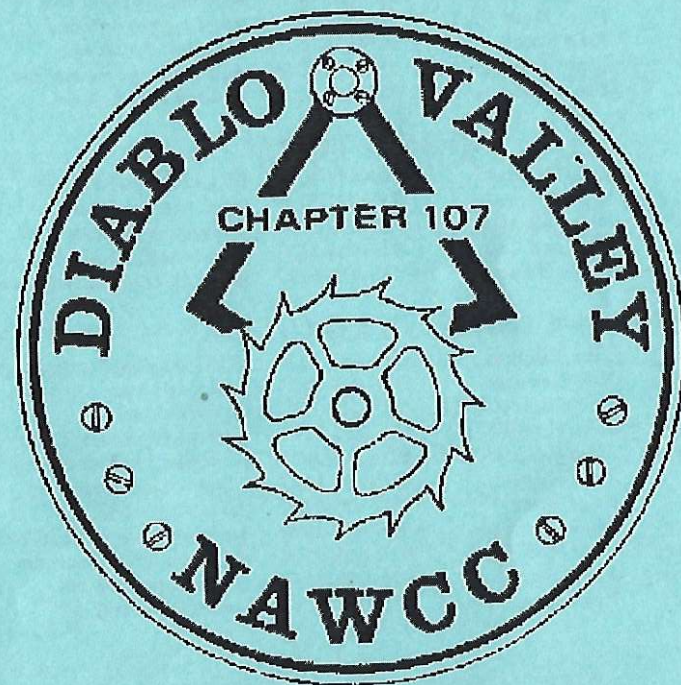


BULLETIN



April 2020
Volume 248

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



Sorry
 Chapter 107 members
 our April meeting
 has been cancelled.



President's Message

Dear 107 Members,

Here's my second attempt at contributing to our Newsletter. I have struggled with what to write since I'm so new to National and 107.

We had great attendance at our Chapter meeting in February and a very impressive "Show and Tell" program. Thank you to all the members who brought their interesting clocks, tools, etc., and shared their stories.

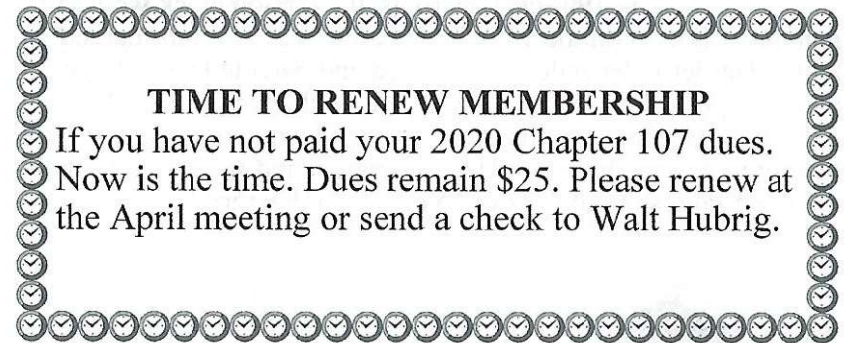
I've reviewed some past President's Messages to get an idea about content, and found in the first Bulletin that I received last February 2019, our beloved Ron Bechler wrote about a shop hint, passing along this tidbit: "Ever had a problem starting a very small screw, for instance, a stud screw on a balance cock? Take a round toothpick, cut the end off, stick the screw on with a tiny bit of Rodico, and it threads in easily. Don't have Rodico? It is just like old fashioned type cleaner. Available from any supply house." Thanks, Ron, I wish you were still here to share your words of wisdom with us. I'd like to ask other members to contribute their own tips. Please email them to me at wheelha@yahoo.com. I'll put them in my upcoming messages so we can all learn new tricks, especially me. I had to look up what Rodico was and now I'm going to add it to my armamentarium along with the metal polish Wenol and clock movement stand that I bought at the auction in December. I don't know how far I'm going to get in my quest to repair my own clocks, but I try to faithfully journey to Nile's class in Livermore every Thursday evening. My latest challenge is redoing worn-out bushings on the Cuckoo clock that I bought from Vince Angell. Luckily, Chuck McClain was there to instruct and guide me, as I had completely forgotten how to polish the pivots and then determine the size of the bushings to replace the worn-out ones. I'd only done it once before when I replaced all the bushings on my first time-only clock project about eight months ago. Hopefully, one of these days, I'll actually get that 1942 Lux Cuckoo clock running! I did find out the age of the clock thanks to Nile's extensive supply of catalogs with information and pictures. I also consult the NAWCC website and the wealth of information available there. More on that later.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4 President's Message

