



# Loupes and Tweezers

The Official Newsletter of THE HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

Horological Association  
of Virginia, Inc.

2004 Issue Number 2

April 2004

## HAV Annual Convention is here !!!

Complete information on the upcoming HAV Convention is included in this issue of the Loupes and Tweezers. Scheduled for April 16-18, 2004 in Lynchburg, VA, many interesting and memorable events are planned for your horological enjoyment. We are honored to have internationally recognized clockmaker, Laurie Penman, and head instructor at the Lititz Watch Technicum, Herman Mayer, present clock and watch sessions on Saturday and Sunday. Other events include Friday night's President's reception, Saturday night's Annual Banquet, Awards Ceremony, and Auction, and Sunday's Annual HAV Board Meeting and election of officers. Everyone is invited to any and all events.

Anyone may bring items to Saturday night's auction. You can benefit from this auction by ridding your workspace of unwanted horological items; HAV benefits by receiving 10 percent of the auction price. So bring those items and have them ready to send home with someone else.

Registration deadline is April 1st! Plan to attend, make your room reservation, and send in your registration form today.

## Fall Seminar Planning Well Underway !!

Ralph Smith, veteran HAV member, has plans progressing nicely for the HAV Fall Seminar. Scheduled for October 3, 2004, this one day seminar will be held at the Best Western Airport Hotel in Sandstone, VA. For those of us who attended this outstanding event in the past, it will be located in the same place as last year. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! Ralph has 30 rooms reserved at a special rate for Saturday night, October 2nd (the night before). Concurrent watch and clock sessions are being planned. Previously, this seminar was attended primarily by clock enthusiasts; this seminar will appeal to those interested in both clocks and watches.

Watches: Tuck Tompkins and Lowell Fast offered classes on watches. Chick Hardy offered to put a program together on Railroad Watches.

Clocks: This session is currently being planned.

Please support your HAV and attend this seminar!

## Coming in future issues:

- "A Bit of History of the HAV"  
by John D. Miller, CMW/CMC
- HAV Library listing
- Happenings at the HAV Annual  
Convention

### What's Inside this issue?

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Photo by Bill Bugert

The HAV Board members hard at work in Charlottesville, VA on February 22, 2004



# The President's Message

By Mike Frost

Spring brings with it warm weather, green grass and trees, no more snow, and also the annual HAV Convention. No one wants to miss the good things about spring, so why stay home when our Convention is going on?



Every year, HAV puts on a great convention that is a valuable educational experience for both clock and watch enthusiast. One does not need to be certified, or a professional to attend. One just needs to have an interest in furthering his or her horological education. Our convention is definitely one place to do that so join us in Lynchburg April 16, 17, and 18, 2004.

This year we are again fortunate to have one of the premier clock repair instructors presenting two half-day sessions. Laurie Penman is world renowned for his practical clock repairing expertise. Laurie will present two sessions that are not to be missed. The first is on the "Design and Repair of Clock Escapements" and the afternoon session is on "Problem Clock Repair". Beginners and advanced practitioners alike can benefit from his presentations.

Hermann Mayer, too, is known around the world for his watch repair expertise. Mr. Mayer will present two sessions on Sunday morning. One will be

"Lubrication of Watches" and the other will be the "Quartz Chronograph ETA 251-262". For watch people who complain we don't do enough on watches, here is your opportunity.

For those of you planning to attend this year's convention, welcome and thank you for attending. For those who are thinking about it, please come and confirm your wise decision. For those who don't plan to attend, the world, and your fellow horologists, will probably pass you by.

