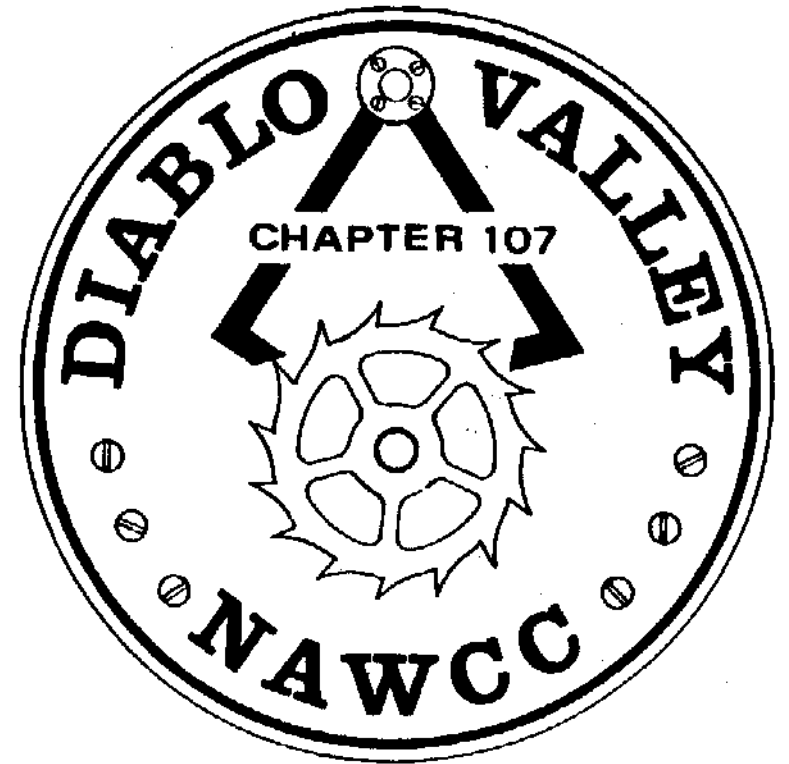


BULLETIN



June 2010
Volume 189

DIABLO VALLEY

Chapter 107

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

Chapter Established March 5, 1978

"Accent on Education"

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Refreshment	****open****		
Tool Library	Walt Hubrig	925-685-0260	dottiewalt@astound.net

Meeting Notice

June 13, 2010

Mart 10:30 Meeting 12:00

Grange Hall
743 Diablo Road
Danville

**Cleaning and Reconditioning
Clock Case Finishes Using
Spruce-It-Up[®]:
Demonstration and Workshop
lead by
Chip Kumparak**

**Bring a small wooden case to clean.
All supplies will be furnished.**

President's Message

I hope that everyone is enjoying our nice spring, and a slow entry into the hot summer weather. I know that I've appreciated the cooler days, and a year where it didn't jump right into 85-90 degrees or higher seemingly bypassing any resemblance of spring.

Speaking of weather, it's nearing time already for our Annual Chapter 107 Picnic and White Elephant Auction. We're looking for a host for this August's gathering. Anyone interested in hosting this afternoon of BBQ'ing, visiting with friends, and welcoming a few new members, please let either me or Price know. We and a few others can take it from there. Don't be shy. If you are short on partying supplies, we can figure out how to get more than ample tables, chairs, coolers and BBQ's, so if you've got a yard with a bit of shade (the more shade the better), please volunteer. Also start thinking now about White Elephant items you can bring for the sale to benefit the Chapter. Hopefully, we can convince Price to be the Auctioneer again.... I just noticed that convince begins with "con" - hmmm.

I am happy to be doing this month's program on using "Spruce-It-Up". I've been collecting various antiques since a child, and have always wanted something for wooden finishes that is easy to use, and that doesn't require complete 'refinishing'. I am so satisfied with this product, I felt it appropriate to share. Please feel free to bring a small clock or perhaps even something else that is dry and dirty, or weathered, and 'may' retains its original finish somewhere under the grim. It will most likely surprise you in restoring the original beauty to your once thought-lost treasure.

