



THE
OUGHTRED
SOCIETY

Newsletter

June 1, 2014

Announcing

The Oughtred Society's 2014 Annual West Coast Meeting

You are invited to attend the **Twenty-Third Annual Oughtred Society West Coast Meeting**, which will be held **Saturday, June 21, 2014**, at our usual location at the Computer History Museum, in Mountain View, California.

Please note that the date this year will be June 21 and is not the last Sunday in June. Registration cost for the meeting will be \$50 and will include entry into the museum exhibits, coffee and muffins, and the usual catered lunch in the alcove just outside our meeting room.

After the meeting, we have arranged to meet for dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory, 2107 Broadway St, Redwood City, CA 94063, which is 10 miles north on US 101 (15 min drive); directions from CHM will be provided. Registration for the dinner will be taken separately from the meeting and will feature a choice of three menu items at a cost of \$15 per person.

The Computer History Museum continues to be enhanced and updated with many interesting displays and exhibits around computing and calculating. These exhibits continue to make all visits to the museum a memorable one. Check out the Computer History Museum exhibits and online presentations at <http://www.computerhistory.org/exhibits/>. Just as last year, we will be meeting on the second floor of CHM, with additional space available just outside the room for lunch during the meeting.

The meeting will feature displays of slide rule collections, an auction, buying, selling and swapping, speakers and presentations, and the opportunity to meet and talk with fellow slide rule enthusiasts, many of whom are experts in their areas of interest. Since one of our speaker's topics for this meeting will focus on pencil slide rules, members are especially encouraged to bring their pencil slide rule examples to this meeting. All attendees are encouraged, but not required, to bring slide rules and/or calculators to display and to sell or trade.

Date: Saturday, June 21, 2014

Location: Computer History Museum
401 N Shoreline Blvd.
Mountain View, CA 94043

Schedule:

8:30 AM – Doors Open

9:00-12:00N - Circulate among Displays and Items for Sale; Tour of Museum Exhibits; Speakers/Presentations

- Speaker: ***"Pencil Slide Rules -- A Neglected Niche"*** by **Rodger Shepherd**
- Speaker: ***"Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin and the Eugene Dietzgen Company"*** by **Bob De Cesaris**
- Speaker: ***"Napier 400th Anniversary Legacy"*** by Bob Otnes

12:00N -- Lunch

1:00 PM – Annual Meeting

2:00 PM -- Start of Auction

4:00 PM -- Vacate Room
5:30 PM -- Meet at Spaghetti Factory for Dinner

Registration:

Meeting registration fee is \$50; this fee includes lunch and refreshments but does not include the dinner at Spaghetti Factory after the meeting. Please note that since we need an accurate headcount for dinner, we are taking dinner registrations for Spaghetti factory separately at \$15 per person and include your choice of Pasta with Meatballs and Marinara Sauce, Baked Lasagna (with ground beef and pork), or Chicken Marsala. The meeting registration fee is used to pay meeting room charges, lunch, refreshments, table and other equipment rental, museum tour, and other meeting expenses. We also invite non-displaying significant others to attend for a registration fee of \$35.

- You may register for the meeting on the Oughtred Society’s website.
- Or you may register by postal mail and send your fee by check or money order to:

The Oughtred Society
9 Stephens Court
Roseville CA 95678

Please indicate that you are registering for the West Coast Meeting, Mountain View, June 21, 2014.

Upon receipt of your registration, we will send you an email of acknowledgement. In early June, you will also receive a final meeting packet containing complete detailed information a final agenda, and a list of attendees.

Cancellation: Registration can be cancelled without penalty before June 13, 2014. No refunds can be made after that date.

If you have any questions or suggestions please email us at: oughtredsociety@comcast.net

Clark McCoy
Membership Secretary
The Oughtred Society
916 474-5286

Reported by Bob DeCesaris

News from the Dutch Kring

International Meeting IM2014 – about 3 months from now!!!

The Dutch KRING is now registering participants for the international conference IM2014 in Delft, September 5-6. For the latest information and for the registration form, please visit www.rekenlinialen.org

We hope you will send in your registration form –even if provisional- before July 1st, because we need to know the approximate number of participants for reservations at the locations we are going to use. The program of papers to be presented is now complete, and covers a very interesting and wide-ranging set of subjects.

In our previous international meetings we have introduced the concept of presenting special calculating instruments, the so-called “One-Off”s”. We still have space for an extra 10 or so One-Off”s, to be described in the Proceedings and to be demonstrated at the meeting.

For more information and for the registration form, please visit: www.rekenlinialen.org

Report from Otto van Poelje

News from the German RST.....

