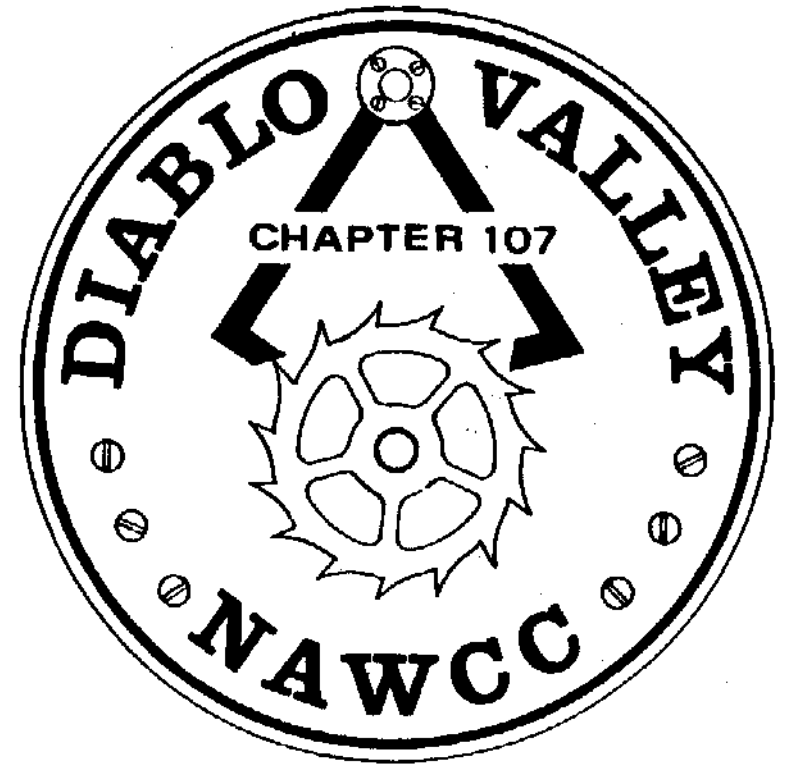


# BULLETIN



August 2012  
Volume 202

# DIABLO VALLEY

## Chapter 107

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

[www.community.nawcc.org/chapter107](http://www.community.nawcc.org/chapter107)

email account [chapter107nawcc@gmail.com](mailto:chapter107nawcc@gmail.com)

Chapter Established March 5, 1978

### "Accent on Education"

#### OFFICERS

President	Price Russ	925-937-9231	<a href="mailto:gpruss@pacbell.net">gpruss@pacbell.net</a>
Vice Pres.	Mike Kooken	925-933-1257	<a href="mailto:mgkooken@yahoo.com">mgkooken@yahoo.com</a>
Vice Pres.	Clarence Kobel	925-447-3383	
Secretary	Ross Smith	925-820-2180	<a href="mailto:mainuse@msn.com">mainuse@msn.com</a>
Treasurer	Walt Hubrig	925-685-0260	<a href="mailto:dottiewalt@astound.net">dottiewalt@astound.net</a>
Past Pres.	Chip Kumparak	408-499-4538	<a href="mailto:chips@garlic.com">chips@garlic.com</a>

#### DIRECTORS

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2011	Dean Thomas	925-455-0929	<a href="mailto:dno337@att.net">dno337@att.net</a>
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#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Display	****open****		
Editor	Tina Thomas	209-481-3930	<a href="mailto:justfourkicks@comcast.net">justfourkicks@comcast.net</a>
Library	Nile Godfrey	925-449-2127	<a href="mailto:jng3@aol.com">jng3@aol.com</a>
Mart	****open****		
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Nominating	****open****		
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Program	Mike Kooken	925-933-1257	<a href="mailto:mgkooken@yahoo.com">mgkooken@yahoo.com</a>
Program	Clarence Kobel	925-447-3383	
Refreshment	Linda Towers	925-935-6272	
Tool Library	Walt Hubrig	925-685-0260	<a href="mailto:dottiewalt@astound.net">dottiewalt@astound.net</a>
Video Library	Price Russ	925-937-9231	<a href="mailto:gpruss@pacbell.net">gpruss@pacbell.net</a>



## Annual Picnic and White Elephant Auction

August 12, 2012



Hosted by Price & Bernice Russ

Meet 11:30 (No Mart), Feast 12:00  
Auction after Lunch

**DIRECTIONS TO THE PICNIC**  
12 Simpson Drive, Walnut Creek  
Price Russ (925-937-9231)

**From 680 North or South**, take the Olympic Ave. exit and proceed toward downtown Walnut Creek. At California Blvd. turn left. At Mt. Diablo Blvd. turn right. After 0.3 mile, Mt. Diablo turns into Walker. Continue on Walker for 0.5 mile. Bear right onto Walnut Blvd. Proceed another 0.2 mile and turn left onto Nob Hill. Simpson is at top of hill. Turn left and go to the first house on your left.

