A Report on the

2003 East Coast Oughtred Society Meeting.

November 8, 2003, at East Windsor, NJ.

by Jim Cerny May/2004.

Introduction.

The 2003 East Coast Oughtred Society Meeting was held November 8th, in East Windsor, NJ, organized by Conrad Schure and Jerry Helck. What follows is my own unofficial report, with links to pictures I took of the attendees, the rules on display, and the presentations. Follow the links — there is a lot of material here!

[Webmaster comment: The original meeting report had been lost due to a computer failure. Text files and a few images were recovered from early, on line, Oughtred Society Website files. The present meeting report is the result of this recovery effort.]

Please send me corrections for any errors of commission or omission that you see.

Meeting Overview.

There were 17 registered attendees, from as far as California and as close as New Jersey. Collectors brought an outstanding mix of uncommon and unusual items. Similar to the situation in 2001 when there were five Thachers in the room, in 2003 there were sometimes unusual coincidences: there were five versions of the metal WW-I artillery rule of the type made by Aston and Mander, and there were four examples of circular Tröger rules.

People spent the morning setting up, talking, looking at rules, and planning auction bids, with an interlude for us to go around the room as a group while each collector highlighted items on their table.

We were served a delicious lunch in a private dining room while listening to the four presentations.

The afternoon auction worked this way: items up for auction were on display with a starting price. If nobody signed up to indicate interest, it was not auctioned but was available for private sale after the auction. If only one person signed up, it was sold to that person at the starting price, without coming up for auction. If two people signed up, it was auctioned to the high bidder. Bob Otnes was the auctioneer, describing the items and soliciting bids. Activity varied widely from table to table, in part due to pricing and in part due to the kinds of items available. Both the Michael O'Leary table and Ed Chamberlain's table generated quite a bit of activity.

Many, though not all of the images, are larger than will fully display in a default browser and Microsoft Internet Explorer 6 uses <u>automatic image resizing</u> to make it fit without scrolling. To display an image at full size (if it is not already), place the cursor over the lower-right corner of the image and see if the resizing icon appears.

Afterwards.

For those who could stay after the meeting, we went to dinner at <u>Federici's Restaurant</u> and Conrad Schure invited as many as could linger to dessert and coffee at his home and the opportunity to see his collection. Conrad also arranged for a <u>lunar eclipse</u> to coincide with our visit, with good viewing in the cool evening air underneath a giant oak tree on his lawn.

Other Meeting Reports.

Attendees at the 2003 East Coast Oughtred Society Meeting. Report and images by Jim Cerny. May/2004.

Some pictures were taken at the 2001 meeting and reused here, since none of us has changed a bit!



