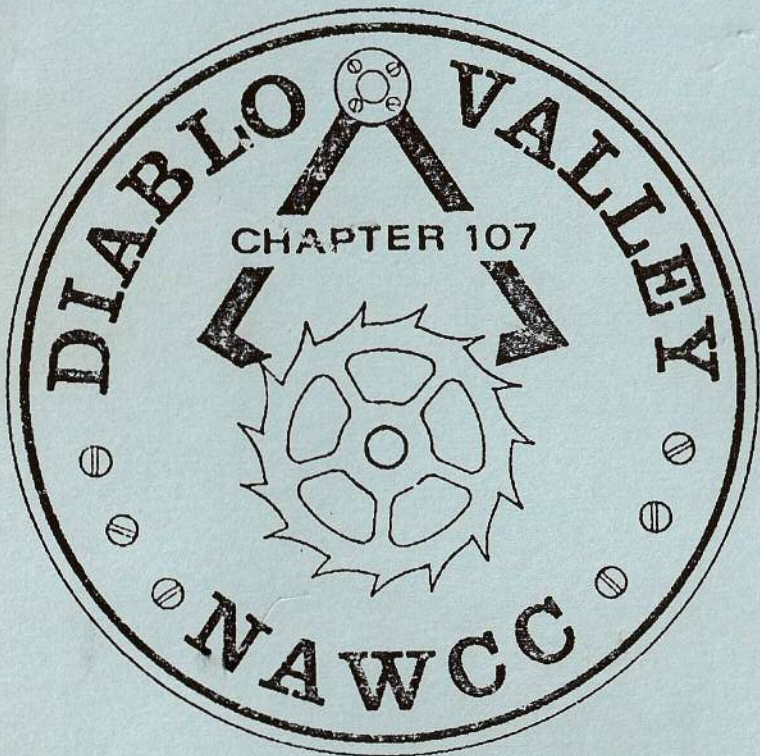


BULLETIN



APRIL 1990

ISSUE 68

Diablo Valley Chapter 107
National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc.

MEETINGS

Chapter: Second Sundays, Even Months, Noon
Evening: First Fridays, Odd Months, 7:30 PM
Board: Second Mondays, Odd Months, 7:30 PM

1990 OFFICERS

President.....Steve Fabes.....932-5091
Vice President.....Wayne DeLaroche...944-9242
Vice President.....John Stohr.....376-6476
Secretary.....Tom Armour.....654-3363
Treasurer.....John Sanderson.....937-6272

DIRECTORS

Harold Montano.....1989-90...223-7931
Dorothea Sanderson....1989-90...937-6272
Glen Armstrong.....1990-91...837-6298
Rick Calicura.....1990-91...228-4992
Shirley Gibson.....1990-91...735-3377

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Display.....Bob Wahrer.....462-4912
Drawing.....Harold Montano.....223-7931
Library.....Sandy Cuthill.....686-3144
Mart/S. Auction.....Ed Okvist.....357-6257
Membership.....Dorothea Sanderson...937-6272
Nominating.....Fred Cuthill.....686-3144
Photo/Mem.Book...Rick Calicura.....228-4992
Program.....Wayne DeLaroche.....944-9242
 John Stohr.....376-6476
Refreshments.....Bud Ehler.....228-5387
 Shirley Gibson.....735-3377

Editor....John North....676-9188
Please send material for BULLETIN to
4427 Striped Maple Ct. Concord, Ca, 94521

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.

MEETING INFORMATION

Sunday, April 8, 1990

at

HOME FEDERAL SAVING AND LOAN
Tice Valley Road and Rossmoor Parkway
Walnut Creek

MART Set-up 11:30 AM
MART begins 12:00 Noon

PROGRAM

CLOCK ESCAPEMENT BASICS

Our own Jack Coulter will cover:
...Function of the Escapement.
...Terminology - a major confusion - Drop, lock, dead face, inside, outside, impulse and more.
...How a dead beat escapement works.
...How a recoil escapement works.
...Brief comparison of dead beat and recoil characteristics.
...Summary of proper operation and adjustments.
...Time permitting, short description of half-deadbeat and Brocot escapements.

DISPLAY

Please bring examples of unusual escapements such as dead beat, Brocot, pinwheel or other. Also any other horological item of interest.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am still learning and will admit to being a poor student.

