

Alarm Clock Chapter



Chapter 178 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

www.acc178.org

March 2021

President's Message

This has not been a great year for many of us but now we hopefully can see a light at the end of the tunnel. I have talked with many members and they would like to go to museums, flea markets and conventions but that has not been possible this past year.

I believe that this year will be much different than last. NAWCC Conventions are signing up for this year and hopefully we can attend some safely and buy awesome alarm clocks. I have noticed that eBay has had many alarm clocks and novelty clocks for sale. This is a great opportunity to keep our hands and minds busy looking for that 1 prize that we can share with the rest of the HBACC Chapter.

If anybody has found a "prize" I would like to invite them to share it with a story to our members. I have found a couple of items that I will share in the next Newsletter.

Also, I would like to thank John Koepke for sending me some pages from a 700-page 1913 clock tool and parts catalog. Because of its size he could not scan the pages but actually photographed each page. I have added these 8 pages as supplement to the HBACC Newsletter. An additional note about John Koepke. John has received a well-deserved NAWCC Fellow Award for his continuous years of membership and his contribution of many Articles and continuous participation of many aspects of the NAWCC.

Thank you, John and Congratulations on your Fellow Award.

Vince Angell

This newsletter contains material from:

Alarm Clock Peter

Vince Angell

Crystal Kupper

Chris St Dennis

Dennis Sagvold

My thanks to all who send material.

Bob Linkenhoker

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

Remember that there will be no newsletters unless the members of Chapter 178 send me information and pictures. I am sure that you all enjoy reading and looking at the various pictures in this and the other newsletters produced for this Chapter. Just remember unless you help there:

WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER

rlink3@juno.com, by phone at 951-898-5825

or mail at:

Chapter 178

7186 Calico Circle

Corona, Ca. 92881

A Very Rare Nutmeg Alarm Clock

+

Others

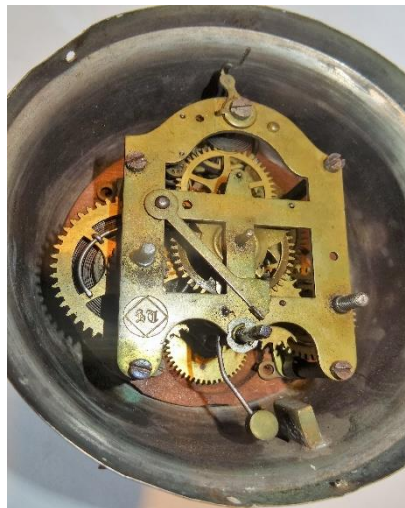
From Alarm clock Peter

Dear alarm clock collectors in the USA,

This time I sent my longtime alarm clock collector friend VINCE ANGELL some pictures of my NUTMEG alarm clock models for Chapter 178 magazine.

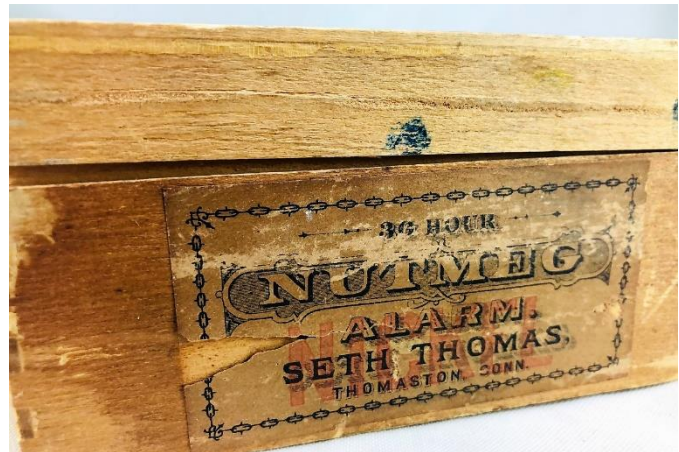
I am pleased that I not only have a NUTMEG model from SETH THOMAS with a bell, but also an exceedingly early model with an alarm clock without a bell. Here the alarm hammer hits a piece of metal inside. This alarm clock has an original wooden back cover, in which is carved "Pat. Oct. 24, 1876 ". The alarm time is set by means of a brass metal disc, which has the numbers 1-12 in Roman numerals. The indications "Fast", "Slow", "Alarm" and "Hands" are also embossed in the wood. machine production of the back cover is ready. Probably the earliest domestic production of a NUTMEG alarm clock model.