## Hint

**Don't forget to bring your excess treasures to the HAV Annual Convention's auction on April 17, 2004**

## HAV Treasurer's Report

This report was rendered by HAV Treasurer Stan Palen at the February 22, 2004 HAV Board Of Directors meeting. As of November 17, 2003,

----- Expenses -----	
L&T	\$ 95.13
Memorial-Belcher	\$ 25.00
AWI dues	\$100.00
Office supplies	\$148.07

Board meeting	\$233.09
Return of dues	\$ 10.00
Fall Seminar	\$288.85
MAHSI	<u>\$361.16</u>
Total expenses	\$1,261.30
----- Funds -----	
Previous check balance	\$3,267.80
Deposits	\$ 104.11
Minus expenses	-\$1,261.30

Current check balance	\$2,110.61
Current Uninvest balance	\$9,427.74
Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$7,287.04</u>
<b>Total available funds</b>	<b>\$18,825.39</b>

## Feature of the issue—The Old Soldiers' Home Clock Tower

The Central Tower of Washington, DC's Soldiers' Home, recently renamed the Armed Forces Retirement Home, is noteworthy for its historical and horological importance. During the Civil War, it was used to observe maneuvers of Confederate forces near the city of Washington. In the summer of 1864, President Lincoln and other government officials climbed the tower to observe a demonstration of signaling from the tower to the roof of the Smithsonian Institution Building.

The Home's Board of Commissioners ordered a New York clockmaker to "put up a clock at Soldiers' Home, having four dials equal in quality with the one put up by him at the Military Academy, West Point, New York." That clock was installed in 1868 by E.N. Bryan of Sag Harbor, Long Island, New York. After years of neglect, the clock, clock faces, and bell are undergoing renovations. Hopefully soon, the "old soldiers and sailors" will again enjoy the sounds of this old clock.



## Minutes February 22, 2004 HAV Board of Directors Meeting

- The Board of Directors of the Horological Association of Virginia met in a Holiday Inn in Charlottesville VA on 22 Feb 2004.
- President Mike Frost called the meeting to order at 10 am. The meeting adjourned at 1205 PM.

### Attendees

- President - Mike Frost
- First Vice President - Lowell Fast
- Second Vice President - John Enloe
- Secretary - Lloyd Lehn
- Treasurer - Stan Palen
- L & T - Bill Bugert
- Directors/Alt - George McNeil's Potomac - Ralph Smith, Dick Riegel, Bob Stone
- Directors - South Side - Clarence Hardy, Wayne Simpson
- Directors - Tri City - Tuck Tompkins, Charlie Soukup
- Guests - Rodney Graves, George Evans, Brenda Hardy

### Invocation - Wayne Simpson provided the invocation.

### Minutes

- The minutes of the 16 Nov 2003 HAV Board meeting were distributed and approved.
- George Evans suggested that the minutes should be published in L&T. Bill Bugert said he would do so.

### Officer's Reports

#### Treasurer - Treasurer's Report

- HAV currently has \$18,825.
- Stan believes he has almost completed the shut down of MASHI. There may be a tax issue remaining due to administrative errors on the part of the state government. He hopes to resolve it in next couple of weeks. He has divided the remaining MASHI funds among the sponsors.

### Other Business

#### HAV Convention 2004

- Chairman: Lowell Fast
- Date: 17-18 April 2004 - arrive on 16th.
- Main speakers: Laurie Penman (clocks) from AWI and Herman Maier (watches) from The Lititz PA, Rolex watch training school.
- Registration Fees: Participant \$85; Spouse \$60. - Wayne Simpson is looking for ideas for a spouses program.
- Annual Meeting/Election of Officers - Sunday Morning - There was a major discussion over the time slot for this event. The Board decided to hold it on Sunday morning
  - Brochure: Bill Bugert agreed to provide Lowell Fast photos of last year's event for use in the brochure.
  - Banquet: 6:30 Saturday evening
  - Auction: 7:30 Saturday - Wayne in charge. He wants to start at 7:30 to give the staff a chance finish earlier.
  - Room Reservations: April 2nd is the deadline to get Convention room rates.
- Hotel Coordination: Experienced players suggested Lowell have a sit down with the hotel before the meeting to resolve any issues.



