



Chapter 52 Los Padres

Virtual Meeting Show & Tell April, 2020

Hello fellow members

Since we are confined to our homes by the Covid-19 pandemic and our regular meetings have been canceled, here is a *Virtual Meeting Show and Tell*.

Following is what several of our members have been up to.

Thanks to those who responded.

Phil Keys
President



1,500 Pounds More than Your iPod

Columbia, PA: Before you could carry thousands of songs in your pocket, there were CD players, cassettes, and eight-tracks. Before that, there were record players and gramophones. Even before that, there were orchestrans.

Click on the picture for a link to a video made by the National Watch & Clock Museum.

This is a nice clock that I purchased at the Black Forest Clock Show in Furtwangen, Germany many years ago.

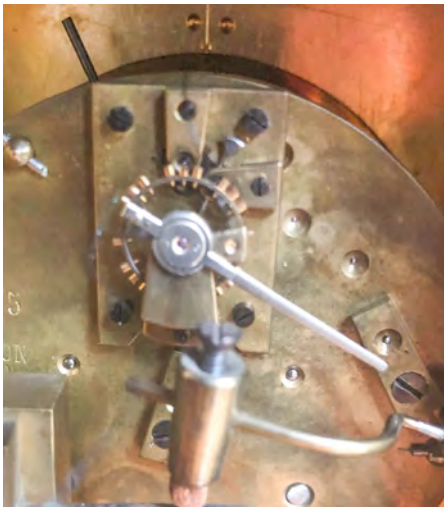
It has a very unusual movement which has operated flawlessly until today...

There is a small coiled wire that is located under a silver lever arm that looks like can be moved to slow or speed up the time.

The small wire has come loose and needs to be replaced.

Anyone out there able and willing to repair this ?

Jim Gerpheide 805-234-1036



As you know, I am an avid collector of rare and unusual Black Forest Clocks.

Last week a collecting friend of mine acquired this clock which is considered the King of them all!

Just 3 made and 2 of them tightly held in Museums.

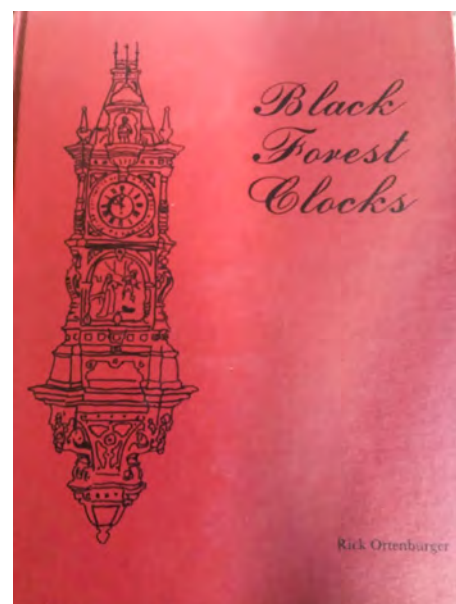
This clock is featured on the cover of the Rick Ortenburger's Black Forest Clock Book and also a big write up and photos in Justin Millers Black Forest Clock book.

This is a magnificent trumpeter clock made by Emilian Wehrle c. 1890- a famous clock known as the Sackingen or the Scheffel-Uhr and is regarded as the most elaborate architectural cased trumpeter ever made by the Where firm. The case was made by Augustine Tritschler and is 82.5 inches high!

On the hour, the trumpeter figure in the open balcony faces forward and plays a tune on the 9 horns. Following the trumpeters song, the music box plays one of its 6 tunes!

Incredible.

Jim Gerpheide



Instead of “What I did on my summer vacation”, its “What I did during my COVID isolation”.

In a timely coincidence, I acquired another “project clock” just before the pandemic broke. Found it on German eBay. Wasn’t too sure what it was, where it was made, or when. But in a good German book titled “Holzräderuhren” (wooden wheel clocks) I found a couple photos of gears that were made of wooden hubs with iron teeth. These gears were meant to be stronger than the all-wood wheels found in most wood-gearred clocks (both American and European).

