

HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER #36 OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

December Report, 1966

HO, HO, HO, AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL---

Do you have all your Christmas plans made? How about your shopping? Christmas cards all mailed? Christmas always seems to be an extra busy time and a very joyous time. Thanksgiving has barely been tucked away and Christmas will be here in a short time. This whole idea about the swift passage of time has been very nicely expressed by one of H.O.A.'s more talented Auxiliary Members, Lucille Seymour, in the following stanzas read at our past August H.O.A. Meeting:

"Heart of America Time"

by Lucille Seymour

There's nothing like a good 'old time,
Shared with others from time to time,
When one has the time!

Then there's the time
When one has no time
To fiddle 'round from time to time!

But, alas, how quickly slips away the time
When we get together for a "good 'ole time",
Speaking of "Heart of America" time!

But you who say you have no time--
Watch the 'ole clock tick away it's time!
Make your appointment to be there on time.

Only to find
They have no time for you!
You then wish you had taken the time,
To make that meeting of

"Heart of America Time"!!!
You sit and grumble with yourself
for a time,
And say---- "Next Time" ----
I'll be there at H.O.A. on time!

IN MEMORANIAM---

The entire Chapter wishes to express its sincere sympathy to Mrs. Ernest I. Motley of St. Joseph, Missouri, in the passing of her Husband this past week who was one of the charter members of our Heart of America Chapter, and a long time member of the National Association and the American Horologist. He was the second oldest member of our Chapter and a retired jeweler. He has made many contributions to ensure the success of our H.O.A. Chapter including writing an interesting article "Vacationland, U. S.A." which appeared in our January Report, 1963, covering their visit to the American Clock Museum in Bristol, Conn., and the "clock country" of Plymouth, Terryville, Forestville, and Waterbury, Connecticut. Even in the last years with failing health, the Motleys always managed to take in a couple of H.O.A.'s Meetings a year. Mrs. Motley, rest assured Mr. Motley will be in our thoughts and prayers and we hope to continue seeing you visit our Chapter Meetings, as everyone has always enjoyed your company in the past and hope to continue to do so.

Also, we would like to extend the Chapter's sympathy wishes to Hugh Vaughn (H.O.A.'s youngest member) and to Mrs. Vaughn in the passing of Mr. Vaughn recently. We received this information only this week so regret that our wishes have been so late in being extended. Mr. Vaughn has operated one of Kansas City, Kansas's finest clothing stores for a number of years. Although your Editor has only had the opportunity of meeting Mr. Vaughn once, let it be said that any gentleman who can show interest in promoting his son's interests and hobbies can be nothing but a really true man and one that we, as fellow collectors, know will be missed.

BY NOW, YOU HAVE PROBABLY ALREADY GATHERED THE NOTION THAT---

This Issue of the Report is dedicated to our famous H.O.A. AUXILIARY. It is these hard working women (the first watch and clock chapter Auxiliary formed in the N.A.W.C.C.) that have supplied your Editor with all these news items. And there are many more things to come so don't put this Issue of the H.O.A. Report down yet.

October 9th H.O.A. Meeting was another first for our H.O.A. Chapter. The Program for this Meeting was presented by one of the young ladies of our Auxiliary and was an outstanding development of the Ansonia Clock Company. This particular member is no

ordinary Auxiliary member--she is an authority on clocks of all kinds and probably one of the only members of H.O.A. who could have developed this particular subject so well. She was none other than Mrs. Marcia Bruer, the wife of our first H.O.A. President.

The Ansonia Brass and Copper Company instigated the Ansonia Clock Co. in 1841 under the leadership of Phillips with the sole purpose of selling more brass. Original home was Ansonia, Conn., but in 1878 the factory was moved to Brooklyn, N. Y. This was the period in which brass springs were being introduced and Ansonia successfully pushed their brass into every conceivable novelty type of clock, some which have become rather famous collector's items such as the Cupid Alarm (1882), the Swinging Ball Clock (1889), the Gravity Clock (1923), followed by the Plate Clock, the many many varieties of animated alarms, and even later, striking alarms. This is one of the few companies still in business today. At the present writing of this Report, the entire talk given by Mrs. Bruer is being prepared for press by our present President, Dr. Knauf, and we are anxiously awaiting the time when we can reprint it for all our members to enjoy. Information regarding the Ansonia Clock Company is really hard to find so this will be a worthwhile project when completed.

EDITORIAL---by your Editor who would welcome some comments on the views expressed!