## Fall Seminar

- Chairman/Coordinator: Ralph Smith
- Date: 3 Oct 2004
- Location: Best Western in Sandston VA
- Content: Parallel sessions for watches and clocks. Ralph wants to use HAV members to give a one or two hour talk. He is looking for volunteers.
- Tuck and Lowell are preparing a talk on watches
- Chick Hardy offered to talk on railroad watches.

## MASHI

- See Treasurers report

## Guilds

- Mike Frost expressed concern that HAV does not know what the Guilds are doing. Mike said he would develop a data collection instrument to collect data from the guilds.
- It was suggested that this instrument be used to feed the annual report submitted to AWI.

## HAV Library

- Clarence Hardy provided an initial inventory of the contents of the HAV library. The Board asked him to provide additional details of each item - hopefully it can be finished for distribution at the Convention.
- Clarence said he was paying to ship items to individuals. It was suggested that he either collect funds from the individual or from the treasurer for this expense.

## AWI Communications

- Lowell Fast distributed a draft HAV memo to AWI concerning the watch spare parts problems. The Board suggested revisions. Lowell said he would include them.

## 2004 President's Award

The Board considered nominations for the President's Award. Voting members voted on the nomination after a brief discussion. Voting results will be announced at the Convention Banquet.

## Conducting Business Electronically

- Mike Frost discussed the issue but no papers were offered which defined how business can be conducted electronically.

## New Business

### AWI Annual Meeting

- Lloyd Lehn and Clarence Hardy both said they would like to attend the AWI annual meeting next August in Portland Maine. Lloyd is the official HAV representative to AWI.
- A motion was approved to sponsor both individuals up to \$800 each. Individuals will pay anything over that.
- AWI is expected to provide HAV \$400 for one person to attend the meeting as they have done in the past.

## Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held at the Convention.
- The meeting after that will be held 15 Aug 2004 in the - same motel in Charlottesville.

## Prepared By

- Prepared by:

Lloyd Lehn  
Secretary HAV



## Stan's Komputer Korner

By Stan Palen

This is a regular column for Loupes and Tweezers. It includes computer information for IBM compatible computers in the form of hints, helps, suggestions and news. Please submit your questions to Stan Palen, 8283 Oakwood Drive, King George, VA 22485 or via email to [spalen@crosslink.net](mailto:spalen@crosslink.net). Please note that this column is often submitted for publication 30 to 60 days before publication. I now have a web page located at: [www.stanpalen.com](http://www.stanpalen.com). My columns will be posted there when I have completed them.

I had a lightning strike last weekend. It came in on the phone lines. The surge protectors did their job. The phone wires were fried in several places. I have to replace the surge protectors, but I think they are covered under their warranty. One of my monitors is now showing some very strange colors and should be replaced. I think it was because the phone lines were too near the monitor. My newest printer was on an old surge protector and it is completely dead, but still under warranty. I was in the room and sparks flew when it hit. All of your computer equipment should be on a good surge protector with indicator lights about it's condition.

Dell computers was offering some very good deals in January. I had been thinking of a new one for a while. I went against my own advice – If your old computer is doing everything you want it to do, then you probably do not need a new one. My old one had been getting sluggish and crashed quite often.

The offer was for \$150 rebate, a four times memory upgrade to 1 gigabyte, double the hard drive capacity, and a couple of other free upgrades. So I ordered it on the last day of the offer and it came earlier than they said.

Then the work began. I needed to transfer programs and files to the new machine. For this you usually have to find your original disks. This took a while. The first chore was to get the new computer to talk to the network in the house. I have a different firewall on each machine, so I needed to go into each one to authorize the addresses of the others. My network has to have manual addresses due to a hardware incompatibility I talked about in an earlier column.

I was able to just copy the whole subdirectories in the program file subdirectory for some of the simple programs, but this is an improper installation. It does not show up in the installed programs and there is no uninstall option.



