

**THE
OUGHTRED
SOCIETY**
Newsletter

December 1, 2013

Who's Who in the Oughtred Society



Bill Robinson purchased his first simple slide rule for 50 cents in 1937. In January 1944 he bought his prized K&E 4083-3 hyperbolic slide rule. In fall 1945, as an Air Corps Veteran on the G.I. Bill, he enrolled in engineering studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. He went to work at Boeing, in July 1946, in the Vibration and Flutter Unit, where he used his slide rule every day. His beginning job title as "Vibration and Flutter Computer". He really was a human computer. His work was solving the various flutter modes of the B-47 (see photo) and B-52 bombers. Their sweptback wings were new to aircraft design and to complex mathematics. In 1948 he became a Boeing Engineer. Bill is an authority on slide rules with hyperbolic scales. See his [Listing of All Known Slide Rules with Hyperbolic Scales](#)

Information from Bill Robinson

New Members in November are

- Nick Brandaleone, Wayland, Massachusetts
- Jonathan Millen, Rockport, Massachusetts
- Kevin Ward, Dallas, Texas

Welcome to the Oughtred Society!

Information from Clark McCoy, Membership Secretary

The 2013 Oughtred Society Award is proudly presented to:



Clark McCoy ... for smoothly running since 2006 all administrative and financial tasks in the Oughtred Society to such perfection that not many members realize the quality and quantity of his work; in addition for his publications and his website on Keuffel & Esser, his special field of interest.

In addition, the **2013 Oughtred Society Fellowships** for substantial contribution to the Society or to national organizations go to: Klaus Krämer (Germany), Gonzalo Martin (France), Willy Robbrecht (Belgium), Carl Strange (USA), and Marc Thomas (France). Nominations for the 2014 Oughtred Society Awards are invited before August 1, 2014. Please send to: ovpoelje@rekeninstrumenten.nl

*Report provided by Oughtred Society Awards Committee
Otto van Poelje, chairman, Gary Flom, Peter Holland, Peter Hopp*

Winter Meeting March 1, 2014 in Las Vegas



Plans for the OS Winter Meeting the weekend of March 1, 2014, have progressed extremely well. It should be a great meeting, as early registrations are proceeding at a record rate. We are asking everyone who is thinking seriously about coming to the meeting to please register now so that we will be able to arrange sufficient facilities. Please [Register HERE](#) now.

Hotel Arrangements: We have made arrangements with The Baymont Inn (part of the Wyndham Hotel Group) at 4055 Palos Verdes Street, Las Vegas, NV 89119, which is only 6 blocks from the meeting site and one mile east of the Strip. Our group rate is \$54 per night, including taxes (very reasonable for Las Vegas!). While some attendees may wish to stay elsewhere in Las Vegas to be closer to the Strip, Richard Davis was able to negotiate this very favorable rate for us, and it will be nice to be able to be together. To make reservations, please **call the hotel directly at 702-473-6400 and select #5 Front Desk when prompted. Then ask for the Oughtred Society group rate (do not register online!).** This special rate will be available for any dates from February 27, 2014 through March 4. **Group Meals:** We are working on arrangements for optional group dinners on Friday, February 28 and/or Saturday, March 1. Will finalize when registrations are more complete.

University of Nevada-Las Vegas: We are extending guest invitations to interested UNLV students and faculty. They should add an exciting dimension to the meeting. Physics Professor Dr. Bernard Zygelman will be our guest speaker.

Sunday Event: For those who plan to remain in Las Vegas on Sunday, March 2, we are arranging a special group event. Details will follow later. And we will arrange a breakfast meeting place as well.

Las Vegas Area Sights and Events: Attached to this Email announcement is our list of attractions in the Las Vegas area to add to your meeting weekend or for an extended vacation.

Questions and Suggestions: If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact meeting chair, Dick Rose, at rarose@rose-vintage-instruments.com

Meeting Registration: Please [Register HERE](#) if you have not already done so. Thanks.

Combine a pleasure or vacation trip with a great slide rule meeting!