For me the experience and knowledge of others is the sweetest cup to drink from.

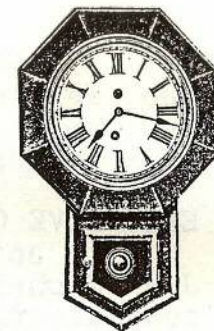
Our Chapter's motto is "accent on education". I believe the odd month programs are a tremendous demonstration of that direction. Please make an effort to get to the next one--its on Friday, May 4 at 7:30 PM in the same place where we hold the Sunday meetings. Coffee and a MART are available if you need another reason.

Back to my message and personal learning difficulties! I want to encourage you all to share with us your experience so we can learn from you.

Hand-write a note, nothing fancy, half a page, just as I am doing now. Pass it along to John North (address inside the cover of this Bulletin) and let us learn from you. For those who prefer to talk, I'll allot a period during the Sunday meeting for anyone who wants to share an experience.

This message has little value unless you understand and accept that no one is above learning AND that we can all teach. Your experiences, even from the elementary, the basics, are valued by someone. You will always have an eager listener, namely me and probably an entire room full!

Steve Faler



The Tip Off

by Phil Russell

**** Some Odds and Ends: By 1840 no more men were being apprenticed as clockmakers in the United States because the factories were handling all production far faster than individual craftsmen could do it.

**** On the clock dial: why "IIII" instead "IV." The story is that in 1370 AD, King Charles V at Paris had clockmaker Henri deVick make him a clock. DeVick told King Charles that IV was the correct Roman form. King Charles said it would be IIII and so it was and still is. Another theory was the artistic balance using the IIII. However, I like the King Charles version.

**** From the 1908 Sears-Roebuck Catalog:
Watch Cleaning Instructions:

Remember a watch should not run longer than one and one half years without having the oil cleaned off and fresh oil applied. People carry a watch for 10 years without having it cleaned or fresh oil applied. Usually a movement thus treated is of no value, being worn out. Have you changed your oil lately????

**** Why were Zinc dials used? Very simple--Paint forms a better bond with Zinc than any other metal. If you have a Zinc dial that needs repainting--use the original dial and have it re-painted.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ... MARCH 12, 1990

John Stohr presented the upcoming program schedule for 1990 Sunday meetings.

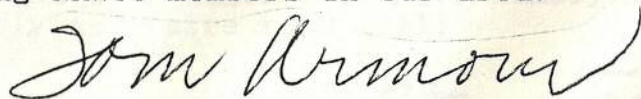
Apr Jack Coulter: Clock Escapements
Jun Jack Ford: Brass Polishing
Aug Ugly Clock Contest & White Eleph Auct.
Oct Bob McIver Presents
Dec Holiday Potluck and Auction
Feb John Sanderson Presents

The evening programs are to be "how to" and technical in nature, with emphasis on videos and national programs. We discussed building a Chapter video library for program backup and member use through our library.

The NAWCC Presidential Citation we received last year at the Buffalo National was for John Muir and Eugene O'Neil National Historic Sites clock restorations done by four of our members, and on display at those places.

Treasurer John Sanderson presented the 1990 budget. (See separately in this Bulletin: Ed.) One hundred dollars was advanced to John Stohr for the Home Federal 1990 cleaning fee.

Under new business, the Board considered a request from Karl Kochmann to help finance literature for Eastern Europe, and requested further information. The Board decided that NAWCC longevity pins should be an individual member function and not be provided at Chapter expense. The Board asked that our Membership Committee use National's zip code lists to send invitation letters to new and relocating NAWCC members in our area.



Tom Armour, Secretary

Following is our 1990 budget, as approved by the Executive Committee on March 12. It is \$191.89 less than we spent in 1989 due to certain non recurring expenses.

BULLETIN	\$600
REFRESHMENTS	\$250
PHOTOGRAPHY	\$70
PROGRAMS	\$10
INSURANCE	\$175
LIBRARY	\$235
P.O. BOX & POSTAGE	\$100
MEMBERSHIP, DONATIONS, MISC	\$50
MEETING ROOM FEE	\$100

TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,590

The library budget includes, for the first time, video tape acquisition cost in addition to books.

Also for the first time, Home Savings is charging a fee for the meeting room. It is expressed as a cleaning deposit, but is not refundable. The room, however is still a bargain.

