

TYMELY TOPICS

Quinte Timekeepers - Chapter 119

National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors
Belleville, Ontario, Canada



May 2018

Volume 33

Number 2

NEXT MEETING

ALL ARE WELCOME

Date

June 24, 2018

12:00 p.m. - Mart setup for items you wish to sell.
1:00 p.m. - Meeting

Location

Parkdale Recreation Centre, 119 Birch Street, Belleville, ON

Agenda

Call to order
Report from the Treasurer
Report from the Secretary

New Business

- a) new contact list
- b) update on "kitchen clock evolution handout"
- c) report on Bobcaygeon
- d) Madoc: July 22
- e) September presentation
- f) Harold Bain
- g) next meeting September 9, 2018
- h) NAWCC National (Bruce Dyer)
- i) other business

Presentation

Bill Legere will be showing a video about "Building the Mecca Tower Clock". Mecca is in Saudi Arabia and is the religious capital of Islam. This tower clock is the largest in the world.

Show and Tell

- a) recent acquisitions
- b) clock/watch stories
- c) tips, tools and techniques
- d) the theme letter will be "F" for clocks/watches/etc.

50-50 Draw (Michael Gillespie)

Contest Question (Michael Gillespie)

Last meeting's winner was Jim Hartog so he will have the contest question.

Adjournment

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(April 8th, 2018)

Reports

The President called to order the first meeting of 2018. He welcomed all 31 members that were in attendance. He also outlined the agenda for the meeting.

The Treasurer was collecting annual membership dues and will have an updated members list at the next meeting. The Treasurer report was moved and adopted.

The Secretary reported on the previous minutes. These minutes were moved and adopted.

New Business

The President discussed the updating of the membership list and the deletion of members who have not attended meetings nor paid their dues for the last two years. Based on this, a new contact list will be available at the next meeting.

He also gave a re-cap of the clock auction held in Ailsa Craig which he had attended last November. There were 100's of lots up for bid with many novelty clocks included. He helped the auction along by buying a Waterbury, a couple of Kroebers, and some other clocks.

He announced the dates for the upcoming exhibits:

Bobcaygeon: Sunday, June 10th, 2018

Madoc: Sunday, July 22nd, 2018

Lang: Sunday, September 30th, 2018

Dates for future meetings here in Belleville are June 24th, Sept. 9th, Nov. 4th 2018, and April 7th and June 23rd in 2019

He mentioned that Ian Watson will do a presentation regarding watch jewels in September.

Also, the President had a request for a ride to our meeting from a person living in Campbellford. If anyone is interested and lives in the general area, contact the President.

The President advised that the NAWCC had a first time new membership deal.

Presentation

Jim Hartog provided a very interesting program concerning the evolution of the “kitchen” clock. Members supplied various clocks showing this evolution. All in all, there were 22 clocks on display. Before we got underway, there was a discussion of what was a “kitchen” clock. Was it just a clock that sat in the kitchen, or did it have some other meaning? It was suggested that, instead of calling it a “kitchen” clock, we should call these “crested” clocks, using a physical feature and not a location as the clock descriptor. The clocks first appeared in the 1880's and lasted until the 1920's. If you were buying a clock, he gave ideas of what to look for. Was it eight day or 30 hour? Are the parts correct for the age? Features that indicated the age of the clock were discussed. The evolution of the clock was driven by economics and the advent of new technology. A handout was supplied, but, since the handout had some short-comings, a revised version will be available at the next meeting. All in all, it was a very informative lesson on what to take into consideration. We thank him very much for the time and effort involved in this presentation.

Show and Tell

Jim Hartog gave an update on his previous acquisitions of a Pequegnat “Tokio” and a Kroeber “Jefferson”. Refinishing was done, new parts attached, labels attached, and dials restored.

Michael Gillespie showed an Ingraham “St. Clair” model that he had restored. It was a very ornate clock and was believed to be a special order.

Peter Betts showed a very large English carriage clock. It was time and strike, alarm and repeating. The clock was a solid piece weighing in at 12 pounds.

Bill Legere showed a mechanical works made by the Gainwell company. This unit would have been attached to city poles and it was part of the city fire alarm system.

Marjorie Wilson talked about her son who had been asked to make an electric slave clock run on its own. This was a Standard Electric Time Company slave. After some work on the electrics, David has it running but not to his satisfaction. Marjorie will have more details at the next meeting for those of you interested in this kind of conversion.

For tips and tools, Maurice Blanchard described how to make half turnings. Basically put two pieces of wood together, lined up square, with a piece of paper in between. Glue these together, turn your pattern, separate the pieces by splitting (facilitated by the paper layer) and you will have two identical half turnings.

50 - 50 Draw

Our 50-50 draw was held and the winner was Bill Legere who won \$22.00 and \$22.00 went to the Treasury.

Contest Question

The contest question was asked by Michael Gillespie: What was the Porter Contract? The answer was that Eli Terry was contracted by the Porter brothers in 1806 to produce 4000 clocks in 3 years at \$4 each. These were 30 hour, wood works, tall case movements (uncased) that the Porter brothers would re-sell to others. Terry hired Seth Thomas and Silas Hoadley to set up the factory for production of the movements. Year one was used to set up the factory and make the jigs and tools required to make all the parts. Year two saw the production of 1000 movements and year three saw the last 3000 movements made. The Terry idea that was novel was that the parts would be interchangeable so that the movements could be assembled by anyone without the skills needed for "fitting". The significance of this idea is that this is the first attempt at mass production involving the manufacture of inter-changeable parts. This revolutionized the industrial world. The winner of the contest was Jim Hartog who won \$25 and he will ask the question at the next meeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and it was moved and adopted.

President	Jim Hartog
Vice President	
Treasurer	Ian Watson
Secretary	Jim Biggs
Directors	Tim Clarke (library) Hans Holterman (social) Bill Legere (shows) Michael Gillespie ((contests)