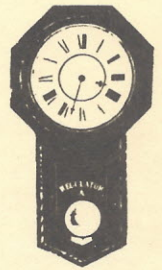


N. A. W. C. C.



Heart Of America Chapter Number 36

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

H. O. A. REPORT, June, 1969

Hello, all you wonderful collectors:

Have you been doing any collecting lately? From the reports we have been receiving the collectors are all busy, they have been collecting, and there are items to be found if one is willing to do a bit of looking. This Report is a composite of several members and I think that when you are through, you will agree that H.O.A. definitely has not been sitting still. Maybe its due to the leaders of our Chapter, and maybe its due to the members of the Chapter.

The H.O.A. Executive Committee met recently and we are happy to announce that June 8th will find us holding our regular ly scheduled June Meeting at Shelter House #1 in Antioch Park in Johnson County (directions later) with the picnic to begin at Noon until 2 p.m. when a short meeting will be held. Bring all the family the kids, grandmother, aunts and uncles and anyone else who loves a good time and good fellowship. Plenty of activities and the program will be put on by us--tools you have found, or gimicks, or ideas you have found in repairing that have been effective. You might even bring along a clock problem or two. As for the Calendar Clock exhibit, this has been postponed until the October Meeting. Oh yes, there will be door prizes for the men and women so plan on coming.

TIME NOT OF THE ESSENCE

Our Editor has asked me, a comparatively new NAWCC Member, to write a space filler for our June Issue of H.O.A. Report. Since I have no words of wisdom for those of you who, in general, are wiser and more experienced in horology than Sarah and I, a "backward glance" will be undertaken.

(Editor's note: This is submitted by Mr. McLaughlin, a lawyer of some reknown here in Kansas City who has written the Estate Code for the State of Missouri and who probably has as many of these stories up his sleeve as Bill Bruer has and we sincerely hope that this will not be the last he sends us.)

My story (as told to me) concerns a certain Uncle George, a native in "them hills and hollers" of South Missouri. With the advent of prohibition, Uncle George (a 5th grade graduate) established himself as a liaison between city beverage consumers and country beverage suppliers.

It seems that the corn grew tall in the hollers, where it was measured in bushels. It was transported to the hills where a by-product thereof ~~was~~ measured in gallons. Now, Uncle George never grew corn, he never refined it and he never

transported a by-product of it. In fact, he abhorred unnecessary physical exercise. Yet, his uncanny ability to promote the entire process, and especially to divert the by-product around federal agent traps, brought him his certain predetermined commission from both distributor and consumer. All trade (in "them" parts) except strictly local, was arranged through Uncle George.

After about 15 years of successful operation prohibition was repealed. Uncle George, so far, had been able to profit and even survived three years of depression. What could he do now? Don't sell him short! Some of you will remember that there was also relief agencies, (three letter series), among them W.P.A. Structural organization of this agency was slow in reaching outlying areas but, thanks to Uncle George's past "connections", his area was among the first to receive allotments.

To reward Uncle George for "past favors" to certain folks, (now in key roles) he was assigned the position of area supervisor (actually a straw boss). In order to qualify it was necessary that he have a "timepiece". (AHA! HOROLOGY AT LAST). Uncle George seldom checked time by a clock or watch, nor did he own one. On sunny days he estimated it by old Sol. On cloudy days he "reckoned" it by his stomach (a sizable one). However, to meet the minimum requirement, our enterpriser exhibited a borrowed sundial. One of his superiors mildly protested that it would not tell time on cloudy days. Uncle George retorted that when clouds came up in his area it usually rained. His folks didn't work when there was any threat of bad weather. The sundial was, therefore, qualified as a "timepiece!".

Uncle George placed the sundial under the largest cedar tree in his county. When the sun shone upon the dial in the early morning he set his crewmen at labor (of a sort). When the sun shone upon it in the late afternoon he again set them at labor (same sort). In the interim period, they were at rest and refreshment. Time was not of the essence.

So passed the time with Uncle George, his timepiece and his crew, until W.P.A. was ultimately supplanted. Simultaneously therewith passed Uncle George. So ends my space filler (also a sizable one). Sarah and I wish all of you happy "timepiece" hunting.

----- W. Hugh McLaughlin -----

NOTE: All members who have not paid up your dues send that check for \$2.00 now!

Auxiliary Chairwoman announces meeting dates and places:

June 8--Antioch Park Shelter House #1 from noon until--

August--Tri-Chapter Meeting to be in St. Louis with announcements to follow.

Oct. 12--at Norman Karl's home, 10815 W. 96th Place, Overland Park, Kansas.

Dec. 14--at Dr. Knauff's home, 6511 W. 49 th, Roeland Park, Kansas.

ALSO: Place any orders for Chapter Letterhead Stationary and for clock dials with our Secretary, Norman Karl.

AND NOW---for the Sunday picnic June 8 th at Antioch Park in Johnson County, follow Highway 50 west out of Kansas City through Overland Park to the Antioch crossroad. Turn south (left if you are going west) on to Antioch and go south about a quarter of a mile. Do not take the first entrance to the Park but go on about two hundred feet farther south to the entrance just north from 66th Terrace. Turn left through the gates and the Shelter House is the first and only one on your left. Bring your own food and Chapter will provide pop, ice tea, and coffee. Hope we'll see you all.

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