



# Free State Chapter 141

MD, PA, VA, WV

October / November — No.2011-06

## Chapter 141 Officers

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For more information about the chapter, you may contact the President Lou Orsini by email [oh2batc@verizon.net](mailto:oh2batc@verizon.net) or phone 703-352-7260.

Feedback or questions pertaining to the Newsletter should be addressed to Al Bush at: [agbush172@verizon.net](mailto:agbush172@verizon.net) or (410)531-5307.

## President's Message

What a wonderful time of the year this is with Fall kicking off a series of festivals and a convergence of sports as baseball works through the playoffs toward the World Series, football a quarter of the way through the season, hockey just starting, and perhaps basketball if the rich people can figure out how to get richer off each other. The weather is cooling down and is absolutely pleasant, while the trees are gorgeous. Halloween is just around the corner, which means that Thanksgiving and Christmas can't be too far off (already!!!!). Fall and spring remain my favorite times of the year. Leaving my daydream and getting to the business of the Chapter, I hope you all enjoyed last month's presentation on the Dudley Watch Company by **Mike Greenwald** and **Mac McLean**; I heard it was great! I'm really sorry I missed it, but I had an overseas business trip that took precedence, and so I am really looking forward to getting back into the meeting mode. While we do not yet have a set program, **Bob Rothen** is busily rounding up an appropriate program for our enjoyment. Let me take this opportunity to remind everyone that we need volunteers for these programs. Bob does a really great job in finding new stuff all the time, but he can't do it without your assistance. If you have an idea for a program, please let me or Bob know; the meeting belongs to you and the best way to get the most out of it is to be an active contributor. Thanks for your consideration.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, November 9th** at the usual time and

place. As I said earlier, the program is still in the formative stage, but you can be certain it will be of high quality as in the past. Let me take the opportunity to remind everyone that we are well into our new fiscal year, which began on July 1st and so it is time to pay the **annual dues**, which remain a very affordable \$8/year. Try to get a year's worth of entertainment and camaraderie anywhere else for that price! You can mail **Neil Amrine** a check anytime or pay him at the meeting. Our goal is 100% renewal and we're making good progress toward that goal. Speaking of membership, I am very pleased to advise you that we have two new members: **Ronald Schlect** of Fayetteville, PA and **Wheeler Green** from Mt Airy, MD. Please join me in welcoming them at the next meeting when I hope we will see them both.

Finally, as always, **please remember our brave men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan**, as well as over the skies of Libya and other dangerous places throughout the world. Often we get so wrapped up in our own hectic lives that we don't take the time to think about those who make it possible for us to live in freedom and security. The thousands of volunteers that stand watch 7x24 both overseas and in this country have earned our gratitude and respect; please give it to them. And as always, please keep those deployed service members and their families in your thoughts and prayers, every day, until they return home.

*Lou Orsini, president*

*Our next meeting will be ..... Wednesday, November 9th, 2011 at The Cozy Inn*

# Minutes of Freestate Chapter 141 Meeting, September 14, 2011

The Freestate Chapter 141 meeting of 14 September 2011 was opened with a small mart followed by the usual great buffet meal. President Lou Orsini wasn't able to attend so Vice President Bob Rothen opened the meeting. Since this was the first meeting after the summer break, there was no new business. Bob informed everyone of the passing of Leticia (Tink) Schlotterbeck over the summer.

Even though she was a new Member in her own right, she had been a member for years as the spouse of Doug, who also passed this past year. They will both be missed by all of us who knew them.