The “project” part of this clock is that the dial, hands, weights, pendulum, bell, and alarm disc were all missing. And the reference books didn’t have any photos to go by. So the last couple of months have been spent in research, much of which was translating text from German to English. That task alone is a show & tell story of another time.

Today I packed for mailing a replacement dial board and alarm disc to go to Dial House II in Georgia, where they will be painted up to resemble (I hope) a 200+ yr old back-woods German (or Czech?) clock. Stay tuned.

Here are photos of the heart of the clock - the gears - of which only one is all-wood, and that one has an internal ratchet affair to set the alarm.

Best wishes to all fellow members, and society in general,

Jim Duncan



During our confinement I have not been bored or idle. Instead I have been servicing a cuckoo clock for a friend of a friend. Now cuckoo clocks are complicated with lots of levers, a music box and animated with a cuckoo bird that comes out of a door, whistles and dancers and other figures often with chain drive. Ed Serge told me that cuckoo clocks are Hitler's revenge,

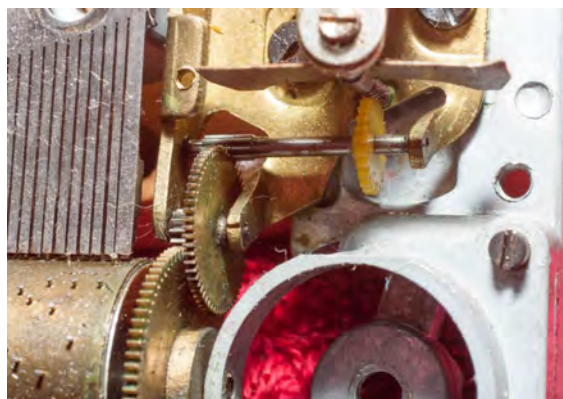
This is a one day cuckoo clock with dancers directly driven on top by a shaft through the movement. It was well worn requiring many bushings in the 1mm thick plates. The music box was also worn and the governor required two bushings. I had to pry apart and squeeze back together the brass arms to get the wheels and fly out and back in. I learned a lesson, never again will I do that!

Its all together now and I am adjusting the lever which warns and starts the music box. I have to reach into a cramped case to loosen and tighten the lever set screw with a screw-driver that barely fits.

The bent rod which swings the cuckoo out of and back in the door has an unusual drive. The second wheel which drives the gathering pallet has a knob on one of the spokes. When the wheel turns it pushes a solid metal disc on a cuckoo lock arbor which pivots in a pivot hole on the front plate and the other end slides in an el shaped cutout in the back plate. As the strike train runs, the lock arbor slides across and pushes on a dogleg on the cuckoo rod which pushes the cuckoo out. The rod then slides down the vertical arm of the cutout which locks the cuckoo out the door. When the striking is done, the rack stop lever has a hook which lifts up the cuckoo lock lever and pulls it back along the top of the cut-out, allowing the cuckoo rod to be pulled back in by its spring.

I have also been reading back issues of the NAWCC *Watch & Clock Bulletin*. There is so much good stuff in there.

Phil Keys



Some members may not have seen these.

I acquired the Maximus in December 2005. It was # 90 in Ashland's Cooksey Shugart catalog

Some years ago, I was looking on eBay and found the previous serial number (10587679) for sale. Couldn't afford it, but it would have been nice to have two consecutive watches in my collection, especially when they are such high grade stuff.

This example runs well and keeps good time.

The Ball was an estate sale find in August 2006 and it is in superb condition, only a little less than mint.

As evidenced by what is written on the envelope ("Parts unavailable for duration"), it sat unused for over 60 years --- in someone's drawer, I guess --- after being put away in 1943.

Made by Hamilton, it is a "999", the equivalent of a 992.

