



THE
OUGHTRED
SOCIETY

Newsletter

April/May, 2015

From Your Newsletter Editor - Ed Chamberlain



Note that this issue of the Oughtred Society Newsletter covers the months of April and May. This is a continuation of an experiment to issue bi-monthly OS newsletters. Please send me feedback if you miss monthly newsletters.

It has been a busy time for the organizers of IM 2015. This year's meeting will be held in Burlingame, California near the San Francisco airport. The lodgings and programs have been organized, and the technical papers have been prepared. Soon the papers will be edited and gathered together for the proceedings publication. Meanwhile, Bob De Cesaris and his able OS volunteers have gathered some of Tom Wyman's collection to help liven up the auction of slide rules at the meeting. If you are attending IM2015, don't forget to bring some of your treasures or duplicates to also sell at the meeting. There will be plenty of action for all if you do. More on IM2015 follows below.

Do you remember the March 28th Spring David Stanley tool auction in the UK? The following are the hammer prices for the four slide rules discussed in the last issue of the OS Newsletter:

- 1) a rare c1904 Baines slide rule for solving flow equations. \$1,275
- 2) a very early Lord's desk model calculator made by Elliott Bros. \$6,900
- 3) a Lord's Cotton Cloth Coster; box cabinet model by Aston & Mander. \$6,000
- 4) a W&S Jones No.30 24" boxwood slide rule. \$3,600

Reported by Ed Chamberlain

News from the Oughtred Society's President - Bob De Cesaris

ANNOUNCEMENT

IM 2015 -- From Logarithms to Algorithms: Bridging 400 Years of Scientific and Computing Evolution



The Oughtred Society is hosting the "**International Meeting of Slide Rule Collectors — IM 2015**" and the "**21st International Meeting for Collectors of Historical Calculating Instruments.**" In addition to a technical program, there will be special events and displays at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA, a tour of Bob Otnes' impressive slide rule and calculator collection in Palo Alto, and a sale of important items from the Tom Wyman and David Gamble collections. **The meeting will be held from Thursday, September 24 through Sunday, September 27 at the Hyatt Regency SFO, 1333 Bayshore Highway, in Burlingame, CA.**



San Francisco and its Golden Gate Bridge is just a few miles north of the hotel, and Stanford University and the Silicon Valley just a short ride to the south. Further north across the Golden Gate Bridge lies Napa Valley, with its scenic and tasty vineyards, and further north yet are the imposing Redwood forests. Further south is Monterey Bay and Big Sur. It is a grand place for a holiday.

The following papers will be presented during the technical program:

Three Specialized Slide Rules for Science and Engineering	Richard Hughes
The Deaths of the Slide Rule	Robert James
The Calculation of Logarithms - Some Pedagogic Aspects	Klaus Kühn
Old Calculators & Democracy	Nicola Marras
The Schumacher Slide Rule	Jerry McCarthy
ST or SRT	Marion Moon
Michael Scheffelt	Werner H. Rudowski
Pencil Slide Rules: The Schauer Scale	Rodger Shepherd
A Slide Rule for Computer Memory: Logarithms for Algorithms	David Sweetman

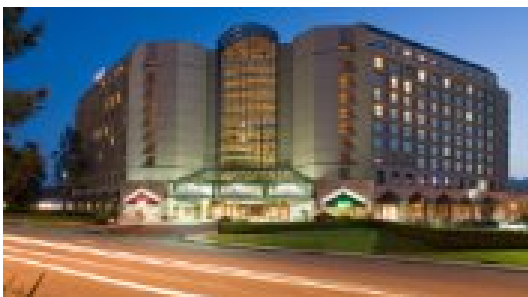
Meeting Registration Costs: Member - \$245, Spouse - \$125, Non-Member - \$295

The conference registration costs include attendance to all activities at Hyatt SFO, all OS-sponsored events, breakfast and lunch on Friday, breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday, refreshment breaks during the conference, and a digital copy on disk of the proceedings. Hard copies of the proceedings will also be available for purchase at the meeting. **Hotel room accommodations are not included as part of the meeting registration fee and will need to be handled separately by the attendee. See details below**

You may register for the meeting on the Oughtred Society's web site using PayPal at <http://www.oughtred.org/meets.shtml>, or you may register by postal mail and send your fee by check or money order to:

