

Heart of America Chapter No. 36 of N.A.W.C.C.

February Report

Dear Fellow Members:

We have received two letters the past several weeks that show the perspective with which our Chapter is being viewed by others in the N.A.W.C.C. From Denver, Colo., Mr. Arthur Bach wrote:

Thank you so much for your papers on your Chapter doings. You people are really going strong in H.O.A. We are getting started again, and the enthusiasm you have demonstrated to us has helped us a lot. We had three new members and two guests at our last meeting for a total of nine, so we feel our Chapter (Chapter #21) has come to life again.

Distances are so great out here that people interested in old clocks are spread out pretty thin. Your Chapter reports in the Bulletins are always most interesting and are a pattern for us to strive for. Pickings are getting pretty scarce around here. Somebody is picking them up so we will have to get on their trail and run them down and drag them into the H.A.W.C.C. Wish us luck.

Yours truly,  
Arthur E. Bach

Likewise, Mr. Leland L. Hurst from Oklahoma City dropped us the following line:

Thanks for your words of encouragement and the copy of H.O.A. Chapter's Reports. I am looking forward to the day when Cherokee Chapter #30 will be able to publish a similar letter. I would be more than happy to work with H.O.A. Chapter and exchange copies of reports, notices, announcements, etc. Since we are new as a Chapter, I am sure we can benefit from sharing with a fine fast growing chapter like H.O.A.

Sincerely,  
Leland L. Hurst

Yes, our Chapter is indeed a fine one. Our members--ALL OF THEM--have worked to see that it was so. The National Association has honored us by seeking our help for this coming Convention. You members have enabled us to take our rightful place in the Association of Watch Collectors.

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Good Friends:

Hope all of you are making plans to attend the February Meeting at the Carousel Cafeteria. We expect a better than usual attendance--the weather permitting of course. Because of the close proximity of Valentines Day, the girls in the Auxiliary are working on some do-dads appropriate for this special occasion.

How are your Convention plans shaping up? It isn't too early to make arrangements. The National is depending on the members of H.O.A. Chapter for any and all support we might extend. Our Chapter was well represented last year, and we are hoping to do even better this year. This affair affords an excellent opportunity to promote and spread H.O.A. Chapter's fame far and wide. So, lets everyone who can and will attend plan to do this up right by taking some nice exhibit pieces. Our Secretary will have some pertinent information available by the February Meeting--space allotments, cabinets, etc.

From all obvious indications, we would think all watch and clock collectors in these parts have retired into hibernation. With the temperature hovering around zero as long as it has it is easy to understand why anyone would hesitate to venture out and endure any more of this dastardly weather than absolutely necessary.

Have no fear as your Officers have been in constant contact (via telephone) making plans and preparations for the coming months. This may seem a little premature, but if you were, shall we say, anticipating a visit by the Chapter to your home this summer, we would appreciate an early notice.

In conclusion, if you would like to please your Officers, be present at the Feb. Meeting bringing something to exhibit, also something for the silent auction. Once again let me urge you to give the National Convention a lot of consideration. It would be impossible for me to list the benefits to be derived by your presence at one of these N.A.W.C.C. Assemblies.

Bill Bruer, President of H.O.A. #36



**THE BIGGEST THING TO HIT H.O.A. CHAPTER IS-----**

A golden wedding anniversary celebration by one of our members, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Dods, at this coming February 10th Meeting of H.O.A. Chapter. That's right, fifty years of happy wedded life has passed for them, and we of the Heart of America Chapter extend our heartiest congratulations and are happy they joined our cheerful group, and hope that we can extend to them all the pleasures of this Association as they have provided those of us who have known them down through the years. They were actually married on Valentine's Day, many moons ago, so mark the date of February 10th in big red letters and make your plans now to be there--bring a whole car load of friends along, and a trailer full of clocks and watches for Exhibit and Auction.

The Meeting will be held at the Carousel Cafeteria, 5830 Troost, Kansas City, Mo., with the room being made available by shortly after one o'clock and the cafeteria line forming at 1:30 that afternoon. The Auxiliary has made elaborate plans for table decorations, and with the response our members are showing and our guests and friends, it should be a rousing nice affair. There will be the Silent Auction as usual, loads of exhibits, door prizes, and Mr. Ernest Motley will be the speaker that afternoon. In short, a good time is guaranteed. If you do not wish to come for the dinner, but would rather just attend the Meeting, plan on arriving around 2:00 that afternoon.

