

Heart of America Chapter #36 of N.A.W.C.C.

March Report, 1962

Howdy, Collectors!

We just have a short bit of news for you this month as there just doesn't seem to be much doing--world-wise that is. Collector-wise, there isn't enough hours in any one 48-hour day. Which gives us an idea for all those fellows who are busy inventing things. Instead of measuring it ("time" that is) off in equal degrees which will vary no more than one tiny second in 3,000 years which is much longer than we will live, how about getting us a day with 48 working hours in it--all in the same amount of space as we presently have for the 24 hours. Thus, capacity can be doubled, maybe even tripled. We might add that we did enjoy the Bell System's "About Time" which was a full length hour show February 5th.

Our President wants a word now. From looking over his shoulder, I would say the Old Boy 's flipped--looks like he's gone and dug out the very first Report about our little old Chapter to remind us of the good-ole-days gone bye. -----

Good Friends:

"The first meeting of the Heart of America Chapter of the N.A.W.C.C. was held at the home of the Caspar A. Wagner Family on Sunday, April 10, 1960, in Kansas City, Mo. The National Director, Mrs. Hovey, called the meeting to order and read a letter from Alfred C. Scott, the National President, and telegrams from Vice-president James W. Gibbs and Urban Thielmann. She then appointed our host, C. A. Wagner temporary chairman. The Chairman read a letter of congratulations from the National Business Director, Earl Strickler, and his personal thanks to Mrs. Hovey for the grand job she was doing organizing the chapters in her district. (Secretary's note: most of these men have changed positions since our Organizational Meeting back early in 1960.)

The first business was to pick a name for the Chapter.....By-Laws came up next and Bill Bruer suggested that we use By-Laws used by other chapters.....

The next business was election of permanent officers. Mr. Wagner nominated Bill Bruer. This nomination was seconded by Mr. Peck and Mr. Peck further moved that the nomination be closed. Mr. Henry seconded this and the vote was unanimous for Bill Bruer for President. Mrs. Hovey suggested that two Vice-presidents be chosen, one from Kansas and one from Missouri. It was discussed and decided that whichever one received the most votes would be 1st Vice-president, and the other 2nd Vice-president. Mr. Peck nominated Mr. Jack Brown of Wichita and Mr. Bruer nominated Mr. H. J. Tholen of Hays for the State of Kansas. Mr. Vandervort nominated Mr. Fox of Sedalia and Mr. Fox nominated Mr. Carroll Thomas of Sweet Springs for the State of Missouri. Since we had two from each State to choose from Mr. Bruer moved that nominations be closed and Mr. Peck seconded the motion. When the ballots were counted, Mr. Tholen had the highest number of votes and was elected 1st Vice-president, and Mr. Thomas was elected 2nd Vice-president."

The above remarks are those of our Secretary in his Report of our first meeting. When we start out to do a job we get it done and in short order. When we emerged from that smoke filled room that memorable above mentioned date, we had elected officers, selected a name for our Chapter, assessed and paid our dues, and were looking around for some of them thar "Frontiers" you hear so much about these days.

In case you hadn't guessed, H.O.A. #36 will be two years of age this April and we would like to brag a mite. First of all, we would like to think we have made Mrs. Peg Hovey happy. We promised in return for all her efforts and hard work in bringing us together, we would in time make her proud of us some day.

From an original twenty, we have more than doubled our membership. In fact we are suffering from growing pains. If ever we were to have a hundred percent turnout including all the Auxiliary members at a meeting, we would number nearly a hundred, so we are faced with the problem of meeting places. I hope we won't out-grow invita-

tions to the members homes.

Next, in importance, is the fact that we have approximately \$50.00 in our Treasury.

We have an Auxiliary composed of some of the prettiest and interested wives and mothers you have ever cast your limpid green eyes on. Incidentally, the Auxiliary is a first in N.A.W.C.C. History.

The quality and quantity of the collections in these parts is becoming well known. Hundreds of fine as well as deserted and decrepit old clocks and watches have been expertly restored to their original condition and appearance and have found some fine homes among us collectors where their antiquity and beauty is enjoyed and really appreciated.

The presence of H.O.A. #36 in these parts has aroused an intense interest and appreciation of clocks and watches among the general public.

The written material of some of our members in the Bulletins are attracting praise and congratulation unlimited. These knowledgeable contributions by our talented members are certainly unchallengeable proof of the fine items in our collections also an obvious indication of the keen interest by these members to take time in study and research to search out the facts. Also, we are proud of their ability to make their knowledge in written form so attractive and interesting.

