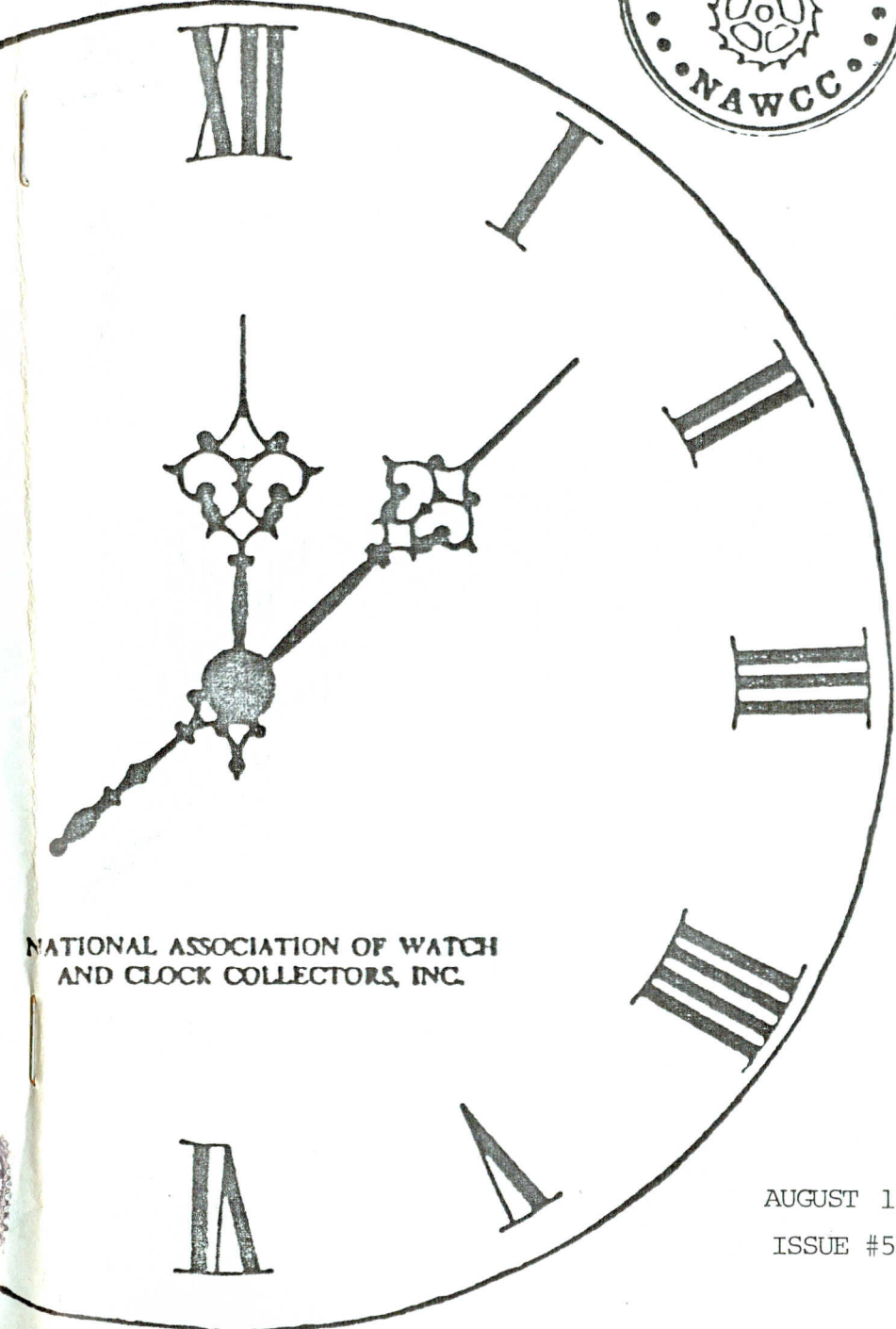
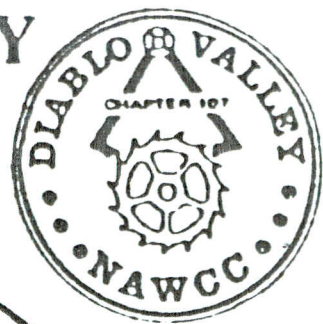


DIABLO VALLEY BULLETIN



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH
AND CLOCK COLLECTORS, INC.

AUGUST 1988
ISSUE #59

1988 OFFICERS

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PHOTOGRAPHER.....	FRED CUTHILL.....	686-3144

CHAPTER MEETING DATES: FEB 14, APRIL 10, JUNE 12, AUG. 14, OCT. 9, DEC. 1

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES: MARCH 7, MAY 9, JULY 11, SEPT. 1
NOV. 7.

CHAPTER MOTTO: ACCENT ON EDUCATION

STATEMENTS OF OPINION OR FACT MADE BY AUTHORS OF ARTICLES APPEARING IN 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

As noted elsewhere in this Bulletin, part of our August program is our annual "White Elephant Auction". I urge you to bring in your 'elephants'; proceeds go to the Chapter treasury.

