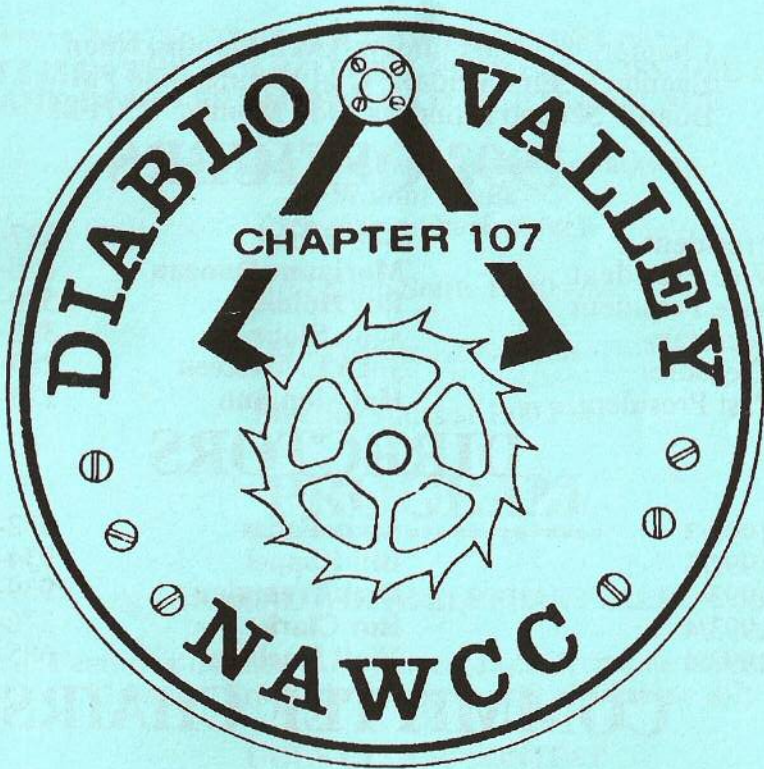


BULLETIN



AUGUST 1993

VOLUME 88

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER 107

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc.

Chapter Motto: "Accent on Education"

MEETINGS

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

1993 OFFICERS

President	Bob Boone	827-3858
Vice President	Marianne Duncan	820-2483
Vice President	Roy Holman	530-5428
Secretary	John Stohr	376-6476
Treasurer	John L. McKeen	283-8366
Past President	Hal Montano	223-7931

DIRECTORS

1992/3	Steve Fabes	932-5091
1992/3	Bill Koppel	934-9391
1993	Dick Tremaine	939-0663
1993/4	Roy Clark	376-6356
1993/4	Walt Huebrig	685-0260

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Display	Marianne Duncan	820-2483
Drawings	Jack Coulter	254-0746
Library	Sandy Cuthill	686-3144
Mart	Hal Montano	223-7931
Membership	Steve Fabes	932-5091
Nominating	John Stohr	376-6476
Photo	Roy Holman	530-5428
Program	Roy Holman	530-5428
"	Marianne Duncan	820-2483
Refreshments	Bud Ehler	228-5387
Editor	Tom Beales	376-6212

MEETING INFORMATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 1993

at

CIVIC BANK OF COMMERCE

***** NOTE: THIS IS A NEW LOCATION. *****
IT IS IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM ACROSS THE HALL
AND DOWN FROM OUR OLD MEETING PLACE.

Tice Valley Road and Rossmoor Parkway
Walnut Creek
(See map on back cover)

Mart Set-up Starts 11:30 AM

Mart Starts 12:00 Noon

Meeting starts at 1:00 PM

PROGRAM

ANNUAL WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

Featuring our new Auctioneers Dick Tremaine and Roy Holman. Proceeds for the benefit of Chapter 107.

UGLY CLOCK CONTEST

Previous winning clocks not allowed.

COOKIE BAKE-OFF

Bring your best home baked cookies or those of a friend.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Note: President Boone is off on a boonedoggle in Montana checking on antiques or maybe "how high the sky is". This message is a series of thoughts by a Chapter member.

This year is past the half way mark, time to think about next year. The most important item for 1994 is election of officers in December. Our Nominating Committee Chair needs your help in getting candidates. Our buy-laws only allow last year's Treasurer and Secretary to stand for re-election. Nominees for office must not have held that office last year. This by-law is for the Chapter's benefit so it doesn't become a private club. But, this makes it harder to get officers even though we only have five or six board meetings a year. Tell John Stohr you'll run in 1994.

Your Board did not meet in July but I'm told our bills got paid, especially our liability insurance policy for another year. Our Treasurer tells me it is nice to have money in the bank.

The National returned our Chapter Banner from Dallas. No idea of how it looked down there. If anyone attended the National, tell us about it.

