



## A Look behind the Private Label (Part 5)

by Dave Coatsworth

### Tiffany & Co.

Tiffany & Co. was founded in 1837 by Charles Lewis Tiffany and John B. Young. Originally known as Tiffany, Young, and Ellis, they focused on the sale of stationery and other 'fancy goods'. Their first store was located in lower Manhattan. They were one of the first stores in the US to introduce fixed pricing by placing price tags on all merchandise. Also, they were among the first to insist on cash for purchases - no credit. Both of these practices ran counter to American convention in the 1830's. The company's name was shorted to the present 'Tiffany & Co.' in 1853 when Charles took control. At that time, he also established the company's emphasis on jewelry.

The famous 'Tiffany Blue' goes back to 1845, when they published their first 'Blue Book', a catalog filled with the luxury goods that they offered. In 1870, Tiffany built what was referred to as the "palace of jewels" at 15 Union Square West. They would remain in this location until 1906. In 1940, they moved into their present flagship store at Fifth Avenue and 57th Street.

In 1978, Tiffany & Co. was sold to Avon Products for \$104 million in stock. A period of lower priced merchandise and lower quality followed. In 1984, Avon sold Tiffany & Co. to a group of private investors and they were taken public again in 1987, with the sale of \$103 million in stock. Quality was soon restored and they once again became known as the premier purveyor of jewelry and other fine items. Today the company's market capitalization is approximately \$11 billion.

The 18 jewel pocket watch shown below was made for Tiffany & Co. by Patek Philippe. It is approximately an American 12-size (but much thinner) and is cased in platinum. The serial number is 808343, dating it to the late 1920's.



Occasionally watches made by Illinois, Hamilton, South Bend, or Elgin labeled "The Tiffany Watch" are observed and are assumed to have been made for Tiffany & Co. In fact, they were not. These watches were made for a jeweler in South Manchester, Connecticut named Calvin Tiffany. One of these watches is shown below. This example is a 16-size, 15 jewel, Elgin grade 313, manufactured in 1909. ■



**Our Free mini workshops will again be a part of our meetings. The workshop begins at 11:00 A.M.**

**September: 400 Day Clocks.** Ferdinand Geitner will lead this workshop. He will help take the mystery out of these, sometimes, difficult clocks.

**October: Bushing Clocks.** David Spong will demonstrate a different method of bushing clocks. Expensive bushing machines are not always required.

**November: Custom Clock Tools.** Ken McWilliams will show & demonstrate tools that he has made for clock repair and existing tools that he has modified to improve their usefulness.

**This is an open forum workshop, so bring your problem clock or watch and let the group help you.**

**Don't let your clock problems baffle you, Come and let our experts confuse you.**

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## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Mostyn Gale

Hello again to all my horology friends within the reach of this newsletter. In this edition I would like to expand on a challenge that I began at our chapter meeting last month—I call it 75-for-75.

As many of you are already aware, 2018 will be the 75th year that the NAWCC has been in existence. The NAWCC was started in 1943 with a group of people who wanted to be able to connect and share all aspects of horology. I took the occasion to look back at some of the very first publications that were mailed to all members at the time. Bulletin #2 published in 8 November, 1943 listed 55 members. In case you think that the West Coast was excluded, three of those 55 were from California. The organization grew quickly and by August of 1945 they had drafted a Constitution and By-Laws and formed two local Chapters. Article I, Section 2 of that Constitution says, “The purposes of this Association shall be: (A) To stimulate interest in timepieces of all kinds, (B) To foster a genuine interest in collecting of watches and/or clocks, (C) To facilitate the sale or purchase of timepieces by members, (D) To cooperate with individuals and with other organizations in exhibiting timepieces, (E) To collect and preserve horological data and information for posterity.

I would have to say that the aims of the organization have been very well met over the last 75 years and we are continuing to carry on in the same spirit and interest. Of course a lot has changed in 75 years—the need for a means of communication between members being perhaps the main one. This has been wildly overcome by the internet and all the various communicating techniques that we have today, nonetheless, the need to communicate with and assist each other remains the same. One little tidbit that I thought was amusing is the way that they spelled out NAWCC, in the early Bulletins. It was, the “N. A. of W. & C. C.”

