

The Howard Banta Alarm Clock Chapter



Chapter 178 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

www.acc178.org

December 2015

President's Message

Here we are. It's been over 15 years since the first Newsletter of the Howard Banta Alarm Clock Chapter #178 was published. Originally written by Howard Banta, Kim St. Dennis and Mike Wilson, those first Newsletters were not much different than what we have today.

Since then some things have changed but this still is one of the best Newsletters of the NAWCC. We originally started with only a few members growing to over 60 members both nationally and internationally.

That being said I would like to thank all that have helped with the publication over the years by offering articles that are both interesting and still used as reference material by many members and guests.

I am proud to be President of this Chapter and will try to continue what Howard Banta and the others in the beginning started.

We have a website that needs work in making it more available to the masses by updating and maintaining it to keep it fresh. I have talked to the original webmaster and we are now in the process of discussing what can be done to bring it up to the standards that it was originally set up for.

We will need your input to go forward. What do you think we need to do as a Chapter? What articles are you interested in seeing? And finally, we ask that if you would like to have an article or share something in your alarm clock collection to please contact me through the following listing of my email address or phone number.

I can always be reached at phylathome@hotmail.com or call me at 916-952-4961.

Please note that we have included a 2016 Membership form along with a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope so that sending in your dues will be a simple as possible.

Thank you again for being a member of the Best Alarm Clock Chapter in the NAWCC.

Vince Angell

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EDITOR'S NOTE

WITH OUT YOUR HELP THERE WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER

As always I need material for the newsletter. If you have an unusual or interesting alarm clock or any related material please send me pictures and a short write up so it can be included in a future newsletter. Send information to rlink3@juno.com or mail it to:

Chapter 178
7186 Calico Circle
Corona, Ca. 92881

Finally Found!

One of the Rarest German Alarm Clocks

by Vince Angell

We have all heard of "Alarm Clock Peter". As I have said before he is not only the largest collector of alarm clocks in Germany but more than likely the largest collector of German alarm clocks in the world.

It has become more and more difficult for him to find rare and unusual alarm clocks that he either does not have or are not available.

Recently he found one of the 15 pieces to add to his collection that he has never been able to find. He recently found what he believes to be possibly the only one of its kind. This Graf Zeppelin alarm clock that was recently purchased is the only one he has seen with the exception from old catalogues. This alarm clock was manufactured by FMS (Friedrich Mauthe Schwenningen) in the late 1920's after the Graf Zeppelin was put into service.

Just a little history of the Graf Zeppelin:

Graf Zeppelin was a German-built and -operated, passenger-carrying, hydrogen-filled, rigid airship which operated commercially from 1928 to 1937. It was named after the German pioneer of airships, Ferdinand von Zeppelin, who was a count (*Graf*) in the German nobility. During its operating life, the airship made 590 flights covering more than a million miles (1.6 million km). It was designed to be operated by a crew of 36 officers and men. It was scrapped for fighter plane parts in 1940.

As you can see, this alarm clock appears to be in original condition showing the Graf Zeppelin on top of the 2 bells with the image of Ferdinand von Zeppelin on the airship. Another close-up of the airship shows small areas underneath the airship showing more than likely passengers and crew.

In talking to Alarm Clock Peter it is obvious that his passion for the hunt and the collecting of the rest of the top clocks on his search list will continue for many years and I suspect that he will probably find most of them.

In future issues of the Newsletter there will be more articles on his collection that will astound not only the beginner collector but even the more advanced collector.

We thank Alarm Clock Peter for sharing his collection with our members. I personally believe that sharing our collections and stories is one way of getting people interested in collecting alarm clocks or other things that they have a passion for.

