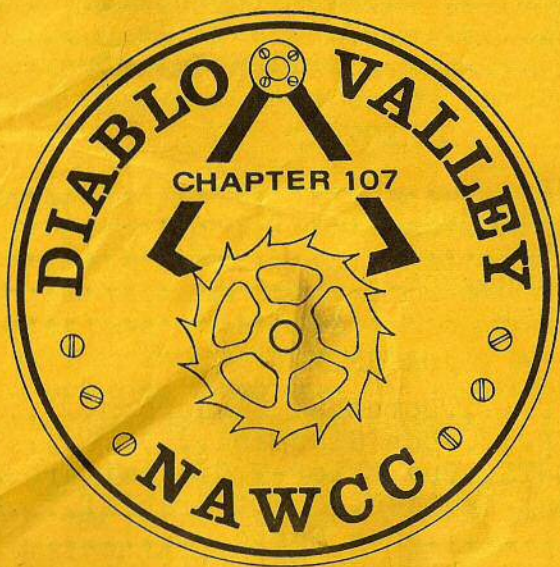

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107 BULLETIN # 21



TWENTY-FIRST ISSUE

APRIL 1982

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND
CLOCK COLLECTORS

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

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....Phil Russell.....229-2462
 V. PRESIDENT.....Fred Cuthill.....686-3144
 V. PRESIDENT.....Bob Prochnow.....449-5956
 SECRETARY.....Jane Saville.....837-5589
 TREASURER.....Marilyn McCartney..939-8409

DIRECTORS

Bob Wahrer.....462-4912
 Wayne De Laroche.....939-6563
 Jay Hinkle.....837-6592
 Andre Aldenhuysen.....828-1306
 Warren Hampton.....944-9380

CHAIRMEN

BULLETIN.....Dorothea Sanderson.....937-6272
 MEMBERSHIP.....Don Giannini.....937-0198
 REFRESHMENTS..Bud Ehler-T.Ciarimitaro.228-5387
 MART/Silent Auction..Scott Grabill...825-1984
 DISPLAY.....John North.....676-9188
 LIBRARY.....Sandy Cuthill.....686-3144
 PROGRAM...Fred Cuthill/Bob Prochnow..686-3144
 FACILITIES.....Andre Aldenhuysen.....828-1306
 NOMINATION/ELECTION..W. Delaroche.....939-6563
 DRAWING.....Shelly Bergman.....838-7509
 PHOTOGRAPHER...Gary 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 *****

The meeting on February 22 of the Executive Committee and the Committee Chairpersons was very productive and the outlook for our Chapter is excellent.

I am very pleased that the annual dues were not increased and will be adequate for our Chapter 1982 operations. The 1982 budgets presented by the Committee Chairpersons have been approved as well as the programs for our coming meetings.

The Program Chairmen have done a very fine job in selecting programs for 1982. A preview of the 1982 programs was presented and was well received by the joint Committees. The high quality programs which the Diablo Valley Chapter have established will continue to be educational as well as entertaining. You can help support the programs by bringing timepieces for the Program Display. We also encourage your bringing timepieces for exhibit.

We have agreed to be one of the Tri Host Chapters who will sponsor and put on the 1984 Western Regional Clock and Watch Meeting in San Jose. Those participating with us will be the Dr. Stephens Chapter of San Francisco and the De Anza Chapter of San Jose area. This will be our first participation as a Chapter in a Regional or National meeting. We are not participating at the Western Regional to be held in Sacramento in September.

I want to encourage your use of the Bulletin. Write special articles about watches or clocks and, for free, put in an ad for timepieces you want or those you have for sale.

We are continuing to look for another meeting room - no results yet. Also we need to be able to borrow (or accept a donation) of a Kodak or ? slide carousel plus a cassette playback. Any offers?

Remember the April meeting is on Sunday the 4th of April, the week before Easter Sunday.

Bring items to sell at the MART or the Silent Auction. See you on April 4th.

Phil
 Phil Russell
 President

ATTENTION--EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT THE HOME OF FRED AND SANDY CUTHILL. THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVEN'T BEEN TO SANDY AND FRED'S WILL HAVE A REAL TREAT IN STORE FOR YOU. SO DON'T MISS IT!

THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 686-3144. LET THEM KNOW IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT, AND MOST IMPORTANT, SEE THAT SOMEONE ELSE HAS YOUR PROXY. CHAIRMEN AS WELL AS BOARD MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO COME...INDEED, ARE URGED TO COME. SEE YOU THERE!

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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 4th (this year the exception since Easter falls on the second Sunday) June 13th August 8th, October 10th, and December 12th.

Our December meeting is devoted to our Pot Luck luncheon and social.

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A T T E N T I O N

Deadline for the June issue will be the fifth of May. Send your articles to the Box number or give them to me at the April meeting. Board members can give them to me at the Executive Board Meeting.

What happened to you watch people! I won't mention any names, but one of you promised me an article!!! Where is it!!!

MEETING DATE: APRIL 4TH 1982

MART Set-up: 11:30

MART opens: 12:00

MEETING BEGINS: 1:00

Display Theme: ORIENTAL CLOCKS

PROGRAM: INSURANCE: Clearing up the mystery!
All questions welcome - Clock related
Of Course!

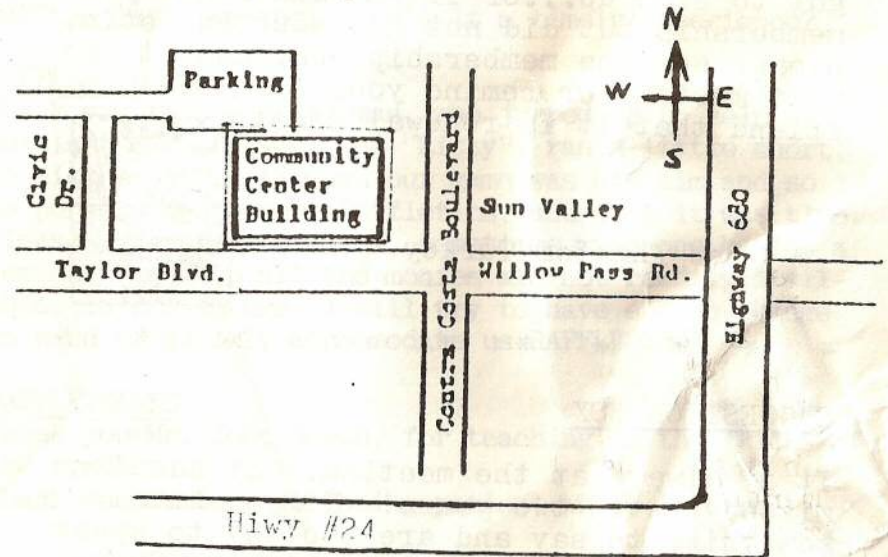
Question and Identification -
Dorothy Glenk and Royal English

Silent Auction

Dues: Chapter members \$15.00 (includes refreshment donation. (kids free)

Mart: Free!!!!!!!

At: Pleasant Hill Recreation Center
Civic Drive
Pleasant Hill, Cal.



FROM YOUR CHAIRMEN

DISPLAY CHAIRMAN

Bring your oriental clocks in April, those made in or made for the Orient. If we're lucky, someone might bring a Japanese stick clock, but any Oriental clock is o.k. Please be ready to tell a little about your clock, interesting features, how you got it or stories about its past. REMEMBER those who bring one or more display pieces receive a free drawing ticket as a little "Thank-you" from the Chapter.

John North

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MEMBERSHIP

Those who did not renew their Membership in February did not receive the April Bulletin. If you know of anyone who forgot to sign up...or if you did renew your membership but did not get your Bulletin, please see the membership chairman at the next meeting or remind your forgetful friend that it is renewal time!



The Phantom Turkey

* * * * *

SUGGESTION BOX

It is always at the meeting. It hasn't missed one in two years! If you have something to say and are too shy to speak out in the meeting, say it via the Suggestion Box. We will acknowledge it here in the Bulletin.

RAFFLETTTER

RAFFLING

You may purchase Raffletics from the time you arrive to the time of the drawing, from one of our Rafflettes, who can be found either roaming around or at the Raffle-table. One George Washington, gets you two, however, Raffletics may be purchased seperately. Now that you see how we be, come and join us in our RAFFLE; it's about time, and so are the prizes!

