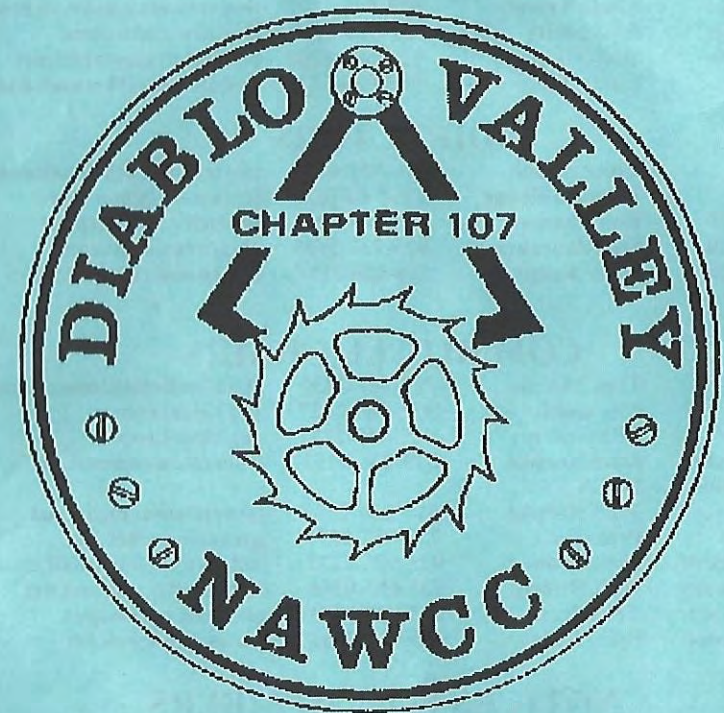


BULLETIN



December 2019
Volume 246

DIABLO VALLEY

Chapter 107

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

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.

THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON CELEBRATION

N.A.W.C.C. Diablo Valley
Chapter #107 December Meeting

BACK FORTY ROADHOUSE & SALOON

100 Coggins Drive, Pleasant Hill, Ca. 925-935-1440

Sunday December 8, 2019, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Please bring and wear your badges

Program:

Election of 2020 Officers and
Directors:

Auction of Quality Pieces:



*Bring your serious Clocks and
Watches, Related Timepieces,
and Supplies of High Quality. You
keep all the money .*

*Nothing for the Chapter. This is your big Chance
of the year. Look over Your Collection and make
Someone Happy. BRING THEM ALONG!*

President's Message

This has been a difficult few months with the passing of Ron Bechler then my wife, Bernice. Perhaps the best tribute we can make to them is to carry on. Enough said about sad news.

At the October meeting Ernie Lopez gave an interesting presentation on collecting and the West Coast Watch and Clock Museum. We should all make it a priority to visit the museum. I want to thank those who knowing my situation, stepped in to make the meeting a success. I particularly want to thank John Koepke for hosting Ernie and Linda Towers for arranging the refreshments.

Through John Koepke's smooth talking and arm twisting we have a full slate of candidates for the 2020 officers and directors. I am very pleased that Helen Wheeler, a new member, has agreed to stand for president. It is vital to the success of the group to have fresh hands and perspectives taking an active role.

Looking ahead, Ross Smith noticed that the second Sunday of April will be Easter. In consultation with the Board of Directors, it has been decided that the April meeting will be on the 19th which is the third Sunday. (The first Sunday would have been Palm Sunday and my birthday - better to avoid both.)

So far I have been providing the "Shop Hints". This is intended to be a column to which everyone can contribute. Every member must have some hints from which the membership could profit. They don't have to be limited to things done in the "shop". Other useful hints could have to do with conservation, display, documentation of your collection, and so on. Please send them to Tina.

I hope everyone will be able to attend the luncheon and auction. It is always a highlight of the year. Be sure to bring some interesting items for the auction and be prepared to bid for the treasures being offered.

Happy Holidays!

Price Russ

LEPAUTE

Jean André Lepaute (1720-1789) and his younger brother Jean Baptiste (1727-1802) were the first of four generations of Lepaute clock makers. The example of their work shown here is from ca 1760. It features month duration, equation of time, gridiron pendulum, Huygens continuous rope (a possible topic for a future article), and a double-sided pinwheel escapement. The Lepautes did not invent the double-sided pinwheel, popular in French clocks, but they perfected it.



