

**Editors Note:**

As many of you know, ch 190's Mostyn Gale was accepted by West Dean College in West Sussex, England to study clock conservation. Since he would be in England over a year his wife, Debbie, decided to tag along.

I thought that it would be interesting to look at their adventure threw the eyes of the wife, so I asked Debbie to write an article for our newsletter. The following is her story, so far. (Written prior to the holidays)

Mostyn and Debbie have an excellent blog, which they keep updated with new articles and photos. Check it out at: www.saving-time.org

Ken McWilliams, editor

Debbie Does England

by Debbie Gale

Greetings Chrono Times readers from Chichester, England.

For those folks strictly interested in horology, this will contain little if anything concerning horology. Ken McWilliams asked me to write a human interest piece about our time here in England from my point of view, while Mostyn attends West Dean College. West Dean is a small college in the Sussex countryside that specializes in the hands-on arts, including clock restoration and conservation. Look it up on Goggle, it is a really impressive school in a very quintessential English setting for study.

Mostyn arrived in early September and I followed three weeks later having to wait with baited breath on a unique and expensive visa that would allow me to stay here for the year while he studied. This is the biggest impediment if any of you plan a similar course of action. The Home Office here has extremely strict and narrow rules for spouses of students. Based on the fact that my father was born in Scotland, they finally let me in on an "Entitlement with the right to abode" visa. Thankfully, that was our biggest hurdle and everything else has been smooth sailing.

Yes, there have been adjustments, and things work differently here, but it's all part of the adventure and we are having a great time. We have changed our living style going from our large home in Santa Barbara to our "Hobbit House" here, a mid terrace (shared walls) flat of less than 800 square feet. It's cozy and living with less has some tremendous advantages. Cleaning house takes less than an hour and if anything goes wrong we just call the landlord.

The decision to live in Chichester rather than near the campus has proven to be a wise choice. I can, and do walk every day to do shopping, errands, and activities. Mostyn rides his bike the five miles to school and back, which leaves me with the car, if I need it.

Driving has been a challenge, but I am beginning to feel more comfortable and confident each time I go out, but I am driving! Albeit very cautiously and getting lost frequently and even abandoning one event because I could not get out of the car park due to steady traffic and having never driven in the dark here, I just got way too nervous.



Me in the driver's seat of the Peugeot.

I have not used a manual transmission for many, many years, but that part is kind of like riding a bike. I have to use my left hand to shift, now that is just weird! I often find myself looking for the gear shift with my right hand and find only the door latch! I did make it to Sainsbury's (their version of Target) by myself this week, but parked in a puddle and had wet feet until I got home.

We bought a Peugeot Quicksilver for those who are interested. A small two door little number that will suit our needs just fine for our time here, and we will likely be able to sell it for about what we paid. So now we wait for a parking space to open in our neighborhood. We are currently on a waiting list and still have to use the car park about 2 blocks away, which is not a big deal unless you have heavy groceries, which I had with my wet feet!

UPDATE: The long awaited parking permit is now ours. We can park just down the street as long as there is space, if not we have to search for one in another "legal" spot for residences. I have now successfully driven at night, a bit terrified, but I did it. Narrow, wet, very dark, roads, bright headlights, cyclists, cars passing me, oncoming cars flashing me to turn down my lights, shifting with my left hand, whew even typing that is exhausting.

Continued on page 3

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By George Gaglini

With the holidays behind us we are poised for another exciting year of NAWCC Chapter 190 life. The prospects are terrific. This year, as is customary, we will meet on the third Sunday of each month at Ventura Community College. We will not have a meeting in June to honor Father's Day and in December there will be no meeting because of the holidays.