So that brings me to 75-for-75. Our Association and all of the local Chapters, including ours of course, have been built on the foundation of many, many people over the last 75 years. Today, we are part of the largest international non-profit organization dedicated to horology and we have built an outstanding horological library and museum that are among the best in the world—much to be proud of—and much to be thankful for. Many of the benefits that we enjoy as part of our Chapter are the result of the accumulated effort of the people before us who explored, learned, and shared. So, the focus of my 75-for-75 campaign is to say “thank you” to all those people who have helped to make our organization what it has become. For the price of a dinner out you can give the Association a nice 75th birthday present thank you. My goal, is to have as many of our Chapter members contribute \$75 as possible before next year's annual meeting. I am not much for contests but let's see if we can challenge ourselves and other Chapters to a high degree of member participation in this simple and, for most of us, very achievable gift. Make checks out to the NAWCC with a note for the “NAWCC Annual Appeal Fund”. You can mail checks to me at 601 Litchfield Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93109 or hand them to me at a Chapter meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.



## WELCOME NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our Executive Director for the past 10 years, Steve Humphrey, retired as of August 25th. During that time, Steve led the Association through some very lean years and did a magnificent job of putting the Association back on sound financial ground. Thank you, Steve, for your service.

Our new Executive Director, Tom Wilcox, officially moved into the position on Monday, August 28th, but he began contributing to the Association well before that. Tom has attended numerous Chapter meetings in the East, several Regionals, and the National held in Arlington, TX. In addition, while visiting his daughter at her university in Hong Kong, China, Tom met with Chapter 163, Hong Kong Collectors President Victor Chan, and others. Tom visited the Seiko Museum to meet with the management team. Tom had this to say about his meeting and tour lead by "Harry", the general manager.

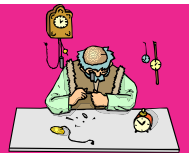
"We had a great discussion of our mutual interests and I received a personal tour of their museum, which can be found online at their website. Their periodical library included issues of our "Clock and Watch" publications. We will stay in touch and look forward to seeing how best to work cooperatively in the future.

Their museum has some very cool virtual reality software for museum visitor interactive use that Harry developed, showing in 3D CAD/CAM SW, the inner workings of their watch movements.

Harry agreed to license our use of it in the NAWCC museum, free of charge. We would then need to purchase the hardware and install it and arrange for the museum to set it up for visitor use. The technology is similar to the 3D VR interactive presentation Patek Philippe had in NYC recently.

Their museum is well represented (had a broad selection of horological items on display). They have a Seth Thomas, an interesting display on RR time pieces, and a very good representation of early Japanese horological history and timepieces, as well as an interactive set up of their achievements with the 1964 Olympics and their involvement with the upcoming 2020 Olympics in Japan."

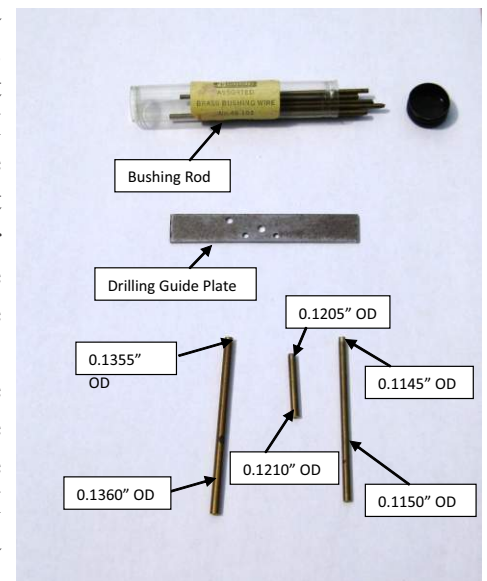
Welcome, Tom. We are eagerly anticipating moving the Association ahead under your leadership. ■



**Clock Bushings** – There is an excellent article by Ken Reindel in the Jan-Feb 2017 NAWCC journal (Volume 59/1 issue 425) on a recommended approach to installing bushings in clock plates. I agree with all his advice, but would like to add a tip that I have used to good effect. As with Ken Reindel I do not use or even own a clock bushing tool and agree that most of the pre-made bushings are too big. I too use "bushing wire" with my initial package bought some 40 years ago, still in use. Typically I chose an appropriate size of "wire" and cut an oil sink in one end in the lathe and then part-off the bushing in the lathe to the correct length. If the hole in the bushing wire is much smaller than the pivot to go in it I drill out the bushing while it is in the lathe closer to the pivot diameter, but still too small. This significantly reduces the amount of broaching to be done after the bushing is installed in the plate.

