

The Howard Banta Alarm Clock Chapter



Chapter 178 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

www.acc178.org

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Presidents' Message

Having just been to the 2013 Ward Francillion Symposium and listening to two days of talks I know that time is a constant as far as most of us are concerned, there were lecturers at the event who point that our measurement methods do have some variations and need to be adjusted every so often. This aside, the older I get the faster the weeks and months **seem** to go by. Looking back I notice that there has not been a Chapter 178 newsletter since June and I do apologize for that. Hopefully I can do better next year. Of course there is still a search on for a volunteer to relieve me of the editor's job so if you think you could help please contact me.

I have received an e-mail from Katie Knaub at headquarters about the Alarm Clock display that has been showing at the museum since April. Some of the visitor's comments are; "very interesting", "never thought of all the different ways to wake up!", "fantastic display, learned a lot". "I had a clock-just like that when growing up". I would hope that some of our members make it to Headquarters to view the display before it is taken down in December. Also did you know that the Thomas Tompion display that was at the Symposium in Pasadena is now at Headquarters. It will be there till January 19, 2014. **This is a once in a lifetime chance** to view a rare collection of unique pieces.

On another note an e-mail recently received from Steve Humphreys says that Diana DeLucca is resigning from the NAWCC staff. Diana has been the editor of the Watch & Clock magazine and the Mart since 2000. We will all miss her and wish her and Ken success in all of their future ventures. I hope they will retain their membership and interest in the NAWCC and we may see them at future events.

One last thing, I know I promised to have pictures and an article on the Westclox Little Ben I have been working on. Well life, family and other commitments have keep me from finishing the

newsletter.

Don't forget that your membership fees for 2014 are due in January. Please complete the application at the end of this letter and send it along with \$15 to Mike Wilson.

Till next time
Bob Linkenhoker

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AS ALWAYS I NEED MATERIAL FOR THE NEWSLETTER. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERSHIP PLEASE SEND TEXT AND PICTURES TO rlink3@juno.com.

It is my belief that a chapter such as ours needs to change leadership on a regular basis to survive. With this in mind will someone consider stepping forward and offer to relieve me of the office of President

We are also in need of someone to take over the task of composing the newsletter.

This information is taken from an article in the local paper announcing the opening of the Alarm Clock display at the National Headquarter's museum in April of this year.

The History of Waking Up: National Watch and Clock Museum Alarm Clock Exhibit

Written by [Joe Ulrich, Arts & Culture Desk and wtf Host](#) | Apr 9, 2013 5:00 PM

"Everyone can relate to that annoying alarm clock that wakes you up in the morning," says Katie Knaub, Museum Educator at the National Watch and Clock Museum in Columbia, "We just wanted to create something that everyone can relate to."

The museum will be opening its Wake Up exhibit later this month with an exhaustive display of various alarm clocks from ancient times, to today. They've even got some rather quirky, and frankly dangerous, variations on early alarm clocks. One used the sun to light a fuse which fired a small canon. Another struck a match to light an oil lamp and sometimes caught houses on fire.

The museum houses a thorough collection of all types of timepieces, from sundials to wall clocks and digital watches. "We have a mission which is to tell the whole story," says Noel Poirier, the Director of the museum, "So our collection includes objects from all over the world, [an] Asian incense clock...right up to modern calculator wrist watches."

The Wake Up exhibit opens as part of their annual Wine and Chimes event on April 26 and is open to the general public on April 27

Photos by Joe Ulrich



This alarm clock was a sundial that, at the right time, would use a magnifying lens to catch the sun, light a fuse and fire the small canon



This alarm clock would strike a match at the desired time and light an oil lamp, the idea being that the light would help wake the person up. Unfortunately it would occasionally end up lighting houses on fire.



Tug-O-Slug
With a string tied between your toe and this clock, the Tug-O-Slug would wake you up by tugging at your toe



War Alarm
During WWII many clock factories were turned over to war production. This clock is housed in material similar to cardboard.

The following pictures and write up comes to me via Vince Angell who has received them for our friend in Germany Uwe Peter aka 'Alarm Clock Peter'. It's nice to know we have collectors in other countries.

Alarm Clock Peter's Alarm Clock Display

Here are some pictures taken by Uwe Peter in Germany of his fabulous alarm clock display.

Showing one of the most extensive alarm clock collections in Europe, Alarm Clock Peter shares this with all that might visit.

Here are some of the highlights of his display.