John Sanderson, Treasurer 

DATING BIG BEN AND LITTLE BEN CLOCKS

Original	1915-27	Has ring on top.
3A	1927-35	No ring on top.
61N	1935-39	Long base.
61R	1939-49	Brass plate on base.
61V	1949-56	Short base- Large dial frame.
61Y	1956-64	Short base- Inside dial marks.
8-535-32	1964-on	Oval
And from	1980,	a new model.
61L		Was made in Canada.

(From Phil Russell's handout at our April 1990 Meeting.)



PENDULUM WOBBLE by John Stohr

Had trouble with pendulum clocks where the pendulum wobbles or dishes? Here's some ideas that might help.

Pendulum wobble can be caused by looseness in the top support or suspension spring mounting post. Excessive spring movement should be removed by tightening the mounting arrangement. However, don't tighten too much. Wobble more likely is caused by the suspension spring being too tight in its slot. To verify, remove the pendulum and check that the suspension spring, pinned in position, can pivot freely under its own weight. Any sign of friction must be removed. Friction can also be caused by the taper pin or screw holding the spring being tight in the spring mounting hole.

With the suspension spring free to align itself with the vertical, next check for buckle or "oilcan" effect when the spring flexes. If you see buckle, remove spring and check spring edges for dents, bends or stretch. Replace spring if found.

With two legged springs, both edges must be parallel at the flex point where they enter the reinforcing plates. Sometimes both legs can be bent an equal amount to one side or another as a temporary fix until a new spring is available.

The sandwich of metal or plastic at the top of the suspension is for both strength of the mounting hole in the spring and also as a straight edge for the spring to flex against. This edge should be square to the length of the spring.

While not as critical as the suspension spring, checks should be made of the pendulum hook to verify that the pendulum on the hook can align itself vertically.

Another point to check is the crutch or point where the suspension contacts the pendulum or pendulum hanger. If this point does not lie in vertical center line of the pendulum, a twisting movement is created which can also cause wobbles.

If all else fails, try a stiffer suspension spring which will change the frequency of the pendulum swing and also correct wobble.

A Famous Clock

By March 15, the name of Albert S. Samuels will disappear from Market Street, ending one of our city's beloved traditions. The store will have a new name and the new manager is quoted by Herb Caen as saying the historic clock in front of the store, which was made

famous by Dashiell Hammett, will remain. Ah, yes, but gone will be its sentimental identification in Market Street's colorful history.

This Market Street clock was made famous by the equally famous private eye Sam Spade; was a centerpiece in the famous VJ-Day celebration and rioting in 1945; weathered the BART disruption and in 1984 survived a three-year struggle with a reluctant Southern California owner who did not want to fix it.

I would like to propose that the city ensure its legacy and begin proceedings to take over the clock and move it to the cable-car turntable area at Powell and Market streets where it would acquire world-renowned fame and the attention and upkeep it deserves.



Many thanks to Harold Montano for providing this interesting piece.

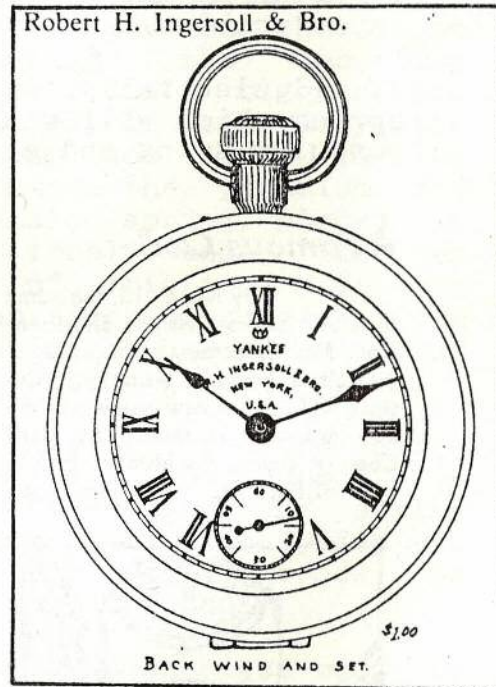
please emulate him, we will all enjoy it. Ed.

The Ingersoll Watch
 "The Watch That Made The Dollar Famous"
 by Phil Russell

The Ingersoll Watches were probably the best known of all the "Dollar Watches." The Ingersoll name was found on watches from about 1892 to 1951--a period of 58 years. The Ingersoll name outlasted the two founders Robert Hawley Ingersoll (1859-1928) and Charles Henry Ingersoll (1865-1948).

