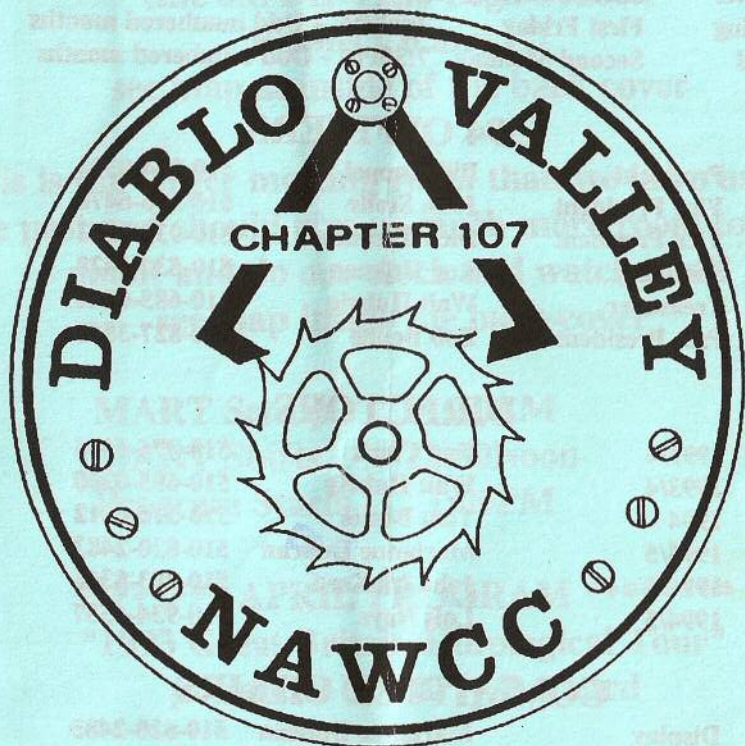


BULLETIN



April 1994
Volume 92

DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER 107

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

Chapter Motto "Accent on Education"

Meetings

Chapter	Second Sunday	11:30AM - Even numbered months
Evening	First Friday	7:00PM - Odd numbered months
Board	Second Monday	7:30PM - Odd numbered months

1994 OFFICERS

President	Bill Koppel	510-934-9391
Vice President	John Stohr	510-376-6476
Vice President	Dick Tremaine	510-939-0663
Secretary	Roy Holman	510-530-5428
Treasurer	Walt Hubrig	510-685-0260
Past President	Bob Boone	510-827-3858

DIRECTORS

1993/4	Roy Clark	510-376-6356
1993/4	Walt Hubrig	510-685-0260
1994	Tom Beales	510-376-6212
1994/5	Marianne Duncan	510-820-2483
1994/5	John McKeen	510-283-8366
1994/5	Lois Naye	510-934-4557

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Display	Marianne Duncan	510-820-2483
Raffle Drawing	Jack Coulter	510-254-0746
Library	Sandy Cuthill	510-686-3144
MART	****open****	
Membership	Steve Fabes	510-932-5091
Nominating	John Stohr	510-376-6476
Photo	Richard Simpson	510-339-9529
Program	Dick Tremaine	510-939-0663
" "	John Stohr	510-376-6476
Refreshments	Bud Ehlers	510-228-5387
Tool Library	Walt Hubrig	510-685-0260
Bulletin/Editor	Steve Fabes	510-932-5091

Meeting Information

Sunday April 10th, 1994

at

ACALANES ADULT CENTER
(the old Del Valle High School)
Rooms C6 and C7

see map at inside of the back cover

this is the larger meeting room than we have used in the past and should give us much more room to move about and do our clock and watch stuff!

see map inside the back-cover

MART Set-up 11:30AM
MART Starts 12:00Noon
Program Starts 1:00PM

***** APRIL PROGRAM *****
"1993 Great Britain Horological Tour"
presented by Larry Barnard

***** DISPLAY *****

Bring a sample of your English, Scottish, Welsh or Irish time pieces.

Presidents Message

First Item of Business: Our April meeting will be held at the new larger site. Please note the new directions in the Bulletin. Thank you John Stohr for the work you did in locating us to a larger facility.

This roomier facility will enable us to comfortably seat new members and chat with old friends. It also now affords you room to bring in all those MART items that your spouse would like to see sold.

As outlined in the President's Message from the February 1994 NAWCC Bulletin, the national would like chapters to participate in the contests to design an official NAWCC banner. The winning chapter will receive a \$1,000 gift certificate for the purchase of items sold through the NAWCC Museum shop. Anyone interested in this venture should let me know.

The Board of Directors continues to look at appropriate ways of expressing our thanks to the members of our Chapter who continually contribute more than their share to make this the great chapter what it is. I feel that a personal "THANK YOU" or "GRAET JOB" from members is often worth more than all the certificates we could print. To identify those people who deserve that pat on the back, just look at the names on the Bulletin articles or the names inside the cover of the Bulletin or the names of the participants at the Chapter events. Jack Coulter, the person who manages the raffle drawings at our meetings is one person who doesn't get enough credit for the enjoyment he brings to the meetings. So I'll take this time to say "Thank you Jack" See you all at the April meeting

Sincerely, Bill Koppel

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes

March 7th 1994 Board Meeting - Bill Koppel presiding

The second Executive Committee meeting of '94 was held at Bill Koppel's house on March 7th .

