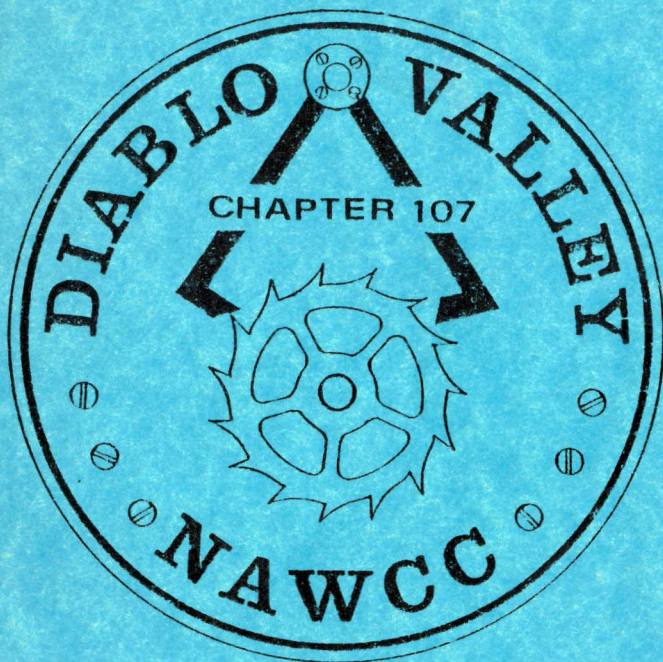


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DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107      BULLETIN # 8  
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EIGHTH ISSUE      -      FEBRUARY 1980

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK  
COLLECTORS

Diablo Valley Chapter #107      Pleasant Hill, Cal.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
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Thanks to all of you for electing me to succeed John North as president. I also thank the outgoing directors for their contributions to our common interests, and I welcome the new electees.

We, officers and directors, have our jobs cut out for us . . . one of the things we face is the possibility of moving our meetings to larger quarters if we continue to grow at the same rate. The Pleasant Hill Recreation Center is going to remodel our meeting room in April; one of the changes will be removal of the circular staircase which will give us a little more usable space, but that may prove to be an interim measure.

There are other items I see as necessary during the coming year. We should revise our bylaws to define the duties of the officers and directors so people being asked to run for office will have a clear picture of their duties. A special committee headed by Gareth Busher has been appointed for this purpose. We should also have an easier method of making nominations from the floor so all can feel free to speak for their candidate.

I urge you to use the suggestion box to express your feelings about the administration of the Chapter. What do you want? What programs do you want? More slide shows? More demonstrations? Of what type?

In the same vein, I ask all of you to contribute to our bulletin. We may not have great literary talent or think our own methods extraordinary, but we all have some special interest that our friends will appreciate reading.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

At the first Executive Committee meeting of 1980 the committee voted to support the Sacramento Chapter's expression of protest to the National as respects the late receipt of the Mart on the West Coast. A copy of our letter will be available at the next meeting for your review.

See you in February!



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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.

Our December meeting is devoted to election and installation of officers, Mart, Display, and "pot luck" social.

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ATTENTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at John Coulter's house, 7:30pm, Tuesday, March 4th. Any member is welcome to attend. Your input is appreciated. Call John at, 254-0746 for directions.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Quiz I Hate!!!!

What's your most expensive clock?????????

Anon

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Iola Schnell



William Randel

Chuck Baumia

Glad to have you with us.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our program this month will be given by James "Max" Bramlett. I asked him for a short biography and he wrote such a delightful one I have decided to print it as he wrote it. Max owns a meat market at Four Corners in Concord. Max will give us some pointers on finishing and inlaying, so bring your questions and problems and he will try and help.

HOW I GOT STARTED IN WOODWORK  
By James M. Bramlett

I took Manual Training in Junior High and High School. It gave me the basics in sanding and finishing. I also got experience in using a lathe. I made lamp bases, nut and fruit bowls, powder bowls, candle stick holders, etc.