David O'Banion



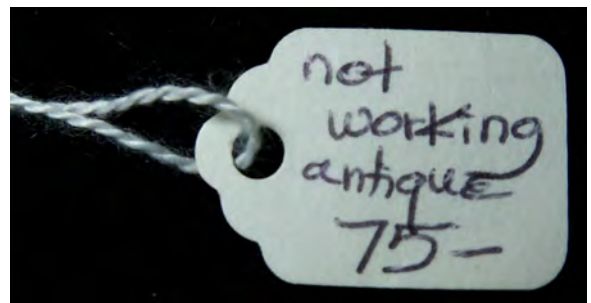
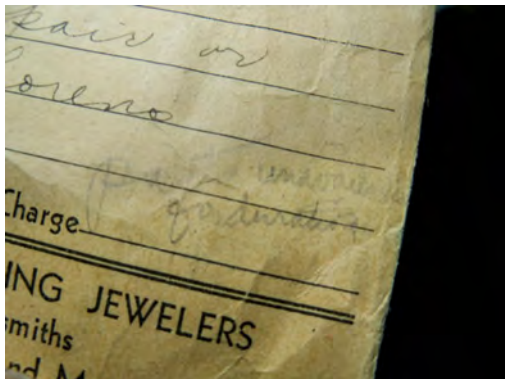


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FOUR SHIP'S BELL CLOCKS

By Bert Townsend

This *Show and Tell* article describes an unusual event in my tiny clock repair shop. There are four Ship's or ship's bell clocks under repair or now repaired at the same time.

The **first** is member Ed Musolff's Chelsea US Navy Deck or Wardroom clock, shown here without the movement. Based on the Ser. No. 450460 it was made between 1940 & 1944. This is as expected, a WWII ship's clock. Wouldn't it be fun to know which ship(s) it served on.



This time only time-piece needed to be cleaned and a few repairs such as a new balance staff which Marty Meyer has installed.

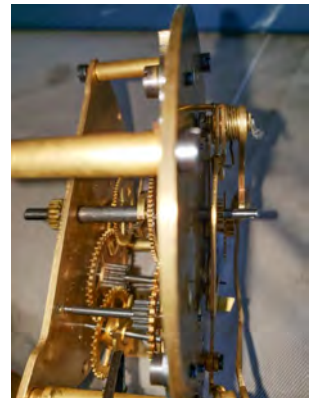
The **second** is an actual Chelsea ship's bell, owned by member Tom Jermyn. Based on Ser. No. 146201 this striker was made between 1920 & 1924. This beauty came back to life with a mere cleaning and adjustment. This is a large clock, with a 7.38" chapter ring.



The **third** is also a Chelsea ship's bell similar to the clock in the above photo but without the base. It is owned by Dr. R. Paul (Ret) of SLO who owns a fine collection of a variety of clocks. The Ser. No. 58804 indicates it was made close to 1909. It came to the shop because it wouldn't strike properly. It was found that the lifting lever was so worn that the strike released just enough to allow only 1 or 2 strikes. This was solved by building up the lifting surface. It also required 5 bushing to bring it back to good health. This ship's bell clock and its cousin above have essentially the same movement with slight variation. For example this one has a center shaft which will separate, making it easier to dismantle the movement. I could only wish the Seth Thomas described below had such a feature.

The **fourth** and final is a Seth Thomas ship's bell, home owner's version, patented in 1920. The movement is #115A, In his book, Seth Thomas Clocks and Movements, Tran Duy Ly quotes the Company's boasts about the movement, including "finest quality... heavy plates...gold plating...platform escapement...and patented, most reliable striking mechanism."

This movement was a challenge to clean up and repair because the center shaft has a pinion on both ends as shown in the adjacent photo. Not wanting to force either pinion off I had to take advantage of the half plate feature to get access to do the work. In addition the owner wanted to hold down the cost. Most of the grime I wiped off and pegged the pivot holes. But it required seven bushings to repair the gross wear.



The repairs were successful. Attached to the same email as this newsletter is a short video. Open it to see how wonderfully well this escapement runs.

Most of us know something about the Seth Thomas Clock Co, formed in 1809, became part of the General Time Instruments Corp in 1931 and lasted at least 150 years.

The Chelsea Clock Co. may not be so well known. The Company was formed in 1886, but was formerly known as Eastman CC, Harvard CC, and Boston CC. Ship's clocks were first produced in 1900. The Chelsea CC survives today.