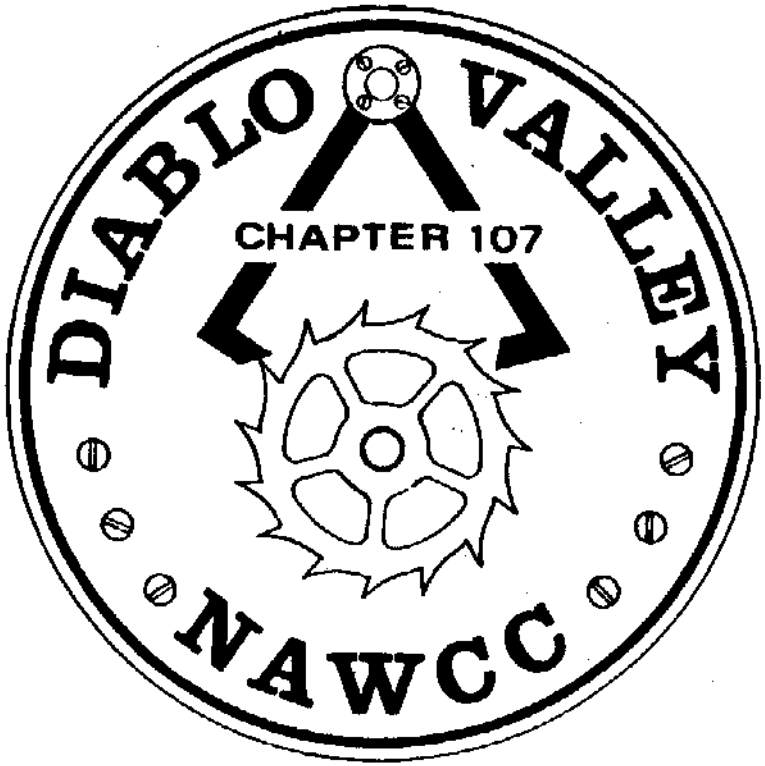
BULLETIN



October 2006
Volume 167

DIABLO VALLEY

Chapter 107
National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors
Chapter Established March 5, 1978

"Accent on Education"

OFFICERS

President	**Jack Coulter**	**925-284-1031**	
Vice Pres.	**Clarance Kobel**	**925-447-3383**	
Vice Pres.	**Roy Clark**	**925-376-6356**	
Secretary	**John Stohr**	**925-376-6476**	**jstohr@sbcglobal.net**
Treasurer	**Walt Hubrig**	**925-685-0260**	**dottiewalt@ca.astound.net**
Past Pres.	**Bob Wahrer**	**925-462-4912**	**jbwahrer@pacbell.net**

DIRECTORS

2006	**Gareth Busher**	**925-686-5983**	
2006	**Miles Maynard**	**925-933-8549**	**mmaynard@pacbell.net**
2006-2007	**Sandy Cuthill**	**925-686-3144**	
2006-2007	**Earl Watrous**	**510-569-4175**	
2006-2007	**Dean Thomas**	**925-455-0929**	

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Display	******open******		
Editor	**Price Russ**	**925-937-9231**	**gpruss@pacbell.net**
Library	**Nile Godfrey**	**925-449-2127**	**jng3@aol.com**
Mart	******open******		
Membership	**Roy Holman**	**510-530-5428**	**rholmanjr@juno.com**
Nominating	**John Stohr**	**925-376-6476**	**jstohr@sbcglobal.net**
Photo	**Sophia Gardner**	**510-531-7565**	
Program	**Clarance Kobel**	**925-447-3383**	
Program	**Roy Clark**	**925-376-6356**	
Raffle	**Jack Coulter**	**925-284-1031**	
Refreshment	**Lois Naye**	**925-934-4557**	**lnaye@aol.com**
Tool Library	**Walt Hubrig**	**925-685-0260**	**dottiewalt@ca.astound.net**

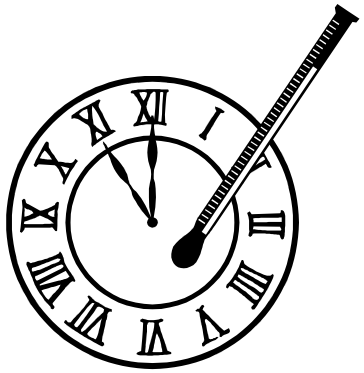
Meeting Notice

October 8, 2006

Mart 11:30, Meeting 12:30

Room B-8
Acalanes Adult Center

THE HEALTH OF THE CLOCK INDUSTRY TODAY



by Tom Kochmann

NOMINEES NEEDED

Officers and board members will be elected at the December meeting. Committee Chairs are also needed. The health of our chapter depends on the willingness of the membership to contribute. Please volunteer to serve or nominate someone who you believe will be willing to serve. Submit nominations to John Stohr or Jack Coulter no later than the end of October.

