

March-April Report

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT-----

Good Friends:

Without a doubt the February Meeting was one of our most interesting and informative get-togethers. Attendance was at about our usual average of forty. After-meeting comments indicate everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

Our speakers for the day were Thomas Dods, Earnest Motley, and Dale Henry. As you know, Mr. and Mrs. Dods celebrated their Fiftieth Anniversary February 14th. Your Officers decided to surprise these nice folks and contribute what we could in the way of recognition and congratulations. Mrs. Wagner seated the Dods up front for dinner and the Meeting; Mrs. Bruer made a replica in gold paper of an Anniversary Clock, and the Chapter picked up their dinner check.

As you know, Tom Dods very deservingly claims the distinction of being the eldest member of H.O.A. Chapter. Now, he has made claim to another distinction---he says he has disassembled more and reassembled fewer clocks than anyone else in the Chapter. Some of us were tempted to challenge this statement but declined conceding that because of Tom's age he had a head start on the rest of us. Ernest Motley gave an interesting account of his problem and solution of the swinging weights and pendulum in the Grandfather Clock. Ernie says he wished in some instances when the "old man" died, he would take his blasted clock with him!!! Dale Henry can always be depended on to discover some excellent solution to some of our problems, and this time, it was with regards to duplication of ornaments, clock trim, carvings, pendulum bob casings, etc, by the use of liquid rubber. (More about this later in the Report.)

A show of hands indicate quite a number of our members are giving the N.A.W.C.C. Chicago Convention serious consideration. Most of us employed people just can not make definite plans this far in advance. At least eight members are interested; possible some members who couldn't attend the Meeting are interested to. Our Secretary is assembling all pertinent and detailed information and will present same at the April Meeting. Keep in mind you don't have to attend the entire proceedings and you don't have to reside at the Convention Hotel. Naturally, being housed in the Hotel would make the functions of the Convention more convenient. But some of us who take time off work and are not anticipating financial reimbursement by attending, have to consider the expense angle, and several of us are considering the possibility of a group of us staying at a close motel. We are almost positive some arrangements can be made that will adjust to your situation. We are determined somehow or other to make a good showing and we are depending on all of you to be present if at all possible---don't say "no" until you have explored every angle and until the sun sets that final Saturday night.

Our good members and friends, Mr. and Mrs. Olson of Omaha, were present at the February Meeting. This event was their first meeting with all of us since joining H.O.A. last year. We hope they were favorably impressed and again in the near future arrange to attend another meeting. The matter of workshop meetings has arisen again. As you know, with members dispersed over five states some difficulties trying to formulate arrangements are bound to occur. Lawrence McConnell has volunteered the use of his basement which he informs us would not be too attractive to anyone addicted to cleanliness. At this point we think anyone who is allergic to dirt and in some instances filth had better disassociate themselves from clocks and instead collect doilies. Probably a committee will be appointed to cope with the shop meeting problem.

Have been hoping one of our recent acquired members could be present at the Meeting to be introduced properly. Just so this introduction will not be forgotten, this gentleman's name is C. C. Anderson, a master watch and clock maker with forty years experience at the bench. He is equiped to make spring barrels, wheels, pinions, and almost any part you might desire. His prices are reasonable and he gives excellent service and superior workmanship which is guaranteed. If in the future one of your gems leave you feeling the noose is closing around your neck, consult Anderson. I am sure he will solve the problem to your satisfaction!

Dues are due and payable this April Meeting. You will receive your final notice then. There is nothing to be gained by playing "hard to get". We are wondering if there is a group or an organization any place in this world where one can for a \$2.00 a year membership fee, pursue their hobby in association with any nicer people, more knowledge and pleasure in this isolated interest of watches and clocks than in the H.O.A. Chapter? Please give the above statement some thought while you are making out the check for your dues.

Make your Officers happy by attending the April Meeting on Sunday, April 7th-----
NOTE THE EARLIER MEETING DATE-----April 7th, the first Sunday in April due to Easter falling on our regular meeting date. See you at the Carousel Cafeteria at the meeting.

Bill Bruer, President

WHAT'S IN A NAME-----

Well, if your's happens to be Gordon Byler, you can be doubly proud--or rather--triple proud. When it comes to doing and thinking Chapter-wise, Mr. Byler can take his place among the very best as his enthusiasm and spirit are unlimited. The Bylers have a shop in Liberty called "Yesterday House" and their speciality is hand painted clock door tablets and designs, and we might add that they are excellent artists. They have recently published their new catalogue which is advertised in the National magazines for .25, but for this February Meeting, Mr. Byler said that all that were sold today, the money would be contributed to the Chapter's Treasury. In addition, he contributed two of these door glasses to the Silent Auction for that Meeting.

