



**THE  
OUGHTRED  
SOCIETY**

# Newsletter

May 1, 2014

## **Announcing**

### **The Oughtred Society's 2014 Annual West Coast Meeting .....**

You are invited to attend the ***Twenty-Third Annual Oughtred Society West Coast Meeting***, which will be held **Saturday, June 21, 2014**, at our usual location at the Computer History Museum, in Mountain View, California. Please note that the date this year will be June 21 and is not the last Sunday in June. Registration cost for the meeting will be \$50 and will include entry into the museum exhibits, coffee and muffins, and the usual catered lunch in the alcove just outside our meeting room. After the meeting, we have arranged to meet for dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory, 2107 Broadway St, Redwood City, CA 94063, which is 10 miles north on US 101 (15 min drive); directions from CHM will be provided. Registration for the dinner will be taken separately from the meeting and will feature a choice of three menu items at a cost of \$15 per person.

**The Computer History Museum continues to be enhanced and updated with many interesting displays and exhibits around computing and calculating.** These exhibits continue to make all visits to the museum a memorable one. Check out the Computer History Museum exhibits and online presentations at <http://www.computerhistory.org/exhibits>. Just as last year, we will be meeting on the second floor of CHM, with additional space available just outside the room for lunch during the meeting.

The meeting will feature displays of slide rule collections, an auction, buying, selling and swapping, speakers and presentations, and the opportunity to meet and talk with fellow slide rule enthusiasts, many of whom are experts in their areas of interest. Since one of our speaker's topics for this meeting will focus on pencil slide rules, members are especially encouraged to bring their pencil slide rule examples to this meeting. All attendees are encouraged, but not required, to bring slide rules and/or calculators to display and to sell or trade.

**Date:** Saturday, June 21, 2014

**Location:** Computer History Museum  
401 N Shoreline Blvd.  
Mountain View, CA 94043

**Schedule:**

**8:30 AM** – Doors Open  
**9:00-12:00N**-- Circulate among Displays and Items for Sale; Tour of Museum Exhibits;

**Speakers/Presentations:**

Subject: *"Pencil Slide Rules -- A Neglected Niche"* by Rodger Shepherd

Subject: *"Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin and the Eugene Dietzgen Company"* by Bob De Cesaris

**12:00N** -- Lunch  
**1:00 PM** – Annual Meeting  
**2:00 PM** -- Start of Auction  
**4:00 PM** -- Vacate Room  
**5:30 PM** -- Meet at Spaghetti Factory for Dinner

**Registration:**

Meeting registration fee is \$50; this fee includes lunch and refreshments but does not include the dinner at Spaghetti Factory after the meeting. Please note that since we need an accurate headcount for dinner, we are taking dinner registrations for Spaghetti factory separately at \$15 per person and include your choice of Pasta with Meatballs and Marinara Sauce, Baked Lasagna (with ground beef and pork), or Chicken Marsala. The meeting registration fee is used to pay meeting room charges, lunch, refreshments, table and other equipment rental, museum tour, and other meeting expenses. We also invite non-displaying significant others to attend for a registration fee of \$35.

- You may register for the meeting on the Oughtred Society's website.
- Or you may register by postal mail and send your fee by check or money order to:  
The Oughtred Society  
9 Stephens Court  
Roseville CA 95678

***Please indicate that you are registering for the West Coast Meeting, Mountain View, June 21, 2014.***

Upon receipt of your registration, we will send you an email of acknowledgement. In early June, you will also receive a final meeting packet containing complete detailed information a final agenda, and a list of attendees.

**Cancellation:** Registration can be cancelled without penalty before June 13, 2014. No refunds can be made after that date. If you have any questions or suggestions please email us at:

[oughtredsociety@comcast.net](mailto:oughtredsociety@comcast.net)

Clark McCoy  
Membership Secretary  
The Oughtred Society  
916 474-5286

*Information on the west coast meeting reported by Bob DeCesaris*

**News from the Dutch Kring .....** International Meeting IM2014 –Preparations by the Dutch KRING



for the international conference IM2014 in Delft, September 5-6, have resulted by now in 14 presentations promised, of which some already have been drafted. . . . The theme of IM2014 is “Turning and Sliding”, so you can expect a number of presentations (accompanied by papers in the Proceedings) about both circular and straight slide rules. . . . Examples of the first are the Ross Precision Computer type 1, LOGA discs for spinning and weaving, and a “Ray Tracing” disc by ALRO. Straight slide rules to be presented are the recently developed decimal-binary system

Leibnitz, a Dutch PTT special-purpose rule, Fuji school slide rules under various reseller names. Aircraft Performance Computers will be shown in many forms, both turning and sliding.