*Time for the annual Cookie Contest (Details elsewhere in this bulletin).

*Regional Registration: please respond to John Stohr's call for volunteers. It's our Regional and we will need everyone's help.

*To encourage Horological activities, I wrote to Dr. Stephens, Monterey Bay, De Anza and Sacramento Chapters offering to print meeting information on a reciprocal basis. So far the Sacramento and De Anza Chgopters have responded and their meeting information is included elsewhere in this bulletin.

Jack

MEETING INFORMATION:

DATE: August 14, 1988

PLACE: Home Federal Savings & Loan
Tice Valley Rd & Rossmoor Pkwy
(Walnut Creek) in
multi-purpose room.

MART SET-UP: 11:30 AM

MART BEGINS: 12:00 NOON

PROGRAM: "Ugly" Clock Contest
Cookie Contest
White Elephant Auction
"How to Buy a Clock"

MEETING BEGINS: 1:00 PM

DISPLAY THEME: "Ugly" Clocks
"White Elephant"
Material

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: \$15.00
NON-MEMBER DONATION: \$3.00
MART: FREE TO CHAPTER MEMBERS

"The Tip Off" by Phil Russell
+ If the plates of your clock movement
are held by pins, it was probably made before
1885.

+ Bells for the strike were rarely used
after 1900.

+ American clocks until about 1850 struck
hours only-no half hour strikes.

Cookie Contest

Our annual Cookie Contest will be held as part of our August meeting. It is our chance to sample the baking talent in our membership. There are only a couple of simple rules:

- All submissions must be home-made
- Please submit at least one dozen cookies
- "cookies" are defined as drop, shaped, pressed and bar type goods. We reluctantly exclude cakes, pies, tarts, and other appealing things.
- A three member panel, chosen for their discerning palates, will judge the entries.

"Royal English" Clock and Watch Inventory sheets

Several years ago, Royal English designed inventory sheets to note all items in your clock and watch collections. Besides being an excellent way to thoroughly identify and keep track of your collection, it is of particular value for insurance purposes. These sheets were sold as a Chapter fund raising effort. We hope to have them reproduced for sale at a nominal costs at our next meeting and at the Regional.

ANNUAL WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION

YES! IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN WHEN WE ASK YOU TO DIG UP THOSE DUSTY OLD HOROLOGICAL ITEMS WHICH YOU KEEP MOVING AROUND TO GET AT OTHER THINGS. NOW IS THE CHANCE TO DO YOUR SUMMER CLEANUP AND HELP THE CHAPTER AS WELL. ALL DONATIONS WILL BE GLADLY ACCEPTED AND AUCTIONED OFF AT THIS ANNUAL EVENT. SO BRING YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS, YOUR CHECK-BOOKS AND YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR FOR A "REALLY GOOD TIME".

TAKE PART IN CHAPTER ACTIVITIES!

AUGUST MEETING DISPLAY THEME;

ANNUAL "UGLY" CLOCK CONTEST

Yes! This is the event that you all have been waiting for to happen. There can only be one winner and only one person will go home knowing that the Ugly Clock Contest Winner distinction for 1988 will be his or hers. I know some of you have been looking for that special clock just for this occasion all year long. Remember, the only rule is that past winners are ineligible for any future distinctions. Let's see the Best (Or is it Worst) ever entries for this contest.

GOLDEN GATE WESTERN REGIONAL '88

One of the basic requirements of Chapter 107 hosting the Western Regional is to chair the Registration Committee. Jean & Gary Busher have accepted this responsibility.

The Registration job has two time frames. From July through September, Registration Requests will be in the mail for Mart Tables, Admission, Banquets, etc. These requests must be processed, confirmed and registration packets assembled for admission to the Regional. From the Thursday Afternoon of September 29th through Saturday evening of October 1st, the Registration desk at the Regional must be staffed to pass out the prepared registration packets to NAWCC members arriving for the Regional and also handle any last minute requests for admission and mart tables.

Both these jobs will require Chapter members assistance. Handling the reservation desk at the Regional will require the most assistance, especially on Thursday Evening and Friday Morning when the majority of guests arrive. It's estimated that we'll need 6-8 members on the desk during these heavy hours. Let Jean or Gary (686-5983) know by phone or at the August meeting when you'll be able to assist and help make this the best Regional yet.

John Stohr

Meeting notes from other Chapters

From Sacramento: Our meetings are scheduled on the 4th Sunday of odd months and we meet at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center. The Center is located on the East end of McKinley Park. The Park is 2 blocks East of Business 80 between H & F Streets. Doors open at 12:30 (Mart set-up after 11:30) and the general meeting with a program starts at 2:00 PM. Firm meeting dates are July 24, Sept. 25, Nov. 27, and Jan. 22. The January meeting is our Pot-Luck Affair.

Robt. F. Pelschl

From De Anza: We will meet for a pancake social breakfast on Sunday, September 25. This affair will get underway at 9:00 A.M. and we will serve until about 11:00. A cleanup and rearrangement and our regular meeting will take place beginning at 1:00. Guests are welcome and a nominal charge will be made for food. Come and Join us for a day of friendship and discussion.