But the real surprise came later on during the Meeting. Every chapter contributes a door prize to the National Convention each year. Last year, our Chapter's door prize was donated by Peg Hovey. When the discussion came up at our Meeting, Gordon solved our problem in one sweep. He placed before the Chapter a motion that he be allowed to donate as our prize for the 1963 Convention, one of their hand painted door glasses (any single glass with any design whatsoever that the recipient wishes--with no limit placed in value). Rather than select a clock door glass, he felt it better to state such in a letter and enclose one of the catalogues, and then let the lucky winner make his own selection, a suggestion that was readily accepted and approved by the Chapter Body. As mentioned before, Mr. and Mrs. Byler are folks any chapter would be proud of, and as enthusiastic workers as could be asked with Chapter's interest at heart.

WHAT'S MY LINE-----

This could have very easily been Dale Henry's introduction. Regarding the fancy carved do-dads and their replacement, Dale discovered that by taking an original leaf, or carved head (if any remained) and painting it with liquid rubber (purchased at most hobby craft shops or hardware stores) until a good firm coating covered the relief you were trying to duplicate, then this rubber outline of whatever you were trying to duplicate could then be peeled off (no damage done to original) and you would have a perfect design of the original. Then place this rubber design in something which would offer a firm base such as a box of sand or dirt, and fill the inside with everyday rock wall plaster. Once this has set, remove the hardened plaster and peel off the rubber mold and you have a perfect copy to put on your clock once it is properly stained or painted to match. This works with fancy leaf carving or busts of figures or heads. Be sure to firmly force the plaster inside the rubber mold so that such little items as noses, or eyes, or indentations will be properly formed.

THE SIXTY-FOUR DOLLAR QUESTION-----

Following the Meeting, Ernest Motley of St. Joseph described how he solved a problem where the swinging of the weights of a grandfather's clock stopped the pendulum. He established by use of both a needle and a compass that there was absolutely no magnetism involved. As far as the eye could tell, the case and movement were solid and no swing possible there, but upon investigation, he discovered that securely fastening the case to the wall at a point where the movement of the clock was involved did stop the unhappy occurrence. Thereafter, there was no further swing in the weights as they approached the pendulum bob and the clock ceased to stop. His presentation provided the Chapter Members a very entertaining and thought provoking Program.

EXTRA IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT---NOTE---MEETING CHANGE---ETC.

Due to Easter falling on the second Sunday of April this year, our April Meeting will be held on April 7th, the first Sunday of April. We are celebrating our THIRD BIRTHDAY on this day and hope that as many members will attend as possible and bring guests. We will meet at the Carousel Cafeteria, 5830 Troost Ave., Kansas City, as near to 1:30 as possible for those who want to partake in our Birthday Dinner; and the Meeting will begin shortly after two for those who wish to come only for the Meeting itself. Bring loads of exhibits (our display board for hanging clocks will be available), and Dale Henry requests that what with spring here, it is now time to move some of your less important items to make way for new and rarer items and the Silent Auction is just the place to accomplish this. Anyway, it's our Birthday! April 7th---our Meeting day!

DUES ARE DUE---AS USUAL!!!

Your 1962 Membership Cards are dated as expiring March 31, 1963 (Auxiliary Cards expire in 1964), and if you have not paid your 1963 Heart of America Chapter Dues (only \$2.00) and remained a member in good standing in the N.A.W.C.C., you can not continue to be a member of this Chapter. We urge you to sit down NOW and pay your 1963 H.O.A. Dues. Due to the fact that we dislike urging you for money, there will be no further public notice. Please help us to keep our records up to date.

Address Changes---to be made on your Roster of H.O.A. Chapter Members:

Pelham, C. W.

6740 Paseo (formerly 2131 E. 82nd Terr.)

Kansas City, Missouri

NOTE: Wagner, Clement C.

5506 Euclid (formerly 5802 Garfield)

Kansas City 30, Missouri

Telephone Number: De. 3-8825

PLAN TO ATTEND THE 1963 NATIONAL N.A.W.C.C. CONVENTION, Chicago, May 23, 24, and 25th. Your friends will all be there, and H.O.A. Chapter is planning a big booth for exhibits. Please do not let us down. Lots more on this at the April 7th Meeting and next Report.

OPEN HOUSE---

Your Secretary now has his own special place to put his ninety-six clocks, three watches, and his had, and after the Meeting on April 7 th, you are all invited to come to 5506 Euclid, Kansas City, Mo., to see his home where Dad, Mother and Florent will help him make you welcome.

REMEMBER---

Our Third Birthday Celebration and Dinner will be the First Sunday of April, April 7th, at the Carousel Cafeteria with dinner at 1:30 p.m. and Meeting beginning shortly after 2:00 p.m, followed by an open house at your Secretary's new home. Dues are due!

Sincerely,

Clement C. Wagner, Secy.

5506 Euclid

Kansas City 30, Missouri