

HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

December Report, 1964

Dear Members: (an open letter to H.O.A. Members from our Chapter President)

As the end of the year nears we cannot help but look back and remember many of the good things that have happened to us during the year. Our meetings and associations with other collectors always linger in our memories and we always hope they will continue on and on. I am sure every one of us has not only been successful in adding something good to their collections but has had many friendly associations and added new friends along the way.

The meeting and open house at the home of Glenn and Melba Blair in Stover, Mo., was one of our largest meetings--several of our members traveled over 400 miles to enjoy the clocks and the new clock room which Glenn and Melba had just added to their home. It certainly is a wonderful addition and no doubt by this time is getting well filled with clocks. It was just finished for the meeting and not too many clocks had been placed in their new setting. (Our President is referring to our October 11th Meeting.)

At our next meeting Sunday Afternoon, December 13th, Mr. Tholen will present the program. He has worked with clocks and watches no doubt longer than any of us and can really give us some interesting facts and details. I am sure if anyone has any problems, they can be solved if they will present them at this meeting.

We hope to see all of you at the meeting at the Carousel Cafeteria, but for those that cannot attend, a Happy Holiday Season is our fondest wish.

Caspar A. Wagner, President of H.O.A.

"Twas the night before the Report, and all thru the house,
Karen was mending as quiet as a mouse,
And I with my typewritr and visions of Longfellow rushing thru my head,
Sat heré contemplating, anxious to go to bed.
When out of the silence there came such a clatter--
It was H.O.A.'s Secretary bringing up the latest chatter."

(Secretary's Report)

As the President indicated, we all certainly enjoyed the open-house meeting at the Glenn Blair's on Sunday, October 11th. The Blair's beautiful home so tastefully furnished with antiques and clocks is now enlarged by a wonderful family room designed with plenty of wall space and cabinets to hold the future treasurers and antiques which the Blairs continually add to their collections. A new collection of unusual beauty and interest has been added to the Blairs household--a collection of Butter Pats which Susan takes great pride in showing.

Your Secretary is very appreciative of the wonderful and enthusiastic assistance he has received from Susan and Linda in handling the name-tags and door prizes. Many thanks, Susan and Linda.

After a sumptuous buffet was served to the more than sixty members and guests present, many of the members visited Mr. Blair's workshop to view and marvel at Mr. Blair's excellently equipped shop and Glenn's ingenuity and ability to design jigs and devices to aid in the production of complicated wood objects.

The Heart-of-America Chapter meeting started at 2:00 p.m. Our President thanked Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Blair for their wonderful buffet dinner and hospitality. We were honored to have Dr. and Mrs. Mindrup from Illinois visit with us on this occasion.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and our Treasurer reported we were financially sound in the amount of \$108.16 as of October 12. The names of our newest members were announced as follows:

Mr. William H. Tacey
416 North Main
Independence, Missouri
Watches

Lt. Col Henry W. Williamson
23 South Lehigh Ave
Topeka, Kansas
Clocks and watches

Additional names to be added to your H.O.A. Roster are as follows:

Mr. Gunther O. E. Reinhardt
14600 Crane Rd. Rt #2
Lee's Summit, Missouri
Grandfathers, wall and mantle

William L. McClure
8201 West 75th
Overland Park, Kansas
Early American Shelf Clocks

Mr. Tony Weber
Liberal Kansas
Jewelry shop in Liberal

Mr. Francis C. Riley
10331 Manor Road
Leawood, Kansas
Clocks, repair and history

At the meeting Mr. Tholen gave your Secretary the dues for Mr. Tony Weber of Liberal, Kansas. This brings our total H.O.A. Membership to 54. Discussion in the business meeting centered around attendance at the Mid-America Conference at West-Lafayette, Indiana. The Vandervorts, Thomases, Blairs and many others who had attended these in the past urged all of our members to attend this conference.

The Ladies Auxiliary had some discussion about bringing door prizes to the December Meeting and decided we should do so. If each person will bring a door prize to this December Meeting, we will have enough to last all of next year. Be sure to mark whether the gift is for a man or a lady.

Your Secretary urged the members to notify him of the members wants. The response was immediate:

G. E. Vandervort wants: 1) one Burge and Mallory strap movement.
2) one back board or label for C & LC Ives.

Carroll Thomas wants a book on French clocks, their works, and makers, and the "marks" used by various French makers.

E. J. Zohner is still looking for the kitchen clock works requested in the previous Chapter Report.

John Mashburn would like to obtain an old drop-octagon regulator case.

Door prizes were given out to seven lucky members and the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 to give the members more time to view the wonderful clocks, as well as other collections of the Blairs. As the members were leaving, Mr. and Mrs. Peterson drove up with a trailer full of 84 clocks they had purchased that morning. Who would not love to have the opportunity to purchase 84 treasures at one time!

We are looking forward to the next meeting of our Chapter, Sunday, December 13, at the Carousel Cafeteria in Kansas City, Missouri, 5824 Troost Ave. We will gather in the banquet room and all go through the line together at 1:45 p.m. We should be ready for the business meeting about 2:30 and after the short meeting we all look forward to a very interesting and informative talk by Mr. Tholen. Be sure to mark your calendar for Sunday, December 13, Carousel Cafeteria at 1:45 p.m. in Kansas City, Missouri.

H.O.A. WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND SINCEREST CONDOLANCES---

To Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Smith in the passing of Mrs. Smith's Mother, Mrs. Marta Stiller, who had spent her sixty years in Germany. She died a little over a month ago.