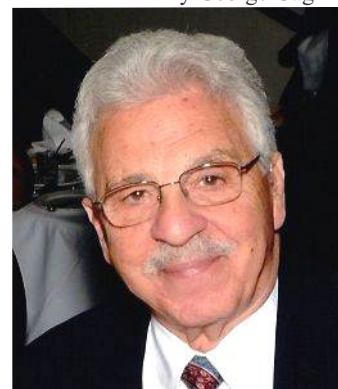
On April 19, 2015 we will present another Chapter 190 Mart at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Co-Chairs Donna Gaglini and Sue Gary are already hard at work with plans to make the Mart a huge success. There will be over 80 tables laden with clocks, watches, tools, and all things horological, a virtual toy store for Chapter 190 members, friends, and, of course, the public. Jim Chamberlain will again set up at the Mart an exhibit of clocks from his spectacular collection. Save the date and be sure to contact Donna at 805 647-6463 to order tables or for more information. Go to the Chapter 190 website (www.nawcc-ch190.com) to get the details.

On January 30 and 31, 2015 Chapter 75 and Chapter 133 will conduct the annual Greater Los Angeles Regional (GLAR) at the Convention Center in Pasadena. This year Chapter 190 will officially participate with responsibility for a major exhibit on Railroad Time to be set up right in the main hall. Alan Bloore will be spearheading the exhibit along with Ernie Jenson and other railroad time experts.

We have lined up several meeting programs for early 2015 that will keep all of us on the edge of our seats while George Antinorelli is organizing his monthly mini-workshops and round table discussions. Tom and Judy Ferkel will be serving the best \$5.00 lunch in town at monthly meetings with help from Sylvia Griswold (who last year served some gourmet lunches that quickly disappeared once the lunch bell was rung).

The NAWCC elections are in progress and one of our own, Robert Gary, is running for a position on the Board of Directors. If his performance on the Chapter 190 Board of Directors is an indicator, Robert will make a fine National Director and it seems fitting that a member of one of the most outstanding Chapters in the country should share his knowledge and expertise on a national level. For information on Robert and how he wants to help increase the NAWCC excellence, go to the following link: <http://youtu.be/B1D8JBtkDk> and http://youtu.be/yoxXfHwm_ZA. Voting is available on-line this year for NAWCC members who have a valid e-mail address registered with the NAWCC, with traditional paper ballots available for those who do not. Regardless who you vote for please **VOTE**.

And here's some good news from Mr. Steve Humphrey, NAWCC Executive Director. In his Weekly Newsletter Steve reported, "We ended the month of December with a gain of 53 members. This compares to being down 33 members in December!" *See you at the meeting.* *George Gaglini*



Happy Birthday

January

**Kenn Foster, Sylvia Griswold, Rich Henderson,
Duane Mottar, Virginia Norwood, Fred Petrucci,
Tom Rementer, Lex Rooker, Zaki Salahuddin,
Beverly Schmidt, & Paul Skeels**

February

David Curtis, Mark Harmeling, & David Perez,



Continued from page 1

It was only a 5 mile trip to West Dean, but it felt like driving the 405!!

We tend to be “recognized” by our accents everywhere we go, with much enthusiasm, and it seems that everyone knows someone in California. They think our accents are cool and are genuinely interested in us and ask how we are finding our experience here. Socially, they are extremely hospitable. We have been invited to more homes for tea or dinner here in the last three months than we ever have back home in the U.S. We are hoping to adopt some of these winning ways and bring them back home with us!

We attended a bonfire night at West Dean celebrating some guy named Guy Fawkes. He guarded explosives and protected King James I way back when. I have to admit, while I stood there on the wet grass after dark waiting for the fireworks that were promised, I wondered why we were there. The bonfire was anticlimactic due to rain during the day that soaked the wood pile, thus the bonfire was a bust, however, the fireworks were unbelievable for such a small village celebration. There were only about 150 people in this open field and the show lasted a good fifteen plus minutes, and they were literally fired directly over our heads. It was truly amazing, so thanks Guy, for providing a reason to celebrate. I will however need to learn to dress warmer, four layers of clothes, gloves, two pairs of socks, a scarf, and hood were not enough, and it was not that cold.

The availability of public transportation here is brilliant, as they say. “Popping” to London for the day is a breeze. I was invited to Winchester by a mutual friend of David Bisno's (Santa Barbara Courthouse clock restoration donor). Hopped on the train and was there in an hour. I spent a lovely day walking the city with her, listened to a children's concert in the cathedral, ate at a pub, and was still home by dinner time.

