



Loupes and Tweezers

The Official Newsletter of THE HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

Horological Association
of Virginia, Inc.

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HAV Fall Seminar a Great Success!



Fall Seminar attendees, October 16, 2005, Sandston, VA

Thanks to some eleventh hour shuffling, HAV members Bob Stone and Ralph Smith arranged an outstanding Fall Seminar. Conducted on Saturday, October 16th, 2005 at the American Best Value Inn at Sandston, VA (near the Richmond airport), approximately 25 attendees paid a mere \$35 for a full day of learning and camaraderie. The HAV Fall Seminar is a yearly event and one of your many HAV membership benefits. Next year's Fall Seminar is scheduled for October 15th, 2006.

Three programs were presented last October. Jim Michaels, a former director and instructor of the School of Horology for the NAWCC and who currently operates clock and watch repair shops in Hagerstown, MD and Gettysburg, PA, presented the first program with information on the history and repair of watch vibrating mainsprings. Using his own overhead camera-to-screen set-up, Jim demonstrated correct methods of vibrating and adjusting mainsprings. Key take-away points included "Before you bend, think", hairsprings should vibrate "light" on both sides of the banking pins, and hairsprings should vibrate parallel to the wheel and perpendicular to the shaft. His interesting instruction was relevant to both watch and clock repairers. Many thanks, Jim!

The second excellent program was presented by C. K. McAdams. C. K. repairs clocks but also makes his own wooden clock cases from scratch. He demonstrated his Seth Thomas #2 copy and showed attendees how he makes and finishes wooden cases. His technique includes obtaining an old clock, making plans for it and building a sample, building



templates and jigs, and finally, constructing more. C. K. detailed his extensive tools, his technique for finishing the wooden case, and many of the templates and jigs he uses to make the wooden case. This was a fascinating lecture and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thanks C.K. for a great time and for sharing your expertise!

The final program was a video made by Dick Arnold, Lowell Fast, and Tuck Tompkins. This video was on the Jacot Lathe and is essentially an improved version of the AWCI video by Don DeCorte. It details a different video training approach and a comparison of both videos were shown. Included in Dick, Lowell, and Tuck's video was keeping your Jacot lathe in good working condition, tips on how to correctly use it, and understanding its components and set-up. Great job on the video, gentlemen.

Many thanks to all those who planned, organized, and conducted this outstanding Seminar.

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Photo by Bill Rieger



The President's Message By Lowell Fast

Ah, the days now start to get longer, just look at any equation of time and you see it starts slow and patience alone tells the winter is waning. Our April convention will be upon us as the dogwoods bloom. Your board has not been hibernating this winter and I urge any member to attend our next meeting on the 26 of February. We shall be addressing some interesting issues in VA and AWCI. I also encourage you to run for state director in your local guild and join us in Charlottesville quarterly. As we have been pushing the issue of parts availability for over five years, many issues are being stirred up with the action. Not only in the U.S. but in Europe the issue is being taken before the E.U. Some may say "my ox is not being gored" but the value of a guild or association is to defend the survival interest of any challenged sector of the membership. AWCI has finally responded to the urgings of the membership but many are not pleased with the approach nor it's efficiency. It is important to remain focused and not be divided in this confusion. The AWCI board members we backed are doing a good job of responding to these important subjects in a business like manner. If you agree, tell them. If you do not, tell them. They are very responsive. I also consider myself a Horologist first and have enough "hobbies" without adding another to the list. I feel we play into the hands of those who would divide us when we call ourselves "hobbyists". I also was surprised when I received my

new AWCI membership card and in comparing it to an older one, I noticed the word "Professional" had been "slipped" in to the definition of the organization. This may not mean much to most but I am sure it important to the "slippers". Some feel AWCI is only interested in revamping AWCI to meet the needs of a minority of watch repairmen and would just as soon see the rest of us stop complaining and go away" is very possibly true in that the TRUST would generate enough heat to keep the lights on and a "select" group of lighthouse keepers under roof. Rather than fold out tents and walk away, I think we, the majority, should state the future path of AWCI by electing a BOARD that reflects our views. This Board should set the Policies for the Staff and hold them accountable for establish business practices that reflect the intent of those Policies. The Swiss watch specialists DID NEED a new standard but it could have been set up as a separate certification (like the battery changers or counter persons, Electric or other specialty). Most of these members are associated with storefront businesses whose can write off the \$5,000 to \$8,000 direct and indirect cost the certification incurs. I encourage the HAV board, all members of HAV, and our sister guilds to register for the AWCI Matters chat room on the AWCI website and see the activity on these subjects and join in. There are those who say it is too much controversy but where there is heat there is fire. Consider those whose position you agree with as possible candidates for the upcoming Board elections. Get it in the "digest " format first as this will give a day's worth at a time and not keep you in basket cluttered. Until my next cluttering of your in basket...