President's Message

Our last meeting, the annual picnic, was a great success. Thanks to everyone - the barbeque cooks, the preparers of all the other dishes, the white elephant donors, the auctioneers, the purchasers, and to Bernice and Price Russ for their house and yard.

Our speaker this month is Tom Kochmann, a professional clock repairer in our area. As I remember it, the speaker at the first program meeting of Chapter 107 was Tom's father, Karl Kochmann. Karl got us off to a running start.

In December we will elect our officers for 2007. Surprise yourself-- volunteer! Call John Stohr. If John asks you - say Yes! It is not that much work and the chapter needs you.

Lastly, a reminder of a small technical matter. In order to be a member of Chapter 107, it is necessary to be a member of NAWCC. We welcome everyone but we do have to conform to the by-laws.

Jack

Wadokei (Japanese clock) stamp - 80 Yen, issued 2004.
Learn more about Wadokei next issue.

Editor's Section

Bernice and I hope you enjoyed the picnic as much as we did. Thank you all for the wonderful food and helping with the set up and clean up. Special thanks are due to the Taylor family, Walt Hubrig, John Stohr, Lois Naye, and Nile Godfrey.

Thanks also to John Stohr for the article on his favorite clock. I believe articles from the membership contribute greatly to the quality and interest of the *Bulletin.* I plan to continue the Favorites column but would like to expand on this concept by recruiting a few members to make regular contributions. Wouldn't it be nice to have regular columns on horological history, repair tips, new developments, mysteries, and/or your favorite horological interest? Please contact me with your ideas. From time-to-time, I will also run articles from past issues.

Even though I use the internet routinely, its power was really brought home to me when I realized how many resources of public libraries can be accessed from home. In pursuing a 1960 article on Eli Whitney, I found that the full text was available through an online database to which the San Francisco Public Library subscribed. I also found that any citizen of California is eligible to get one of their library cards. With the card, one can access their computer-based resources over the internet. Being able to access a large fraction of the reference material in a major library from anywhere in the world certainly changes how one approaches research. Between my local library (Contra Costa) and the SFPL, I now have access to an awesome amount of information without leaving home.

Those of you who attended the picnic had a chance to look at the first draft of the catalog of the Chapter libraries. I am holding off on publication while we double check on the whereabouts of some items. This should be resolved shortly.

Price

INTERCHANGEABLE PARTS

Eli Whitney was a pioneer of American manufacturing. He is rightly famous as the inventor of the cotton gin. He is often credited with two other major innovations - inventing the milling machine and pioneering the use of interchangeable parts. The milling machine and the use of interchangeable parts were both important developments in the manufacturing of rifles.

As pointed out by Robert Woodbury in a series of articles, these latter claims are difficult to substantiate. Whitney had one of several contracts with the U. S. government to produce rifles. (This contract was vital to him because it included advanced payments that got him out of debt, but that is another story.) It was likely to his advantage to claim priority for inventions that were not entirely his.

Due to a loss of records in a fire, it is impossible to trace a large part of the early history of American small arms manufacturing or to establish the sequence of events. What is known is that others were using machines to produce parts at this time. It is also known that Jefferson with whom Whitney was in repeated contact was aware of work by Blanc in France on interchangeable parts.

Blanc was preceded by Christopher Polhem of Sweden (right) who apparently was making clocks with interchangeable parts in the 1720's! There is no evidence that anyone in America was aware of Polhem's work, but it is interesting that he was making not only interchangeable parts but clocks with interchangeable parts a hundred years before Whitney and Terry who get so much credit in this area. Polhem also invented the modern padlock, By the way, his portrait appears on the 500 Kronor

RECOLLECTIONS
ISSUE 66 December 1989

CHAUNCY JEROME and his OGEE

by Phil Russell

In 1838 Chauncey Jerome selected the Ogee case style to become his famous "clock for everyone", and it became the first American clock to be exported. Jerome did not invent the Olgee molding. Actually, the Ogee molding was in common use in 1825 , used on large quantities of furniture, and perhaps some clock cases. The wood was shaped by powered planes into the Ogival form, and "Ogee" was the common nickname used by all. (I found "Ogee" used in the 1852 Jerome and Co. catalog.)

It should be noted that in 1837 there was an extreme National depression which had affected most everyone. To compete in this moneyless market, prices had to be cheap. It was about this time that Chauncey's brother, Noble, had invented the inespensive, stamped out brass weight driven striking movement which drove the wooden movement from the market.