I then open up the hole in the plate as described in the article, being sure to keep it centered on the original pivot hole. I use a round needle file to re-center the hole before drilling the plate using a drilling plate to guide the drill. I always use a drill press to ensure that the hole is perpendicular to the plate.

The next step is to broach out the hole to fit the new bushing. This is where I had difficulty in the past in judging the hole diameter to ensure an appropriate force-fit of the bushing. My solution is to make a go/no-go gauge using the bushing wire itself. Holding the wire in the lathe I use a fine file to reduce the diameter by 0.0005" (5/10000"). Unless your lathe runs perfectly true with all its collets you cannot turn the bushing wire to this accuracy with a graver, but the file, while not elegant will work. Then I broach the hole until my gauge just enters the larger end of the broached hole (the broach is tapered). Then I press the bushing in from the larger end of the hole knowing that I will have exactly a 0.0005" force fit. ■



# Tales From the Bench

by Ferdinand Geitner

## BALANCE STAFF SHOCK ASSEMBLY

In one week I was confronted by two missing balance jewels. The interesting fact in these cases was that they came out of shock assemblies, which usually bounces back into position intact after any impact.

I have seen many broken jewels in my 50 years, but never a damaged shock assembly.

In this case one was a very nice, thin, Cartier wristwatch where half of the shock spring actually broke off and therefore could not hold the stones in place. The other one was a Rolex automatic which must have had quite an impact as the shock spring had opened completely and therefore released the end stone into the movement but it was still intact.

So, the Rolex was an easy repair. I just had to find either the missing jewel somewhere in the watch or replace it with one of equal size.

But, the Cartier is another story. Often Incabloc shock assemblies are held in place by a small retaining clip under the bridge, but this one was pushed into place and held tight under tension.



You may ask why remove it? The shock spring sits hinged on one side under the setting flange which is surrounded by the hairspring stud and the regulator, so to remove and replace the shock spring I have to lift the flange above the bridge it is mounted in.

To remove the setting from below the bridge one has to remove the balance which normally is easy except in this case the hairspring is not screwed into place but glued! The hairspring stud is not designed to be removed so one has to (very carefully) remove the plastic cement without damaging the hairspring,

After successfully removing the setting, the next step is to remove the remnant of the old spring, replace the missing end stone and fit a new shock spring with a new one of the correct size. There are many different sizes

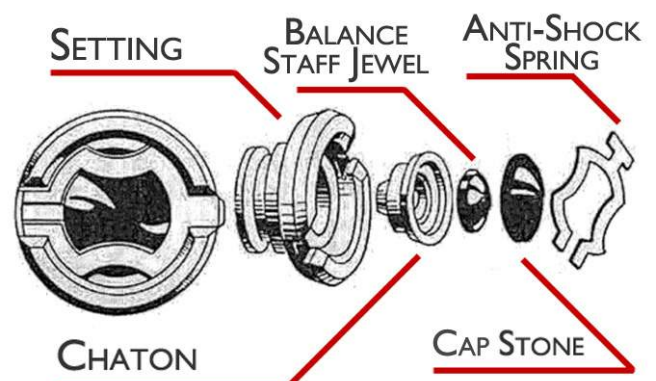
One thing to mention is how to remove the setting. One cannot just push from the underside of the bridge as there may be a slight raised part in the middle of the setting so one needs a concave pusher to sit on the outer edge to push perfectly flat.

