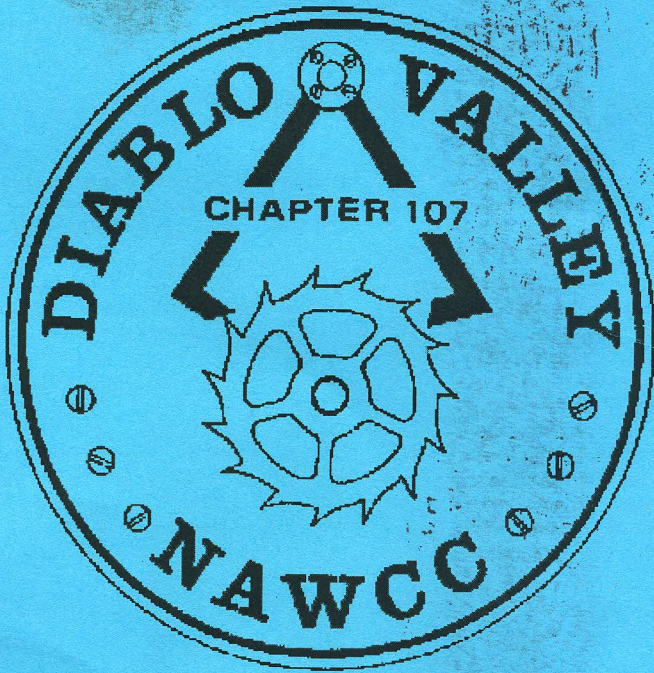


BULLETIN



April 2016
Volume 224

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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☆☆

LAST CHANCE

☆☆
☆☆ Sadly, this will be the last issue of the Bulletin
☆☆ mailed to anyone who has not paid his/her 2016
☆☆ Chapter dues. Contact John Koepke to arrange
☆☆ payment.
☆☆

☆☆

Meeting Notice

April 10, 2016

Mart 10:30 Meeting 12:00

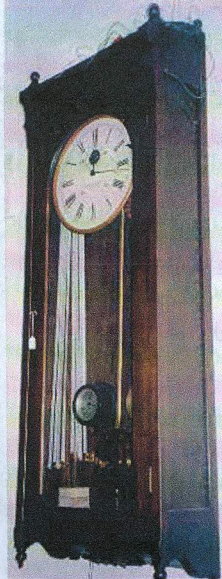
Grange Hall
743 Diablo Road
Danville

W. H. Shortt and His Free Pendulum Clock

The presented by D. H. Mayeron and Price Russ

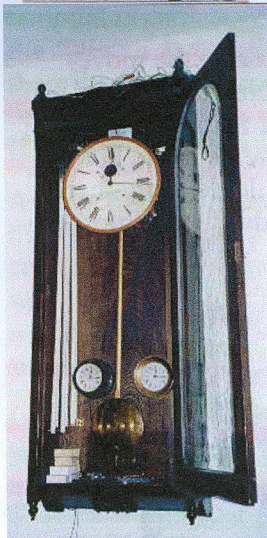


E. HOWARD & CO. ELECTRIC CLOCKS AND SYSTEMS



E. Howard #89 self-winding master clock with two secondary clock circuits and four bell circuits, in dark ash case. Originally installed circa 1904 at Roxbury High School, in Boston's Roxbury section. Pilot clock below left dates from 1911 when system was converted from series to parallel secondary clock circuits. Substitute dial shown while original awaits restoration.

Being the first American clockmaker to produce electric time systems, E. Howard & Co. of Boston, Massachusetts deserves special recognition on these pages. With our focal point remaining The Standard Electric Time Co., it is interesting to compare the products of these two companies which, during much of the most intense period of their competition, were located less than 100 miles apart.



Howard's entry into the field of electrical horology apparently began with its successful manufacturing and marketing of strictly mechanical "Watch Clocks, for the Detection of Delinquent Watchmen on Night Duty in Factories, Railroad Stations and Public Buildings" ---1874 catalog. The catalog describes these early watch clocks as follows:

"The clock has a Time Dial (independent of the Pin Dial), which serves as a good regulator for time for the whole establishment.

"The Pin Dial is securely enclosed, so that it is impossible for it to be tampered with, or the pins driven (other than by the regular

pulls), without immediate detection.