In the beginning: In 1880 the two Ingersolls started a very successful Mail Order business in New York. The name of the business was Robert H. Ingersoll & Bro. Company. Their first venture into watches was in 1892 when the Company bought about 1000 watches from the Waterbury Clock Co. (NOT the Watch Company). The watch was an improved "Jumbo" model designed by Archibald Bannatyne. Ingersolls paid 85 cents for the watches and sold them for \$1. The watches sold fast.

In 1893 the Ingersoll Company had the Waterbury Clock Co. make a special designed case for the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The World's Fair design was stamped on the back of the case and the watches sold for \$1.50. It needs to be pointed out that the Ingersolls had a very efficient distribution system, a solid guarantee and a

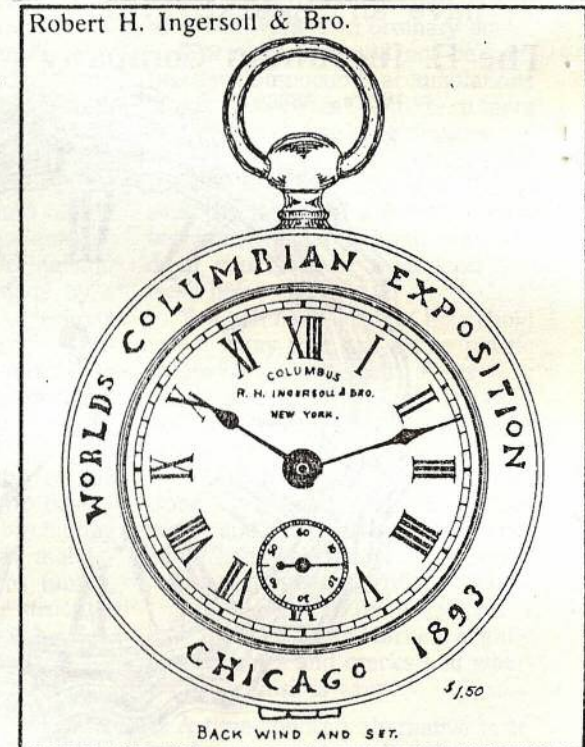


uniform pricing policy. the Ingersoll slogan was: "The Watch That Made The Dollar Famous." Although the pocket watches marketed by the Ingersolls were thick and noisy, and wound and set from the back, they were very reliable timekeepers and sturdily built. They were in demand and the Ingersoll Co. expanded.

The Ingersoll Co. factors as follows promoted their watches:

1. The watch should be a practical timepiece and not a plaything.
2. It should not be easy to get the watch out of adjustment.
3. It had to be rugged and defy ordinary usage.
4. The watch should be sold for \$1.

In 1914 the Waterbury Clock Co. terminated their contract with Ingersolls for the non-jeweled watches. They made the first Mickey Mouse Watch in the early 1930's. The Ingersolls were able to buy the bankrupted New England Watch Co. in Waterbury, Ct., and by 1917 they were employing 700 people to make watches.



The end was approaching--World War I and the depression caused the Ingersoll Company

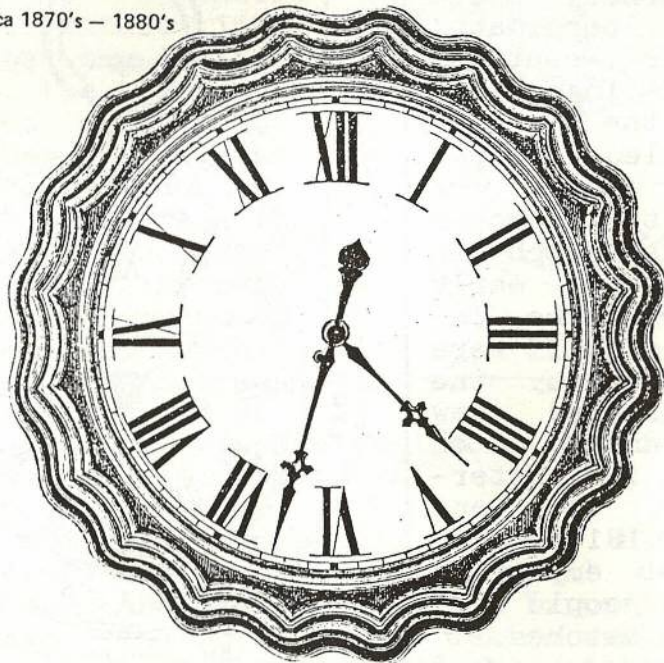
to fail. It was taken over by the Waterbury Clock Co. (their former suppliers). The watches were called the Ingersoll-Waterbury Co. In 1933 they produced the Mickey Mouse watch which sold for \$1.33.