The first problem was much easier to fix. ■

**NOTE:** *The Incabloc shock protection system is the trade name for a spring-loaded mounting system for the jewel bearings that support the balance wheel in a mechanical watch. It protects the wheel's delicate pivots from damage in the event of physical shock, such as if the watch is dropped. It was invented in 1934 by Swiss engineers Georges Braunschweig and Fritz Marti. Similar systems are; ETA's Etachoc, Kif, Seiko's Diashock, and Citizen's Parashock.*

*The pivots and jewel bearings that support a watch balance wheel are fragile in comparison to the mass they must support, and without shock protection are the parts of the watch most likely to be damaged under impact. Before the widespread use of shock protection devices like Incabloc, broken balance staffs were a common type of damage requiring expensive watch repair.*

*The Incabloc system uses a "lyre-shaped" spring to allow the delicate bearings to shift in their settings under impact, until a stronger shoulder of the staff contacts the strong metal end piece, so that the pivots and bearings don't have to bear the force of the impact. When the impact is over, the springs guide the parts back to their original positions. The staff itself does not move relative to the jewel bearing, but the whole bearing is carried in a metal bushing that is free to move in the metal end piece, under the control of the spring.*



# FACES SEEN AT THE AUGUST MEETING

Photos by Bill Robinson



Comradery, a mainstay of our chapter



Debating the origin of a clock



Jorge examining a watch



Dave's watch tools are always popular with members



First time visitors Al & Barbara Rotter  
They left with with a very nice 1882 Morbier clock

*Welcome New Members*

★

**Peter Wedel**  
from Lompoc

★

**Paul Norum**  
from Camarillo

★



Dave presents his program on pocket watches

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

by Mike Schmidt

The Sunday morning workshops held prior to the monthly meetings are free and open to all. This is a great opportunity to learn many new repair techniques. It is an opportunity to bring clocks and watches and receive assistance with perplexing repair problems. Guests are always welcome. The workshop begins at 11:00 and the coffee will be on.

*“Introduction to Antique Clock Collecting, Repair & Maintenance # 12”* 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 November 4th & 5th 2017. *For further information, contact Mike Schmidt 805 988 1764 or email [EagleCreekClocks@msn.com](mailto:EagleCreekClocks@msn.com)*

*190-1A American Count Wheel 2 train movement Workshop* is scheduled for Jan. 13th & 14th 2018. The workshop will be held at the Historic Odd Fellows Lodge in Santa Paula. Prerequisite is the “Introduction Workshop” or equivalent. The cost of this workshop is \$210. *Contact Mike Schmidt for registration - email [EagleCreekClocks@msn.com](mailto:EagleCreekClocks@msn.com)*

*NAWCC Watch & Clock Traveling Workshops*  
*F301 Basic Pocket Watch Repair* is scheduled for Jan. 26-29, 2018. This Introductory 4-day workshop will be instructed by Ferdinand Geitner. Contact coordinator John Kitchens for further information or enrollment. (805) 216-2569, email [steamandtrains@gmail.com](mailto:steamandtrains@gmail.com)

*All workshop information, registration and payments can be made thru the Chapter 190 Website or contact:*

*Mike Schmidt at e-mail*  
[eaglecreekclocks@msn.com](mailto:eaglecreekclocks@msn.com)

The September Chapter 190 Meeting  
is September 17, 2017

Sellers may start setting up at 11:30

The Mart is open from 12:00 til 1:15

The Meeting starts at 1:15

*This Month's Program*

**"Clock & Watch tips, tricks, & shortcuts"**

Presented by, **YOU!**

Bring a clock, watch, tool, book,  
or tip that you have discovered  
that has helped you, to the meeting  
& share with your fellow members.

The current issue of “Popular Science” (Sept-Oct 2017) is dedicated to “Time & Space”. It is loaded with interesting, and thought provoking articles.

If you are a member of Amazon Prime, you can get a free, downloadable, copy of this issue by going to “Prime Reading”. There are about 50 other free magazines, and thousands of free books as well. They add and remove titles every month.

Editor: Ken McWilliams



# Happy Birthday

## September

Tom Beard, Tom Ferkel, Alexander Rose,  
David Rubright, David Spong, & Chip Stevens.

## October

Jess Ashby, Rod Christel, Larry Lopes, Marco Perez,  
Denise Rodriguez, Jeff Ryder, & Norma Zuber.