I moved my DVD R/W drive to the new machine. After testing most of my programs, I put my new computer in the primary position. I hooked up my digital flat display to the digital output on the new machine. It worked for 3 days and died. I traced it to the video card. I called Dell support and they agreed to send me a new video card. This one worked for 3 minutes. I called Dell about a different card. They offered one for \$299 and would give me a credit of \$59 for my old one. To me this is not an acceptable solution. This would mean it would cost me \$240 to get my machine to work the way it was supposed to when I got it. I have spent many hours on the phone and have gotten no where so far. They have areas called customer care and technical support. Customer care is the one you have to talk to in order to get things authorized. I talked different ones and also asked for a supervisor in each case. They refused. Technical support is in India.

Dell also has discussion groups and forums on it's web site. I put the problem out there and that has not produced results either.

I looked up on the Dell company web site to see if I could determine who to write to. There was no visible contact information. Then I looked up the company under the stock symbol information on Yahoo's web site. There they list the various vice presidents and their responsibilities.

I am not very happy with Dell at the moment.

The author is retired from the Navy as a Supervisory General Engineer. He has been involved with computers since the early sixties. He used to purchase all the hardware and software for a group of 40 scientists and engineers. He has marketed Swim Meet programs nationally. He was an associate editor of the Apple II section of the Washington Apple Pie, a computer users group based in Washington DC.



## Horological Association of Virginia, Inc.

HAV contact Information:

**President**  
Mike Frost

**First Vice President**  
Lowell Fast

**Second Vice President**  
John Enloe

**Treasurer**  
Stan Palen

**Secretary**  
Dr. Lloyd Lehn, CC

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Loupes and Tweezers new mailing address:  
Bill Bugert, L&T Editor  
1230 Red Rock Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325-6927  
(717) 337-0229  
WB8CPY@arrl.net

### Mark your calendar !

First Tuesday of every month, Potomac Guild meeting  
April 16-18, 2004 - HAV Convention 2004, Lynchburg, VA  
April 20, 2004 - Tri-Cities Guild meeting  
May 18, 2004 - Tri-Cities Guild meeting  
July 1-3, 2004 - NAWCC National Convention, Oklahoma City, OK  
August 5-8, 2004 - AWI Convention, South Portland, ME  
August 15, 2004 - HAV Board meeting, Charlottesville, VA  
October 3, 2004 - HAV Fall Seminar, Sandstone, VA  
October 17-18, 2004 - NAWCC Mid-Eastern Regional, Boyds, MD

### HAV Mission

The Horological Association of Virginia is dedicated to the advancement of the Art and Science of Horology. We will provide opportunities to our membership to advance their skills and knowledge. We will support our members by providing educational opportunities at our Conventions and Seminars. We will support our local guilds, wherever possible, in their efforts to advance the causes of the HAV.

The HAV was formed in October 1939 for the purpose of promoting cooperation among the horologists, principally watchmakers, throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and surrounding locales. In the ensuing years, HAV's spectrum has broadened to include clockmakers, bench jewelers, retail jewelers, collectors, and hobbyists associated with this precision industry. The scope of HAV has grown by expanding its offering of education to its members in the latest techniques, training in the use of advances in technology, and continued prompting of fair and ethical trade practices.

### AWI changes it's Name??

On March 12, 2004, many of you may have received an email notice from AWI informing you of this pending motion before the American Watchmakers-Clockmakers Institute Board of Directors:

"The acronym committee met via teleconference on February 4, 2004 to discuss possible changes to our acronym. They unanimously agreed to recommend that the Institute's Acronym be changed from AWI to AWCI. They are making this recommendation to the board as a motion for its approval. This motion comes from committee and requires no second.

The committee moves: AWI shall change its acronym to AWCI."

If you have an opinion on this motion, now is the time to voice it. Only board members may vote but comments may be addressed to the entire board at [awiboard@awi-net.org](mailto:awiboard@awi-net.org)

Did you know:

Dr. Lloyd Lehn, CC, Secretary of the HAV, recently published two excellent horological articles:

- "Accelerated Superglue is a superlative fix," [NAWCC Bulletin](#), August 2003
- "More Clock Repair Uses of Superglue," [Horological Times](#), March 2004