

April /May/June/July, 2016

From Your Newsletter Editor - Ed Chamberlain



Note that this issue of The Oughtred Society Newsletter covers the months of April, May, June and July of 2016. Your editor and other members of the Newsletter team apologize for the delay. The busyness of the summer months has delayed contributions, preparation and editing of this issue

I attended the Spring meeting of the Oughtred Society in Las Vegas in May, and can report a lively time with interesting presentations, lots of show and tell, and a lively auction of items from participants collections and from the Tom Wyman collection. The meeting was held at the Atomic Testing Museum. Two dinner gatherings topped the evenings for an OS meeting and lots of conversation. Our President, Bob DeCesaris, discusses the meeting in more detail below.

The second meeting this year is gathering momentum. For the first time, our Italian friends will be hosting the international meeting — this one IM2016. The venue for IM2016 will be in a spectacularly modern museum, the Science Museum (MuSe) of Trento. The theme of the meeting is: *Someone's Trash is our Treasure: The Collector as a Preserver of Material Culture*. Details follow your president's message below. I will attend IM2016, and will travel there by flying to Munich, and then taking a 4 hour train ride to Trento through the spectacular Brenner Pass. Following the meeting, I hope to take a boat and bike trip along the Danube from Passau to Budapest.

Note that I have a backlog of contributions for the OS Newsletter. I apologize to those whose efforts have been omitted. They are not lost or forgotten, but this issue is getting too long to allow all contributions to be used.

From the President of the Oughtred Society – Bob De Cesaris



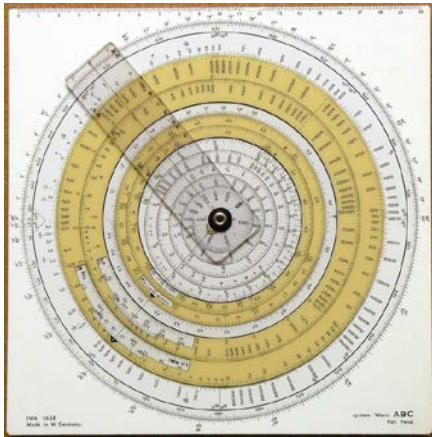
Our Annual Meeting for 2016, held in May at the Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas, NV, featured a great day at the museum with fascinating displays, four presentations, two very nice dinners, and many interesting items at auction and for sale. Old acquaintances were renewed and new friendships were established with a multitude of interesting conversations and discussions. Many thanks go out to the meeting committee, headed by Chairperson **Richard Davis**, for arrangements with the museum and hotel and for coordination of the presentation topics. We also need to recognize **Riki Nakamoto** who continues to treat the meeting attendees with Macadamia nuts and other Hawaiian treats. These are very much enjoyed when back home away from the hectic activities of the meeting! Among one of the most notable displays of the day was **Jim Bready's** spectacular "Colossus" spiral slide rule (at left being readied for display by Kate Mathews and Riki Nakamoyo). It has a scale length of

10,000 inches, which featured six-place accuracy and would be right at home with today's 'steampunk' community. For those who might not be familiar with this term, steampunk refers to an alternative universe where steam-powered machinery and technology continued to develop to the present day in lieu of the electronics-based technology that did. Obviously in such a world, slide rules would still rule and every serious office would need a Colossus or two. ...and the 102-story Bready Building in midtown Manhattan would feature the Colossus dirigible attached to its mooring mast.

Presentations for the day included:

- “A Slide Rule Software Program” by **Peter Alfred**,
- “The Dempster/ Ross Slide Rule Mystery” by **Ed Chamberlain and Richard Davis**,
- “Very Different Slide Rules Types” by **Peter Holland**, and
- “The System Wern Slide Rule”, by **Carl Wern**.

Peter demonstrated an interesting software program that emulated problem solving as a slide rule would, while Ed and Richard shed more light on the stunning similarities between the Dempster RotaRule and the Ross Rapid Computer. Peter Holland then covered a host of very diverse types of slide rules that can be found in pencils, tablets, and in many other guises not commonly known in the US. Finally, Carl Wern highlighted the ABC System Wern circular slide rule that he developed with his brother in the 1960s, covering its unique feature of providing the position of the decimal point in calculations. He also brought several scarce examples to the meeting for display and sale. Note that Carl and his brother traveled from their home country of Sweden especially for this meeting. We thank Carl for donating several examples of this slide rule to the Oughtred Society.