Information from Dick Rose, Meeting Chairman

International Reports

Dutch Kring by *Otto van Poelje*



IM2014: The Dutch Circle (KRING) has accepted to host the next International Meeting, IM2014, in the Netherlands. The choice of location is difficult, Rotterdam and Delft being considered as possible candidates. The old city of Delft has a slight preference, but the final decision will be taken before the end of the year. IM2014 is planned for 5-6 September, 2014. The theme of IM2014 will be "Turning and Sliding", covering all slide rule constructions, but with some fantasy also applicable to many other subjects of presentations. Papers under the umbrella of "Turning and Sliding" are invited, to be presented during IM2014 and published in the Proceedings.

Please contact ovpoelje@rekeninstrumenten.nl

MIR 63: The last MIR of October 2014 contains reminiscences on IJzebrand Schuitema who passed away August 22, 2013. Also articles about calculating the capacity of a home central heating unit, use of the slide rule for aspect ratios of pictures, compasses by Schoenner, and a reprint from the Journal about the Ayres calculating disc.

ARITHMEUM: In 2008 the Arithmeum museum in Bonn, Germany became the new home for renowned collector IJzebrand Schuitema's slide rule collection. On 19th October 2013 the museum opened a tribute exhibition to IJzebrand's collection. The exhibition will run until 30th April 2014. A specially prepared catalogue (30 x 24.5 cm - 234 full color pages), published by the Arithmeum in honor of the exhibition, can be ordered for 24 euro (excl. shipping) from: <http://www.nicolai-verlag.de/slide-rules-artihmeum-p-475.html>

German RST by Peter Holland



In Berlin, Germany the 19th International Meeting of slide rule collectors took place in October 2013. OS members Karl Kleine and Klaus Krämer had organized and prepared everything in a perfect manner. Forty-six participants from Finland, Germany, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, and USA met for this very successful IM2013 in a location in the center of Berlin. We were pleased we had a special guest speaker in our programme, Prof. Horst Zuse, son of Konrad Zuse, the inventor of the first working programmable digital computer. He reported firsthand of the origins of modern computers. All the lectures held in Berlin are available in the proceedings of the meeting (ISBN 978-3-7322-8138-1).

United Kingdom Slide Rule Circle by Peter Hopp



One of our "busy" times of the year has just passed, the October Skid Stick has been distributed and our 116 page Gazette 14 for Autumn 2013 is now also available (contact Rod Lovett or Pete Hopp for your copy). With winter approaching we have lots of antique fairs to look forward to and we have also just had our autumn UKSRC meeting. The UKSRC sends its congratulations to the 2013 Oughtred Society Award winner – very well deserved Clark – and also the new OS Fellowship Award winners, well done to all. It just remains to wish all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year – it does seem terribly early to be so doing, but doesn't time fly?

Oughtred Society Membership Directory will be produced in early January.

Members please send us any changes needed for your listing.

New members in 2013: Please send us a brief list of your interests and specialties for inclusion in your listing. oughtred@comcast.net

Notable eBay Sales in November



K&E Thacher Calculator Model 4013, \$2366.



Prof. R.H. Smith's 40" cylindrical slide rule, 1899, \$1614.



Lenoir slide rule, c.1825, \$1198.



E.A. Sperry's Calculator, c. 1906, \$850.



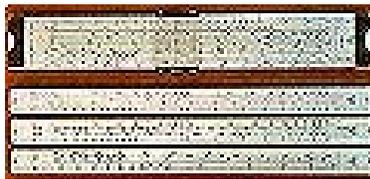
Fuller's Calculator Slide Rule, Model 2, \$624.



Keuffel & Esser N4102 slide rule, surveying, 50 cm, \$435.



Fowler Pocket Textile Calculator, \$410.



Aristo 10065 System Gruter slide rule, with 4 slides, \$380.

On the lighter side



Cartoon by Kate Matthews, Sonora, California

Important Question

What governs the baseball player who tries to steal second base? The slide rule.

Contributed by Tom Wyman

This Newsletter will be produced by Ed Chamberlain beginning with the January 1, 2014 issue. Many thanks to Ed for continuing the publication of this Newsletter. It has been fun for the past 19 months!

Ted Hume, signing off.

