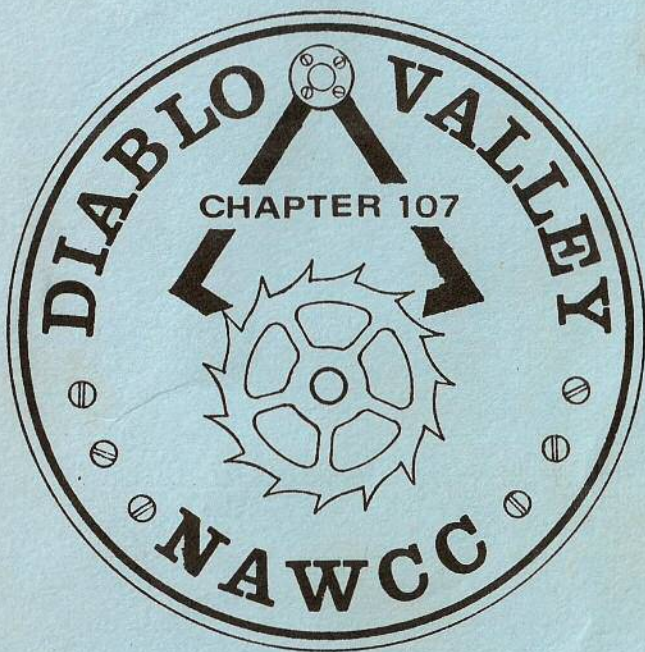

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107 BULLETIN # 15



FIFTEENTH ISSUE

1981

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH
AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

Diablo Valley Chapter #107
PO Box 23315
Pleasant Hill, California 94523

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....Royal English.....937-9605
V. PRESIDENT.....Karl Walker.....532-0984
V. PRESIDENT.....Bob Weck.....933-1418
SECRETARY.....Scott Grabill.....825-1984
TREASURER.....Jane Saville.....837-5589

DIRECTORS

Phil Russell.....229-2462
Bob Gustafson.....687-3389
Bob Wahrer.....462-4912
Wayne De La Roche.....939-6563
Tom Ciaramitaro.....687-0644
John Sanderson-Past President.....676-9188

CHAIRMEN

BULLETIN.....Dorothea Sanderson.....937-6272
MEMBERSHIP.....Don Giannini.....937-0189
REFRESHMENTS..Bud Ehler & Tom Ciarimitaro.....228-5387
MART.....Scott Grabill.....825-1984
DISPLAY.....Tom Hensley.....937-0605
LIBRARY.....Sandy Cuthill.....686-3144
PROGRAM.....Karl Walker & Bob Weck.....532-0984
FACILITIES.....Andre Aldenhuysen.....828-1306
NOMINATING/ELECTION
DRAWINGS.....John North.....676-9188
PHOTOGRAPHER...Gareth Busher.....686-5983
SUGGESTION BOX..Andre Aldenhuysen.....828-1306

(Where the chair is shared, the telephone number of the first name listed, is shown.)

CHAPTER MOTTO: Accent on Education

Statements of opinion or fact made by authors of articles appearing in the Chapter publications are to be accepted as the author's own; the Chapter assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or correctness of any statements of its contributors.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I know the President's Message is supposed to be an inspiring message on the state of the chapter, but not this time. I am so excited about the development of the programs for this year, that all else has taken a back seat. Bob Weck and Karl Walker have really laid the ground-work.

There are some things in progress which, hopefully, will make our chapter a really rich experience for all of us. First, I have been asking members to take a small support part on one committee or another. The object of this little exercise is to give everyone a piece of the action, and to give each chairman a little moral support (someone to talk with, if nothing else). Another of my efforts will be directed toward beefing up the participation in the mart. I have discussed this with several members who have not taken a mart table, and found that they are just like me----a little shy. Well, I hope to encourage myself and a good many others to overcome our shy ways, trot out some goodies, grab a corner of a mart table. By the way, did you know that swapping is probably more fun than buying and selling???

I have been in some members' homes during the past few weeks, and have discovered some very interesting clocks and watches. When I asked why I had not seen that in the chapter meeting display, the common answer was, "I didn't think anyone would be interested in that old thing". My answer was simple. If I wanted to see museum pieces, I would go to a museum. Bring it to the chapter display, and allow me to enjoy with you.

