

June 23, 1960

Heart of America Chapter Report

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Dear Chapter Member:

It is indeed difficult to realize that three months have already passed since that first Organizational Meeting of the Heart of America Chapter (see the Report for April of that meeting). Since then, things have really been humming in the States of Kansas and Missouri, as well as back at the National Clock & Watch Collectors Convention in Pittsburgh, Penn., from the reports that have been drifting into your Secretary. But first business first. At two o'clock Sunday, July 10th, we will again all gather at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown in Wichita, Kansas, for our first regular Chapter Meeting. Mr. Bruer, our President, has received the Charter from the National Association delivered by Mr. & Mrs. Carroll Thomas, and has made copies so that all Charter Members may have one of their own. Each Charter Member's name is on his own individual copy. Each Member will have a Name Tag similar to those given to members at conventions, and the Chapter requests that you pick up yours at the door when you arrive so that all Members will know who they are visiting with, and that you return them at the conclusion of the Meeting so we will have them for you at the next meeting. In addition, the guest of all Members will have a name tag which can be pinned on; so ladies, do not feel left out and stay home that day.

Each Member will be given his Membership Card at this Meeting, and this is yours to keep. In addition, your Secretary is presently preparing the Chapter Constitution and By-Laws for duplication, and a copy of these will be given to each Member. Also, a Membership Roster is being prepared and will be given each Member, and it is our fond hope that if by chance you find yourself in another Member's town, you will use this Roster to locate and call on him. A collection of anything is of no value unless others can enjoy it with you and share in your experiences and knowledge. We now have thirty-two Members in our Chapter coming from as far away as Hays, Kansas, and Saint Louis, Missouri, and numerous points in all four directions.

The following was specially sent to me for this Report and is a personal invitation to all:

Loretta and Paul Blanchat and Ada and Jack Brown want to extend to all their personal invitation to attend this meeting at the home of the Blanchats, currently being enjoyed by the Browns. The home is air-conditioned so it will be cool, but dress comfortably, and bring a friend if you like, but most of all--be there.  
 Mrs. Jack Brown

All are welcome and you are invited to bring along anything you wish to display and as Mrs. Brown so ably expressed it, "and do stress that we want them to bring things". We have extended invitations to National Association Members in Southwestern Iowa, Nebraska, and Northeastern Oklahoma, and we want them to enjoy themselves--so do come, "even if you can't".

Now for what has been happening since our Organizational Meeting. The Members have all cooperated to help publicize our Chapter. Mrs. Carroll Thomas sent in an article that appeared in the Sweet Springs Herald and the Members in the Sedalia Area have been busy according to two clippings Mrs. B. G. Smith sent in that appeared in the Sedalia Democrat. Both Mr. Bruer and Mr. Hardie received nice write-ups in the Kansas City Star (I sent a copy of Mr. Bruer's

article to most of you). Mr. Bruer's color pictures came out very good and he made up plates which we sent on to Mr. Strickler in hopes he can use them in the coming bulletin. Mr. Carroll Thomas's pictures also came out very nice and all pictures sent in are being preserved in the Chapter's Historical Record. I would like to express my thanks to all and everyone who sends in either articles or clippings, and I hope that everyone stops a moment to glance through the Chapter's Scrapbook at the next meeting. But that is not all that has been happening. Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Thomas and Mrs. Peg Hovie attended the National Convention in Pittsburgh, Penn., and came back with a very interesting report.

From the news that has been drifting into the Secretary's desk, I gather that our Chapter Members have wasted no time in getting around to see one another (which is exactly the way it should be). We, the Wagners, managed to reach Wichita in approximately three hours by turnpike and spent an enjoyable day with the Browns and the Blanchats. The Browns have very interesting clocks, and the Blanchats, who are cooperating as hosts, have a rare collection of Howard Clocks as well as watches. Over the Memorial Weekend we braved the traffic to see Mr. Henry's collection, as well as Mr. Motley's in Saint Joseph. But we were not the only ones. The Sedalia and Sweet Springs folks have also been making the rounds, and Mrs. Hovie has been putting milage on her car too.

Since that first Organizational Meeting, I have received letters from most of the Members. Those letters serve as a valuable link in tying our Chapter together and I hope will become a source of enjoyment to all by enabling us to put bits of information in future Reports. I am still waiting for someone to write about an unusual purchase they have made, or send a short report pertaining to clock repairing or some clock's history that they have discovered and wish to pass on to the Chapter Members. That way we can add to our Report and make it both informative and educational. But thanks for the cooperation so far and please check in early at the Browns in Wichita on Sunday, July 10th at or before two o'clock so that our pleasant times can last as long as possible. Directions as to how to reach the Brown's present home is at the bottom of this Report.

Sincerely yours,

*Clement C. Wagner*

Clement C. Wagner, Secy.

Directions for reaching the Brown's home are as follows:

Once in Wichita, Kansas, go three miles west of the City Limits of Wichita on Highway 54. Turn north (right) off Highway 54 at Woodchuck Lane which is about seven tenths of a mile west of the Airport Road, go one block and turn left on to Robin Road,  $\frac{1}{2}$  block then you are on Turquoise--go about two blocks to 440 Turquoise Lane.