Attending: Bill Koppel, Bob Boone, Roy Clark, Walt Hubrig, John Stohr. As a quorum was not present the meeting continued as an informational meeting.

Treasurer Walt Hubrig reported that he had re-invested the Chapter's CD when it came due on 2/15/94. The Chapter now has a 6 month CD paying 3.0%, a one year CD paying 3.3% and an 18 month CD paying 3.75%. These investments were made after \$1,000 was transferred to the Chapter's checking account to cover the Tool Library purchases.

The PO Box rental for another year has been paid.

The checking account was moved to a non-interest bearing account as the interest was not covering the Bank charges when the balance was below \$1,500.

The April meeting program will be a report by Larry Bernard on his Great Britain Horological Tour.

John Stohr mentioned that a request will be in the Bulletin by an Illinois NAWCC member who is looking for information on AURORA watches and also a request for clocks and watches to be displayed at the Museum of American Heritage.

Future copies of the Chapter Bulletin will be sent to our National Awards Committee representative in Southern California.

The meeting adjourned at 2110hrs.¹

John Stohr
Acting Secretary (and a very good one at that! - Ed' comment)

¹That is ten past nine in the evening..... and for you ex-Marines, the little hand is on the nine and the big hand is on the two.

"The Ansonia Clock and Rubber Company"

The Beginning

by Phil and Sarah Russell

There is little question that the Ansonia Clock Company was the most productive and innovative clock maker in the USA - bar none. It started from a small beginning in May 1850 when Anson G. Phelps of Phelps-Dodge & Company and Theodore Terry and Franklin C. Andrews (Terry & Andrews) formed a joint stock corporation at Ansonia, CT near the town of Derby. They called their business "The Ansonia Clock Company" - (why did a brass company get involved with clocks?). In 1850 Terry & Andrews used fifty tons of brass for clocks.

In 1849 Chauncey Jerome was making clock cases on Main Street and E. D. Bryant was making clock movements - the clock business thrived.

It was back in 1844 that Anson Phelps built a dam near Derby CT. and built the factories of Ansonia Brass and Copper Company. The officials of Derby refused to let the factories - nor any factory expansions to be built within Derby's city limits. Anson Phelps bought land outside the Derby city limits and as Anson said "I'll name the new town after myself" - and he did. Ansonia CT. was born.

In November 1854, the original Ansonia Clock Company buildings burnt to the ground. The ruins were sold to you guessed it - Phelps Dodge Corporation. (Dodge was Mr. Phelps' son-in-law) Over the next 15 years only a few clocks were made. As per my reference material. The name used was 'Ansonia Brass Company' and later 'The Ansonia Brass and Battery Company'. Why the "battery" name? The name battery came from the process of pounding the brass so that it could be shaped into various brass objects. It was a very noisy process.

In this 15 year period from 1853 to 1869 there was no official clock company name as we could find. Phelps, Dodge & Co. did make movements and sold some cased clocks but there number was minimum.

Clocks were labeled 'Asonia Brass & Battery Co.' The label showed a picture of the factory that had burned in 1854.

For a year from 1869 to 1870 clocks were labeled 'Ansonia Brass & Copper Co.' It was on December 21, 1877 that the original name of 'The Ansonia Clock Co.' was restored. It was very evident that a re-organization was needed. This was done when the Ansonia Clock Co. consolidated and merged their business with that of Mr. Henry J. Davies, who was manufacturing clocks and specialties in New York City. Mr. Davies' address was at 11 Courtland and 11 Cliff.

A new joint stock corporation was formed under the name of the 'Ansonia Clock Co.' with Mr. Davies as the General Manager. Mr. Davies' brothers, Walter D. Davies and Edward Davies were named as Superintendents of Works.

In 1880, a new huge factory was built in Brooklyn NY. On October 27, 1880 the new building was completely destroyed by fire. It was immediately rebuilt after some redesign to increase work space.

The Ansonia Rubber Company

By 1881 the American market for rubber goods had increased. On April 21st 1881 the Ansonia Clock Co. purchased the 'College Point Rubber Co.' of New York and was renamed the 'Ansonia Rubber Co.' with Henry J. Davies named as President. (He retained his position as General manager of the Ansonia Clock Co. Other Rubber Company officials were J. Van Vleck as Vice President and Herman Gelpcke as Secretary. The company was organized for the general manufacture of Hard Rubber or Vulcanite Goods various articles of rubber were produced.

Specific rubber products manufactured by the new company was a new line of 'Black Rubber Clock Cases' and distinctive 'Rubber Dials' for the cases. Of course the Ansonia Clock Co. furnished the movements. We have seen two of the Ansonia 'Marbleite' case models made with rubber. The rubber dials are not all that rare - we have seen many of them. The Rubber Co. failed in the depression of 1884 and the land and most of the machinery was sold off in bankruptcy proceedings. In 1929 the Ansonia Clock Co. was sold to Russia. The Ansonia Co. in Washington only has the name - no records etc. of the original company.