RAFFLEDONOR

We will gladly welcome anything anyone of our members wishes to bestow upon our loyal CHAPTER and to show our appreciation, we will proudly acknowledge our RAFFLEDONORS, yes, you "gracious givers", in the following manner:

THANK YOU VERY, VERY, VERY MUCH !!!
Mr. Royal English
Mr. Tom Cooley

RAFFLEWINNERS

CONGRADULATIONS, you lucky ones !!!

RAFFLEWISH

We wish to thank all of you who participated in our RAFFLE, last meeting; wasn't it a timely experience?

RAFFLENOTE

Thank you to the gentleman, who jumped up to help us out last RAFFLE, when our "kitty", ran a little short. To tick smoothly through our game was his aim and so he purchased two more Raffletics, and then it was time. Please understand members, sometimes when one begins a new chairmanship all the monies are not readily available. In the future, I will try to have enough change on hand to quickly accommodate us RAFFLERS.

RAFFLETHANKS

Thank you Mr. John North, for teaching me the tricks of the trade.

Thank you members for being patient while I learn.

Your timely ticket taker,

FROM YOUR CHAIRMEN

MART CHAIRMAN/SILENT AUCTION

REMEMBER, THE MART IS FREE!

APRIL IS TAX TIME, AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO

EITHER DEFRAY OR INVEST THAT TAX MONEY THATS GOING
OUT OR COMING IN, THAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MONTH'S
MART OR SILENT AUCTION? MAKE UNCLE SAM HAPPY (YOUR
SPOUSE TOO!) BY CLEANING OUT THAT GARAGE.

PLEASE BE SURE TO GET INTO THE SILENT AUCTION
EARLY. THE BIDDING WILL END SOME TIME BEFORE 1 p.m. .

SCOTT GRABILL

* * * * *

LIBRARY

My budget for new books is very very small.
Any contributions would be gratefully app-
reciated. Remember, it is a contribution
and is tax deductible.

I would like an assistant who would help in
storing the books between meetings and see
that they come to the meetings when they
should. Anyone interested???

Sandy Cuthill

* * * * *

FROM YOUR CHAIRMEN

Program Chairman

The program will be given by John Sanderson
familiar to us as Past President as well
as a frequent contributor to the Bulletin
(The Marine Chronometer Man).

John has made several presentations to the
club one of which was on insurance. We have
had several request for him to repeat the
Insurance presentation...thus..this month's
program.

John has been in the Insurance Industry for
25 years currently specializing in Home-
owners Insurance. He is a territorial
underwriting manager for the Fireman's Fund
Insurance Company whose Home Office is in
San Francisco.

Fred Cuthill

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REFRESHMENT CHAIRMAN

The function of the Regreshment Committee
is to provide hot coffee, a soft drink, and
cupcakes, doughnuts or the likes for our
meetings. Other than to provide a hot drink
and cold punch and some form of sweet bread,
the alternatives are few.

If some of our good members wish to alter the
menu by providing home made cupcakes or
coffee-cake, everyone, I'm sure would be
grateful. The Committee would appreciate
advance notice. Food contributions would
also help our budget.

Respectfully submitted

Bud Cuthill

Treasurer's Report-March 1982

Bulletin	\$ 495.00
Programs	100.00
Refreshments	155.00
Meeting Room	300.00
Members ip	15.00
Library	50.00
Photographer	50.00
Treasurer	5.00
Secretary	5.00
Mart/Silent Auction	5.00
Display	5.00
Drawing	0.00
Suggestion Box	0.00
Appreciation Certificates	15.00
Executive Committee	20.00



Contingent \$ 1220.00
 189.00
 \$ 1400.00

Jane Saville

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!!!!!!



Steven Costa
 Joan Peterson
 Art Rexedal
 Harry Nelson

GLAD TO HAVE YOU WITH US

Joan Peterson is the National's representative.

* * * * *

Wanted - CLOck face for Yorkshire G.F.,
 19½" Long 14" wide, also need the
 works.

Black mantels, pieces, works etc.

