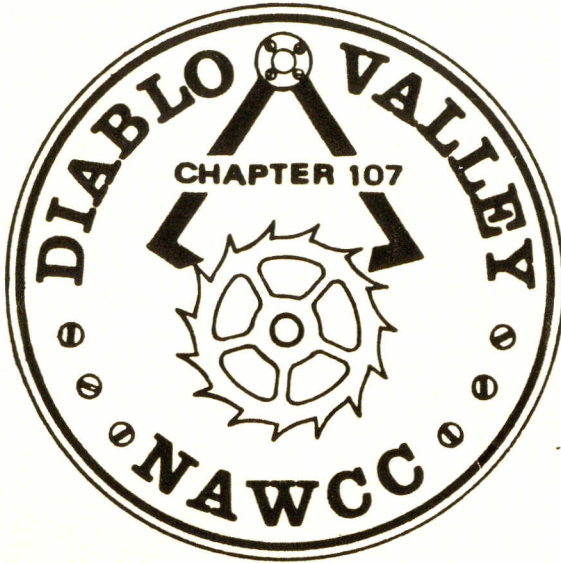

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107 BULLETIN #27



TWENTY-SEVENTH ISSUE

1983

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH
AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

Diablo Valley Chapter #107
P. O. Box 23315
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

OFFICERS

 PRESIDENT-----Wayne A. DeLaroche---- 944-9242
 V. PRESIDENT---Bob Boone----- 934-1194
 V. PRESIDENT---Thomas Mitch----- 865-6711
 SECRETARY-----Jane Saville----- 837-5589
 TREASURER-----Marilyn McCartney---- 939-8409

DIRECTORS

Bud Ehler----- 228-5387
 John Stohr----- 376-6476
 Jay Hinkle----- 837-6592
 Andre Aldenhuisen----- 828-1306
 Warren Hampton----- 944-9380

CHAIRMEN

BULLETIN-----Scott Grabill----- 825-1984
 MEMBERSHIP-----Bob Wahrer----- 462-4912
 REFRESHMENTS----Bud Ehler-T.Ciarimitaro-228-5387
 MART/SILENT AUCTION ---- Any volunteers??
 DISPLAY-----John North----- 676-9188
 LIBRARY-----Sandy Cuthill----- 686-3144
 PROGRAM-----Bob Boone/Thomas Mitch- 934-1194
 FACILITIES-----Andre Aldenhuisen---- 828-1306
 NOMINATION/ELECTION---John Stohr---- 376-6476
 DRAWING-----John Coulter----- 254-0746
 PHOTOGRAPHER----Gary Busher----- 686-5983
 SUGGESTION BOX--Andre Aldenhuisen---- 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 would like to thank Ginny Ford for her enlightening talk on Lux & Keebler Pendulettes and her husband, Joe, who manned the slide projector. I'm sure there were some of us (including myself) who really hadn't given much attention to these clocks before, so last month's program was a delight.

It is my pleasure to advise the membership of this chapter that Dorothy Glenk has graciously volunteered her time (and expertise) to assume the duties of Regional Committee Chairperson for the Regional Mart in San Jose, September, 1984. Dorothy will be working with Co-Host Chapters (Dr. Stephens and De Anza) to ensure that the many details connected with such a venture are done by our Chapter as this will be our FIRST official commitment to participate in a Regional Mart. Keep an eye on future bulletins as we progress closer to September, 1984.

The board certainly appreciates Scott Grabill stepping forward to assume the position of EDITOR of our Bulletin. We all enjoy reading the informative articles written by some of our members and we welcome new writers to submit a few words which we all could enjoy reading. And don't forget to let Scott know of any items you want to sell or buy - the price is right "IT'S FREE".

With Scott's new duties, we are looking for a volunteer to assume his role as Chairman of the Silent Auction Table. Any takers???? See Scott if you are interested. The board is also looking for a person to fill a director's slot as Jay Hinkle is being transferred and will not be able to complete his second year on the board. We thank Jay for his many contributions to our Chapter and wish him well.

One last item before you turn the page. Please be sure to vote in the upcoming NAWCC Election as last election only received 10% of the membership votes. So don't delay -- VOTE TODAY.

See you at our next meeting, April 10.

Wayne
 President



MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

The board met at the home of President Wayne DeLaroche on Monday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Jay Hinkel has resigned as Director due to his transfer away from the area. Discussion was held as to his replacement but no decision was made.

