



**THE
OUGHTRED
SOCIETY**

Newsletter

February 1, 2014

Who's Who in the Oughtred Society



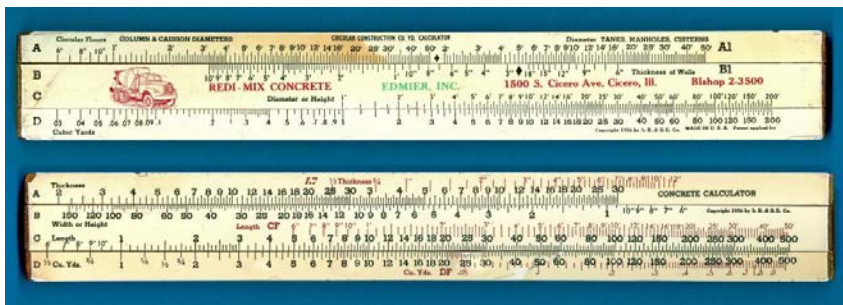
David Rance was born in 1952 in England. Apart from growing up in the UK and marrying Ros there, since 1975 the family home has been nearby the Keukenhof Gardens in the main bulb growing region of The Netherlands. For 25 years he worked for a major oil company – ending up as a Global I.T. Strategist. Now retired, Ros and David enjoy travelling and watching their Dutch daughter Siân's family grow up. And they take great delight in their grandchildren Zara and Owen. Your Newsletter editor has had the honor of having dinner with David and Ros at their home, while on one leg of a bike trip in The Netherlands. I can attest to the fact that David has one of the most eclectic and interesting sliderule

collections that I know of. His writings show his wide range of interests and unique humor. For instance: *Engineers in Tights*, a paper about textile slide rules; or *LINEX Balls Solves Mystery*, a piece on detective work using a blind stamp on a slide rule to identify its maker; and *Croquet Anyone ???*, a paper about what else? - A Croquet Circular Slide Rule. Now was that Croquet? Or was it Crochet? David has a website that shows off his slide rule collection and his writings. He is a member of both the UK & the Dutch Circle of Slide Rule Collectors, the German Rechenschieber-Sammler (RST) Group and a Fellow and 2011 winner of the Oughtred Society Award. He can often be seen with Ros at International slide rule meetings. See David's request below for information on the Slide Rule & Scale Engineering Co.

Information edited from David's Web Site - www.sliderules.nl/home.php?p=home

Can anyone help David Rance solve this problem?

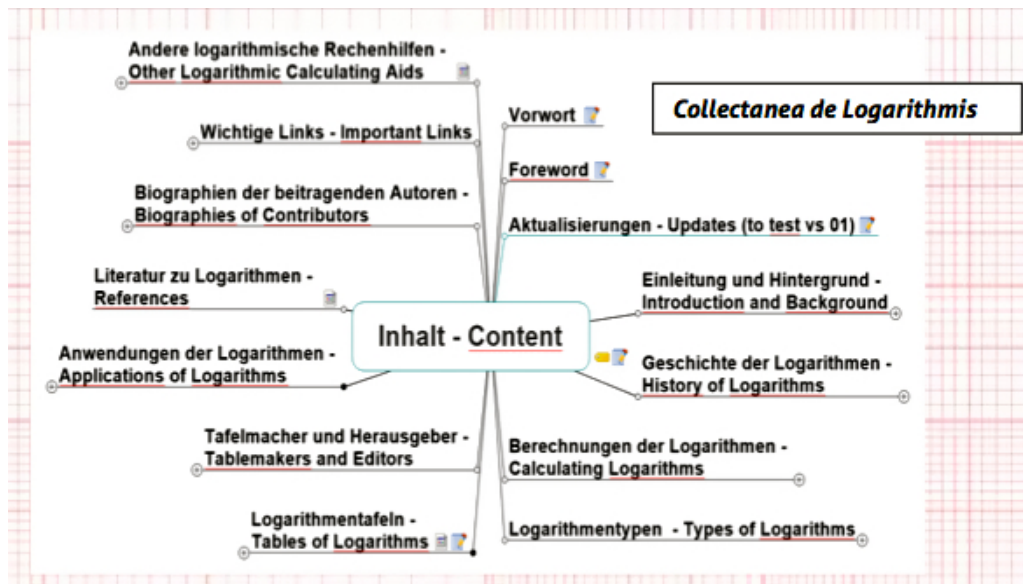
After researching the much-maligned *Lawrence I* became intrigued by another Indiana-based maker with Lawrence-like characteristics: Slide Rule & Scale Engineering Co. Sadly little is known or published about the company founded by G.L. Lockhart in 1930 or the slide rules they sold. Examples for concrete (sometimes with the name shortened to S.R. & S.E. Co.) and for brick & tiles have surfaced – see: www.sliderules.nl/index.php?p=slides&id_maker=196&id_slide=418#418 or the ISRM SR&SECO and Timeline webpages. If you know anything about the founder, the company, or any slide rules they made please contact: david.rance@xs4all.nl