A number of mechanical calculators, too, will be presented, e.g. the Millionaire, the Maximator



Valorect, the Bresciano (1764) logarithmic curve plotter, and mechanical analyzers for static forces (NuPuBest). Also we plan to discuss methods for presentations and exercises with slide rules at schools. For more information and for the registration form, please visit [www.rekeninialen.org](http://www.rekeninialen.org)

*Report from Otto van Poelje*

**Past Oughtred Society Journals Are Available on DVD .....**



All past issues of the Journal of the Oughtred Society are now available in digital format on a DVD. The new DVD archive contains all Journal issues published since vol. 0, no. 0 in 1991. The DVD also includes three special publications: *The Slide Rule*, a reprint of the booklet published by Edwin Thacher; *Slide Rules in K&E Catalogs*, by Bruce Babcock; and *A Slide Rule Bibliography*, by Peter M. Hopp. Individual journals are presented as PDF files at high resolution. Price (including postage) for all OS members: \$95. Yearly updates for OS members will also be available for \$10. To order a DVD go to the OS website and click on the **Journal page** and pay for the disk via PayPal.

*Information from the OS web site as edited by your OS Newsletter editor*

**New Oughtred Society Members in April are .....**

Edward Kleckner, Hansville, WA, USA  
M. D. Gabbitas, Beauziac Aquitaine, France

**Welcome to the Oughtred Society!**

Tell your friends that joining the OS is easy & rewarding. Just visit the [Oughtred Society](http://Oughtred Society website) website and select Membership in the main menu.

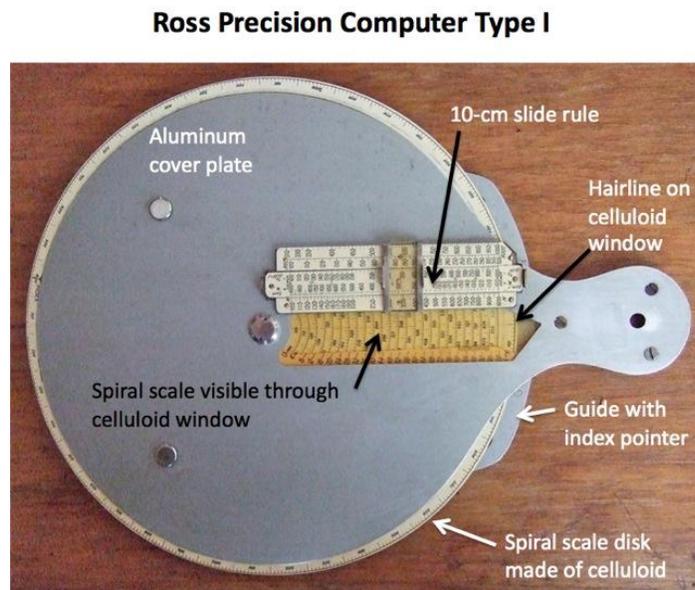
*Clark McCoy, Membership Secretary, reporting*

Upcoming articles in the Fall 2014 (Vol 23.1) Journal .....

- *The Death of the Slide Rule* by Robert James
- *Charles Hoare Slide Rules* by Tom Wyman
- *System Gruter* by Richard Hughes
- *My Slide Rules* by Bill Wayne
- *Analon Slide Rule* by Cliff Frolich
- *Pencil Slide Rules* by Rodger Shepherd
- *Collectanea de Logarithmis* by Klaus Kühn
- *Golding's Horse Power Computer* by Stephan Weiss
- *Combined Slide Rules* by Panagiotis Venetsianos
- *Aspect Ratios of Pictures* by Otto van Poelje

*David Sweetman, Managing Editor, reporting*

Information on the Ross Precision Computer Wanted .....



I am preparing an article on Ross spiral slide rules, and featuring the first variant that I all a Type I Ross Precision Computer. Like the Type II, which is well known to slide rule collectors, the Type I version has the same spiral scale that makes 25 windings to form a scale that is 9.14-m long. But the Type I version is much lighter in weight and has a thin metal plate covering the spiral scale. Only a relatively narrow window exposes a strip of the windings of the spiral scale. It appears that the Type I version was sold for a brief period from about 1915 to about 1920, and the Type II version from about 1920 to 1928. The example of the Type I version in my collection has the spiral scale printed on a **Celluloid disk**. But all literature for the Type I describes a version with the

scales engraved on a **German Silver disk**. . . . I have never seen such a version. Have any of the readers of this August newsletter seen the rare Type I version of the Ross Precision Computer with the spiral scale engraved on a German silver disk? Please respond to: <edwin\_chamberlain@valley.net>