The next chapter meeting is going to be a whizzer...or horn...or buzzer---whatever. It has got to be one of the above. Come see for yourself.

Royal



ATTENTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Monday, April 27th, at Scott Grabill's house. Please telephone Scott at 825-1984 if you will not be able to attend.

Any member or Committee Chairman is welcome to come. Good and constructive suggestions are needed and appreciated.

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Diablo Valley Chapter #107 meeting schedule is the second Sunday in the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December. (The specific dates are: April 12th, June 14th, August 9th, October 11th, and December 13th.

Our December meeting is devoted to election and installation of officers, mart, display, and "Pot Luck" luncheon and social.

* * * * *

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS !!!!!

Mervin Grabill
John Richard
Karl Von Mecklenburg
Robert Zimmerman



Glad to have you as members in our chapter.

ATTENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, SECRETARY AND CONTRIBUTORS TO THE BULLETIN.

DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE.....May 9th, 1981

MEETING DATE: April 12, 1981

Mart set-up: 11:30 to 12:00
Mart Opens: 12:00 Noon

Meeting Begins: 1:00pm

DISPLAY THEME: HOME PROTECTION DEVICES

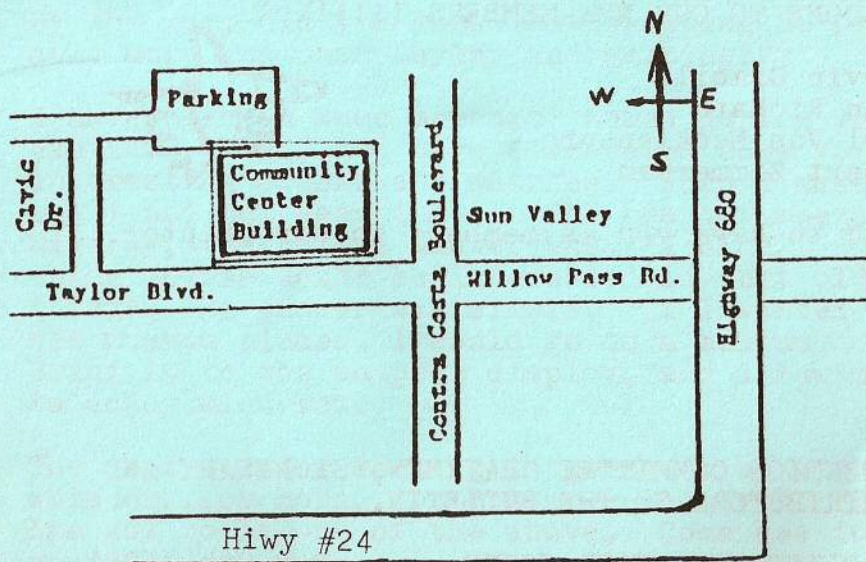
PROGRAM: Iron and Iron face clocks

Dues: Chapter members \$15.00 (includes Refreshment donation)

Refreshment donation \$1.00 non-member (kids free)

Mart: FREE!

PLACE: Pleasant Hill Recreation Center



RESTORING ENAMEL WATCHES

Basic ingredients for restoration of enamel watches in need of minor repair:

2 part, clear drying epoxy.
an adequate selection of oil or water color pigments to mix with epoxy.
an eye for color.
patience and a steady hand.

Clean surface to be restored thoroughly of dirt, oil, grease etc. Mix epoxy and add pigment to match area being restored. (Some experimentation is needed here. Some colors change slightly as they dry, so you may want to allow samples to harden before applying to the watch.) Carefully float mixture into damaged area. Fill to a level even with original enamel. (Epoxy may shrink slightly, so take this into consideration.) Allow to dry and harden in covered area to keep dust and lint from settling on the surface. Some low heat will speed the drying process. Excess or overrun can be removed with a sharp razor blade, or nail polish remover.

Good Luck!

D. Levison

Don Levison

FOR SALE

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN IS FREE TO OUR MEMBERS OF DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107. WE WILL ACCEPT ADVERTISING FROM NAWCC MEMBERS OUTSIDE OUR LOCAL CHAPTER AT A FEE OF \$5.00 1/2 PAGE, AND \$10.00 FOR A FULL PAGE. SEND YOUR ADS TO DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107, BOX 23315, PLEASANT HILL, CALIFORNIA 94523

MEMBERSHIP IN OUR CHAPTER IS \$15.00 per YEAR.

