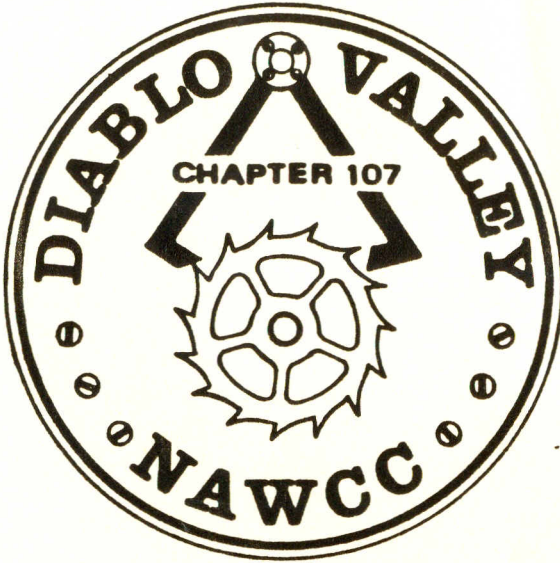

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107 BULLETIN #29



TWENTY-NINTH ISSUE

AUGUST 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-----Marilyn McCartney-----939-8409
TREASURER-----Jane Saville-----837-5589

DIRECTORS

Bud Ehler-----228-5387
John Stohr-----376-6476
Jay Hinkle-----837-6592
Andre Aldenhuisen-----828-1306
Warren Hampton-----944-9380
Phil Russell, Past President-----229-2462

CHAIRMEN

BULLETIN-----Scott Grabill-----276-5255
MEMBERSHIP-----Bob Wahrer-----462-4912
REFRESHMENTS-----Bud Ehler-T.Ciarimitaro-228-5387
MART/SILENT AUCTION--Bob Prochnow-----449-5956
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.

xxxxx PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE xxxxx

A hardy thanks to Phil Russell for his very enlightening program on "Black Mantels". From now on, I am sure we'll all look with a more reverant eye when we come across one. Based on the Official Price Guide, it looks like these clocks are still "sleepers"!

As you know, for the past few meetings our Chapter has been recognizing its past officers and chairpersons by awarding certificates for their generous donation of time to develop our Chapter into a truly fine organization. I want to take this opportunity to give a big THANK YOU to MRS. JOHN STOHR, for Mrs. Stohr is the person who has done the caligraphy on these certificates. This Chapter appreciates your time and talents for this program.

A round of applause to all who contributed to our "Third Annual White Elephant Sale"! A lot of laughs, a lot of bargains equal \$104.00 generated for our treasury. My thanks to Bob Prochnow and Tom Ciarimitaro for their assistance.

Hope you all have been enjoying a nice warm summer and I look forward to seeing all of you at our August 14 meeting.

Wayne



MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

The board met at the home of President Wayne DeLaroche on Monday, July 18 at 7:30 p.m.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$1,288.74.

Dates for the Pleasant Hill Recreation Center have been confirmed for 1984. The charge has been increased \$4 per meeting date. The meeting room will be changed if the room is needed for a wedding.

There are 66 members in the chapter, the same as last year. Prospective members must be a member of NAWCC before joining the chapter. Dues will be prorated at \$2.50 per meeting for the remainder of the year.

New books for the library will be ordered, not to exceed \$100.

New MART chairman is Bob Prochnow.

Still soliciting donated or good, inexpensive items to raffle. If purchased, will be reimbursed. Will continue to raffle 5 items from a choice of 6.

John Stohr and Phil Russell will serve on the Nomination/Election Committee. Suggestions for the offices of President, two Vice-Presidents, and three Directors are requested. The October Bulletin will list the nominees. Secretary and Treasurer are to be appointed.

Marilyn McCartney, Secretary



MEETING DATE: AUGUST 14, 1983

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

MEETING BEGINS: 1:00 P.M.

