

4/1 Business Meeting Summary & Highlights

Announcements & Tip Session Highlights

- Announcements:
 - Follow/Join [FWBF LinkedIn Page Here](#)
- Tip Highlights:
 - Various members shared business dealings with others in the group
 - TK Herman: Starting new biz group ([The Halcyon Forum](#)) and also EOS Implementor; hit him up if you or others you know whom might be interested
 - Fritz Aichle shared the recent passing of Mick Parrott; [obituary here](#)
 - Tony Tranquill: Tony has plenty of sump pumps on hand to help with April showers and overstock of fixtures if anyone in need (cents on the dollar!)
 - Kyle Martin: New leadership structure at Ferguson (John Ferguson to Chairman / Kyle to CEO / Kate Virag new President); also reach out to Rich Ferguson...dealing with health challenges / could use some outreach:
 - Rich Ferguson [14012 Spring Hollow Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46814](#)
 - Rich@fai2.com / (260) 438-0220
- **Next Meetings:**
 - 4/8 Social Outing (was great!)
 - 4/15: Kristin Marcucilli sponsored speaker:
 - John McDonald, CEO of the NIIC (Northeast Indiana Innovation Community); "The New NIIC"
- **Drawing Winner:** Dr. Bill Cast!

Awesome Presentation by J. Kurt Schmidt: "A Brief History of Time Travel"

(AI-supported summary below, but [check out his interesting/visual presentation here](#))

- J. Kurt Schmidt gave a presentation on horology, titled "A Brief History of Time Travel," covering the history of time, its integration with flying, and his horology business. He flies a Boeing 787 on a Chicago to London route.
- **The Concept and History of Time:**
 - Timekeeping is not always accurate; wristwatches show an average time. There are multiple types: civil, solar, and sidereal. Daily time is solar mean time.
 - Timekeeping technology has progressed exponentially, not linearly.
- **Early Timekeeping (1200 BC - 6th Century):**
 - Around 1200 BC, Egyptians and Babylonians developed sundials and shadow clocks.

- In the 6th century, Greeks invented water clocks.

- **Medieval and Early Mechanical Timekeeping (600s - 1600s):**

- The medieval period used less accurate hourglasses and graduated candles.
- The first mechanical devices emerged around the 1200s, with the "verge and foliot" escapement developed in 1275. The oldest surviving clock using this mechanism is at Salisbury Cathedral (1386).

- **The Pendulum Revolution (1500s - 1600s):**

- Galileo proposed applying the pendulum to timekeeping in 1582.
- In 1656, Christiaan Huygens successfully did so, revolutionizing accuracy and allowing for the addition of a minute hand.

- **Horology in the 1700s and the Longitude Problem:**

- To solve navigational challenges at sea, the British government offered a prize for determining longitude, which required precise timekeeping on a ship.
- John Harrison solved this by creating a series of marine chronometers (H1 to H4), with H4 being accurate to within 5 seconds over 81 days.

- **Modern Timekeeping, Aviation, and GPS:**

- Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) became the standard for international air travel in 1957. It was later renamed Universal Time Coordinated (UTC) due to French objections, but GMT is still a common term.
- Pan American Airlines commissioned Rolex to create the GMT-Master watch to track both local and GMT time.
- GPS technology relies on time signals from a minimum of four satellites (out of ~33 in orbit) to triangulate position.
- Modern aviation GPS is accurate to 1-3 feet in terminal areas, with future systems expected to be accurate to less than one foot, making systems like ILS obsolete.

- **History and Mechanics of Mechanical Clocks:**

- Lantern clocks evolved into longcase clocks. Notable American makers include Seth Thomas, Ansonia, and E. Howard.
- A "fusee" is a cone-shaped pulley that equalizes power from a mainspring for consistent timekeeping.

· **A Horologist's Journey:**

- The speaker earned a master's degree from West Dean College, one of only five Americans to complete the program.
- He helped service the "Elizabeth Tower" clock (often mistaken for Big Ben).
- He discovered a rare Thomas Tompion clock, a "barn find" valued at around five million.
- He also restored a royal clock that chimes the time when a string is pulled.