



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY REGULATOR



CHAPTER 75 OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS, INC.

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May 2007

CLOCKS by S. D. Hodge

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Instruments for marking time have grown from the simple sundial of Ahaz, mentioned in the second book of Kings 20-11 and also Isaiah 38-8 (Date about 710 B.C.), to complicated recorders made of costly metals. Simple as the sundial is, it, or a variation of it, was used to tell time well into the nineteenth century in many country neighborhoods, where the "noon-mark" on the window-sill told the dinner hour.

Though romantic, the sundial was a fair-weather recorder only, and such mottoes as "Not without light", and "I mark only the sunny hours", were the kind which were chosen for inscribing on them.

In Egypt, Greece, Italy, Arabia, and China, traces of ancient sundials are still to be found. Dials cut on the walls of churches still are to be found in England, dating from Anglo-Saxon times. And, on many parts of the continent, quaint dials on churches mark the sunny hours, while modern clocks in the steeple tell the time on shadowed days and through the night.

The earliest mechanical contrivance for keeping time was the water clock. First used among the Eastern nations, they were introduced to Greece by Plato. One of these water clocks is now in the National Museum in Washington D.C. This form was used in the seventeenth century. It consists of a wooden frame with the hours marked on the sides. Two cords are attached to the top of the frame, the other ends being wound around the metal axis which passes through the drum. This drum contained water and was divided inside into a number of partitions, each with a small hole which allowed the water to drip out. When the drum is wound to the top of the frame, the force of gravity acting against the resistance of the cord causes it to revolve with great rapidity. To counteract this, the waster is introduced, which, falling from one partition to the next, causes the drum to revolve slowly, the axis pointing out the hours on the side of the frame. Scipio Nasica is said to have brought one to Rome in 157 B.C.. Among gifts sent to Charlemagne by the King of Persia in 807A.D. was a water clock which struck the hours.

Who was the first person to make a wheel clock, and when, history does not tell us. Boethius has that honor ascribed to him and the date given is 510 A.D. Stow says that clocks were ordered set up in the churches in 612. Clocks driven by weights are generally ascribed to Pacificus, Archdeacon of Verona in the ninth century. There are others whose claims are more or less valid.

Among the first clocks composed of an assemblage of wheels, of which there is no doubt as to age, is the clock in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, which was put up in 1286; one at Canterbury Cathedral in 1292; one at Exeter in 1300; and one in

the palace yard, London, of about the same period. All these were in England, but Froissart speaks of one at Courtrai, France, which was taken to Dijon by Philip, Duke of Burgundy, in 1370.

Viollet-le-Duc remarks that from the twelfth to the fourteenth century, no space was arranged in church towers for dial plates. Still, there were clocks in many towers, but they were without dials. They only struck the hours. The act of striking was often performed by a wooden figure several feet tall, which beat upon a metal bell.

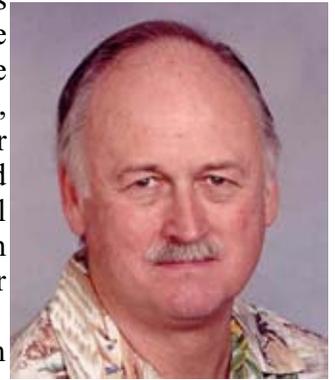
Clock making was not confined to England and France. Saladin, of Egypt, in 1232 presented to Frederick II of Germany, a clock run by weights and wheels, which showed figures which represented the sun, moon, and other planets and the twelve signs of the Zodiac.

In 1368, in the palace of Abu Hammou, Sultan of Tlemcen, was a clock ornamented with figures carved from solid silver. The first of the celebrated Strassburg clocks was begun in 1350.



