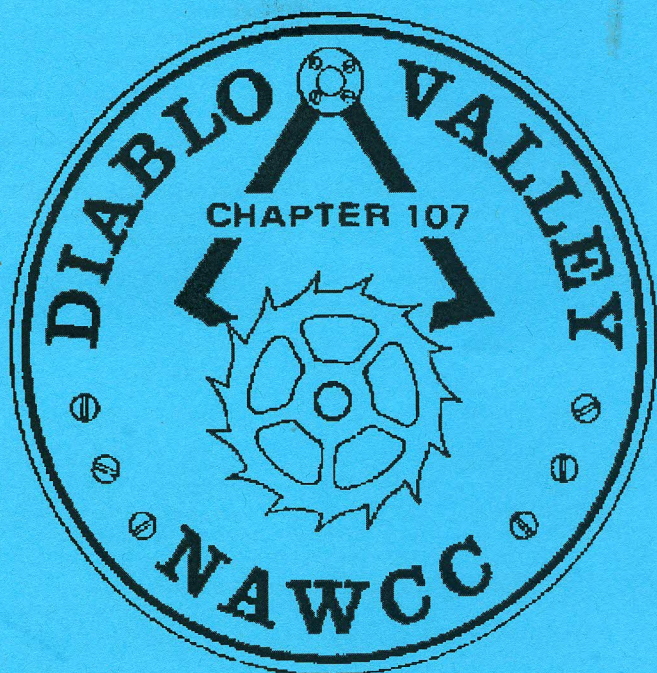


BULLETIN



June 2017
Volume 231

DIABLO VALLEY

Chapter 107

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

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Chapter Established March 5, 1978

"Accent on Education"

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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.

Meeting Notice

June 11, 2017

Mart 10:30 Meeting Noon

There will be a reception with light refreshments
at the end of the presentation.

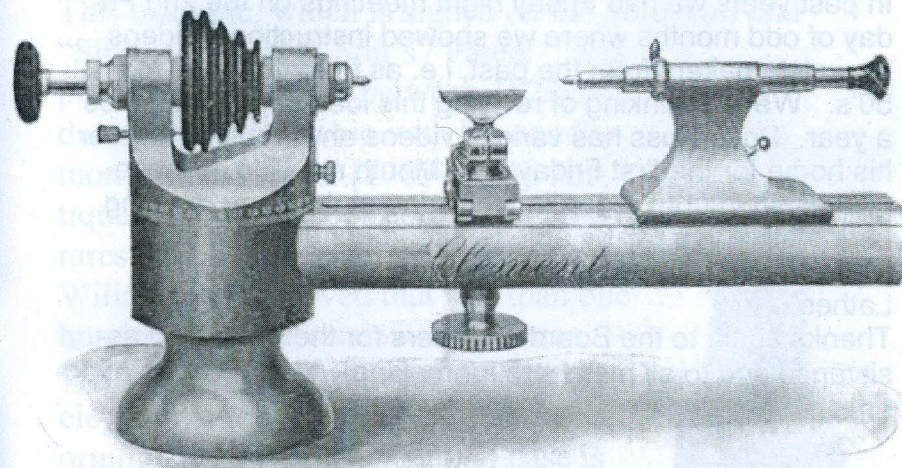
Grange Hall, 743 Diablo Road, Danville

Mike Dorby

will speak on

"W.D. Clement and His Lathes".

Mike is an horological tool enthusiast



President's Message

The April meeting with speaker David Walters was exceptional. Mr. Walters is a Master Horologist building high end regulators since 1979. His two pendulum is wo pedulum clocks iH clocks are by far the most accurate mechanical clock ever build. We were very fortunate to have him as a speaker.

The Board of Directors of the NAWCC recognizes members who have reached 10, 20, 30 and 40 years of membership with a free "years of service" pin. This year we have four members who were recognized, Jack Coulter with 40 years of membership, Walt Hubrig with 30 years of membership, Nile Godfrey with 20 years of membership, and Phil Hart with 10 years of membership. Congratulations and thanks you.