**The Oughtred Society
9 Stephens Ct.
Roseville, CA 956**

Hotel Registration Details



A block of rooms has been set-aside at the Hyatt Regency SFO for Oughtred Society members at a discount rate of \$199/night plus applicable taxes and fees. Members may access the hotel registration link below to learn more about the hotel and surrounding area, and to book, modify, or cancel their reservations. **Please note that the number of rooms available at this guaranteed rate are limited and we strongly urge attendees to book their rooms as early as possible to**

guarantee this excellent negotiated rate. Bay Area hotel prices can be quite high; for example, after the special OS room availability expires, room rates at Hyatt may be \$329 and higher. Hotel space in the Bay Area is limited and the area is routinely overbooked; therefore, early action on reserving a room is very highly recommended.

HOTEL REGISTRATION LINK: <<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/OughtredSociety>>

The Schedule of Events for IM 2015 is as follows:

Thursday, September 24, 2015 - Arrival Day. Small gatherings to be held in the afternoon and evenings for "Meet and Greet" sessions as members arrive and settle in. Additional details to be announced.

Friday, September 25, 2015 - IM 2015 Meeting, Hyatt SFO

8:30 - 9:30 AM	Registration/Breakfast/Meet and Greet
9:30 – 12:30 PM	Paper Sessions (with break)
12:30 – 1:45 PM	Lunch
1:45 – 4:00 PM	Paper Sessions (with break)

Spouse/Partners Tour during Friday – Details being arranged.



Friday Evening – Tour of Bob Otnes Slide Rule and Calculator Collection – Home of Bob Otnes, Palo Alto, CA.

Bob's collection is one of the best private collections of rare and unusual slide rules and mechanical calculating devices in the world, and he has generously invited the IM 2015 participants to share in his finds and stories behind the pieces. At left is a photo of Bob Otnes (seated) and Tom Wyman. Both of their collections are being featured at IM2015.

Saturday, September 26, 2015 – IM 2015 Meeting – Hyatt SFO

8:30 – 9:30 AM	Breakfast/Meet and Greet
9:30 – 10:30 AM	Plenary Speaker (or panel discussion)
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15 PM	Paper Sessions
12:15 – 1:30 PM	Lunch

1:30 – 4:00 PM Member Displays and Auctions

- § Member Displays and Auction Pieces.
- § Display and Auction of Important Pieces from the Tom Wyman Collection.
- § Auction of Pieces from the David Gamble (Dunottar) Collection.

All registered attendees are encouraged to bring items for display or auction at this event. (Please contact Bob De Cesaris with total number of tables if more than one 6-foot table will be required for your display or auction items.)

4:00 – 5:00 PM	Panel Discussion or Final Presentations
6:30 PM	Dinner Banquet at the Hyatt SFO

Spouse/Partners/Meeting Attendees – Tours to be Arranged

Sunday, September 27, 2015 – Computer History Museum Docent Guided Tour, 1401 N Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA 94043. <<http://www.computerhistory.org/exhibits/>>

9:30 AM	Meet at Computer History Museum
10:00 AM	Docent Guided Tour Begins
1:00 PM	Babbage Engine Demonstration
Afternoon	Additional Activities to Be Arranged

We look forward to seeing you in the Bay Area!

Reported by Bob De Cesaris

Tom Wyman Collection at Auction at IM2015

Tom Wyman had a diverse slide rule collection, as he exhibited in his many Oughtred Society papers and at OS and IM meetings. Some of his collection is being donated to the MIT museum. The OS membership is fortunate that select pieces will be auctioned at IM2015. Some highlights of the auction are shown below. Note the small Loga cylindrical slide rule. Both Tom and your editor submitted absentee bids for it at a David Stanley auction, which closed while we were at IM2011 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Tom prevailed on this one. Later, we both had a friendly laugh over the result.



Loga rechenwalze (cylindrical slide rule)

Unlike most Logas, which are supported by a stand, this example is designed to be held by hand to calculate. I am uncertain how long the scale is. It could be about 50 cm. I believe that Tom had the nice storage box made, so it is not original.