I recently dined with the elite of Chichester at Goodwood Kennels with my landlady. It is a quintessential British member's only golf club, with stunning views and great food. The kennels are used for the hounds that do the fox hunt, which is why the club has its name. We had such a nice visit and I think in another life I wouldn't mind being of the privileged caste.

One Sunday, we were invited to lunch after church by a lady I met at a women's Bible study at a church we have attended a couple of times. As it turns out, after retirement, she and her husband travel to the Hebron school in India to instruct teachers. This is the same school that Mostyn went to as a child. What a small world it is in that they have Hebron in common.

This week, Mostyn and his tutor had an appointment in Oxford at the History of Science Museum, so I tagged along and did a bus tour while he made contacts to assist in preparation of his Master's degree. Many cities, including Oxford, Winchester, and Chichester have Christmas stalls, quite similar to what they have in Germany. (Stalls are themed street fairs/markets.) I was

able to attend all three. With the weather getting very chilly, and all the holiday decorations up, “it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas”. We attended the full three hour performance of the Messiah at the Chichester Cathedral last week. What a thrill it was, though I was wishing we had a cushion and a blanket,

We were invited to a very formal event in London; the Livery Dinner at the Goldsmiths Hall, with the Clockmasters Guild that Mostyn was installed into just before I arrived. We had to rent a formal “kit” for him at a men's store here. He was in tails, white vest and white bow tie, but said no to the top hat! Luckily, I had packed a dress from one of the girl's weddings which worked for me. We hoped to not embarrass ourselves by using the cutlery improperly, or burp or something. At the end of the meal a



Mostyn & I at the Livery dinner

beautiful decanter of port was passed around the table so I poured my cup and was about to pour for our host, Will Andrewes, when the lady to my right said, “No one serves another!” I quickly put the decanter down, hung my head and thought yep, I knew I would blow something.

Mostyn will welcome the mental rest from school with the holiday break. We have planned a short road trip out to the Cornish coast and then fly to Scotland to visit relatives over New Year's. This is all part of the advantage of, geographically, being in a small country. But really, it's mostly to distract us from missing Christmas with our kids and grandkids. Nothing can replace family time and we look forward, with great excitement and anticipation, to their visit here in May.

For those interested in more clock oriented topics, visit our blog at: www.saving-time.org. ■



Our tribe back home in California. We'll get together again here in Chichester in May.

Tales From the Bench

by Ferdinand Geitner

Going Dutch

The Zaan Daam clock or Zaanse Clock (of the Zaan River region) is well known and easily recognized, very decorative, not too big, and popular enough that it has been produced for almost 400 years.

The Zaan region near Amsterdam in the northeast of the Netherlands became an industrial area in the 1700s. The Mennonite freedom of religion influenced the styling of the clock and on some early models the phrase "Nu Elck Syn Sin" (to each his own) can be found in the decorative casting.

Shortly after Christiaan Huygens (1656) invented the pendulum in Holland, clockmakers adopted it in the Zaan Regton around 1670, The earliest clocks were of plainer design, made for Mennonite churches, and known as "Poor Man's Clock", compared to the Hague clocks which were of better quality.

Eventually the Mennonite craftsmen produced more ornate versions of



the Zaanse clock for sale in Amsterdam and other larger cities (the Rich Man's Clock) It was mass produced in the early 1900s and became the preferred style for the Warmink Uhren Clock Company. The horseman pendulum bob denotes service to the king.