Feature of the Issue - Clocks at Winterthur



Take a look at the wonderful clocks depicted in these photographs. These are but a few of the 267 clocks at Winterthur. The Editor had a chance during the Christmas holidays to tour the Winterthur estate and really enjoyed the horological items dispersed throughout. The Winterthur Museum and Country Estate is the open home of the late Henry Francis DuPont (1880-1969) and is located just south of Philadelphia in the scenic Brandywine Valley of Delaware. It showcases his love of decorative arts and horticulture. As of this writing, horological tours are available upon special reservations for 5 people at \$100 each. For more information, see the Winterthur website at <http://www.winterthur.org>



Coming this April! - HAV Annual Convention

Here are the some early details

When: April 21-23, 2006

Where: Lynchburg, VA at the Ramada Inn. This is the same location as the past number of years.

Lodging: Make your own room reservations by calling (434) 847-7500. Thirty rooms are reserved for us at a special rate of \$69 (single or double). Mention group code HORO.

Cost: \$55 for the full pre-registration package. Partial package prices will be announced with full details in the next issue of the Loupes and Tweezers.

Speakers:

Clock speaker: Bob Ockenden, Valley Clock Works, Minnesota.

Watch speaker: Tamara Houk, former AWCI

Director.

Spouses' program: Wayne Simpson will organize it again this year.

Other activities: Awards banquet, auction, spouses' activities, reception, etc.

Plan your calendar now to attend if you haven't already. Past Conventions have been well planned and well attended, This year's promises to be just as good. Here is the schedule outline:

Friday: Early registration and reception

Saturday: All day watch session, spouses program, evening banquet, awards ceremony, and horological item auction.

Sunday: Morning HAV membership meeting, all day clock session, and luncheon.

Know Your Fellow HAV Members

Here is a recent photo of an HAV member. Do you know this couple? Their identity can be found elsewhere in this issue.



Get your surplus items ready for sale!

In conjunction with the 2006 HAV Annual Convention (April 21-23, 2006) in Lynchburg, VA, there will be an association auction. Get rid of your horological clutter and make some money. Start preparing your items now.



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. 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. My columns will be posted there when I have completed them.

I had a crashed computer given to me to attempt to restore. The cause of the crash was most probably one or more viruses. I removed the hard drives and installed them one.

If you belong to any yahoo Groups this is important...

Yahoo is now using something called "Web Beacons" to track Yahoo Group users around the net and see what you're doing and where you are going--similar to cookies. Yahoo is recording every website and every group you visit.

Take a look at their updated privacy statement:

<http://privacy.yahoo.com/privacy> or
<http://privacy.yahoo.com/privacy/us/>

About half-way down the page, in the section on cookies, you will see a link that says web beacons. Click on the phrase web beacons. That will bring you to a paragraph entitled "Outside the Yahoo Network." In this section, you'll see a little "click here to opt out" link that will let you "opt-out" of their new method of snooping. Once you have clicked that link, you are exempted. Notice the "Success" message on the top of the next page. Be careful because on that page there is a "Cancel Opt-out" button that, if clicked, will *undo** the opt-out.



Photo by Bill Berger

Computer monitors are getting bigger. I saw a 24 inch flat screen one yesterday. It had an incredible picture. With one this big, you could set up a large font for easier reading.

Do you know about magnify? It is under all programs, accessories, accessibility. It allows any section of the screen to be magnified. It can be set to follow the text cursor or the mouse pointer. It will open a window at the top with the area expanded. The type of window and the magnification amount is adjustable. It is great for blowing up an area of fine print.

I saw a demonstration of Image Doctor by Alien Skin. This program will automatically fix problems with many photos. It can remove scratches in a scanned picture or take out text that has been added. It cannot repair everything, but the demonstration was amazing. For a review of the product go to http://www.windowwatch.com/2002/october/imagem_d8_9.html.

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.

Answer to "Know Your Fellow HAV Members":
Virginia and Bill Davis, Member At-Large



HAV Library List

Through the efforts of HAV member Chic Hardy, here is a listing of the HAV library. These items are available for your use by contacting Chic at (540) 890-5565 or via email at clockdoc1@att.net.