In the charming, old, mediaeval city of Rouen in France is a most famous street called "Rue de la Grosse Horloge". The clock which gave its name to it, was placed in a round-arched gateway surmounted by a tower, which it is said was finished in 1527, but this was not the first structure to hold the clock. The first was made by Jehan de Fealins in 1389. It has been carefully looked after, and with some slight modifications, is still an excellent timekeeper. It shows the hours, the days of the week, and the phases of the moon. The handsome dial is about six feet square and is surrounded by a circle of fine ornaments. It is still the chief clock in the city, nothing modern being allowed to usurp its place.

May 2007 President's Message



The Chapter owes a big thank you to Dennis Contreras for his support and volunteer work for the Chapter. At this year's Stage Coach Inn Antique Fair Dennis evaluated 15 time pieces. In fact, because no one brought in any clocks for evaluation, Dennis did all the evaluations. He and Carol got up at 4:00 a.m. in Palm Desert to drive all the way to Thousand Oaks for the Fair and then home again. Thanks you, Dennis for all your support.

Jim Gilmore organized the Chapter's booth at the fair. Jim was honored at the Founders Day parade as "Don Triumphant, Man of the Year". Jim and Barbara rode in the parade in a fancy car and waved at the crowds. Jim is also on the Stage Coach Inn Board of Directors and is former Park Designer for the City of Thousand Oaks.

Toni Moss also volunteered to evaluate Antiques Dolls at the Fair and did a great job. We would also like to thank Jim Chamberlain, Marshall Knowlton and Chris St.Dennis for lending their support at the Fair. We all had a great time, the weather was great and it was nice visiting with the fair goers. Chris and I picked up a very nice rod iron Malibu Tile table to cap the day off.

We will have the induction of our new chapter officers this month. Ken McWilliams will take over as your President. Bill Robinson will be our new Vice President. Kathy Sheffrey is our new Secretary and I will be filling in as Treasurer. They have some new ideas and we look forward to working with them to improve chapter services and events.

This is my last message as your President. I want thank all of you for your support over the last 4 years and I have enjoyed all my time serving as your President. Chapter 75 is the best NAWCC chapter, period. The level of dedication of our volunteers over the years is what has made our chapter great. Without the help of people like Harry and Phyllis Larson, Bernie McCabe, Fred Lipman, Jim Gilmore, Jim Chamberlain, Marshall Knowlton, Barbara Morse, Virginia Norwood, Betty May Ward, Robert Gary, Ken McWilliams, Tony Moss, and Chris St.Dennis my job would have been virtually impossible. Thank you all and I look forward to more horological events and fun in the future. Thanks. Kim 🌕

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Web Site:

www.nawcc-75.com

REGULATOR E-MAIL:

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DID YOU KNOW?

- MAY 6** Design patent for style "Oriental" by E. Ingraham was obtained in 1873
- May 7** George W. Bartholomew, Connecticut clockmaker, died in 1897 at the age of 92.
- May 8** Aaron D. Crane, New jersey clockmaker, born in 1804.
- May 11** The Dudley Watch Company was founded 1920.
- May 12** Elgin National Watch Co. founded 1874, Elgin, Illinois
- May 13** Design patent for E. Ingraham's "Mosiatic" obtained, 1871

BOOK REVIEW

The Clock and Watch Makers American Advertiser (Being a compilation of Advertisements of the Trade, including those of the Mathematical and Philosophical Instrument Makers, Published in the News-Papers of the American Colonies and States, from AD 1707 to 1800)

By J. Carter Harris

Antiquarian Horological Society, Ticehurst UK, published 2003, ISBN 0 901180 42 4, 51cm x 22cm, 544 pages, Name Index, Subject Index, Date Index. Available at AHS, <http://www.ahsoc.demon.co.uk/pubs.html> UKP 36 (nonmembers)/UKP 24 (members), plus shipping. Lending copy available at the Library and Research Center in Columbia PA (<http://www.nawcc.org>).