After finishing school, I didn't work with wood for several years. I started to work on houses, fixing them and remodeling them. Being in business for myself, working longer hours, didn't leave much time for hobbies. About eight years ago, I saw an ad in an Oakland paper on how to build a grandfather clock for less than \$200.00. I sent for the information and it was for a clock kit, which I sent for. When it was finished, I thought it looked good. From

Cont'd

then on, I started to make them from scratch. Having taken a course in mechanical drawing in school, reading blueprints was no problem. In the past year and a half, I have been cutting my own walnut and curing it myself. My neighbor is a retired carpenter and cabinet maker and has given me several good pointers. A very good one was on an easy hand rubbed finish, which I have used a lot. I really didn't mean to get into clock making too heavily, but friends wanted me to make one for them, which I did, when time premitted. I also made them for members of my family. I have made two clocks with inlays. I have made the inlays out of ash and mahogany, and used it on the walnut clocks. I was just trying out something different, which turned out pretty well. I think I have made 28 clocks, so far. I am now making more so that each of my six grandchildren will have a clock.

.....

Dorothea

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Book Lovers: ATTENTION!

Your library needs some action. No one is taking out books. Come and see what it has to offer. If it doesn't have what you want, maybe you could donate it. See you at the February meeting.

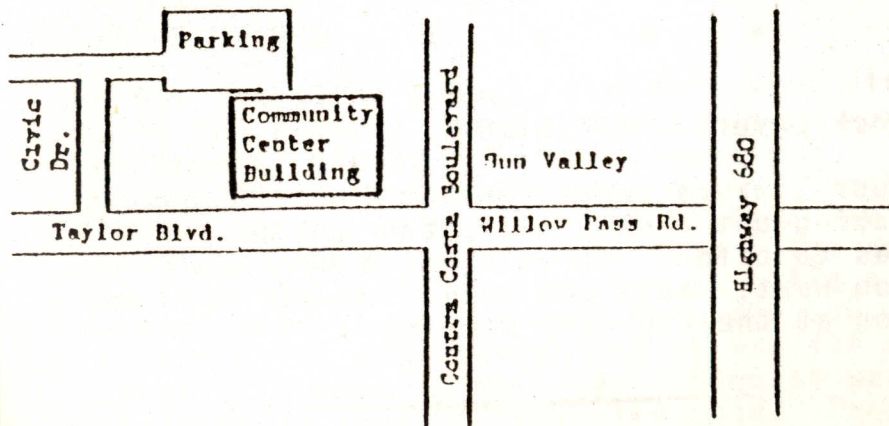
MEETING DATE:

MART SET-UP: 12:00 Noon MEETING BEGINS: 1:00pm

DISPLAY THEME: Wood. Wood Works clocks, Unusual grain patterns, missing pieces you have replaced.

PROGRAM: Max Bramlett will talk to us about woods, finishing and inlaying. Bring your questions or your problems. He may have the answer!

PLACE: Pleasant Hill Community Center Club Room  
320 Civic Drive  
Pleasant Hill, Cal.



\*\*\*\*\*  
WANTS  
\*\*\*\*\*

WANTED! Mint original porcelain dials for:  
Otay Watch Co.; 23J RR Howare; 12s Howard.  
Mint Dial & Complete balance for Howard "L"s  
split plate. 16s gold of lever set howard  
marked case. Howard cases for KWKS & 12s.  
Otay parts.

R. Matinog (415) 387-1868

\* \* \* \* \*

HELP WANTED..

Does anyone know any "tricks" about setting  
up a fuzee movement? I wind the gut  
(or chain) around the fuzee cone, and  
then tighten up the barrel two or three  
notches at a time. The process is  
laborious. There must be a simpler way!  
Someone Hlep!!

John Sanderson 937-6272

I need a door for a Seth Thomas 30 Hr  
OG. Anyone out there have one?

