



Loupes and Tweezers

The Official Newsletter of THE HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

Horological Association
of Virginia, Inc.

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HAV members gather for Fall Seminar



The Fall Seminar attendees

Photo by George Evans

On Sunday, October 3, 2004, twenty-two HAV members met at the Best Western Airport Inn in Sandston, VA (just east of Richmond) for a full day (8 AM to 4 PM) of clock and watch related classes. There were four separate classes conducted by and for the members of HAV. The Officers and members of HAV are indebted to the following individuals who made the seminar a success: Ralph Smith for coordinating the seminar and Herb Hollander, Chick Hardy, Tuck Tompkins, Lowell Fast, and David Todd for taking the time to prepare and present their expertise. Highlights of each

presentation are discussed here for those of you who missed this educational event.



Herb Hollander at the Fall Seminar

Photo by Bill

Herbert Hollander of Great Falls, VA opened the Fall Seminar with his talk entitled "Cross Indexing of Material." The title would lead you to believe he was going to talk about some work on a lathe. However, in reality he spoke of the value of old reference material. By references, he discussed the scarcity of old and new books, old suppliers' catalogues, repair manuals, manufacturers flyers, and the like. Possible sources for these are retiring old timers and NAWCC regionals. Interchangeable parts reference tables are invaluable as

you may have a substitute part you need and not know it. In general, he stated, references are cheaper here than in Europe where the same references will be 25-30% higher than the U.S.

Additionally, Herb discussed the merits of getting an appraisal certification to provide additional income. Customers often desire knowledge of the value of their horological item. He says it is easy work and he only quotes "replacement costs," which often is the market value of a clock or watch in your particular area. To get started, Herb says that other than a horological background (like all of us), you need some good references (e.g., horological items auction prices realized, the auction catalogues, clock and watch books, and knowledgeable old timers who can be a mentor.) One warning was that it is not ethical to appraise something than offer to buy it.

Editor's note: Can anyone identify the backs of the two gentlemen in the first row of the picture?

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Horological Hint courtesy of

Tuck Tompkins:

Springs in a barrel

To calculate a rough value for the main spring **strength** =
 $.0115 \times \text{barrel inside diameter}$

To calculate a rough value for a main springs **length** =

$1.27 \times \text{barrel inside diameter}$



Photo by Bill Bugert

The President's Message

By Mike Frost

Every time I sit down to write for L & T, I struggle to find something to say. (Many times I talk but say nothing, but that is for another letter). Anyway, I find myself at the same point yet again. Most any subject has

should recognize the value of participation. The constant few members who volunteer for tasks are usually the same ones who volunteered last time. In a small organization, those folks get burned out quickly and with few 'new' volunteers, we quickly get to the point of no return.

So what does it take to volunteer? Just raise your hand at the next meeting and say: "I will". It really is not difficult at all. What will happen is truly amazing. People you thought didn't even know you will become your next best friends. Lights will flash and bells will ring. Everything that needs doing will be dumped in your lap. Or so you think. What really will happen is that others will benefit from your help. Most tasks are small and only involve a small investment in your time. None are difficult or complicated. All help out the association.

been put forth at least once if not more. So what now?

Well, maybe we should stop and take a look at our State organization, the HAV. How many of you know much about it? Do you participate other than paying dues? If someone asked you who the Officers are, would you have to look it up? If so, you are not alone. The majority of members of any organization are this way.

Now that may be fine for a large national group, but for an association with approximately 130 members, we all

All of us have businesses or personal commitments that demand our time. The HAV is another commitment that is calling. Will you answer?

Feature of the issue: Circa 1855 Pocket Watch



Photo by Bill Bugert

E. S. Yates & Co Pocket Watch, circa 1855

On display at the Charleston, SC City Museum:

This watch belonged to Robert Evander McPherson, a soldier in the 8th South Carolina Volunteers. Finding his uniform without a watch pocket, McPherson's wife quickly sewed one in allowing him to carry his gold watch off to battle. McPherson was soon sent to Virginia to serve in the defense

of Richmond. In January 1862, McPherson was mortally wounded at the Battle of Malvern Hill and died one month later. His body was packed in charcoal and sent back to his family in Florence, SC.

In an effort to properly identify her husband's remains, Mrs. McPherson searched out her homemade pocket and found this watch inside. The watch face is marked "E.S. Yates & Co. Liverpool".

Know Your Fellow HAV Members

As a continuing feature, the editor will feature a photo of a fellow HAV member for you to identify. The identity of this individual can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Who is are these guys and where are they?



Photo by Bill Bugert



HAV Library Listing

[Courtesy of Clarence Hardy]

You may not know it but the HAV has a library! During the past year, Clarence Hardy, the unofficial HAV Librarian, has undertaken the monumental task of cataloging the holdings in the HAV library. It is listed here for use by the membership.