Anybody looking for another pretty book about historic American horologists need read no further, there are no pictures in this book, and the layout is strictly utilitarian. But if you are a serious horological researcher, if you are somebody who craves access to hard to find primary source material, you will feel deep gratitude that Carter Harris (currently the Curator at the National Watch and Clock Museum in Columbia PA) in the late 1970s and early 1980s must have spent countless hours sifting through dusty old volumes of major American Newspapers of the 18th century, painstakingly transcribing every advertisement he could find relating to clock and watch makers and related trades

This labor of love produced 480 pages, containing the transcripts of 2175 advertisements by over 800 tradesmen. The compilation covers the time before and after the American revolution, when there was no horological "industry" in America, just a few scattered immigrant clock and watchmakers trying to squeeze out a living under difficult circumstances. Most components and materials, even basic ones like brass or steel, were imported and scarce, and demand for timepieces was limited. The advertisements provide a rare glimpse into an aspect of horological history, which up to now has been barely documented, into a time when communication and transportation systems were virtually nonexistent, and the only market was local.

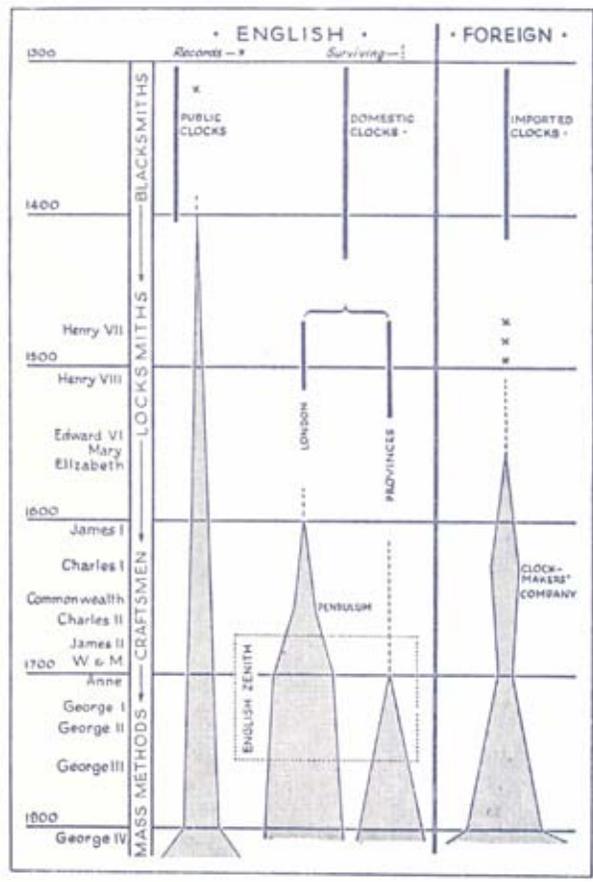
These ads run the full scale of detailed product descriptions (often of a specific piece currently for sale), announcements of new business ventures, openings for apprentices, offering of repair services, and the announcements of the captains of trading ships that had reached American ports with varied lists of goods, including horological pieces and related materials. A limited, but fascinating number of entries amount to political lobbying for (or against) certain trade policies and import duties. The advertisements also offer interesting insights into what other non-horological- products and services these craftsmen offered in this period.

Thanks to the comprehensive indexes the book also is a major reference work providing details on the life, products and business practices of early American horologist unlikely to be found in any of the traditional reference books. Unless you enjoy spending hundreds of hours perusing the historic newspapers yourself in spite of a price of about US\$65 (non-members of AHS, plus shipping)- this book is a good buy. It is a "must-buy" title for any horological library that aims to be a research tool.

Given the propensity of the average reader to prefer ready-made, pre-digested information over access to original source material I am afraid that this book never will be a horological bestseller. Indeed 15 years have passed between the completion of the text and its publication, probably an indication of reluctant publishers. All-the-more the author and the British based Antiquarian Horological Society deserve our gratitude for taking the risk of publishing this important contribution to early American horology.

Fortunat F. Mueller-Maerki, pob 386, Sussex NJ 07461
February 28, 2004 Reprinted with permission 

PROGRESSION OF ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL CLOCKS



The above chart shows the progression of English and Continental clocks through the centuries, from circa 1300 to the reign of George IV. Changes in mechanical details are also shown.

