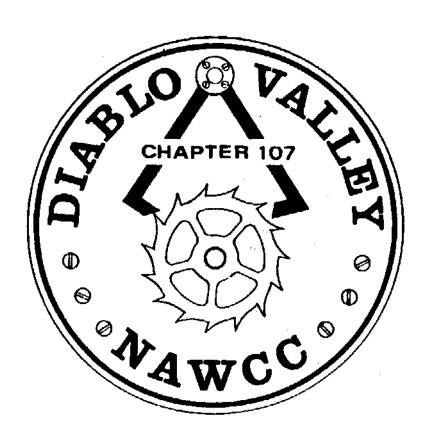
# BULLETIN



February 2013 Volume 205

## DIABLO VALLEY

Chapter 107

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors www.community.nawcc.org/chapter107 email account chapter107nawcc@gmail.com

Chapter Established March 5, 1978

## "Accent on Education"

#### **OFFICERS**

President	Price Russ	925-937-9231	gpruss@pacbell.net
Vice Pres.	Clarance Kobel	925-447-3383	
Secretary	Ross Smith	925-820-2180	mainuse@msn.com
Treasurer	Walt Hubrig	925-685-0260	dottiewalt@astound.net
Past Pres.	N/A		

#### DIRECTORS

2013	Jack Coulter	925-284-1031	
2013	Dean Thomas	925-455-0929	dno337@att.net
2013	Bob Wahrer	925-462-4912	bob wahrer@yahoo.com
2013-2014	Roy Holman		royholman@gmail.com
2013-2014	Celeste Graham		cqgraham@yahoo.com

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Display	****open****		
Editor	Tina Thomas	209-481-3930	justfourkicks@comcast.net
Library	Nile Godfrey	925-449-2127	jng3@aol.com
Mart	****open****		
Membership	Jerry Konicek	510-783-6451	jakonicek@pacbell.net
Nominating	Dean Thomas		
Photo	Sophia Gardner	510-531-7565	
Program	Vice President		
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Tool Library	Walt Hubrig		dottiewalt@astound.net
Video Library	Price Russ	925-937-9231	gpruss@pacbell.net

# **Meeting Notice**

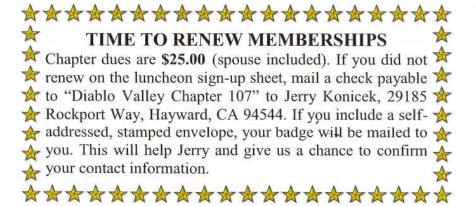
February 10, 2013 Mart 11:30 Meeting 12:30

> Grange Hall 743 Diablo Road Danville

## **Synchronized School Clocks**



by Alan Bloore from Santa Monica



## President's Message

The new year is off and running. I trust everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and is ready for whatever 2013 brings us—hopefully only good things. From what I have heard, the December luncheon/auction was a great success. People seemed very pleased with the Back 40 both in terms of the food and the setting. I think letting people pre-bid on auction items was also successful and tended to get the bidding moving. If you have suggestions on improvements for next year, make them now before we all forget. Also I'm quite sure Tina would more than appreciate articles for the Bulletin.

The Executive Board met at my house on the 20<sup>th</sup> right in the middle of the NFL championship game. Who says our board is not dedicated? Anyone wanting to read the minutes, can get a copy from me. The short summary is that the Chapter membership level is stable and our finances are in good shape. At the national level, membership continues to decline. As Nile Godfrey us want to point out if each and every one of us brought in a new member, the problem would be solved. Be part of the solution.

We have some exciting presentations planned for the year. They start with this month's presentation by Alan Bloore from Santa Monica. Alan has authored at least five articles in the *Watch & Clock Bulletin*. "Standard Electric School Clock Systems" (Issue 391) is particularly relevant to his talk. To get the most out of his presentation, I recommend you read this article before the meeting.

