

San Fernando Valley REGULATOR

Chapter 75 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc.

The Little Clock that Won't

by Jim Chamberlain

As I write this I am listening to the firm tick of a small Seth Thomas time and strike clock movement. It has been happily running now for an hour and a half, striking as well. However I will not put my finger on the chopping block to aver to another hour or even ten minutes.

When the clock was brought to me too long ago, it had suffered a broken spring in the time train which damaged several teeth on the barrel and bent the arbor of the next wheel. The owner had attempted to straighten some of the teeth which only worsened the situation. So I took the movement apart and started with the barrel teeth and the bent arbor. Straightening the arbor was not too easy because the bend was primarily at the end of the pinion leaving little to press against. That done, I turned my attention to the bent teeth on the barrel. Standard procedure would be to cut out the five or six teeth and re-cut them in the new metal insert. but I found that it was possible to straighten them without loss of strength. When the barrel and driven pinion were tested together I found that it would be necessary to re-bush the barrel arbor hole because the barrel could move forward and back to change the depthing with the pinion. Going up the train, each pivot was checked for straightness and polished. I then assembled only the time train in the plates and tested the freedom of that train which appeared to be fine. When power was applied, the depthing of the pallets were too shallow but by moving the adjustable front pivot bridge that was corrected. Except now the escapement would catch randomly. I checked the truth of the teeth on the escape wheel but it was fine. I more closely

looked at the pallet faces and discovered that they had been "worked on" leaving a bad power face on the incoming side. I then added about one millimeter of steel to that face and verified that I could have the drop of the tooth land on the circular pallet face. The exiting pallet is a recoil form and so the angle of the power surface had not been altered. I then set the train assembly in my test stand and set the pendulum to beat. It ran only a short time before stopping. So apart and through the process of testing each wheel separately for end-shake, trueness, and any bent teeth. Then wheel one with pinion two, two with three, etc. I then re-bushed three holes which I had passed as ok the first time but that did not alter the random run time of the train. I have also found the following problems with the strike train: the count wheel was loose on its bushing enough for the count to vary from strike to strike during its sequence. Then the spring was too small to provide enough power. It also turned out that the wheel carrying the lifting pins was distorted where several of the pins had been placed. I rounded it up and wonder how the clock ever struck as built. I will tear down the movement for the unknown time and start my analysis as if I never saw the clock before. Perhaps the problem will suddenly appear and I will be able to clear my bench of the piece and start working on some of my own stopped clocks. When I started this story with the clock running -- it has now stopped again. One has a bit of ego involved after all these years of doing clock repair and mine is seriously bent by this one little movement that won't run.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Chamberlain

I would like to thank all of you who participated in our annual "Mini Mart" last month. The turnout was great, the tables were full of items to buy, and the hotdogs were delicious so a good time was had by all.

For our August meeting, I propose that you bring any tool or accessory you have made to aid or improve your clock and watch repair machines. Jigs, modified tools, special holders, and whatever makes repairing easier would be of interest. You can explain how you came about making it and what it does.

For those of you who do not do repair, perhaps you would like to at least know what is wrong with one of your clocks or watches. We intend to hold a pre-meeting problem analysis workshop to provide information about the condition of your item. It would start at 11:00 A.M. and hopefully be done by at least 12:30 P.M. so bring it in for us to look at.

Chapter #190 (Ventura) will be putting on an NAWCC "Suitcase" 101 class in October if you wish to learn repair of American open-spring clocks. If there is enough interest from members of our chapter, we also will be willing to put on these fully structured four-day classes sanctioned by the NAWCC and instructed by vetted persons.

Fliers will be on the entry table for other events being put on by other chapters in the area so always take a look there for full information. On October 22, the Santa Anita Chapter 116 is putting on their "Supermart" at the Arcadia City Community Center from 9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. so put that on your calendar an plan to attend.