Redi-Mix concrete slide rule by S.R & S.E. Co. (Rance web site)

From Klaus Kühn - Collectanea de Logarithmis

On the 400th anniversary of the calculating paradigm shift, *the logarithm*, Klaus Kühn has chronicled everything known about John Napier's invention of logarithm tables in a digital book in what he calls his *Collectanea de Logarithmis*. The bilingual German/English content of the Collectanea consists of more than 3200 entries representing umpteen articles, many tables and Internet links relevant to the logarithm.



This logarithmic “labour of love” took more than 10 years of research to collect and compile. The book includes a unique 121-page worldwide inventory of more than 3100 tables by the year they were first published, the author, the title, the publisher/city, the language and for many, a link to an online source. Nearly a quarter of the links are to 700 digitized original tables and most are downloadable. Some of the over 90 articles, 27 of these in English, have never been previously published or are not readily available anywhere else.

The sheer volume of the contents practically and financially precluded publishing the *Collectanea de Logarithmis* as a book. So it is only available digitally on a copy protected DVD. A once-off fee of 60 Euro – 50 Euro for OS-Members - (plus postage) is charged to cover the cost of the DVD, a USB security device to unlock the copy protection and annual updates to the *Collectanea*. Note that the DVD runs only in a Microsoft (XP/VISTA/Windows 7/8) environment. To order, contact Klaus via email. Klaus also welcomes any comments or enquiries.

Information from Klaus Kühn, Editor. email: napier2014@iasim.de

Winter Meeting March 1, 2014 in Las Vegas - Update



Plans for the OS Winter Meeting the weekend of March 1, 2014, have progressed extremely well. It should be a great meeting, as early registrations are proceeding at a record rate. We are asking everyone who is thinking seriously about coming to the meeting please register now so that we will be able to arrange sufficient facilities. Please [Register HERE](#) now.

Hotel Arrangements: We have made arrangements with The Baymont Inn (part of the Wyndham Hotel Group) at 4055 Palos Verdes Street, Las Vegas, NV 89119, which is only 3 blocks from the meeting site and one mile east of the Strip. Our group rate is \$48 per night (very reasonable for Las Vegas!). While

some attendees may wish to stay elsewhere in Las Vegas to be closer to the Strip, Richard Davis was able to negotiate this very favorable rate for us, and it will be nice to be able to be together. **To make reservations, please call the hotel directly at 702-473-6400 and select #5 Front Desk when prompted. Then ask for the Oughtred Society group rate (do not register online!).**

Group Meals: Optional group buffet dinners Friday, February 28 and Saturday, March 1 at the Baymont Inn, our conference hotel, in a private room. Please advise your choices by email to Dick Rose.