I'd like to extend a BIG thank you to Earl Watrous for lending us the Willard House video for our April meeting. The creators packed a whole bunch of info into a relatively short presentation. Personally, I appreciated learning about the large variety of clock styles the Willard family made and the generations of Willards involved. Imagine a month, or longer to make a movement.

[Help Find New Members](#)–[Help Find New Members](#)

Chip

Editor's Page

Let me start by thanking those who have contributed ideas for this issue. Ron Bechler brought Holmberg Clockworks to my attention. Celeste Graham sent me information on Journe. The list of horological dates was contributed by Joe Kanter.

In addition to contributing what he calls fodder, Earl Watrous suggested the idea of contributing editors for the *Bulletin*. The idea is for members to commit to contributing articles within an area of interest on a routine basis. For example one person might become the contributing editor for repairs. Another might contribute articles on horological history. Another might report on visits to museums or interesting clocks seen during travel. The opportunities are nearly endless. From my standpoint, this would be a great help and will keep me from getting burned out.

Recently, I had an occasion to travel to Boston. As a result of having seen the video on the Willard House Museum at the April meeting, I decided to have a first-hand look. Bernice agreed to go along. Even though we thought our GPS had lost its mind, it got us there. We arrived to find the parking lot full and lots of cars in the overflow lot. It turned out that the New England Chapter (#8) meets there once a year and that was the day. Their meetings are pretty serious. They have two presentations in the morning, lunch, and another presentation. I was unable to attend much of the meeting because of time restraints, but I heard part of a presentation on wheel cutting. I understand the presentation after lunch was on cutting watch crystals. I did get a chance to talk to their President, Peter Nunes, an expert on wooden movements. I am hoping he will be able to provide me with the names of some of his contacts in this area who might be willing to speak at our meetings. Of course, while the Chapter 8 meeting was interesting, we were there to see the museum. A well informed young lady gave us a wonderful, leisurely tour. While in the Boston area we also visited John Adams' home. One of the things the guide pointed out was the ticking of a tall case clock that was making the same sound the Adams family heard two centuries ago.

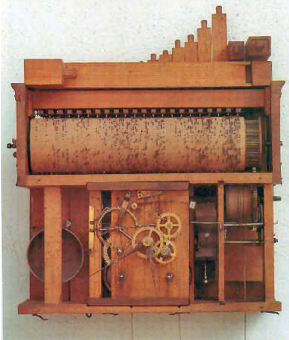
Price

FLÖTENUHR

Incorporation of automatic musical instruments into clocks dates back to at least the 17th century. Among the most interesting are those with organs based on flute pipes. The photo shows a 1787 example. Handel, Hayden, Beethoven, Mozart, C. P. E. Bach and others composed music specifically for such clocks. Often this music included complicated ornamentation that would be difficult to play on a standard organ.



In the 19th century, tens of thousands of such clocks were produced in the Black Forest, typically of wood. The mechanism of such a Schwarzwald Flötenuhr is shown on the left. The pipes located at the rear are activated by pins on the barrel. This is similar to a music box except that the pins activate valves rather than pluck tines.



While such clocks are rarely seen today, Holmberg Clockworks of Universal City, Texas manufactures a line of musical

clocks ranging from a 17 wooden-pipe model based on a Hayden clock of 1792, right, to a 54 pipe model, below, that also includes 9 chime rods. The units are computer controlled. They can be set to play a wide selection of tunes every 15, 30, 60, or 180 minutes. There

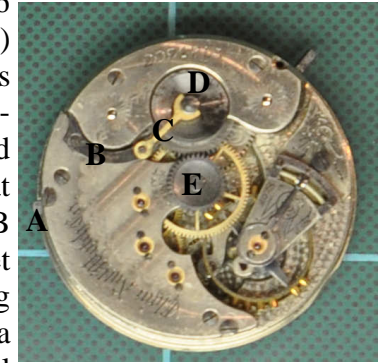


is also a recital mode and a mute function. All units are made to order.