We had two new members join at our April meeting, Chris Johnson of Forest Ranch and Ron Puccinelli of Napa. Welcome aboard.

Price Russ , John Koepke, and D. H. Meyerson are continuing their research on clock parts for the Shortt clock project with Lick Observatory.

In past years we had Friday night meetings on the 2nd Friday of odd months where we showed instructional videos by watch makers from the past, i.e. as from the 40's and 50's. We are thinking of reviving this idea say 2 or 3 times a year. Price Russ has various videos and would volunteer his home for the first Friday Odd Month meeting. Please give us your input regarding this idea at the June meeting. I hope all of you will be able to attend our June meeting when Mike Dorby will speak on "W.D. Clement and His Lathes".

Thanks again to the Board Members for their help and assistance and to all members for making 107 interesting and enjoyable. Linda

Antique lighthouse clock with porcelain dial, made by Simon Willard and Son, circa 1823-25.



This rare antique clock form, which is typically referred to as a Lighthouse clock, was created by the renowned clockmaker Simon Willard and patented in 1819 as an "Alarum Timepiece". These sophisticated, high-style clocks were among the first American shelf clocks to offer the conveniences of an alarm. Simon Willard [born: Grafton Massachusetts April 3, 1753, died: Boston, Massachusetts August 30, 1848] was a highly prolific and innovative clockmaker for over sixty-five years and is responsible for a number of important refinements and patents which have forever

impacted the form and function of American clocks. This example, which is signed on the porcelain dial "Simon Willard & Son's / Patent", was produced some time between 1823-26, during the partnership with his son Simon Willard Junior [1785-1874]. Antique lighthouse clocks are among the rarest clocks produced by Simon Willard, it is believed that less than one hundred examples survive. A Simon Willard antique lighthouse clock in an elegant mahogany case with these fine ormolu mounts and hexagonal base is considered among the most highly prized forms by sophisticated collectors.



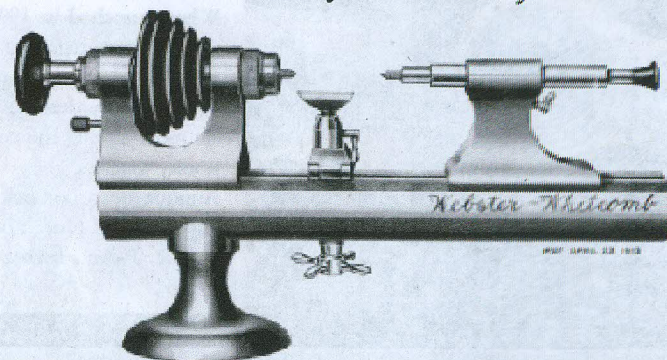
F. W. Derbyshire manufactures the Webster-Whitcomb "WW" Lathe

F.W. Derbyshire Inc. are a long-established American manufacturer who have supplied, since 1911, lathes and horizontal milling machines of the miniature high-precision type to companies and governments involved in producing work to critical standards. Frederick William Derbyshire, the founder of the business, was apprenticed at the age of fifteen (in 1874), to the just-formed American Watch Tool Company, in Waltham, Mass. In the later part of the nineteenth, and early part of the twentieth century, the town of Waltham was a centre of American precision engineering - with Stark, Waltham Machine Works, Hopkins Watch Tool Company, B.C.Ames, W.H. Nichols, the Wade Tool Company and many other well-known* high-class firms all located within a few miles of each other. The firm that Derbyshire joined had been formed only twenty-four months previously by two men whose names were to become synonymous with all that was best in watchmaker's lathes - Webster and Whitcomb. Webster had risen to be Superintendent (the Works Manager) of the 'American Watch Company' and Whitcomb was a principal in 'Ballou, Whitcombe & Co.', a precision machine and tool-making company.

For eighteen years, assisted by other skilled designers and engineers, they developed a range of increasingly sophisticated and better-made miniature lathes culminating, in 1888/9, with the introduction of a design that was to set the world standard for watchmaker's lathes, the Webster-Whitcomb - or "WW" as it was to become better known. This lathe was a seminal development and (with the exception of the lighter "Geneva" type) completely displaced all earlier kinds including the well-known Swiss Universal (or English mandrel as it also known) and Bottum..