Our program was the history and products of the Dudley Watch Company presented by Chapter members Mike Greenwald and Mac McLean. It was exceptionally complete with a wonderfully prepared power point presentation and actual examples of Dudley's products. Around 1898, Mr. Dudley saw a Morris Tobias Verge Fusee Pair Case Pocket Watch made in London, and then decided to make his own watch. He moved back East and worked for the Trenton Watch Co. starting in 1898. From 1903 to 1906, he started working on a design for a watch that incorporated Masonic symbols. In 1907, he was the Designer and Superintendent of the Hamilton Watch Co. In 1918 he began designing the first Masonic Watch for production. He produced a prototype then applied for a design patent. He quit Hamilton in 1920, when he was 69 and incorporated the Dudley Watch Company. Mr. Dudley built his factory in Lancaster, Pa. All parts exclusive to the Dudley were made in house except for the dials and hands which he had made in Switzerland. In 1922, he started his first production of Dudley Watches starting with No. 500. The sales were falling in 1924, so he decided



to make a "Gentleman's Watch" which had no Masonic Elements. Sales were no better in 1925, so he was forced to file for bankruptcy and everything went to O. D. Brubaker. In April 1925, Brubaker sold \$200K worth of parts, etc. to P. W. Baker for \$55K who then went in business with Mr. Brubaker. At the end of 1925, Dudley Watch Company started carrying Ladies Dudley Watches. No Masonic emblems. Mr. Baker sold the building to J.

F. Apple in 1929. Apple disposed of Dudley Watch Company inventory in 1930. From 1939 to 1969, XL Watch Company of New Jersey, assembled/sold Dudley Watches as needed. These were called the Dudley Transitional Models with Masonic Emblems. Since 1969 most of the Model 3's have dials with Masonic symbols. Notable differences between these and earlier models, on the inside the end of the level is rounded and the Bible is three dimensional.

The program was well received, and we thank Mac and Mike for sharing their vast knowledge of the subject with us. Next meeting is scheduled for 9 November 2011. Meeting was over at 9:00 PM.

*—Patsy Rothen (Secretary) 11 October 2011*

## FREE STATE CHAPTER 141 MEMBERSHIP-RENEWAL APPLICATION NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAWCC No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Hi folks!

I would remind all members to send in their dues, if they are not fully paid... dues were due at the end of June. Contact me at [Neil54@aol.com](mailto:Neil54@aol.com), or call me at 301-229-2587 if you have questions. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Cozy's in November. Please be prompt with your RSVPs for the meeting reservations. We need to know the head count for the meal so reservations can be made.

Thank you!!

Neil Amrine

**Attention:** It is important also to keep Joe Joyce ([josephjoyce@comcast.net](mailto:josephjoyce@comcast.net) or 301-865-8464) advised of any change in your membership information, address changes, etc.

We cannot keep you informed if you don't keep us informed.

As of January 2007 Annual dues are only \$8.00 payable to Free State Chapter 141.

Please send your check with this completed application to:  
Neil Amrine, 5621 Ogden Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816.  
Phone:301-229-2587; email: [neil54@aol.com](mailto:neil54@aol.com)

# **If you have an interest in clocks or watches you are invited to Our Next Meeting**

## **November 9th, 2011 at the Cozy Inn**

### CHAPTER 141 PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER 9th, 2011

The theme for our November meeting is a Horological Program based on recent acquisitions or projects. Details are currently being finalized. You can be assured it will be interesting and enjoyable. We will also have a question and answer session, so if you have any horological questions or problems, be prepared to ask or present them. Our group has many members with a broad expanse of experience and skills who are willing to contribute their expertise to help fellow members. Plan on attending, we're looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Come out and join us for a pleasant evening.

—*Bob Rothen*

*Meeting time is ~ Dinner: about 6:15 PM Mart: Come early for the mart Business/Program: follows dinner*

**MEETING RESERVATIONS:** You may use the Meeting Reservation form below to mail in your reservations for the Free State Chapter 141 meetings. Please indicate the meeting date as you complete the form. You may also make reservations via e-mail to [neil54@aol.com](mailto:neil54@aol.com) and providing Neil Amrine with the information requested on the meeting reservation form or by Calling Neil at 301-229-2587 and informing Neil directly. (Please RSVP at least 48 hours before the meeting date)

**Cancellation Policy:** Our policy on meeting cancellations is simple. If the Frederick schools are closed due to inclement weather on the day of our meeting, we will cancel. Otherwise, you can expect the meeting is on. In the event of a cancellation, Neil will try to contact everyone who has made reservations (especially those who don't live locally), but it's all based on the school decision. (Several Radio & TV stations in the region carry closure information including WMAR 2, WTTG 5, WJLA 7, WUSA 9, WBAL 11, WJZ 13, x 45, & WETA 26.)