Robert Gary, our editor, always needs material for this Regulator so please provide him with stories of your horological adventures. How about a special one of your clocks or watches or a watch or clock you just found. Just think of all the things you have experienced in your search for building your collections and I am sure that we would enjoy reading about them in this chapter paper.

Jim

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THE NAWCC NATIONAL CONVENTION 2012

Many of us have been members of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors for several years. As such, we receive the National Bulletin Magazine and Mart and attend a monthly Chapter meeting to browse through a Mart and perhaps stay on for an interesting program on some aspect of watch and clock collecting.

Southern Californians will attend a variety of Mini-Marts sponsored by several of the local chapters and if you are really involved will attend the annual Greater Los Angeles Regional in February of each year in Pasadena or the Southwest Regional in Del Mar in November of each year.

In 2012 the sponsoring chapters will not hold the Greater Los Angeles Regional in February, but will rather sponsor the 2012 National NAWCC Convention in June at the Pasadena Center.

This is an opportunity for California and the West Coasters to attend a National Convention that is usually held in the Mid- West or the East Coast. The National Conventions offer some opportunities that are not usually available in Regional shows.

The NAWCC Board holds a two- day Board meeting to begin the event and this is open to the membership so that you can follow the activities of our National Officers as they conduct the business of the Association. Several days later the Board holds the annual business meeting over a period of approximately two hours where the General Membership is invited to participate and ask questions of the Board as to the operation of the Association. This is an excellent time to ask questions and watch how the NAWCC Board of Directors responds to the membership in regard to the everyday operation and the future plans of the Association.

The National Craft Competition is a key element in the National Convention and it is amazing to see the work of your fellow collectors in restoration, reproduction and new design clocks and watches, along with reverse painting, painted cases and tool design. In the past several of our West Coast members, namely Gene Sizemore, Royce Hulsey, David Walter and Kim St Dennis, to name a few, won gold medals for their entries.

The Ventura County Chapter 190 plans to submit their restoration of the Santa Barbara County Center's Seth Thomas Tower Clock preservation project for judging. I can't believe that what they have done will not be a gold medal winner for restoration. Please plan to enter in the competition in 2012 to show what talented folks we have on the West Coast. See the National Craft Competition program on the NAWCC web site for details and levels for submittal.

The National display is always outstanding, and so far we have some outstanding considerations that we are working on to provide an outstanding display of unusual clocks and watches. Many of our local members have provided display items for our Regional and the Nationals in other locations.

The National programs always bring in some outstanding speakers and workshops. We have many offers for consideration from all around the country and some local participants that are known nationally. The seminars and programs will provide a good opportunity to hear some excellent speakers.

The Mart will be twice the size of our Greater Los Angeles Regional by using both Exhibit Halls "A" and "B." We will have a total of 725 tables with spacious aisles with a very large silent auction and consignment area. The Seminars and meeting rooms will be in the Center's Ballroom area along with various luncheons and receptions and the Awards Banquet will all be in the Ballroom complex. All will be central to the Mart activities. Additionally we will have an oral auction with a large selection of clocks and watches. Who knows, you may find that fabulous collectible that you have been seeking for years.

As a part of the National, we will have several of the FSW repair classes available on site Monday through Thursday (June 11 through 14) before the main show opens. Additionally we will have some one- day seminars covering such topics as gold leafing, clock case restoration and a beginning watch repair on Thursday June 14. We will be promoting these various options as we set them up based on the interest.

Additionally we are considering some tours of the Huntington Gardens and Museum, The Gamble House and the Norton Simon Museum. These will be at cost plus a transportation fee to attend.

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We will have a public day on Saturday similar to our regional and we plan to provide some evaluation of clocks and watches for the public as well as offer them the option of putting their clocks and watches on our Consignment Table.

The Pasadena Center is a prime location for a National with the many amenities located in the area. You should plan to attend and based on the table reservations and sign ups so far you need to plan to attend and sign up for any programs and tables as soon as possible as there seems to be a great deal of interest in attending the June 2012 National. We have a web site "2012 NAWCC

National Convention" with all of the information and we are getting many hits.