John Sanderson 937-6272

\* \* \* \* \*

Alarm for J. C. Brown Ripple Front Steeple  
Joe and Ginny Ford 223-3415

FOR SALE

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN IS FREE TO OUR CHAPTER MEMBERS. 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.

MEMBERSHIP IN OUR CHAPTER IS \$10.00 PER YEAR.

\*\*\*\*\*

Hamilton gibal-mounted Chronometer watch (model 22) in beautiful original Hamilton segmented Oak box. \$415.

Roger Wilcox 944-0788

Hamilton Chronometer Watch (Model 22) in beautiful matched double wooden boxes, green felt lined. \$365.

Roger Wilcox 944-0788

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J. P. Glass, Alexandria Scottish Tall Case clock, date and seconds hands. Nicely inlaid case, Mahogany Flat Top, Break Arch Dial C.1840 Listed in Baillie. \$ 1950.

John North 676-9188

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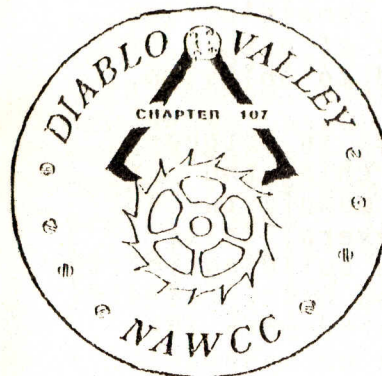
Owl clock - 30 hr. - English \$75.

John Sanderson 937-6272

Bulle Clock Oak case. Nice. Works on 1 1/2 volt flash light battery. \$375.

John Sanderson 937-6272

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THE CLOCK HEIGHTS

Lead  Iron  Brass  Stone  
 Filled Shell  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Plain  Embossed  
 Enbossing compatible with Dial and Pendulum

THE PENDULUM

ROD  
 Iron  Wood  Brass  
 Compensating  Other \_\_\_\_\_

BOB

Original  Lead  Stone  Brass  
 Brass Shell  Mercury  
 False Mercury  Calibrated  
 Embossed Brass  Brass/Porcelain

LEAF

Fork  Pin  Flanger  Points  
 Knife Edge  Thread  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

OWNERSHIP AND VALUE

Date Purchased \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Value \_\_\_\_\_

Appraised \_\_\_\_\_

Date Appraised \_\_\_\_\_

Appraised By \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Identifying Mark \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Remarks on reverse side

TYPE OF TYPE

Model Number or Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dimensions: Height \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF POWER

Spring  Weight  Electric  Other \_\_\_\_\_

GLASS

Flat  Beveled  Convex  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Mounted  Brass Mounted; # pieces \_\_\_\_\_

THE CLOCK CASE

Solid \_\_\_\_\_ Wood

Veneered Wood \_\_\_\_\_

Brass  Brass/Glass  Bronze  Bronze/Glass  Marble

Iron  Pewter  China  Plastic  Paper Mache

Overall Color \_\_\_\_\_

Decorations

Label  Original  Contact  Partial  None

THE CLOCK FACE

Original  Retouched  New  Paper  Parchment

Painted Wood  Painted Metal  Glass  Porcelain

Silvered Metal  Painted Minerals  Engraved Brass

Engraved Bronze  Enameled Cartouches on \_\_\_\_\_

Metallic Numerals on \_\_\_\_\_

Numerals:  Arabic  Roman  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other Indicators \_\_\_\_\_

THE HANDS

Iron  Brass  Wood  Other \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

Style Description \_\_\_\_\_

THE CLOCK MOVEMENT

The Clock Makers: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Manufacture \_\_\_\_\_

FUNCTIONS

Time only  Time/Strike  Time/Strike/Chime  Alarm

Second Hand  Calendar  Moon Phase  Other \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MATERIAL