<http://www.lathes.co.uk/derbyshire/>

A 1913 version of the Webster-Whitcomb (WW) lathe as manufactured by F. W. Derbyshire.



Grafton Wall Clocks

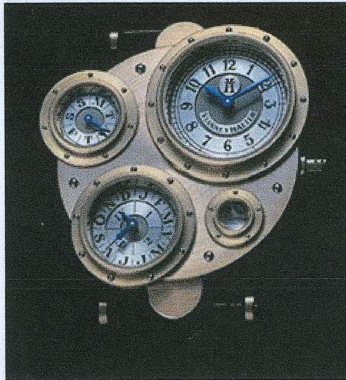
Grafton wall clocks were sometimes called Willard experimental clocks or Willard timepieces. These small clocks were usually made in Grafton, Massachusetts, although some were made in Roxbury, Massachusetts. They were produced during the last quarter of the 18th Century.

Grafton wall clocks are great rarities that were developed by Simon Willard and his brother Aaron Willard in an attempt to produce a small wall clock. These clock we often called "Experimentals" as they are the early attempts by Simon Willard to develop an improved timepiece. Each one of these early clock is slightly different, reflecting Simon's attempts to refine the form. The result of these experiments was the effective and revolutionary banjo clock or patent timepiece and its close kin, the Mass. shelf clock.

The early Simon Willard and Aaron Willard time pieces appear with brass dials and often have a passing strike. These Willard thirty-hour wall clocks are among the rarest of all important American clocks



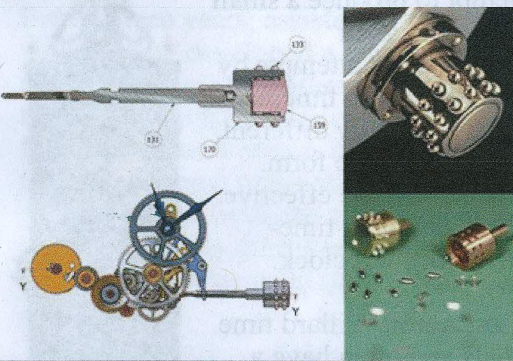
Vianney Halter Antiqua



When launched in 1998, the Antiqua was regarded as an UFO in the sky of horology. Now it is considered as a classic piece among the contemporary watches. Antiqua does not belong to any period of time, it belongs to the *Futur Antérieur (Past Future)*.



The whole as well as the details, the design as well as the making, the concept as well as the product make the Antiqua a unique horological experience. An experience shared by only a few people as only a couple of Antiqua are made each year.

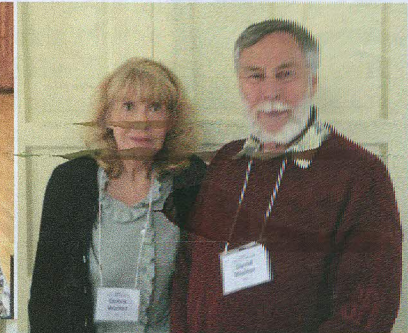
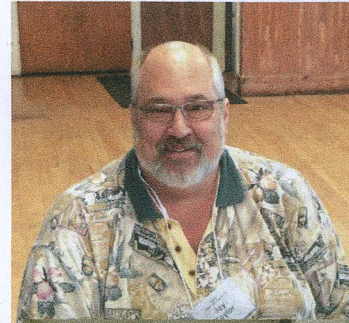


The winding crown is made of 24 gold rivets (133) inserted inside a drilled tube (170) and tightened by a tiny cabochon (159).

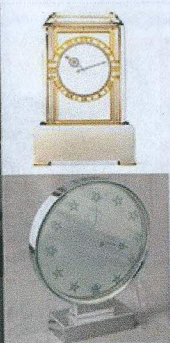
Each of these 26 components is individually machined from precious metal and hand-finished prior to assembly.