This new movement was mounted in Chauncey's new Ogee case. This simple but attractive case consisted entirely of a molding of wood shaped in the Ogival form and then veneered, and having a glass tablet in the door. The Ogee clock was born!

The general shape of the Ogee could be compared to that of a mirror or picture frame, with the clock inserted. Labor to make the case was about 20 cents, and material about 30 cents. The entire clock cost about $1.50 to make. The Ogee style clock was produced for more than 50 years by many makers. At one time Jerome had 10,000 cases under construction at the same time. In the very beginning, Chauncey cut his own veneer with a handsaw. Early Ogees had wooden dials, and later ones used zinc. When the Ogee came in, it almost entirely replaced the Black Forest wall clock.

August 2006 Meeting

Photos by Sophia Gardner

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FAVORITE CLOCK

My favorite clock has to be my first purchased clock.

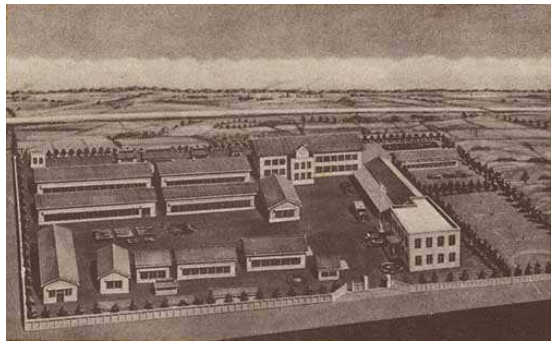
I started taking Royal's clock class at Acalanes Adult Center in the winter of 1980. At that time there was a clock importer in Oakdale by the name of Kent Kyckelhahn who imported clocks from both Asia and Europe. Royal saw that each class would make the trip to Oakdale to dream and look over all the clocks that Kent had in his galvanized iron warehouse.

My first purchase was a Japanese box clock for all of $44.00 plus tax. It was a 14-day strike and time bim-bam manufactured with a stamped date on the movement of 1958. The name on the plastic dial was Eikei-sha. The door had beveled glass. The movement looked like an American style one but had rack and snail instead of a countwheel.

The clock got all the things Royal was teaching. The movement got stripped, cleaned, brushed, new mainsprings, and reassembled. The case was also stripped using acetone and alcohol, restained, and varnished. All of Royal's teachings were put to good use, and I had a nice looking clock I could call my own.

John Stohr

Wait. Don't Tell Me!



Can you guess what the picture shows?

As oil on the pallets of a dead-beat escapement ages, how does it affect the rate of the clock? How does this effect relate to the development of gravity escapements? If the weight of the pendulum bob of a dead-beat escapement is increased, how does it effect the rate?

What is a Phillip's spring? Its inventor is shown on the right.

WHO'S WHO IN PHOTOS ON PAGES 8 AND 9

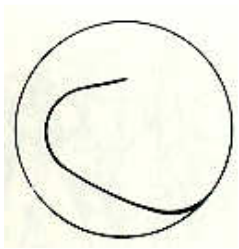
1: Cheryl & Dean Thomas, 2. Nile Godfrey, 3. Jack Coulter, 4. Price & Bernice Russ, 5. Joan Holman & Earl Watrous, 6. Walt Hubrig & John Stohr, 7. Roy & Joan Holman and Carolyn & Tom Armour, 8. Tom Kochman & Chip Kumparak, 9. Miles Maynard, Jack Coulter, & Jean Busher.

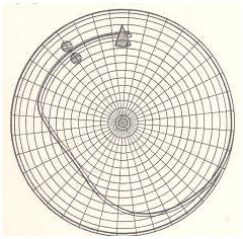
OK, Now Tell Me.

According to a Japanese internet site, the buildings shown in the picture are the Eikeisha factory. The Eikeisha trademark is shown at the bottom of page 10.

The rate of a pendulum clock is dependent on the angle through which the pendulum swings. Larger arcs are slower than small ones. This effect called circular error can be partially offset by escapement errors and the tension in the suspension spring, but for really good timekeeping the arc should be kept constant. As oil on the pallets of a dead-beat escapement ages and the pallets get dirty, friction between the escape wheel and the pallets will increase. It is said that this additional friction tends to slow the pendulum. (Shouldn't it also decrease the arc and thereby partially offset the effect of the increased friction? *ed*.) Similarly if the weight of the pendulum bob is increased, it will increase the pallet friction and also slow the clock. Gravity escapements were developed in part to overcome these effects. For all but the most demanding applications, the dead-beat escapement is highly desirable because this friction issue is essentially its only defect.