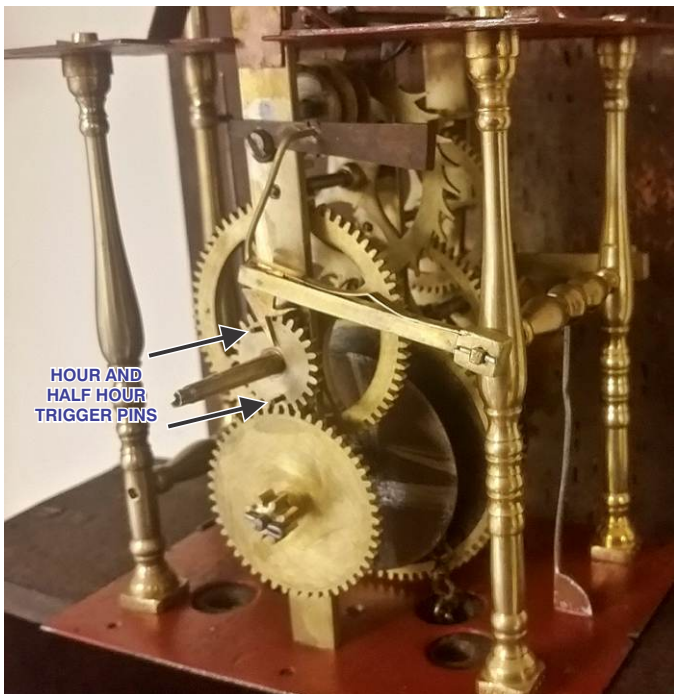
The way to distinguish real antiques from the more modern copies is the chains and plates. Earliest clocks used woven rope, not chains, and the movement was the "Birdcage" style, not solid plates. There are some early mixtures where it has the birdcage style movement frame with chain drive and I came across a movement designed



for rope which had a chain driving it, which kept slipping as the spacing of the spikes (which hold the rope) did not correspond (align) with regular chain links. Also early models used to be of 30 hour duration and had to be wound every day as one weight drove the pendulum and strike mechanism via endless chain (rope). (Also invented by Christian Huygens.)

A smaller chain and weight (which are often missing) are an alarm function. Unfortunately, there is no snooze button. The alarm rings until the weight hits the end of the length of the chain.

The strike has a form of release where the pin on the cannon pinion slides up a spring loaded lever which releases the strike train into a warning state and then drops behind the pin letting the count wheel take over.



Models come with two distinct finials styles, Some have paper thin pressed brass decorations and others, like their Dutch longcase clock cousins, have Atlas holding the world in the center and two trumpet blowing angels on either side.

Horology Trivia

by Giorgio Perissinotto



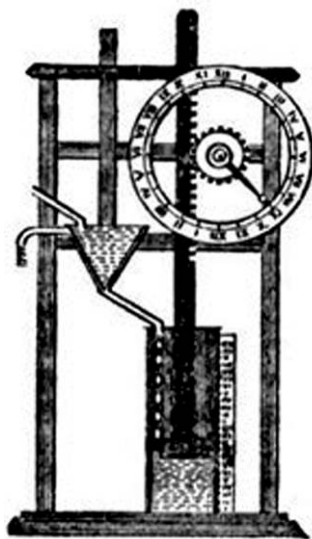
Water Clocks, And More

Horologium is the Latin name for a time measuring device, and is a transliteration from the Greek “hour-teller.” The term encompassed several devices, such as water clocks, candle clocks, sand clocks, fuel clocks (the time it took for a specific amount of fuel to burn), etc. What they have or had in common is that they are not mechanical devices in the way we understand the term “mechanical” today. The sundial we wrote about not long ago was far and away the most often used and the most enduring one. It certainly was and is—or can be—the most accurate, but it had practical limitations. The most obvious is that it needs the sun for it to cast the shadow, but perhaps the most problematic was that each sundial was accurate only for the specific latitude of its position. And solar days vary throughout the year. Yet sundials were used until after the advent of the mechanical clocks, and some were actually mounted atop them.

One of the oldest devices to measure the passing of time is the water clock. In its simplest form, water flows from one vessel into another in a measurable segment of time. Conversely, one could measure the time it takes for a specific vessel to fill.



Water clocks were among the earliest timekeepers that didn't depend on the observation of celestial bodies. One of the oldest was found in Egypt, in the tomb of Amenhotep I, buried around 1500 BC E. Later named clepsydras (“water thief”) by the Greeks, who began using them about 325 BCE, these were stone vessels with sloping sides that allowed water to drip at a nearly constant rate from a small hole near the bottom. Other clepsydras were cylindrical or bowl-shaped containers designed to slowly fill with



water coming in at a constant rate. Markings on the inside surfaces measured the passage of “hours”—understood as time segments—as the water level reached them. These clocks were used to determine hours at night, but may have been used in daylight as well. Another version consisted of a metal bowl with a hole in the bottom; when placed in a container of water the bowl would fill and sink in a certain time. These were still in use in North Africa in the 20th century.