Looking for a long case clock????

Call John North 676-9188

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Use your bulletin for advertising. If it is going to be a good medium of exchange, we must have advertising. It can only be effective with willing buyers and willing sellers.

* * * * *

Large light oak Ansonia "General" in good condition. \$ 2500.

Ansonia 3 pc. set. The clock has a statue of Hermes and has an exposed escapement \$550.

I am reducing my collection and have many nice American clocks (spring wound and weighted) as well as English, French and German clocks. I have a nice Ansonia Santa Fe, some round galleries, and some Banjo's.

Call 415-228-6006 Karl Von Mecklenburg

FOR SALE

American and European watches. French Mantle clocks, English Skeletons, Vienna Regulators.

Don Levison 567-4555

* * * * *

Beginners and experienced clock repairmen will find something in:

"The Best of J. E. Coleman:Clockmaker"

Regularly priced at \$30.00...Club members \$28.00

Scott & Lissa 284-4720

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The first annual Clock, Watch, and Music Box Show and Sale is on schedule. The reservations for tables are beginning to come in now and we hope that the rest will be filled by May first.

For more information, call Dorothea Sanderson, Karl Walker (Oakland) or Scott Hampton (the Olde Tymer), or write Walker & Sanderson, PO Box 3304, Walnut Creek, Cal. 94598

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WANTS

I need a Seth Thomas #2 Regulator or similar one wt. American clock.

Leon Jaussaud 825-5836

* * * * *

Grandfather movement - 8 day with or without dial plate ca. 1850 or before. Prefer with sec. and calendar hands. call Bob Prochnow 449-5956

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High quality, complicated, beautiful American, English and European pocket watches and wrist watches.

Don Levison 567-4555

* * * * *

Clockwork mechanical dolls and toys!

Karl Walker 532-0984

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HELP WITH YOUR WANTS!

I will be on the East Coast until Mid 1982.... If I can help you locate that special American clock (s), let me know.

David L. Morgan
Box 6078
Bridgewater, Twp., New Jersey

* * * * *

"Shop Regulator" case or parts thereof..especially top and/or bottom.

Scott Grabill 825-1984

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I have just finished reading Karl Kochmann's book which is about the Hamburg American Clock Company. (Who among us has not seen the crossed arrows trademark on a back plate?) I think a few words about what the book is not are in order. It is not hard bound, nor full of color plates. It is not complete (the company made over three thousand models in their history). It does not have a big name publisher, and it is not what has come to be called, a "coffee table" book.

It is, however, the work of a man who wishes to record and pass on to fellow horologists, an important piece of relatively modern clock manufacturing history. There are many books dealing with the "greats": Thompion, Harrison Willard, and Breuguet, to name a few, and their struggles do provide romantic reading. Karl finds equal romance in the struggles of turn of the centry, mass production, German clock makers.

Karl has devoted a good deal of his life recording information on the German and Austrian clocks, clockmakers, logos, trademarks, etc. Much of the information he has gathered would be lost to both American and German clock collectors, without his efforts.

Karl gave the first program of Chapter #107, and has donated a copy of each of his books to our library. Look around at the April meeting, and you will see him at his mart table with his books, eager to talk to anyone about German, Austrian, Black Forest clocks, or the life of the Cuckoo!


John & Dorothea Sanderson

General Description:

Case: Open Face _____ Hunting _____ Other _____
Case No.

Type Metal: Brass _____ Nickle _____ Gold Fill _____
Gold Plate _____ Solid Gold _____ Carats _____
Silver _____ Platinum _____ Other _____
Size: 18 _____ 16 _____ 14 _____ 12 _____ 8 _____ 6 _____ Other _____

Manufacturer:

Serial No. _____

Type Movement: Key Wind _____ Stem Wind _____
Other _____

Movement: Nickle _____ Guilt _____ Brass _____
Special Metal _____

Escapement: Lever _____ Detent _____ Duplex _____
Chronometer _____ Pin Lever _____ Cylinder _____
Other _____ No. of Jewels _____ Kind _____

Complicated - Describe: _____

Watch Dial: Single Sunk _____ Double Sunk _____
Triple Sunk _____ Porcelain _____ Glass _____ Metal _____

Special Function: Time Hr. _____ Minute _____
Second _____ Strike _____ Repeats _____ Moon Phase _____
Automation _____ Up/Dn Indicator _____ Other _____

Ownership and Value: Date of Purchase _____
Estimated Value _____ Appraisal _____
Appraisal Date _____ Appraiser _____
Personal ID _____ Location _____

Yen Kwan

FROM YOUR CHAIRMEN....