In 1944 Ingersoll-Waterbury was sold to the United States Time Corp. The Ingersoll trademark continued until 1951 when it was replaced by the "Timex" name, and thus ended the name Ingersoll in the watch industry. The Ingersoll watches as well as other Dollar watches were used for promotion--like the Black Mantel. Buy a pair of pants or shoes, or motor oil, etc., and get a free Ingersoll watch. The watch usually had the name of the Company or Product on the dial.

And so ended the Ingersoll Watches. Do you have an Ingersoll???

The E. Ingraham Company's Clocks.

ca 1870's - 1880's



GALLERY (Corrugated Walnut, Chestnut and Gilt)

10" 8 Day Time. . . \$8.00	14" 8 Day Gilt Time. . . \$17.00
12" 8 Day Time. . . 10.00	18" 8 Day Gilt Time. . . 30.00
14" 8 Day Time. . . 12.00	20" 8 Day Gilt Time. . . 35.00
18" 8 Day Time. . . 20.00	24" 8 Day Gilt Time. . . 45.00
20" 8 Day Time. . . 25.00	

This piece which ran in the Contra Costa Times gives one approach to wood worm control. Another is freezing the item, if you have a small clock and a big freezer. Personally, I have seen very few if any live woodworm situations in our relatively dry climate here. Ed.

8C—The Times

Friday, March 2, 1990

Woodworm control adds life to furniture

By Michael Varese

The New York Times

There is a saying among old-timers at English and European auctions that if woodworms would just put their feet out, the furniture could walk to its new home. Don't let that happen to your possessions.

Although it takes considerably longer for a piece of infected furniture to collapse in a cloud of dust, it takes only a couple of years for wood surfaces to be peppered with wormholes.

So this condition should hardly be considered a sign of antiquity.

One hears tales of age being simulated with wormholes made by a mallet and pick, a drill or even a blast from a shotgun. Such techniques are probably preferable to the real thing, when wood provides sanctuary and sustenance to woodworms.

Woodworms, the grubs of the wood-boring beetle, seem to have a preference for beech and birch; they like walnut and will choose mahogany in a pinch. The grubs tunnel, munch and undermine the structure of the wood and, as adult beetles, use the holes to escape.

How then can you tell if there is infestation?

If you test a genuine wormhole with a pin, you will find that the hole never goes straight down but branches off in one direction or another. With the real thing, close examination will show the edges of re-

cent wormholes to be sharp and lined with clean, light wood. There will be dustlike refuse, or frass, on the carpet or floor.

Old, vacated holes are usually darker, because cloth and polish have gone across them from time to time and worked in ordinary dust.

Worm frass should not be confused with innocuous accumulations of dust sometimes found on runners supporting and guiding drawers.

Unless the piece is an important one — in which case you should seek the advice of a furniture conservator — a simple home cure will do if you discover what look like fresh holes and dust.

You will need a can of household insect spray that has a fine plastic extension on the spout. Press very lightly on the valve, letting the fluid dribble into the holes. Do the same to any crevices and joints.

Where holes are numerous and close together, spray the surface gently and then brush the fluid over all. When working on legs, don't forget the undersides of the feet.

An objection to this treatment is that the wood can darken slightly around holes and cracks and wherever the finish is worn.

A time-honored alternative is to brush on kerosene. But kerosene reaches so far into the wood that it may discolor it for life.

Whichever course you take, repeat the treatment a year later.

WANTED AND FOR SALE

No member submitted any wants or for sale items to me this time. But this is a good place to tell each other our wants and for sale items for free, and it has gotten results in the past. Just write yours down and give or send them to me and they will appear here!



17th Century Horological Trivia.....

