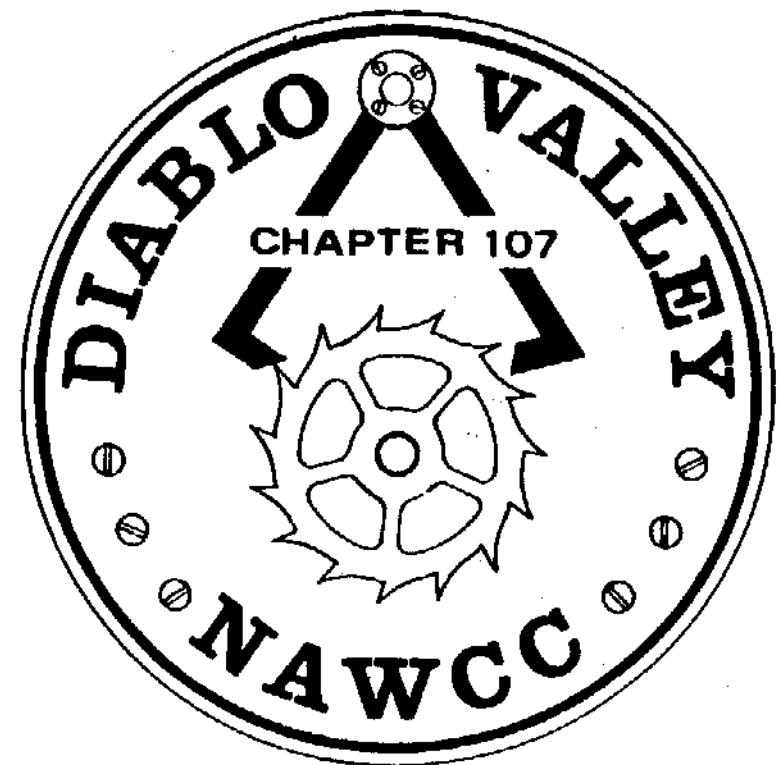


BULLETIN



**June 2013
Volume 207**

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"

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Meeting Notice

**June 09, 2013
Mart 11:30 Meeting 12:30**

**Grange Hall
743 Diablo Road
Danville**

This months speaker
John Koepke
on
Walnut Parlor Clocks of the
1870's



View two photos of the type of clocks
that John will be discussing on page 6



President's Message

Let me open by thanking Bob Simon for his April presentation on unusual time clocks. It was a nice follow-up to Alan Bloore's presentation on school clocks. At this meeting, Jim Haubert was planning to tell us about the precision regulator he built. Unfortunately he was not able to make it, but promises to talk to us at a future meeting. The good news is that John Koepke has volunteered to talk about parlor clocks of the 1870s. This should be a very interesting presentation and one with broad appeal to our members. When was the last time you visited a parlor or even used the word?

For the last several years we have been trying to build up our mart. Frankly the results have been mixed. We have had a few real successes; eg, the sale of John Stohr's tools and supplies. Recently participation has been pretty meager. This is a typical chicken and egg problem. Sellers need buyers, and buyers need sellers. As we saw with the Stohr material, the mart can be a great vehicle for transferring timepieces, tools, and materials from one generation to the next. If there are items you don't need, you don't have to wait for death or the December auction to dispose of them. Bring a few items to each mart. You might make a few dollars while helping others acquire items they "need". Until they see it, they may not even realize they need it. If nothing else it will stimulate conversation and help educate our members.

In my April column, I wrote about *Time and Timekeepers* by Mihan. It lead me to *Sky and Ocean Joined*. Bob Simon then introduced me to *Selling the True Time*. These two books discuss the history of determining and distributing time in the USA. Some of what I learned, will be summarized in a series of *Bulletin* articles. For anyone interested in the details, I recommend these books.

Our next meeting will be the picnic and white elephant sale. I expect to have the location confirmed before the upcoming meeting (June). It is not too early to start setting aside items for the auction.

Price

Editor's Choice an Unusual Clock

John and Cindy Perry friends of Bob's and mine invited us over to see their unusual clock. This is a Salem Ship Clock. Time only made in Switzerland on one side and a barometer made in Germany on the other.



This months speaker John Koepke on Walnut Parlor Clocks of the 1870's
The Fifth Avenue and Iowa are George Jones products while the Psyche is a George Owen model. Beside these two makers John will be showing a number of Henry Davies clocks.



How would you title this Picture?

Don't be alarmed !

The Wreckage of Time.

I call it

One less Quasi-antique for the Collector.