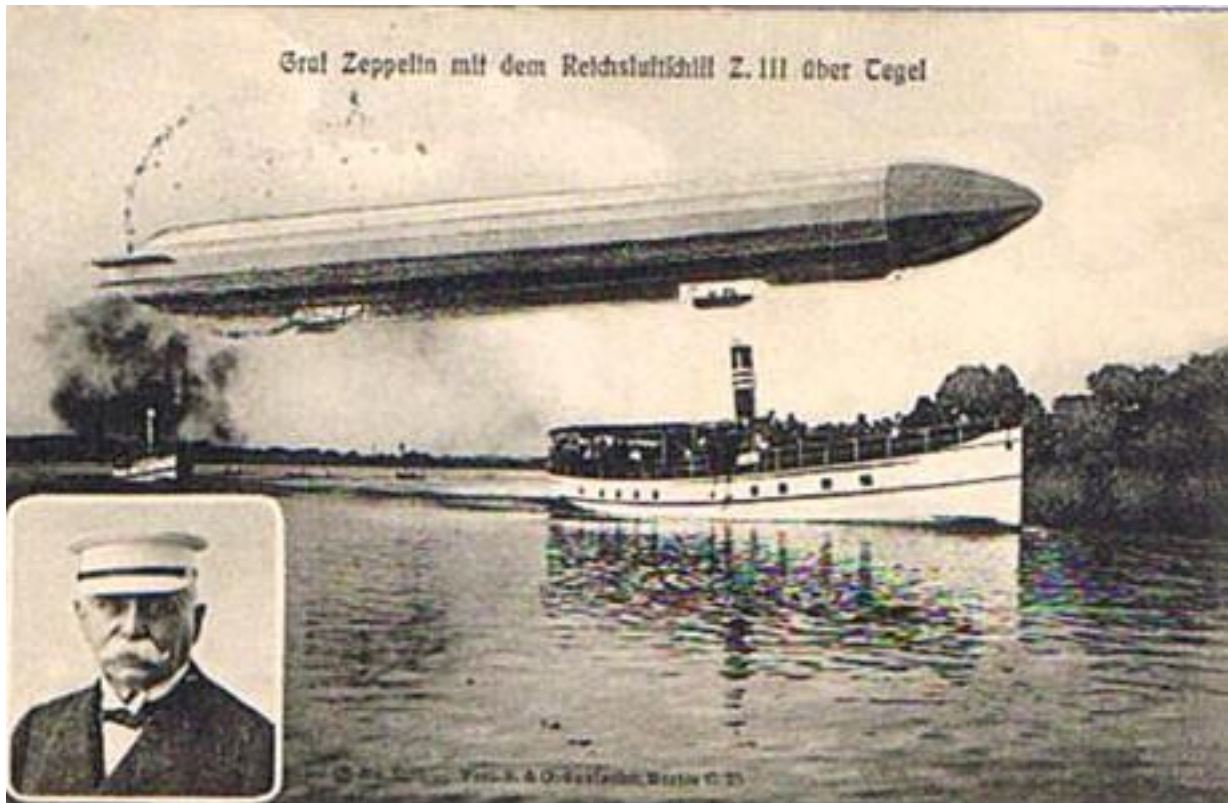
See the following pages for pictures of the clock and a close up of the top ornament



This a picture of the rare Zeppelin alarm (possibly the only one in existence today)



CLOSEUP OF THE ZEPPELIN



A Postcard showing the Zeppelin and a picture of Ferdinand von Zeppelin in the insert

CLOCKY -A NEW VERSION OF ALARM CLOCK

Many of our readers have already heard of Clocky but for those of you who have not this article will outline just what this new version of alarm is and how it works.

In the early part of the 21th century a young lady named Gauri Nanda was a graduate student at the MIT Media Lab studying industrial design. The project she came up with was an alarm clock that would roll off the table, run around the room and hide in a different place every morning forcing the sleeper to get out of bed to find and silence the devise. The first version of Clocky was covered in shag carpet so it would look a lot like an annoying pet. Ms Nanda had no further plans for Clocky after the class, just another class project that as soon as a grade is received is forgotten, but the news media picked up the story after it was posted on the Media Lab's website. As happens today it soon became an internet sensation and Giuri soon after filed for a patent on her invention.

