



National Association of

**WATCH&CLOCK**  
Collectors, Inc.

NAWCC Chapter 52 - Los Padres

# Ball's Standard Superior Grade 936

[Link to Global Horology # 608](#)

Joel's gorgeous specimen!

[Jones and Horan # 607](#)

Lot # 173 in 6/21/09 sale

#601 is in the Donald Barrett Collection

[Link to NAWCC # 603 Discussion](#)

[603 dial/trademark discussion](#)

[Additional disc of 603 link](#)

[603 dial discussion link](#)

[603 trademark disc link](#)

Jeff's replacement dial on 603 was intended for a new product described in the Ball 1902 Factory Catalog. ( See page 59 of Ehrhardt's American Pocket Watch 1977 Price Indicator.)

"You will find the trade marks branded on the dials and driven in the plates of all the movements." ".....Official O.R.T Standard, official RR Standard and the Official 999 Standard watches are a new designed model, identically the same in grade finish and quality, excepting their respective trade marks,"

Much the same is discussed in Ad copy found in July 1900 P 423 of The Railway Master Mechanic

Furthermore, data from the US patent office places the earliest usage of the 999 Standard trademark at Oct 1, 1895 per a notarized statement from W.C. Ball. 603 was produced over a year earlier and like all the other known 936's , we would expect it to have the Webb C Ball, Cleveland O dial.

## WATCHES FOR RAILWAY MEN.

The Webb C. Ball Company, of the Ball Building, Cleveland, Ohio, are extensive watch manufacturers. They make a specialty of "building good watches for good railway men," at reasonable prices. They argue, with excellent reason, that, next to a good wife, a railway man's watch is his most constant and faithful companion. On the reliability of a railway man's watch his life frequently depends, as do many other precious lives intrusted to his care. With this fact held constantly in view, the company has built up a large trade in watches designed especially for the use of railway men. The company turns out seven models, under registered trademarks, as follows: Official R. R. Standard Watch, official B. of L. E. Standard Watch, official B. of L. F. Standard Watch, official B. of R. T. Standard Watch, official O. R. C. Standard Watch, official O. R. T. Standard Watch, official 999 Standard Watch. These watches are practically identical in grade, finish and quality, excepting their respective trademarks, which give each an individuality. The trademarks are branded on the dials and driven in the plates of all the movements. The watches are all made 17 and 21 jewels, with steel escapement wheels, single and double roller action and sapphire pallets. The firm do not sell movements or cases separately. All their watches are properly cased up and sold complete at an established uniform standard price, the object of this rule being to insure a perfect fit as between movement and case, and to further insure time keeping and stable value.

[Jeff's symposium 936 \(8630\)](#)

[Link to Rhett's 937 mvmt](#)

[NAWCC 936 Discussion link](#)

This little beauty arrived in the mail today. The scanner was kinder to the dial than the camera, but I think after I clean the dial it will look a little better. The movement is in fine shape and because the balance is moving, the pic doesn't show the balance screws very well. The case has some wear but not that bad. 25 yr and looks original to the movement, just the one set of screw marks. At least one of the hands is a replacement.

Rhett stated that he thought this was the most interesting of the Ball Hamilton's and as a proud owner of one of the about 12 known survivors out of approx 87 produced, I share his prejudice.







The watch below # 6105 was listed on Ebay by James Smith. the description as stated on ebay:

" You are bidding on a Ball Standard Superior Grade 936 pocket watch. It is believed they only made 87 of these starting in 1894, & only 8 are known to survive! It's the Ball / Hamilton 936 style. It is in well used condition & not currently running. The dial looks good, except a blemish at 1 o'clock, the crystal could use a polish, when we got this watch it was wound & ran for an hour then quit. the bottom of the case is worn through the gold. The movement # is 6105. The case is a Philadelphia Watch Case Co. & says "guaranteed 25 years". "



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