With the continued support and cooperation of all our members to advance and improve, better and more impressive accomplishments can be expected in the future.
(Continuing with our President's report---)

Again, we can report an excellent attendance at the February Meeting. Our regular business was concluded in short order and with our new starting time of one p.m., everyone had ample time to visit, partake of the refreshments and examine the displays before starting for home.

Many thanks to Mr. Henry for the portable Clock Display Board. Don't hesitate to bring hanging clocks. We hope to obtain some pictures of this Display Board for the National Bulletin's next edition and maybe some of the other chapters will find such a design useful.

Many thanks to Mrs. Wagner, and the co-hostesses, Mrs. McConnell, Mrs. E. J. Smith, and Mrs. Williams who made this meeting a complete success with a job well done.

Plan to bring enough exhibits for the April Meeting. We will try to have a photographer from the Kansas City Star present, and maybe drum up some notority for our Chapter?

Bring something for the Silent Auction. And many thanks to Mr. Henry for setting up the rules for the Silent Auction. Incidentally, we depend on your generosity, girls--that door prize thing again, you know?

Congratulations to Ervin and Hila Smith. The Name-Tag and Door-Prize chores are in good hands,

Most important of all, don't forget, we elect officers at this coming meeting. If everyone would attend this Anniversary Meeting, your Officers would certainly be happy.

Collectably yours,

Bill Bruer, President

Aren't Birthdays wonderful. We never have forgotten our first one which we celebrated with our first Chapter Dinner. It snowed like crazy the day before, but turned out to be a lovely day that Sunday. We had a terrific birthday party with a wild gay time. Of course, we always have a "wild" time--in a nice sane dignified sort of way, and the attendance was nothing short of amazing.

This past meeting had its own amazing occurrences. Our Auxiliary Chairman commented that although she was happy to receive the invitations to the homes that have been pouring in of late, the summer and fall months this year have already been engaged for and all reservations now must be for next year. The April 8th Meeting will be here in Kansas City at the American Automobile Association Bldg. The June Meeting will be in Schell City, Mo., at the home and museum of Mr. & Mrs. John Hardie. Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Blair of Stover, Mo., have opened their home to the Chapter for the August Meeting, and the Mashburns have done likewise for the October Get-together.

Mrs. Vandervort read a letter she had received from a lady who likes and is interested in clocks and suggested that if any of us get out her way, we stop in and chat a bit. Her address is: Mrs. Jack Pointer, Pointer's Jewelry Store, Richmond, Missouri.

Mr. Perotti suggested that a subscription to the National Bulletin be given to our Kansas City Public Library. Mr. Thomas made a formal motion of such, which was seconded by Mr. Bryant. It's unnecessary to mention that this motion carried unanimously. Your Secretary wrote to the Nat'l. Business Director of the N.A.W.C.C. and received the following reply from which I quote: "If you will have your public library furnish the correct address, and the particular department to which it is to be addressed, I will be happy to send a complimentary Bulletin each issue." signed, Earl Strickler, Business Director. This is a special service performed for us by the Association and for which we must show our sincerest gratitude. To put it mildly, your Treasurer commented that "we are not only grateful, but we are DEEPLY GRATEFUL."

In consequence of the above mentioned actions, the Secretary forwarded to the Kansas City Public Library a letter which we have reproduced for you on the last page of this Report. We hope you are as proud of our Association, as well as of our Chapter, as the National Association is of us. Mr. Perotti, we thank you for this excellent suggestion. The Kansas City Public Library has in return responded to our gift by the following: "It is a pleasure to have your letter of February 20th stating that a subscription to your national magazine is to be placed in this Library...This will be a very interesting addition to our collection and it will be made available to our many patrons."

Getting back to our Meeting this past Month, door prizes were won by the following lucky winners: Mrs. Carroll Thomas, Mrs. Sol Williams, Mr. Iough, and Mr. Henry. Our Program for this Meeting was given by one of our younger members, Ronald Dickenson, who gave a demonstration on how to repair and clean clock hair springs and balances--a ticklish subject to say the least. He explained various methods used and it soon became evident that what experience he might have lacked through age was made up for by his study of the subject.

Our next meeting will be April 8th at one p.m. and will be held again at the A. A. Bldg. Mr. Jack Brown from Wichita, Kansas, will present the Program. Let us add that Mr. Brown has been working on his Program long before he became sick, and now that he has recovered sufficiently to put it into operation, we are all looking forward to something that is spectacular. Our Wichita collectors are as unpredictable as are the Mid-Missouri crowd and everything they do are surprises and can be depended on to benefit the members and the Chapter as a whole--both in learning and enjoyment. Plan now not to miss any of the excitement.