After receiving her Master's Degree she sought funding and formed a company named Nanda Home to product Clocky commercially and design and produce other household items.

The commercially available version is not carpeted but still retains the appearance of a somewhat loved but annoying pet.

Other new versions that have been developed are Tocky and Ticky. Go to the website www.clocky.com or www.nandahome.com to view Clocky and Tocky in action.

The development of Clocky and marketing of it has become a Harvard Business School case study:
Clocky, the Runaway Alarm Clock

The devise functions as a regular alarm clock except that it moves on its own power when the alarm goes off. A microprocessor built into the unit ensures that the alarm will move in a random pattern and at varying speed, around obstructions till it is found and silenced.



Clocky in her original package



Clocky setting on a night stand ready to jump off and go hide



If you were not at the Reno Regional you missed a great NAWCC event. Above are some pictures of a portion of the display. This portion of the display was setup by our president Vince Angell and all of the clocks included are from his collection. Note the unusual and very collectable Darche alarms in the display as well as the many alarms with their original packaging.

Latest News

Just received an additional order for HBACC 178 Lapel Pins (Picture attached)

If you do not yet have one of these pins and would like to be the proud owner of one, please contact me by email or phone.

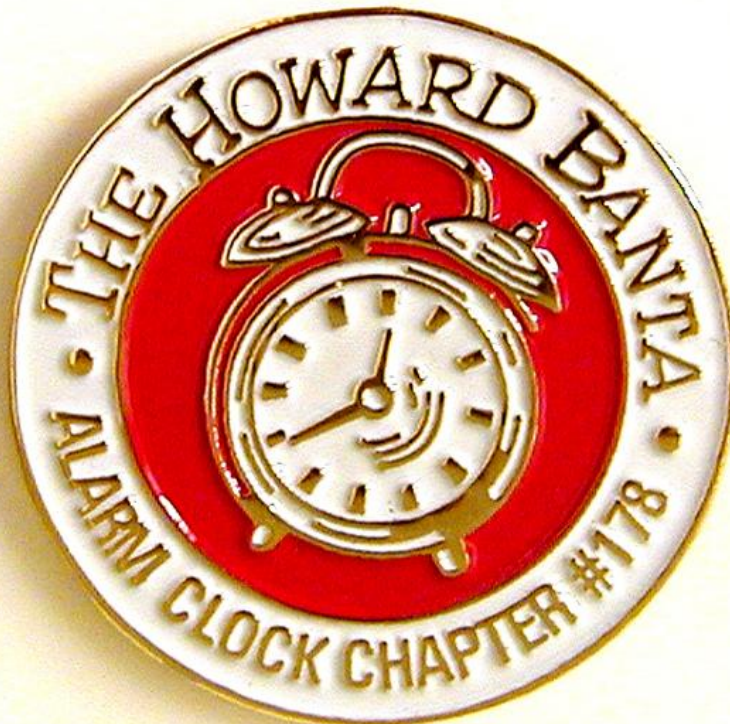
You can contact Vince Angell
at phylathome@hotmail.com or call him
at 916-952-4961

Remember, these are free to paid members.

Wear them proudly!

On a final note: We need someone to monitor the NAWCC Message Board for questions pertaining to Alarm Clocks. This is a way to help our chapter and may even help us increase membership. If you can help with this task please contact Vince Angell at:

phylathome@hotmail.com



LAPEL PIN
ACTUAL SIZE - 7/8" DIAMETER

2016 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

THE HOWARD BANTA ALARM CLOCK CHAPTER #178 OF THE NAWCC

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

NAWCC # _____

PHONE # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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:

The HOWARD BANTA ALARM CLOCK CHAPTER # 178
c/o Mike Wilson Secretary/Treasurer
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