On March 29 the German language slide rule collectors had their spring meeting in the famous Arithmeum museum in Bonn, Germany. Almost 30 participants from Switzerland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Finland, and Germany gathered in the former German capital because of the special exhibition of the slide rule collection of the late IJzebrand Schuitema in the Arithmeum. We had some lectures about old English slide rules, German slide rules in Russia and the Soviet Union, and the Pickett & Eckel Deci Point. A very special moment was when we were allowed to visit the museum's archive of slide rules. There, the many slide rules which are not on display right now are stored. If someone is interested to buy the slide rule exhibition catalogue, the easiest way is to search on Ebay for "Arithmeum Slide Rules". . . Peter also reported to me that offerings at a recent *Flohmarkt* were limited.

Report from Peter Holland

News from the UKSRC.....

Summer is the quiet time in the collecting world here in the UK, we have very few collecting opportunities other than "Boot Sales" the equivalent of the US Trash and Treasure flea markets, but unfortunately these tend to be occasions when one travels in hope rather than anticipation but nevertheless one can find real "treasures" albeit rarely. This means that the few genuine Antique Fairs become even more hopeful occasions than they truly warrant. The UKSRC's "Skid-Stick" newsletter summer edition is at the printers as we write. Thank goodness the response level from our readership is very high meaning we have no problems filling the 16 pages each edition.

Report from Peter Hopp

Past Oughtred Society Journals Are Available on DVD



All past issues of the Journal of the Oughtred Society are now available in digital format on a DVD. The new DVD archive contains all Journal issues published since vol. 0, no. 0 in 1991. The DVD also includes three special publications: *The Slide Rule*, a reprint of the booklet published by Edwin Thacher; *Slide Rules in K&E Catalogs*, by Bruce Babcock; and *A Slide Rule Bibliography*, by Peter M. Hopp. Individual journals are presented as PDF files at high resolution. Price

(including postage) for all OS members: \$95. Yearly updates for OS members will also be available for \$10. To order a DVD go to the OS website and click on the **Journal page** and pay for the disk via PayPal.

Information from the OS web site as edited by your OS Newsletter editor

New Oughtred Society Members in May are

Deborah S. Green, Longwood, FL

Welcome to the Oughtred Society, Deborah!

Joining the OS is easy & rewarding. Just visit the [Oughtred Society](#) website and select Membership in the main menu.

Clark McCoy, Membership Secretary, reporting

Upcoming articles in the Fall 2014 (Vol 23.2) Journal

- *The Death of the Slide Rule* by Robert James
- *Charles Hoare Slide Rules* by Tom Wyman
- *System Gruter* by Richard Hughes
- *My Slide Rules* by Bill Wayne
- *Analon Slide Rule* by Cliff Frolich
- *Pencil Slide Rules* by Rodger Shepherd
- *Collectanea de Logarithmis* by Klaus Kühn
- *Golding's Horse Power Computer* by Stephan Weiss
- *Combined Slide Rules* by Panagiotis Venetsianos
- *Aspect Ratios of Pictures* by Otto van Poelje

David Sweetman, Managing Editor, reporting

Notable Slide Rule Sales in May.....

US Slide Rules (21 slide rules sold for over \$99, for total of \$3015)

Ross Precision Computer (spiral slide rule), Type I, c.1915; \$650 (Gemmary sale)
K&E N4080-5 Log Log Duplex Trig 20" slide rule: \$306
K&E N4081-5 Log Log Duplex Decitrig 20" slide rule: \$214
Picket N4-ES & N600-ES set: \$202
Dietzgen No. 1752P 20 in. Maniphase Slide Rule: \$178
K&E 4081-5 LOG LOG Duplex Decitrig 20" Slide Rule: \$175
Dietzgen Atlas Circular Slide Rule MIB: \$160
Picket N4P-ES pocket slide rule - new in box, \$152
Picket N3-P Synchrolog pocket slide rule NIB: \$152
K&E Deci-Lon 6 inch slide rule: \$152
K&E Deci-Lon 68-1100 slide rule MIB: \$150
K&E Deci-Lon slide rule 68-1130: \$134
Dietzgen Atlas Circular Slide Rule with Manual & Box: \$112
Pickett N-16-ES Electronic Slide Rule: \$110
Picket pocket slide rule 600 ES - in Apollo Mission box: \$110
K&E Stadia slide rule, model #4101: \$105
K&E 4081-5 Log Log Duplex Decitrig slide rule 22": \$105

European Slide Rules (24 slide rules sold for over \$99, for a total of \$8605)