Also, he showed pieces of his first American alarm clocks that he purchased with the help of his alarm clock friends in the USA – Chapter 178 – The Howard Banta Alarm Clock Chapter.

He thanks us for all our help.

If you wish to see all the pictures of the display, contact Vince Angell @ phylathome@hotmail.com



We are not sure when or where this picture was taken but it sure makes an interesting introduction to his display pictures



The media including Television, Radio and newspaper were present for the event.



Display showing the relative size of display clocks



Alarm Clock Peter with an animated display clock



A great selection of German Alarm clocks



Two very rare German Alarm clocks



Very hard to find alarm clock from PHS (Philipp Haas, St. Gerorgen, Black Forest, with 5 special bells on the top). New in my collection



What is it?

By Vince Angell

About 2 years ago I found this clock on eBay. At first I thought it was a simple cottage clock but upon further inspection I noticed it was a little more than that. The description stated that some of the internal workings were missing and that they had no idea what they were. After reading the description I was very fascinated that it was an unusual alarm clock even though it was not complete.

I put a low bid on the clock and to my surprise I paid a little less than \$50 plus shipping.

The clock is a puzzle to me but has the components that make me believe that if I ever found another one, even a junker, and completed my clock with the missing pieces that it would be a prize in my collection.

It is initially a Jerome and Company cottage clock from about the 1870's. What's unusual about it is that the alarm could be set with the small dial under the center arbor. The arm to turn to the alarm time desired is missing but possibly an easy fix. Unfortunately, as you can see from the inside picture, there is a major part of the alarm mechanism missing.

As you can see around the small dial is the inscription
"Covered by Patents – M'f'd by National Elect'l M'f'g Co. Milford, Conn."
I do not have access to the patents but if anyone can look up the Patent that applies to the mechanism, please let me know.

After examining the clock and finally "transcribing" the paper label on the back, I decided that this clock could not have been manufactured for very long. If you read the following directions on the label you also will know why it was not very popular....Very confusing to set the alarm!

DIRECTIONS FOR SETTING ALARM

Add the number of hours from the time of setting alarm to twelve to the number of hours after twelve that you desire alarm to ring – that is, the total number of hours that must elapse from setting the alarm until alarm is sounded.

Set the pointer on the number corresponding to the number of hours, and the alarm is set.