Brass  Iron  Wood  Other \_\_\_\_\_

ESCAPEMENT

Enclosed  Exposed  Recoil  Dead beat  Beveled

Steel Pallet  Pin Lever  Crown Wheel  Balance Wheel

Other \_\_\_\_\_

PIVOTS

Self Bushed Plates  Jeweled  All Bushings

Some Rebusine  Other \_\_\_\_\_

POWER TRANSMISSION

Spring Direct  Link Chain  Poller Chain  Rope

Gut  Silk  Lutee  Other \_\_\_\_\_

STRIKE FUNCTION

Hour only  Hour/half hour  Bim Bam  Ship's Bell

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Bone  Rod  Tube  Bell  Bellows  Other \_\_\_\_\_

CHIME FUNCTION

Westminster  Marlinton  St. Michael  Fran Sonnerie

Other \_\_\_\_\_

MUSIC FUNCTION

Bone  Rod  Bells  Bellows  Other \_\_\_\_\_

MUSIC FUNCTION

Pin Barrel  Gongs  Bells  Bellows  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Times: (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

## A VISIT TO NEW ENGLAND

By: Phil & Sarah Russell

The manufacturing building remnants of the Golden Era of Clock Making are almost gone. Those buildings and its sites remaining are unmarked and in various stages of either being torn down or already dedicated to oblivion.

Sarah and I visited Connecticut in October where we did considerable searching and questioning for the old clock manufacturing buildings and sites. After several false and misdirection, we found the buildings of the Session Clock Company. The red brick building is four stories high, and covered more than an acre. There are no markers or monuments to note the historical past of the building. The building is occupied by several small manufacturers and the Red Cross. We talked to several townspeople who used to work for Sessions.

In Terryville, we found the old water wheel, about 20 foot in diameter, which was used by Eli Terry, Jr. The buildings are gone. The water wheel was in sad stages of disrepair and will soon rot away. A roof and wall was built years ago to provide a protection from the weather. A small new building was built about four feet from the wall which blocks out the painted Eli Terry Jr. marker painted on the side of the wall.

In Thomaston, we easily found the Seth Thomas Clock Company. It is also a huge red brick building covering probably 2 acres. Clock making is still in process. Visitors are not allowed in the factory. We were told most of the works are imported from Germany, and that the cases were made in the factory. The impressive buildings with a tower clock are located on the main street in downtown Thomaston.

We visited the American and Clock Museum, Inc at 100 Maple Street in Bristol, Connecticut. The museum contains the collection of Ingraham clocks which were donated by Ingraham. There are some fabulous clocks in the museum representing the best American Clock makers including Eli Terry, Joseph Ives, Simon Willards Burnap, Harland, Cummins, and the Big 5 - Seth Thomas, Gilbert, Waterbury, Ansonia, and New Haven, as well as other makers. The museum was started in 1952 as the Bristol Clock Museum. The name was changed in 1958 to the present name. It is housed in a colonial style building built in 1801. The admission is \$2.00 for adults and is open from April 1st through October 31st. It is not open to the public in the winter. We wondered with such a fine museum in Bristol why the NAWCC couldn't have combined here in the heart of the old clock makers country.

We attended the Greater Massachusetts Clock Club meeting in Old Sturbridge. We had VIP treatment from club officials. The Mart had about 40 - 50 sellers, and we found prices were slightly lower than here, but not much. The luncheon and annual meeting was attended by 300 - 400 members.

We left Old Sturbridge and went to Grafton, Massachusetts and after following about 20 directional signs on rural roads, we found the Willard house. The house was built in 1718 and was the birthplace of the four famous Willard Clock Makers - Benjamin, Simon, Ephraim, and Aaron. It is the only original 18th century clockshop on its original site and still in a rural setting. Some of the original furniture is still in the building. There is the old clock workshop, will displayed with Willard parts and cases ready to assemble, and of course, several completed Willard clocks in the workshop. Willard made the improved time piece which we like to call the banjo clock. A new addition to the house

contains 12 Willard long case clocks. Many of the early Willard clocks are displayed throughout the house. A Willard Light House clock was stolen from the museum several years ago and never recovered. The Willard Museum is a must for clock collectors.