Another subject most dear to Ron Bechler was the Mart. He believed in an active mart including a silent auction. I hope anyone who has parts, clocks, manuals, etc., who would like to share with others will bring them to our next meeting. The Mart starts at 10:30 AM. **REMINDER:** Our April meeting has been cancelled.

Helen Wheeler



TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP

If you have not paid your 2020 Chapter 107 dues. Now is the time. Dues remain \$25. Please renew at the April meeting or send a check to Walt Hubrig.

.Shop Hints

In the previous issue, I asked if we should drop this column because no one was contributing. I did not get a single response to my question. For now I will continue if I come across items I think may be of interest.

While rummaging through the Timesavers catalog, I noticed two types of shears that were on closeout at \$6.00 each (p. 126). Given that I was needing to cut a steel suspension spring of unusual shape, I decided to see if they were still in stock. To my surprise they were and I ordered one of each. Each came with a sticker saying made in "West Germany". This suggests how long they had been in stock. I have not used the larger one (#33349) much, but the smaller one (33366) did an excellent job of cutting the spring stock. If interested in purchasing the larger one, ask for the price on page 126. It is listed for a dollar less than in the closeout section (p. 156).

Price Russ

The torsion clock, typically known as a 400-day clock



In the U.K and the anniversary clock in the United States, was first developed by Aaron D. Crane in 1841 using a rotary—rather than swinging—pendulum invented by Robert Leslie nearly 50 years earlier. Crane's clock, which was designed to run for more than a year without winding, was driven by an escapement activated by this style of spinning pendulum, which Crane hung from a slender wire. Despite its early 19th-century roots, the torsion clock wouldn't gain popularity until the 1880s, after a German inventor named Anton Harder independently designed and patented a clock with a torsion pendulum inspired by a rotating [chandelier](#). In 1881, August Schatz founded the Wintermantel Company, which manufactured designs based on Harder's patent and was eventually renamed Jahresuhrenfabrik or "Year Clock Factory."



What is significant about the Royal Observatory in Greenwich England?

It was founded for navigational purposes in 1675 by King Charles II of **England at Greenwich**, and the astronomer in charge was given the title of astronomer **royal**. Its primary contributions were in practical astronomy—navigation, timekeeping, determination of star positions, and almanac publication.

What means GMT time? Greenwich Mean Time

Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) is the mean solar **time** at the Royal Observatory in **Greenwich**, London, reckoned from midnight. ... English speakers often use **GMT** as a synonym for Coordinated Universal **Time** (UTC).

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenwich_Mean_Time

Shortt Report

After changing the regulating weight on the master pendulum, the clock is within one second of the correct sidereal time after a full month. That is the limit of my measurement ability.

John Koepke and I are in the midst of writing a document about the history of the clock, the condition when found, restoration, and operation. It will also include various supporting material such as diagrams and photos. This document is intended for use by those involved with the project and maintaining it in the future. We hope to follow up with an article for the Watch & Clock Bulletin.