**From Highway 24**, at intersection with 680 take Mt. Diablo Blvd. exit. Proceed toward downtown then follow above directions.

**From Ygnacio Valley Road**, take Walnut Blvd. south for 1 mile then turn left on Nob Hill. Proceed to Simpson at top of hill. Note: Walnut Blvd and Walnut Ave. are not the same.

The back yard can be entered from gates on either side of the house. Please shut the gate, so the dogs (2) don't get out. If in doubt, use the front door.

**See page 7 for more details**

## *President's Message*

Let me open by thanking Ron Bechler for his informative presentation on timing machines at the June meeting. Ron is one of the go-to guys when our Chapter needs something. I really appreciate his efforts on our behalf.

Bernice and I are looking forward to hosting the meeting. It is hard to believe that it has been six years since it was at our place. As usual the Chapter will provide meat (chicken, links, and hamburgers), beverages, condiments, and utensils for the picnic. Walt has agreed to serve as barbeque master. Thanks Walt. Several people have volunteered to bring tables. We need some chairs. If you can bring a few, it would be helpful. We have two dogs. Both are friendly. They may try to persuade you their very survival depends on you feeding them. Please don't fall for that story. My other request is to be sure the gates to the back yard close after you, so they don't get out.

The other half of this affair is the White Elephant Auction with the proceeds going to support the Chapter. This is a great opportunity for each of us to convert junk to treasure. To paraphrase Ben Franklin, both a donor and buyer be. This is a particularly good opportunity for new members to obtain useful items and projects.

Looking ahead, keep in mind that the October meeting is the time for the Nominating and Election Committee to propose a slate of officers and directors for 2013. Prior to the October meeting, consider volunteering for office or suggesting candidates. Contact Dean Thomas, Head of the committee. Just like the weakest link determines the strength of a chain, organizations are only as strong as the effort put in by the members.

*Price*



This tool was recently rescued from a mart table. There are no marks on it indicating anything about its origin or use. As found there is an escape wheel from a cylinder escapement mounted between the two parts of the center shaft. The shaft is held in place by the screws at the ends. The knurled section of the shaft suggests it was meant to be turned by hand. However, there is no provision for accurately centering the work. It is not even obvious that the tool was meant to service an escape wheel. The arm with the steel cone is held up by a spring on the right in the picture. Gentle finger pressure will bring it down and into contact with the wheel. The position of the cone and thereby the diameter of the area contacting the work can be adjusted by sliding the arm left or right. What is it?



## Open House

Hosted by Dale and Sophie Gardner  
September 16, 2012  
noon until 4:00

This is a chance for our members to see an extensive and very interesting clock collection. A limited supply of maps will be available at the August meeting.

## **New Members**

Lots of folks have joined Chapter 107 recently. Our newest members are Dan and Marlene Edeen. A special thanks, Dan for your \$15 donation with your membership fee. Their son, Elijah and Dan participated in the June meeting. Hopefully, they will attend our August picnic, too. Let's celebrate our new members at every meeting by introducing ourselves and letting them know what's happening in Chapter 107.

## **August 2012 Picnic Menu**

**Please bring one of the following based on the first letter of your surname:**

- A-E** Chips/dips/cut fruit
- F-Ko** Dessert
- Kp-S** Green salad or veggies
- T-Z** Beans/pasta/potato salad



**Thomas Tompion's year-going clock. D8930-1. Acquired with the assistance of the Art Fund and the National Heritage Memorial Fund.**

### **Interesting Clock**

**More on**

**Page 11**

## **White Elephant Auction**



**This is your opportunity to get rid of your horological excess and acquire lots of new treasures.**



**No item is too humble for this grand affair. Contribute to the fun by participating. All funds go to support the chapter.**

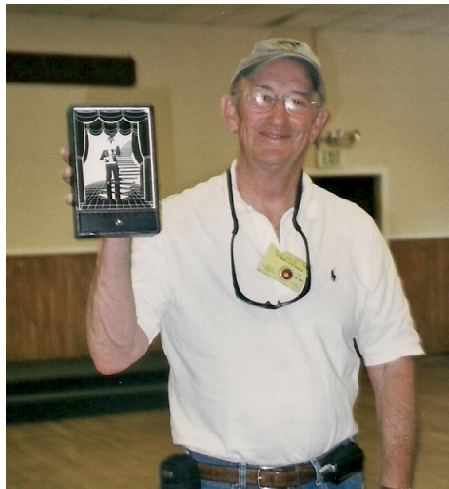


**Dan Edeen and  
his son Elijah**

**Michael  
Kobel**



**Ross Smith**



**Don Rossi**



# June 2012 Meeting

Photos by Sophia Gardner

**Clarence  
Kobel**



**Bob Wahrer**





## History

The earliest time measuring devices used either the shadow cast by the Sun or the rate which water runs out of a vessel. Both methods were in use before the earliest historical records. Early systems for dividing the day and night into 'hours' used a simple division into twelve parts regardless of season. The familiar use of hours, each of identical length, only came into use in the 15th and 16th centuries with the spread of mechanical clocks.