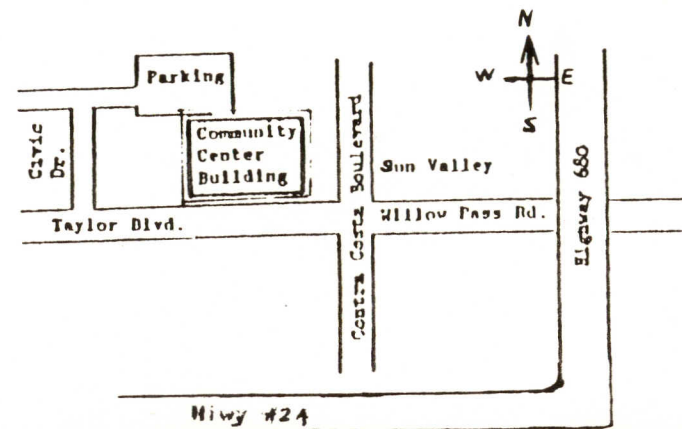
DISPLAY THEME: AMERICAN WRISTWATCHES
OR
WATCHES MADE BY THE
NEW YORK WATCH CO.

PROGRAM: THE NEW YORK WATCH CO.
by Neil Hopkins
and
AMERICAN WRISTWATCHES
by Yen Kwan

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

MART: Free!
SILENT AUCTION: Free!

PLACE: Pleasant Hill Recreation Center



ATTENTION!

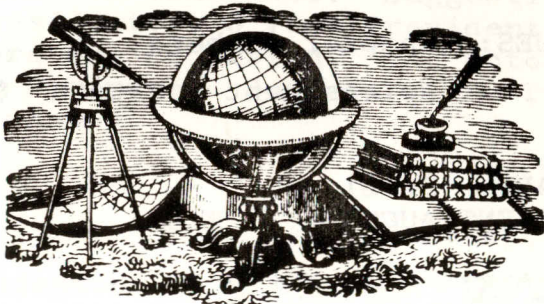
One-half price sale on NAWCC Bulletins . .
Come and get 'em!! Support your local
library.

Donations -- Books and Bulletins -- Welcome.
Need NAWCC Bulletins prior to 1970. Bound
bulletins accepted.

Any particular book you would like in your
library? Send request to me thru
P.O. Box 23315 OR put in suggestion box
at meetings.

Fines are \$1.00 per book per meeting not
returned by meeting due date. Call to
renew (686-3144). Those who are overdue be
prepared to pay your fine (it supports your
library).

SANDY



CHAPTER ELECTIONS

The chapter's annual elections will be held
during the December meeting. The membership
will vote to elect a new president and two
vice-presidents (watch and clock) for 1984
and three (3) directors for 1984/85 terms.
Two existing directors carry over for another
year.

Committee chairmen for 1984 will be appointed.

Elective officers are responsible for con-
ducting six (6) membership meetings and
attending six (6) board meetings during the
year. It's not all that bad -- Wayne had
thirteen helpers at the August board meeting
to help him along.

So step forward and take your turn --
especially the new members. Elections with
no one on the ballot aren't very productive
for the chapter.

JOHN STOHR



SAGA OF THE AMERICAN CLOCK - PART XIV

Exotic and Eclectic Victorians-Novelties

By the last quarter century Victorians were caught up with exotica and eclecticism (the last word being one of the Damned Yankee's favorite words, because it means a little of everything, motif wise, hung on a single piece) Eclectic clocks came out with the clock maker's catalog as early as the 60's, conjuring up such exotic images in parlor and kitchen clocks as Ingomar, Aurania, Persian & Jasmine. These, however, as we spoke in the last issue, were really only case variations of the simple American 8 day spring driven movement perfected by all of the American clock companies. True exotica would yet come in this end of century era, not only in case style but in mechanism as well.

Perhaps several of the earliest novelties were the Seth Thomas (1860) Burglar and Fire-Detective Alarm, which lighted a lamp at the moment the alarm sounded; a novel idea in the days of the kerosene lamp. Another was the chess game timer by Yale Clock Co. consisting of 2 twin timepieces on a base that tilts to stop one to time intervals between moves. Night light clocks ranged from Gensel's Acme, with kerosene burner, revolving glass globe with numbers and stationary pointer, to gas light clocks with milk glass dials, illuminated by a gas jet at night. A great variety of novelty bobbers, blinkers and girls on swings were offered, usually containing just a simple drum type movement. Ansonia patented a lead weighted gravity movement that kept time as it slowly descended on rack like legs; the Year Clock Co., clocks that ran for a year on one winding of a tremendous spring; One Hand Clock Corporations clocks had dials divided into minute sections; Juvet and Timby of New York created unusual globe timepieces.

