

A brief section on Slide Rule History

In the 16th century, engineering design as we know today - with its emphasis on precise measurements and finely calculated tolerances was unthinkable. And yet, every scientist, mathematician and alchemist felt there were basic mathematical relationships that underpinned the natural world.



Pickett N600-ES. USA, 1960s. These accompanied the astronauts on board five Apollo moon flights.

In 1614, John Napier created an elegant way to perform and simplify calculations through "logarithms." In the 1620s, William Oughtred, an obscure self-taught mathematician, discovered that he could quickly perform mathematical operations using two logarithmic rules. The slide rule was born. Through the mid 20th century, the slide rule was the most useful device any engineer, scientist or mathematician could have.

Slide rules or mechanical calculators were created over the recent centuries for the subjects of atomic fallout, physics, alcohol gauging, valve sizing, electronics, warfare, accounting; covering everything from air conditioning and humidity to radiation counters and surveying.

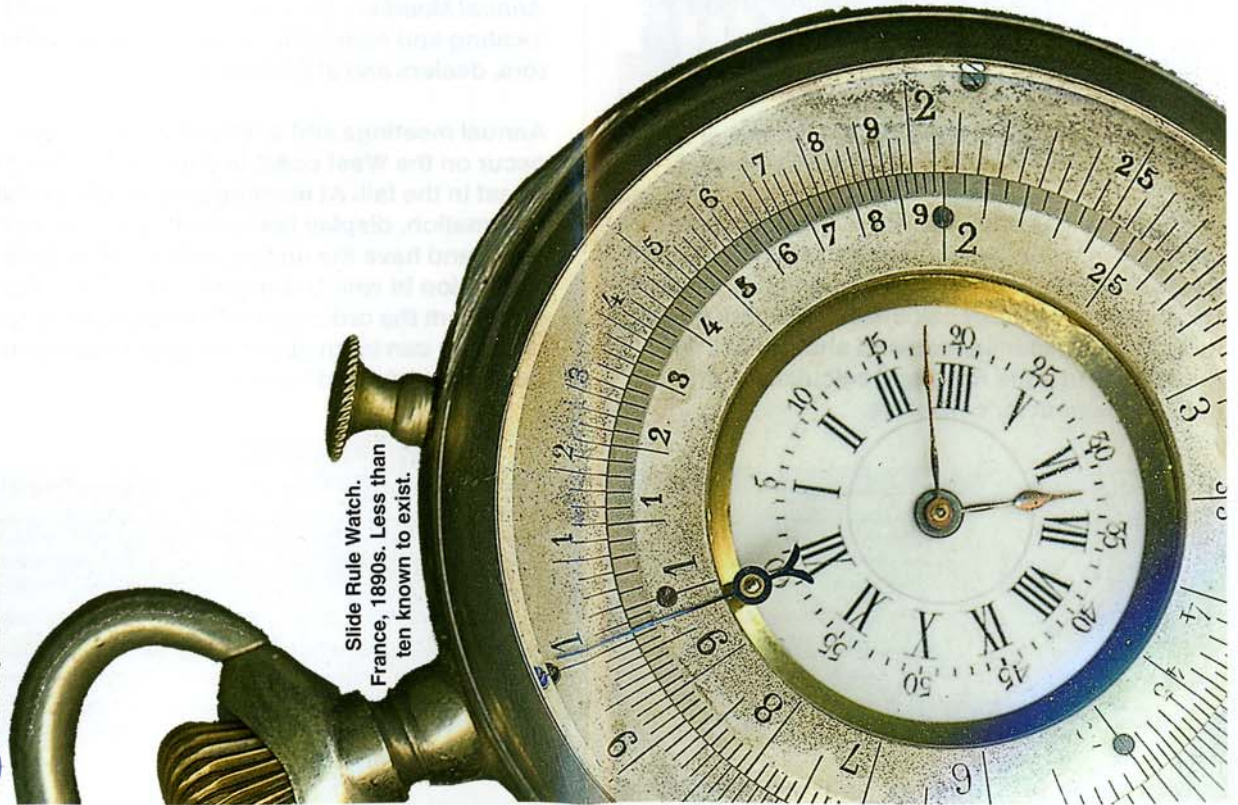
The Oughtred Society
P. O. Box 99077
Emeryville, CA 94662



Interested in Slide Rules?