In light with Mr. Henry's organization of the Silent Auction, he compiled a set of operating rules which were submitted to the Chapter at the last meeting and approved and which will serve as the By-Laws of Operation of the Silent Auction component of our meetings. Following the reading of these rules, the Chapter approved a motion that the Silent Auction would be considered officially closed thirty minutes following the completion and close of the Business Meeting and Meeting Program. In addition, our President appointed Mr. Henry Chairman in charge of the Silent Auction and it would be his responsibility to appoint anyone he deems necessary to handle the records and act as Auction Clerk in his absence.

RULES FOR THE SILENT AUCTION

H.O.A. Chapter #36 of N.A.W.C.C.

General Rules:

- 1) The Auction will be open to Members and Auxiliary Members only.
- 2) All items offered will be "as is"
- 3) For any item sold thru this Auction, the owner (seller) will contribute 10% of the sale price to the Treasury of H.O.A. Chapter.
- 4) When a Member offers an item for auction, they have the privilege of setting a minimum sale price to be exceeded. If it is not exceeded there will be no sale recorded.
- 5) Any item . . . may be offered.
- 6) H.O.A. Chapter will not be responsible for damage or loss of any item at any time, nor for any claims made by the seller.

Procedure for conducting the Silent Auction:

- A) The President of H.O.A. Chapter shall appoint a Clerk to handle the records of each Auction.
- B) All items being offered for auction will be recorded with the Auction Clerk by the seller by filling out a card with any information desirable about the item and the amount of the bid that is to be exceeded, if any.
- C) The Clerk shall record the item in his book and place the card with the item at the place where the item is to be displayed for the Auction.
- D) Auction items will be left on display throughout the Business Meeting and Program and approximately thirty minutes thereafter, at which time it will be declared officially closed.
- E) Any Member or Auxiliary Member desiring to bid on an item shall enter their bid or bids and name on the record card concerning the item desired.
- F) At the conclusion of the Business Meeting and Program, the President shall announce the closing time for bidding in the Silent Auction, approximately thirty minutes hence.
- G) At the closing time, the Auction Clerk shall gather all cards and announce the successful bidders.
- H) The successful bidder on each item shall pay the seller direct the full amount of his bid at this time.
- I) The seller shall make his 10% contribution of the sale price direct to the Auction Clerk.
- J) The Auction Clerk shall furnish the Secretary of H.O.A. Chapter a full record of the Auction and deposit with the Treasurer all monies collected as contributions from the sellers.

February 20, 1962

Richard B. Sealock, Librarian
Kansas City Public Library
311 E. 12th Street
Kansas City 6, Missouri

Dear Sir:

The National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors has for a good many years published a National Bulletin--bi-monthly--containing interesting articles on watches and clocks, articles dealing with their history, the histories of many of their makers and men who have repaired them down through the ages, articles pertaining to various repairs that become a necessary thing in restoring these items to their original condition, articles pertaining to the scientific aspects of their construction, and the calibration of the commodity we call "time", as well as pictures of many of the more famous and rarer items designed to divide this commodity into measurable degrees. This National Bulletin has become a watch or clock collector's Bible and has been recognized by many national science organizations as an authority in relation to this subject.

There are 39 local chapters of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors of which our Chapter, the Heart of America Chapter, is a proud member. We comprise the area of Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas. At our last meeting February 11th of this year, the suggestion was presented to the members that we furnish the Kansas City Public Library with a subscription to this Magazine. The Linda Hall Library presently is receiving the Bulletin of the N.A.W.C.C. and the Chapter Members feel that there is enough demand that the Kansas City Public Library likewise should have a subscription.

This motion was unanimously approved by the Heart of America Chapter, and the Managing Director of the National Association has agreed to send a complimentary Bulletin bi-monthly to the Kansas City Public Library. This offer is extended by the Heart of America Chapter through the person of the Secretary with our sincere hope that by such, many more people will learn of, enjoy, and appreciate clocks and watches.

Sincerely yours,

Clement C. Wagner, Secy.
Heart of America Chapter of N.A.W.C.C.

IMPORTANT--IMPORTANT--IMPORTANT

The following announcement will appear only this time and in the April Report: We hate to be mercenary, but, as a dutiful Secretary-Treasurer, we must also remind you that dues for 1962 are due and payable April 8th, and by our Constitution and By-Laws, your name must be dropped from our Roster if not paid by April 30th. We enjoy corresponding with each one of you, individually, but not about delinquent dues!

So for your own peace of mind, and for ours, sit down now, and write out a check for two dollars--H.O.A. Chapter's yearly dues--AND MAIL IT! Please! Thankyou!
Incidentally, have you paid this year's National Association dues???

Heart of America Chapter Officers.