More elaborate and impressive mechanized water clocks were developed between 100 BCE. and 500 CE by Greek and Roman horologists and astronomers. The added complexity was aimed at making the flow more constant by regulating the pressure, and at providing fancier displays of the passage of time. Some water clocks rang bells and gongs, others opened doors and windows to show little figures of people, or moved pointers, dials, and astrological models of the universe. They were what we have been calling automatons. Though one could argue that these were actually mechanical devices, we must not consider them such because the “moving” was a side product of the flowing of the liquid.

A Greek astronomer, Andronikos, supervised the construction of the Tower of the Winds in Athens in the 1st century BCE. This octagonal structure featured a 24-hour clepsydra and indicators for the eight winds from which the tower got its name, and it displayed the seasons of the year and astrological dates and periods. The Romans also developed mechanized clepsydras, though their complexity accomplished little improvement over simpler methods for determining the passage of time.

In the Far East, mechanized astronomical/astrological clock-making developed from 200 to 1300 CE. Third-century Chinese clepsydras drove various mechanisms that illustrated astronomical phenomena. One of the most elaborate clock towers was built by Su Sung and his associates in 1088 CE. Su Sung's mechanism incorporated a water-driven “escapement” invented about 725 CE. The Su Sung clock tower, over 30 feet tall, possessed a bronze power-driven armillary sphere for observations, an automatically rotating celestial globe, and five front panels with doors that permitted the viewing of changing mannikins which rang bells or gongs, and held tablets indicating the hour or other special times of the day. (Source: National Institute of Standards and Technology Physics Laboratory.)

CANDLE CLOCKS.

On the opposite side of complex devices like the Chinese water clocks, we have the humble candle clock. The first reference we have of the use of candle clock is from China and at about 500 BCE. They were widely used in the Asia for many centuries and relied on a known rate of burning and the corresponding marks. And there were alarm candle clocks, like the one pictured here. When the wax was melted to the desired mark, a pin or piece of metal would drop to the tray below and thus “sound” the alarm or warning. It is my understanding that one could buy these candle-clocks in the States up to the beginning of the 20th century. Simple, but still pretty ingenious. ■



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

by Mike Schmidt

The **January** Chapter 190 Meeting
is January 18, 2015
Sellers may start setting up at 11:30
The Mart is open from 12:00 til 1:15
The Meeting starts at 1:15

“Double Pendulum Clocks”

Presented by John Kirk

Have you ever seen or heard of
these fascinating clocks?

This will be a very educational program

Bring a special clock, watch, or tool
of yours to share with fellow members.

The next meeting will be Feb 16, 2015
The program will be on **“Striking and
Chiming clocks of central Germany”**



Chapter 190 continues to offer our popular “Introduction to Antique Clock Collecting & Repair & Maintenance” workshop. This 2 day workshop is open to members, friends, and the public. The only prerequisite for this workshop is “Interest & Curiosity” in mechanical clocks. All tools, movements, and knowledge will be supplied.

The next workshop is January 24th & 25th at the historic Santa Barbara County Courthouse and includes a tour of the 'BISNO-SCHALL CLOCK GALLERY’ For further information contact Rodney Baker 805 963-2494 or email Rodney.baker@cox.net

A *FSW 301A “Advanced Pocket Watch”* is scheduled for January 23th -26th in Ventura. The instructor will be Ferdinand Geitner. The coordinator is David Perez – for further information contact David at 805 967- 1947 or email davidperez57@cox.net

We have one opening left in the workshop.

Future Field Suitcase Workshops (FSW) for 2015: FSW101 Introduction to basic clock repair, and a FSW102 Closed Barrel and Snail Escapement. Other workshops will be scheduled as interest develops. Please let me know your interests. Contact Mike Schmidt, phone 805 988-1764 or e-mail eaglecreekclocks@msn.com

A 2 day chapter 190 workshop will be offered soon on **“Platform Escapements”** No date or cost has been established yet, but if you are interested contact Ken McWilliams at: internut@socal.rr.com or call (818) 718-8300. The class is already half full.