Price Russ

Peter Henlein 1480-1542
German Clockmaker

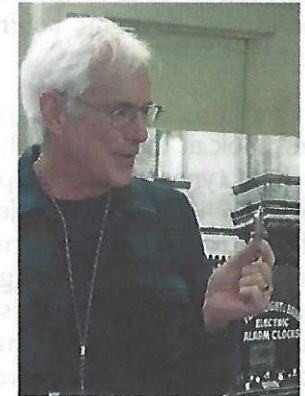
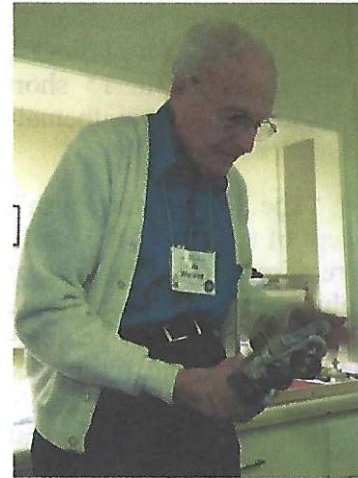
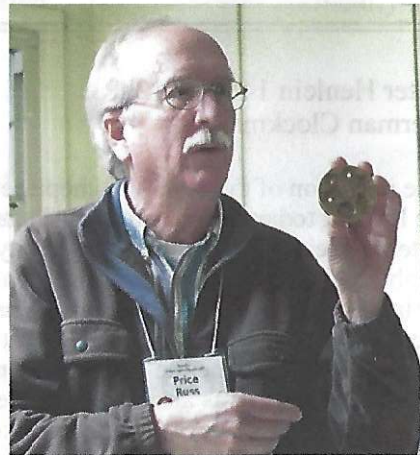


The invention of the portable timepiece or, as we know it today, the watch, is attributed to Peter Henlein, a locksmith from the city of Nuremberg, Germany. He introduced the main-spring as a replacement for weights, enabling the small size and portability of the watch.

During Henlein's time the role of locksmith extended well past locks. Such a locksmith was also an expert mechanic, similar to a modern toolmaker. The medieval locksmith, like the medieval blacksmith, was involved in producing complex and detailed devices. As a result, many locksmiths and blacksmiths were involved in the development and construction of time-keeping devices.

Around 1500, Henlein began to make small clocks that were driven by a spring. These were the first portable timepieces and, designed to be carried by hand, were frequently circular or oval in shape. Because of this oval shape, and a mistranslation of the German word Ueurlein (little clocks) for Eierlein (little eggs), these timepieces were called Nuremberg eggs. The dials of these clocks were placed on top of the device and featured only an hour hand. A record of 1511 indicates that Henlein's watches included iron movements that were mounted in musk balls. This ball was a decorated and perforated sphere in which musk was placed.

Thank you to Vince and Phyllis Angell for the pictures



Book Review
“Times’s Pendulum”
Jo Ellen Barnett

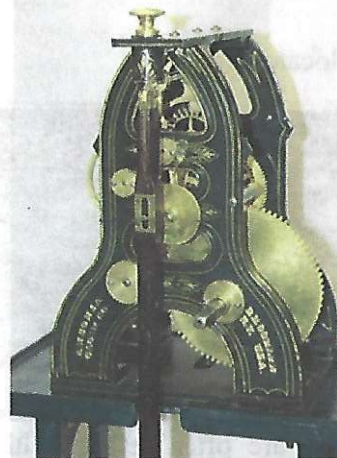
1998, 340 pages

Time has different meanings in different cultures. Broadly speaking the meanings of time fall into two categories. One is how we interpret the events in the present. The other is how we interpret the distant past. This easy to read book is divided into two parts one dealing with each of these two broad characterizations of time.

In the first part, “The Time of Day”, she starts with a discussion of time in terms of the motion of the sun. She then moves on to the evolution of the concept of hours, the development of clocks, and standardization of timekeeping. She does this in 15 short chapters none of which exceeds 25 pages and without mathematics.

In the eight chapters of the second part, “The Time of the Earth”, she discusses the evolution of the concept of the age of the earth/cosmos. Measuring time into the past requires a different type of clock. In this section she traces the evolution of thought about the history of time from the biblical, through the sequence of geological formations, heat flow from inside the earth, and ultimately radioactivity. As in the previous section, she manages to explain the crucial thoughts behind these ideas without going into great detail.

Overall this book can be recommended to anyone wanting to get a first look at the philosophical concepts and crucial developments in both types of timekeeping without being bogged down in too much technical detail or jargon. One thing missing is a discussion of GPS, which plays a crucial role in timekeeping today, but was largely unknown by the general public when the book was written. The text also includes a few glorious mistakes, particularly in discussing some of the half-lives of radionuclides used as chronometers. These mistakes won’t be important to most readers. Copies are available on the internet for under \$5.