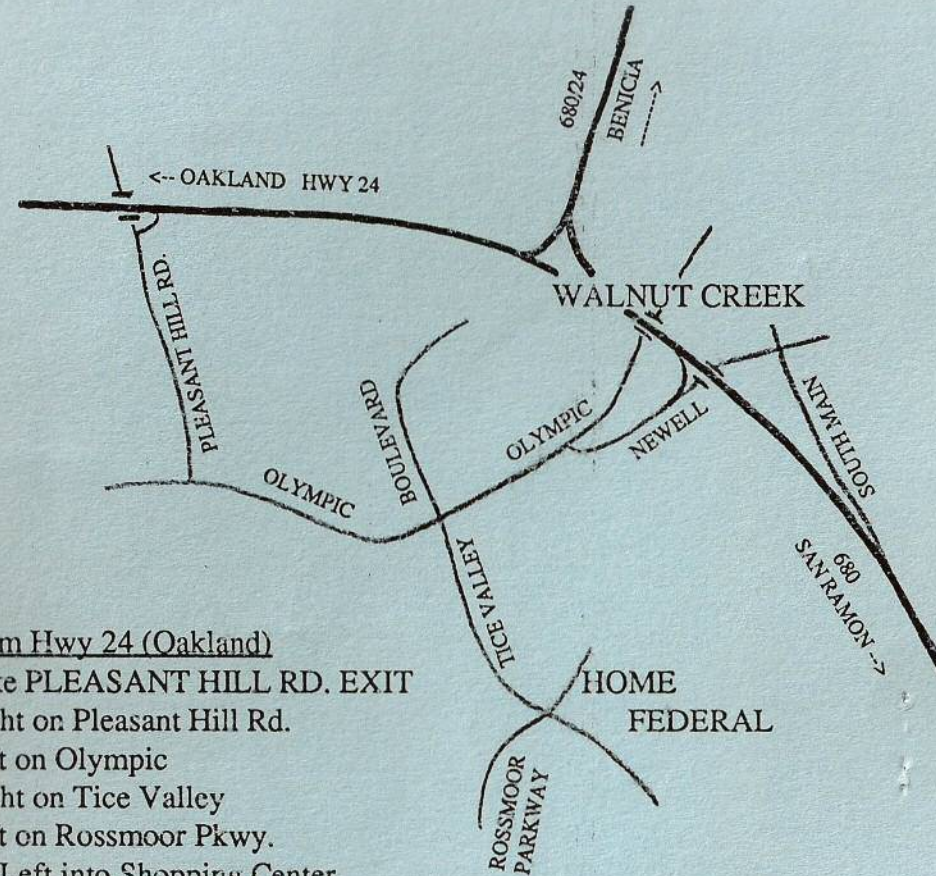
Much of Royalty was interested in clocks and watches. In the lusty Charles II of England, however, it seems contradictory for he was known to be "ruled by his mistresses". He kept a small room off his chambers in Whitehall filled with his prize possessions, mostly watches (there were also other small mementos of his family such as his favorite sister's comb set). He rarely allowed anyone in the room and used to relax by spending a couple of hours winding all the watches. Nell Gwynn, an actress and his most permanent mistress complained that even she could not distract him when he was winding his watches.

So don't be discouraged! When you're so involved with your clocks or watches you can't be distracted by "other things", you have a 300 year old tradition behind you.

John
John Sanderson

The above is from the October, 1979 issue of our Bulletin. Thanks again John. Ed.

DIRECTIONS TO CHAPTER MEETINGS



From Hwy 24 (Oakland)

Take PLEASANT HILL RD. EXIT
Right on Pleasant Hill Rd.
Left on Olympic
Right on Tice Valley
Left on Rossmoor Pkwy.
1st Left into Shopping Center

From Hwy. 680 (San Ramon)

Take SOUTH MAIN EXIT
Left On Newell
Left on Olympic
Left on Tice Valley
Left on Rossmoor Pkwy.
1st Left into Shopping Center

From Hwy 680/24 (Benicia)

Go South on 680 in Walnut Ck.
Take NEWELL EXIT
Right on Newell
Left on Olympic
Left on Tice Valley
Left on Rossmoor Pkwy.
1st Left into Shopping Center

Home Federal is between American Bank & Trust and First Interstate Bank. Meeting Room is at rear.

Annual Chapter Membership \$15.00

Non Member Meeting Donation \$3.00

Guests are most welcome, but due to our tax exempt status, only NAWCC members can participate in the MART.