In the 17th century the pendulum clock was developed and by the 18th century clocks were sufficiently accurate for them to be employed at sea for determining longitude and for scientific time measurement. The fundamental accurate timekeeper, however, was the rotation rate of the Earth and clocks were kept on time by means of astronomical observations.

The development of the pendulum clock reached its climax early this century with the Free Pendulum clocks which had an accuracy of about a second a year. Their use indicated the non-uniformity of the Earth's rotation. They were succeeded by quartz crystal controlled clocks and subsequently by clocks using an atomic transition of very accurately known frequency. The second was redefined using this frequency and clocks can now be made which are accurate to one second in thousands of years.

What is the time right now?

## John Flamsteed moves to the Queen's House

John Flamsteed, first Astronomer Royal, moved all his equipment to the Queen's House, the 17th century Palladian Palace now in the National Maritime Museum grounds, to oversee the continuing building work on the Observatory.

### After the death of Flamsteed

When John Flamsteed died in 1719, his widow removed all the telescopes and clocks from the Observatory, claiming they had been his personal property. Despite a threatened lawsuit by the Office of Ordnance, Mrs Flamsteed stuck by her claim with the result that none of Flamsteed's astronomical instruments can be traced after 1721.

Included among the items that were removed was a pair of clocks originally built into the panelling of the Octagon Room in the Observatory. Made by Thomas Tompion, they had 13-foot (almost 4 m) pendulums suspended above them. The clocks were removed by Flamsteed's widow, sold and converted to domestic longcase clocks.



Fortunately they were tracked down. One is preserved at the British Museum and the other was returned to Greenwich in 1994. The picture shows a detail of the movement. The primary achievement of the clocks was to prove to Flamsteed's satisfaction that the earth spins on its axis at a uniform rate. We now know that there is some slight variation, but there were no instruments that could detect this until the 20th century.

**Thomas Tompion's year-going clock. D8930-1. Acquired with the assistance of the Art Fund and the National Heritage Memorial Fund.**

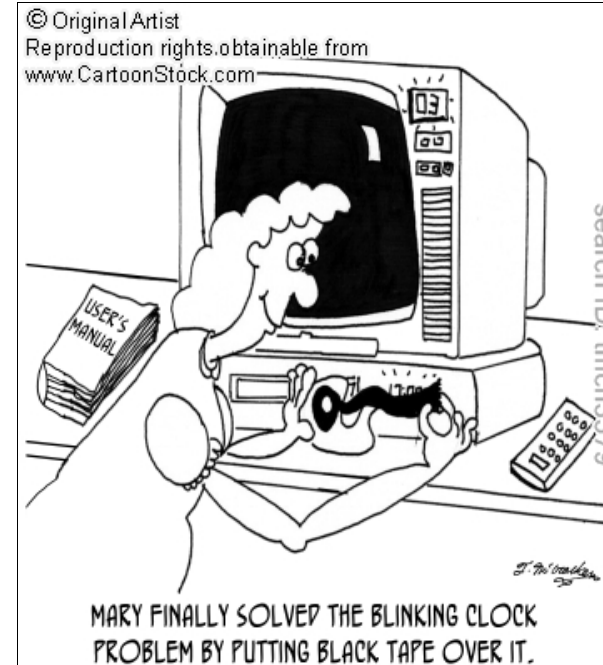
## Wait. Don't Tell Me!

A box of tools recently purchased at a mart included three of the pictured tools. Previously one came with a batch of WW lathe accessories.

What is it?

How might it be used in horology?

**Answer:** It is a needle for sewing the ends of sacks. No idea why they appear mixed in with horological tools. Anyone have an idea?



## Editors Choice

With thoughts of picnics and fun I decided to add cartoons to this issue.

## CHAPTER LIBRARIES

**BOOK:** The Chapter book library is located at Classical Clocks and Antiques, 1082 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.

## 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**

**Second Sunday of the Even Numbered Months**

Mart: 11:30AM  
 Chapter: 12:30PM  
 Board: after the Chapter Meeting

**Future Meeting Dates**

August 12, 2012                      December 9, 2012  
 October 14, 2012                      February 10, 2012

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

The revised By-laws have been posted on the Chapter's web site. In an attempt to save money and trees, they are not being printed except by request. If anyone wants a printed copy they should ask Price Russ.

**Disclaimer**

Statements of opinion and/or fact made by authors of papers or articles read before or appearing in the publications of the Chapter are to be accepted as the author's own. The Chapter assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or correctness of any statement of its contributors. This statement of responsibility shall appear in each issue of the Bulletin containing any of the foregoing.