FROM THE JUNK BOX (1)

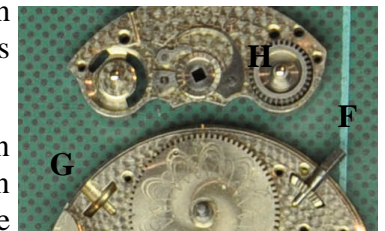
Elgin's 18 size 6th and 16 size 1st and 2nd model watches are unusual in that they were designed to be easily reconfigured for either hunting or open-face cases. A 16 size 1st model (Grade 50 Class 17) watch that was in a box of junk is shown at the right. In either configuration, when the lever (A) is pulled out to set the watch, it lifts a pin that lifts the setting spring and shipper (B & C). The shipper raises the ratchet wheel (D), which engages the setting wheel (E). (The shipper shown is a brass replacement. The original would have been steel.)



As shown in the second picture, the barrel bridge is two layers thick. The third picture shows the movement plate and lower barrel bridge. The stem and its integral wheel (F) can be placed as shown or at location (G) depending on the type of case to be used. The main wheel (H) is positioned to engage the wheel on the stem. The fourth picture shows the lower barrel bridge and main wheel in place. The ratchet (H) is also in place. The ratchet wheel (D) is put in place before the upper barrel bridge is installed.



With this arrangement, the watch can be converted from one configuration to the other and only the barrel bridge and shipper need to be removed to make the conversion.

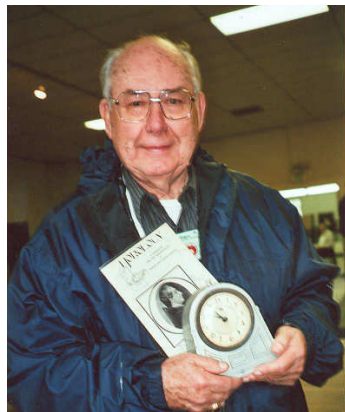


The total production for the Grade 50 was 36,000 in 34 runs between 1879 and about 1896.





Ernie Gamino & Nile Godfrey



Walt Hubrig



Gareth & Jean Busher

April 2010 Meeting

Photos by Sophia Gardner



Ron Bechler, Lucy Hart, & Phil Hart



Roy Holman



Jerry Konicek & Dean Thomas



Mike Waddell



Jay and Max Taylor

IMPORTANT DATES IN HOROLOGY

- 1541: Astronomical clock fixed in tower of Hampton Court
- 1581: Galileo born in Piza.
- 1587: Watchmaking commenced in Geneva
- 1610: Glasses as protection for watches introduced
- 1635: Enamel dials invented by Paul Viet of Blois, France
- 1640: First Black Forest clocks
- 1650: First American tower clock completed in Boston
- 1657: Christiaan Huygens patented the pendulum clock
- 1660: Balance spring introduced
- 1666: Recoil anchor escapement invented by Robert Hooke
- 1671: Pendulum suspension spring introduced by William Clement
- 1675: Royal Observatory at Greenwich founded
Rack striking invented by Edward Barlow
- 1676: Concentric minute and hour hands with motion work, similar to that used today, used by Daniel Quare of London who also invented repeating work in about 1680
- 1680: Seconds hand introduced

FRANÇOIS-PAUL JOURNE

Journe is a maker of high-end limited production watches. His work has attracted considerable attention and earned him prizes. An article in a recent issue of *ForbesLife* caught Celeste Graham's eye. In addition to providing information on Journe's watches, it provides some insight into his personality. For instance he is described as spending a lot of time on his hands and knees looking for parts. Most of us can relate to that. On the other hand, the company's web site, fpjourne.com, presents a rather different and very high tech image of the company. The web site is worth visiting to view the video tour through the factory. This is a very high tech operation not some creative genius working alone.

The *ForbesLife* article also mentions that Vladimir Putin has the top of the line Journe watch that sells for \$650,000. Not bad for a public servant and corruption fighter.

Wait. Don't Tell Me!

Wood is sometimes described as 1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4 and so on. What does this mean?

Who made this clock and why is it important? Where can you see it?

In the Important Dates list on page 10, it is stated that Edward Barlow invented rack striking. Barlow's surname was originally Booth. Why did he change it? There was also a clockmaker in Oldham, England named Edward Barlow, how are the two related?



What is the Golden Hand Award?



This silver cased watch is in the collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum. What is its historical importance?

OK, Now Tell Me.

The n/4 labeling system for wood describes thickness in quarter inches.

