsible for refreshments for Jan, Feb, & March 2003.
- 8.) Dr. Nancy Connelly, NAWCC Executive Director, has resigned her position.
- 9.) The School of Horology had received a \$200,000 grant from the State of Pennsylvania for the revision of the 2nd floor to make lecture halls and classrooms.

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This month

Goodies, Games, and Good Friends

We did the hard work last month. Now it's time for some fun! First, don't forget that everyone who brings a plate of holiday goodies gets free admission to our December meeting. We always have a table full of yummy things to eat.

Do you enjoy "Wheel of Fortune"



The "Gear of Fortune"

with Pat Sajak and Vanna White? Do you think it would be even more fun if they used horological phrases up on the big board? If you answered "yes," you won't want to miss this month's program. It's the "Gear of Fortune" game that Dave Weisbart presented at the national convention. We'll have a big gear with point values (spun by our own lovely "Vanna," Julie Stevens), and a game board projected on the screen that's just like the real one on TV. Three lucky members will be chosen as contestants and they'll have a chance to guess the phrases and win great prizes. So "come on down" to the Ebell Club for the annual Chapter 69 Holiday Party!

Message from the President

The Spirit of Giving

This is the time of year when the phrase "spirit of giving" is used quite a bit. And while it is a noble thing to donate money and food to those in need (and I would certainly encourage anyone who's able to do so), there is another kind of giving that provides gratifying returns. That is the giving of your time to benefit your friends and fellow collectors.

When I was president of the Orange County Guitar Circle, I worked hard to increase attendance at our recitals, and to bring fine musicians to the Orange County stage. I re-established their regular newsletter. I re-established the traditions of student recitals and intermission refreshments. I increased the number of people on the board from around four to twelve. I computerized their mailing list and membership records. This was all done over ten years ago. Now when I attend one of their events, I see the momentum I helped build is being carried forward by the next generation of volunteers. It is unbelievably gratifying.

Making a Chapter 69 meeting happen is actually much more

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What Every Member Should Know

A Chapter 69 mini mart is being planned for next year. We need a member to take the chairmanship of this event!

Meeting Minutes *(from page 1)*

New Business

Bill McNelis presented 2002 National Convention loss of \$21,059. He gave a comprehensive breakdown of attendance, table sales, hotel room nights, budget vs. actual expenses, and comparison of Anaheim vs. New Orleans nationals. He also read a letter from Doug Cowan.

Wayne Preston praised Bill McNelis' masterful leadership and credited him with keeping the loss low as it is. He stated that without Bill's expertise our financial loss would have been several thousand dollars more.

Dave explained that the board had discussed the deficit and had a consensus that Chapter 69 be responsible for 75% of the deficit and NAWCC be responsible for 25%. Chapter 69 had loaned NAWCC \$26,000 in the beginning of the planning for the national. We could have headquarters be responsible for all the deficit, and we would get back just under \$5000 of our original seed money. The membership was then asked to decide what to do: we pay it all, pay none, or share deficit with headquarters?

There was a very informative question, answer, and discussion by the membership on how to deal with the deficit.

John Meiling made a motion for Chapter 69 to absorb 75% of the deficit and have NAWCC headquarters pay 25%. The motion was seconded by Wayne Preston.

Les Leskovsky made a motion to table the above motion in order to discuss using of the chapter's portion of the deficit as a directed grant. There was no second to this.

The first motion passed by vote of 21 to 8.

Bill McNellis and David Weisbart are both writing to headquarters to inform of need for national manager for conventions. This is needed to help chapters with services, vendors, data, budgeting, encouragement of attendance, etc.

The program was a 30 minute video on the American Clock and Watch Museum.

Show and Tell was the letter C.

Charles Register displayed a Waterbury carriage clock, a repeater patented 1890.

Bud Saiben brought a rare, shelf-case, spring-wound cuckoo. In light of the late hour, he chose not to discuss it.

Dave Weisbart ended show and tell with humor when he shared an advertisement of an awful quartz cuckoo clock with a "wood grain-like finish," "pendulums," and traditional sweep second hand.

Door Prizes were won by Les Leskovsky, Paul Schmitt, Greg Behnke, Adrian Morrison, and Pat Espe.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully submitted by SallyDi Mino

President's Message *(from page 1)*

complex than a Guitar Circle recital. The library, mart, door prizes, newsletter, programs and Beginner's Corners all need people to keep them going.

With the work of the previous leadership and what we've been able to accomplish during my terms, we have a growth momentum going. It is imperative that more members, especially members who have not volunteered in the past, step forward to continue this work!

A recent article in one of the weekly news magazines pointed out how many of our U.S. senators have been serving for 30 or 40 years. It also discussed how Walter Mondale and Frank Lautenberg, both septuagenarians, were brought out of retirement to once again enter public service. A glance at the history of Chapter 69's board shows a similar trend. We have a core of volunteers who have been doing the work for a long time. But things are going to change soon. Looking ahead to the election in June, we are going to need several directors, and at least three new officers! (I cannot run for president again, and [Treasurer] Bob and [Secretary] Cora Lee Linkenhoker plan to step down at the end of their terms.)

The good news? You don't have to wait until June to get involved. We have an immediate need for someone to take the reins of the mini-mart we're planning for mid-May. We also need a nominating chairperson to line up the next slate of candidates. Yes, these jobs represent a commitment of your time – probably about the same amount as is spent by the average person trying to find something good to watch on TV over the course of a month. But the rewards, to quote a current ad slogan, are priceless.