Gary Busher is unable to continue as photographer; Fred Cuthill has consented to act as his replacement.

The April Bulletin will be the last edition to be sent to members who have not yet renewed their membership.

Future program topics were discussed.

There was a suggestion that executive board meetings be held before/after the regular meetings in order to encourage more member involvement. It was decided to continue meeting on the odd months but continue encouraging members to attend.

Certificates of Appreciation will be awarded to the 1981 officers, directors, and committee chairmen at the April meeting.

It was suggested that members be on the lookout for good raffle items. If items can be obtained at a reasonable price, they should be purchased. Members will be reimbursed for the cost.

Marilyn McCartney, Secretary

MEETING DATE: April 10, 1983

MART Set-up: 11:30 A.M.
MART opens: 12:00 Noon

MEETING BEGINS: 1:00 P.M.

DISPLAY THEME: "Examples of Restoration"
(bring in those former "basket cases" and tell us how they used to look).

PROGRAM: WORKSHOP

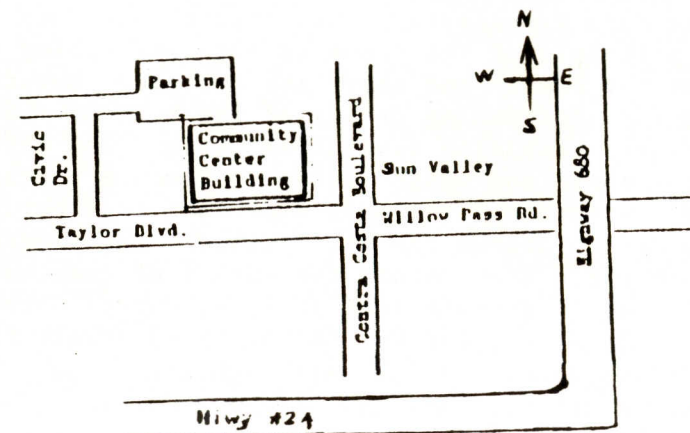
(Several members will demonstrate techniques for watch and clock repair and restoration)

DUES: Chapter members \$15.00
Refreshment donation \$1 for non-members

MART: Free!

SILENT AUCTION: Free!

PLACE: Pleasant Hill Recreation Center



The Fine Regulator; precision in production

To the super sophisticated American clock collector factory production spelled the demise of truly inventive clock making. Perhaps it did, in one sense, for the era of the 17 and 80's produced no Silas B. Terry's nor Joseph Ives'. For most people of that era a clock was a cheap reliable necessity, readily supplied by the major companies in "whatever" Victorian style. Essentially it was taken for granted as a unique American phenomenon which now provided the whole world with much better timekeepers than they ever before could afford. Despite frequent financial panics, American industry and millionaires flourished. The Centennial Exhibition of 1876 first displayed wares of Yankee ingenuity to the world and by the Columbian Exposition in 1893 we were completely self assured as the greatest industrial nation on earth.

There was a dissatisfaction, however, amongst the more innovative, at the shoddiness of American production in these decades. This and a resurgence of the creative American spirit after our centennial brought about a brief renaissance in American craft and in the clockmaking industry.

Though the advent of the inexpensive spring driven clock had created the possibility of many styles and clocks that all could afford, it did not provide for truly accurate timekeeping. The English continued to use the principle of the fusee to regulate spring tension, but the French and Austrians utilized inventions of the great clockmaking genius of the turn of the past century: precision mechanisms, unique and efficient escapements and weight drive to produce clocks of remarkable accuracy. Suddenly Americans took note and accuracy was to become the new watchword for progress in clockmaking. Even before the advent of complex calendar clocks, innovators such as S. B. Terry, Seth Thomas and E. Howard and Co. had begun to create fine weight driven clocks of the wall regulator type. The word "regulator" has recently become a misnomer, as all so-called "school" or drop octagon clocks have that

name emblazoned across their bottom glasses. Indeed a true regulator is a clock with readily adjustable, often compensated pendulums, adjustable pallets frequently, dead beat or other efficient escapements and above all, are weight driven, because the drop of a weight is always perfectly regular. Why the sudden need for perfect or regulator timekeeping; the American pace of life of course.