Our White Elephant Auction is always a treat, especially if Sandy is there with a few nickels in her pocket. Its fun and it puts a few dollars in the Chapter's treasury. Thanks in advance to Dick Tremaine and Roy Holman for stepping in as this years' auctioneers.

See you on August 8th.

John Store

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Too many members were out of town so a board meeting was not held in July.

Here are updates to previous outstanding items.

The seating arrangement for our June 7th meeting at Civic Bank was better. We'll try it again in August.

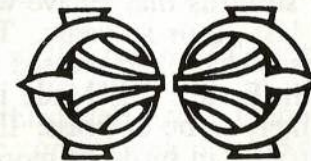
Programs for October and February are tentative. Members' ideas for programs from the June meeting were given to Roy Holman.

Steve Fabes reports he is having problems finding time for the Vallejo Street Clock Project. The Chapter needs a volunteer.

John Store will tell the Chapter about his favorite clock at the August meeting.

The June Bulletin stated that our CD was due in July. That statement was in error. Its due August 8, 1993. Our Treasurer will renew it at that time.

Submitted by John Stohr



INSIDE SINGING BIRDS

Reprinted with permission from Julie S. Porter

Alfred Chapuis and his collaborators often remarked on the smallness and delicacy of mechanical birds. Illustration 1 shows a bird of this type. While examples measuring as small as 15 mm from beak to tail, this type of bird is well documented. However it is rarely encountered, especially in the larger sizes, where this intricate animation and watch-like precision can be appreciated.

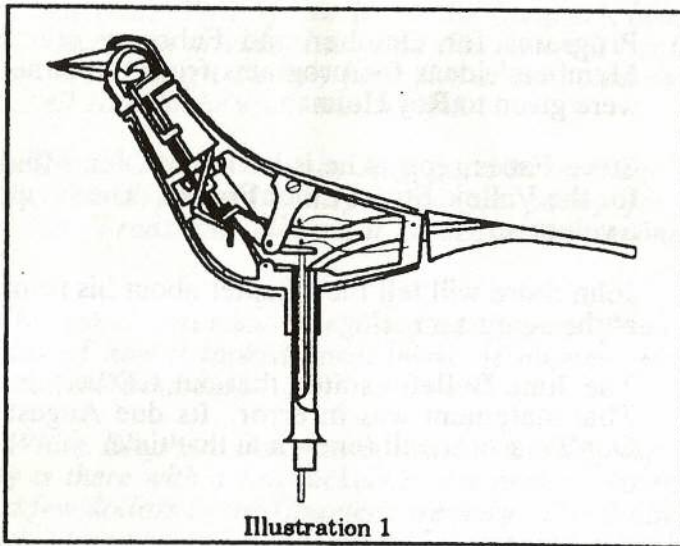


Illustration 1

Of the dozen or so birds that I have worked upon, most are plastic from the last 30 or so years. These follow the same basic design of somewhat older massed produced birds. Often stamped, "Made in France" or "Made in Germany" the older birds are more likely to be of brass. Illustration 2 shows the simple linkages found in birds of more recent manufacture. While simpler to implement these birds look just as good as the more complex birds when covered with feathers.

Most birds at least open their beak and shake the tail. Often the perch turns to give more animation to the action. The most typical bird, often marked or stamped "Made in France", also turns its head. This is a most interesting feature and deserves further study.

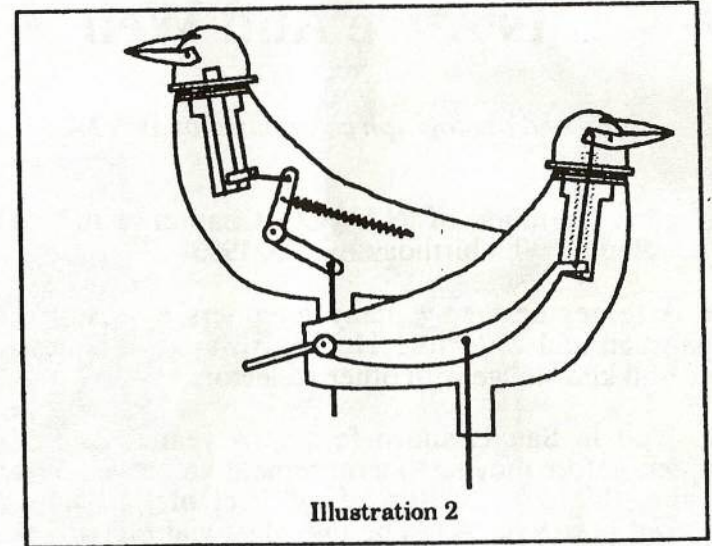


Illustration 2

Instead of inset cannon tubes such as the bird in Illustration 1, which is described in *Le Monde des Automates*, a simple wire is attached to the "L" shaped lever known as a bell crank. A small return spring keeps the head pivoted to one side. The head itself is mounted on a hollow tube which pivots about a tab stamped in the plastic or metal frame. Connected from a stem mounted onto this tube is a small wire attached to the bell crank. When the activating wire pushes the bell crank this small wire pushes the head about its pivot.