I bought the alarm clock very cheaply on eBay in the USA many years ago. It was offered in the "Watches from 1930" section and otherwise found no interest. I was very happy about the acquisition at the time, the costs for shipping and customs clearance were higher than the purchase price. Fortunately, I was probably the only interested party who recognized the rarity of the offer from the bad photos. It is always good when a collector knows what he is collecting.



In addition to the clocks that Alarm Clock Peter has sent in the first part of his article I have now included the box that this rare alarm clock would have been sold in the 1880's.

Vince

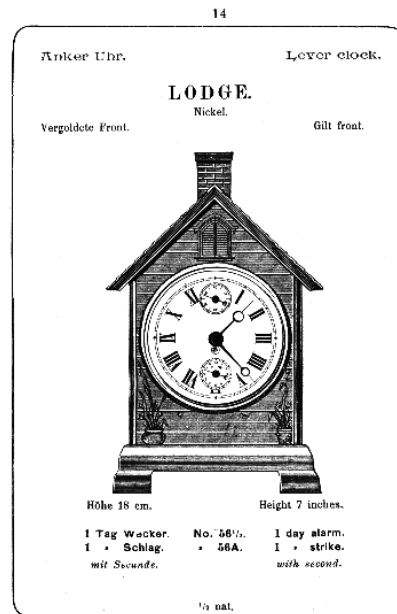
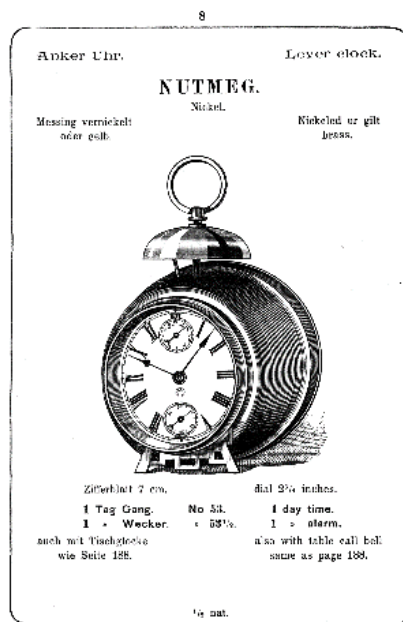


American alarm clocks in Germany

The very cheap industrial series production and standardized production methods of alarm clock models using special machines, which were already being introduced in the USA at that time, also impressed the German watch industry and motivated the introduction of this in Germany as well.

In Germany, different watch factories replicated very similar USA alarm models and often offered them under the same model name as in the USA by the manufacturers there. In addition to the NUTMEG model, typical examples are also the LODGE model from SETH THOMAS.

I am attaching two images from the sales catalog of the Hamburg-American watch factory, Schramberg / Black Forest from 1889. Offered there: the German versions of the NUTMEG and LODGE models. ☺



In my collection I also have copies of the first German NUTMEG and LODGE alarm clock models, e.g. from the companies Junghans / Schramberg, Badische Uhrenfabrik Furtwangen (Baduf) and the Hamburg American watch factory (HAU). I send you any pictures.

Together with my American models, it is always possible for me to illustrate the introduction and development of the alarm clock models at exhibitions in museums or lectures.

These types of watches were offered in Germany as watches with an "American movement".



I hope you enjoyed my short information and the pictures about USA and German- Nutmeg models.

I wish all alarm clock collectors of Chapter 178 and their families and friends, above all, good health, but of course also good collector's luck in the hunt for other beautiful alarm clocks.

Alarm Clock PETER from Germany ☺

Is it an Alarm Clock or Just A Clock with an Alarm Added??

For Years many of us have had the discussion about this subject and most of us believe that Clocks with added alarms are not alarm clocks. The following article by Robert Ballenger tells how he believes just the opposite that even if the alarm function had been added to a clock, **IT IS AN ALARM CLOCK!**

In October 1970, Ward Francillon wrote an article in NAWCC bulletin #148. In it, he developed a method to classify 30 hour time, strike, and alarm wooden works clocks. He broke the clocks into 9 categories, referring to them as Type I through Type IX. There are also some subclasses. I have in my collection 6 of the 9 types. Figures 1 and 2 show an overview of my alarm clocks.