Ansonia street and tower clock movements are extremely rare. Only four street clock movements such as this one are known to exist, one with the complete clock in Tampa, Fla. The only references to them are in the 1800 edition of the Ansonia catalogues.

What clock is this?
Where is its twin located?

Answer on page 12



Here is a fun little quiz to see what you know or maybe just learn something new. Provided by Nile Godfrey.

1. What year did clock making begin in England?
2. What year did Peper Hele or Henlein invent the mainspring?
3. What year was the Royal Observatory at Greenwich Founded?
4. What year was the 1st 30 hr. brass movement made by Jerome?
5. What year did the first 400 day clock appear?

Answers on page 13

Continued from page 11

What clock is this? Where is its twin located?

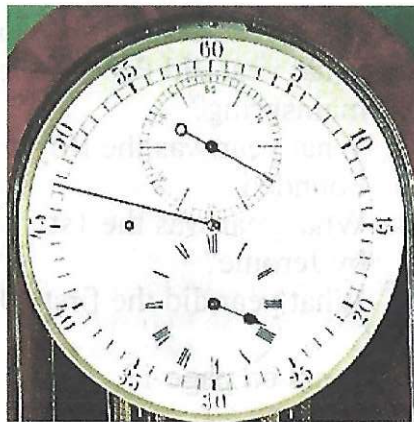
The corner clock is on the Marshall Field, now Macy's, Building in Chicago. It was installed in 1897. It is shown in this early 20th century postcard. The second clock is on the other end of the building.



Astronomical regulators are often set up with minutes shown at the outer edge of the main dial and hours shown on a separate circle. Is this high grade English clock an astronomical regulator? This clock has a zinc/steel compensated pendulum. What is the weakness of this scheme?

No, the hour circles on astronomical regulators show 24 hours. The hour circle on this clock shows 12 hours. Also astronomical regulators measure sidereal time, but one could not know that from the picture. The clock shown would properly be referred to as a regulator, but not an astronomical one. (This fact was pointed out to your editor by a rather indignant Viennese clock-maker.)

The problems with zinc/steel compensation are that it is less stable over the long term than say brass/steel and more subject to corrosion.



The Carriage Clock: A Repair and Restoration Manual

Laurie Penman (Author) 2004

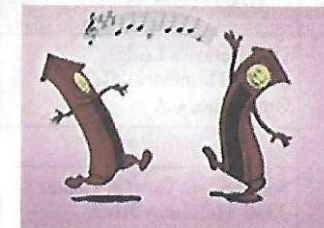
This truly comprehensive and practical new work is the first book to be devoted solely to the repair and restoration of the carriage clock, and as such will be greatly welcomed by professional and amateur alike. It describes the variety of movements found in the clocks that were produced by the thousand in France. The details of the simple timepiece, strikers, alarms, quarter repeaters, and grande sonnerie are shown and discussed here. Over 220 detailed and accurate drawings display the operation of the more complex parts and the text describes symptoms, faults, and corrections of each type of movement in turn, with other chapters on tools, major repair techniques, cleaning, maintenance, and a list of suppliers of materials.



Our Little Quiz

And the answers are

- 1: 1368 2: 1500 3: 1675
4: 1838 5: 1880



I Found this site very interesting. The Abby Clock Clinic
<http://www.abbeyclock.com/antiqueclockrepair.html>.
They offer several interesting free PDF articles.

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 14, 2020
 August 09, 2020
 October 11, 2020
 December 13, 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 2020 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	Monroe Elementary School 3750 Monterey Blvd San Leandro, Ca	2 nd Sunday odd months

DIRECTIONS TO CHAPTER MEETINGS

(except August and December)

743 Diablo Road, Danville

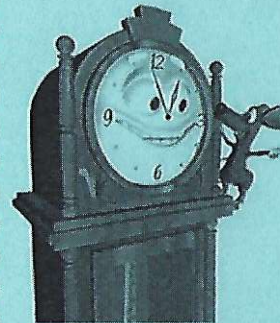
Take Interstate 680 to the Diablo Road exit in Danville. Go east on Diablo Road for 0.6 mile. The Grange Hall will be on your right. Parking is available in the front and rear. Enter from the front; *i.e.*, street side. Facing the building from the street, there is a ramp on the right side for handicap 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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