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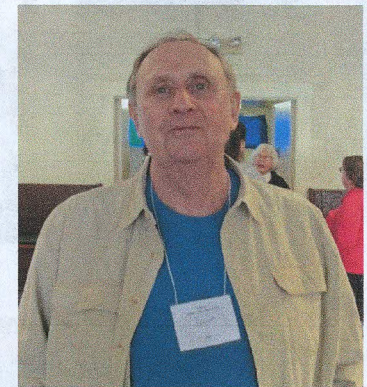
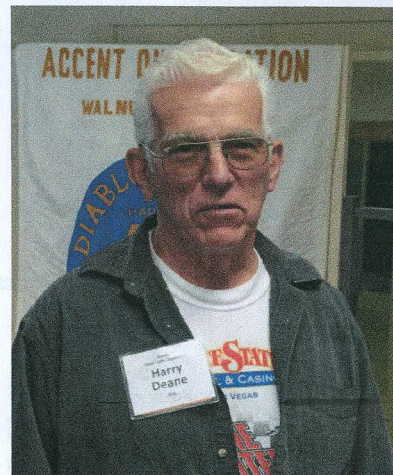
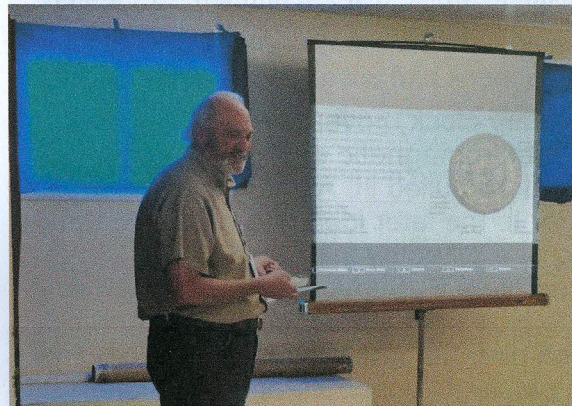
"The clock should be placed in a room convenient for the exhibition of time, and cords and pulleys run from the clock to such rooms or places on the premises as you wish the watchman to visit each HALF HOUR of the night. Care should be taken that the termination of the wires should be in such places as to cause the watchman to explore as much of the premises as possible. It is necessary to visit all the rooms or places designed in order to drive ONE PIN. The clock is so constructed that fifteen or twenty minutes (according to the number of rooms that have to be visited,) is allowed the watchman to go over the building. With this clock the watchman cannot fail in his duty without detection."

Early Howard secondary clock movements, like those of Chester Pond, used electromagnetic energy to directly drive the hands as the armature pulled in. Although logical, this method proved inferior to the later idea of moving the hands by means of a spring energized by the magnet. While the later Standard Electric Time Systems proved themselves electrically superior to Howard's, the longevity attained by Howard's construction method utilizing numerous beautifully machined parts in place of thinner sheet metal stampings, is beyond reproach. With respect to design, of particular note is a 2-lever power equalizing system the company employed in both electrically-wound master clock movements and those of their improved secondary clocks.

LICK OBSERVATORY VISIT

D. H. Mayeron has arranged for a group of Chapter members to visit the Lick Observatory on May 14th to see their Shortt clock. Unfortunately the group must be limited to ten participants. There will be a drawing at the April meeting to determine who can attend. Details about timing and travel will be worked out among the lucky winners.

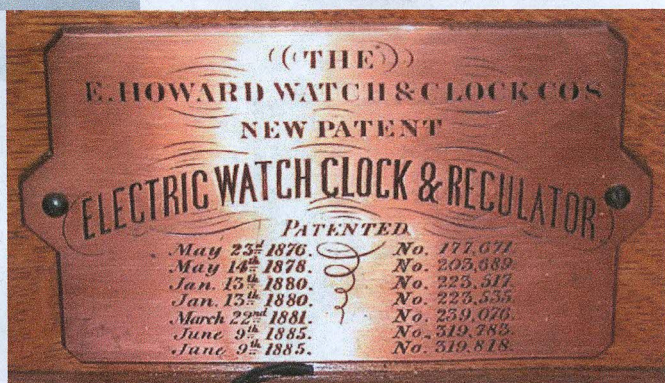
February 2016 Meeting



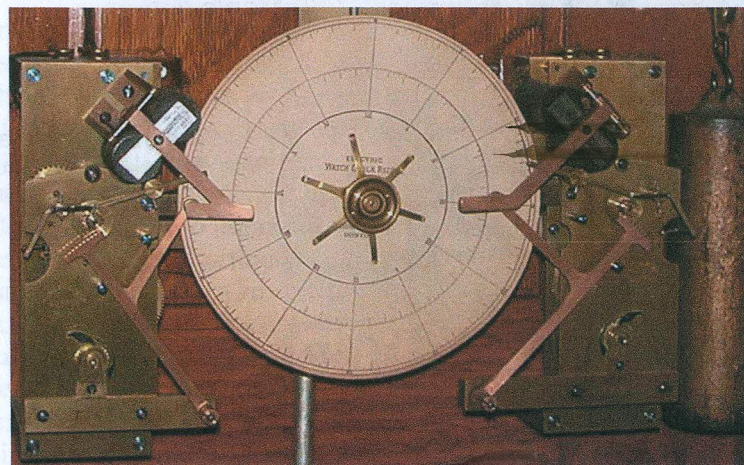
Source: Illustrated Catalogue of CLOCKS manufactured by the Howard Watch and Clock Co. (E.Howard & Co. Proprietors), BOSTON, 1874; reprinted 1972 by the American Clock and Watch Museum, Inc., 100 Maple Street, Bristol, Conn. 06010



Early Howard watch clock with hand-wound cable and weight-driven movement.