In June we plan to have Jim Haubert talk about his project to build a precision regulator and the tools he made to do it. Some of these tools won prizes at the 2012 National. We are also working on getting a nationally known speaker for February. I am also trying to arrange for one or two visits to see local collections. Suggestions on additional topics, speakers, and places to visit would be most welcome.

## Editor's Note's

Special thanks to Dean Thomas for your article The Terry Clock Company and Bob Wahrer for the article on Tide Clocks.

The chapter's library catalog is available on our web site www.community.nawcc.org/chapter107

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.

Price Russ has free admission tickets for the American Clock & Watch Museum in Bristol, CT. They are available to anyone planning a trip to the museum. Contact Price for more information.

This months speaker Alan Bloore will be talking about Synchronized School Clocks. This would be a good opportunity to bring school clocks and parts to the mart.

## **NAWCC Business Update**



NAWCC ballots will be coming out soon. It is very important that all members vote so please cast your vote.

PLEASE open the <u>Executive Director's Report December 2012</u> and look at the membership numbers. This is why we would like to see each member of our chapters bring in JUST one new member in 2013. If we don't, dues in 2014 we go up again and again and again.

#### Continued from the December Issue

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#### The Terry Clock Company From Waterbury to Pittsfield

Census reports for the firm covering the 12 months prior to June 1, 1880 reported \$25,000 capital paid in with 40 employees - 38 males over 16 and two females (this was at the time of the enumeration – a high of 51 had been employed at one period during that year). Some \$30,320 had been paid out in wages during that 12 months and a skilled mechanic received \$2.25 a day and an ordinary worker got \$1.25 (these rates were about 25 cents per hour less than the Waterbury Clock Company was paying). They ran full time during the entire year utilizing \$34,275 worth of materials and produced \$66,497 worth of clocks.

Financial pressures became even greater after Silas Terry's death. By May 21, 1880 a special meeting of Directors was held in which it was noted "whereas the affairs of the corporation are in an embarrassed condition, and the Corporation in unable to meet its pecuniary obligations, as the same fall due and become payable and whereas an assignment in insolvency for the benefit of its creditors in proportion to their respective claims, will best promote the interests of all parties concerned, now therefore voted that this corporation forthwith make such assignment to Edward L. Frisbie of Waterbury, Conn...."

The bankruptcy court ordered an inventory which amounted to 35 legal pages listing hundreds of thousands of items, particularly clock parts, but also fishing reel parts, steam gauge parts and machinery. It cost \$351.33 just for the inventory though the value of the total amounted to only \$4,546.35. Finished clocks were valued at from 50 cents to \$1.25 each and movements ranged from 20 to 70 cents each.

On June 15, 1880 Frisbie was ordered by the court to sell the inventoried material at public auction or by private sale. A private sale was soon thereafter negotiated with Hazekiah S. Russell of Pittsfield, Mass. For \$4,050 which was only \$496.35 below the inventory value. After probate costs were paid only \$3,339.12 was left to satisfy privileged claims (some apparently worker's wages) of \$4,119.80 and common claims totaling \$18,716.32.

Hezekiah S. Russell (d. 1914), a Pittsfield, Mass. Businessman, was in partnership with his brother, Solomon Nash Russell (1822-1899) and one Edward D. G. Jones (1824-1904) in raising the capital needed to purchase the Terry operation and move it to Massachusetts. The Terry Clock Company was reincorporated in Massachusetts in 1880 and clocks, fishing reels and steam gauges continued to be produced.