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

I'm sorry to report that we have about 18 members who have not yet renewed their 1981 membership. Our chapter by-laws state that anyone who fails to renew membership by the February meeting will no longer receive our Bulletin. Once they have renewed, they will again receive the Bulletin. The halting of the Bulletin is not meant as a wrist slapping, but as a necessary cut off point.

We very much hope to be seeing these people again. I feel we have the best chapter in the NAWCC, and we all want to see it continue to grow. I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

Don Giannini

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DISPLAY CHAIRMAN

Hello fellow Diablo Valley Chapter members! My name is Tom Hensley, and I am your new Display Chairman. I am green, but will try my best to do an adequate job as chairman.

Our display theme this month is iron or iron faced clocks. If it attracts a magnet, then bring it! We will ask you to give a short discussion about the clock....your clocks history, unique features, etc. See me when you bring your clock so I can get your name and get to know your clock. I'll be by the display table with bald head and name tag.

TOM HENSLEY

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Messrs George Kane and Rick Quintero, two independent businessmen specializing in systems for home protection, will discuss and demonstrate systems for both the do-it-yourselfer, and the person requiring professional installation.

They will have displays, mock-ups, working models and prices

Bob Weck and Karl Walker

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SILENT AUCTION

Once again, we'll feature a silent auction. One new feature will be a minimum increment of \$.50 in bidding.

Scott Grabill

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REFRESHMENT

I wanted to thank Brigit Sanderson for the help she gave at the Christmas social. She did a good job and it wouldn't have moved as smoothly without her help. Thank you Brigit.

Althea Corey (Expiring Chairman)

Anyone with suggestions for good buys on refreshments....contact the refreshment chairman.

THE SAGA OF THE AMERICAN CLOCK---Part II

"The sun does not always rise on English soil." 18th century beginnings.

Without doubt, the clockmaking sun did rise on English soil in the 17th century. With the advent of Christian Huygens (Dutch) pendulum in 1657, the English Worshipful Company of Clockmakers launched on an illustrious career of making fine bracket and tall clocks that would put them in a pre-eminent position throughout most of the 18th century. It is not known precisely when clock production began in America, and it is presumed that the first, so-called, clock makers were actually maintainers of city (tower) clocks or repairmen of English clocks and watches owned by the more wealthy colonists.

By mid-18th century, however, clocks were being produced in the major colonial centers, Boston and Philadelphia. It is not important here to mention names as, I suspect, Chandlee, Cottey and Rittenhouse are all documented, as well as possible, in other more pretentious tomes. At first, clockmakers produced all and bracket clocks in English style with fine 8 day brass movements made from English materials and housed in fine cases of imported mahogany and styled in the current Chippendale modes (scroll and bell tops). It is not to be forgotten, however, that the new colonists were not all Englishmen, nor all sophisticated gentry accustomed to the finer city culture of even Boston or Philadelphia. But it is from this ragged breed of non cultured Yankees that our real heritage of clockmaking begins.

The English would have called it an adulteration, we Yankees deemed it a necessary departure from the finer 18th century Chippendale styles in case design and materials of construction. English society of the 1760's demanded the finest imported veneers for their furniture pieces, especially mahogany of Honduras and

Puerto Rico. The uncultured, but astute American was beginning to discover the beauty of native maple, the richness of cherrywood, and the warmth of pine, and the beauty they gave to a less than elegant home. These woods at once leant themselves to casemaking, but to cases of a more simple style, without ornate finials, and cresting demanded by the English Chippendale style.

