

Bytown Times

Volume 29, No. 1, January 25, 2009

ISSN 1712—2799

NEXT MEETING

WHEN:

Sunday, January 25, 2009
Meeting begins at 1:30 PM

WHERE:

Qualicum & Graham Park
Community Centre
25 Esquimault Ave., Ottawa

MEETING AGENDA:

- ANNUAL AUCTION:
your junk could be someone else's treasure!
- Show and Tell

Annual Holiday Party



On a chilly November evening, Georges and Patsy Royer opened their warm home to our chapter members by hosting our Annual Holiday party.

Chapter members passed a wonderful evening chatting and joking with each other, munching on delectable snacks, and taking full advantage of the chance to view Geroges' extensive collection. The evening was capped off with a raffle for a nice bottle of wine. On behalf of the chapter, I would like to thank Geroges and Patsy for hosting a great party!

More pictures on page 2...

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Annual Holiday Party	1&2
November Show and Tell	1&3
Clock and Watch Repair Course, Fall 2008	2
Paulette Occomore	3
Klaus Gotlob	3
Member Profile	4
November Meeting Highlights	5
Scottish Crown Jewels	5
Club Info & Contacts	6
Secretary's Corner	6
The President's Desk	6

November Show and Tell

To the right: Advertised at an estate sale as a French Portico Clock, Clayton Duff later identified his newly acquired timepiece as an 8-day Gravity Clock, made in London in 1910. Clayton secured a great deal for this purchase, paying less than a quarter of the clock's value — on a type of clock he's only come across this one time after 60 years of collecting!



To the left: John Ruhland showed the club his 12-hour, 18th century Black Forest Clock, which is currently in pieces, but is very much repairable. The clock has a wooden movement, and a crown wheel escapement.

Annual Holiday Party, Continued...



Update on Training Activities

May Lathe Course

The Lathe course being offered in May, 2009 is already full. If you are interested in attending, there is a waiting list. For more information, please either contact Erin Fox, or speak with Dan Hudon at the next chapter meeting.

*Course info provided by:
Dan Hudon*

Clock and Watch Repair Course, Fall 2008

In the early fall of 2008, Dan Hudon held his clock and watch repair course for some of our chapter members. These are pictures from that event.



Front row from left to right- Peter Dixon, Irena Dixon, Jean-Paul Tourigny, Dan Hudon, Kevin West. Back Row from left to right- Ray Springer, Gerald Smith, Ashkan Zandi, Paulette Occomore, Scott Whiteside.



Gerald Smith applies his newly acquired skills.

November Show and Tell, Continued...

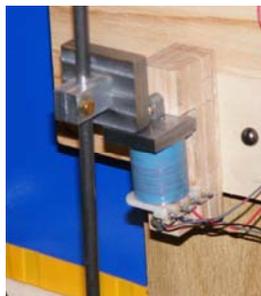
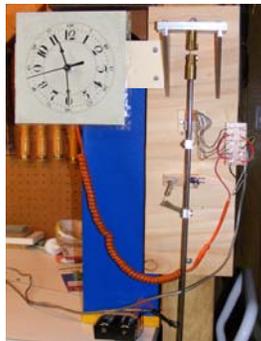
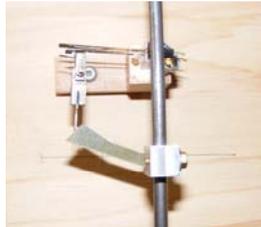
Brian MacDonald proved successful with his recent EBay purchase of 3 watches. The first is a 21 jewel, 14 carat, ladies' watch. The second is a 14 carat, 1950's Omega watch. The third is another Omega — a quartz watch. Two of the watches are pictured on the right.



Having first become interested in clocks after a visit to Alan Symons' museum in Deep River, Paul Williams embarked on a quest to build his own clock. At the November meeting, Paul gave an update of his progress. Here is what he had to say:

A year ago I described the Synchronome clock which I found at Chats Falls hydro generating station. I mentioned that I would like to build a clock based on the principle of the Post Office Master Clock type 36 which is similar to the Synchronome. I brought to the November 2008 meeting a selection of photographs to support my talk about my progress with the construction of the clock

Documents about the clock were found on the internet. However articles in Model Engineer 1968 and Clock Maker 1991 gave the best information. Relay contacts and coils are required. A friend suggested that an old Northern Electric 500 telephone set should fit the bill. A one meter pendulum with a 12 pound mass was made first. The key element of the clock is a Hipp Toggle and was made next. I had good information and it was easy to ma-



chine on the milling attachment of my lathe. Photograph 1 (top) shows my Hipp Toggle. Next was the Time Display. Lee Valley Tools provide a Clock Kit (Dial and Hands) 46K05.17 and a Quartz Movement 46K01.15. The movement was cannibalized to disable the quartz electronics and leave the electro-mechanical parts. Some contacts from the telephone were used to supply 1.5V to the dubious mechanism. This is shown in Photograph 2 (middle). Finally there was the magnetic mechanism to provide energy to the pendulum to keep the pendulum operating over a very small range of amplitude. The solenoid from the telephone was used to provide the energy. The original coil had a resistance of 3250 ohms. This did not do the job, even when supplied with 100V. The coil was rewound to 25 ohms. This worked and is shown in Photograph 3 (bottom). More work is planned to improve the operation. At this time, the operation of the clock has not been checked against the Canadian Standard provided by NRC via the radio station CHU.