#### **2013 BUDGET**

CATEGORY DESCRIPTION	2012Actual	2013 Budget
INCOME		
CD INTEREST	\$132.70	\$100.00
MEMBERSHIPS	\$1,200.00	\$1,100.00
OTHER		
Auction Sales	\$433.00	\$200.00
Chapter Pins	\$12.00	\$0.00
Library/Tools/Video Sales	\$8100	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00
Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christmas Lunch	\$840.00	\$800.00
Total other Income	\$1366.00	\$1000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$2698.70	\$220000
EXPENSES		
BULLETIN & NOTICES		
Postage	\$221.53	\$25000
Other	\$27.43	\$0.00
TOTAL BULLETIN & NOTICES	\$248.96	\$250.00
FOOD & DRINK		
Christmas	\$1,045	\$1,000.00
Meetings	\$0.00	\$50.00
Picnic	\$144.41	\$200.00
TOTAL FOOD & DRINK	\$1,189.61	\$1,250.00
INSURANCE	\$0.00	\$0.00
LIBRARY: Books, Tools, Videos	\$0.00	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS		
Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Refunds	\$50.00	\$50.00
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$50.00	\$0.00
P. O. BOX	\$146.00	\$140.00
PHOTOS	\$0.00	\$0.00
PROGRAMS	\$67.25	\$80.00
REGIONAL	\$0.00	\$0.00
RENTALS (Grange Hall, Danville)	\$480.00	\$480.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2181.82	\$2,200.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$516.88	\$0.00





# **December 2012 Meeting**

Photos by Sophia Gardner













On Wednesday, April 14, 1880 the Pittsfield Sun carried the following item:

"There is some doubt as to the Waterbury Clock Company locating in town, the necessary \$40,000 capital not yet being forthcoming. A representative of the firm was in town last week looking over the ground. The proposition is to organize a company here. The Waterbury business being turned in, having sufficient capital to place it on a sound financial basis. A committee of the Kellogg Steam Power Company visited the works, and found them doing a prosperous business with sufficient orders ahead to keep them busy for some time, but as yet they have made no report."

Although there had been some doubt as to the firm coming to Pittsfield in April, by July 7, 1880 the Sun reported:

"A New Enterprise – A stock company with capital of \$30,000 has been organized and has purchased the machinery of the Terry Clock Company of Waterbury. Conn. The second story of the Kellogg Steam Power Company's building together with a building formerly used by the silk factory as a dye house has been hired. The company expects to get into running order in about a month and will start about 50 hands. A meeting will be held at the office of Mr. Bliss on West Street, Monday evening, to choose officers. Etc."

At the above mentioned meeting. Edward D.G. Jones was chosen President of the firm with Hezekiah S. Russell and George H. Bliss as treasurer and clerk. Cornelius E. Terry was chosen Superintendent and Simeon G Terry was appointed an assistant to his brothers as well as travelling salesman. Jones served as President until 1888.

On August 11, 1880. The Sun reported:

"The business prospect for the Terry Clock Company is very good. The firm will soon begin to send out clocks from their factory. They also make fishing reels and steam gauge movements, and have a contract of 1,000 movements a month for the Crosby Steam Gauge Company of Boston."

Business must have commenced almost immediately as six weeks later the Sun reported "The Terry Clock Company are so pressed with orders that they are running nights" and that "the Terry Clock Company will make a fine exhibition of their clocks at the cattle show next week."

In 1883 E.D.G. Jones and S.N.Russell purchased land on the Housatonic River from the Lemuel Pomeroy tract and built a three-story brick building measuring 154x40 feet and a two-story case shop, 130x30 feet, were built. These were leased to the Terry Clock Company and first occupied in December, 1883.

During March, 1885 a 60 page trade catalog was issued showing 55 models and a few bronze ornaments offered by the company. Though a history of Pittsfield claimed that the firm at this time employed 110 to 120 persons and produced 2,000 clocks in 150 different styles weekly, this appears to be an exaggeration. Sales offices had been opened in New York City and Chicago by this time.

Continued on page 11

Continued from page 10

In July of 1886 the firm of S.F. Myers & Co. of New York claimed to have been appointed exclusive agents for the firm. Bu 1888 the financial situation of the firm was grim and the firm was taken over by the major investors, Russell & Jones. By January of 1889 the Russell & Jones Clock Company had been formed and issued a trade catalog. A major addition since the 1885 Terry catalog was a line of black Japanned case mantel clocks, though it is likely these were added by the proceeding firm and no significant changes had been made by Russell & Jones.