System Wern Circular Slide Rule

The reader may purchase a System Wern by contacting Ed Chamberlain edwin_chamberlain@valley.net for payment and shipping details. Cost in US and Canada is \$60 including postage and insurance. To Europe and elsewhere the cost is \$70. All proceeds go to the Oughtred Society's Education Fund.

Debbie Douglas, who could not be present due to commitments celebrating MIT's 100 Year Anniversary of the current site in Cambridge, MA, forwarded a presentation expressing her sincerest appreciation for the Oughtred Society's efforts at cataloguing, packing, and shipping the rules that were donated from the Thomas Wyman Collection to MIT Museum.

The meeting also featured at auction over 70 pieces from the Thomas Wyman Collection. These slide rules were the second part of the Wyman collection sold at an OS meeting, the first part being sold at IM2015 in California. Some of the more interesting items that were sold at the meeting from the collection included:

Sales Highlights from the Thomas Wyman Collection, Part 2 (Las Vegas, May 2016)

Boxwood, four side, two slide excise rule, marked *TC* 1727	\$810.00
Boxwood, four side, three slide excise rule by J. Gilbert	\$710.00
Boxwood, four side, two slide excise rule, no maker's name	\$250.00
Boxwood, two-piece Brannan's rule, no maker's name	\$400.00
Boykin RotaRule, excellent condition	\$200.00
Ross Precision circular slide rule (missing cursor on small slide rule)	\$380.00

Hudson's Horsepower Computing Scale, boxwood rule, by WF Stanley	\$260.00
Keuffel and Esser Graphical Slide Rule, with four additional slides, in case	\$320.00
Four fold rule with Gunter's Scale, by J.B. Morris	\$660.00
Four fold rule with Gunter's Scale, by J. Aston	\$510.00

Election of Oughtred Society Officers The election of officers for 2017 was held during the meeting. **Bob De Cesaris (President), Kate Matthews (Vice President and Recording Secretary)** and **Clark McCoy (Membership Secretary and Treasurer)** were each re-elected to their current positions.

Collection dispersal and storage updates We have noted that founding member **Bob Otnes** moved to an assisted living facility in April. Bob has requested that the Oughtred Society assist in the disposition of many pieces from his collection. The Otnes collection must be packed and moved to our new and expanded Oughtred Society storage area during this summer so that Bob's home can be made ready for sale. A request is being made for volunteers in both Palo Alto and in the Sacramento areas for assistance. Details on executing the move are being developed and will take place in the July to September timeframe. Direct calls of members in the area are being made for volunteers; please contact Bob De Cesaris <robert.g.de.cesaris@intel.com> or Clark McCoy <clarkmccoy2@comcast.net> if you are interested in assisting with this important move.



Inside the Oughtred Society's new and expanded storage facility in Roseville CA. A big thank you to Clark McCoy for finding and setting up this facility, and for moving our OS materials (archives of journals, donated slide rules, etc.) there, and for getting everything ready for storage of the Otnes collection and for yet unsold or gifted items from the Wyman collection.

We have continued to make good progress in logging and dispositioning the very extensive Thomas Wyman collection. In addition to the 70-plus pieces offered at our Annual Meeting in May, an additional 32 pieces have been sent to David Stanley Auctions in UK, for inclusion in their upcoming September International Auction. These pieces consist primarily of early Coggeshall- and Routledge-type folding rules and other interesting related tools, including elaborate inclinometers, dividers, and levels, which Tom had collected over the years. Look for them in the upcoming David Stanley International Auction scheduled for 24 September 2016 at <<http://www.davidstanley.com>>.