*This message from your editor of the OS Monthly Newsletter*

## Notable sales on eBay in April 2014 .....



Ebay is a widely used source by OS members for buying (and selling) slide rules. At any one time, more than 6000 slide rules are posted for sale. Most do not get bids that result in a sale because of poor condition, being too common or being over priced. Still, in March, there were 42 gems that made it into collections. Each month your Newsletter editor searches through eBay sales for the gems that make collectors happy. Those listed below are notable for the month of March. . . . Your editor is also aware that there are OS members that sell slide rules from their web sites. I will feature their websites in future issues of this newsletter. . . . Note that 53 slide rules sold on

eBay for more than \$100 in the month of April. K&E 20-in Cox Duplex -**\$1414**

### **American Slide Rules**

Two new Devco pencil slide rules \$165 **\$82.50 ea.**

Picket Dual-Base 2-T slide rule w/case, box & instructions **\$112**

Pickett 110 ES circular slide rule with long spiral scale **\$114**

K+E Deci-Lon 10 slide rule #68 1100 **\$115**

K&E Decilon 68-1100 with case & instructions **\$115**

Pickett Fuller Police Traffic #1050 slide rule **\$115**

K&E Decilon 68-1130, leather case **\$120**

Teledyne Post Versalog II slide rule 44CA-60J, NIB **\$120**

Pickett N2-T Log Speed' slide rule **\$125**

Picket Douglas Sky Rule in leather case **\$140**

Pickett N3-ES N4M-ES (with magifier) **\$140**

Pickett Slide Rule Model N 3P ES **\$144**

K&E Decilon 68 1130 slide rule w/box & case **\$149**

RotaRule Circular Slide Rule By Boykin **\$150**

K&E Decilon slide rule **\$152**

Sexton's Omnimeter circular slide rule, instructions & box **\$154**

Keuffel Esser K&E 68-1100 Deci-Lon Slide Rule Boxed Set **\$158**

K&E 68-1749 20-in Merchants slide rule in presentation case **\$170**

K&E pocket Decilon slide rule **\$182**

K&E 68-1210 LL Duplex slide rule, NIB **\$200**

Pickett 525-ES StatRule **\$203**

K&E Analon 68 1400 D slide rule **\$214**

Pickett N15-T Hagler Hydraulic slide rule **\$250**

Pickett 600-ES Dual Base slide rule in Apoo Mission box **\$255**

Pickett N4P-ES Pocket slide rule **\$261**

Pickett Model 111-ES circular slide rule **\$265**

Ruxton Multi-Vider mechanical pencil/slide rule (lot of 6) \$1,625 (**\$271 ea.**)

Dempster RotaRule, Model A, with case & magnifying glass **\$370**

K&E 4102 stadia slide rule **\$630**

K&E Cox duplex 20-in slide rule **\$1414**

### European Slide Rules

Faber Castel 62/83N slide rule **\$105**  
Tavernier Gravet 28cm boxwood slide rule c1931 **\$113**  
Brass sector **\$123**  
Faber Castell 62/82 Pocket Slide Rule **\$120**  
Swiss Kern Stadia slide rule in heavy stainless steel **\$134**  
Edgell & Co. cased artillery slide rule, WWI model in heavy aluminum **\$134**  
Fowler Universal slide rule **\$140**  
Aristo Silde Rule 0972 Hyperlog **\$142**  
Tavernier Gravet electronics regle a calcul c1930 **\$147**  
Faber Castell 62/82 Pocket Slide Rule **\$160**  
French Calculigraphe circular slide rule **\$197**  
Charpentier Calculimetre Slide Rule in fair condition **\$200**  
Charpentier Calculimetre Slide Rule in fair condition **\$210**  
Fuller Type 1, bakelite model **\$238**  
Itallian ARICI 55 Concrete Calculator **\$306**  
Dring & Fage 4-fold Coggleshall with ivory slide **\$326**  
German Troeger cylindrical slide rule, 10-m scale length **\$363**  
Itallian ARICI 55 Concrete Calculator **\$396**  
Fuller cylindrical slide rule, type 1, bakelite, dated 1964 **\$428**  
British 2-ft Sliding Gunter slide rule, boxwood, **\$432**  
Faber Castell 2/84 Mathema slide rule **\$461**

### Asian Slide Rules

Sun Hemmi #257 Chemical Engr's slide rule **\$111**  
Sun Hemmi #154 20" Electrical Engr. slide rule w/2 cursors **\$285**

*Ed Chamberlain, your Newsletter editor, reporting*

### On The Lighter Side .....

#### **An Advertisement for K&E**



This cartoon reminds me of a slide rule story. Once long ago I purchased a K&E Log Log duplex slide rule from an elderly lady. After I asked where she got the slide rule from, she said that it was hers - that she was a civil engineer. And then she told me her story. In her younger days she was a liberal arts student at Cornell. One day in her freshman year she saw a good looking guy with a long leather case hanging from his belt. What is that she asked? He said it was a slide rule & that he used it for making calculations for his engineering courses. She was so pressed by the guy and his slide rule that she soon hanged her major to Civil Engineering, bought a slide rule for herself

and learned how to use it. . . . Later on she married the guy, and lived happily ever after!

***Ed Chamberlain, your Newsletter editor, reporting***