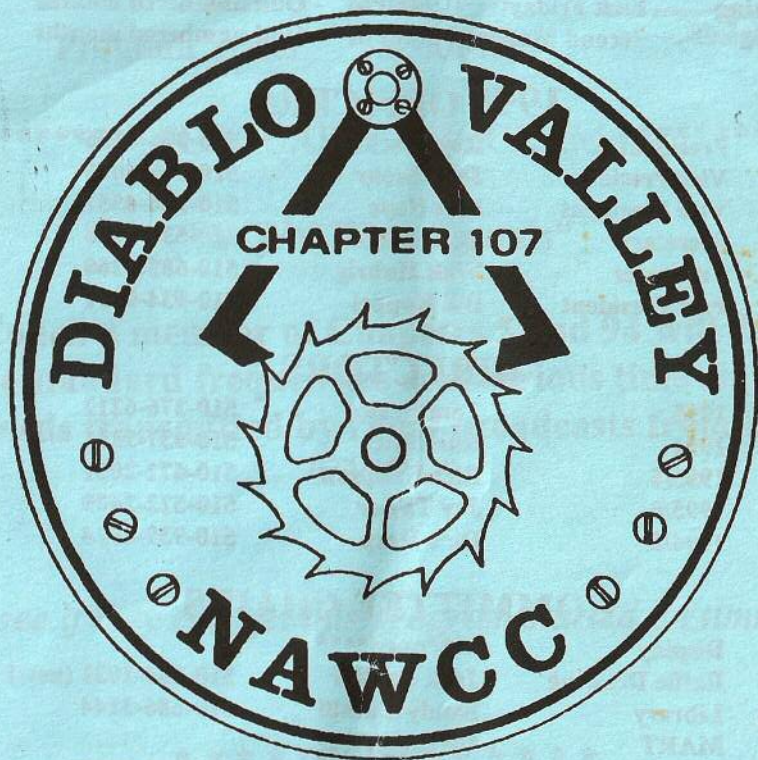


88 + 93 back issues

BULLETIN



February 1995
Volume 97

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

1995 OFFICERS

President	Roy Clark	510-376-6356
Vice President	John Stohr	510-376-6476
Vice President	Lois Naye	510-934-4557
Secretary	Roy Holman	510-530-5428
Treasurer	Walt Hubrig	510-685-0260
Past President	Bill Koppel	510-934-9391

DIRECTORS

1995	Tom Beales	510-376-6212
1994	Russ Price	510-937-9231
1995/6	Rich Simpson	510-672-2051
1995/6	Jay Taylor	510-522-2409
1994/5	Dick Heep	510-939-4924

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Display	****open****	
Raffle Drawing	Jack Coulter	510-284-1031 (new)
Library	Sandy Cuthill	510-686-3144
MART	****open****	
Membership	Roy Holman	510-530-5428
Nominating	John Stohr	510-376-6476
Photo	Richard Simpson	510-339-9529
Program	Lois Naye	510-934-4557
" "	John Stohr	510-376-6476
Refreshments	Lois Naye	510-934-4557
Tool Library	Walt Hubrig	510-685-0260
Bulletin/Editor	Steve Fabes	510-831-8799

Meeting Information

Sunday February 12th 1995

ACALANES ADULT CENTER

(the old Del Valle High School - Room D-1)

** see directions at inside of the back cover **

MART Set-up	11:30AM
MART Starts	12:00Noon
Ends	1.00PM
Program Starts	1:00PM



***** FEBRUARY PROGRAM *****

"WWV Time Signals"

Don Couch a member of Chapters 5 and 94 will describe the standard frequencies and various time signal standards transmitted by radio broadcasts from Station "WWV"

(lets see if they can get this program started on time eh?)

*** DISPLAY ***

Bring your various radio receivers that can receive WWV, WWVH and WWVB station transmissions

President's Message

I hope that each of you had a merry holiday season and will have a prosperous and healthy new year.

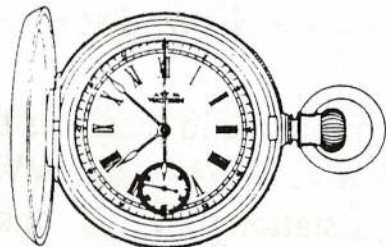
I started attending Chapter #107 meetings about eight years ago. I later moved to Long Beach and fortunately was able to move back to Moraga. I had missed the meetings and quickly rejoined the Chapter. The members were so friendly and helpful that I soon felt that I was a part of the group. Clocks and watches are interesting in themselves but to see and hear and show and tell tends to bring it all together.

For newer members please join with us in making the Chapter a friendly and helpful meeting place for all clock and watch collectors and their tolerant families and guests. For the older members just keep doing your thing, answer questions, offer advice and the newer members will quickly feel at home.

Participation by each of us in Chapter activities and contributions to the Bulletin make us what we are. I urge each of you to help the Chapter to be that friendly and helpful place that we all want.