University of Nevada-Las Vegas: We are extending guest invitations to interested UNLV students and faculty. They should add an exciting dimension to the meeting. Physics Professor Dr. Bernard Zygelman will be our guest speaker on the subject of John Napier, celebrating the 400th year anniversary of his discovery of logarithms..

Sunday Event: For those who plan to remain in Las Vegas on Sunday, March 2, we are arranging a visit to Boulder dam. We will also arrange a breakfast meeting place before the field trip.

Questions and Suggestions: If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact meeting chair, Dick Rose, at rarose@rose-vintage-instruments.com

Meeting Registration: Please [Register HERE](#) if you have not already done so. Thanks.

***Combine a pleasure or vacation trip with a great slide rule meeting!
Information from Dick Rose, Meeting Chairman***

International Meeting IM2014 - Reminder



The Dutch Circle (KRING) has made the final choice for the old city of Delft as location for this year's International Meeting of Slide Rule Collectors, IM2014. Facilities have been reserved, and the announcement will be made soon. The conference will take place on Friday afternoon and Saturday, September 5 - 6. The city of Delft is about as old as Leiden, where the IM2010 meeting was organized four years ago. It too has charming canals, museums and other interesting places to visit. There is however a different flavor in the type of students in Delft, at the oldest Technical University in the Netherlands.

In the program of presentations there is still room for additional papers. The theme of IM2014 is "Turning and Sliding", but in a broad sense - so definitely not restricted to round and straight slide rules only.

I (your newsletter editor) plan to do a 6-day boat and bike trip in The Netherlands during the week before the meeting. Anyone interested in joining me, please let me know. The riding is easy, and the cost reasonable (c.\$1000 room, meals, bikes & guide included)

To submit papers for IM2014, please contact: ovpoelje@rekeninstrumenten.nl
Information from Otto van Poelje and your editor

Classic Slide Rules is a New Addition to the OS website

Ted Hume and Rod Lovett have teamed to produce a tabulation of [Classic Slide Rules](#) on the OS web site. The collection is in four classic categories – Historic Design, Most Popular, Top of the Line or Scarcest, and Specialty. Images and descriptive information are provided for each of the 147 rules in the collection. Ted & Rod welcome your comments and suggestions. See also [Rarities Gallery](#) on the Oughtred Society web site

New Members in January are

- Marc-Yvon Comeau, Massanutten, VA
- Timothy Howard, Albuquerque, NM
- Aubrey Keet, Campbell, CA
- Kent Myers, Norman, OK
- Raymond Nasir, Castro Valley, CA
- John Pederson, Chanhassen, MN
- Jacques Perregaux, Emmenbruke, Switzerland

- Wayne R. Pinnow, Edgerton, WI
Welcome to the Oughtred Society!
Information from Clark McCoy, Membership Secretary

Reminder to Renew Membership in the Oughtred Society

Visit the [Oughtred Society](#) website and select Membership in the main menu.

Upcoming articles in the Spring 2014 (Vol 23.1) Journal

- *B47 Slide Rule* by Bill Robinson
- *Chisel Cursors* by Clay Castleberry
- *Clark & Company* by Tom Wyman
- *Combined Slide Rules* by Panagiotis Venetsianos
- *HP Commemorative Calculators* by Otto van Poelje
- *Moinot's Stadia* by Richard Hughes
- *Paper Excise Rule* by Tom Wyman
- *Station Pointer* by Robert Sauer
- *UNIS - France: A collective Trade Mark* by Panagiotis Venetsianos
- *Writing - My Take* by Tom Wyman

Notable sales on eBay in January 2014

US Makers:

- 1) Dempster RotaRule (without magnifier) - sold on Jan.1 \$999
- 2) Pickett C19-T Microwave Transmission Slide Rule \$500
- 3) Pickett 4-ft demo N803-ES slide rule \$400
- 4) Pickett 7-ft demo 1010-ES slide rule \$350
- 5) K&E 20-inch surveyors slide rule, Model N4102 \$307
- 6) Pickett Hydraulic slide rule model N906-T \$200
- 7) K&E Deci-Lon 5-inch 68-1130 slide rule \$182
- 8) K&E 4160 Chemist slide rule (2 examples) \$134 & \$132
- 9) K&E 4082-3 Radio slide rule for Navy Training School \$126