## Free State Chapter 141 Meeting Reservation Form

Reservation for Free State 141 Meeting on \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Names \_\_\_\_\_

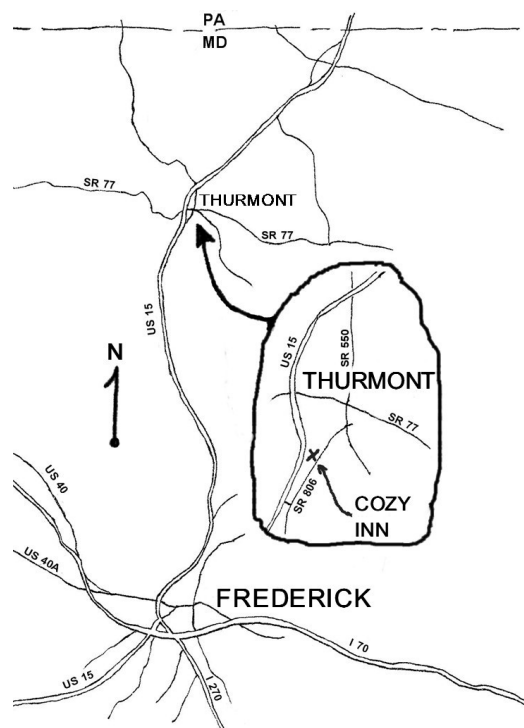
Number coming \_\_\_\_\_ x \$16.00 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Mart Tables \_\_\_\_\_ (Mart Tables are Free)

*Please make checks payable to Free State Chapter 141 and mail to Neil Amrine, 5621 Ogden Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816*

*Phone: 301-229-2587; email: neil54@aol.com.*

*Directions: Cozy Inn is in Thurmont, about 16 miles north of Frederick. Take Route 15N if coming from Frederick or 15 South if coming from PA. Take the Thurmont ramp to MD806 and go east on Thurmont Blvd (right if traveling north, left if traveling south) for about a quarter mile, then take a left on Route 806 (Frederick Road) heading north. The restaurant is about 0.4 mile on the left. If you need additional directions please call the Cozy Inn at 301-271-7373.*



## Tic Toc Tech Tips

### To Repair a Clock, Part 1

How many of you have had a friend say, “Oh, you work on clocks.”? (or watches). Most of my friends know that I work only on my own clocks, but now and then someone will entice me to “take a look” at their clock. Recently a friend mentioned that he had a Kitchen clock that had passed down through his family. It had a lot of sentimental value but dollar value perhaps not so much. He professed that he had taken the clock to two or three repair shops and they had worked on it and returned it to him in working condition. In each case the clock ran for a little bit and stopped again. He had returned it to the shop and the clocksmith could find nothing wrong with it and set it to running on his bench. After three or four scenarios like this he gave up. Since I restored my own clocks he wondered if I would take a look at his. Unfortunately I have a difficulty resisting such challenges. So, I agreed to examine his clock. The question is how do I approach this problem? I am not sure where this will go or what the outcome will be, but let’s go with it. The clock ran once. It should again.

