

Oughtred Society 2010 Annual Meeting Featured Rare Items

Tom Wyman

The Annual Meeting of the Oughtred Society was held Saturday, June 26, 2010 at the Computer History Museum, Mountain View, California. There was ample opportunity for attendees to study the well-prepared and informative slide rule displays that various members offered and to consider bidding on auction items. The auction, conducted by Bob Koppany, was a spirited affair with attendees bidding from a few dollars to hundreds and even thousands of dollars for selected items. Many bargains changed hands and everyone came away pleased!

Clark McCoy made an interesting presentation on the production serial numbers that appear on later K&E slide rules. These numbers, not to be confused with the slide rule model numbers that writers normally reference, are something of a mystery in that there is so little data is available. Clark's study is very much a work in progress. He is interested in accumulating more information where the number on a particular slide rule can be correlated with the date when that slide rule was first purchased.

President Bob De Cesaris conducted the business meeting during which current Oughtred Society officers were re-elected. He stressed that this next year will be a particularly busy as the Oughtred Society prepares to sponsor at IM 2011 (2011 International Meeting of Collectors of Historical Calculating Instruments) at MIT in September of 2011. He appealed for the assistance of all members in making this first ever IM Conference to be hosted by the U.S. a resounding success. A Proceedings Committee has been formed, and work has already begun on securing conference papers.

Following the formal meeting, attendees gathered at Tom and Ellen Wyman's home for refreshments and dinner and then at Bob Otnes' home for dessert and coffee. Bob gave a tour of his extensive library and fine collection of calculating instruments.



Auction in action



Clark's K&E Lecture

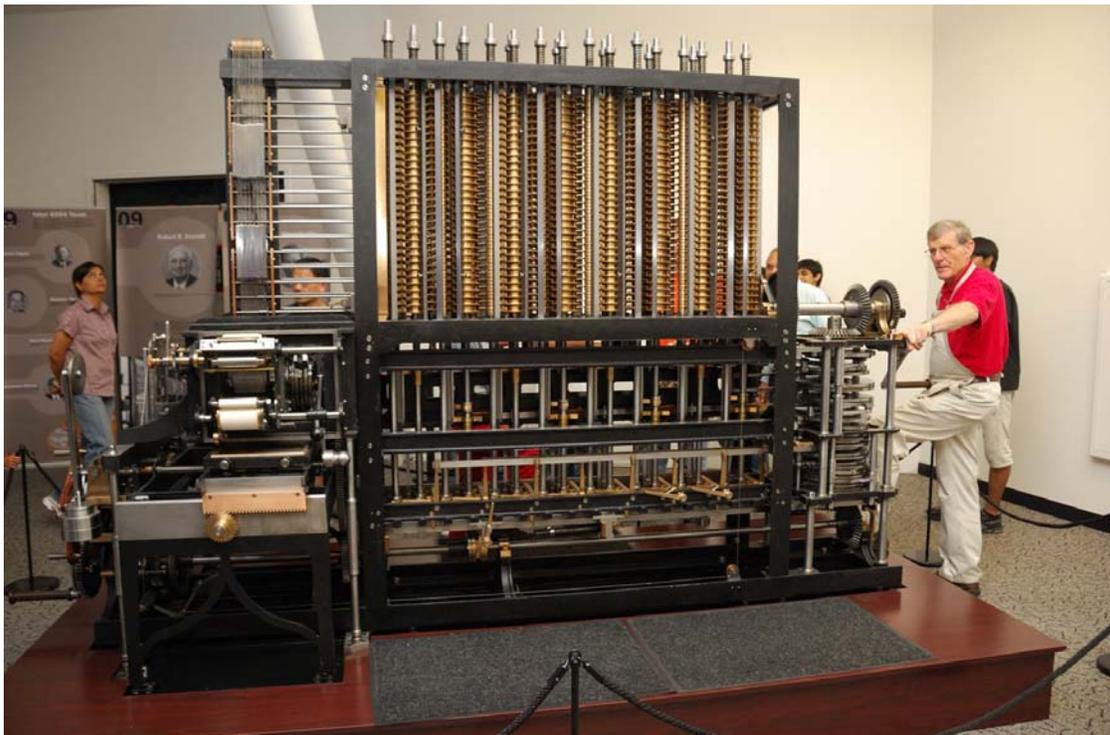


Slide Rule Inspection





The Oughtred Society Bargain Table



The Museum Babbage Calculating Machine in Action



The Bob Otnes Oughtred Society Cake