The basic dates are:

- *FSW Classes Monday, June 11 through June 14, 2010
- *NAWCC Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 12 and 13, 2012.
- *Watch Show by World Wide Traders Wednesday, June 13 through Thursday, June 14, 2012.
- *Special one day workshops on Thursday, June 14, 2012.
- *Mart set up and Early Bird entry on Thursday, June 14, 2012.
- *Crafts and Display open Friday and Saturday, June 15 through 16, 2012.
- *Seminars and meetings during the day on Thursday, Friday and Saturday June 14 through 16, 2012.
- *Mart opens and runs on Friday and Saturday June 15 and 16, 2012.
- *Award Banquet and closing on Saturday night June 16, 2012.

Co-Chairs for the 2012 National are:

Bob Linkenhoker of Corona, CA. and Jim Gilmore of Thousand Oaks, CA.

National Co-Chairs: Bob Linkenhoker and Jim Gilmore

ESTATE ITEMS FOR SALE

We have a collection of items from two estates that we will bring to the August meeting. There is a variety of clocks, coo-coo clocks and a variety of movements, case parts and other parts and pieces. You can expect to get some bargains along with some very collectible clocks that need restoration and some that were working fine, but have not been run for a long time and need oiling and adjustment. Plan to come to the meeting and let others know about the sale items, as we would like to move them on to someone that would like to work with them.



Hey, You're Invited

Santa Anita Chapter

116

SUPERMART

Saturday, Oct 22, 2011

9:30 A.M. Until 1:00 P.M.

Arcadia City Community Center

365 Campus Drive, Arcadia



Bring your own bag
(bottle water on every table)



Mart Opens for Trading at 9:30 A.M. - Setup Begins at 9:00 A.M.
Complimentary Coffee and Donut

Albert Umbrello - SuperMart Chairman

Admission—Per Person—Paid in Advance \$5.00 _____

Admission—Per Person —On Site \$7.00 _____

Six Foot Long Mart Table—Each \$15.00 _____

Special requests must be submitted together—no exceptions

Mart table fee does NOT include admission

All sellers must be NAWCC members and only two per table; please, no helpers during set up..

Total _____

Make Checks Payable To:
Santa Anita Chapter 116
Mail To: Albert Umbrello
4924 Bender Avenue
Covina, CA 91724
Phone 626.824.8825
eMail: lowall@aol.com

Name _____ NAWCC# _____ Phone _____

Guest _____ eMail _____

Address _____

City, St, Zip _____

Description of Sale Items:

Clocks, Watches and Related Tools Etc. Only. No rings, gems, coins etc.



July Mini-Mart

2





July Mini-Mart

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HISTORIC SET OF BREGUET POCKET WATCHES GO ON VIEW AT THE J. PAUL GETTY MUSEUM

Four timepieces by company founder go on display in Getty's world-renown permanent collection of French Decorative Arts through October



Typical movement of a "Souscription" watch. Calibre with centre going barrel, overhanging ruby cylinder escapement, pare-chute suspension and bimetallic thermal compensation curve on the index. Diameter: 57 mm. Sold in 1803 to Mr. Frankman, for the sum of 692 Francs.

The J. Paul Getty Museum announced today the loan of four pocket watches created by Abraham-Louis Breguet (1747-1823), founder of the Breguet watch company. These watches, part of the company's historic timepiece collection, date to the late-18th/early-19th- centuries and will join the Getty's display of French decorative arts in the South Pavilion at the Getty Center. They will be on view through October 2011.

Born into a Swiss family of watchmakers, A.L. Breguet trained in Versailles and Paris before establishing his own Parisian workshop in 1775. His beautifully crafted and technologically innovative watches set new standards of quality that appealed to discerning clients among the French royal family and scientifically minded elites, including Louis XVI and his queen, Marie Antoinette. As indicators of luxury and elegance, Breguet watches appear in works by Stendhal, Honoré de Balzac, Alexandre Dumas, Victor Hugo, and others.

