

Bytown Times

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NEXT MEETING

WHEN:

Sunday, May 24, 2009

Meeting begins at 1:30 PM

Workshop begins at 11:00 AM

WHERE:

Qualicum & Graham Park
Community Centre

25 Esquimault Ave., Ottawa

MEETING AGENDA:

- Allan Symons will speak about Canadian Horology
- Chapter Constitution and By-Laws
- Show and Tell

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The World of Horology: A Clock and Watch Exhibit at the Nepean Museum

From April 12th through May 31st of this year, our Chapter is providing a Clock and Watch Exhibit at the local Nepean Museum. Chapter Treasurer (and an avid member of our group), Grant Perry, organized the exhibit.

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May Workshop: Building Lantern Pinion Bodies

As announced at the last meeting, the May workshop will focus on building lantern pinion bodies as found on most American clocks. Two types will be discussed - a one piece body and the traditional two piece.

This workshop is intended as a demonstration, however, members willing to make their own lantern pinion bodies are welcome to bring their tools and supplies and give it a try.

The workshop will begin at 11 am and end at 12:30 pm.

Nepean Museum Exhibit, continued...

Many members loaned materials of all kinds for the exhibit, including mantle clocks, alarm clocks, wall clocks, and periodicals and books discussing horology. During the display period, some chapter members were present for two open house sessions to give general information on clocks and/or watches brought in by the public for their assessment.



Though time is running out, if you would like to visit the exhibit before it closes, you can visit the Nepean Museum at 16 Rowley Avenue, Mondays through Fridays from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, or Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

Photos by Ben Roberts.

Update on Training Activities

Fall 2009 Introduction to Clock Repair Course

Dan Hudon is currently collecting names for those who may be interested in attending the Introduction to Clock Repair course this Fall. The course would be held in the Bells Corners area of town. More details will be available at the May meeting. Please note the course will only run if enough participants sign up for the course.

Course and Workshop info on pages 1 and 2 provided by Dan Hudon

March 2009 Meeting: Westclox Show and Tell Event

The main feature of the Chapter 111 meeting on March 22 was a Show and Tell session focused on Westclox clocks. Allan Symons brought six Westclox Wee Winkie series children's clocks and three learning clocks from the collections at The Canadian Clock Museum. The learning clocks made by TOMY (two versions with analogue and digital time) and Fisher Price were useful for teaching young children how to "tell time".

There were eight different Wee Winkie models of children's clocks made by Westclox in their American factory in the mid to late 1960s. Most were introduced in 1965. These were imported by Westclox Canada for sale in this country as well. A scan of the CHILDREN'S CLOCKS page from the American 1967-1968 catalogue was circulated to the thirty-four members at the meeting. The six very colourful models in the display were **Jumbo Alarm** (windup alarm), **Little Red Barn** (windup animated wall), **Circus Parade** (electric wall), **See-Saw** (windup animated wall), **The Grenadiers** (windup animated alarm), and **Hickory, Dickory, Dock** (electric wall).

Allan is still looking for examples of the **Block Clock** battery-operated wall clock and the **Fairy Tale** model windup animated alarm clock with Cinderella (the girls 'model to match the boys' The Grenadiers). Both of the latter models have a spring-driven rotating platform with plastic figures and music box that plays Beautiful Dreamer or Parade of the Wooden Soldiers, respectively.

The most expensive models were The Grenadiers and Fairy Tale at \$15.95 in the 1967-1968 American catalogue. The cheapest was the Circus Parade at \$5.98. Apparently most of these models were available for just a few years within the time frame 1965 to 1973. Only the popular Little Red Barn was made for the full eight years. References: Westclox: An Identification and Price Guide, Gary Biolchini, Schiffer Publishing Ltd, 2003; Westclox Wind-up Clocks, Pocket Watches, Wrist Watches, Jim Linz, Schiffer Publishing Ltd, 2003.

information and close-up photos provided by Allan Symons



Above: Allan and his display



Above: "The Grenadiers"



Above: "Hickory, Dickory, Dock"



Above: "The Little Red Barn"



Above: "See-Saw"

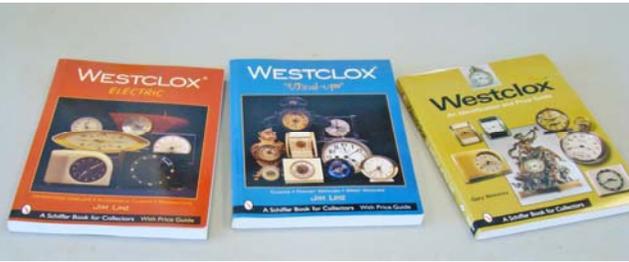
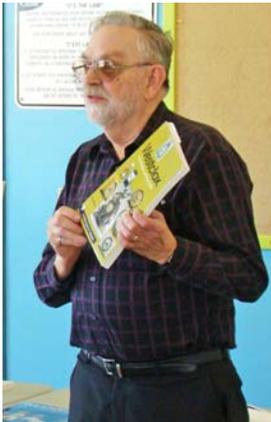


On the Left: "Circus Parade"

On the Right: "Jumbo Alarm"



March 2009 Meeting: continued...



Above and to the left: Maynard Docken presented three Westclox books.

Above: Charles Beddoe brought his Scottish Westclox clock.