- Meyrat & Perdrizet pocket watch circular slide rule.
- Hannington Gridiron slide rule with both multiplication/division & root & sq. root slides.
- K&E Power Computer for steam and gas engines. Duplex, with two adjacent slides.
- K&E duplex slide rules (2) with "Christmas Tree" brass chisel cursors; 10" & 20" lengths.
- Froude's Displacement slide rule in boxwood, with brass cursor.
- Two Boxwood slide rules; each with 2 sides & 2 slides; one in boxwood, the other in ivory or bone.
- Four early four-sided boxwood slide rules; 3 with 2 slides; 1 with 3 slides.
- Casella 20" 19th century brass surveyors slide rule.
- Three early Gravet-Lenoir-Vinay-Tavernier-Gravet slide rules.
- K&E Thacher cylindrical slide rule; serial no. 5531.
- Secretern à Paris 16" boxwood slide rule; for converting degrees to grads; c.1860.
- WH Glaser's slide rule in boxwood with 2 side by side slides.
- Everett Textile slide rule in boxwood with 3 slides.

Reported by Bob De Cesaris & Ed Chamberlain

The Fall 2015 & Spring 2016 OS Journals

David Sweetman has been busy fielding and cajoling authors for papers for the *Fall, 2015 issue of the OS journal* Fall. He has accepted twelve articles on a wide range of slide rules. Below is a list of the articles and their authors.

Origin of the K&E Radio Slide Rules

Clark McCoy

K&E Cooke Radio Slide rule	Richard Hughes
Pencil Slide Rules Part 3	Rodger Shepherd
A Chinese Probability Slide Rule	Richard Hughes
Diabetic Slide Rule	Bryan Purcell
Variants of Soho Slide Rules	Werner Rudowski
Dating K&E Slide Rules	Clark McCoy
Recommended Reading	Peter Hopp
The EngPen: An Unusual Pencil Slide Rule	Nathan Zeldes
Pencil Slide Rules Part 4	Rodger Shepherd
Boiler Efficiency Calculator	Stephan Weiss
Comments on Listing Slide Rule Scales	Jose Fernandez

The *Spring, 2016 issue of the OS Journal* is rapidly filling. Louis Ross and his slide rules will be featured with the following articles:

The Ross Precision Computer - Types I & II.	Ed Chamberlain
The Ross Rapid Computer.	Richard Davis
The Ross Student Rapid Computer.	Richard Davis
The Ross Meridiograph.	David Ingram
A Biography of Louis Ross	Ed Chamberlain and Richard Davis
The Louis Ross/John Ross Dempster Mystery.	Ed Chamberlain and Richard Davis

If you know of other Louis Ross slide rules and desire to write about them, please let me know and I will coordinate your paper with Ed Chamberlain, Richard Ross and David Ingram. I welcome also papers on other slide rules or calculating devices and/or their makers.

Reported by David Sweetman

Report from Membership Secretary: Clark McCoy

The membership renewal process is going well. To date we have 381 members signed up for 2015. We are approaching the 406 members that we had for all of last year. If you have not renewed your membership yet, it is easy to do. Just go to the Oughtred Society homepage at:

<<http://www.oughtred.org/>>

and click on "**Membership**" and follow instructions. You can pay online by Credit card or PayPal, or you can pay by check the old fashioned way.

The following are new members for the months of April and May:

- Mark Mc Cormick, Columbia, MD
- John Evans, San Antonia, TX
- Stephen Lepp, Verona, NJ
- Terrance Jones, Bayside, CA

Welcome to the Oughtred Society!

Reported by Clark McCoy

Notable Slide Rule Sales on eBay: April 1 to May 31

The period of April 1 to May 31 was marked by many special slide rules being sold on eBay. Below are all the slide rules that sold for \$100 or more. Excluded are demonstration slide rules and watches with slide rule bezels. Note that the top 4 selling US slide rules were Thachers. The big bargain was a model

4013 with magnifier that sold for \$1350. Note the Einstein Relativator and Batman Pickett. As usual I show pictures and describe some of the exceptional examples.