Did you know

The end of Eli Terry's successful and ingenious 30-hour clock with wood movements happened when Chauncey Jerome invented the 30-hour brass movement clock, commonly known as the ogee movement. The 8-day wood movement shelf clock most likely came on the market sometime during this time frame when the industry was moving toward a longer running clock.

Few of the 8-day wood movement clocks exist today. These movements were less reliable than either the 30-hour wood or the 8-day brass. Most likely, no 8-day wood movement shelf clocks were made after about 1842.

Chauncey Jerome, who learned from the expert clockmaker Eli Terry and then went on to become the largest clockmaking firm in Bristol, CT, and later in the world. Jerome developed the dwarfed tall clock with modified tall clock movement.

After the near bankruptcy in the depression of 1837, Jerome developed the 30-hour brass clock and was granted a patent for it in 1839. The cheaper brass clock made Chauncey a wealthy man because the clocks were a success. The brass clocks could be shipped farther distances and across the ocean to England without affecting the clock parts, unlike wooden clock parts. Later, Jerome designed an 8-day version of this clock.

In 1843 Jerome had four factory buildings in New Haven, CT; unfortunately, almost the entire complex was destroyed by fire on April 23, 1845. This was the beginning of large financial demands on the Jerome Manufacturing Company, which filed for bankruptcy in 1856. Jerome died in April 1868.



April 2013 Meeting



What time is it?

Seems like a simple question, doesn't it? Actually there are many varieties of "time". From the beginning of recorded history, time was related to and measured by the positions of the sun and stars. With the invention of the clock and the ability to measure time uniformly, things began to get complicated and the need to standardize was recognized. This lead to the creation of the first "time service" by Charles V of France in 1317, when he decreed that all the bells of Paris would ring in consonance with the Palais Royal.

Until the deployment of telegraph lines, there was little coordination of time between cities. Each city kept its own local time based on astronomical observations, which could be as simple as a sun dial. Solar time might or might not be corrected to mean solar time. If the city had an observatory, the observatory could sell time information to the town. Once telegraph service was in place, it became possible to transmit a standard time based on astronomical observations at a designated place. From 1867 the US the Naval Observatory has had the role of supplying the time standard for the country. Time zones and what we call "standard time" did not come into use until 1883. In the meantime, each city could set its local time by the signal telegraphed from Washington. International cooperation and coordination of time measurements lead to "Universal Coordinated Time" or "UTC" being adopted in 1928.

As clock time became more and more capable of keeping time uniformly and astronomical observations became more accurate, discrepancies between clock time and time based on the rotation of the earth became apparent. By the 1950s clock precision had surpassed that of the rotation of the earth. Because time had always been based on the rotation of the earth, this lead to the need to adjust clock time to keep the two systems aligned. This lead to three types of times based on astronomical observations: UT0, UT1, and UT2. UT0 was time based on observations. UT1 was corrected for polar motion, and UT2 was corrected for seasonal variations.

Continued on page 11

Continued from page 10

Because UT was not constant, another more constant system was needed for calculations involving positions of celestial bodies. This lead in 1958 to the introduction of "Ephemeris Time" or "ET", which defined the time in terms of Earth's motion around the Sun rather than in terms of Earth's rotation on its axis. UT continued to be used from observations. The two systems were related by "delta T".

While all this was going on atomic clocks first based on vibrations of molecules and later energy transitions in atoms were being developed. In 1967 the second, which is the fundamental unit of time, was redefined in terms of the frequency of an atomic transition in cesium and atomic time became the basis for all time measurements. The development of portable atomic clocks and ways to accurately compare clocks over long distances made it possible to develop a truly international time. Atomic time formally went into use in 1972 as "International Atomic Time" or "ATI". ATI replaced ET but left the problem with UT. It was decided that variations between them of up to one second could be tolerated and the "leap second" was introduced. Leap seconds occur less than once per year.

The introduction of atomic clocks and satellites introduced new opportunities and concerns because precision had reached the point where the effects of special relativity became important.

This is the first of a series of articles on time determination, keeping, and distribution, which are among the primary responsibilities of the Naval Observatory. *Sky and Ocean Joined* by Steven J. Dick is the definitive history of the Naval Observatory and the source of most of the information in these articles.



Continued from April Bulletin

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

Ca. 1842 - 1843

Ogee case, made in Plymouth Hollow, glasses puttied in. Height 25 31/32", width 15 9/16", depth 4 5/16". Ogee case, made in Plymouth Hollow, glasses puttied in. Height 25 31/32", width 15 9/16", depth 4 5/16".