In provincial Pennsylvania, clockmakers designed their clocks after ethnic German prototypes of their past heritage, with simple wood grained designs often casing an old Black Forest wagon-wall movement. In New York, the Dominy family created brass works for tall clocks of a totally individualistic design, often only timepieces with single hand and alarum. In Connecticut, the Cheney family of East Hartford began to produce cheaper movements of wood; at first, 30 hour models in tall cases with fine brass dials, but later, simpler varieties with painted or paper glued dials. Though crude and hand cut, these prototypes would be examples upon which the fledgeling American clock industry would depend for its existence for several decades.

From these simple beginnings, America had begun to express itself individually; its Yankee ingenuity that was to become our remarkable heritage, and that would prove itself so handily early in the next century.

Next Issue: Beauty in a fragile balance, the age of culture and revolution.

Respectfully submitted

Dorothy Glenn "the Damned Yankee"

FROM YOUR CHAIRMEN - Cont'd

Mart tables are now free of charge!! You can't beat the price. Bring those bargains.

Last months silent auction was a tremendous success. It will be back for a command performance. This service is also FREE.

Here's how it works----
Bring your item in and fill out a form stating your minimum price. Then let them battle over the bids until the bell goes off.

Scott Grabill

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LIBRARY CHAIRMAN

This is budget time and I have put in my budget for 1981. I have included money for new books and would really like some suggestions as to what you, the membership, think we need. Put your suggestions in the suggestion box and let me hear your thoughts.

At our last meeting we had a donation from Karl Kochmann of his new book. We thank you Karl and will be waiting for the next one.

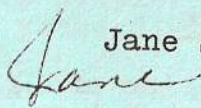
Sandy Cuthill

The budget that was approved at the meeting on March 12, 1981 is as follows:

Bulletin	\$700.
Library	115.
Refreshments	167.
Program	20.
Mart	32.
Treasurer	5.
Membership	15.
Display	0
Photography	48.
Facilities (estimate)	150.
	<u>\$1,252.</u>

Financial status as of 3-16-81. Cash on hand \$937.26

Although additional money will be available to us through new memberships, we will have to find new ways of raising money, or cut back where ever possible

 Jane Saville, Treasurer

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SECRETARY

The February meeting featured a talk on Railroad Watches by Roger Wilcox and John North. A rather "over used" term was exceptionally defined.

Scott Grabill

THE MARINE CHRONOMETER MAN.....Part VI

The Harrisons took no official part in the 10 month Observatory test of the four machines. Maskelyne, as Astronomer Royal, was in charge. From the beginning H-4 showed the large gaining rate of $19\frac{1}{2}$ seconds per day. Unfortunately since the rate was not uniform, Maskelyne was forced to conclude that the watch could not be depended upon to find the longitude. The irony of this was that if the $19\frac{1}{2}$ seconds rate had been applied, results would have been equivalent of winning the longitude prize on four of six voyages of the duration set down by the Act of Queen Anne. Harrison, with some justification, claimed that he had not enough time to adjust the watch after reassembly! Maskelyne was unimpressed.

The Board now turned to the question of proving that the watch could be reproduced, and changed their earlier decision. Kendall and Harrison were both to try their efforts, Kendall to reproduce one and Harrison two (one of the conditions to qualify for the prize). Kendall had the loan of H-4 while Harrison was to work from the drawings.

Two and a half years later, Kendall completed his copy known as K-1 (see illustration), but stated that the parts were too expensive to come within reach of the ordinary seaman, and thus it was not fit for generally determining the longitude. Upon discussing the matter with the Board, they authorized him to make an entirely new watch without expensive parts, and simplified "so as to come into general use at sea".

Now with Kendall's K-1 completed and being tested, the board put pressure on Harrison to complete his two duplicates. They approached Parliament for the purpose of introducing legislation denying Harrison the remain-

