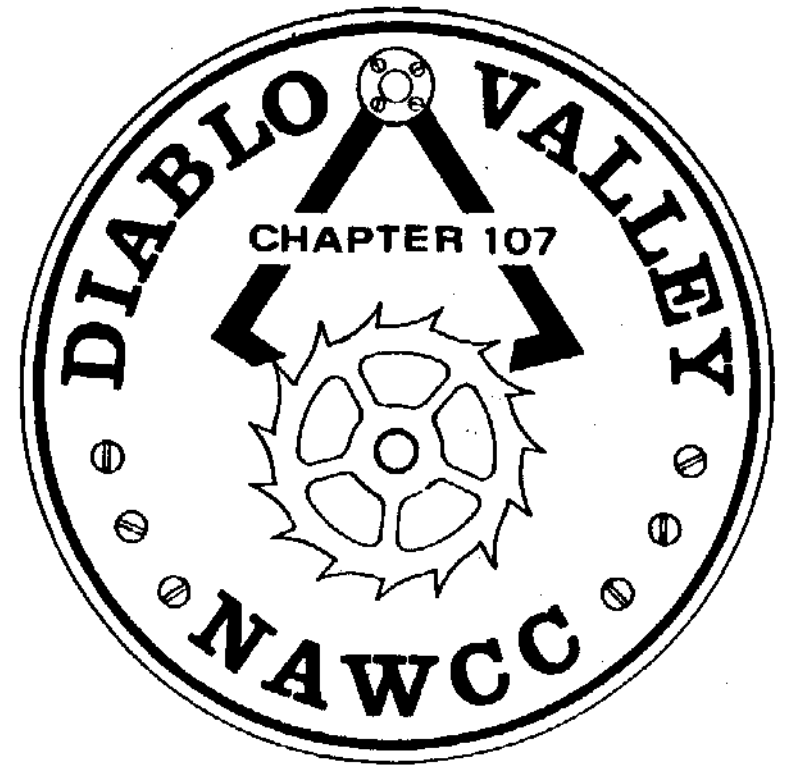


# BULLETIN



April 2013  
Volume 206

# 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"**

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# Meeting Notice

April 14, 2013

Mart 11:30 Meeting 12:30

Grange Hall  
743 Diablo Road  
Danville

This months speaker  
Bob Simon  
on  
Unusual Master Clocks



## *President's Message*

Wasn't Alan Bloore's presentation on school clocks great? I'm sure you agree that it was a real treat. This month we have an equal treat in store. Don't miss it. While it is not the subject of this meeting's program, you may want to review Bob's Watch and Clock Bulletin article on marine master clocks (issue 373, page 161). It is a very interesting read.

While horology is the glue that binds our members, they have a wide variety of knowledge on other topics and are usually more than willing to help us solve problems. In this context I want to thank Bob Wahrer for his help with an electronics problem. As you know from the articles he has contributed to this publication, Bob has a wide range of interests, depth of knowledge, and is always willing to help when called upon. I also want to recognize Curt Wood for the help he has provided to several members with repairs on school clocks.

At the December meeting I purchased a ragged old book from Nancy Ankrum that has turned out to be quite interesting. It is *Time and Timekeepers* (1942) by Willis Milham, Professor of Astronomy. Intended for a wide variety of readers, it includes discussions on watch and clock construction, horological history, and a bit on care of timepieces. It is a very interesting read without getting too technical. If it sounds interesting, there are several copies available through the internet for less than \$10.

Being a sucker for old tools in need of rehabilitation, I picked up the body of an up righting tool at a recent mart. Restoring it gave me a nice excuse to learn more about this "old school" tool and to practice my machining skills. If I do say so, It turned out rather nice. Of course it is unlikely that I will ever actually use it, but that is not the point. I had a great deal of fun with the project and that is really what it was about.

*Price*

## *Editor's Note's*

I was asked once if my husband Bob would ever write an article for the Bulletin and my response was he will when pigs fly. Back in May Bob wrote an article for the Bulletin on the Maker Faire that he and other members participated in. Well they must be really flying because he wrote another one. Check it out on page 11.