I suspect that the most exotic of Victorian horological inventions were those with strange and unusual escapements. One of the earliest and finest was Aaron Crane's tortion pendulum clocks. Although S. B. Terry seems to have been one of the first to use this concept, Crane perfected it into a mechanism later to be used extensively in the so-called German 400 day clock. Another was the Briggs Rotary Pendulum Timepiece patented in 1855, with rotary swinging

ball moving a wire lever escapement. Plato, possibly America's oldest digital clock, was patented by Eugene Fitch in 1902. Its simple mechanism in base turns slowly flipping numbered cardboard leaves each minute. Dickory Dickory Dock or "mouse" clock was made for Dungan & Klump. The mouse figure moves up the clock, as in the nursery rhyme until it strikes one. Mechanisms were totally undependable. Perhaps the best loved and undoubtedly the worst timekeeper was "Ignätz". Patented in 1883, its escapement is a small tether ball that winds and unwinds against two wire posts.

Some of the most sought after clocks of this period are the statue swingers. Made in America by Ansonia, the movement and pendulum are one and oscillate balanced on the stationary statue. Collectable today are further examples of Victorian taste: the great bronze statue and marble extravaganzas by Ansonia, where one could choose from Rubens to Philosopher, Troubadour or Don Jaun to name only a few; porcelain clocks, plush clocks, plate clocks in beaten brass, pot metal mantle sets and a wide variety of gold plated novelties for desk or night stand. And now the little Lux and Keebler "Pendulettes" made of pressed sawdust in styles from cuckoo types with rocking bird to dog house with wagging tail, these little clocks with most elementary movement possible now sell for up to several hundred dollars. In this line, of special interest to me, are the iron figural cased alarms, with cheap tin cased movement, they range in design from Columbus' ship to Teddy Roosevelt on his horse.

A final clock which gives credit to the Victorian love of past history is dated 1492 on its single handed wooden dial. It commemorated the largest world's fair in history, the Columbian Exposition in Chicago. With simple wood gears and verge and foliot escapement, it was hardly prepared to tell accurate time. This Columbus clock, however, depicts a very special part of the American people and their horological adventures.

Next issue: The Trusty Alarm.

Dorothy Glend

The Damned Yankee

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

The Chapter membership is presently at 65. This is about the same as last year. New members are replacing the few older members that had to resign for various reasons.

There have been some questions concerning membership, visitors, and guests. Let me review the rules at this time.

Membership -- everyone must be a member of the NAWCC (National) to be eligible for membership in any local chapter. Please check your NAWCC status. See the Chapter membership chairman if you have any questions.

Visitor -- visitors must be NAWCC members. A visitor may be a member of another chapter, an out-of-town NAWCC member, or any other NAWCC member. Visitors, being NAWCC members, may participate in the Mart activities.

Guest -- guests must be invited and escorted by a chapter member. A guest may not participate in any Mart activity.

WELCOME

TO NEW MEMBERS----

RICK CALICURA
ROY HOLMAN
JAIME NADLER
DICK TRAUTWEIN



COLUMBUS CLOCK SEMINAR

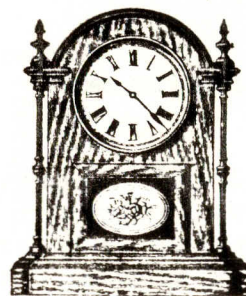
In early spring of this year my wife and I went back to Columbus, Ohio to take advantage of one of the AWI clock repair courses offered. I had already attended their introductory course on striking clocks in Albuquerque, New Mexico about six months previously. Dr. Joseph Baier, the instructor, impressed me so that I wanted to take his advanced course. He is responsible for several of the beautiful old clocks restored to mint condition at the AWI museum in Columbus. Dr. Baier donates his time to AWI to present these courses and if enough interest is shown AWI would make these repair seminars available in our area.

One of the highlights of the course was the tour of the AWI museum. It contains many rare clocks and watches. Of special interest to the watch people was a rare collection of specially designed watches for Mr. Packard of the Packard Motor Co.

Fortunately, the Ohio regional was being held the same week-end we were back there and we were very impressed with the availability and prices of the old American clocks. We noticed very few weighted European clocks.