Videos

- Clock Mainspring Winders – 45 Minute video
- Atmos Clock Repair – 105 minute video
- Diamond and Stone Setting – 70 minute video
- Glass Crystal Fitting - 30 minute video
- Fancy Cut Diamond Setting – 110 minute video
- Channel Diamond Setting – 60 minute video
- Professional Bead Stringing – 30 minute video
- What You Should Know about Buying Jewelry - 30 minute video
- AW I Museum – 60 minute video
- Clock Works (Wayne Griffith) – 60 minute video
- Wheel Cutting and Pinion Making (WR Smith) – 120 minute video
- Graver Making & Hand Turning for Clockmakers (WR Smith) – 120 minute video
- Faces of Time (Maurice Lacroix) – 23 minute video
- Grand Complications (International Watch Co) - 20 minute video
- AWCI: The Affiliate Chapter Story – 30 minute video
- The Russian Museums (John Sweisford) – 58 minute video
- About Time (Bell Lab) – 53 minute video
- Raymond Weild Watch - 45 minute video
- Watch Time - 45 minute video
- Purveyors of History - 80 minute video
- I Hate Watches - 110 minute video
- Phasing 214 & 218 Accutron – 30 minute video
- The Complete Metalsmith (Tim McCreight) - 70 minute video
- ETA Swiss Quartz – 15 minute video
- A Conversation with Henry 1993 – 45 minute video
- Gems and Minerals: The Smithsonian Collections - 45 minute video
- Inventory Records “It’s Good Business” - 17 minute video
- “Robbery: Anytime, Anywhere” - 28 minute video
- IWC 125 years to Develop a Single Watch - 40 minute video
- Glass Watch Crystal Fitting – 19 minute video
- Random Clock Talk with Huckbee – 120 minute video
- A Watch is Born – 45 minute video

Book and Audio Cassettes

- The One Minute Manager **Book and Audio Cassette**
- The One Minute Sales Person **Book and Audio Cassette**

Books

- Military Timepieces – Marvin Whitney **Book**
- The Ships Chronometer – Marvin Whitney (Gift from Sherley and Fred White) **Book**
- The Chronograph Book (Property of Roanoke Valley Watchmakers Association) **Book**



Draft Minutes of the November 20, 2005 HAV Board of Directors Meeting - Courtesy of HAV Secretary, Lloyd Lehn, CC

Editor's note: These minutes will be draft until approved at the next HAV Board meeting

The HAV Board meeting was held at the Holiday Inn - Monticello, 1200 5th St S.W., Charlottesville VA 22902 from 1000-1200 hours on 20 November 2005.

Attendees

Officers: Lowell Fast, John Enloe, Steve Leonard, Lloyd Lehn, Stan Palen, Bill Bugert, Bill Trapp

Directors: Tuck Tompson, Ralph Smith, Dick Reigel, Bob Stone, Robert Harris, Wayne Simpson, Clarence Hardy

Welcome President Fast welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Invocation Chick Hardy provided the invocation.

Secretary The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer Stan Palen provided two reports which were approved by the Board:

- Complete Treasurers Report of all Finances - HAV currently has \$18,850.35 total funds available.
- Proposed 2005-2006 HAV budget. - The planned expenditures and income for the year are \$6800.

Unfinished Business

Convention 2005

The final financial numbers between the treasurer and the 2005 convention chairmen and now the same. The payment from AWCI for the double billing of a speaker was resolved and the books are now closed.

Fall Seminar 2005

Kudos were given to Bob Stone and Ralph Smith for putting on one of the best seminars we have had. Others were mentioned for contributing. The Seminar cost HAV a total of \$31 after all the bills were in. Everyone considered this a real bargain.

Convention 2006

Bill Bugert and Steve Leonard reported for the convention committee.

When: April 21-23 2006.

Where: Lynchburg, Ramada Inn. 30 rooms have been set aside until 1 April 2006. Rates

are \$69 for double. Meeting rooms will be similar to last year. Food menu for the banquet will be the same as last year.

Cost: The Board was reminded they have decided to have a one year reduction in registration fee since we have a surplus in the current treasury. Registration will be \$55 for members and \$50 for spouses. Partial meeting attendance will be scaled appropriately.

Speaker: The main "clock" speaker will be Bob Ockenden. Still searching for a "watch" speaker.

Spouse Program: Wayne Simpson has agreed to lead this again.

Overall planning: The committee is following the guidance from the Convention Book passed along by John Enloe after running last year's meeting.

Finances: The treasurer has provide a \$500 advance for immediate needs e.g. fee to hold hotel.

Presidents Award: Bill Trapp will solicit written nominations for the Award which will be due a week or so before the next Board meeting so that they can be voted upon by the Board at the next meeting.

AWCI Membership

Chick Hardy suggested that AWCI could provide us a list of all individuals in Virginia who are AWCI members so that we can determine how many HAV members belong to AWCI. Chick will send the list to Stan Palen.

