

# TYMELY TOPICS

## Quinte Timekeepers - Chapter 119

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



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## NEXT MEETING

ALL ARE WELCOME

**Date:** June 12, 2016

12:00 pm – Mart setup for items you wish to sell. Looks like a shorter meeting so bring lots of mart stuff.

1:00 pm – Meeting

**Since there was no suitable alternate date for the June 12 meeting to avoid the conflict with the Bobcaygeon show on the same date, some of our members will not attend this meeting. The Bobcaygeon “regulars” are encouraged to attend the show to represent our interests.**

**Location:** Parkwood Recreation Centre  
119 Birch Street  
Belleville, ON

**Agenda:** Call to order  
Report from the Treasurer  
Report from the Secretary

**New Business** – Business to be discussed at the meeting

- a) Meeting date change difficulties.
- b) WIFI at the hall.
- c) Video presentation for the September 11 meeting.
- d) Precoor estate auctions:
  - i) watches: Marshall Gummer, Sunday, May 29
  - ii) clocks, parts, tools: MacGregor's, Sunday, June 19
- e) Next shows:
  - i) O'Hara Mills, Sunday, July 24

- ii) Lang Pioneer Village, Sunday, September 4
- f) Other business

## **Show and Tell**

- a) Recent acquisitions
- b) Clock/watch stories
- c) Tips, tools and techniques
- d) Theme letter will be "U" for clocks/watches/etc.

## **50-50 Draw** (Michael Gillespie)

The 50-50 draw is cancelled because Gillespie is in Bobcaygeon.

## **Contest Question** (Michael Gillespie)

Postponed. Ray Churchyard has NEXT (Sept 11) meeting's question.

## **Adjournment**

# **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

April 10, 2016 – Jim Hartog presiding

## **Reports**

The President called the first meeting of the year to order. He welcomed all in attendance and provided an outline of the agenda. This meeting was attended by 21 members and guests.

The Treasurer gave his report on paid up members and the current bank balance. This was the last report of Robert Tarshis as he was retiring from the position. The minutes of the report were moved and adopted.

The Secretary gave his report and the minutes of the report were moved and adopted.

## **New Business**

The President reviewed the duties involved in being the chapter's treasurer and asked if any members were interested in the position. Ian Watson volunteered and a motion was put forward to accept his offer. It was passed by all of the members present. The President also thanked Robert Tarshis for all his years serving as our treasurer.

Michael Gillespie provided the new promo cards that he had had printed. These were made available to members to give to potential new members and to be on display at any of the various

shows that we attend.

The meeting dates of the chapter were discussed. At the moment, the next meeting will be held in Belleville on June 12, 2016. Other dates for the remaining meetings are as follows:

September 11, 2016 – November 6, 2016 – April 9, 2017 – and June 18, 2017

The rental of the recreation centre has been paid for the meeting of June 12, 2016. However, the date of the Settler's Days event in Bobcaygeon is also on this day. The President is checking the possibility of rescheduling the recreation centre in Belleville for the 5<sup>th</sup> of June instead of the 12<sup>th</sup>. If there is any change other than the 12<sup>th</sup> of June, you will be notified.

The upcoming shows for the season are:

Settler's Days in Bobcaygeon on June 12, 2016

O'Hara Mills on July 24, 2016

Lang Pioneer Village on September 4, 2016

Jim Hartog and Maurice Blanchard were at the home of the late Wayne Precoor listing some of the clocks that belonged to Wayne. The list was available at our meeting for your information. At this time, no decision has been made as to who will be handling the auction.

Jim Hartog also informed us that he has successfully replaced pivots on some clock wheels, and if enough people are interested in learning how to do this, we could have a lesson at one of our meetings.

## **Presentation**

Our subject this meeting was about electric clocks. Bev Davis, Michael Gillespie, Marjorie Wilson, and Jim Biggs showed various electric clocks and the stories behind them. Marjorie Wilson gave an interesting talk on the origin of electric clocks and the development of the battery and of the electric magnet from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century to the atomic clock in 1955. Michael Gillespie told the story of how he acquired an electric clock and one hand that had been in the Westclock factory tower in Peterborough.

## **Show and Tell**

Jim Hartog showed his mission style clock made by Pequegnat that he had recently acquired. This was the "Belleville" model. The numbers on the dial were raw castings, the clock was a 2 rod strike and the label was intact. The pendulum was broken but he made the necessary repair and all that was left to do was some work on the rear door. He also showed a work in progress and this was a New Haven "Thoreau" model. It appeared in the New Haven catalogue of 1911. He had dismantled the clock, cleaned and buffed the works and the case. This clock had 4 glasses but 2 had been lost or broken at some time. The 2 panes that he had were original glass with the impurities that old glass has. He had some old glass and, wishing to keep the clock as close to original as possible, tried to

find someone to bevel his old glass to fit. However, no one is willing to bevel old glass because of the possible damage to expensive diamond grinding wheels. So, at this moment, he is looking into getting 4 new panes made and bevelled for the clock. Jim also told us about an Ingraham "Urania" with serious pivot problems.

Marjorie Wilson related her story about a cruise ship trip. On offer on the trip was a lecture on the history of time. She was interested in attending but thought the room where it was held would be crowded, but as the ship was nearing a port, many passengers were getting ready to go ashore. Her concerns about overcrowding at the lecture were unfounded as only 8 people attended. She enjoyed the lecture that covered time measurement from ancient Greece to modern times.

Jim Hartog showed his repivoting equipment. He gave a brief description where he got some of his ideas from and how he made some of the items required to repivot an arbor.

Ray Churchyard had on display a number of turret clocks he had acquired while living in England. There were clocks from Potts & Son from Leeds, there was a drumhead clock from the British rail, a clock from the tower or steeple of a cricket club. Most were time only but he also had a time and strike unit. His explanation and how they worked was very interesting.

## **50-50 Draw**

Our draw was held and the winner was our retiring treasurer, Robert Tarshis.

## **Contest Question**

Our contest question was asked by Ian Watson, our new treasurer. The question was, in what year did the Westclock factory in Peterborough begin operation? The answer was 1920 and the winner was Ray Churchyard who won the \$25 prize. He also gets to ask the next question.