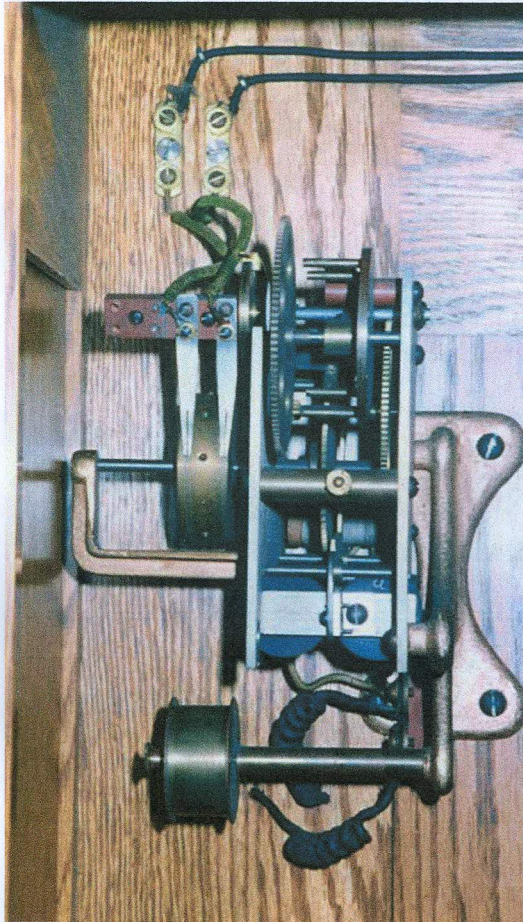
A paper disc recorded the time of watchmen's visits to key-stations in remote locations and wired to clock. Discs had to be changed daily.



VEGETABLE IVORY

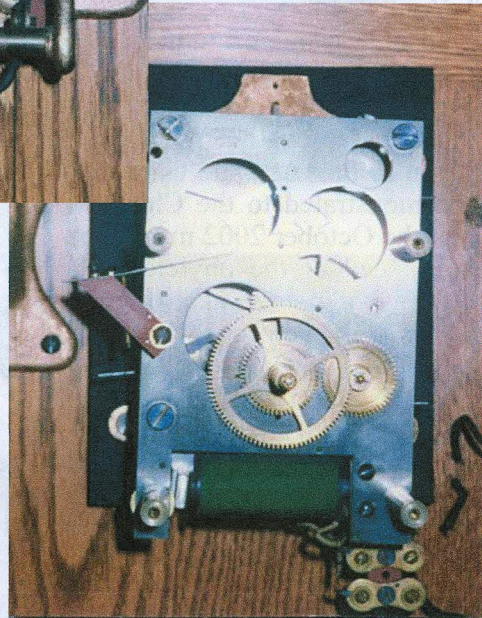
You need to replace an ivory bushing, hand, or numeral or repair your bagpipe, but ivory is no longer available, at least not legally. What are you to do? As Dale Gardner demonstrated to the Chapter at the October 2002 meeting, the seed of the phytelephas genus of palms, aka tagua nuts can be cut, whittled, and/or turned to make the needed part. These seeds which are also called vegetable ivory, palm ivory, martim-vegetal, corozo, or jarina. The palms occur in Central and South America. Like everything else the nuts are available through the internet. The cost is about two dollars per nut.





Program movement in #89 electrically wound master clock

Electrically wound movement in #89 master clock.



MILKY BLACK MARBLE CLOCKS

By Price Russ

An article in the June 1988 Bulletin (number 58) by Phil Russell discussed the problem of "black marble" cases turning milky white and what not to do about it. In the June 2002 Bulletin (number 141), I discussed the fact that so-called black marble is really slate and gave an example of a color restoration I had tried with promising results. In my experiment I applied "Rub 'n Buff" after an attempt to clean the case. Not being aware of Phil's article, I suggested starting by first rubbing the surface with a mild abrasive to obtain a uniform color. Now 14 years later, I don't remember how successful the rubbing was, so if you try this, use caution. The three pictures below show the clock before treatment, after treatment, and now. I concluded my 2002 article wondering what would happen to the Rub 'n Buff finish over time. I think we can agree it has held up pretty well. (My apologies for the photo quality. It is hard to get a good representation of the color of the surface.)



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.

CHAPTER #107 MEETINGS

Second Sunday of the Even Numbered Months

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

Future Meeting Dates

June 12, 2016 August 14, 2016
 October 9, 2016 December 11, 2016
 February 12, 2017

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

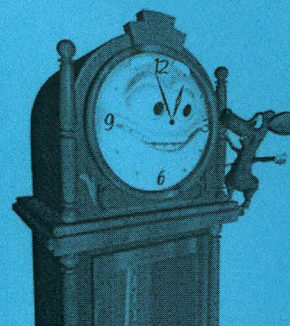
DIRECTIONS TO CHAPTER MEETINGS

(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.

NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

(The Bulletin accepts notices from Chapter members for all items/subjects horological - wanted, for sale, give-away, services, and so forth. There is no charge. All you have to do is supply copy to the editor.)

Wanted: Articles for the *Bulletin*. Contact Tina Thomas (209) 481-3930. Or email ch107bulletin@comcast.net.