The other part of Illustration 2 demonstrated the action of the beak and tail. The tail pivots on one point of what can be described as a third class lever. Opposing the pivot of the tail, opposite of the control rod, is a linkage to the lower bill. On birds with turnable heads this linkage must be loose enough to keep the bill from opening as the head turns.

"AL" JAMES Is Alive And Well

Story and photograph contributed by Bob Mac Iver

An early member of NAWCC Chapter #107, Al James celebrated his 90th birthday July 23, 1993.

He is remembered by many members as a top rate clock repairman and collector. He was always willing to share this time and knowledge with other collectors.

He lived in San Leandro for many years. One of his last projects before moving to a retirement home was designing and building his own version of an "Act of Parliament" clock, pictured here with Al. The two glass vial mercury pendulum and most of the case work was done by Al. The brass dial engraving and the gold-leaf lettering on the front of the case were done professionally.

He would be glad to hear from old friends. Drop him a card or a phone call. Al James, 373 Pine Lane, Los Altos CA 94022, Phone (415) 948-0127.



Photo of Al James with his "Act of Parliament" clock.

We Went To The TACOMA REGIONAL

by Phil Russell

We decided to go to the Tacoma Regional via Crater Lake (12 feet of snow), and Mt. Ranier (only 10 feet of snow). A great trip, roads all dry, water falls running, etc. Saw Crater lake through a "Snow Tunnel".

Facilities at Tacoma were very nice. There were about 180 Mart tables and about 400 NAWCC members. We had a nice chat with our NAWCC President Fred H. Ingran, MD. He has done a good job and said Dave Morgan was elected and will move into the 1st Vice President position, meaning he will no doubt be our next President.

There was one major change in the Regional programming. The Awards Banquet is now a morning breakfast, and a good move it was. Found that many members would leave before an evening banquet. There were lots of Regional Chapter Awards - Certificates of Merit (hope our Awards Committee hears this) and a few Fellow Awards were made. Only other Chapter 107 Members there were Loren Scanlon and "Buck" Graybill.

Prices for clocks and watches were about the same as at our Regional Mart and as expected not many sleepers. (Maybe they were gone before we got there???) Seems that more or less, a standard price range (depending on condition and poverty). Black Mantels around \$125 and up, Kitchens \$150 and up. There were lots of varieties and some very nice clocks and watches. It was a good place to look for THE one you're looking for.

Facilities were very good, lots of pay parking. The Mart room was a nice size, no crowding, excellent security and fairly convenient for unloading. The display was Naval Clocks and Watches. Since I was in the U.S Air Corps I didn't know what some of the time pieces were for. Displays should describe articles better; something to consider for the future. The lecture on "Bushing Tools" by Pat Cavanaugh was excellent, well displayed, many makers and usage discussed. Weather was rainy and cool - what else??

The Tip Off

by Phil Russell

I am certainly concerned about our Membership. Most seemed to be "goners", afflicted with MORBUS HOROLOGEUS. Only one member had strength to mention it.

I guess it is our "Changing Times and Modes". Program Speakers and our Officers spend their time and efforts for us Members. When was the last time you told a Speaker or our Management Group "Thank You" for their efforts. This is one of their few rewards - no \$\$\$\$\$\$.

Sarah and I were pleased to present a "poster Talk and Display" on Celluloid for the American Arts Forum at the M. H. de Young Museum in San Francisco, and also at the Solano State College. Got a lot of "ahs" and "ohs" and we had a hard time convincing people that "Adamantine" was celluloid and not wood. A fun thing and a chance to promote the NAWCC.

The article we wrote on the Ansonia Rubber Company has had one review and looks like it will be published late this year or early in 1994.

Lets Take A Shopping Trip Back In Time - Say 1897

by Phil Russell

We thought it would be fun to take a shopping trip back into time and see how we could make out. Before we start, we'll take a whole week's wages of about \$6 or \$7 so we can go all out and get the best. We want quality so only will look at the best makers.

Just our luck - on our shopping trip we found a very nice cast iron case with a figurine - made by Ansonia Clock Company, 15" x 15" x 22". Price \$14.85 (wow, 2 1/2 weeks wages but no tax). Its too much for us. But, how about a Ceres Metal Statue 7" x 8" for \$1.90. Boy!!, Wow!!, lots of Black Mantels priced from \$5.40 to \$6.90 and I only have enough money, a week's wages for one. We saw several nice Porcelain clocks for \$5.75 to \$8.25. (Wonder if they would hold their value??)

