

HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER OF NATIONAL WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

May and June Report, 1965

--Report submitted by our President--

Dear Fellow Members:

Now that the 1965 NAWCC Convention is history, the coming meeting should bring out a good report of the doings in Dallas, Texas. This will give all that were fortunate enough to attend, an opportunity to discuss the various aspects of the Convention and we hope a good description can be passed on to our members unable to attend. A greater number of our people have been attending the conventions each year. It gets in your blood and like all good habits should be encouraged wherever possible.

The following were present in Dallas representing H.O.A. Chapter:

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Allen, Mr. Robert E. Allmon, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Blair, Mr. and Mrs. W. Paul Holland, Mrs. Margaret K. Hovey, Dr. Harry Knauff, Mr. and Mrs. Brontie Nichols, Mr. Donald W. Olsen, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Herman J. Tholen, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Vandervort, and your President, Wife, and Secretary.

Several of our members have experienced some bad accidents the past winter and spring. We are glad to report that Mrs. Lough is slowly recuperating from a back injury that started about New Years. Mrs. Henry is joining the active again after a broken hip from a bad fall on the ice in late January. Mrs. McClure is the latest victim. She was seriously injured when a chair collapsed. We were happy to see her walking again after several weeks of treatment, braces and suffering. She still has a long ways to go to be her active busy self again. We all hope these ladies will all be well enough so we can see them at our next meeting.

At a special meeting of all the members we could get together the last Sunday in April, it was unanimously decided that it may be rather hot for a meeting at the Veterans Building in June and that we have this meeting at the Carousel Cafeteria, Sunday June 13th. We want to try a little different plan at this meeting. Any members eating at the Carousel take their dinner as they arrive and go in our dining room to eat, filling the places near the door and front where possible. Stay in your places and visit until we can get the room closed at about 2:00 p.m. This will keep anyone from being famished waiting to eat and will avoid the congestion caused when we all go through the line at one time. The meeting will start sometime after 2:00 p.m. when all are finished eating and the tables cleared. We should try to get there between 1:00 and 1:30 to pick up our meals.

Be sure to bring your interesting articles and share your experiences with the other members. See you Sunday, June 13th, Carousel Cafeteria, 5824 Troost, Kansas City, Mo., after 1:00 p.m. Remember--exhibit table as well as any articles for sale.

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Your Secretary did not turn in a report this time, but he did ask us to ask you if you were receiving this report. Are you? If you have not paid your 1965 H.O.A. dues--look right now to see the date on your H.O.A. Membership Card--you will not receive the next issue of the Report.

Although news has been coming in across the wires regarding our Chapter and its members, we feel it would be more fun if each member tells you the latest himself at the coming meeting June 13th. Instead, we would like to devote the few precious minutes we have to write and the valuable space to poking a little innocent fun at our Chapter, its members, and our meetings. How many of you have stopped this past month at a fellow member's home and inspected his latest acquisitions? Been traveling, well that's par for the course. The Auxiliary Chairman is looking forward to having some nice invitations for open houses this summer which she will announce at this coming meeting. Remember the twin tower clocks on top of the old Federal Building here in Kansas City? Some of us took a tour of these "wrecks" over a year ago. The invita



tion has been reextended so if anyone is interested in seeing man's civilized progress down through the years with regards to clocks, notify either our President or Mr. Dods and a tour of what progress can do to works of art in timekeeping will be arranged.

Lets face it--we all have things we like to do, and there is always someone else who likes to do what we don't like; so lets exchange help. That is what makes an association such as ours so much fun. We have people from all walks of life and interested in everything you can name. Somewhere, someplace there is someone who likes to refinish, someone who can't refinish but likes to play with the movement, someone who doesn't like either but likes to read about the makers, or someone who just likes to collect, etc. We have just nicked the surface when it comes to having members present programs. But several interesting happenings have occurred during these programs. Last meeting Bill Bruer talked and demonstrated soldering. People were asked to bring "problems" but of course none showed up. Bill was seriously eyeing Mr. Holland's calendar and thinking of removing some of the gears--strictly for demonstration purposes of course--when Mr. Holland discovered some old gears in Bill's repair box that might serve. Quick Thinking! Our President spoke on making verges several meetings ago and he had several verges to demonstrate from the clocks on his mantle. You should have seen his wife hold her breath!

Of course, the most interesting place of all is some dirty old place off the beaten path that is just loaded with old clocks with tons of other things stacked all over them. Clock collectors just love to brouse through these places looking for "finds". Maybe that is why when one collector calls on another, the first place they always head for is the basement much over the wife's protests--ours would be like being in heaven if anyone stumbled down there. Isn't life fun. What is really exciting is to have a rare clock sitting upon your work bench with a brand new glass in the door, and saying to a friend that I've just bought a new door decal and it is right here if I can find it. These door glass decals are the newest thing out and they do make a new glass look like the original. Mr. Olsen has been experimenting with these and adds that to get the best results, cut out with a razor blade the small part of the decal that is supposed to be the open spot for the pendulum. Else you will get a fuzzy tinge in the glass. Anyway, these decals do a nice job for door paintings if you need some stenciling.

Since man by nature is lazy, and necessity is the mother of invention, some of our members are inventors. Mr. McEowen invented a push-pull rod several years ago to help line up the gears when replacing the back on a movement. Mr. Dods fastened two screens together in such a way that the gears could be inserted in them as they were taken out and thus insure not mixing up your arrangement and also wires could be inserted insuch a way to hold the gears upright when removing and replacing the back.

Bill Bruer is an investigator--like his wife--and he has discovered a man at 3900 E. 14th Terr. here in Kansas City who likes to sell. This fellow specializes in very very thin veneer 1/30 or 1/40 of an inch thick in various lengths and widths of 2, 3, or 4 feet wide. We have heard of "jugs", "jibs" and the "jive", but Mr. Vandervort is very interested in obtaining a "jig" to hold clock parts. If anyone has an extra, please feel free to contact him.

Well, until June 13th, this is your ole Editor saying we'll be seeing you--at the Carousel Cafeteria if not sooner.

Clement G. Wagner, Editor H.O.A. Reporter