We were honored by a recent visit to our Chapter by our National N.A.W.C.C. President, Mr. and Mrs. William Wadleigh, who was visiting the "grass roots" of our great national organization. His visit was indeed timely and informative, and our sincere thanks go out to Mr. and Mrs. Caspar A. Wagner who so generously provided their home for the get-to-gether that evening as was announced in the October Issue of the Report. Mr. Wadleigh provided us with a very informative evening of slides of rare clocks he has either had, does have, or has seen. His development of these unusual clocks was unique as well as interesting, and was climaxed by several close-ups of rare wagon springs. It was indeed a very educational evening as well as an evening for collector to dream on. And that is where my problem is centered.

Your Editor has had the pleasure of only one National N.A.W.C.C. Convention, but the "key-note" address that night defined clock and watch collectors as "specialist"---no, rather, he used the term "experts" in our fields. During Mr. Wadleigh's visit to our H.O.A. Land, he stressed "up-grading" our collections by selling lesser clocks to pay for more valuable clocks. Conceivably, some of our finest collections could then only consist of not more than twelve or so clocks...rarest unusual clocks. True, undoubtedly, this type of collector has deeply studied his clocks, but is he a collector or a student of clocks or watches??? To study a subject to its infinitesimal length does not make one a collector; rather, he becomes an authority. Are we collectors or students of clocks--that is the question and one that your Editor feels should be decided so that distinguishment can be made. Our National Association needs to take this into consideration. When one wishes to see a collection, he should be able to identify WHO is a collector. When one needs advice or information, he should be able to locate those WHO are authorities. How do we solve this delima? Can someone help??

HOW ABOUT SPREADING AROUND A LITTLE CHRISTMAS CHEER---

Word reached us thru our many sources of supply that the following members are a bit under the weather; Mrs. Lough of Turner, Kansas, slipped last week and broke her left arm. Mrs. Monroe in Versailles, Mo., had a slight accident a month or so ago and broke her arm. Mr. Caspar Wagner is again a patient in St. Joseph's Hospital here in Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Sol Williams of Kansas City is beginning to get out and about. The last report we received said he was "having a ball catching up on his watch work" and that he had a nice repair business going. Funny, a collector is one who is never caught down and out. Somehow, we've always got something we "want to do". I'll have to admit that I've got enough of my own little jobs put a way to keep me busy the rest of my life--that is, if I live long enough, say to 150 or so.

Anyway, quite a few of our H.O.A. Members hit the trail to West Lafayette, Ind., several weeks ago, and several attended the St. Louis Chapter Meeting last week. When one of the traveling H.O.A. Chapter members hits in someone's area who is presently laid up, how about keeping the news flowing. One thing about the local chapters is that we can keep well informed on the latest in collecting, and I can tell you, everyone is interested.

At the October Meeting of H.O.A., Mr. Holland gave a blow by blow account of the fascinating happenings at the last Cherokee Chapter Meeting which was an all-day affair. They had informal discussion before and after dinner (Mr. Holland was guest speaker at one of the afternoon programs on door glasses which he has agreed to give for our H.O.A. February Program), with some mighty good clocks on display in the Exhibit as well as on the Auction which was the concluding event of the day following the big banquet that particular evening. They even had live entertainment which consisted of some outstanding indian dances.

Ed Trapp, a new H.O.A. Member from St. Joseph, described some of the unusual clocks and museums he toured enroute recently to Chicago. It is amazing what turns up at H.O.A. Chapter Meetings. Our collectors bump into almost every type of time-telling devices known to man and hardly a meeting goes by but what someone doesn't bring up a new discovery. That is what makes the traveling H.O.A. Chapter so interesting.

WHEN YOU ARE IN THE AREA----

Don't forget to lock up some of the new N.A.W.C.C. members and invite them to come to our meeting. We would like to invite all the following new N.A.W.C.C. Members to come to our big Christmas H.O.A. Meeting December 11th (place of meeting and time later in this Report) and to ask all you who are in one another's are to go visiting:

Mr. C. D. Acrea 1514 Main St. Parsons, Ks. 67357	Mr. F. L. Andersen 5530 Oak Kansas City, Mo. 64113	Mr. Alfred Brod 2510 Kent St. St. Joseph, Mo. 64505
Mr. H. F. Burgess 815 S. 78th St Muncie, Ks. 66057	Mr. Arley Cleveland 720 S. Roney Carl Junction, Mo. 64834	Mr. B. N. Forester Box 322 Eminence, Mo. 65466
Mr. A. H. Hansen 611 West 63rd Kansas City, Mo. 64113	Mr. Guy E. Holt, Jr. Box 709 Hutchinson, Ks. 67501	Mr. Jesse James 3144 Range Road Wichita, Ks. 67215
Mr. H. C. King 630 Ewing Kansas City, Mo. 64125	Mr. James E. Mentola, Sr. 135 AA RR 1 Waynesville, Mo. 65583	Mr. Dennis L. Myers 9937 Truman Rd. Independence, Mo. 64052
Mr. Clarence E. Parsons 1006 E. 21st Ave. North Kansas City, Mo. 64114	Mrs. Helen Thurber 101 Ceil Rd. Topeka, Ks. 66617	Mrs. Ma M. J. Wells 14435 Laguna Wichita, Ks. 67230

SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS ARE BUSY AS AUXILIARY SETS THE STAGE FOR DECEMBER 11TH----

This Christmas Party planned for H.O.A. promises to be unusual having something in it for everyone. The December H.O.A. Meeting will take place at the Charl Mont Cafeteria in their special dinning room on December 11th. The Charl Mont Cafeteria is located at 36th Broadway in the Valentine Shopping Center here in the heart of Kansas City, Missouri. NOTE: Members may begin arriving anytime after noon that day. Come early, as on display will be one of the biggest and finest collections of watches in this area. Mr. Lee Seymour is bringing an exhibit of stupendous proportions that will include not only the rare watches of the World (those who have seen his collection will attest that he really does have some of the rare ultra-expensive ones) and watches from every State in the Union. He will be there early setting up two high display

cabinets of watches, and has a program planned that will delight both the young and the "young in spirit".

Our last meeting held October 9th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. McClure in Overland Park, Kansas, brought out the collectors in droves to see the magnificent clocks and works of antiquity that the McClures have restored. That Meeting, so we are told, lasted a whole week with people still coming a week later. The McClures were the most gracious hosts we could have asked for and the clocks they have would make any collector envious. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour realize that Blackwell, Oklahoma, is a long way for our Chapter to travel enmass, so they are bringing their collection to us. Invite all your clock and watch collector friends to come, enjoy a good meal with fellow collectors, join the fun of learning that goes with every meeting, and then partake in one of the unique H.O.A. Programs. This will be undoubtedly the highspot of the collector's Christmas Holidays.

Oh yes, something else was brought out at the last meeting that might be of interest. As everyone of the old collectors realize, there has been almost a 200% increase in prices and values of these old time-tellers we are so interested in over the last ten years. It was also brought out that now, about the only real source of supply available to us collectors is from other collectors. The old clocks and watches have pretty well "been discovered" and are residing in someone's collection (Antique Shops do not hardly stock them as they can't find them anymore). Due to the size of the exhibit at our coming December Meeting, we are asking the members not to bring exhibit --other than some of their unusual watches--but if they have any items they wish to sell, they can bring these for the "For Sale" Table if they wish. Of course, all dickering will be strickly up to the individuals involved.

P.S. This is the time to bring your contribution to the Door Prizes that will be used throughout the year. Please put them in the box provided and be sure they are marked "Man", "Lady", "Home" or "Perishable".

H.O.A. HAS GROWN SOOOOO BIG---

We now have over 62 H.O.A. Chapter Members, with seven new members joining this past month. A new roster is in the planning but with the many revisions, we have decided to set January 1st as our cut off date for this new roster. But, for your convenience, we are listing some of the newest H.O.A. Members to be added to your old H.O.A. Roster as the new one will probably not be ready until next summer.

Mr. & Mrs. Howard A. Bell, 2315 Harris, Independence, Mo. 64052

Mr. & Mrs. E. W. Bishop, 205 N. Holden, Warrensburg, Mo.

Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Boren, 7139 Sycamore, K. C., Mo. 64133 "All Clocks"

Mrs. Boren likes sewing

Mr. James Frizzell, 1316 $\frac{1}{2}$ McGee, K. C., Mo.--Driver for Continental Bus "All Clocks"

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Luke, 1310 Bryson, Independence, Mo. 64052 "All clocks"

Mrs. Luke likes glass and antiques

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond L. Miller, Gallatin, Mo. 64640--Retired "All Clocks"

Mr. & Mrs. Huell Warren Jr., 3806 Northwest 62nd Terr., K. C., Mo. 64151

"Drop Octogon Clocks"

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weaver, Holden, Mo. --Jeweler "All watches & Clocks"

Mrs. Weaver likes antiques

Mr. David Weaver, Holden, Missouri

Well, fellow collectors, that's it. We'll see all of you Sunday, December 11th anytime after noon at the Charl Mont Cafeteria. To all of you, we wish to extend a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hope that Santa brings you just the item you need for your collection.

Sincerely,

Clement C. Wagner, Editor of H.O.A. Report