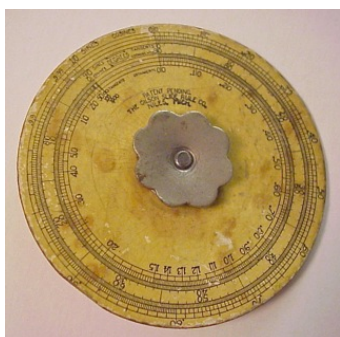
US Slide Rules (36 sold for a total of about \$9,483)

K & E Thatcher Cylindrical Slide Rule Model 4012, s/n 5253.	\$1,392
K & E Thatcher Cylindrical Slide Rule with magnifier, Model 4013, s/n 5269.	\$1,350
K & E Thatcher Cylindrical Slide Rule Model 4012, s/n ??	\$829
K & E Thatcher Cylindrical Slide Rule Model 4012, s/n 4614.	\$750
K&E Analon Slide Rule 68 1400, MINT.	\$545
K&E Analon Slide Rule 68 1400, MINT.	\$400



Einstein's Relativator 4" dia. circular slide rule, Atomic Laboratories, Inc. c1957. \$316

Pickett Model 110-ES circular slide rule with spiral long scale.	\$250
K & E 68 1748 (4096) Desktop Slide Rule in box.	\$180
Small Calculator slide rule by Gilbert Small (some damage)	\$177
K & E Deci-Lon 68-1130 slide rule, MIB	\$175
K & E Cox patent duplex slide rule (with a later LL Duplex slide rule)	\$158
Deveco VTG mechanical pencil slide rule, double ended model	\$157
K & E 4083-5 LL duplex vector slide rule	\$155
K & E 68 1210 LL duplex slide rule, MIB	\$154
K & E 4083-5 LL duplex vector slide rule	\$153
Pickett Model 110-ES circular slide rule with spiral long scale	\$150
K & E 4181-1 LL duplex slide rule	\$148
Little Corp. Low altitude Bombing System circular slide rule for F-100D/F aircraft	\$146
K & E Deci-Lon 68-1100 slide rule	\$139
K & E 4160 Chemist duplex slide rule with case	\$139
Pickett model N16-ES slide rule MIB	\$137
Pickett (?) special wave-guide slide rule, no model number or name	\$131
Pickett N3-ES slide rule w/ Batman case & manuals	\$130
Pickett N3-T slide rule w/ Batman case & manuals	\$130
S.I.C. 1610-D Circular Slide Rule	\$130



Gilson Circular Slide Rule, Very Early Version \$122

Makeba-Kombinator Pencil Slide Rule	\$120
Carpenter's Girt Line slide rule, brass bound wood, 11" long, old, well used	\$114
K&E 4041F finely divided Mannheim scales	\$114
Pickett 520-T Air Force slide rule, MIB	\$110
Dietzgen Atlas spiral circular slide rule	\$106
Pickett N4P-ES pocket slide rule	\$106
Pickett N3P-T Power Log pocket slide rule & leather case	\$100
Lytle Corp. Low Altitude Bombing circular slide rule for F100D-26-1 Super Saber	\$100
K & E Deci-Lon #68-1100 slide rule	\$100

European Slide Rules (22 sold for total of \$5679)

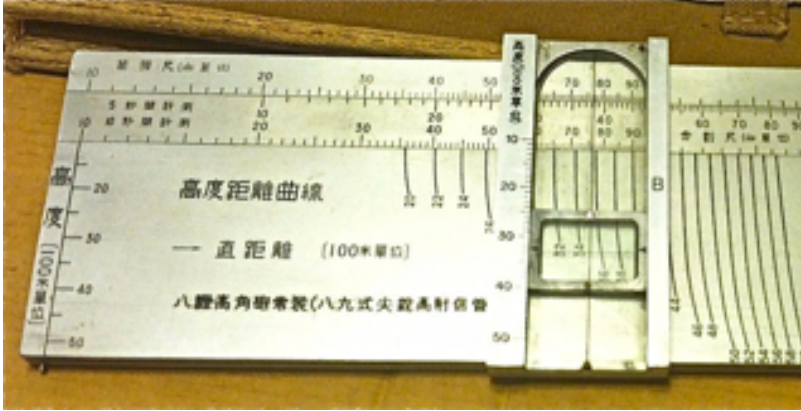
Faber Castell 2/84N MATHEMA Hyperbolic slide rule	\$650
Loga 2.4 m cylindrical slide rule. Patente Daemen-Schmid	\$575
Loga 15-m cylindrical slide rule	\$495
Fuller Model #2 (logarithm and sine) cylindrical slide rule	\$400
Fuller Model #1 cylindrical slide rule, s/n 10510, date 1951, Bakelite model	\$335
Preston, Linen, Cotton & Silk boxwood slide rule (English)	\$313
Supremathic, French circular slide rule	\$306
Fuller Model #1 cylindrical slide rule, s/n 6696, date 1935	\$299
James Farrow Mark I Pilot Balloon Slide Rule	\$250
Supremathic, French circular slide rule	\$245
Fuller Model #1 cylindrical slide rule, s/n 13515, date 1970, Bakelite model (no box)	\$227