Residents in various towns seems to know little about the historical background of their towns, but I guess this is not uncommon, even here.

We visited several antique stores and clock shops throughout the New England states. Prices are about the same as here and some even higher. There are collectable clocks available, but no "sleepers".

Motels are not too plentiful in the areas. Price averages out to around \$20. for two people for the modest motels.



Sir, I have told you that we will not hear you talk, for you are the strangest and most obstinate creature that I have ever met with, and, would you do what we want you to do, and which is in your power, I will give you my word to give you the money, if you will but do it. (from the minutes of the Board of Longitude, July, 1765.

The quotation is Lord Egmont to John Harrison)

*John Sanderson*  
John Sanderson



## Benicia Clock Report

We started out well with the Benicia Clock last year, cleaning it and getting it running. But now, we have bogged down. The clock needs some brass bushings on the dial work, and the dials themselves need refurbishing. I have contacts with the Benicia town fathers, but I can't be in charge of the refurbishing operation. I'm sure we have many members willing to give time to finish the job, but to do it, we need a leader. Leader, where are you??? Step up and let John Sanderson or me know you will take on the job. It shouldn't be too difficult to get that clock in first class shape again. If no one volunteers, then I think we should lay the project to rest where it is: the first part well done, but the second part unfinished.

*John North*





A RAFFLE EVERY TIME!

I've volunteered to organize a raffle every meeting. It will be just for fun, not to generate income for the Chapter, though I will aim to do a little better than break even. This means we'll always get our money's worth - no slice to the organizers! I'm going to aim for about 5 or 6 prizes each time. They will be displayed before the meeting, and each winner will get his choice of any remaining prize. This gives a little more flexibility - for example, you may already have the book, but want the pliers. I'll try to have good usable prizes, and the tickets will be only 50 cents each! Buy as many as you like!

*John North*

Question: How long and at what temperature do you heat wood to kill a woodworm infestation.

John North

Answer: The object of heating is to denature the protein which makes up the body of this pest. As protein solidifies, death is immediate (applies to the eggs too). Temperature inside the wood must get to 130 to 140 degrees but not exceed 160 to 170 degrees. An oven set on warm for two hours should do it..or a slightly higher temperature for a shorter period of time.

Will Crites

\*\*\*\*\*  
MISCELLANEOUS  
\*\*\*\*\*

Clock Cleaning solution - Make one gallon of clock cleaner by mixing 2 ounces of Oleic acid, 4 ounces of Acetone and 8 ounces of 28% amonia. Mix in a gallon jug, and fill with warm water.

Joe & Ginny Ford

\* \* \* \* \*

A Bit of Smaaaaaaaal Trivia

An Excess of nine billion perturbations of the cesium atom constitutes one second of time. (The primary standard of absolute time by international agreement of the scientific community.

Anonymous

Found in the Suggestion box!

My father is the greatest president in the world, and so was my mother.

Anonymous!

\* \* \* \* \*

Oh! She was perfect, past all parallel -  
Of any modern female saint's comparison;  
So far above the cunning powers of hell,  
Her guardian angel had given up his garrison;  
Even her minutist motions went as well  
As those of the best timepiece made by Harrison.

- Lord Byron, Don Juan

EDITOR'S CORNER

It will soon be two years since we received our Charter with the original 34 members - most of whom are still members. We have grown tremendously, and at last count the membership was at 78!

I cannot stress enough the need of our membership to express itself through the two mediums available i.e. the suggestion box and the Bulletin.

The criticisms and suggestions which are placed in the suggestion box are always discussed at the executive committee meetings and a report made in the subsequent bulletin. This is the way everyone can be heard since we are governed through the executive committee. Of course, you are always welcome to their meetings. Although you can't vote, you can speak and indeed are invited to make your ideas known!

The Bulletin speaks for itself. It needs your contributions. It needs the reports of the various chairmen, it needs advertising, and above all, it needs articles! We have the talent. LET'S HEAR FROM IT!