If you notice closely, each clock has a brass disk fitting over the center arbor, behind the hands. This disk, along with an attached hub, controls the alarm function. Figure number 3 is a closeup of one of these disks and hub arrangement.



FIG 4

One of my Type I clocks is shown in Figure 4. Figure 5 shows the movement of this clock with the disk and hub fitting over the hour tube.



Fig 5



Fig 6

Figure 6 is a photo showing the movement with the disk removed to reveal a long wire reaching from a round hole to the center arbor area. This control wire drops into a notch on the hub and trips the alarm.



Fig 6

Figure 7 shows the complete insides of the movement with the front plate removed.



Fig 7

After this brief discussion, you may have many questions. Feel free to reach me by email at: bobsueballenger@comcast.net.



PEOPLE

Like Clockwork

Time may not fly for Jim Kupper, but it certainly travels well.

BY CRYSTAL KUPPER Mount Holly, New Jersey

Plenty of retirees have unique hobbies, but Jim is several zones ahead—time zones, that is. Because as far as we can tell, Jim owns the world's largest private collection of travel clocks, those miniature timekeepers from decades past that kept savvy travelers from running late.

Jim is a 71-year-old Oregonian and Vietnam veteran who loves to frequent thrift shops. In 2007, he found a 1950s Westclox travel clock for \$5. "It just looked really cool," he says. "The face, the hands, the luminous numbers."

He was hooked and soon began buying vintage travel clocks he found and liked. And, given that he currently has 740, it seems he has liked every one of them. He even has a number of friendly resale- and secondhand-shop employees keeping their eyes peeled for new pieces on his behalf.

"The clock faces and rarity are what grabs me," he explains. "The best travel clocks are the ones that people have thrown in a drawer and forgotten about."

But even if they were thrown away, Jim is a travel clock miracle worker! His workshop is a hospital for ill timekeepers.

"A screwdriver is all you really need—but a minute one," he says. Then he laughs and gestures to his collection's average size. "Well, maybe it's a good idea to have tweezers and a magnifying glass on hand, too."

As his collection grows by the hour, the big question is where does he put all these clocks? In his usual "get it done" way, Jim built onto his house a clock museum that includes meticulous shelves and display cases.

It's open only for private tours at the moment, and he has yet to bore a visitor. "Everybody's pretty amazed, because nobody's ever

*Jim may own
the world's
largest private
collection of
travel clocks.*



seen anything quite like it," he says. "The visitors say that it's just amazing, unbelievable and fantastic. It makes me feel good that I've put together a museum display that everyone who visits seems to like."

Jim's favorite part about the museum is that it has enough space for at least 1,500 travel clocks. He usually buys them for just a few dollars apiece—the most he's ever paid was \$35—and friends and family gift him clocks from their global travels.

"I just try to find him something that he doesn't already have," his wife, Jeannie, says, laughing with palms upturned.

So far, Jim owns travel clocks from Switzerland, Germany, Japan, France, England and the United States. His collection is worth

approximately \$10,000, but his passion has never been fueled by the money.

"I think travel clocks are a really fantastic piece of history," Jim says. "Probably half of my clocks would have ended up in the garbage if I hadn't cleaned them, fixed them up and put them on display. I don't throw them away."

So if you're ever near Fairview, Oregon, follow the sound of ticking to Jim's museum. Just don't visit around daylight saving time—he'll be a bit busy! ☉

Surrounded by his collection of clocks, Jim tinkers at his worktable (left). Continuing clockwise: One of Jim's favorite pieces; tiny parts and tools keep things ticking.



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Last year we lost Kim St Dennis, one of the Alarm Chapter's founding members after a long illness. His wife would like to offer some of his clocks for sale and they will be appearing in this and possibly coming newsletters.

Dear Members,

Kim and I have enjoyed collecting alarm clocks for 25 years. We first met Howard Banta at Chapter 75 in Los Angeles. We would often see Howard at weekend antique meets and clock marts. Kim had great fun with alarm clocks and Howard was a very good teacher sharing his knowledge of what was good. Eventually they started the Alarm Clock Chapter and Newsletter, and we are so grateful for the continuous support of this Chapter over all these years.