A Phillip's spring or curve refers to a balance spring with the shape shown in the upper illustration. It was developed by the French mathematician Edouard Phillips (1821-1889). Phillips showed that this was the correct shape for the end-curve to produce isochronous behavior. It is similar to the curve empirically developed earlier by Breguet and shown in the lower illustration. Among other things Phillips is noted for solving problems involving springs for railroad cars and vibrations in bridges.





HELPFUL HINTS

Recently a member needed a few feet of small diameter woven cord/string. After trying hardware, hobby, and sewing stores, it occurred to him that this is the type of cord used to control "mini-blinds" for windows. A local blind and shade company had woven cord in a variety of sizes and colors that they were willing to provide by the foot rather than by the roll.

Britten's *Old Clocks and Watches and their Makers* is a very well known book. Until recently, Britten's *Watch and Clock Maker's Handbook Dictionary and Guide* was unknown to your editor. This book has been through at least 16 editions. The 16th, published in 1978, is over 450 pages in length. The alphabetically arranged entries are quite detailed. For example the discussion of "pendulum" spans 15 pages. There are many figures and tables, a four-language table of terms, and a detailed index. Unfortunately it is not available in the chapter library, but copies are readily available over the internet.

CHAPTER LIBRARIES

BOOK: The Chapter book library is located at **Classical Clocks and Antiques**, 1086 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Contact **Nile Godfrey** (925-449-2127) for more information.

VIDEO: Chapters 107 and 5 share a video library. Contact **Price Russ** (925-937-9231) for information.

TOOL: Contact **Walt Hubrig** (925-685-0260) or **Price Russ** (925-937-9231) for information on the tools and parts available for use by Chapter members.

There is no cost to borrow items from these collections.

NOTICES FROM MEMBERS

(The Bulletin accepts notices from Chapter members for all items/subjects horological - wanted, for sale, giveaway, services, and so forth. There is no charge. All you have to do is supply copy to the editor.)

CHAPTER #107 MEETINGS

Days and Times

Mart	Second Sunday	11:30AM	Even numbered months
Chapter	Second Sunday	12:30PM	Even numbered months
Board	Second Sunday	after the Chapter Meeting	
Evening	First Friday	7:30PM	Odd numbered months

Future Meeting Dates

FRIDAY	SUNDAY & BOARD
November 3, 2006	December 10, 2006
January 5, 2007	February 11, 2007
March 2, 2007	April 8, 2007 (?)
May 4, 2007	June 10, 2007
July 2007 - None	August 12, 2007
September 2007 - None	October 14, 2007

We want to keep our members coming to the chapter meetings on a regular basis. If you have problems with transportation to and from meetings, let a director or officer know so we can help you find a carpool.

Other NAWCC Chapter Meetings in Northern California		
Chapter	**Meeting Address**	**Meetings**
De Anza #94	Odd Fellows Lodge 20589 Homestead Rd Cupertino, CA	2nd Sunday even months (except April)
Monterey Bay #70	Live Oak Grange Hall 1900 17th Ave Santa Cruz, CA	3rd Sunday odd months
Sacramento #71	Sacramento Garden Center 3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA	4th Sunday odd months
San Francisco #5	Boys and Girls Club 401 Marina Blvd. San Leandro, CA	2nd Sunday odd months (1st Sunday in May)

DIRECTIONS TO CHAPTER MEETINGS

Sunday Meetings

(except August and December)

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 Blvd. Go 0.9 miles.
At light, turn right onto Tice Valley Blvd. Go 0.6 miles.
Turn right into Acalanes Adult Center (1963 Tice Valley Blvd.).

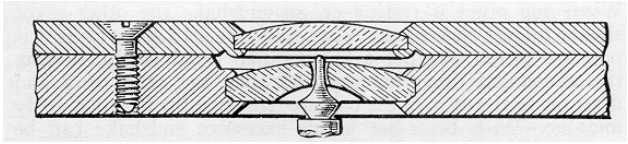
From San Ramon - Highway 680 going North

Take Olympic Blvd. exit.
Left on Olympic Blvd. Go 0.9 mile.
At light, turn left onto Tice Valley Blvd. Go 0.6 miles.
Turn right into Acalanes Adult Center (1963 Tice Valley Blvd.).

From Benicia - Highway 680 going South

Take Olympic Blvd. exit.
Right on Olympic Blvd. Go 0.8 mile.
At light, turn left onto Tice Valley Blvd. Go 0.6 miles.
Turn right into Acalanes Adult Center (1963 Tice Valley Blvd.).

Only NAWCC members can participate (buy or sell) in our Mart. Be prepared to show your current membership card.



Closing Thought

The time to relax is when you don't have time for it.

Sidney J. Harris (1917-1986)