TYMELY TOPICS

Quinte Timekeepers - Chapter 119

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

March 2024 Volume 39 Number 1



NEXT MEETING

ALL ARE WELCOME

Date April 14, 2024

Dues are due at this meeting. New amount is \$25.

12 noon- Mart 1 p.m.- Meeting

Location Parkdale Recreation Centre, 119 Birch Street, Belleville, ON

Agenda Call to order

Report from Treasurer Report from Secretary

New Business

- a) contact list changes
- b) Google Meet February 18
- c) meeting dates 2024
- d) Chapter 33 Invitational April 28
- e) presentations for 2024
- f) next meeting June 23
- g) other business

Presentation

Jim Hartog will do a presentation on the restoration of a Pequegnat "Canadian Time" including how to make the perforated minute hand.

Show and Tell

- a) recent acquisitions
- b) clock/watch stories
- c) tips, tools and techniques
- d) theme letter is "S"

50-50 Draw (Michael Gillespie)

Buy your tickets from Michael Gillespie.

Contest Question (Michael Gillespie)

The questioner, Peter Betts, will be absent but, as agreed, he sent in the question.

Adjournment

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(November 5, 2023)

Reports

The President called the meeting to order and outlined the agenda for today. There were 18 members present for the meeting.

The Treasurer reported that our current bank balance was \$1800.40 but that did not include any of the fees collected today.

The Secretary presented the minutes of the last meeting and no changes were made.

New Business

The President discussed the clock display at "Applefest" at Lang Pioneer Village held on October 1st. We were allocated a new site in the entrance building which proved to be more beneficial than the previous one. Those who attended from the club were the Legeres, the Blanchards, Gillespie, Dyer, Hartog and Nyberg.

The President mentioned the Wes Plater clock dispersal. Selling is brokered by Paul Torrens and there are many Pequegnat available. [Hartog did buy the "Quebec".]

There was a discussion concerning the contest question and how it could be made more manageable. As it now stands, the winner of the contest question gets to ask and provide the next question and answer at the following meeting. Sometimes, the winner of the current question misses the next meeting. When this happens, Michael Gillespie tries to come up with an alternate question. This can be difficult on short notice and happens too often. It was agreed that, in the future, the onus to provide the question (if not able to attend) would still be the previous winner who would send the question in to Michael Gillespie and that Gillespie would read the question at the meeting.

There was a discussion re holding a January or February virtual meeting. The President will get in touch with Bill Legere, our pandemic virtual meeting host. More information will follow.

The next meeting will be in April, 2024, but no exact date is available until arrangements have been made with the Belleville Parks and Recreation department.

In other business, Carolyn Moynes contacted the President re a Pequegnat "Maple Leaf" that she would like to sell. Contact her via email. Jim Hartog informed those who were members of the NAWCC, and receive the Mart and Bulletin in the mail, that both were going to be combined into one unit. At the meeting today, you noticed that the seating had been arranged

in a semi-circle closer to the front. It was decided to try this arrangement as it provides a focal point for discussions and makes it easier to hear and see other members.

Presentation

Jim Hartog had purchased a used Unimat DB200 lathe missing some bits at a yard sale. Recently, the motor switch went bad and he looked at buying a replacement motor. Since the lathe is a "collectible", prices were too high for a motor. Other motors were considered, one being a sewing machine motor. The other motor being considered was a larger one that would have to be placed externally to the lathe. Also to be considered was the RPM of the motor and the direction of rotation. He decided to dismantle the original motor to replace the switch. The motor housing contained both the switch and a capacitor along with a mess of wires that had to clear the rotor. Sparks flew a couple of times and now the original motor runs, but in the wrong direction. Reversing the leads just causes a hum. He thinks that he destroyed the capacitor. [Since the meeting, the sewing machine motor was replaced by the larger, vintage motor which is externally mounted to the lathe.]

Show and Tell

Michael Gillespie displayed a Kroeber clock, circa 1880. This clock had burled walnut panels and an acid etched glass in the door. This etching was done on the outside of the glass. The pendulum was the double barrel style. His other find was a Pequegnat with the plated works stamped Berlin, Canada. The pendulum had the maple leaf design and the dial (Pequegnat) appeared original to the clock. However, this clock is a model not in any of the Pequegnat catalogues and may have been an early prototype. On a picking trip, Michael had met a fellow at the landfill site and offered to help him unload his truck of the wood furniture it contained. The fellow asked Michael if he was interesting in furniture. Michael said, not really, but that he was interested in clocks. The man replies, follow me as he was removing stuff from his uncle's house. There's a bunch of clocks there. Michael followed him to the house and discovered that there were indeed many clocks. Many were of the run-of-the-mill type but Michael found the Pequegnat mentioned above at the house.

Andy Soper showed a pocket watch with GCT on the dial. It appears it was a US army watch dating around 1942. It was thought that it might be a Hamilton watch. Also, he could make out a serial number, 49423. The unusual feature of the watch was that it had a second synchronization feature.

50 - 50 Draw

The winner of the draw was Everett Payne who won \$12.50. He generously donated that sum back to the club. Thank you, Everett.

Contest Question

Gord Gibbins was unable to attend but had submitted the question to be asked. His question was "Who was the only early clock maker in Canada to make his own movements?". The answer was Matthew Chaney of Montreal 1778 to 1809. The winning answer was given by Peter Betts who won the sum of \$12.50. Peter said he would be out of the country at the next meeting but that he would submit the question to Michael Gillespie.

Adjournment

President Jim Hartog

Vice President

Treasurer Ian Watson Secretary Jim Biggs

Directors

Tim Clarke (library)
Bill Legere (shows)

Michael Gillespie (contests)