Sincerely, Roy Clark

P.S. Don't forget your \$15 dues are to be paid by February



CENTRE SECONDS CHRONOGRAPH
American Watch Company, Waltham, Mass. c.1885

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes

recorded by Roy Holman, Chapter Secretary

January 16th 1995 Board Meeting Roy Clark presiding

Present: Roy Clark, Bill Koppel, Tom Beales, Lois Naye, Walt Hubrig, John Stohr, Roy Holman, Price Russ, Rich Simpson and Jay Taylor

Budget: The 1994 Treasurers Report will be audited by John Stohr. The 1995 Budget was approved as follows:

Bulletin	500
Refreshments	200
Photography	50
Program	25
Insurance	175
Library - books	150
Library - tools	0
Room Rental	600
Misc.	250
PO Box Rental	50
1996 Regional - tentative advance	1000
Total.....	<u>\$3,000</u>

The Chapter's current assets are \$2,323 in a current checking account and an \$11,768 Certificate of Deposit for a total of \$14,091.00

Programs: The February '95 meeting will feature Don Couch speaking on the time signal put out by radio WWV.

April will be a program from Bob Yeomans - subject still to be announced - exciting eh?

Meeting Place: John Stohr has yet to get a commitment for 1995 on our Sunday meeting location (Acalanes Adult Education Center) but not through a lack of trying - the good news is John is forever hopeful that we will be able to stay put.

Misc. Discussed approaching Wayne English to see if our Chapter could be of any assistance with his Wednesday evening Clock Repair Class. Many of us are current or past students and this particular class has been an excellent source of new Chapter members.

Membership: We currently have 37 delinquent members. (Shame)

To those who know who they are and keep a good hold onto their money, PLEASE send a lousy \$15 to the Chapter at PO Box 23315, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 and don't forget the 32 cent stamp!!!!



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*** * * FUTURE MEETING DATES * * ***

SUNDAY 1995	FRIDAY EVE 1995	BOARD 1995
Feb 12th	Mar 3rd	Mar 6th
Apr 9th	May 5th	May 8th
Jun 11th - Ugly	Jul 7th	Jul 10th
Aug 13th	Sep 8th	Sep 11th
Oct 8th	Nov 3rd	Nov 6th
Dec 10th - Auction		

* * * * *

Feeling OLD.....?

Ain't Seen Nothing Yet!

**The Bulletin is soon to be 100
(Issues old that is!)**

The Editor would like some ideas

The "Forgotten" Chauncey Jerome

by Phil & Sarah Russell

The "Father" of the mass produced brass movement was Chauncey Jerome and his brother Noble Jerome. Their invention in 1837 revolutionized American clock making as well as the world-wide clock industry. The new 30 hour movement was the death-knell of the wooden clock movements which were very much in use up until that time. The U.S.A became the world leader in clock production. It should be noted that John Birge, Joseph Ives and others had also tried without success to mass produce brass movements.

With the new brass movement three men could cut the teeth and make all the wheels for 500 hundred clocks in one day. Realize that the wood used for wooden wheels/plates etc. had to be seasoned for one year before it could even enter the manufacturing process. Eli Terry produced just 200 wooden movement clocks in 1807. The maximum total production by all wooden clock makers in one year was less than 10,000 movements. Due to wood's sensitivity to moisture the export shipping trade was almost non-existent. By contrast, mass produced brass movements cost 70 cents to manufacture and could be stored and shipped anywhere under adverse conditions.

So why don't we read and hear more about the contribution of the Jeromes? It had nothing to do with the quality of the brass clock movements but more the politics of the times. Things went well for Chauncey Jerome until about 1855 when P.T. Barnum, a prominent business person bought into the Jerome business. Within six months the Jerome Manufacturing Company had failed. Jerome admitted that he did not maintain a close contact with his business and said that he never meet P.T. Barnum in person. Poor investments lead to failure and Chauncey Jerome's name and business reputation was lost in the fiasco.

All turned out for the best because today Chauncey Jerome is now being recognized more and more for his monumental contribution to the American clock making industry, his inventive genius and his charming clocks.

Thank you Chauncey Jerome.....

"The Architecture of Horology" - Part 14

by Dorothy Schafer

Roman Revival in America

Roman revival style in America dates between 1780 and 1830. It is referred to as "Federal" in reference to our early Federalist form of government and it is the style of Thomas Sheraton and George Hepplewhite, Samuel McIntire and Thomas Jefferson. It embodies a delicate and geometric balance of classical elements as used in Roman architecture of the Augustine age, the columns and arches of the Roman Forum.

Jefferson designed the Rotunda (library) at the University of Virginia as well as his own home "Montecello" to utilize the slender Corinthian column, the circular conveyed dome and an "eye pleasing" rectangular portico based more or less on the Greek ideal of the "golden rectangle" (ratio of 0.618034:1) a basic to nature and the size of playing cards.