Phil Russell 229-2462

***** The Black Mantel Clock *****

The most popular household clock made during the Golden Age of Clocks (1880-1920) was the Black Mantel clock. The Black mantel uses the metal feet and lion head side piece found on old Brackett clocks, imitates expensive ebony with the high gloss black enamel paint, makes extensive use of Corinthian columns from the architecture of the period and utilizes the Adamantine (veneered celluloid painted to resemble expensive marble and Mexican onyx). Also many Black cases were hand painted to resemble marble, some where painted white, etc.

The major clock makers of the U. S. made the Blacks including: Ansonia, Ingraham, Gilbert, New Haven, Waterbury. Welch, Sessions, etc. Black movements were time only, time and strike, alarms and even a "slot machine" Black was made.

During the period of about 1860 to the early 1880s the French made highly polished black marble and slate clocks with colored inlays and gold gilded scrolls. The French clocks were expensive but very desirable. The Americans in late 1879 or early 1980 came out with the imitation black marble (the Blacks) and the Blacks were an instant success. The variables provided by Adamantine materials gave the Blacks a richness and varieties that could not be achieved in the French clocks. The Blacks in 1894 were expensive costing \$4.75 to \$7.95, but were available for only \$1 down-rest later.

The iron foundaries were not to be left out. The foundary foreman could duplicate anything made of wood and cast iron case clocks were available also in 1880.

The Blacks were advertized in 1894 as "Not to be told in appearance from the finest French marble." Also Warranted as a time keeper for five years." "Adamantine finish which never dulls and guaranteed not to wear off, peel, or chip off. A damp cloth will renew the surface and the clock will shine forth as when it left the factory. The front of the clock is engraved by hand."

Millions of Blacks were made. Production of Blacks came to an end about the time of the Great War (1914-1918) and never made a comeback because of bankruptcy of major clockmakers and high labor costs.

Although not rare the Blacks are truly a collector clock for any collection.

Phil Russell

TIMELY THOUGHTS WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU

Time is the ruler of all things
(Tempus rerum imperator)
*Motto of the London Clockmakers Guild

All the gold in the world cannot retrieve one
minute that is gone
Domenico Cavalca

Who presses time will find himself pressed by time
(old saying)

Time is often said to be money, but it is more---
it is life
Avebury, Pleasures of Life

Time is but an empty room, to which only events,
thoughts and feelings give content
Wilhelm von Humboldt, Letters

Time works wonders
Douglas Jerrold, Play title

Patience, reason and time make possible the impossible
Friedrich Ruckert

Time waits only for the Devil
(popular song title)

Time is the greatest innovator
Francis Bacon, Essays: "Of Innovations"

Time is the best medicine
(Netherlands saying)

Anyone having thoughts they wish to contribute here
please do not hesitate to do so. We welcome them.



the Unicorn's friend

***** The White Elephant Timepiece Auction*****

We are planning our second annual white elephant
clock and watch auction of donated timepieces for the
June 13th meeting. The auction is for the benefit of
the chapter.

This is a fun thing, no minimum bids and the funds
collected will go to the Chapter Treasury. Auctioneer
Wayne DeLaroche has again agreed to get the mostest for
the worstest.

We want your white elephant timepieces, marriages,
klunkers, parts, wheels, works, etc. The Chapter will
give you a receipt for your donation. Don't miss out
on getting rid of the old time MACHINES.

If this goes over, we might even try an auction for
real at the Christmas luncheon and you could auction off
any "extra" clocks. Anybody interested?

Phil Russell



Here are the instructions for using
silvering powder:

1. Polish brass or copper (brasso or similar
polishes)
2. Wash thoroughly - leave wet
3. Rub small amount of silvering powder onto
brass. Keep rubbing until surface is
greyish silver color.
4. Rinse off under tap - leave wet
5. Sprinkle cream of tartar on brass.
Lightly rub over surface.
6. Rinse off under tap.
7. Lacquer with brushing lacquer solution
(70% lacquer thinner and 30% brushing
lacquer. Be sure thinner and lacquer are
the same brand or they might crystalize.

John Sanderson

The Executive Board met at the home of Phil Russell on February 22, 1982.