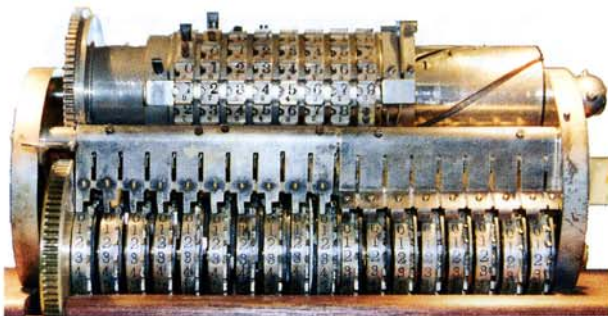
THE OUGHTRED SOCIETY



Slide Rule Watch.
France, 1890s. Less than
ten known to exist.

About the Oughtred Society

The Oughtred Society was founded in 1991 by a group of like-minded slide rule collectors. The original intent of the Society was to provide a venue for the exchange of information about slide rules. Thus, *The Journal of the Oughtred Society* was born. We are affiliated with other organizations in Great Britain, Germany, The Netherlands and Switzerland.



"New" Calculating Machine. USA, 1877. One of the first American calculators. Invented by George B. Grant.

The Society currently has more than 400 members and is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the history and preservation of slide rules and mechanical calculators. Society goals include the dissemination and sharing of information about slide rules and calculators, and encouragement for collectors.

Benefits of Membership

You receive a subscription to *The Journal of The Oughtred Society*, published twice a year. This internationally acclaimed journal is the most authoritative source on slide rules and mechanical calculators, with each issue containing a wealth of information about makes and makers, models, uses, history and more. Members are encouraged to submit articles.



Devco Slide-Cyl-Pencil. USA, 1940s. The pocket clip doubles as the indicator.

Members can acquire back issues from the Journal's history since 1991. You also receive the *Annual Members Directory*, a great resource for locating and communicating with other collectors, dealers and aficionados.

Annual meetings and auctions for members occur on the West coast in June and on the East Coast in the fall. At meetings, members exchange information, display items from their own collections, and have the opportunity to participate in an auction in which many kinds of slide rules are sold, from the ordinary and inexpensive to the rare. You can learn about and purchase items you never knew existed before.

Membership Application

Interested in slide rules or calculators? Join the Oughtred Society to learn more of the science and lore of these unique mathematical instruments. From addiators and comptometers to ordinary slide and chemistry rules, all are of interest to the Society.



"Star" Slide Rule Cigarette Lighter. Japan, 1950s.

Name: _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

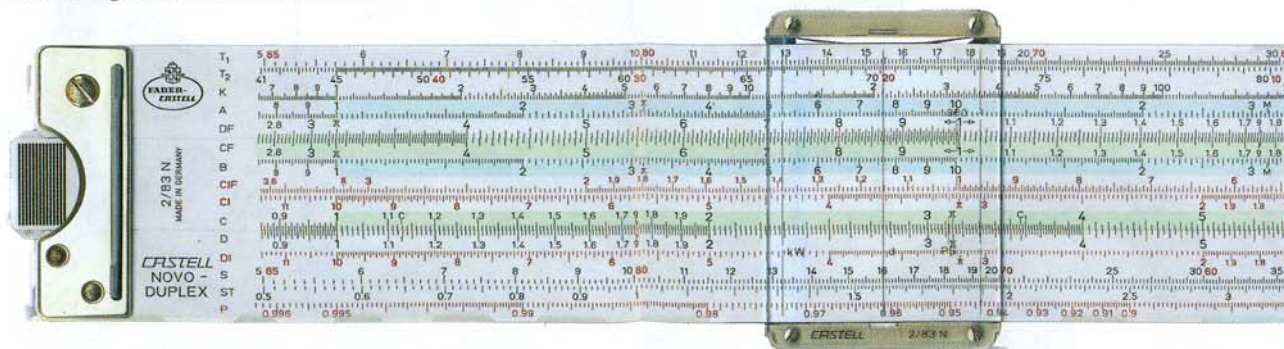
Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please remember to include your check payable to the Oughtred Society for \$35.00 in the USA, or \$40.00 internationally. You may also join using your credit card by visiting our web site: www.oughtred.org.

For more information contact:
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Faber-Castell 2/83N. Germany, 1960s. One of the largest slide rules made with the most number of colors.