Herrmann's Rechenknecht Aachen Wiesenthal & Cie Funktion: **\$2,984**

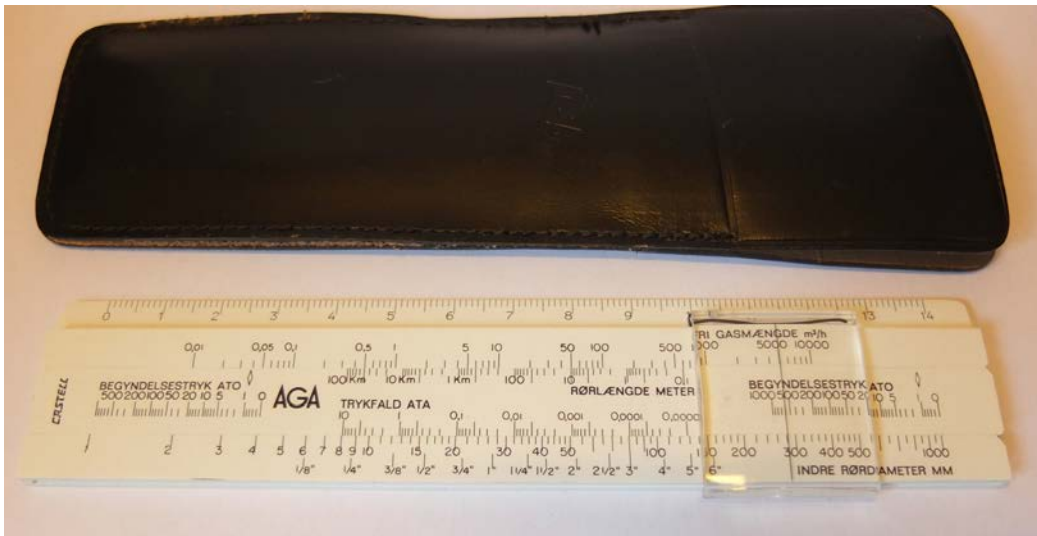
(2,188.89 Euro)

Faber-Castell 67/30 rechenschieber for gas pressure loss: \$812.44 (596 Euro)
Faber Castell slide rule - 366 SYSTEM SCHUMACHER: \$599
Fowler's Magnum Long Scale Calculator: \$408
Radiac Nuclear Fallout Slide Rule: \$362
Stanley Fuller spiral slide rule: \$344
Faber Castell TR3 slide rule/calculator: \$302
Lord's Calculator - \$295
Fowler Magnum Long Scale Calculator Circular Slide Rule Boxed: \$257
Lenoir-Gravett - Soho slide rule - c.1800-1825: \$256
Fuller cylindrical slide rule: \$225
Winslow Wooden & Steel Beams Strength Computing Slide Rule: \$208
Dring and Fage 18" Boxwood double slide rule: \$190
Aristo Studio 01068 Rechenschieber, 62 cm: \$169
Aristo Studio Riesen Rechenschieber 01068: \$169
Schauer mechanical pencil slide rule: \$168
Nestler Rechenschieber Vorführmodell Länge 125cm (demonstration): \$165
Faber Castell 62/82 Pocket Slide Rule NIB: \$160
Otis King Calculator, model K 423/414, \$144
Faber Castell 2/83N Novo-Duplex slide rule: \$140
Calculigraphe règle à calcul circulaire (pocket watch style): \$138 (102 EUR)
The Mechanical Engineer - Pocket watch Slide Rule: \$134
Faber Castell Novo Duplex No. 2/83 N New Leather Pouch: \$120
Faber Castell 2/83 N Novo-Duplex slide rule: \$100
Nestler Chemiker No. 33 slide rule: \$100

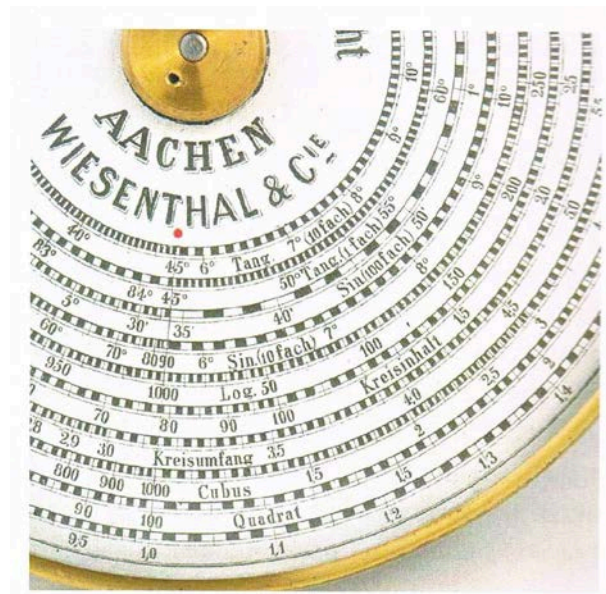
Asian Slide Rules (4 slide rules sold for over \$99, for a total of \$876)