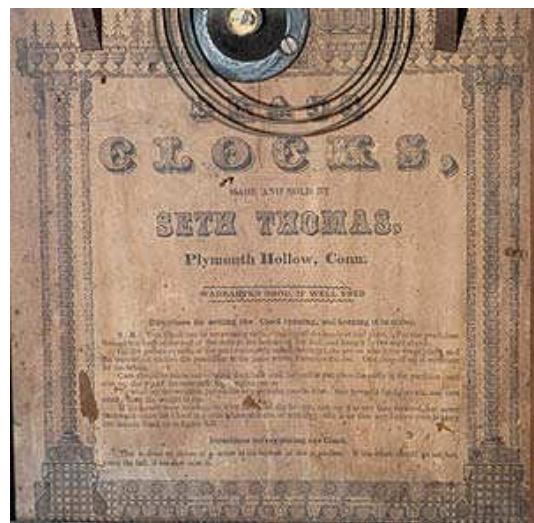
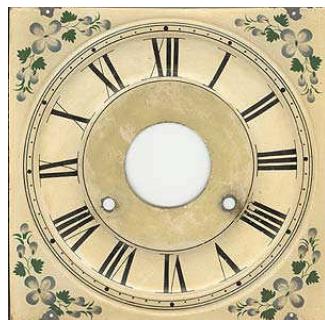
Dial: metal, two rings drawn around time track, dots for minute marks. Dial: metal, two rings drawn around time track, dots for minute marks.

Early features of dial: tapered numerals 3, 4 and 8, small winding holes (8.2 mm).

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Label: printed by Elihu Geer, Hartford, Connecticut, no address given. This dates it to 1842 - 1845.

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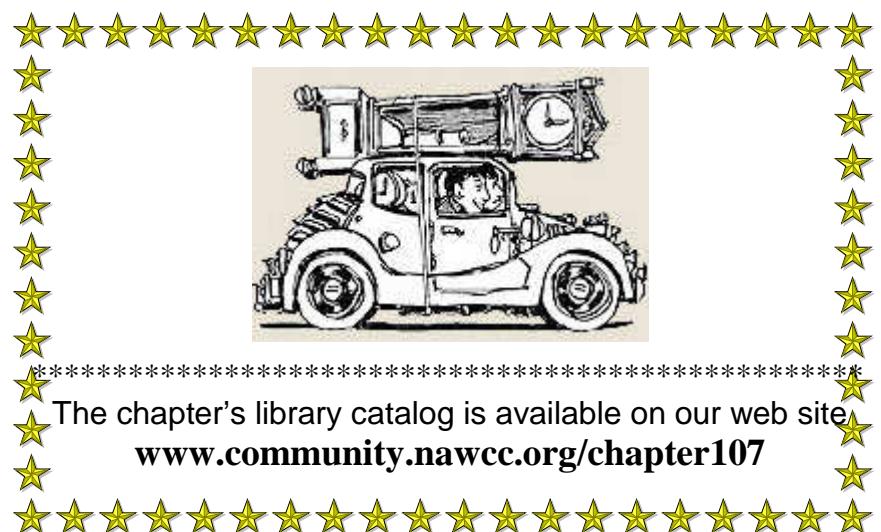
Case Styles of Seth Thomas 30 Hour Brass Weight Driven Clocks



Ogee or O.G. case, 1842 - 1913



Half column case, style 1, ca. 1850 - 1860



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

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 11, 2013	December 08, 2013
October 13, 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 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.

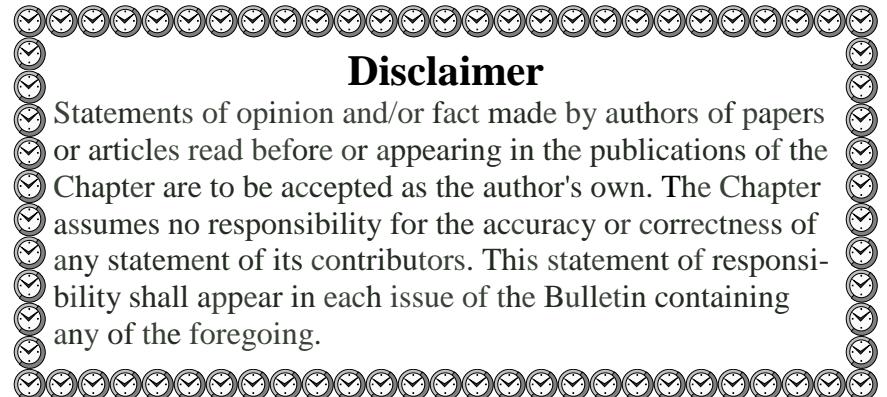
CHAPTER LIBRARIES



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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