It is not surprising therefore to discover that America's two most prominent clock styles of this Federal period are based on these principles of geometry and proportion. Whereas French clocks of this period depended more on elaborate classical motifs decorating a case which housed a easily adaptable round movement, the American clock required the veracity of a classical case to house a unique new style movement.

The banjo clock generally attributed to Simon Willard - patent of 1802 - is essentially a fine 8 day weight driven brass movement. A similar fine mechanism was being made in Vienna at about the same time. The banjo is however unique because it efficiently houses a mechanism with an eye pleasing case that blends three major classical architectural features: the circular top for the movement, the columnar neck for the drop of the weight and swing of the pendulum and the proportioned bas (that of French porticos of the period). Even without the delicate side arms, geometric glass and slender hands and numerals, the clock epitomizes the beauty and function of American architectural art.

The story of Eli Terry's pillar and scroll has been told over and over again. The compact 30 hour wooden movement which needed a shorter pendulum, a pair of 1lb weights that needed to hung down each side of the case spoke to the movement. But why choose the "almost" perfect rectangular box for the case? It needed a wood dial of 11"x11", a 11"x7" glass to cover the pendulum and a new label with an eglomise glass (rear painted), the whole giving about a 30" drop from the great wheel to top and down the sides for weights.

To this essential box was added in the finest Sheraton style a scrolled or swan's neck top with brass urn finial, slender Roman side columns, apron and feet using Roman moldings such as sharp "bird beaks" as well as cyma, cove and convex designs.

To these American creations we added our nation's symbols of pride, often eglomise glasses of our historic buildings and historical events etc.
(Part 15 - Greek Revival - Age of Experiments)

Clock Glasses - Part 3

by Dorothy Schafer

The Industrial Revolution

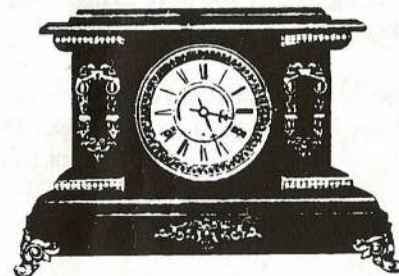
Reverse painting of glass is hardly a lost art. Today it is actually too prevalent. American clock collectors, anxious to restore their early clocks, are using techniques which are not correct in many cases. Too often eglomise or reverse painting is done on glass that never had it. The restoration of clock glasses is a serious a project as clock case or movement restoration and must be done within strict historic and economic guidelines.

To understand early American clock glasses is to understand the advent of the industrial revolution in America. Though mass production and interchangeable parts were known previous to the American Revolution, it was after the war of 1812 that these ideas were really put into effect. Textiles and clocks became our first home markets.

The cost of a pillar and scroll was originally stated at about \$15 (current ideas have suggested more) and hand made banjo clocks considerably more. Both required "covering" glass tablets. Why the Vienna regulator was given a clear glass door and the banjo an eglomise neck and box is probably because the Vienna pendulum had a fine wooden shaft with large brass bob and a brass covered front suspended weight. Whereas the banjo had a wire pendulum, a no-nonsense bob and an 8lb lead weight that dropped behind the swing of the pendulum into a japanned tin container at the base. In other words the interior was better hidden by opaque glass.

The pillar and scroll, likewise had a non-illustrious interior. Though side case weights were not visible, the crude wooden back with printed paper label and instructions would have been evident as would the wire pendulum and the plain 30hr brass covered lead bob. Terry and many usurpers of his case design would welcome an eglomise panel to give a unique American inspiration to a unique American clock design.

Part 4 will be titled "American Heraldry, our beginning - "



TOOL Library

The following tools are available for two week periodsat NO COST!
call Walt Hubrig @ (510) 685-0260

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

TIP OFF

by the Members, for the Members...

In 1643 the Governor of Virginia accepted watches in payment of taxes - JF

Good and cheap Italian mainspring oil - 50% Vaseline, 50% lighter fluid - JR

Brass taper pins in steel posts, steel taper pins in brass posts - WE

Editor's Note

by Steve Fabes

Wow, did 1995 come on quickly!

Still I feel good. I have articles and a nice fresh batch of Tips for the Members. My wife always said that nagging pays off and I thank those who have contributed. We do have a milestone coming up. The August issue of the Bulletin will be #100 and worthy of something special. And yes I know that somewhere back when in the sixty series we had a duplicate but from where I stand August will be the Centennial Issue - so lets do something special. I really would like those who were with the Chapter at the beginning to give me something and perhaps some history. We may also provide an index of the main bulletin articles. Please feel free to pass along to me any thoughts that you have to make this 100th issue a really special edition. Thanks, Steve..

Send me any article, news or information you want to share.

Home 510-831-8799

or mail to

PO Box 23315

Work 510-675-4945

Pleasant Hill

FAX 510-675-4905

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 - room D-1

(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 - room D-1

(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 - room D-1

(address 1963 Tice Valley Boulevard)

Note: Due to our tax exempt status only NAWCC members can participate (buy or sell) in our MART - be prepared to show your current NAWCC membership card