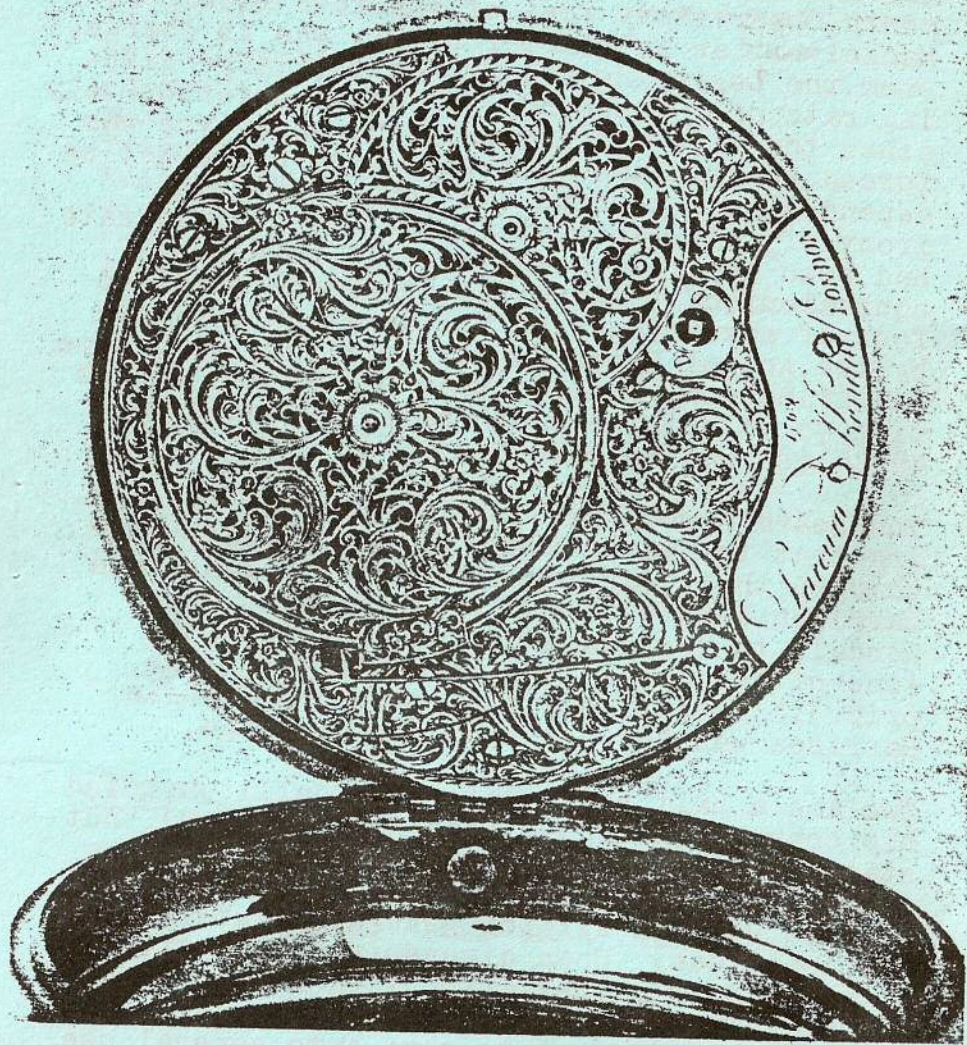


FIG. 25 The back plate of Larcum Kendall's K.1, which was made as a mechanical duplicate of Harrison's prize-winning H.4, and was ordered by the Board of Longitude to find out whether a workman, other than Harrison, was capable of making a successful longitude watch. As can be seen the ornamentation on K.1 is very fine, and is even more elaborate than that on H.4; the dials and cases of the two watches are virtually identical. K.1 is exhibited at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London.

ing £ 100,000. Unless he could complete the two within 5 years. This time limit seems most reasonable in view of the fact that he would be 82 at its expiration. Harrison did not see it that way. The fact that he had first claim to the remaining prize if he could prove the watch could be easily duplicated did not mollify him (H-5 was, in fact, almost completed).

Complicating the whole picture was the appearance of the famous John Arnold. John Arnold was a skilled clockmaker by this time. He had offered to George III in 1764, a ring watch which was 1/3 of an inch in diameter, and was a repeater, a feat which received much publicity. Incidentally, Kendall's K-2 accompanied Captain Bligh on his famous voyage on HMS Bounty.


Finally, at age 79, with his eyesight failing and in bad health, Harrison completed H-5. He knew he could not complete still another watch, but if he didn't he could not claim the remaining prize money. Further appeal to the board was useless....he well knew how they stood!