OLD BUSINESS:

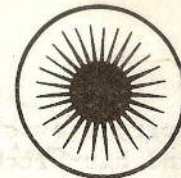
- (1) Books are still being audited.
- (2) Decision not to be a cohost for Southwest Regional in Sept. 1982.
- (3) Discussed incorporation. No decision made.
- (4) Will order Certificates of Appreciation.
- (5) Membership list update requested so renewal reminders can be sent.
- (6) Selected Nominating Committee: Wayne De Laroche, Chairman; Bob Wahrer; Bob Prochnou.
- (7) Discussed possibility of new meeting location \$40 per meeting for Pleasant Hill Recreation Center. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Programs for 1982:
 - Ap. 4: Insuring Your Collection, J. Sanderson
 - Use of Question Box for I.D. & Repair
 - June 13: Shopping for Clocks, Panel chaired by S. Hampton. White Elephant Auction
 - Aug. 8: Development of European Pocket Watch, 17th - 20th Century, D. Levison
 - Oct. 10: Lux-Keebler Clocks, Behind the Dial #4 and Lux-Keebler Pendulettes, NAWCC programs presented by J. & G. Ford
 - Dec. 12: Luncheon and Election of Officers
 - Feb. 13: The Yankee and His Clock Box, D. Glenk
- (2) Budget for 1982 approved.
- (3) Committee (B. Prochnou, F. Cuthill, J. Sanderson) formed to look into possibility of including meeting location in By-Laws
- (4) Decision to sponsor 1984 Western Regional in San Jose with Dr. Stephens & De Anza Chapters
- (5) Discussed chapter project possibilities. No decision made.
- (6) Slide projector for chapter use desired rather than pay rental.

Next Executive Board will meet at the Cuthill's on Monday, April 19.

Marilyn McCartney, Secretary



SAGA OF THE AMERICAN CLOCK - PART VI

Invention and Frustration, experimental prototypes.

Wood works clocks were cheap, affordable and comfortable enough for the average American in the 1820's, but that has never been an incentive enough to make a Yankee inventor sit back and relax. If a 30 hour wood works shelf clock was cheap enough, a brass works clock would be better; if a 30 hour brass works clock was sufficient, an 8 day would be better; and if an 8 day weight driven clock was fine, a smaller spring driven one would make better use of space. So when a Yankee inventor perfects a design or mechanism, he immediately discards it in search of a better or cheaper one, it has always been thus. And the first half of the 19th century seemed dedicated to this premise, especially in the making of clocks. To the ardent American clock collector, this period is a bonanza of remarkable creations and remarkable creators.

Long before America's first financial setback, the depression on 1837, American clock makers were already experimenting with new types of movement designs and means of motive power. Simon Williard, though not at all successful in eccentric weight driven time and alarum movement which he housed in a column shaped case covered with a glass dome and supposedly inspired by the famous Eddystone lighthouse. Despite advertising, it met with little favor and only about 25 individual prototype pieces were known to have been made.

Following Eli Terry's very successful Connecticut pillar & scroll clock, many innovators set about to improve upon his patent and design. Perhaps one of the most innovative was his own son, Silas Burnham Terry, who created fine brass movements of unusual design. Unfortunately, they were expensive to produce and only met with partial success. His experiments with the tempering process, however, led to a patent in 1830 for a "combined spiral spring for clocks" and would be a broad step for American clockmakers toward a cheaper and more compact means of motive power. His experiments included escapements using vertical and horizontal mounted balance wheels, marine types and a unique suspended torsion escapement. Not always financially successful.

Terry's experiments, nevertheless, rank high in effort and his clocks rank extremely high with collectors.

Joseph Ives began making tall clocks in 1810 and utilizing an unusual form of wood works with rolling pinions. His efforts soon shifted to the making of brass works clocks. Early experiments were in the use of a leaf "wagon" spring for motive power (several very early prototypes are found with wood works in pillar & scroll cases). In 1824, Ives moved to Brooklyn, N. Y. where he perfected his "Patent lever-spring clock". As the American brass industry was still in its infancy and production of brass plates all but prohibitive, he devised a method of supporting the gears within strips of brass riveted together. These cheaper "strap Brass" movements would be commonly housed in a tall triple deck case made by brother, Chauncy and cousin, Lawson Ives, Birge, Mallory & others. It was more rarely used in conjunction with "wagon spring" power in a Duncan Phyfe inspired Empire shelf clock (often called the Booklyn wagonspring) and well as in steeple type cases by Birge & Fuller and drop octagon and shelf models by Atkins & Whiting. Wagon spring movements were designed to run for 30 hours, 8 day and 30 days.