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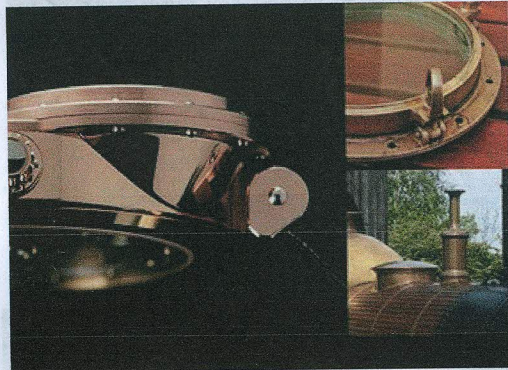
APRIL 2017 MEETING



Vianney Halter Antiqua continued



Another eyblink to the tradition is the VH patented "mysterious mass rotor". Like in vintage mysterious clocks, there is no visible mechanism between the rotor and the caliber. The riveted wheel mysteriously rotates at the caliber periphery and winds the watch.



The three bigger portholes outflank the case.

The link with the latter is done by means of three cones that are also machined from precious metal.

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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.

Joshua Wilder Clocks

Joshua Wilder [1786-1860] was an important and innovative clockmaker working in the southeastern Massachusetts town of Hingham. Wilder apprenticed to John Bailey II and became a leading member of the renowned and influential group of Quaker clockmakers from the Hingham and Haver area.

Wilder produced tall clocks, banjo clocks and shelf clocks, but is most famous for his rare dwarf clocks. These scaled down versions of a tall case clock were an affordable alternative that was popularized in this region.

The bulk of American dwarf clocks were produced in Plymouth County by the Bailey family of clockmakers or by the apprentices they trained like Wilder. Our research indicates that Wilder is responsible for the greatest share of these, producing approximately two thirds of all known examples. The dwarf clock cases from Wilder appear in basically three forms and were mostly produced by Weymouth cabinetmaker Abiel White. Wilder and White enjoyed a lengthy and successful relationship through the first quarter of the 19th century. These rare clocks are now prized by serious collectors.

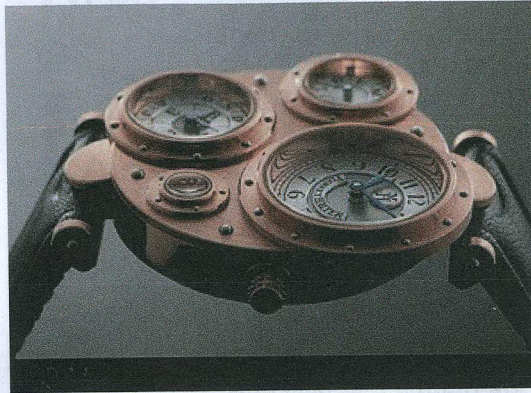


Antique dwarf clocks

Dwarf clocks were made to appear as a tall case clock, but measuring around four feet tall, they were scaled down and slightly more affordable than a full size grandfather clock. This style was previously referred to as a Grandmother clock.

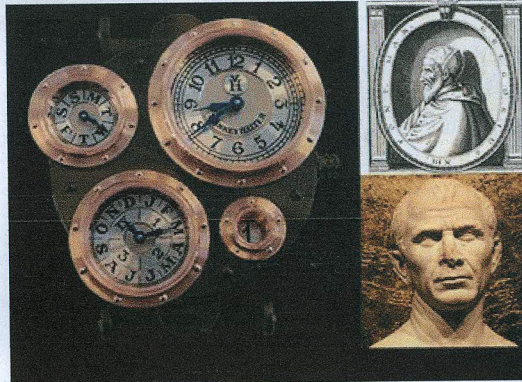
Diminutive dwarf clock cases appear in distinctive varieties, including both mahogany and paint decorated pine examples. They were produced as a more affordable alternative to a full size tall case clock.