ILLUSTRATION

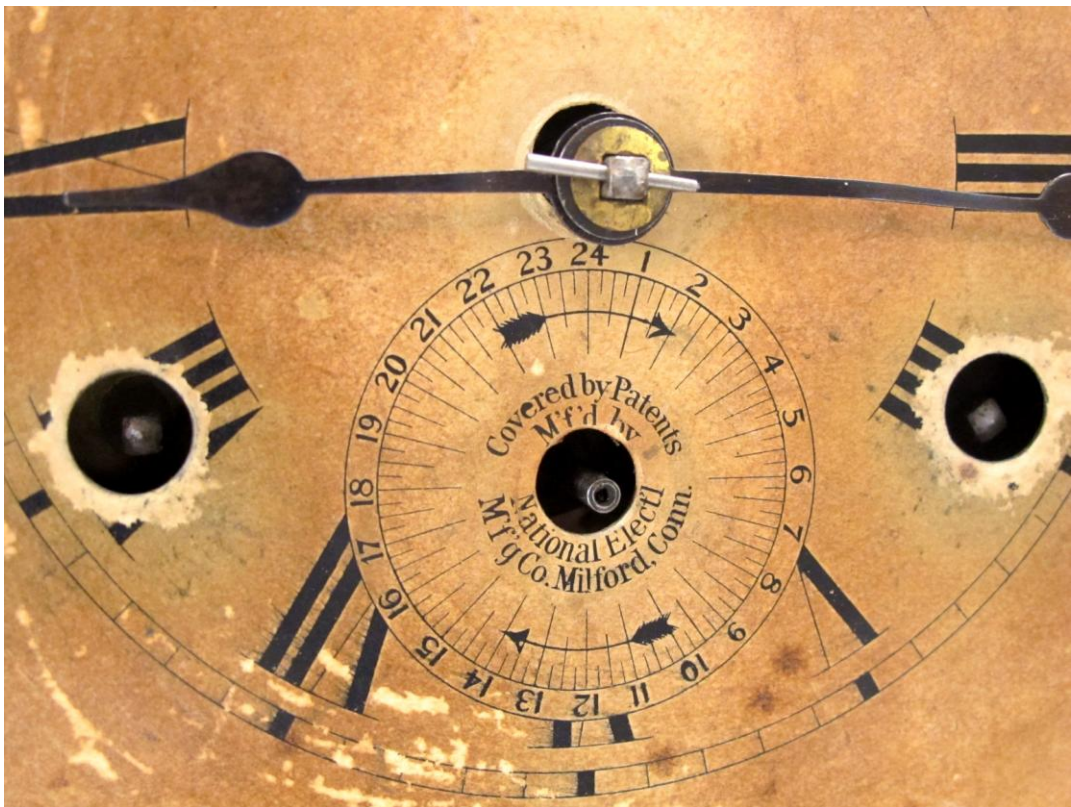
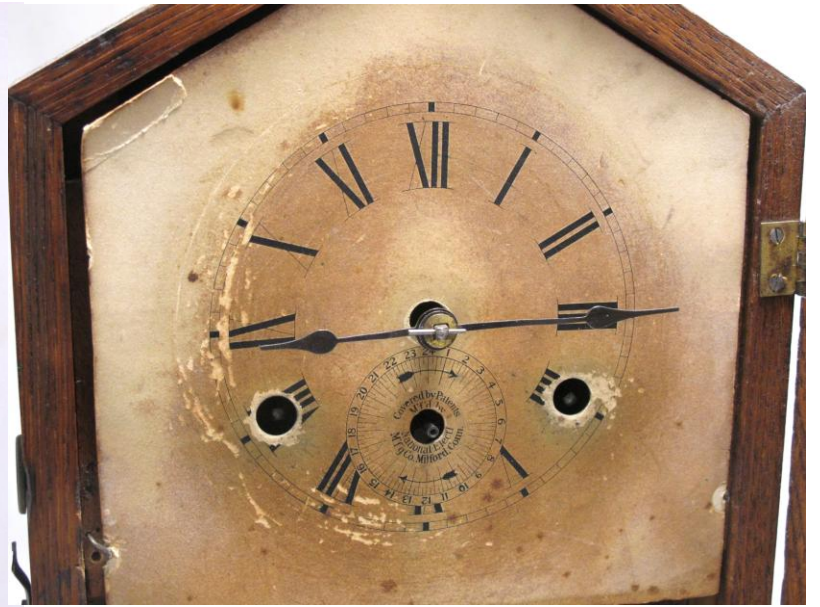
Suppose at half past five in the afternoon I wish to set the alarm to ring at six the following morning. From half past five to twelve is six and one half hours, and from twelve to six, six hours: total, 12 ½ hours. Therefore I turn pointer half way between twelve and thirteen on small dial, and the alarm will ring at six the following morning.