In 1869 the transcontinental railroad, 1870's ships, shops and industrial hours, 1880's telegraph, telephone and cable; and the local jeweler needed an accurate timing mechanism with which to time his watches. By 1880, America moved to accurate time, from the railway station clock, to the company time clock, to master timers for technical and scientific laboratories and observatories where split second timing was now essential.

The makers of these American clocks re-learned from the great masters of the past: Janvier, Breguet, Graham, Mudge, Vuillamy, etc. the use of dead beat, pin wheel, detached lever and other fine escapements. They made use of temperature compensated pendulums such as Graham's mercury, Harrison's gridiron and Ellicott's brass and iron rod type, as well as the Vienna specially compensated wood shaft. All clocks of true accuracy were weight driven, many movements so efficient that less than a pound of weight was needed to power them. Most regulators were timepieces only and most carried a seconds bit or sweep second hand.

The early regulators were generally wall clocks, ranging in style from the simple round bezelled Thomas or Terry to the ornate renaissance and Eastlake styles of Howard, Gilbert, Welch and Ansonia. Later, great walnut cased floor models were made, often seen in office buildings, hotels and in the best jeweler's shops, frequently carrying three jar mercury pendulums weighing many pounds. They were indeed an impressive and permanent fixture to the establishment where they were located.

It is without question that it is this grand style that revived interest in the American tall clock. The finest of regulators would often cost \$1000 or more.

The renewal of the making of high quality American regulators would probably be the last great step in our long

history of innovative clockmaking. However, Yankee ingenuity was not quite over yet, for we have yet to deal with the "school house" era, Victorian novelites and the trusty alarm.

Next issue: The popular and nostalgic; school, parlor and kitchen.

Dorothy Gluck

The damned Yankee



COMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 28, 1983 -- Mini Mart
Visalia Convention Center
303 East Acequia St., Visalia, CA
Hosted by San Joaquin Valley #118

June 9 thru 12, 1983 -- Western Regional
Host: Orange County #69
Co-host: Santa Anita #116
Anaheim Marriott
Anaheim, CA

June 29 thru July 3, 1983 -- N.A.W.C.C.
National Convention
Host: Philadelphia #1
Franklin Plaza Hotel
Philadelphia, PA

October 6 thru 8, 1983 -- Southwest California Regional
Host: San Fernando Valley #75
Co-host: Los Padres #52
Hyatt at the Airport
Los Angeles, CA

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

We have only fifty-five (55) members that had paid their 1983 dues by the last meeting. Remember our Chapter by-laws require that the annual dues be paid by the February meeting. Anyone not renewing their membership will not receive the bulletin. By my estimate, there are at least fifteen (15) members from 1982 that have not renewed their 1983 membership. Normally, these people would not receive the April bulletin. However, the Board has decided to send the April Bulletin to all 1982 members with this reminder.

The annual dues are \$15.00. This includes everything! . . . Bulletin, free Mart table, free "Want & Sales" listing in the bulletin, and refreshments at the meetings. To those who have not renewed their membership . . . please pay your dues at the April meeting or mail a check to:

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107
P.O. Box 23315
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Bob Wahrer

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ATTENTION WATCH COLLECTORS!

Come to the April membership meeting and see a demonstration of the fine art of watch case rejuvenation performed by that famous pair -- Yen and Neal.

THIRD ANNUAL WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION

It's not too early to start thinking about June 12, so start rummaging through the shelves and boxes and donate what you can to the Auction. Remember, it is a lot of fun, bargains to be had and it raises money for our Chapter. A second reminder will be in the next Bulletin.

The Auctioneer

WANTED: 3½" Ivory Dial for Waterbury "MOGUL" or "ORLEANS", C. Reg. Wayne DeLaroche 944-9292

FOR SALE: SETH THOMAS #7 Double Dial self clock, 8 day-weighted. Good condition \$975.00 or best offer. Wayne DeLaroche 944-9242

FOR SALE

Several fine early 19th-Century-European-tall clocks. All eight-day.

John North

EDITOR'S NOTE

As Bulletin editor I realize there is work to be done, and yet that work should be "editing" and not writing. I'm depending on all of you to contribute in order to make this phantasmagoria all it can be. Please feel free to either call or send anything you deem worthy of print. The "Wants" and "For Sales" can be used by everyone and you can't beat the price.

Send material to Scott Grabill
c/o DeLaSalle High School
1130 Winton Drive
Concord, CA 94518

*See you next
"Time"
Scott*