Our regular meeting place is the 100F Temple near the intersection of Sunnyvale/Saratoga Rd. and Homestead Rd. in Sunnyvale Exit 200 at Sunnyvale/Saratoga Rd., go North to the first intersection, turn left onto Homestead Rd. and the Temple is the first major building on the right side of the street. Lots of parking in the lot at the rear of the building.

Ronald G. Bechler
President; Chapter 94

The Tambour

By Phil Russell

How time flies, it is now 80 years since the first Tambour appeared on the market. What is a Tambour? Most of us call it a Camelback clock, or a Humpback, and even a Napoleon because its later shape looked like his hat. In 1908 the American Clock Industry called it a Tambour (tambourine) because of its drum-like shape. The name Tambour never really caught on with the people—they preferred 'mantle clock'.

The Tambour doesn't qualify as an antique (100 years old) close but not quite, nor is it highly collectible ?? However, the Tambour played a major part in the American clock market. After very slow production from 1908 to 1914 the Tambour finally caught the public eye and became the most popular clock style of the masses in the 1920s and 1930s. Some claim the Tambour led to the decline and end of the Black Mantle clock in the late 20s.

The first Tambour was probably of French origin because of the stylish flowing designs. The English favored the square and octagonal shape. The first Tambours seemed to have the round drum-like shape sitting atop the pedestal. It was about twice as long as it was high. The dimensions varied. It had a low center of gravity so did not tip easily. Like any new invention the makers modified the case through the years. In the early 1920s the makers enclosed the drum-like shape by curving the case from the top of the drum to each end. This is the design we see the most. This enclosure led to the Napoleon 'hat' name.

The Tambour had an excellent, well made movement that would run for years with little care. These movements excels in quality compared to those made today. Many kinds of move-

Tambours-Page 2....

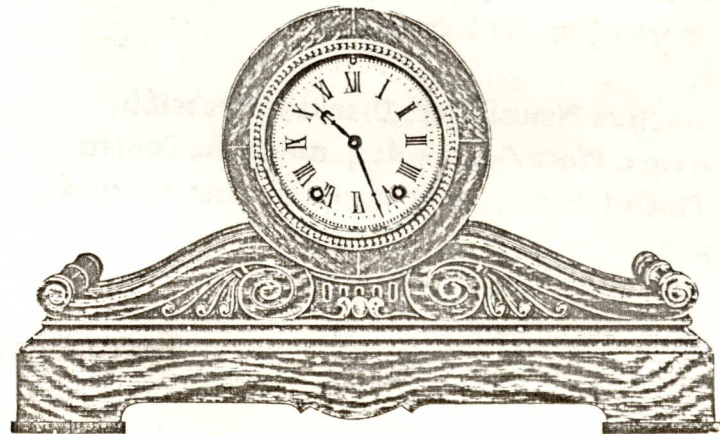
ments were used—time only, time & strike, bim bams, ships bells, etc. Cases were made of golden oak, mahogany, inlaid wood, marble, brass et al. Many had porcelain dials, beveled glass, brass sash, either Roman or Arabic numerals.

The first Tambours were not cheap. The only Tambour shown in the 1909 Seth Thomas catalog was priced at \$33.50. The 1912 Waterbury catalog had only one Tambour and its price \$22.00. The most expensive was the Chelsea and priced at \$115 !!. By 1915 the Sessions Clock Co. had the Tambours at \$9.90 to \$18.80.

The Clock Manufacturing Companies making the Tambours were the Big 7—Ansonia, Chelsea, Ingraham, Gilbert, New Haven, Sessions and Waterbury. (also some small manufacturers). The Tambour was among the first of the clocks to be electrified with A/C electric movements.

We still see many of these Tambours in our Mart and usually at very 'inexpensive' prices. Millions of Tambours were made from 1908 to the war start in the early 40s. The most collectibles are the Chelsea and those early clocks with the distinctive 'drum like' Tambour mounted on the pedestal. Tambours are now considered as 'keepers' and will make the collectible list soon, if not already. Have you a Tambour in your collection????

Phil Russell



TAMBOUR

Executive Meeting Minutes

July 12, 1988

13 Members in attendance.

1. Membership: 67 currently paid members
2. Treasurer: Chapter is fiscally sound.
3. Program & Display: August meeting ready
4. Headquarters award committee nominations
Schedule handed out.
5. "Lesters Secrets": Have permission to use in our
bulletin from time to time.
6. Meeting notice: Neighboring Chapters contacted.
2 Chapters responded.
7. Chapter Badges: Supply Exhausted; Will probably
order more after the Regional.
8. Headquarters Newsletter: Discussed possibly
setting up a Clock/Watch display at the Contra
Costa Main Library, to gain public interest and
members.
9. John Muir Clock: Nothing New.

10. Royal English Inventory Sheets: Will have some
printed up and sold in packets at the Regional
and at Chapter meetings.

11. Regional Registration will be done manually
instead of by computer. July Mart has
pre-registration forms. More about volunteer
help at the August meeting.

12. The next executive meeting will be at the home
of Tom Armour.

Roy Holman