*Article provided by
Paul Williams*

Paulette Occomore

Paulette Occomore was introduced to, and joined, our club after she placed a newspaper ad to sell some of her clock collection in the fall of 2007. She attended almost all the meetings, and even took a few of Dan's classes. Paulette died very suddenly on November 5, 2008. Paulette, with her quiet manner and warm smile, left us too quickly, and will be missed.

Message provided by Wally Clemens

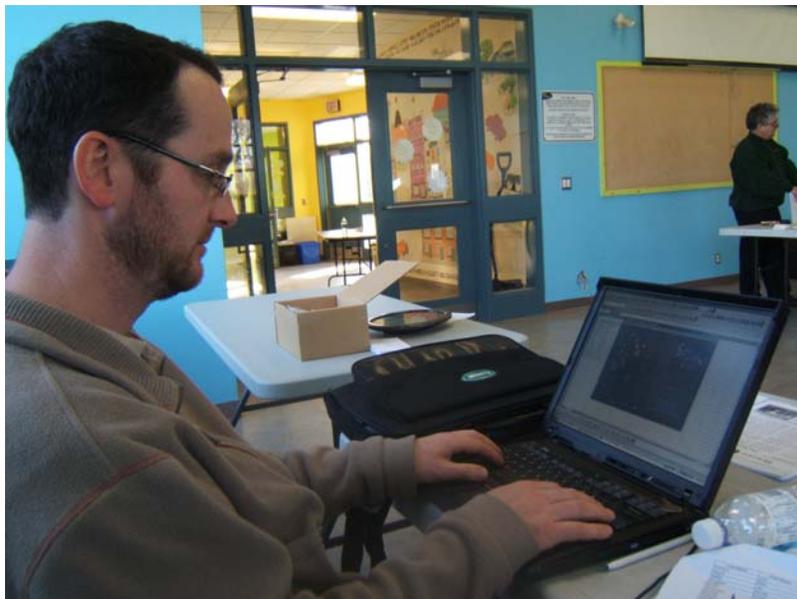


Klaus Gottlob

Klaus Gottlob was a long-time member of our club, but with failing health, was unable to remain active in our chapter. I did not have the pleasure of meeting Klaus, and cannot speak of his interests in horology. However, losing a member of our club is always heartfelt as we are as much a social gathering as we are friends with a similar interest in Time. Klaus died at the Maycourt Hospice on November 28, at the age of 74.

Message provided by Wally Clemens

Meet Our Members! Introducing: Grant Perry



Grant Perry, our Chapter Treasurer and Chapter Show and Display Coordinator, was born in a small farming community called Chapeau, in Quebec. Chapeau is located in the Pontiac, in western Quebec, across the Ottawa River from Pembroke, Ontario.

In 1974, Grant and his family relocated to a small town called Waltham, also located in Quebec. (Did this move foretell a future

passion...?) While in Waltham, Grant attended a very small elementary school (a school with only 15 students), then went to high school in Pembroke. Grant then attended Algonquin College first in Pembroke, and later in Ottawa, to which he relocated in 1991. Grant earned his Certified General Accountants (CGA) professional designation, and is currently working on a degree in commerce through Laurentian University.

Grant now works at Algonquin College as a Business Manager. Besides his work at the college, and his work with our chapter, Grant is also the founding Director and Treasurer for ACCESO INTERNATIONAL, a non-profit organization which promotes and enables greater access to all levels of education in Latin America and the Caribbean.

During the years he spent pursuing his intellectual and work-related goals, Grant met and married a lovely lady named Christine. He and

Christine have two boys, Jordan (14) and Joël (2).

Grant's interest in horology began when his father first showed him his great grandfather's pocket watch, a Waltham Model 83, 18 size, P.S. Bartlett. His interest piqued, Grant began collecting and repairing clocks and watches from that point on. Though he typically collects anything that ticks, his collection is focused on weight-driven regulators, Canadian clocks, calendar clocks, and railroad grade pocket watches. Much of Grant's skill at repairing clocks and watches is due to Dan Hudon's courses, and to a private clock repair course provided by the clockmaker and former curator of the NAWCC museum in Pennsylvania. Grant



has also brought interesting courses to us by organizing the Field Suitcase course held last year, as well as the next one, to be held this May.