European Makers:

- 1) Regle à calcul" réglettes multiplicatrices "de Genaille (c.1885) \$550
- 2) Rare Austrian Fromme circular surveying slide rule
With c.1.25-m long scale and magnifier (details below) \$450
- 3) Nestler Multimath Duplex Nr. 0292 slide rule \$175
- 4) Rare Swiss Hiltpold semi-circular slide rule \$163
- 5) Common Faber Castell 2/83N Novo-duplex slide rule \$140
- 6) Mark IV Pilot Balloon Slide Rule \$130

Asian Makers:

- 1) HAIYOU PAI (Seagull) 6531 Hyperbolic Chinese slide rule. \$308
- 2) Flying Fish 1002 Hyperbolic slide rule \$200
- 3) Sun Hemmi No.256 Electrical Communication slide rule \$135



Austrian Fromme Circular Surveyors Slide Rule c.1920. Sold on eBay in December 2013 for \$450. This slide rule has an OD of 45cm & a set of calculating scales having scale lengths of over 1-m. Made of metal with celluloid scale surfaces. In a heavy wooden case to protect it from damage in the field. Note the magnifying glass.

Information from your editor

On The Lighter Side

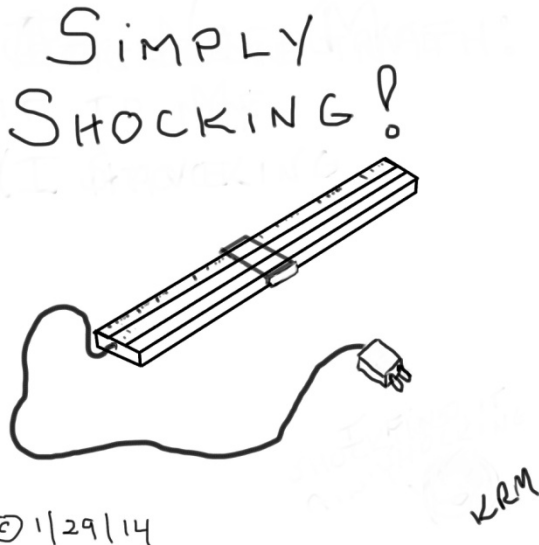


Rick was getting a tour of a Hewlett-Packard facility. His guide shows him a room where there's a bunch of old equipment — cathode ray tubes, punch cards, and lots of other outdated things. In one corner are two six-foot long slide rules that were designed for classroom use. Each has two hooks, and they were meant be hung at the top of the chalkboard for demonstration purposes — a teacher could use them to show students how the slides can be moved to perform calculations. Rick says to his guide, "Can I have those?" After hecking with some managers, the guide tells Rick that he can take them. . . .

So, Rick takes both of them, one for his own collection, and one for his brother. On a trip to Washington, DC, he goes to his brother's office at the Department of Defense, and on his shoulder he's carrying the demonstration slide rule. As he walks in the door, the security guard stops him. Gruffly, the guard asks, "What's that?". . . . "It's a slide rule," Rick says. "Let me see it," the guard says. When Rick hands it to him, the guard spends a few seconds inspecting it, and then starts repeatedly moving the slide back and forth. Rick is a little puzzled by this. "What are you doing?" Rick finally asks. . . . And the guard says, "Clearing the data!"

Edited from mathjokes4mathyfolks

Cartoon by Kate Matthews



Editor's Notes

Please send contributions to me by the 25th of the month. Make your messages short. Short contributions can be made longer without taking up page space by adding a link.

Ed Chamberlain, Editor of the OS Newsletter

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