All DVD's and literature related to the Curta Book, which Tom was authoring, have also been located; this information is being compiled and will be shared with interested parties in the near future. **Clark McCoy** has also continued his diligent effort at scanning and logging additional items from the Wyman Collection for the Archive of Collections database (found on the OS website). The on-line collection of thumbnail pictures continues to increase as a unique record of a unique collection. Be certain to check the updated collection at the link:

<<http://osgalleries.org/collectors/wyman/wyman.cgi>>.

And again, we must thank the members who initiated the site and continue to work to update it--**Clark McCoy, Rod Lovett, Richard Davis, and Ted Hume**. You all certainly have our continued gratitude and thanks!



On a somber note, we honor the passing of Colin Barnes, founding member of the United Kingdom Slide Rule Circle (UKSRC) and one of the key members in establishing the UKSRC Collection at TNMOC, The National Museum of Computing located at Bletchley Park in the UK, site of IM2012. Colin has been a part of the international slide rule collecting community for over 30 years, with his significant contributions recognized both as a Fellow of the Oughtred Society and as an OS Award recipient. Additional information can be found at the TNMOC site <http://www.tnmoc.org/news/notes-museum/colin-barnes-1940-2016>.

Colin's collection is being dispersed by the UKSRC. You can find a listing of the slide rules up for sale at <http://uksrc.org.uk/asandwhen.html>

Reported by Bob De Cesaris with Ed Chamberlain

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT: International Meeting of Historical Calculating Instruments – IM 2016.....

IM 2016 Someone's Trash is Our Treasure

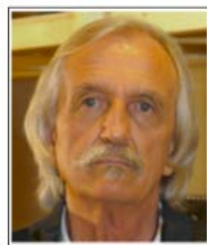
The Collector as a Preserver of Material Culture

September 16th - 18th, 2016

MUSE Science Museum, Trento, Italy

<www.im2016.eu - www.muse.com>

The Meeting



Organization:

Nicola Marras – Wolfgang Irlner

Nicola Marras and Wolfgang Irlner, Italian members of the Oughtred Society, are pleased to welcome you to the 22nd International Meeting of Collectors of Historical Calculating Instruments, being held September 16th - 18th, 2016 at the MUSE Science Museum in Trento, Italy. A museum such as this would not be complete without a display of dinosaur bones. It would also be incomplete without a display of old calculating devices, for these are the fossils of more recent times!

This invitation is directed to all collectors of slide rules and other calculating instruments. Anyone, a member of a collector's organization or not, is more than welcome to attend. Apart from the surrounding alpine scenery, the newly built Science Center, MUSE, designed by Renzo Piano, attracted more than half a million visitors last year. With the display of numerous mathematical devices (and dinosaur bones) this museum will be the principal meeting site for IM2016. European and overseas participants can expect to attend a concentrated scientific program.

As in previous IM's, you are invited to put your "One-Off's" on display and bring items for auction at this event. A calculating instrument is a One-Off when: only one of them is thought to exist, it is a prototype, it is hand-made or there is another reason for showing it.

The IM2016 proceedings will be a bound book, included in the registration fee. Additional copies will be for sale, as supplies last. The proceedings will be also distributed to all conference participants on a USB key.

The call for papers is closed, but you can still register to attend as a participant. Book at www.im2016.eu



MUSE Science Museum in Trento

The Schedule of Events:

Thursday, September 15, 2016 – Arrival Day – Trento NH Hotel.

- 18:00 Gathering in the NH Hotel for the members that have arrived. Visit to the Irlér's Collection of Calculators.
- 20:00 Individual dinner.

Friday, September 16, 2016 – IM 16 Meeting – Trento NH Hotel.

- 09:00 – 12:00 Registration/Meet and Greet. Visit to the Irlér's Collection of Calculators.
- 12:30 – 13:30 Individual Lunch.
- 14:00 – 15:15 Opening of IM2016.
- 15:15 – 15:30 Break, coffee at the bar.
- 15.30 – 16:30 Paper Sessions.
- 16:30 – 19:00 One-Off's display and swap market.
- 20:00 Individual dinner

Spouse/Partners tour during Friday.