Their work included several public clocks, some of which were destroyed during the Commune, observatory clocks, and fine clocks for chateaus and important buildings. Jean André also published three editions of a treatise on clockmaking.

Various members of the family were clockmakers to the kings, deputies, and emperors of France.

The clock pictured below by Jean Baptiste is particularly interesting. It is a one-wheel clock using a double-sided pin wheel escapement released once a minute. Seconds are indicated on the sector that runs along the lower part of the main dial. The seconds hand, pivoted below XII on the main dial, moves left-to-right and then right-to-left.



For more information on the Lepaute family see *Precision Pendulum Clocks* (vol. 3) by Derek Roberts.

Editor's Choice

My little collection of Hermetic watches. At least that's what I think they are....

....Semca 7 jewels
....Phinny-Walker
....LACO 17 Jewels



It has been impossible to determine with certainty why the word "hermetic" was originally used by manufactures and some authors to describe watches which are now called purse or golf watches by present day collectors.

Hermetic Watch, c 1960



Movado Watch Company
Grenchen, Switzerland
Ermeto Calendine

Hermetic watches were popular in the 1920s through the 1960s. The case around the watch was initially

meant to provide increased protection for the movement. However, eventually fashion won out over function as advertisements played up the watches style.

Movado manufactured the majority of these watches. They were designed to wind themselves from the movement of the case opening and closing. The watch above is the Calendine model which was a calendar watch. The case is electroplated and covered in black animal skin.



Shortt Report

Since my last report old number 23 has been behaving. Of course last time I wrote that it stopped or as they say about Rolls Royces, it failed to proceed. Because of the other things going on in my life, I have not done anything to it for the last two months. It is probably a good thing to let it run unmolested. My next chore is to prepare a write up on what was done and how to take care of the clock. At that point it will be time to take it back to Lick. I just realized I have had the master for a year and worked on the slave for a year before that. Time does fly whether or not we are having fun. This has certainly been fun.

Price Russ

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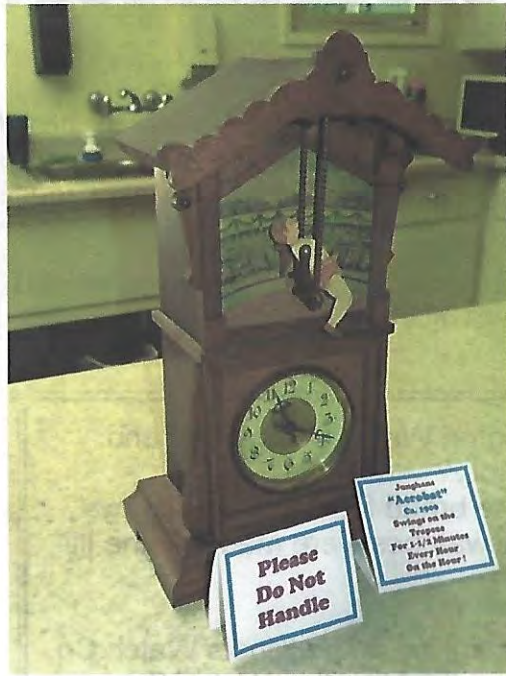
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Where was the Washington Watch Co. located and what is known of its history?

Answer: It was the house brand for watches sold by Montgomery Ward. The watches were made by the Illinois Watch Co.

What important event occurred at the Illinois Watch Co. in 1927? It was bought by the Hamilton Watch Co.

October 2019



Wait. Don't Tell Me!

Just how important is pendulum compensation in a modern Bay Area home - east of the Oakland hills? Say you are serious but not a martyr about saving energy, and the average temperature in your house is 75° in the summer and 65° in the winter. How much would the rate of a clock with an uncompensated brass pendulum vary during the year?



You have probably seen this monument. Where is it? What is it made of? What symbols does it contain that relate to the passage of time?

Jaeger-LeCoultre introduced the Reverso watch in 1931 in response to the problem of watches being smashed by British army officers in India during polo matches. Their solution was to turn the watch over in its case, so that the protected back side was exposed and the face was protected. What change was introduced in 1994?