In the decades following the French Revolution in 1789, Breguet's continuing efforts to improve the accuracy and durability of his time-keeping mechanisms won fresh recognition from new patrons throughout Europe and the United States who appreciated the reliability of his watches and the streamlined appearance of their design. He was responsible for several major inventions, for instance, in 1790 a component known as a "parachute" that acts as a shock absorber, the Breguet balance spring in 1795 and the famous tourbillon regulator in 1801.

"We are delighted to welcome these watches to our French 18th-century Decorative Arts galleries, where they will join other items treasured by Parisians of the era," said Antonia Boström, senior curator of Sculpture and Decorative Arts at the J. Paul Getty Museum. "The Getty's collection does not include personal timepieces and placing these objects within the context of our collection helps enliven the story we tell in those galleries of daily life through the exquisitely crafted objects found in the finest homes."

Although all four watches on view were sold and used in the 1800s, three of them were designed in the late 1700s. They are all from the Breguet Museum in Paris, which houses more than 100 timepieces and items related to the history of the House of Breguet.

"We are honored to share our cherished cultural heritage with visitors to the Getty Museum, and to convey the rich traditions of Paris in the 18th-century, in which Breguet played a very special role," said Breguet President, Marc Hayek. "That was the dream that led my grandfather Nicolas Hayek to found the Breguet Museum more than 10 years ago, a dream I'm proud to help continue."

Breguet is a sponsor of Paris: Life and Luxury, on view at the J. Paul Getty Museum at the Getty Center through August 7, 2011. The exhibition re-imagines, through art and material culture, the complex and nuanced lifestyle of elite 18th-century Parisians who made their city the fashionable and cultural epicenter of Europe. The exhibition travels to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston where it will be on view from September 18 to December 10, 2011.

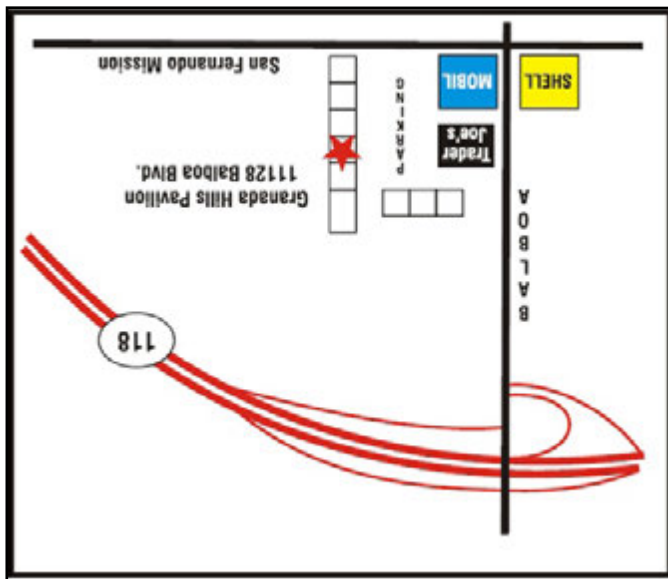
If undeliverable, return to:
7344 Bonnie Place
Reseda, CA 91335

Our Meeting is Sunday, August 28th

11:00 Workshop
12:00 Mart & \$5 Luncheon
1:30 General Meeting & Program

This month's meeting:
"Tools You Have Made for Watch
& Clock Repair"
**BRING THEM TO SHOW
AND DISCUSS.**

This Month: The Little Clock that Won't



Visitors are welcome!
For more information, contact Jim Chamberlain at (805) 495-5349
Please visit our website:
www.nawcc-ch75.com

Chapter 75 meets 4th Sunday of each month. There is no meeting during the month of December.