TIME PASSES---

Mr. McClure recently acquired an old cast iron Ithica Calendar Clock. He was telling us all about it at the recent Hobby Show held several months ago here in Kansas City. Incidentally, while on that subject, 2000 people toured the clock and watch exhibit put on by H.O.A. Chapter's members that Sunday afternoon. We had an excellent turn out of exhibitors from our Chapter and had all types and kinds of clocks and watches on display including movements and unusual parts.

Mr. and Mrs. Caspar A. Wagner and Florent recently returned from a trip to St. Louis and they are now the proud owners of a "few" clocks, a couple music boxes, a clock with a music box in it set off by the clock movement, and a very nice minute-repeating watch. Sol Williams has been making some interesting finds out at the Heart Drive-In where there is a huge garage sale every Sunday.

IMPORTANT---

We just received a hot call from the President asking the members to bring to this coming meeting some of the items that have been causing you problems in repairing as we will have the best repair artists there in this part of the Country. Anyway, what is a Chapter good for if we cannot exchange ideas and experiences. Bring your ideas, your problems, and your exhibits and lets have a Christmas Party to top all Christmas parties. Ladies, do not feel left out-- we want you to bring items also and we feel sure that someone will be able to give you a clue to solve a knotty problem you have been tangling with.

MAYBE IT HAS SLIPPED OUR MIND, BUT THE N.A.W.C.C. CONVENTION THIS PAST YEAR WAS---

Well, lets take it from where Mr. Holland reported to us awhile ago. There was a lecture on Joseph Ives which was pretty good even tho some of the bigger collectors were busy heckling the speaker. Eli Terry received a big play with a three-way lecture designed to present the whole picture of Terry, the man and his clocks. The Mart had one of Joseph Ives clocks on display as well as Rotary Clock with a worm screw instead of a pendulum, not to mention the other unusual exhibits that were there. There was a demonstration on case refinishing, and a demonstration on rebushing both brass movements and wood movements. Not only that, but the "good fellowship" that was present at this Convention was what really impressed Mr. Holland.

The "Ladies Viewpoint" of the Convention proved very interesting. At the Banquet, every lady was given a Four O'clock plant (you ladies know what I'm talking about, I hope!) There was a morning Brunch for the ladies which included juice and cookies. On the tables there was a book for the ladies seeking information regarding their various hobbies, their favorite song, favorite flower, etc. It would be interesting to see a report on this. The Vanderbuilt Tour seem to catch everyone's eye with a Wedgewood Fireplace, a grand old pine organ on the balcony, and also displayed around the walls a collection of flags from every nation. Then there was the picnic out at the Bellmore Farms. The entertainment at the picnic included the North Carolina Cloggers just back from the World's Fair. They presented dances and songs in the clogger style often referred to as the "old clog dance".

A GOOD SPEAKER IS BOTH INTERESTING AND ENTERTAINING---

Our last program was presented at the Carousel Cafeteria last August by Mr. McEowen and my only regret is that I cannot express myself to you the way he did or in the

manner of speaking as he did that Sunday afternoon--it was something to hear. His topic was on "Collecting", and he had several fine examples from his many varied collections to prove his point. His first exhibit was a Light-House Clock with a spring driven movement and a battery operated light. Then, as he went on to explain, while you are traveling, if you stop in someplace and they do not happen to have any unusual clocks for you, do not feel as tho your stop was wasted. Look around; maybe you will find a bell to add to your collection which will then substitute to make the stop seem worthwhile even tho you did not find a clock,

He and Mrs. McEowen also collect Dragon Candlesticks, nutcrackers, overlay and pressed glass (he had a Bull 's Eye tumbler on exhibit), watch fobs, tie pins, etc. All are interesting in the "way of collecting". But in addition, all these items are also valuable. He is presently looking for Switchmen Lanterns--has high hopes of acquiring one from every major railroad, and miniture sewing machines (now has 17 or 18 of these little items). To save yourself from having a sad and disappointing trip because of no clocks, try to have many interests, and invariably, you will bump into someone who has a similar interest, and from there on, the fun begins.

Incidentally, while on the subject, Mr. McEowen had retired from the Post Office as of our last October Meeting having fulfilled many long and profitable years as our Assistant Post-Master. Now, he is devoting his time to collecting full-time and really getting into the fun of collecting. Man, what a life! I'll trade with him right now!

BIG NEWS---

That's right. As Editor of the Heart of America Chapter #36 Reporter, I am anxious to receive any and all newsworthy reports of our members, their collections, and their doings. Keep us in mind and share the fun of your collecting with others. We are also desirous to receive any articles you would care to write in sharing your knowledge, experience and travels with others. As our past National Association President said, "We are all 'experts', or rather, the word is 'specialist', "so lets keep H.O.A. Reports as interesting as it has been in the past by sharing.

Do not forget Sunday, December 13th, will be our big Christmas Party at the Carousel Cafeteria here in Kansas City with the group gathering around 1:45 p.m. and the meeting to start around 2:30 p.m. after dinner together. Bring your door prizes, exhibits, and your problems and lets really get into the Spirit of Christmas again this year. Oh yes, one more bit of information has leaked out; the ladies are planning on taking over one of our meetings this coming year. That ought to be interesting. We will see you on Sunday.

Merry Christmas to all of you from the Officers of the Heart of America Chapter, and especially from your Editor, Karen, and Christopher Wagner, and we wish all of you a very prosperous New Year and lots of "collecting fun" for 1965.

Sincerely,

Clement C. Wagner, Editor H.O.A. Reports