But I guess we will get one that we can afford - have my choice of 12 elaborate Cabinet clocks (called a Kitchen clock now) from \$2 - most expensive was \$3.90. Then there's a very nice Regulator, solid oak, 32" height, 12 inch dial, and only \$5.85. There is also a Seth Thomas, one day, Ogee for \$7.45 (too much). Guess I'll have to settle for a New Haven Alarm Clock for \$.78.

All clocks are fully factory guaranteed and Store guaranteed. Now where else can you get a deal like that today??, especially the warrantee. Guess our trip in time is over and now REALITY is back.



Windsor

CHAPTER #107 MART

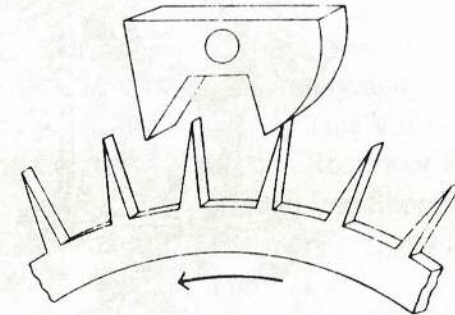
Wanted To Buy:

Angelus-strike clock similar to the one on Page 717 in the December 1992 Bulletin. Bob Mac Iver (510) 523-2096

A Special Thanks

At the April meeting I lost four wrist watches. I want to thank all who expressed their concern and note my sincere appreciation for the member and good friend who very generously made good my loss.

Steve Fabes



THE TIC-TAC OR DRUM ESCAPEMENT

1993 MEETING AND PROGRAM CALENDAR

Listed below are the upcoming dates for Sunday noon Chapter meetings, Friday evening Chapter meetings and the Monday evening Executive Board meetings.

Mark your calendars now!

Sunday Meetings

Aug. 8

Oct. 10

Dec. 12

Friday Meetings

Sep. 10

Nov. 5

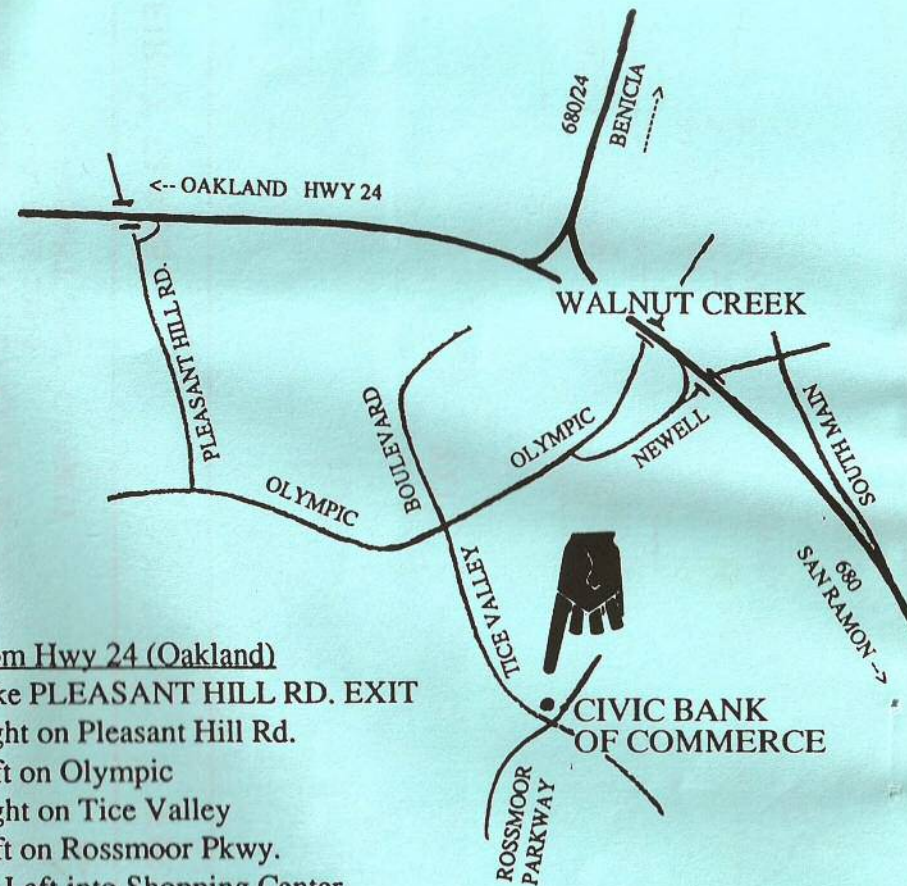
Executive Board Meetings

Sep. 13

Nov. 8



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

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