Above and to the right: Brian Hollebhone discussed 1930's—1940's clocks including travel clocks made under the Seth Thomas label but sold through Westclox, ladies' dressing table clocks, the "Tiny Tim" clocks, and high quality art-deco style clocks.

Above: Allan Symons brought a sample of a Westclox auto watch that can be attached to the dash of a car by magnet.

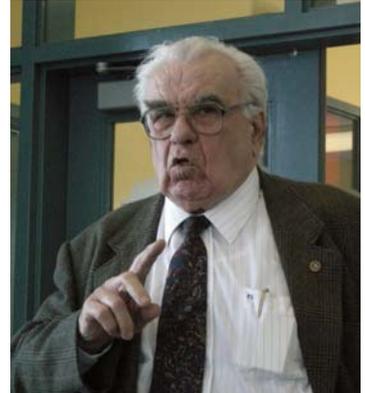


To the left: Ben Roberts presented a book about British Military timepieces.



To the left: Dan Hudon discussed a couple of articles he found in the February and March issues of "Clocks" magazine. The first article covered an innovative mainspring winding system; the second article discussed French clocks.

Below and below-left: more pictures from our March meeting.



NAWCC Charter and Chapter 111 Constitution and By-Laws

The new NAWCC Chapter Charter was presented to our Chapter 111 this winter, and was followed by a debate and vote at the March 2009 meeting. It has been decided that Chapter 111 will accept and sign the NAWCC Chapter Charter with the following exceptions: should such a situation arise, any litigation is to take place in, and be governed by the laws of, Ontario, Canada; and should there be a discrepancy between the NAWCC Chapter Charter and our own Chapter 111 By-Laws, our Chapter 111 By-Laws will take precedence.

It was deemed important that our Chapter 111 By-Laws take precedence over the NAWCC Chapter Charter, as we will use these By-Laws to describe the make-up of our club, specifically addressing the conditions of membership (many of our members are not members of the NAWCC—a condition we would like to continue to allow). A draft of the Chapter 111 Constitution and By-Laws is being mailed to all chapter members with this issue of the Bytown Times. Please take the time to review the Constitution and By-Laws before the May meeting, as we will discuss them at that time, and will eventually put them to vote. If you cannot make it to the May meeting and wish to voice questions or concerns regarding the Constitution and/or By-Laws, please contact Wally Clemens or Erin Fox (contact info on page 6) no later than the morning of May 24th, 2009.

NOTICE: A friendly reminder that we will soon be moving our meetings to a new location. Please watch for the new meeting place to be announced in the next issue of the Bytown Times.

Annual Picnic Reminder

July is just around the corner, which means our Annual Picnic is only a few short weeks away... keep an eye on your mailbox for your invite!



List of Local Supply Shops

- Metal Supermarkets: 2900 Old Sheffield Rd., Unit 1, Ottawa, 613-747-7511, www.metalsupermarkets.com
[All metal, sheets, rod plates, in small amounts]
- Dowd Supply Co.: 36 Rosemount Ave., Ottawa, 613-236-9493, www.dowdsupply.com
[Jeweler's Tools, and Equipment (Grobet USA)]
- Lee Valley Tools: 900 Morrison Drive, Ottawa, 613-596-9202, www.leevalley.com
[Tools and round Brass Stock]
- Fastenal: 6 Bexley Place, Unit 102, Ottawa, 613-288-1470, www.fastenal.com
[Some Metal]
- Busy Bee Tools: 2251 Gladwin Cres., Ottawa, 613-526-4696, www.busybeetools.com
- Legere Industrial Supplies Ltd.: 1120 Morrison Drive, Ottawa, 613-829-8010, www.legereindustrial.com
[Machine mechanical supplies]
- Ottawa Fastener Supply Ltd.: 175 Robertson Road, Ottawa (Bells Corners), 613-828-4117, www.ottawafastenersupply.com
[All metric and standard fasteners, Tools]
- Dynamic Hobbies: 21 Concourse Gate, Unit 6, Ottawa, 613-225-9634, www.dynamichobbies.com
[small brass rods and small diameter piano wire]

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



Secretary's Corner

I would like to thank Wally Clemens, Ben Roberts, Charles Beddoe, Dan Hudon, and Grant Perry for their contributions to this issue, in the form of excellent pictures, and valuable information and articles.

As usual, I would like to welcome members to submit their own articles for the newsletter. Topics can be anything: a review of your collection with pictures, a summary of some research you've gathered, 'how-to' or instructional information, museums and other horological sites you've visited, etc. 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

Notes from the President's Desk

Pat is stepping down from the position of Vice President of the OVWCC. A big thank you to Pat who, although he worked in the background, will be greatly missed by myself and the other executives.

It is with regret that I must inform you of the death of Buzz Barber. Buzz Died in March of cancer. At his request there was no wake and the funeral was kept to family members only. Buzz's laid-back attitude and kind disposition will be missed by those of us who knew him.

The Revised Chapter Charter with the voted conditions was signed by Erin and I and Mailed to the NAWCC.

See you at the upcoming meeting. Allan Symons will be our main presenter, giving a talk on Canadian Horology - same talk he gave at the National. There will also be plenty of time for Show and Tell items. As usual Mart Tables will also be set up.

Please do not forget to bring dry shoes. See you there.