The clock was made by Salmon Coster (ca. 1620-1659), a Dutch clockmaker of the Hague. It is from the year 1657 when Christiaan Huygens patented the pendulum clock and granted Coster the exclusive right to build them. The one shown is the oldest surviving pendulum clock. It is in the Boerhaave Museum in Leiden. Later in 1657, Coster signed a contract with Fromanteel who was working with him. Fromanteel became a leading maker of the new clocks. He had business interests in both the U. K. and Amsterdam. (Yes, Galileo explored pendulum timekeeping before Huygens, but Huygens designed, patented, and had built the first practical pendulum clock.)

Edward Booth (1636-1716) took his wife's surname, Barlow. The second Edward Barlow (1699-1776), of Oldham (Lancashire), was his grandson. There were at least three other clockmakers in the family. In addition to claiming the invention of rack striking, the elder Edward was involved in a patent dispute with Quare over the invention of the repeater, see below. The politics of his patent applications is a good subject for a future article.

A Golden Hand Award can be thought of as a watch industry Oscar. Awards are given for various categories such as innovation, sports, and complications. A recent sports watch winner retails for over \$500,000 - clearly the right choice for rugby.

The watch is described by the V&A as having "inner and outer cases of engraved silver, which are pierced to allow the sound of the bell in the inner case to be heard. It repeats the quarters when the pendant is pressed down." It was made by Daniel Quare (1648-1724), who was granted a patent for his system of repeating work after a dispute with Edward Barlow, which was taken to James II (ruled 1685-1688) for adjudication.

NOT ALL CARRIAGE CLOCKS ARE SQUARE

This 19th century example comes with a holder for table top use. The case is poplar with brass and tin inlays. The dial is engraved and silvered metal. The one-day movement has a duplex escapement, Viennese grande sonnerie on gongs, repeater, and alarm. The overall height is 14".



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 DVD 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.)

For sale: The Watchmakers Staking Tool by Archie Perkins, Hard cover \$30, soft cover \$20; 8mm collets, most sizes below #50, \$5 to \$8 depending on condition; Vibrograf watch timers, quaranteed, B-200 and B-200 A, \$450 to \$600 (4 available). Contact Ron Bechler at 408-926-3212 or ronbechler@comcast.net.

CHAPTER #107 MEETINGS

Second Sunday of the Even Numbered Months

Mart: 10:30AM
 Chapter: 12:00PM
 Board: after the Chapter Meeting

Future Meeting Dates

August 8, 2010	October 10, 2010
December 12, 2010	February 13, 2011
April 10, 2011	June 12, 2011

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.

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

Other NAWCC Chapter Meetings in Northern California

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

DIRECTIONS TO CHAPTER MEETINGS

(except August and December)

743 Diablo Road, Danville

Take Interstate 680 to the Diablo Road exit in Danville. Go east on Diablo Road for 0.6 mile. The Grange Hall will be on your right. Parking is available in the front and rear. Enter from the front; *i.e.*, street side. Facing the building from the street, there is a ramp on the right side for handicap and cart access.

Table 2 classical oils and greases (mineral and neat's foot oil)

	approximate viscosity in cst at 20°C	good lubrication down to	observations
oil 8000	98	-20°C	extremely good adherence: high oiliness, effective stabilisation, viscosity suited to small sized movements
oil 8030	115	- 5°C	higher viscosity than 8000: suitable for medium sized movements
oil 8040	150	-20°C	high viscosity: recommended for larger movements
oil 8141	1080	-20°C	for cup screws and high pressure
grease 8200	special lubricant		developed especially for mainsprings
grease 8212	Glissalube B		used for aluminium barrels: gives good sliding with weak braking
grease 8213	Glissalube A		for brass barrels: assures good sliding with weak braking
grease 8217	Glissalube 20		anti-sliding grease: provides powerful braking
grease 8300	grease remontoir		used for winding mechanisms and open mainsprings: also to be used for lubrication of mainsprings in hot climates

Britten's Watch and Clock Maker's Handbook Dictionary and Guide

Closing Thought

**If you haven't got the time to do it right,
when will you find the time to do it over?**

- Jeffery J. Mayer