“Action is the Foundational Key to All Success”

Pablo Picasso



This Month’s Mini-Workshop Starts At 11:00AM

The workshop will be led by George Antinarelli. This is an open forum workshop, so bring your problem clock or watch and let the group help you.

Come and let our experts confuse you.

CLASSIFIED PAGE

This page is dedicated to advertising for Chapter 190 members. It is, of course, free to members.

SERVICES OFFERED

The Montecito Clock Gallery

Restoration, repair, sales of clocks and watches.
Ferdinand Geitner, mbhi, owner and operator
Now located at 1187 Coast Village road, unit 10a
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Monday through Saturday 10:00 to 6:00 pm.

Tel. 805-650-8800

FOR SALE

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tools and other items from my latest estate
buy at the Chapter 190 meeting.

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dave@daveswatchparts.com



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Precision electronic timing tools for clock and
watch repair with many unique features. Prices
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WANTED

URGENTLY NEEDED, VISIBLE ESCAPEMENT MOVEMENT

French type-platform escapement (no pendulum)

Winding hole spacing of 38.9 mm, (1.53")

Repairable, other details available on request.

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Antique French 2 or 3 dial calendar clocks.

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Located in Firehouse Plaza (Main St. & Telephone Rd.)

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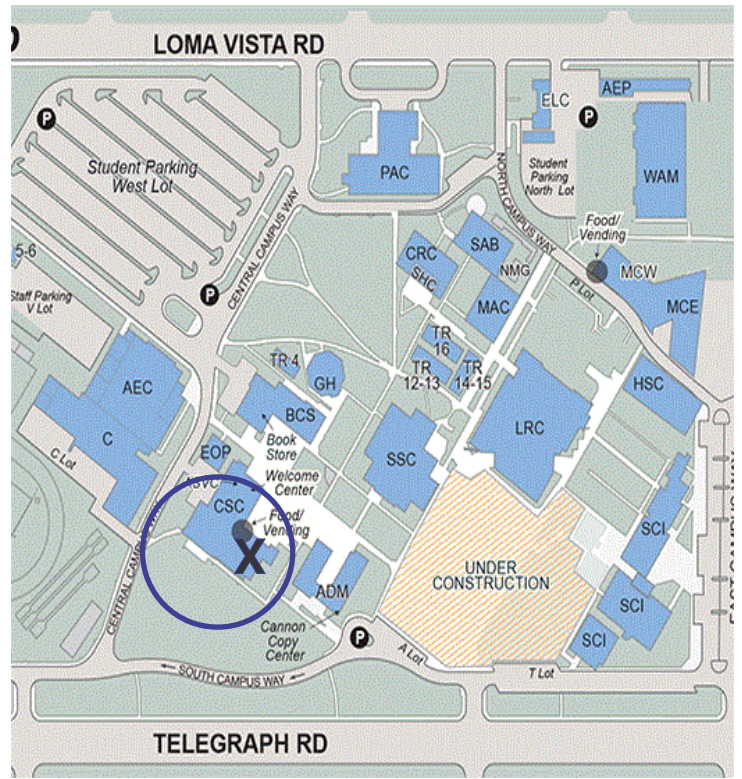
- Chronometer -

Hamilton 21 Marine Chronometer in running condition, with
inner box and gimbals; outer box not essential.

Please contact: Giorgio Perissinotto

E-mail: **giorgio@spanport.ucsb.edu**

The Chapter 190 meetings are held the third Sunday of each month. (No meeting in December)
 We will meet in the Campus Student Center (CSC) on the Ventura College campus. The CSC is located in building "B", east of the gym and



January - February, 2015 Issue

NEXT MEETINGS

JAN 18

FEBRUARY 15



If Undeliverable return To:
 17738 Superior St. Unit 21
 Northridge, CA 91325

Chrono Times

January 29 through January 31, 2015 Greater Los Angeles Regional

Pasadena Convention Center • 300 E. Green St. Pasadena, CA 91101
HOSTED BY: SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER 75 & WESTERN ELECTRIC CHAPTER 133

The General Public will be admitted to the Mart area on Saturday!