**Clock auction at the August meeting**

# 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  
Montecito (one block from old site)  
(805) 565-9097

### **The Clock Gallery**

**George Gaglini**

*Serving Ventura County and More . . .  
Expert Repair - Service - Restoration  
Grandfather - Wall - Mantel - Marine - Atmos  
House Calls - Packing & Moving  
805-647-0699 or 805-497-8381  
theclockgallery@roadrunner.com*

### *The Tic Toc Shop*

**Clock  
Repairs,  
Restorations  
& Appraisals.**

**Ken McWilliams  
(818) 718-8300**

**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.  
(562) 531-0545 • (562) 688-6171  
E-mail: jorgemont2001@netzero.net

### **Pacific Coast Clocks**

**In business since 1977.**

Sales and Restoration of both new and antique  
clocks. Repair of all types of mechanical clocks.  
Loren Miller proprietor.

4255 E. Main St., No. 15, Ventura, Ca. 93003

(Located in Firehouse Plaza at Main St. and Telephone Rd)

Monday through Saturday 10:00 to 6:00 pm.

**Tel. 805-650-8800**

## FOR SALE

### **Watch Repair Tools & More!**

I will have a huge selection of watch repair  
tools and other items from my latest estate  
buy at the Chapter 190 meeting.

**Dave Coatsworth**

dave@daveswatchparts.com



### **MicroSet Timers for Clocks and Watches**

Precision electronic timing tools for clock and  
watch repair with many unique features. Prices  
start at \$250. Full information is on the website:

[www.WatchTimer.com](http://www.WatchTimer.com)

**Mumford Micro Systems**

3933 Antone Road

Santa Barbara, CA 93110

**(805) 687-5116**

## WANTED

### **Reward**

#### **Wanted - Information**

Chapter 190 is looking to receive any information Regarding the  
present location of the Ventura County Courthouse Clock. The Seth  
Thomas model 15 clock was installed in the 1875 courthouse in  
1900. The last sighting of this clock and its bell was a display at the  
1987 NAWCC National Convention at Anaheim.

**Contact Mike Schmidt at: eaglecreekclocks@msn.com**

#### **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.

Bob Reichel, welchdoc@yahoo.com **Ph: 1-206-364-7374**

#### **- 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](mailto:giorgio@spanport.ucsb.edu)

*Antique French* 2 or 3 dial calendar clocks.

*Antique English* 2 or 3 gear-train skeleton clock.

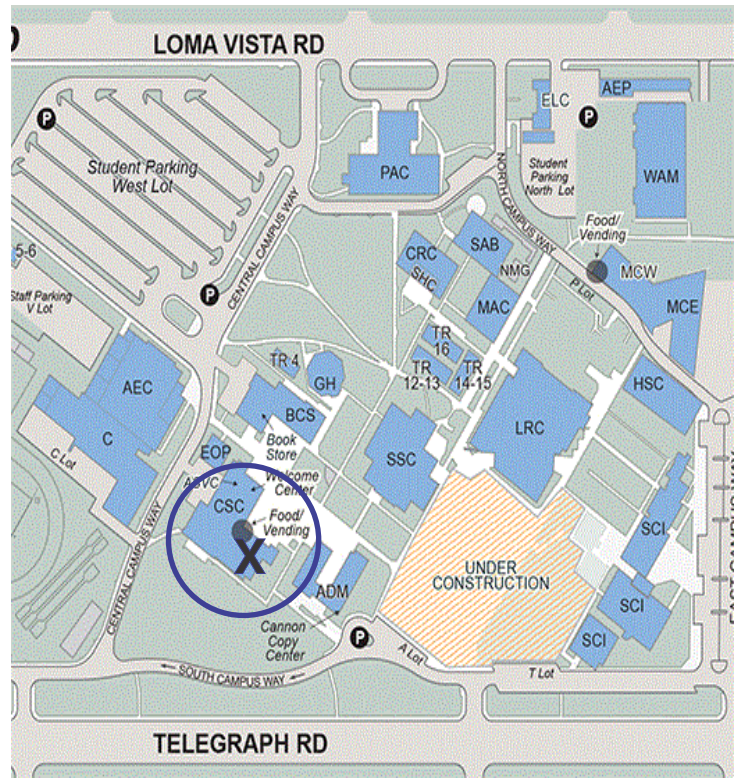
Loren Miller, **Pacific Coast Clocks**

4255 E. Main St., No. 15, Ventura, Ca.

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

**Tel. 805-650-8800**

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



September - October 2017 Issue

**NEXT MEETINGS**  
**SEPT 17**  
**OCTOBER 15**



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