CLOCKS ELSEWHERE

FRANCE



PARIS



Chapter 75 of the NAWCC Presents The 2007 Watch & Clock Mini-Mart

(The Mart is Open To Current Members Of The NAWCC & Their Guest)

★ OVER 70 TABLES ★
★ TOOLS ★
★ CONSIGNMENT TABLES ★
★ CLOCKS ★
★ WATCHES ★
★ BOOKS ★



★ SOFT DRINKS ★
★ SNACKS ★
★ FREE PARKING ★
★ FREE COFFEE ★
★ HOT DOGS ★

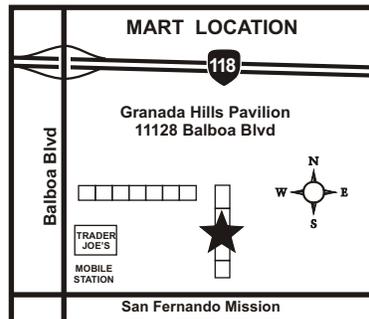
SUNDAY JULY 22, 2007

At the Granada Pavilion
11128 Balboa Blvd.
Granada Hills, CA

ADMISSION: \$5.00

TABLES: \$10.00

SCHEDULE	
11:00 A.M.	Mart Table Setup
11:30 A.M.	Mart Opens
2:30 P.M.	Mart Closes



**TABLE RESERVATION DEADLINE
JULY 20, 2007**

Mart Director: Toni Moss

Phone: (818) 407-1474

Fax: (310) 391-4463

E-mail: tdolls@aol.com

Sign up form

Make checks payable to: **San Fernando Valley Chapter 75**
Tables assigned on a first come bases.

Send this form & check to:
Chapter 75 Mini-Mart
8800 Eton Ave. #8
Canoga Park, CA 91304

THIS FORM MUST BY RECEIVED WITH PAYMENT BY JULY 20, 2007

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

NAWCC # _____ Phone: _____

	QTY	
TABLES	<input type="text"/>	X \$10 = <input type="text"/>
ADMISSION	<input type="text"/>	X \$5 = <input type="text"/>
	TOTAL	<input type="text"/>

What you missed at last month's meeting!

Jim Chamberlain discussed two very unusual helical skeleton clocks. Both clocks were present for everyone to see.

Ken McWilliams presented a Congreve clock made on plans presented in the book, "*How to Make a Congreve Clock*" by John Wilding. This complex task was made all the more difficult by an error in the instructions. After a succession of owners, Ken was able to finally complete the project. The result is an impressive and attractive clock of very unusual design.



The clock was merely a stock of parts when obtained by Ken McWilliams.



The basic frame was also complete upon its purchase by Ken.

CONGREVE CLOCK

Started sometime in 1984, completed April 2007

All parts made from raw stock per drawings provided in John Wilding's book, "How to make a Congreve Clock"

Worked on by at least the following people:

Howard Banta, Northridge

Art Holm, Lakewood (Machinists)

Henry Horne, Lakeview Terrace (Master Craftsman)

Bert Wieland, Woodland Hills

Renaissance Clock Shop, Solvang



The finished clock is truly impressive in both style and design!

You can see these clocks in color by requesting your copy of *The Regulator* be sent via email. Send your request to: robertsclockworks@verizon.net High speed access recommended.

WANTED

Will purchase your clock collection, all or part.
Call **Jerry** at (818) 986-1159

Brewster & Ingram 30 hour movements spring & weight. Also; Seth Thomas advance black adamantine, part or complete.
Call **Hugh Jay** at (805) 733-1858

Welch, Verdi: Case and Dial
Call **Hugh Jay** at (805) 733-1858 or write
P.O. Box 71, Lompoc, CA 93438

E. N. Welch - 8 day T/S & alarm movement mounted on wood blocks for beehive.
Call **Hugh Jay** at (805) 733-1858 or write
P.O. Box 71, Lompoc, CA 93438