Vianney Halter Antiqua

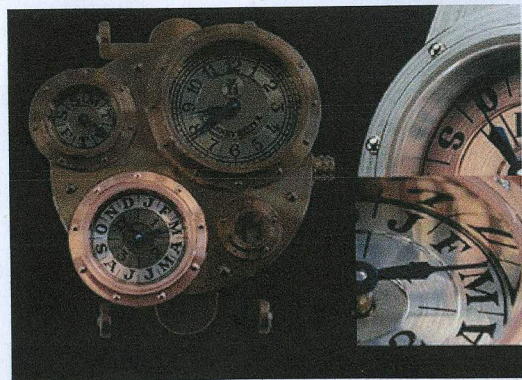


The four portholes are implemented on a 40 mm diameter round case and windowed by four flat sapphire glasses.

The strap is fastened by means of two lugs machined from massive gold or platinum.



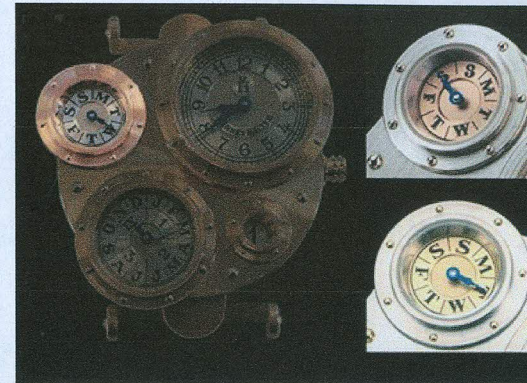
Thanks to its sophisticated mechanism, the Antiqua requires a date correction only once in 100 years, as the turn of the centuries, e.g. 1900, or 2100, are not leap years despite being divisible by four. Strictly speaking therefore, the Antiqua calendar is not a Gregorian but a Julian calendar.



The indication of the current month is given in the lower left dial : January (J), February (F), March (M), April (A), May (M), June (J), July (J), August (A), September (S), October (O), November (N) and December (D).

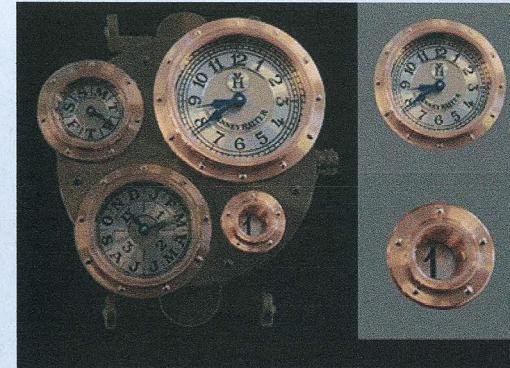
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Vianney Halter Antiqua



The upper left dial is for displaying the day : Monday (M), Tuesday (T), Wednesday (W), Thursday (T), Friday (F), Saturday (S) and Sunday (S).

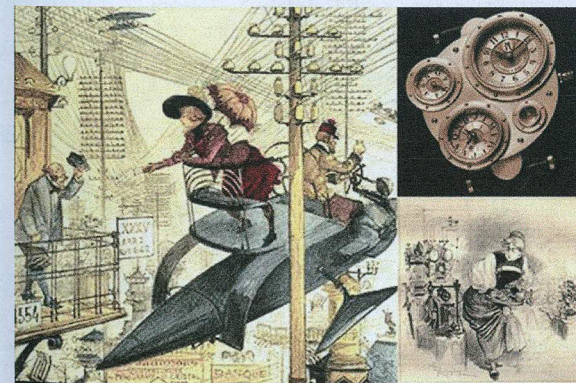
Everyday at midnight the tempered steel hand jumps to the next day.



Its perpetual calendar allows the Antiqua to give the time and the right date, day after day along the year.

But not only !

The Antiqua's four discrete riveted portholes allow for displaying *Le Calendrier Complet* (complete calendar).



For Vianney Halter the Antiqua is the watch of the future.

However not our future but the future as it could have been imagined by people living in the XIXth century.

Antiqua is a timepiece from the *Factor Antérieur* (Past Future).

CHAPTER #107 MEETINGS

Second Sunday of the Even Numbered Months

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

Future Meeting Dates

August 13th, 2017

October 8th, 2017

December 10th, 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 2017 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.