Give it some serious thought, will you? Think about what you could do for the organization that would make our meetings more enjoyable, our operations smoother-running, and our future brighter. You'll earn the respect and gratitude of your fellow members and be part of a fine tradition of bringing knowledge, trade opportunities, and camaraderie to a great group of people.

I hope you can all make it to the December Holiday Party meeting. This is one of the most enjoyable events of the year, and I'll be reprising my "Gear of Fortune" game show (from the national) with great prizes for our contestants and a good time for all.

Here's wishing you a safe, happy and healthy holiday season. See you there!



Happy Holidays!

Our Letter to Headquarters

At the last meeting, the membership approved a 75/25 split of the national convention's deficit with headquarters; we're absorbing 75% and we're billing headquarters for 25%. The intent of asking headquarters for *any* money (an unprecedented occurrence) is to send a message regarding headquarters' shortcomings regarding our convention and proposals for its involvement in future conventions.

The letter, unfortunately, is three pages long and will not fit in its entirety in the Tic Talk Times. Below is a synopsis of the points covered in the letter. Complete copies of the text will be available to anyone wishing a copy at the December meeting. You can also view the document on-line at <http://www.nawcc69.org/letter.pdf>.

I thanked Doug for his letter praising our efforts, and expressed disappointment at the deficit. I then explained some of the hurdles the convention had to overcome, with emphasis on the national directors who took actions that were against the interests of the convention. I pointed out the "lack of direction, focus, and discipline with regard to a convention that rightly belongs to headquarters."

I then explained that the chapter wanted to make a statement by not just picking up the whole tab. I enumerated convention-related functions that we believe should be provided by headquarters:

- Negotiate with national hotel chains and decorating companies for better rates on hotel rooms, convention facilities, and tables & chairs.
- Help to create and distribute effective convention advertising directed at NAWCC members.
- Help to create and distribute effective press materials for the convention's local media market.
- Make sure that membership tables at the convention are staffed and supplied with sufficient applications.
- Collect and distribute data on past conventions to aid in planning and budgeting.
- Create a national VISA/MasterCard merchant account.
- Create a "Letter of Understanding" that outlines both the operational and fiscal responsibilities of headquarters and the host chapter(s).
- Hold national committee chairs responsible for making proper use of expensive meeting rooms.
- Institute strategic briefings of all Council, staff and national committee chairs.

Finally, I put a dollar value to our message: \$5264.75. I expressed how painful this decision was for all concerned, and our hope that this would act as a wake-up call for headquarters' handling of future conventions.

I sincerely hope this synopsis gives you a picture of what we communicated to headquarters. If you have any

questions regarding the specifics of the letter, you are welcome to email me at webmaster@nawcc69.org, or call me at (714) 968-1478 (M-F, Noon to 9:00 PM).

Dave's Shop Talk

A Marriage Not Made in Heaven

A clock came through my shop that was obviously a marriage. It was a mini-quasi-Vienna regulator and the movement mounting bracket covered a set of unused mounting holes in the back of the clock.

The clock was running extremely fast, on the order of 13 minutes a day. After doing the gear counts, coming up with beats per hour, then determining the pendulum length, it was going to take a pendulum of 13" from the suspension point to the center of mass. The inside height of the case was only 15½" ! The pendulum had an "R/A" bob, and to complicate the process of lowering the center of mass, it also had a false gridiron decoration on the rod.

I mounted a new suspension post at the very top of the inside-back of the case, made a new intermediate rod, so that the bottom of the pendulum rod hung just a few millimeters off the bottom of the case. It was still too fast. I needed to lower the center of mass by about ¼". I knew I could do this by adding weight to the bottom of the bob, but I wanted to do it in such a way so that it was invisible.

The solution was found at a local gun shop. I purchased a bag of lead bird shot (#9). By filling the lower half of the hollow bob with the shot, I got just the desired effect, with another ¼" adjustment to spare! (I also have a hundred-year supply of bird shot now.)

Do you have a practical or innovative solution to a common repair problem? Please submit it!

Two Big Hearts On the Mend

Two active members of our chapter have recently undergone open-heart surgery. As of press time, **Bud Saiben** is scheduled to come out of intensive care on Saturday, 11/30. **Wayne Preston** is home recovering from his encounter with the heart surgeon's scalpel as well. Our best wishes to both gentlemen for a speedy and complete recovery!

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.

**DATED MEETING NOTICE
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

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

Orange County Chapter No. 69
2855 Carlsbad Blvd.
Carlsbad, CA 92008-2902



Our Next Meeting: December 6, 2002

Program:

*Live Game Show
"Gear of Fortune"
with Dave and Julie*

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:

No Beginner's Corner this month

Show & Tell:

Horological items beginning with the letter "D"
or holiday-related horological items

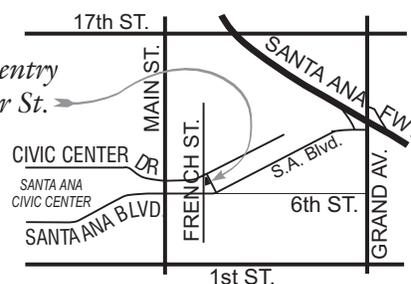
Board Meeting:

NO BOARD MEETING THIS MONTH

Don't Forget...

Free admission with a plate of holiday treats!

*Parking and entry
off Mortimer St.*



Ramp
available