S. B. Terry and Ives were perhaps the most prolific innovators of the period, but one must mention the contributions of a few of the many others: Asa Munger of Auburn, N. Y. who produced a unique brass movement in Empire cases using for the first and only time in history, cheap convict labor; Eli Terry, Jr. who produced a large mahogany plate wood movement that ran for 8 days; Benjamin Morrell and others of the northern New England states that produced an extremely thin weight driven brass movement (of varying designs) housed in a case known as a New Hampshire mirror.

These and many other innovative designs that appeared between the years of 1820 and 1850, form, perhaps, the most unique and creative chapter we will ever see in American clockmaking history.

Dorothy Glenk

Dorothy Glenk "the damned Yankee"

Next issue: World debut of American clocks, empire and the ogee.

TICK FEVER....

Random thoughts while scraping the old black finish off a German tall clock:

1. Why did those folks around the turn of the century want to stain their oak furniture so dark it covered up the grain? You'd think they were in mourning all the time. Gay Nineties indeed! And it makes Ann and me a lot of work, because modern people like much lighter oak.

2. Buyer beware. We recently went down to the Southland for a little sun and to see the grandparents. Returning from Oceanside, we stopped off at Temecula. Now Temecula is a little old town surrounded by very expensive industrial parks and "ranch homes". But downtown Temecula has about a dozen antique shops, some good and some expensive. One had several nice clocks: a French gold bronze figure clock and a pair of Gustave Becker Westminster shelf clocks. Nice but not outstanding. When the proprietor saw me looking at them he gave me a long story about how Becker had been in business 250 years and how the clocks were made about 1810. One was priced at \$900.00 and one at \$1200.00. Both had Art Nouveau dials and were nice clocks. But he had given them an extra 100 years of age and two to three times their value. I wonder if he knew.

3. Keep on looking. Good deals still exist out there!

John North



Well you should have and if you don't you're missing out on one of the best bargains our chapter has to offer. first quality free information on movement restoration; history and authenticity of case and works design.

See Royal English, the question man, and Dorothy Glenk; the question lady with problems about the above.

P.S. The Question Lady will bring a mystery item next meeting for you to identify???



Wanted for sale, trade, swap or whatever (and leads to the whereabouts of such:

All those ugly and unique American clocks of the Empire period(1820-1850's). Please note article on this subject, this bulletin. Am interested in Asa Munger, New York; Jeromes and Darrow thin movement; Ives tin plate Connecticut shelf, Kirk's patent iron back weight driven or spring clocks, Brewster and Ingrahams east-west wall clocks, Botsford's patent.

Please contact: Dorothy Glenk (825-9039)



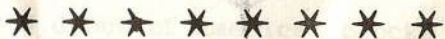
For Sale - 2 grandfather clocks! English 30 hr and a Scottish 8 day - both c. 1800 - \$700. each or trade.

Bob Prochnow 449-5956



For Sale - Gilbert plain box clock, plates appear to be nicked \$180. Also have a Seth Thomas long drop school clock \$375.

Tom Ciaramitaro 687-0644



EDITOR'S CORNER

I would like to thank all of you who gave me your material typed and press ready. It surely made my job easier. Many of you must wait until the next Board meeting to get your material but others could write it right now since you don't depend upon the Executive Board Meeting for your material.

We have another new contributor in "The Unicorn's Friend". I know the identity of this contributor but it can only be revealed by the Unicorn or his friend! (I still think my guess was right on the Phantom Pigeon but he denies it.)

We have had several major contributors to our bulletin...John North, Dorothy Glenk, and John Sanderson to name a few of the major ones, who have put a lot of time and effort into the articles that they have written. The only way they know if you have enjoyed what they have written is if you tell them. It also helps to inspire them to write more. So when you read something that you enjoy or have learned something from...tell the writer at the next meeting. If you don't attend meetings...drop them a note via the club box number, but do tell them. That's what fuels the fire!