Saturday, September 17, 2016 – IM 16 Meeting – MUSE Science Museum

- 08:30 Meeting point in front of the MUSE (3 minutes walking from NH Hotel, 10 from Trento center).
- 09:00 – 10:30 Paper Sessions.
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break.
- 11:00 – 12:30 Paper Sessions.
- 12:45 – 13:45 Lunch.
- 14:00 – 15:30 Paper Sessions.
- 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break.
- 16:00 – 17:00 Paper Sessions.
- 17:00 – 17:30 Announcement of Oughtred Society Awards and closure.
- 19:30 Gathering in front of the NH Hotel and transfer to restaurant.
- 20:00 Dinner Banquet at restaurant.

Also Spouse/Partners tour during Saturday.



A museum would not be complete without a display of dinosaur bones. It would also be incomplete without a display of old calculating devices, for these are the fossils of today!

Sunday, September 18, 2016 – MUSE Science Museum

09:30 Meet at the MUSE.

10:00 Guided Tour begins.

13:00 Individual lunch.

Afternoon additional activities to be arranged for Sunday afternoon on request.

The Technical Program:

- Cesare Baj Forty years of activity of an Italian slide rule designer
- Cesare Baj Babylonean logarithms
- Andrea Celli Some particular Italian Slide Rules
- Andries de Man Correlation machines
- José Fernandez The IGN Logarithmic Circle - Studying a Masterpiece
- Stefan Heimann Slides Rules for the use in Civil Hydraulic Engineering
- Wolfgang Irlor About the Polish G. Gerlach - Seller of technical instruments
- Klaus Kühn Collectanea de Logarithmis
- Timo Leipälä Armand Hammer and Russian slide rules
- Nicola Marras Our Treasure is a World Treasure
- Nicola Marras Too Weak To Survive
- David Rance The Lost Scales of Unknown Riches
- Andrea Ruggeri Paolo Ballada de Saint Robert and His Hypsologista
- Marc Thomas From a Slide Rule Collection to a Ph.D. Thesis
- Nathan Zeldes Disseminating the History of Computing: a Personal Look

Traveling to Trento:

The city of Trento is reachable by train from the North from Munich and Innsbruck and from the South from Verone. Trento is also on the east-west mainline running from Milan to Venice.

The same is valid for the autoroute connection, from North via the Brenner Pass on the Austrian border and from South from Verona, and on the crossing of E45 autoroute and E70 from Trieste to Torino.

The international Verona Airport is at a distance of 98 km from Trento. Taxi cost is about 150€ duration 1 hour. A bus shuttle may be reserved in advance for a cost of 40€ In train you pay 22€ plus 15 min/6€for the airport-to-station shuttle. Car rental goes from 40€/day.

The nearest alternatives are Innsbruck and Bergamo airports, which has flights from London and the Netherlands. The Munich airport is best for flights originating outside of Europe. All are well connected by train with Trento.

Hotels:

The NH Hotel had reserved a block of regular luxury rooms until July 1st, 2016. Contact the hotel to book a standard price room or you may book a room in the surroundings. Komodo apartments is 50 meters from NH Hotel, and the center of the town is 10 minutes walking from the MUSE. Members with a car can look at the beautiful resorts 3 to 4 kilometers from the center of the town. Useful links are:

- <www.nh-hotels.it/hotel/nh-trento>
- <www.komodoapartments.com>
- <www.grandhoteltrento.com>
- <www.villamadruzzo.com>
- <www.aquiladoro.it>

Trento & Surroundings:

The distinctive building style of the town is born from the fact that this area truly shares Italian Renaissance, Slavic and Germanic influences. The city center is small, mostly Late Medieval and has been meticulously restored and the original pastel colors and wooden balconies are delightful.



The most important buildings to see in Trento include:

- Duomo (Cathedral of Saint Vigilius), a Romanesque-Gothic cathedral of the twelfth-thirteenth century.
- Piazza del Duomo, on the side of the Cathedral, with the Baroque Fountain of Neptune (Fontana di Nettuno) built in 1767-1768.
- Church of Santa Maria Maggiore (1520), covered in red marble, it is the site of the preparatory congregations of the Third Council of Trent (April 1562 – December 1563).
- Castello del Buonconsiglio, with architecture dating back to the 13th Century.