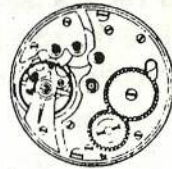
****** Program Notes ******

Apologies for the program change at the February Meeting. Steve Sawyer was scheduled to give a presentation on Parking Meters and got tied up with his Military Reserve Group.

Bob McIver answered our pleas for help and made a fine presentation on "Clockwork that don't tell time". Bob's presentation was on items that use clockworks to drive or control functions similar to: chart drives, roasting spits, toys and an amazing dinning room fly trap. Bob had many examples (doesn't he always) to show and explain. Thanks Bob for a truly wonderful program.

John Stohr.

****** Requests ******



Greg Frauenhoff NAWCC #97608
35 West Avenue Apt #2N
Riverside, IL 60546

Greg is looking for information on AURORA Watch Company. Would like serial numbers etc. If you can help contact Greg at the above address - include you phone number and address.

The Museum of American Heritage
24 Alma Street, Palo Alto
Requesting the loan of American clocks and watches for a July 1st to October 30th 1994 display.
Bill Wehrend a member of both Chapter #5 and #94 (San Jose) is coordinating the presentation. The Museum is open Friday through Sunday, 11am-4pm. Features full security of display items and provides for full insurance. Phil and Sarah Russell have visited the Museum and speak quite highly of the exhibits they have seen. Bill Wehrend can be reached at (415) 856-7986 for information and John Stohr has a brochure on the Museum.

****** General Info ******

Bruce Shawkey
621 N Sherman Avenue, Suite L
Madison WS 53704
Publishing a "Vintage Watch Report" - John Stohr has a sample copy and order details.

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Richard Hansen of Sacramento will be teaching both the beginners and the advanced NAWCC Clock Repair Class in the Sacramento area. Course fees are \$400 for a full 5 day class. If 6 to 8 in the Diablo Valley area want a class Richard would schedule one locally. Contact Richard at (916) 729-1410

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Hans Krauss of Spokane has made an English translation of the 1915 Hamburg-American Clock Catalog and is selling reprints. Hans has an ad in the January '94 NAWCC MART or John Stohr has order details for those interested.

****** 1994 Membership Dues ******

Just \$15.00 a year for you and the family

Some of you have forgotten

We will be in touch

or

Send in your check to the PO BOX - see inside cover

Members not renewing by June will be dropped!

WAITING IS A DANGEROUS GAME.....!!!!

*** TOOL Library ***

from Walt Hubrig - call (510) 685-0260

The following tools are available for two week periodsat NO COST!

- **** TIMETRAX #160AC Timing m/c with beat amplifier
- **** Webster Depthing Tool
- **** Webster Escape Wheel Tooth Straightener
- **** Power Punch (for end holes in mainsprings etc.)

Editor's Note

by Steve Fabes

I want to thank Johny Stohr, Phil and Sarah Russell for a lot of input to this Bulletin.

I started out quite serious about expecting to not having to rely on the old faithful who regularly give of their time and gray matter to contribute to the Chapter and its Bulletin. I guess you proved me wrong or perhaps just over eager and you are still warming up to the idea that perhaps you do have something to offer or share.

As I said before - it does not have to be fancy wording nor complex.

I will do the preparation for the bulletin so.....

- just dig deep
- walk proud
- become a member of that exclusive set
- the real horologists
- the ones with guts and bravado



THE ONES WHO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR BULLETIN.

I am accessible by phone, fax, US mail or just spread rumors.
Thanks, Steve Fabes

Home 510-932-5091
Work 510-675-4945
FAX 510-675-4978

or mail to PO Box 23315
Pleasant Hill
CA 94523

From Oakland - Highway 24 going East

Take Pleasant Hill Road South exit
At light, turn right onto Pleasant Hill Rd
At end, turn left on Olympic
At light, turn right onto Tice Valley
Go up until first light
Go another 150 yards and just before Pedestrian X-ing - turn right into Acalanes Adult Center, Del Valle Theater - rooms C6 and C7
(address 1963 Tice Valley Boulevard)

From San Ramon - Highway 680 going North

Take South Main exit
Left on Newell
Left on Olympic
Left on Tice Valley
Go up until first light
Go another 150 yards and just before Pedestrian X-ing - turn right into Acalanes Adult Center, Del Valle Theater - rooms C6 and C7
(address 1963 Tice Valley Boulevard)

From Benicia - Highway 680 going South

At 680/24 take Highway 24 to Oakland/Lafayette
Take first exit - Pleasant Hill Road South
Go under freeway onto Pleasant Hill Rd
At end, turn left on Olympic
At light, turn right onto Tice Valley
Go up until first light
Go another 150 yards and just before Pedestrian X-ing - turn right into Acalanes Adult Center, Del Valle Theater - rooms C6 and C7
(address 1963 Tice Valley Boulevard)

Note: Due to our tax exempt status only NAWCC members can participate in our MART