THE EXHIBIT WILL FEATURE "Railroad Time"

The Exhibit and Programs are Free and open to anyone.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan 29	Saturday, Jan 31
5 - 7 pm Pre-Registration and Packet pickup.	7:45 am Program III "Creating the perfect replacement dial" by: Ken McWilliams
6 - 8 pm Mart Table Setup.	9:00 am Registration
Friday, Jan 30	9:00 am Mart opens
7:45 am Program I "The American Watch Company." by: Tom McIntyre	11:00 am Ch 173 (Horo. Tools) meeting
8:00 am Registration	2:00 pm Program IV
9:00 am Mart Opens	"Lawson Clocks" by: Neil Kuns
2:00 pm Program II "Dating Ansonia Clocks" by: Dave Weisbart	3:00 pm Mart Closes
6:00 pm Mart Closes	4 - 5 pm Mart room breakdown.

Convention Rate
\$139
Single or Double

Host Hotel:
(Contiguous with Convention Center)
Sheraton Pasadena
303 E. Cordova St.
Use Local Reservations at:
626-449-4000

LODGING

Pasadena Inn (.4 mile)
400 South Arroyo Parkway
626-795-8401

Vagabond Inn (.7 mile)
1203 East Colorado Blvd
626-449-3170

Westway Inn (1.6 mile)
1599 East Colorado Blvd
626-304-9678

Reserve early, the Sheraton will only hold NAWCC discounted block of rooms till Jan 14, 2015

Website: www.GLAR2015.com
E-mail inquires: bgil7007@verizon.net
Chairman: Jim Gilmore • (805) 341-2204

NAWCC MEMBERS MAY ATTEND FRIDAY & SATURDAY
THE GENERAL PUBLIC MAY ATTEND SATURDAY ONLY

ANTIQUÉ CLOCKS & WATCHES

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Saturday, January 31st, 2015 • 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
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Tickets for the Clock and Watch show are (\$15 per person)
Purchase tickets at The Pasadena Convention Center 300 E. Green St.
then proceed to the GLAR registration area. (Opens 9:00 am Saturday)

Visit our website at www.GLAR2015.com



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Chapter 190 of the NAWCC, Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties

NEW **RENEWAL**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Date: _____

Name: (First) _____ (Last) _____ Phone: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Birth Day: (Month) _____ (Day) _____ NAWCC # _____
Membership in the NAWCC is required

Person to contact in the event of an emergency: Name: _____ Phone: _____

What is your clock/watch interest? (Check all that apply)

I collect clocks I collect watches I have a basic understanding of clocks watches and have repaired a few as a hobby.

I have studied clock watch repair via books, videos, or by attending classes. I repair clocks mostly as a hobby. I have been repairing clocks for over 5 years and am familiar with many types of movements. I repair clocks for pay and as a hobby.

I have a well equipped shop and can repair most clocks watches. I have an extensive knowledge of clock/watch design, function and repair techniques. Most repairs are for pay. I am a serious collector of clocks watches and have a very good knowledge of their history, models and value.

Why do you want to be a member of Chapter 190? _____

Would you like to volunteer in helping Chapter 190 achieve its goals? Yes, how can I help? No, not at this time

Membership in Ventura chapter 190 of the NAWCC requires that you also be a member of the parent organization, The National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors. If you are not a member, you may join online by going to their website at www.nawcc.org, or you can contact us and we will send you an application.

Chapter dues run from January 1st to December 31st. Annual dues are \$25.00 for immediate family.

Please make checks payable to;

Chapter 190 NAWCC

Mail this form & check to:

Ernie Jenson

25 Norma Ct, Camarillo CA 93010

Family membership dues \$25.00 _____

Membership includes spouse and other family members.
Other members names.

NOTE: Spouse or family members do not have to be a NAWCC member when accompanying the primary member to chapter events.

Signature _____

FOR CHAPTER USE

Date received _____ Amount received \$ _____ Member ID number;

Added to mailing list. Date _____ Membership card sent. Date _____

Notes: _____