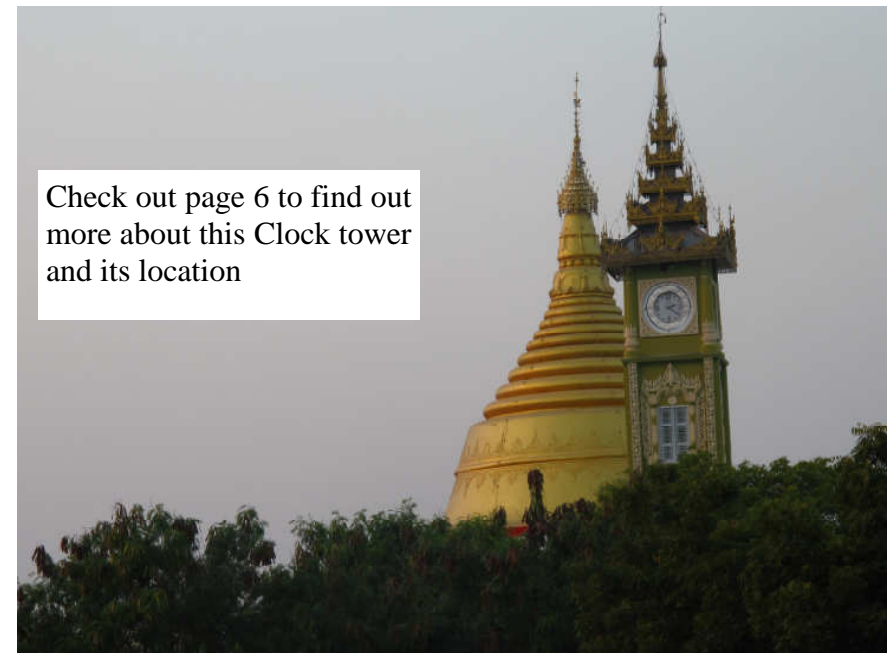
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Special thanks to Celeste Graham, Chip Kumparak, Bob Thomas and John Koepke for contributing to this month's Bulletin.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

It's exciting to have 2 new members join chapter 107. Cyrus Wind Dancer and Bob Simon Please introduce yourself to them at the next mart.

The chapter's library catalog is available on our web site  
**[www.community.nawcc.org/chapter107](http://www.community.nawcc.org/chapter107)**



Celeste just returned from Myanmar/Burma and wanted to share this special clock tower with Chapter 107 members.

We cruised on the Irrawaddy River, disembarking at the Saigiang Pagoda Complex, which has many important stupas that provide housing and education for monks and nuns. While walking around the complex I noticed this clock tower. I requested some information and was told it was built in 1993 by U. Nyannatesara, a native of Sicily. The clock tower is 25 meters tall and it chimes on the hour. At this Pagoda it wakes the monks at 4:00 a.m. to begin their studies. The chime at 11:00 a.m. signals their once-daily meal. When the 5:00 p.m. chime is heard, the monks are to be in prayer.

Although this clock tower isn't very old, it is quite impressive and beautiful!



## History of Antique Seth Thomas Thirty Hour Brass Movement Weight Driven Clocks

In the 1820's and 1830's, the one day wooden movement shelf clock, such as the pillar and scroll and the bronze looking glass, was in mass production. The market grew rapidly and competition became severe. An economic recession in 1837 brought the clock business almost to a halt. Chauncey Jerome wrote:

"At Richmond I was looking after our old accounts, settling up, collecting notes and picking up some scattered clocks."

"One night I took one of these clocks into my room and placing it in the table, left a light burning near it and went to bed. While thinking over my business troubles and disappointments, I could not help feeling very much depressed. I said to myself I will not give up yet, I know more about the clock business than anything else. That minute I was looking at the wood clock on the table and it came into my mind instantly that there could be a cheap one day brass clock that could take the place of the wood clock. I at once began to figure on it; the case would cost no more, the dials, glass, and weights and other fixtures would be the same, and the size could be reduced. I lay awake nearly all night thinking this new thing over. I knew there was a fortune in it."

"I arrived home from the south on the 28th of January (1838), and told my brother who was a first rate clockmaker what I had been thinking about since I had been gone. He was much pleased with my plan, thought it a first rate idea, and said he would go right to work and get up the movement, which he perfected in a short time so that it was the best clock that had ever been made in this or any other country. There have been more of this same kind manufactured than of any other in the United States."\*

Noble Jerome received patent number 1200 for his clock movement, issued June 27, 1839. The new clock proved to be a great success, and so Seth Thomas decided to enter the market.

Continued on page 13



# February 2013 Meeting



## Hoover Dam

My wife and I did attend the Pasadena Regional. We took a side trip by Hoover Dam on our way to visit our daughter who lives in Las Vegas after the Regional.

John Koepke



President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Personal 18K Gold Repeater Pocket

## Road Trip

On January 31 Tina and I went to the Greater Los Angeles Regional held every year at the Pasadena Convention center. We have only missed one since 2006. Attendance seemed to be down this year and prices seemed to be lower. Nile God-



frey, Ron Bechler and Jay and Max Taylor had tables selling clocks and related items. Tina and I always enjoy the bargains on the silent auction table. This year I picked



up a very nice complete wood movement, Ogee clock made by Williams, Orton, Preston and company Upper Alton, Illinois for \$40.00. The movement has a broken tooth, that's a job for another day. We always enjoy staying at the Host hotel The Sheraton Pasadena. Which is contiguous with the convention center making everything a short walk or scooter ride for Uncle Larry.

Tina's Uncle Larry and Aunt Wilma live in Ventura, we go and pick them up and head for Pasadena. We always have a good time and buy more clocks than planned. We had a hard time getting everything in the van for the ride back to Ventura this year.





**CHAPTER #107 MEETINGS**

**Second Sunday of the Even Numbered Months**

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

**Future Meeting Dates**

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
<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.

**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.

**Disclaimer**

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