Waltham 18s Appleton Tracy ca 1883 with gold flash movement.
Call **Glen Frizzi** at (818) 894-1960

Wanted: LeCoultre model clock in decent condition Rue de la Paix made in the late 70s or early 80s.
Call **Herman Berman** (818) 788-4230

WANTED: Chinese duplex or market pocket watches. Also verge fusee pocket watches and old enameled case watches.
Call: John Bolen (818) - 892-0633



RARE WOOD CASE LeCOULTRE ATMOS CLOCK
Good Condition and Running Fine. Call Jim Gilmore at 805-492-1827.
Asking \$2,200.00

SERVICES OFFERED

Mike Murray, certified clocksmith, will repair atmos and other clocks.
E-mail: mikem@atmos-man.com,
Web: <http://www.atmos-man.com>

Allen Perdomo repairs complicated watches in his new shop in Thousand Oaks. He also buys parts of aircraft clocks or complete aircraft clocks. Call him at (805) 495-3495
235 N Moorpark Rd, Suite D, Thousand Oaks

Nik of Time Clock Repair
Service and restoration of antique cocks and tower clocks. Member since 1991, 26 years experience. **Nik Pliagas** (800) 313-TIME
www.nik-of-time.com • pliagas@aol.com

Jorge Montoya **Complete Watch Service** **Center**

Repair & Restore all American & Swiss watches. 12 years as a Rolex technician. We maintain a complete shop with all the latest equipment.
Call **Jorge** at (562) 531-0545 • (562) 688-6171

Restoration, repair, sales of clocks and watches.
Ferdinand Geitner, mbhi, is owner and operator of "The Montecito Clock Gallery" now located at 1187 Coast Village road, unit 10a Montecito

FOR SALE

BUSINESS FOR SALE
Clock, Watch, & Jewelry Repair
ShopNorthridge area
Contact Eddy: 818-383-7901

OUT OF BUSINESS SALE
Ingersoll's Clocks and Antiques, 62 Palm Dr, Camarillo, CA. Over 50 wall, mantel, and long case clocks. Discounted 30%. Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 10:30 to 4:30. Call to confirm: 805-482-9936 or 805-484-8813.

FOR SALE

Antique Secretary Desk that can be used as a watch repair table, with lamp \$200



Mission Style Clock \$250

Bim Bam Vienna \$450
Jeanne Van Ausdall
(818) 886-4063

Chapter 75 Ladies Table

Dearest Ladies,
I would like to thank all the ladies who brought treasured items to sell at the "Ladies Table" last meeting. I hope you had a good time. Because we had so many items, we will have two tables for future meetings, so please join us. I would also like to thank Jeannie Van Ausdell for all her assistance in helping with the "Ladies Table". She suggested that all items be labeled with a price and the name of the seller. That way, if you want to look around, and one of your items sells, we will know whose it is. We look forward to sharing the tables with you and having a good time.
Chris St. Dennis

FOR SALE
TIMEX WATCH DISPLAY CASE
17" Diameter, 69" Tall
Excellent condition
You pick up in Westhills
Call Ed: 818-346-4688

"The less one has to do, the less time one finds to do it in"

Lord Chesterfield

MEETING LOCATION



Chapter 75 meets the 4th Sunday of every month, except December. **Visitors are welcome.** For more information, phone Kim St. Dennis at 818-349-8031.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Huell Howser / GLAR DVDs

Of the 2007 Regional
\$15 each at Chapter meetings

\$17 each by mail Mail

Send request & check to:

GLAR

730 North Valley Drive,
Westlake Village, CA 91362

Email inquires: greaterlaregional@yahoo.com

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

**Techniques for Photographing
Watches & Clocks**

by: Robert Gary

Set-up Time: 11:30-12:00 • Operating: 12:00 to 1:30

MEETING

1:45 -Program, Notices, Events

May 27

**THIS MONTH'S
MEETING:**



The Regulator
If Undeliverable return To:
2130 Saxe Court
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360