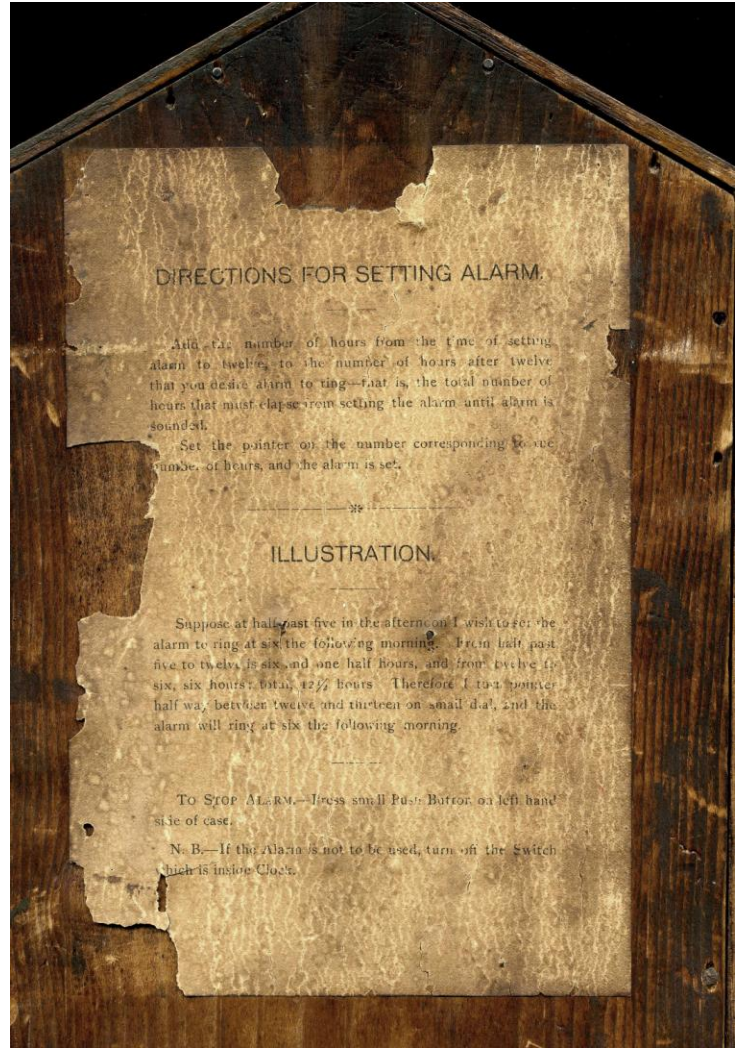
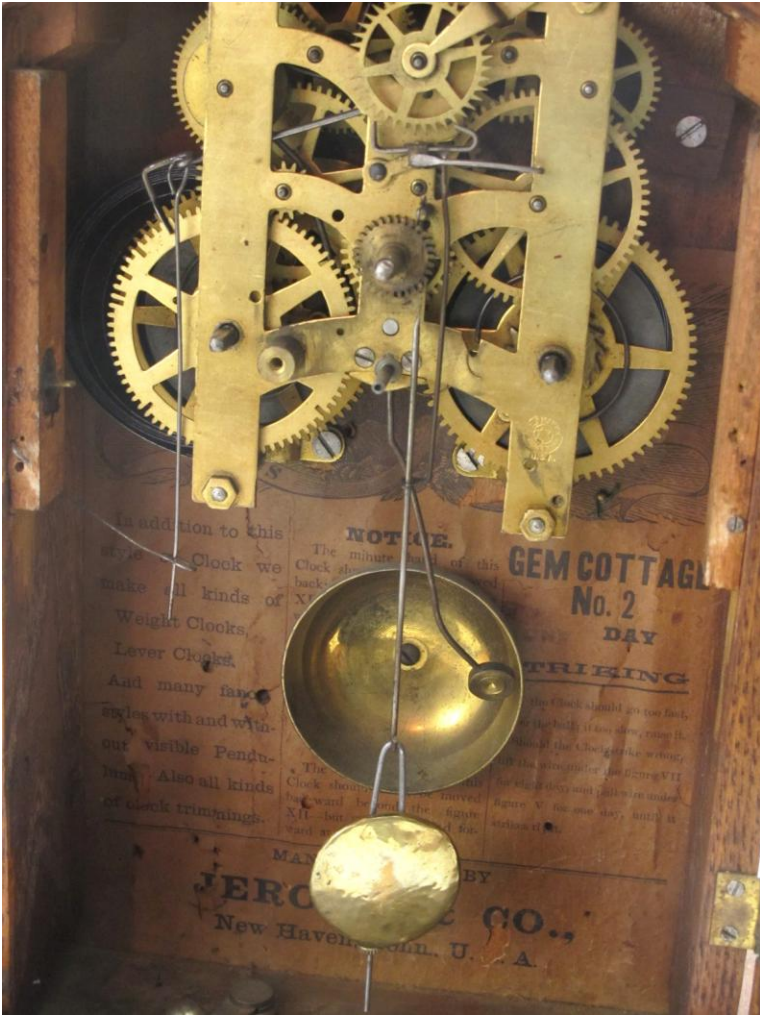
TO STOP ALARM – Press small Push Button on left hand side of clock case.

N. B. – If the Alarm is not to be used, turn off the Switch which is inside Clock.

They had the right idea. Push-button on the left side of the case and an on/off switch in the bottom of the case that I would suspect was somehow attached to a battery..

Any ideas????





For Sale

Westclox Baby Ben Deluxe

Late 1920's

Clock runs

\$15.00 + \$7.00 shipping

Contact Vince Angell

916-952-4961

phylathome@hotmail.com



For Sale

Westclox "Travalarm"

In Original Box

Does not tick.

Alarm Rings

\$15.00 plus \$7.00 Shipping

Contact Vince Angell

916-952-4961

phylathome@hotmail.com



For Sale

“WAKE-U-ALARM”

By Ingraham

Running - Ca. 1915

\$20.00 plus \$7.00 Shipping

Contact Vince Angell

916-952-4961

phylathome@hotmail.com



2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

THE HOWARD BANTA ALARM CLOCK CHAPTER #178 OF THE NAWCC

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CHECK BOX IF INFORMATION HAS CHANGED.

**PLEASE MAKE OUT A CHECK to "The Howard Banta Alarm Clock Chapter #178"
FOR \$15.00 FOR ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP.**

MAIL TO:

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