In the northeastern part of Trentino, you have the breathtaking Dolomites in the Fassa Valley, west of the Adige Valley you see the Brenta Dolomite.

Garda Lake is about one hour away from Trento center, whereas smaller lakes, like Caldonazzo Lake or Levico Lake, are within a 30-minutes reach. They offer sightseeing there, along with bathing and wind-surfing. Nearby is Gardaland, a big Disneyland-like theme park for after-meeting tourism with children.

Ferryboats to Limone sul Garda may evoke Goethe's "Kennst Du das Land, wo die Zitronen blühen.." (Knowest thou where the lemon blossom grows,..) and invite to a beach walk. Continuing, one passes Gardone with Gabriele D'Annunzio's controverts Vittoriale, one of the Big Italian Gardens. A bit further away lures Sirmione to the Grottoes of Catullus and an archeological tour with breathtaking views.



As a part of the community of Trento, the Monte Bondone, the mountain of Trento, is accessible by climbing the serpentine road up to 1600m and then taking a chairlift to the 2000 m peak.

Bolzano, 50 km north of Trento, and all of South Tyrol, are big tourist destinations. A recent exhibition at the Museum shows the remains of the so-called "Iceman Ötzi", a 500 year-old mummy found preserved at the edge of a melting glacier.

Verona and Venezia could complete a visit to the Trento meeting. Venezia is a one-day trip by train (2 hours). By car the time is almost the same, taking into account the difficulty in parking there. For overseas visitors, Venice is almost a must: Collectors should consider justifying a short Venice stay before or after IM2016. The Architectural Biennale is impressive.

Rovereto is home of the famous Futurist Painter Fortunato Depero, to whom is dedicated a local Museum. Together with the internationally renowned Museo di Arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, MART, it could be an excellent attraction for the accompanying partners. The Italian War History Museum in the central Castle of Rovereto exhibits objects and documentation about the First World War.

Partner program (preliminary)

Trento and its surroundings offer so many different attractions for the tourist that any fixed selection for the Partner Program could never satisfy all interests. For this reason we propose that attendees and guests reserve and purchase Trento-Rovereto-Cards during registration for each accompanying persons (children under 18 free). A list of 25 sightseeing places is contained in the Card's Brochure.

Those who'd like to coordinate their sightseeing with others may make arrangements during the first Friday meeting. Registration personnel will be available to help with arrangements. A special guided tour to the Castel Buonconsiglio will may also be available for participants.

Useful Links to Attractions

< www.visittrentino.it >	< www.visitrovereto.it >
< www.mart.tn.it >	< http://fassa.com >
< www.comune.limonesulgarda.bs >	< www.schreibmaschinenmuseum.com >
< www.bolzano.net >	< www.labiennale.org/en/biennale >
< www.gardalake.com/place/gardaland-theme >	

We look forward to seeing you in Trento!

Nicola & Wolfgang

Reported by Nicola Marras and Wolfgang Irlor

The Fall 2016 & Spring 2017 OS Journals



David Sweetman reported that the *Fall, 2016 issue of the OS Journal* is near going to press. Below is a list of the articles and their authors. Note that there are ten technical papers in this issue as well as a message from the President of the Oughtred Society and updates for meetings.

Technical Papers in the Fall 2016 Issue of the Journal of the Oughtred Society

Farewell from the Hemmi Roids	Ted Hume
World's Largest Bibliography	Detlef Zerfowski
Damien Slide Rules	Ian Lodge
Crompton – Gallagher: Boiler Efficiency Calculator	Stephan Weiss
Tavernier-Gravet	Marc Thomas
A Poor Man's Collection	Roger Dollarhide
The Hemmi 154	Richard Hughes
More on Sterling Adders	David Riches
Kally Slide Rule	Nathan Zeldes
Slide Rules Made in Spain	Jose G. Fernández

David reports that the *Spring, 2017 issue of the OS Journal* is also in good shape with the following papers tentative:

Jan Józef Baranowski -- Life and Machines	Valery Shilov/Sergey Silantiev
The S.Q.C. LATOR	David Sweetman
Calibration of a conventional slide rule	Marion Moon
Wrong Way Round!	David Rance
The QC Calc	David Sweetman
The Chinese SPC Slide Rule	Simon van der Salm
The Pickett N525	Simon van der Salm
The Limpert Board	Simon van der Salm

Authors are encouraged to contact David Sweetman at: d-dsweetman@att.net with proposals for additional papers.