End of Part VI (to be cont'd)

John Sanderson

Watch collectors - watch your insurance rates! The rates per thousand dollars of coverage vary from company to company, and the premium charge for the amount on your dwelling may not be the determining factor. Often the companies who advertise their low rates (generally the direct writers) may indeed have low rates for the "ordinary" needs, but may have higher than average rates for jewelry and watches. In fact, the higher rate charge for your watch schedule may push your total homeowners insurance cost into a higher than average level. The rates for jewelry (which include watches) range from \$11.70 per \$1,000. worth of insurance to \$22.00...quite a range! If you keep your collection in a safe deposit box, cheaper rates are available (as high as 80% discount), but there is no coverage if you remove any items from the box without first getting the company's permission. Burglar alarms can also reduce rates in some companies, and the more sophisticated the alarm, the lower the rate.

Now, if you have really exotic pieces, you may have to place your insurance with Lloyds of London who will insure almost anything, where a rate between \$40.00 and \$50.00 per thousand is not uncommon.


Dorothea Sanderson

Boris Godunov, hero of the opera of the same name, was czar of Russia in 1600. He succeeded Ivan the Terrible who had two children, one of whom was an idiot, and, allegedly, murdered by Ivan. The other, Dimitri, was reportedly killed at age 8 at Boris' instigation. Dimitri, however, appeared to claim the Czar's throne at approximately age 20. He claimed a peasant lad had been murdered in his place, and he had been spirited away.

Dimitri, the Pretender, became Czar and married a Polish princess by proxy in 1605. Here is a description of some of the wedding gifts as told by a contemporary account: "There were crimson velvets from Venice. satins of all colors, brocades embroidered with gold and silver, necklaces, pendants, and bracelets of rubies and emeralds, crosses of sapphires, and bejeweled pieces of statuary.

A pelican of topaz accompanied a Neptune and Diana. A ship done in pearls swam on a sea of Silver waves. A golden ox opened its belly to shower forth a heap of diamonds. And do include the spectacle, an elephant of gilded silver was brought in, which carried in place of a howdah* an elaborate clock which played music with trumpets and flutes and presented scenes with people who strolled about.

* The seating arrangement carried on the back of an elephant.


John Sanderson



* * * * *

Although John North's main hobby is clocks, the latest program on the History of Railroad watches was a fascinating subject. It gave the audience an insight to the historical background on Railroad watches.

The Diablo Valley Chapter should be very pleased at having talented and dedicated people among the membership who freely exchange knowledge about historical timekeepers.

Karl Kochmann

SUGGESTION BOX



Folks, remember that the Suggestion Box is for your benefit. It appears at every meeting for your use so that you can be heard at our Executive Committee meetings. The suggestions from the box are always discussed, and a report made in the Bulletin or announced at the next meeting.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a tour to the Black Forest in the spring of 1982. The group will be limited to a maximum of 38 people so early action is suggested. For details on the tour, see Karl Kochmann at the next meeting.

Karl Kochmann

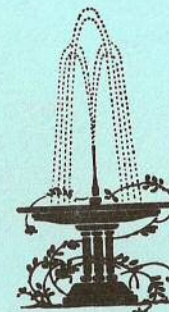
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One of our newest members, Tom Kochmann, is in Denver Colorado studying advanced watch & clockmaking under Master Watchmaker, Archie Perkins. We wish him good luck, and a speedy return to chapter activities in the fall.

* * * * *

Karl Kochmann is teaching a clock repairing class at Loma Vista School in Concord. Repairing, bench practice, bushing, lathe work, and gear cutting. There are openings available for the 10 week course which meets every Tuesday from 7:00 to 10:00 pm.

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

A review of the annual budget printed elsewhere in the Bulletin will show that the largest part of your dues dollars is devoted to the printing and mailing of your Bulletin. With postage due to go up again, the cost of the Bulletin will be even higher in the near future.

There are not many ways of reducing the cost of the Bulletin...one would be to reduce the size by 2 8½ x 11½ sheets (which in this issue would remove 3 major articles). The other would be to go to 3rd class mailing. I don't think much needs to be said about 3rd class mailing except that the Bulletin would be anywhere between 4 and 10 days to get to you if it arrived at all!

The only other possibility we have is to raise additional money to support the cost of the Bulletin. Although there is some "fat" in the Bulletin budget anticipating price increases throughout the year, there is not much!

If anyone has any ideas about raising money or cutting costs, I would appreciate your suggestions either via the Suggestion Box, mail, or see me at the next meeting.


Dorothea Sanderson

