

TYMELY TOPICS

Quinte Timekeepers - Chapter 119
National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors
Belleville, Ontario, Canada

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Number 2



NEXT MEETING ALL ARE WELCOME

please note: only first names
are used online to protect the
privacy of club members

Date: 6 November 2011
12:30 pm - Mart setup
1:00 pm - Meeting

Where: Parkwood Recreation Centre (map available at – www.quintetimekeepers.com)
119 Birch Street, Belleville, Ontario

Agenda:

- Reports:** from Secretary and Treasurer
Show and Tell: The theme letter will be "D"
New business: Any new business you have to bring before the meeting.
Presentations: Wayne Precoor will give a presentation on pivot problems and bushing fitting for brass movements.

LAST MEETING 11 September 2011 Jim presiding.

President's Report: The President was absent. Jim was the stand-in. The Secretary was also absent. Julyan accepted the temporary duties. Thank you Julyan.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting were adopted. Moved and seconded.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported a bank balance with 16 paid members for 2011-12. Rent on the hall is paid through the spring of 2012. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was moved and seconded.

New Business:

- Ed Burrows, author of *Canadian Clocks and Clockmakers*, was present and was selling autographed copies of his book and others from his collection.
- There was discussion whether we should continue with the ads (display and classified) in the *Wayback Times*. Cost was hundreds for the display ad and \$85 for the classified ad. Jim will discuss this with The President. Did the ads generate new members?
- The renovated website was discussed and consensus was that it was good. Marjorie mentioned to Jim privately that perhaps there should be an automatic limit to the length of time a sell ad was on the website.
- Next meeting dates (November 6, 2011, April 15, 2012, and May 27, 2012) were mentioned.
- There was discussion on the Lang Show. There was disappointment in the attendance at our display. This may have been because the Car Show was in the parking lot, not the village, or the car people are not interested in clocks. The fact that parking was a long way away from the village was also mentioned. In the past, the Apple Fest date has been good to us. Perhaps we should return to that date?

SHOW & TELL: The letter was "C"

- Jim showed a very large (24" across the crest) hunter style Cuckoo that he was restoring. The movement was a Herbert Herr. The clock needed case work, new hands, new weights, new pendulum, new back and gong. The fourteen nails holding on the crest were also replaced with the proper hooks.
- Ray showed two clocks. The first was a "novelty" Carriage Clock patented by Eugene L. Fitch. It is called a Plato clock and has a windup movement that flips numbered leaves to tell the time. A digital clock. It was made in 1904-06 by the Ansonia Clock Company. One of about 40,000 made. The second was a travel Carriage Clock with case by the Waterbury Clock Company. It was solid brass, had a jewelled lever movement and was the smallest travel clock produced at the time.
- Maurice showed one of his hand made wooden works clocks. This one is in walnut. There are two other identical ones, in oak and purple heart. Maurice made three at one time since it is just as easy to set up gear cutting for multiple wheels as it is for one. The pendulum is 39 inches, seconds beat, the drive weight is about 10 pounds, runs for 24 hours and sits on a 7-foot high stand.
- Francis showed four Celluloid Clocks. Celluloid is an early, very flammable plastic patented in 1869. These clocks are 30 hour made by New Haven, Seth Thomas, Waterbury, etc. and often came as part of a boudoir set that included combs, brushes and mirrors. This was also sold as French Ivory.
- Marjorie showed a Car watch made by Westclox somewhere in the 1960s to 1970s. The winding stem is at 6 o'clock and there is a magnet on the back to stick to a part of your car if your car did not have a built in clock. It can also be used on snowmobiles or boats, etc.
 - Marjorie also mentioned that Bancroft was celebrating its 150th anniversary. To help celebrate the event, Marjorie decorated an empty storefront with clocks relevant to the period 150 years ago. Marjorie took the opportunity to donate a copy of *Britten's Old Clocks and Watches and Their Makers*, 9th Edition that she had received from a local Bancroft antique dealer, to the Chapter Lending Library.
- Gabe showed a Seth Thomas mantle clock for which he had made a new Casting. He used plaster of Paris as the mold material. The plaster mold has to be thoroughly dried in an oven after curing or it will explode on contact with the hot metal.
- Maurice mentioned that he has also made Castings but used a two-part rubber molding material that is heatproof.

PRESENTATIONS:

- Jim discussed a British tall case clock movement and dial that he had picked up at an auction and restored. The dial was brass and square. The movement was an uncommon count wheel (most are rack and snail) made by John Williamson in the late 1700's. Jim repaired the hammer arbor, and replaced the following: both clicks, both cables, pulleys, the bell stand, the bell because Jim broke the original bell, the entire pendulum, and the weights. The numbered parts of the dial were re-silvered and a calendar support pulley was replaced with Maurice Blanchard's help. Outstanding issues are a couple of steel peg teeth in the T1 gear, a broken chapter ring post, a missing seconds bit post (unfortunately now a screw) and the lack of a case.
- Since Tim was absent, Jim also quickly discussed how to photograph clocks. Mentioned was the necessity for a macro feature to be able to get close-ups. A tripod is necessary to keep the camera steady. Use lots of lights to remove shadows and avoid flash because it produces shadows. Jim suggested use of a backdrop such as a sheet to remove all distracting background. Use software to crop the photos to remove unnecessary parts.

The meeting was then adjourned.

President:..... Wayne

Secretary: Jim

Treasurer: Robert

Directors:..... Tim Hans Bill