Reported by David Sweetman

Report from Membership Secretary: Clark McCoy

Ten new members joined the Oughtred Society in April, May, June and July. They are:

Adams, Steve	Erning, Joseph
Austin, Pat	Foti, Anthony S.
Briman, Richard	Keith, Gordon
Benson, Michael	Shir, Willis
Byrd, Matthew	Shubinski, Raymond

Welcome to The Oughtred Society. Congratulations to our new members. We hope that you enjoy the rewards of your OS membership, and encourage you to join in Oughtred Society activities.

REMINDER: To old members, if you have not renewed your membership yet, it is easy to do. Make sure that you get the Spring issue of the Journal of the Oughtred Society at the time it is first issued, which is very soon. The type has been set and sent to the printer. To renew your membership, just go to the Oughtred Society homepage at:

[<http://www.oughtred.org/>](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.

Reported by Clark McCoy

Membership in the UK Slide Rule Circle



All collectors of slide rules and other old calculating devices are invited to join the UKSRC. Just go to the web site at <http://uksrc.org.uk/> and navigate to the Skidstick and Slide Rule Gazette tabs for additional information. Membership includes the Skidstick which is issued several times per year. Membership costs 18 BP per year, and the annual Gazette costs an additional 22 BP a year for International subscribers. The Brits and Europeans pay a bit less. Payments can be made via PayPal.

Reported by Peter Hopp

News from The German Deutschsprachigen Rechenschieber-Sammler



Peter Holland reported that the German-speaking slide rule collectors meeting at the *Universität Jena* on April 23rd was a great success. Twenty-six collectors and 9 partners met for a very interesting meeting. Karl Kleine should be recognized for his special effort in organizing this meeting.

The technical program included:

- Karl Kleine Rechenschiebers von Carl Zeiss Jena
 (*Carl Zeiss Slide Rules from Jena*)
- Jacques Perregaux Eine pythagoräische LOGA-Walze
 (*A Pythagorean LOGA Cylindrical Slide Rule*)
- Hans Kordetzky Rechenschieber mit Zungeneinstellgetriebe
 (*Slide Rules with Slide Setting Gear*)
- Peter Holland Der Gelungene Auftritt (Rechenschieber in Sets und Brieftaschen)
 (*The Perfect Presentation (Slide Rules in Sets and Wallets)*)
- Otto van Poelje Eine neue Gunter-Scala
 (*A New Gunter Scale*)
- Dr. Günter Kugel Einlagen in Rechenschiebern
 (*Inserts in Slide Rules*)

There was also time set aside for informal exchanges between participants.

Reported by Peter Holland

Smartest Dog in the World Knows What a Slide Rule is For

Although member Bob Solty's Jack Russell Terrier Lucky was born long after Simon and Garfunkel's "What a Wonderful World" became a popular song, he does know what a slide rule is for.

Lucky – who not only knows what a slide rule is for but explains logarithms in his book – proudly maintains the tradition Gene Hackman began in the movie *Crimson Tide*, when he described the Jack Russell Terrier as "the smartest dog in the world."

In Chapter 17 of his memoir *A Lucky Life*, Bob's dog writes about the Keuffel & Esser Log Log Duplex Decitrig® slide rule a neighbor gave his Dad (Bob) when he was a college student. The slide rule was a tip for shoveling snow after an Easter Sunday blizzard in 1970. The *Journal of the Oughtred Society* previously published the story on that, *A Tale of Three Slide Rules*, in 1998 (v.7, n.2).