Marcantoni #25CH Milano Chemistry Slide Rule \$200

William Slater Bolton 2-fold textile slide rule by J.Shaw Wolverhampton	\$185
LaFay cylindrical slide rule with 5-m helical scale	\$182
Faber Castell 2/82N duplex slide	\$150
Pickett model 550 Wako Weight slide rule, NOS	\$149
True Air Speed and Altitude Computer circular slide rule, British made?	\$142
Faber Castell 2/83N duplex slide	\$140
Russian dual disk artillery slide rule in leatherette book case	\$125
Otis King model L, s/n Y6792	\$108
Halden Calculex pocket circular slide rule, clam shell case + instructions	\$102
Aristo Studiolog #0969 slide rule	\$101

Asian Slide Rules (6 sold for total of \$2552)



**Japanese Heavy Metal
"Mystery" Slide Rule
No. 104 \$887**

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Hemmi #258 Bamboo slide rule (dual branded Post Versalog, model 1460) | \$674 |
| Hemmi #258 Bamboo slide rule (dual branded Post Versalog, model 1460) | \$556 |
| Hemmi #258 Bamboo slide rule (dual branded Post Versalog, model 1460) | \$510 |
| Hemmi #257 Chemistry slide rule | \$260 |
| Hemmi #266 Electronics slide rule | \$125 |

Reported by Ed Chamberlain

Breker Auction of Many Important Calculating Devices.....

The Auction Team Breker auction in Köln on May 30 was loaded with many important antique calculating and computing devices. Amongst the notable pieces and their sale prices (including auction premium and tax) in \$\$\$ were:

- | | | |
|--------|---|--------|
| Lot 4 | Kull Calculating Machine, rare German adder. | 2,422 |
| Lot 6 | Daemen-Schmid rechenwalze with scroll device on base. | 485 |
| Lot 8 | Millionair Calculator, c1895, s/n 2083. | 3,364 |
| Lot 14 | Wilhelm Schickard, replica of 1623 machine by Peter Roubos. | 1,346 |
| Lot 17 | Ideal Calculator, model of Archimedes Mod. A. | 4,576 |
| Lot 19 | Arithmomètre de Thomas de Colmar, c1852. | 51,139 |



**Lot 20 Pierre Fardoll Adding Machine,
c1700 sold for \$74,016.**

- | | | |
|--------|--|---------|
| Lot 21 | Hagelin B-21 Cipher Machine, 1927 onwards. | 29,697 |
| Lot 22 | Charles Wheatstone Cypher Machine (circular) 1877 onwards. | 5,383 |
| Lot 26 | "Enigma" Ciphering Machine, Model K, with lamp panel. | 60,559 |
| Lot 27 | "Hitler's Mill" Cryptographic Cypher Machine, 1944. | 10,093 |
| Lot 28 | "Enigma" Ciphering Machine, Model M4, no. M4609. | 142,561 |
| Lot 32 | Apple III Computer, c1980. | 1,009 |
| Lot 33 | NeXT Cube Computer/Workstation. | 1,615 |
| Lot 34 | MAC Flight Simulation Analog Computer. | 8,075 |

Note the Enigma machine that sold for \$142,561 and the c1700 Fardoll Adding Machine sold for \$74,016 !

Reported by Ed Chamberlain

On The Lighter Side

Here is a new one for me. A Pickett Batman N3-ES slide rule! It was sold on eBay for \$130 this past May. The case is special with pockets for a pocket machinist's scale and a mechanical pencil as well as a space for a pocket slide rule. Note that the nametag at the bottom of the case reads "Bruce Wayne - Gotham City." Note also in the photo of Batman that he has a pocket slide rule in its case tucked into his belt, a second 10" slide rule in its case hanging from his belt and a third slide rule ready to use in his left hand. And the 3 instruction manuals all have the Batman logo printed on their covers.

A quick search on Rod Lovett's web site revealed that the Batman slide rule was also made in the white N3-T model. And that example came with a photo of Pickett's "Crack Consultants." Note that the early man at Superman's front-right has a "nutcracker" in one hand and a yellow Pickett slide rule in the other. Any guesses who all those consultants were?



Reported by Ed Chamberlain

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