Relay Palco bamboo slide rule, #158 MIB: \$335
Vintage Sun Hemmi No. 257L Chemical Engineering Slide Rule: \$235
Sun Hemmi. #154; 20" duplex slide rule; electrical engineering: \$204

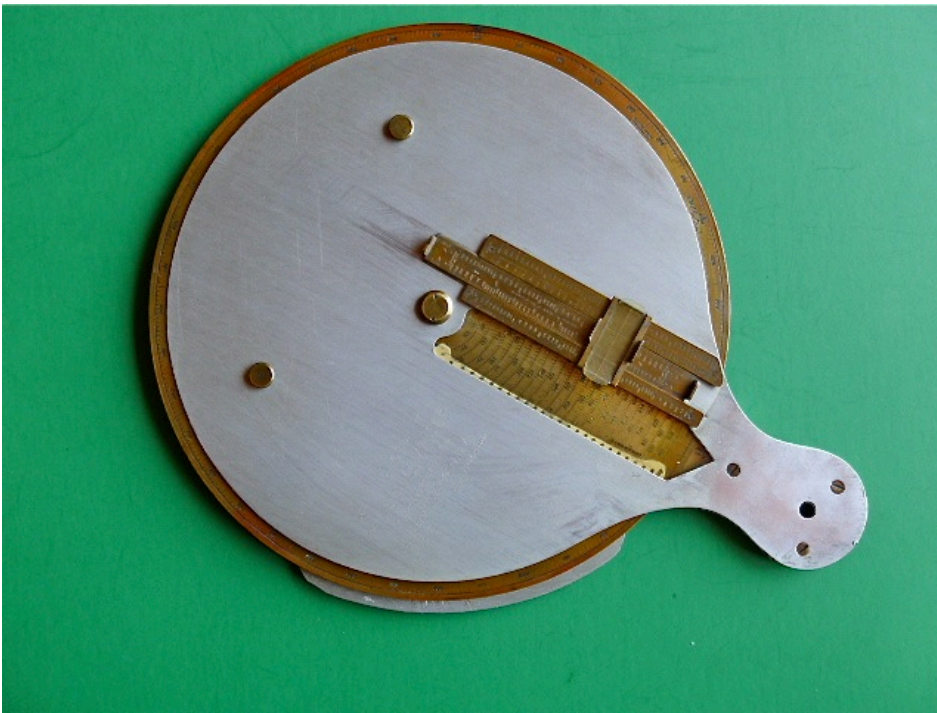
Below Your Editor Features 3 Special Slide Rules Sold in May.....



Faber-Castell 67/30 rechenschieber for gas pressure loss: \$812 (596 Euro). Made for sizing acetylene and oxygen pipelines for a Swedish AGA company. According to Peter Holland, this is a very rare F-C rechenschieber.



Herrmann's Rechenkecht by Aachen Wiesenthal & Cie: Sold for 2,189 Euro (\$2,984) on German eBay in May 2014. This years record price!! Old German rechenscheibe (circular slide rule). Museum piece dating to as early as 1877 (according to Warner Rudowski in his beautiful book: Scheffelt & Co., self-published in 2012). Scales include (from outside ring inwards): Number (1 log cycle); Square; Cube; Circumference; Area; Log (equal parts scale); Sine; Sine (small angle); Tan; Tan (small angle). Gives 3 to 4-digit precision on Number scale. Picture on right is from Rudowski's book, on left from the eBay auction. . . Peter Holland reported that there are just 3 other examples of this slide rule known. One is in the Deutsches Museum in Munich, another in the Science Museum in London, and a third in a private collection. **Does anyone know the special purpose of this circular slide rule?**



Ross Precision Computer (spiral slide rule), Type I, c.1915; \$650 (Gemmary sale). Has 9.14 m long spiral scale on a 21 cm dia. brass disk. Scales are engraved, and are only visible through narrow window. Also has small slide rule attached to face next to window that exposes coils of the spiral scale. The two slide rules work together to gain 5-digits precision on the spiral scale. One first makes a calculation on the small slide rule for 2 to 3 digits precision. The hairline on slide rule cursor points to coil with the number settings and arrows at the index ends on the slide point to coil with the 5-digit precision result. Made by Louis Ross, Civil Engineer and surveyor, in San Francisco for only about 5 years from 1915 to 1920. Sold for \$20 when Gilson Atlas (same precision & easier to use than the Ross) sold for \$6.50.
Ed Chamberlain, your Newsletter editor, reporting

On The Lighter Side



West Point Cadets (from Mike Konshak's International Slide Rule Museum)

Ed Chamberlain, your Newsletter editor, reporting

..... Send Contributions to: edwin_chamberlain@valley.net