After work, family, and his horological hobby, any other spare hours of Grant's time is spent pursuing his other interests, which include scuba diving, travel, genealogy, and general antiquing.

Information for this article was provided by Grant Perry.



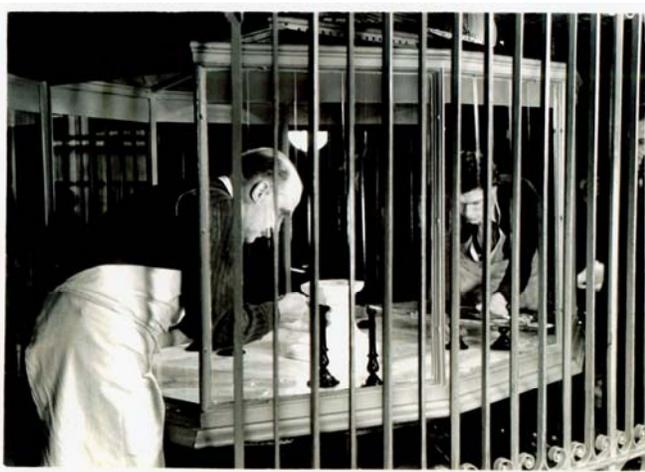
November 2008 Meeting: Pictures

Our last Chapter meeting was held Sunday November 23, 2008. Before the meeting, Ben Roberts gave a workshop on cleaning Wooden Clockworks. The meeting itself focused on Show and Tell items, where members Brian McDonald, Clayton Duff, John Ruhland, and Paul Williams all shared their latest and greatest finds. Mart tables were also set up.



Scottish Crown Jewels

In the September 2008 issue of the Bytown Times, we were introduced to chapter member Bill Pullen in our "Meet our Members" column. In the article, we learned that, as a young man, Bill had the fantastic and very rare opportunity to handle and clean the Scottish Crown Jewels, as part of his work as an apprentice in a jewelry manufacturing facility and clock and watch repair workshop in Edinburgh. These are pictures of this very memorable event.



Club Information

This club acts as a meeting place for antique clock and watch enthusiasts. Members are interested in a wide array of topics: some collect, some do research, some do repairs.

Formal club meetings take place five times each year, on the fourth Sunday of every second month, with a break in the summer. Meetings are held in January, March, May, September, and November. Doors open at 1:00 PM.

Club members also enjoy two annual social events: a Wine and Cheese party each November, and a Picnic BBQ each July.

Courses on clock and watch repair are held throughout the year.

The Bytown Times is published five times each year.

Annual Dues for club membership is \$16. Club members should also have memberships to the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC). NAWCC Dues are U.S. \$65.

Club Officers & Contacts

President & Librarian: Wally Clemens
Box 311, 4970 Opeongo Road, RR#3
Woodlawn, ON, K0A 3M0
(613) 832-3085

Vice President: Patrick Bigras

Auditor: Georges Royer

Membership Chair: Veronica West

Secretary &

Bytown Times Writer & Editor: Erin Fox

Treasurer &

Show and Display Coordinator: Grant Perry

Immediate Past President: Maynard Dokken

Program & Social Director: Tim Bryans

Education & Workshop Chairman: Dan Hudon



Notes from the President's Desk

I hope you had a great 2008 and that 2009 will be even better, that you locate that special watch or clock or that missing part appears and fits perfectly. Well, don't forget that the first meeting of this new year is also our annual mart and auction. Yep, all your wishes for this new year could be filled at our next meeting, (Robbie Burns' Day), Jan 25th. So bring us yesterday's treasures and go home with today's treasures. Parts, tools and broken horological things can be recycled.

I would like to thank Grant Perry for accepting the position of Show and Display Coordinator. Lets all give Grant our support as it is through these events that the public is introduced to our club and members.

We will continue to hold our meetings at the Qualicum & Graham Park Community Centre for another year. However, rumour has it that next year we may have to relocate. This should open discussions as to whether we should meet in a more central location?

We have instituted the members link on our web site. This is optional and might be viewed as a value added feature, however one must be a member in good standing of both the National and our Chapter 111.

Don't forget to bring a dry pair of shoes as we request that overshoes be left at the door. See you there.

Secretary's Corner I would like to thank Wally Clemens, Grant Perry, Charlie Beddoe, Ben Roberts, and Paul Williams for their contributions to this issue, in the form of excellent pictures, and valuable information and articles.

I would like to welcome members to submit articles for the newsletter. Articles and pictures can be emailed to me at: erinfoxnawcc111@gmail.com Please don't forget to visit our website as well: www.ottawaclocksandwatches.ca