What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of an endless chain, single weight time and strike arrangement such

OK, Now Tell Me

The period of a pendulum varies inversely with the square root of the length. Brass expands 0.000011 per degree Fahrenheit. For a ten degree change the fractional change of length will be 0.0001. The period will then change by the square root of 1.0001, which is 1.00005. Given 86,400 seconds in a day, the change in rate will be about 4 seconds per day or 2 minutes per month. For a 1 second pendulum with 32 threads per inch on the regulating nut, $1/8$ th of a turn would bring the clock to time. Good luck, trying to adjust a short pendulum.

The redwood statue of Father Time and the Weeping Maiden is atop the old Masonic Lodge in Mendocino. It was carved in the 1860s by Erick Jensen Albertson, a lumber mill employee. There are at least two symbols relating to the passage of time and the transitory nature of life - Father Time with his scythe and the hour glass. (The hour glass is in front of the maiden and hard to see in this picture.) Only the masons know what all the elements of the piece depict. The building is now a bank.

In 1994 Jaeger-LeCoultre introduced the Reverso with dials on the front and back that can be set to different time zones. The arrangement requires the movement to drive the two sets of hands in opposite directions.



Some advantages of the single weight configuration are simplicity, no loss of power during winding because it is wound from the strike side, and no loss of synchronization between the two trains when power runs out. A disadvantage is that there is no simple way to turn off the strike. In this particular clock the previous owner had muffled the strike with a BandAid on the bell. Can you think of other advantages or disadvantages of this scheme?

JOHN WILDING and the CRAFTSMANSHIP MUSEUM

John Wilding is a clock maker and writer based in England. He is one of the people featured in the Internet Craftsmanship Museum (www.craftsmanshipmuseum.com). Both Wilding and the museum are noteworthy.

John Wilding was trained as an agricultural engineer. Using his knowledge of lathes and tools, he started making clocks from plans in *Model Engineering*. From there he began making clocks on his own and writing up his experiences in *Model Engineering* and *Horological Times*. He has published roughly 30 "how-to" books on making various types of clocks. He was elected a fellow of the British Horological Institute in 1986 and was awarded a silver metal in 1998. Some of his clocks are shown below. Recently he decided to down-size and offered a number of his clocks for auction at Bonham's.

The Craftsmanship Museum has both a physical location in Carlsbad, CA and the web site. Both the physical and internet museums display projects from a wide variety of metal and wood crafts. In the area of clock making, Ray Bates (UK) and William R. Smith (USA) are showcased in addition to John Wilding. At least one local group, The Bay Area Engine Modelers Club, is also featured.



IMPORTANT DATES IN HOROLOGY

- 1818: Joseph Ives made a brass clock movement with steel plates.
- 1822: "Lighthouse" clock patterned after Eddystone Lighthouse in Plymouth England introduced by Simon Willard.
- 1824: Chauncey and Noble Jerome entered into partnership with Elijah Darrow to produce clocks under the name of Jeromes & Darrow.
Ives perfected a shelf clock using flat-leafed springs.
- 1825: Jerome patented a bronze looking-glass clock with bronze-colored pilasters, 30-hour wooden movement, and a mirror instead of a tablet.
- 1827: Jerome invented one-day weight driven, "OG".
- 1830: Silas B. Terry patented a method for tempering coiled springs so they could be made inexpensively.
- 1831: Rolled brass became available and brass started replacing wood for clock plates.
- 1833: Elisha Brewster started a factory in Bristol under the name of Brewster and Ingraham.

Shop Hints

The August issue of the Bulletin discussed the use of toaster ovens for soldering. They are also useful for bluing steel parts. Put the clean parts on a tray in the oven and set it to 450° or a bit higher. By playing with the temperature setting, the color achieved can be adjusted to your satisfaction. If you don't like the result, the color can be removed by polishing and the process repeated at a different temperature setting. For screws rather than dumping them on a tray, you can drill a brass plate with holes that allow them to be stood up. For hands it is best to have the whole length in contact with a brass plate so that the temperature achieved is uniform. The nice thing about bluing this way is that it is hard to do any harm. Caveat: for this application the parts need to be solder free.

CHAPTER #107 MEETINGS

Second Sunday of the Even Numbered Months

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

Future Meeting Dates

January 12, 2020

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 2019 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)
Sacramento #71	Sacramento Garden Center 3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA	4 th Sunday odd months
San Francisco #5	James Monroe Elementary 3750 Monterey 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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