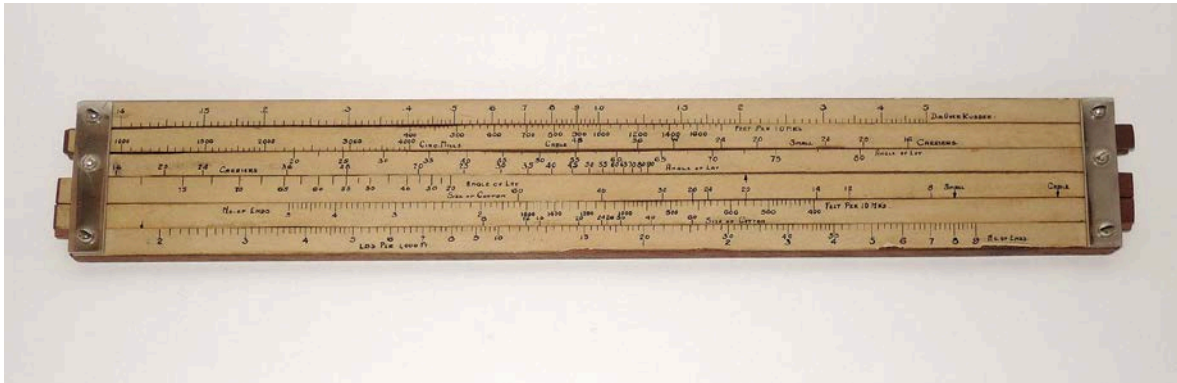
From Lucky's book, we also know that Dad named his canary *Keuffel* after the Keuffel & Esser slide rule that he received from his neighbor after that Easter Sunday blizzard.

Lucky's book is available through Bob's website <http://www.bobsoltys.com/>

Reported by Bob Solty, the Mad Scientist

Nathan Zeldes On A Home Made Textile Slide Rule

I posted this image to the OS Facebook page but no one reacted; and to my own timeline, where friend Nicola sent the response I quote. "Maybe someone can shed more light on this mysterious homemade device. If you use it, I attach a hi-res photo; people will need to see the scale captions to be of any use."



By the way, I share your (the newsletter editor's) mystification at the annoying NWOT Anthropologie Slide-Rule Dress, which keeps popping up in my eBay searches...

Also from Nathan:

We have the *Rarities Gallery* on the OS web site, which is chock full of amazing rare devices (especially the RRRR and RRR items); but it is kind of out of the way, and I doubt that people look at it as much as it deserves; especially as there is no telling which items are new since one last checked.

So, an idea: why not add to the OS newsletter a permanent section with an item from the gallery each issue? You could title it "Glimpses from the gallery" and choose the items at your editorial discretion, focusing on little known ones, or you could title it "What's new in the gallery" and simply show the most recent addition(s) each month. Or both...

I for one would find such a section of great interest. **Cheers, Nathan**

Editor's Response:

That is a great idea, Nathan. So below is my first:

"Glimpse from the JOS Rarities Gallery"
<<http://osgalleries.org/os/index.html>>



Brass Circular Pocket Slide Rule Unknown maker, from the Collection of C. B. Oliveira in Brazil. It was found in an antique shop in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1966. Note that the scales: D, C & A are engraved in the brass surface, that the instrument is of the *triple-disk* type, and that there is no cursor.

Reported by Ed Chamberlain

On The Humorous Side

**From Rod Lovett's web site: <http://sliderules.lovett.com/>
A Verse For When The Incorrect Password Is Inserted**

All is darkness and impenetrable mist.
A chill wind howls forlornly across the frozen wastes of millennia of ignorance.
The mist swirls and a weary man
surrounded by an aura of invincibility shuffles slowly forward.
On close inspection he can be seen to be prematurely grey,
carrying a *slide rule* and wearing a crumpled sports coat with a sheet of
badly torn line printer paper projecting from one pocket.
The wind fades away to an unnatural stillness.
The implementor, for it is he, pulls the listing from his pocket and reads
in a mournful voice filled with infinite sadness,
the simple message he has read so many times before,

Please Input a Valid Password

The listing falls from his quivering hands as he turns
and shuffles back into well earned oblivion.
The light fades and all is darkness.

Reported by Ed Chamberlain

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