**IF YOU ARE IN THE AREA-----**

Seymour, Indiana--Indiana Chapter will hold their meeting at some member's home on March 10th and has extended an invitation to us to join them. We will have more about this in a later Report, but wish to call your attention to a small change in their By-Laws that will be voted on at that Meeting that we feel particularly proud of having paved the way: "Article 5, section 6: Members' spouses may be admitted to the Chapter for payment of \$1.00 per year with all privileges except voting or holding office." Our Auxiliary has induced so much interest that others are beginning to see the light. We wish them all the success we have had and hope it becomes official.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma--Saturday, February 9th, the new rejuvenated Cherokee Chapter will hold its second meeting starting at 2:00 p.m. with a visit to Colonel Lyman Stangel's home, 6101 North Warren, a group dinner is planned for 5:30 p.m. at the Sunside Inn, 3200 N.W. 39th Street, Oklahoma City, Okla., and that evening from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the same location, the business meeting and displays will be held. They will have exhibits and an auction, and our members have been invited to attend to help start them off on the right foot. Of course, our Golden Wedding Celebration and Meeting will be the next day, Sunday, Feb. 10th, so plan on leaving early Sunday morning so as to be in Kansas City by 1:30 for dinner. What a glorious weekend!

Kilgore, Texas--April 27th and 28th for those of you who are taking a late winters vacation in that area. This is a fabulous thing only held once a year as the state of Texas is so big, all their local chapters down in that area can only find one another occasionally. There will be a "collectors forum" conducted by Dr. Coats, a lively auction stimulated by the antics of "Gene" Partain, and the complete story of the "Fashion" clock, as well as a major display of antique watches. Everything will be conducted in and around the Community Inn Hotel-Motel, Kilgore, Texas, on these two days, April 27th and 28th.

**LADIES (AND GENTLEMEN), TAKE NOTICE-----**

Dear Members:

Meetings or open houses for the Chapter members of H.O.A. No. 36 were voted on for May, June, July, August, September, and October. So far, we are invited to only two meetings--the June and October. If any of our members would like an open house or a meeting during the other months, would they please let me know so we may work out our program. We all seem to enjoy seeing the different members' homes and clocks so we hope to be invited to several different collectors' homes during the coming months. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like an open house or meeting in the near future.

Your Auxiliary President,  
Margaret Wagner



A Visit With Chauncey Jerome

by J. E. Slyker

(Editor's note--some time ago we visited with Mr. and Mrs. Slyker in Ghanute, Kansas, and were very much impressed with his collection of unusual Chauncey Jerome one-day weight-clocks, and he has contributed the following article for our Report.)

First thing first as I was trying to locate a book on early American furniture here at the Library that I felt would help on a better description of these clocks, but was unable to do so. But, from other Jerome history, it is evident the first two in my collection were made near 1837 and the other near 1844.

What appears to be the eldest bears the warrantee label printed by "Elihu Geer, Job and Card Printer, Hartford", and made and sold by Chauncey Jerome, Bristol, Conn. The case is veneered and covered by Japan black for protection and could be removed with little effort after the buyer had made all proper arrangements for its place in the family life. The works are all brass and bear Jerome's name. The lower glass bears a center of colored flowers and clustered with golden morning glories.

The next one, the case is the same as the above except the warrantee appears "John Black, Printer, 70 Fulton Street, New York." Also, the works are the same as above. The lower glass on this one appears to be hand painted, and reflects a large building with but few windows that could be a barn or storage, and to the right, a couple strolling, and to the left is a lonesome man who, from the expression, appears to be either a jilted lover or an anxious father. It's title is "View in Italy".

The third one, the case has been finished and the warrantee was printed by "Benham, Printer, 55 Orange Street, New Haven, Conn." and it was manufactured and sold by Chauncey Jerome, New Haven, Conn. The lower glass appears hand painted and bears the title of "View in Broadway, New York". It looks out over a large lawn that is surrounded by a tall slim iron paling fence, and on the street are shown horse drawn vehicles of many types and on the walks are small groups of people. On the left appears to be about a six story building liken somewhat to the brownstone fronts, and to the right, a large church with a very high spire.

All of these clocks are in working condition and good time keepers. However, I have not kept them running daily as I have in the past. As I recall the history of the Japan blackened clocks, they were known as "Farmer's Clocks" and I obtained the first described clock from the Grand Nephew of a homesteader in Allen County who settled in the 1840's. The second and third have about equal stories of the families that settled in and near the "Neosho Valley" Areas here in Neosho and Allen Counties.

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Well, that's about it. We want to remind everyone to come and help the Dod's to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, February 10th, Carousel Cafeteria, dinner to begin at 1:30 that afternoon. The Dod's request no gifts, and we sincerely hope that you abide by their wishes, but instead, lets put on an extra big exhibit in their honor. We'll be seeing you.

Sincerely yours,

Clement C. Wagner, Secy.