All in all our trip was most enjoyable and I recommend it highly.

Warren Hampton





Date to Remember
October 6-8, 1983

SOUTHWEST
CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL

Host: San Fernando
Valley #75

Co-Host: Los
Angeles #56

HYATT AT THE
AIRPORT

Los Angeles,
California

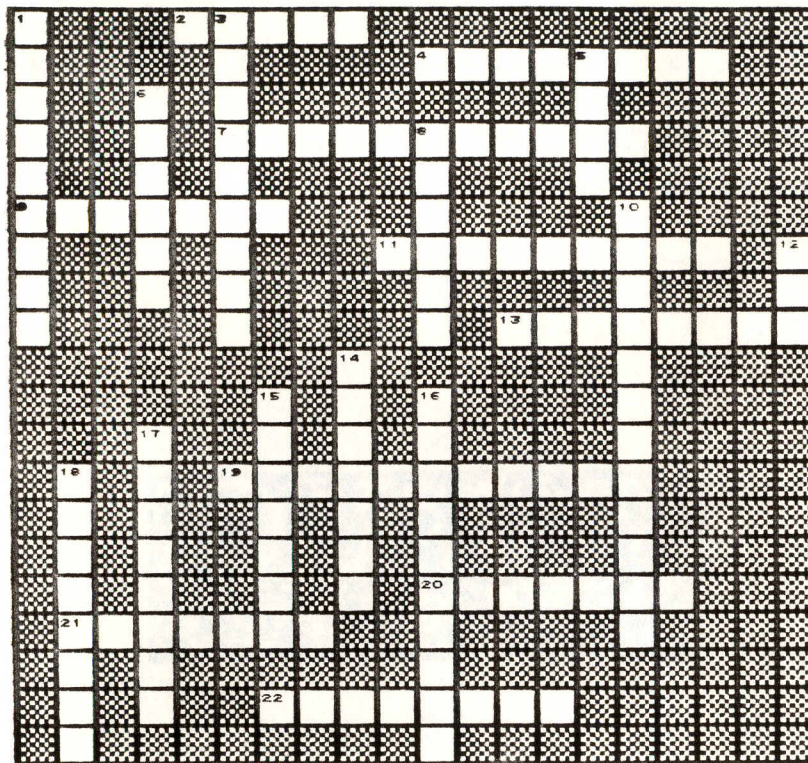
WE ARE NOT ALONE!

Other local chapters meet regularly in our great Bay Area.

Attending the meetings of other local chapters can be interesting and informative. The San Francisco, or Dr. W. Barclay Stephens Chapter #5 meets on the second Sunday of MART months, at the Student Center of the College of San Mateo. Meetings begin at noon.



MATCH + CLOCK MAKERS



ACROSS CLUES

2. "THE" ENGLISH BOOZE
4. CHAUNCEY
7. NO CRANKING
9. WOMAN'S NAME
11. WET FRUIT
13. NOT EAST CLOCKS
19. TREE TOWN
20. SILAS
21. YANKEE CATCHER
22. FRESH HANGOUT

DOWN CLUES

1. ABRAHAM RHYME
3. GERMAN TOWN
5. MAR
6. JERRY
8. CALENDARS
10. GER "MAN"
12. PENDULETTES
14. GRAPEJUICE RELATIVE?
15. LADY MAKER?
16. TOWN'S NAMESAKE
17. PERIODS
18. ELITE "RRY"



Thanks to some spirited bidding on selected choice items, our Third Annual White Elephant Sale was a smashing success. In terms of \$, it added \$104.00 to our "till". My thanks to all who participated and to Bob Prochnow and Tom Ciarimitaro for their help.

The Auctioneer



WANTED

3½" Ivory Dial for a Waterbury "MOGUL" or "ORLEANS" Chrystal Reg. Wayne DeLaroche, 944-9242

FOR SALE

Morbier in case (GRO), anchor escapement, pine case -- \$800.

Scott Grabill

As in every other month, the only thing that limits the number of pages in this publication is the imagination of our members. Any and all contributions are welcome. Perhaps something new, like this issue's crossword puzzle. It's here for you to use.

"Ads" and "Wants" are free of charge and are the best way to reach all of our members.

Send contributions for the October bulletin to:

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

*Time marches
on!
Scott*