I would like to share Kim's collection with you and will be sending photos of his alarm clocks for your enjoyment. If you are interested in purchasing any, please contact Bob Linkenhoker. Thank you.

All the best. Be well and stay safe.

Chris St. Dennis Fellow NAWCC



\$195 OBO

An alarm clock with the Stutz Emblem on the dial



Back of the Stutz alarm



\$25 plus \$5 shipping





Parker Alarm Clock

\$25 plus \$5 shipping



back of the Parker Alarm



Parker Octogan Radium Alarm

\$45 plus \$5 shipping



back of the Parker Octogan



Gilbert Alarm in a pressed composite material case **\$25 plus \$5 shipping** back of the Gilbert
This material was used during WW II for War Alarms



An Early Arts & Crafts Alarm **\$25 plus \$5 shipping**

FOR SALE

“PRIVATE LABEL LEGGED ALARM CLOCK IDENTIFER”

Most legged alarm clocks with private labels have no identification of manufactures.

This 35 page book will identify most of these clocks. Includes samples from Ansonia, Gilbert, Ingersoll, Waterbury, Welch, and WestClox. Also includes identification of winding keys, legs, keys and hands.

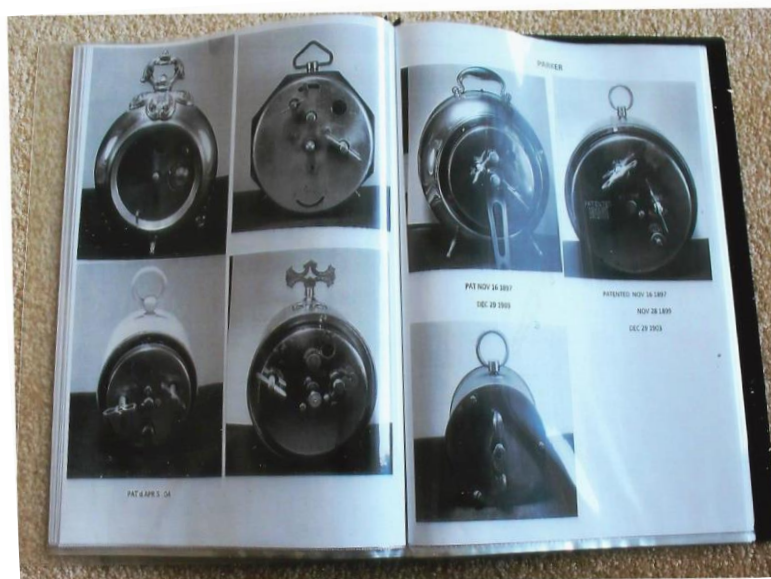
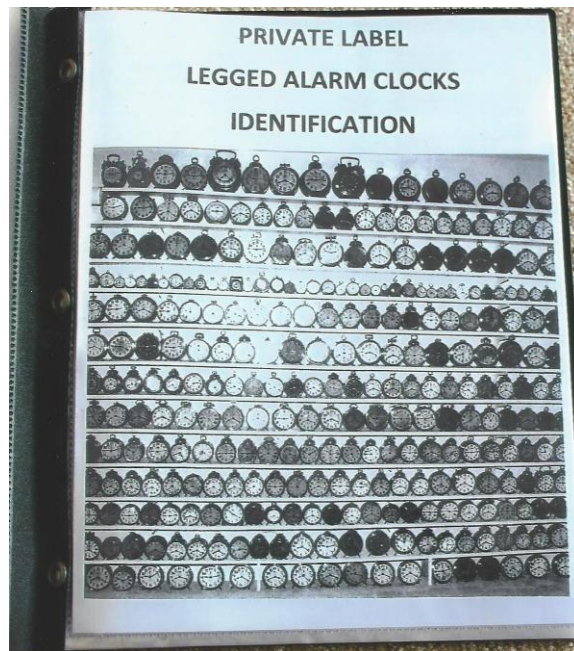
\$25 postpaid to USA addresses

Send order along with check to:

Dennis Sagvold

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Fargo, N.D. 58103



2021 MEMBERSHIP

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and

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