HAV Library

Chick Hardy said he has completed transferring the tapes from the HAV library to DVDs. He has discarded material that is no longer of use. He said he would have the list of current items available in the library available to Bill Bugert for inclusion in the next Loupes and Tweezers.

New Business

Fall Seminar 2006

We do not have a chairman yet. Bob

Stone had significant problems with the level of support supplied by the motel this year and recommended we find an alternative site. Bob Stone will help with selecting speakers and Ralph Smith will search for an alternative site for the meeting in the same Sandston/Richmond area we have been using.

AWCI Board Nominations

Lloyd Lehn pointed out that HAV has until 31 Dec 2005 to nominate someone for the AWCI Board of Directors. Chick Hardy said he would like to be a nominee and was approved by the HAV Board. Lloyd Lehn is to submit Chick's name to Alice Carpenter - chairman of the AWCI nominating committee.

AWCI Affiliates Survey

Ralph Smith volunteered to chair the effort to conduct a survey of AWCI affiliates satisfaction with AWCI. Lloyd Lehn pointed out that the purpose of the survey must be defined up front so that the questions asked are in sync with the purpose of the survey. Ralph agreed that the structure of the questions would be a sensitive issue. Lloyd pointed out that he survey would need to be completed by the next AWCI annual meeting.

Guild Participation

Several people expressed concern about the lack of participation in the HAV Board meetings by the Tidewater and Peninsula Guilds. Nobody seems to know the status of these groups. It has been suggested in the past that they be made At-Large members but that had not happened. Lowell Fast said he would contact them to attempt to determine whether they will remain as a separate Guild or become at-large members.

Next Board Meeting

The next HAV Board meeting will be on 26 February 2006 at the same motel.



Horological Association of Virginia, Inc.

HAV contact information:

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First Vice President
John Enloe

Second Vice President
Steve Leonard

Treasurer
Stan Palen

Secretary
Lloyd Lehn, CC

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Offset Cannon Pinion Solution from August Cornell

This is a repair problem that I have received at least a half dozen calls and letters on each year for the last five years or so and I finally have a repair solution that meets all the necessary criteria of being reliable, repeatable, and easy to do if done correctly. The problem involves both quartz and mechanical watches with those very delicate offset cannon pinions that slip despite our best traditional efforts to tighten them. These canon pinions are unusual in that they are typically are mounted upside down on the arbor of their host wheel, and do not have the fly cut throat of a typical center arbor canon pinion. Additionally, the arbor that receives this troublesome pinion is tapered the opposite of the traditional center wheel arbor, causing us to have to press the fixed diameter throat of the offset

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.

canon pinion past the largest collar section of the arbor, only to slip on the much thinner area of the arbor where the contact section of the pinion and arbor reside and function. I have even received notes from watchmakers who have attempted to retrofit an adjustable section to these canon pinions by grinding a hole into the wall of the pinion to allow a round face punch to give tension to the pinion throat on one side. The feedback is that this works marginally, and then not for long. Here is the solution: Pull the wheel and canon pinion from the movement. Carefully remove the canon pinion from its host arbor. Clean both parts. Obtain a fresh bottle of diluted Nitric acid from your material house from the gold testing materials supplies. Get the 14K diluted strength. This is the most common strength and will match the testing I did on my bench. You are going to hold one drop on the end of the plastic bottle tip, or a plastic rod, and immerse the steel arbor of the wheel from the tip to where the section that hosts the canon pinion ends. Do not get this acid on the brass wheel as it will foam green and produce a toxic gas. If you hold the arbor flat, or tilt it down slightly, you will easily be able to capture and hold a fraction of a drop on the steel arbor. If the pinion had been slipping freely, leave the acid on for twenty minutes at room temperature. If it was slipping slightly as when the calendar mechanism is engaged, do it for twelve minutes. Rinse it off in watch rinse and dry completely. Carefully press the pinion back on and test the unit for slip tension. I believe you will be pleasantly surprised at the results. The slip tension will be consistently tight without blind spots, and will sustain this tension after repeated advances of the hands.

Mark your calendar !

February 21, 2006 - Tri-City Guild meeting, Richmond, VA

February 26, 2006 - HAV Board of Directors meeting, Charlottesville

Late March 2006 - Next issue of the Loupes and Tweezers published with complete details of the HAV Annual Convention

April 21-23, 2006 - HAV 2006 Annual Convention, Lynchburg, VA

June 21-23, 2006 - NAWCC National Convention, Cleveland, OH

August 3-6, 2006 - AWCI Annual Convention, Seattle, WA

October 15, 2006 - HAV Fall Seminar, Location TBD



Horological Association Of Virginia
Loupes and Tweezers January 2006 Newsletter
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To:

First Class Mail

HAV Annual Convention
April 21-23, 2006
Plan to Attend Now !