It was not until July of 1889 **The Jewelers' Circular and Horological Review** noted the Terry Company's dissolution and announced a curious successor:

"The Terry Clock Co. is no longer in existence. The company was recently dissolved, Messrs. Russell & Jones retiring, and a new company, to be known as the Globe Clock Co. was organized, of which S.F. Myers & Co. are among the heaviest stockholders. The new company, whose works are a Bristol, Conn., will manufacture an extensive variety of nickel and walnut framed clocks, and S.F. Meyers & Co. will retain the agency, as with the dissolved Terry Clock Co."

Either the above report was garbled or else the "retirement" and formation of a new firm did not materialize. Without further clarification the Circular reported in November, 1889:

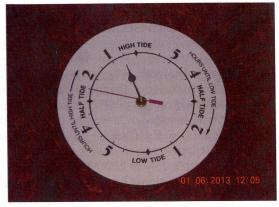
"The Russell & Jones Clock Co., of Pittsfield, Mass,. Are manufacturing a large line of staple clocks for the jobbing trade in walnut, nickel and marble finished wood in great variety of styles. They have lately added to their factory facilities and put in new machinery to meet the demands of their constantly increasing trade. They are preparing to place upon the market a full assortment of new styles in their various lines of manufacture."

In 1890 the Russell & Jones Clock Company issued the catalog reproduced herein. A large number of new and unusual models were introduced in this catalog which are rarely, if ever, seen. As far as can be determined, the firm discontinued business in 1893.



#### THE TIDE CLOCK

I (Bob Wahrer) acquired this clock last summer at Chapter pick-nick. As we known, the tides are produced primarily by the moon and to a lesser degree by the sun. A common tide clock is intended to follow the lunar (semidiurnal) cycle and display the hours until high tide or



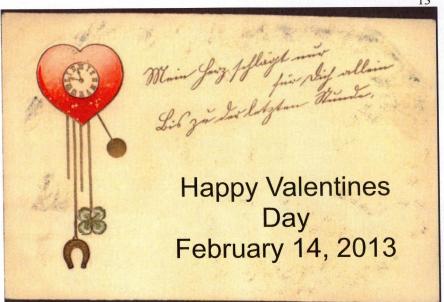
low tide. The duration of the lunar cycle is 12 hours, 25.4 minutes. The effect of the sun is not considered by a common tide clock since this would introduce much greater complication.

This clock had a standard quartz movement installed and therefore it could not be synchronized with the period of the moon and display the tide status properly. A tide clock requires a movement that is slow by about 50 minutes. & 28 seconds a day, or about 3.5% slow. This is out of the adjustment range for a standard quartz movement, therefore I used an old balance wheel battery movement and slowed it down by adding weights onto the balance wheel. The weights consisted of several turns of copper wire and solder at two diametrical opposite positions of the balance wheel as shown in the picture. Solder was added/ removed to obtain the required timing while keeping the balance wheel approximately in balance. Precise balance is not required since the balance wheel is on a vertical axis and the clock remains in a fixed position. Timing was facilitated by observing the second hand while trimming the weights until the clock lost about 2 seconds each minute. Final timing could then attained by adjusting the existing rate adjustment such that the clock would lose 1 minute during 30 minutes.

The clock should be set to indicate the correct local tide on a day of a full or new moon. This will minimize the effect of the sun. The clock

was checked for 5 months against tide tables, which are available on the internet. ,It continued to be accurate at full and new moon. At the quarter moon phases the indicated error would be about 1 hour. For anvone interested in learning more about the ocean tides, I recommend [http://en.wikipedia.org/ wiki/Tide]







## 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**

April 14, 2013

June 09, 2013

August 11, 2013

October 13, 2013

December 08, 2013

February 09, 2014

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 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday even months (except April)	
Monterey Bay #70	Live Oak Grange Hall 1900 17th Ave Santa Cruz, CA	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday odd months	
Sacramento #71	Sacramento Garden Center 3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday odd months	
San Francisco #5	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.

#### **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.

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Wanted: Articles for the *Bulletin*. Contact Tina Thomas (209) 481-3930.