He brought the clock to me and I began my observations and peppered him with questions. First I noticed that the pendulum was on the movement and not secured. Moving a clock usually results in laying the case down in a horizontal position. If the pendulum is not removed or secured it can fall to the back or side with risk of inducing a kink in the flat suspension spring. The result can be a wobbly pendulum swing. Now why is that important? If it is severe it can interfere with the timing and at a minimum it can absorb energy from the time train reducing the time between windings and making it difficult to time the clock. Fortunately his suspension spring escaped damage. All together the clock looked well cared for and appeared to have no rough treatment. I proceeded to ask him questions about anything that might have been mentioned by the repair shop. Pretty standard instructions and comments there. They had supplied him with an alternate pendulum incase that was a problem. He was familiar with necessity for having the clock level. He mentioned that the previous family member had the clock hanging on the wall and that it ran fine there. He was using it on a shelf. Is that a problem? He did not know who manufactured the clock and I am not sure he gave confirmation that it was a 30 hour or 8 day clock.

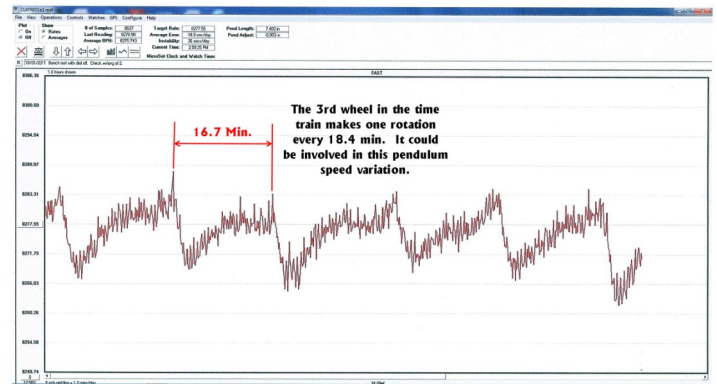
My next step was to set it up on my marble “level table”, wind and start the clock. I felt we should use the original pendulum. Much as when he took it to a shop, it started up and seemed to have a healthy pendulum swing. My first question to answer was finding out if it was a 30 hr. or 8 day clock. I decided that I wanted to gather as much data as I could before disturbing the movement to prevent “repairing” the clock while looking at it without knowing what had corrected the problem. This has happened to me in the past and I have finally learned to proceed carefully. I started it running and set the time. It



was running extremely slow. I examined the pendulum and it was adjusted near the tip of the adjustment. When manufactured, the pendulum was likely designed to run with the adjustment somewhere near adjustment midpoint. I adjusted it to near midpoint and checked the time again. This time it seemed more reasonable. Now it is time to get sophisticated. I hooked it up to my MicroSet tester and let it record beat and timing information on my computer.

Next let’s look up a New England Kitchen clock in the BPH table. The computer showed that our clock was running around 8000 BPH. The table showed some Kitchen clocks in that range. One was a Gilbert Gingerbread with a beat rate of 8277.55 BPH. I set the tester up with that as a target rate. The MicroSet was showing the beat to be around 8050 BPH. After several hours the clock was still running but is losing time. The MicroSet shows on the computer what the pendulum length should be for the correct BPH. If the clock is running slow, it tells you how many inches the pendulum should be raised or lowered. When I checked the reading, it was showing 8271.6 BPH with average error of 57.6 sec/hr slow. To correct this it suggested the pendulum should be raised 0.012”. The threads on the pendulum adjustment nut were 36 threads per inch. This is 0.02777” per thread. So 0.012” would require about one half turn of the adjustment nut. This brought it close to 8277 BPH. So now we can let it run for 30 hrs. or 8 days whichever it chooses. Remember this is all before we take the dial off to look at or disturb the movement.

Things we are looking for are those that might be adding friction or drag to the movement or something that could throw it out of beat, anything that might lead to stoppage. We notice a slowing and accelerating pattern of the beat shows up



in a 16 to 18 minute cycle. (You have to sort it out from the other noise in the time train.) Assuming that we have picked the right sample from the BPH table we have the tooth count for the wheels and pinions. With this we can calculate how many minutes it takes for each wheel to make a rotation. We find that the 3rd wheel makes a revolution in 18.4 minutes. Once we get into the movement we will have to look closely at this area. Finally the clock stopped after about 6 days. So it is an 8 day clock and comes up a little short. Next time we will pull the dial and examine the movement.

Al Bush 2011-06