Any of these items may be loaned out to any HAV member at his/her request. Requests for loan may be addressed to :

Clarence Hardy
1470 Abbey Circle
Vinton, VA 24179
(540) 890-5565

The cost of postage, both ways, is requested from the individual making the loan request.

Books

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Military Timepieces	Marvin Whitney
The Ships Chronometer	Marvin Whitney (Gift from Sherley and Fred White)
The Chronograph Book	(Property of Roanoke Valley Watchmakers Association)
The One Minute Manager	Book and Audio Cassette
The One Minute Sales Person	Book and Audio Cassette

VHS Format Videos

<u>Title</u>	<u>Approximate Length (Minutes)</u>
A Conversation with Henry 1993	45
AWCI: The Affiliate Chapter Story	30
AWI Museum	60
A Watch is Born	45
About Time (Bell Lab)	53
Atmos Clock Repair	105
Channel Diamond Setting	60
Clock Mainspring Winders	45
Clock Works (Wayne Griffith)	60
Diamond and Stone Setting	70
ETA Swiss Quartz	15
Faces of Time (Maurice Lacroix)	23
Fancy Cut Diamond Setting	110
Gems and Minerals: the Smithsonian Collections	45
Glass Crystal Fitting	30
Glass Watch Crystal Fitting	19
Grand Complications (International Watch Co)	20
Graver Making & Hand Turning for Clockmakers (WR Smith)	120
I Hate Watches	110
Inventory Records "It's Good Business"	117
IWC: 125 Years to Develop a Single Watch	40
Phasing 214 & 218 Accutron	30
Professional Bead Stringing	30
Purveyors of History	80
Random Clock Talk with Huckabee	120
Raymond Weild Watch	45
"Robbery: Anytime, Anywhere"	28
The Complete Metalsmith (Tim McCreight)	70
The Russian Museums (John Sweisford)	58
Watch Time	45
What You Should Know about Buying Jewelry	30
Wheel Cutting and Pinion Making (WR Smith)	120



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.

Well, Dell has finally fixed my machine. I kept calling until I found a technical person that understood my problem and authorized a replacement. It only took nine months. The technical person that they sent to replace the card told me that my card will not support two monitors like it is supposed to do. It does however work in the digital mode the way I wanted it to do. It was working only in the analog mode which meant my computer would take a digital image for the screen, convert it to analog to send it to the monitor and the monitor would convert the analog mode back to digital for the display. This will lose some quality of the image on the screen.

I mentioned in my last column I mentioned that I had purchased NERO 6. It is an excellent program for backing up your computer. It will do it automatically on a regular schedule. I also discovered that you can make multiple sessions on a non-rewriteable disk. I had to transfer some files to another computer. I wrote the files to a disk and checked the box to allow multiple session disk. I used the disk on the other machine and discovered I had more files to move. I copied those to the disk and was able to read them on the other machine. The first files were no longer accessible. This is one way to get a lot of mileage out of a plain CD-R or DVD+or - R disk. They are cheap enough these days, but why waste them.

The reason I needed to transfer files was that I just got high speed cable internet. When they installed it, they disconnected my in house network. They will not be responsible for any other connections. I wanted to install some new software on an-



Photo by Bill Berger

other machine, but it needed supporting files.

I wanted to reconfigure my network so that the cable connection would work with any of my computers including my pocket PC. There was a major upgrade to my wireless router that I had to download first. Then I had to get each machine to talk to the router. I then disconnected my cable modem from my computer and hooked it to my router. My Internet connection went away. I called the cable company several times and they just did a reset of my internet numerical address. 2 days later, I got to a technician that knew to reboot my cable modem from his end. Bingo I was in business. Cable modems have a MAC ID that you must give your cable company so they can address it. My cable company wanted \$10 a month to rent the cable modem. I bought my own for \$60. If I was starting from scratch, I would have bought a cable modem that was also a router. (More than one network connection.) You can also get them with wireless if you need it.

My router has a hardware firewall that I activated and I also activated encryption. The encryption is for wireless communications and should be activate if someone could be within 200 feet of your wireless antenna to prevent someone from using your system. The firewall will try to stop some of the possible outside entry attempts against your system.

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.



HAV Fall Seminar—Continued



Photo by Bill Bugert

Chick Hardy talks about Norfolk and Western Railroad watches

Clarence “Chick” Hardy, Southside Guild member and retired Norfolk and Western Railroad Inspector in Roanoke, VA, presented the second topic on “Time Inspection Requirements for Railroad (RR) Watches.”

This interesting discussion provided the background for RR watch inspections and repair. A Midwestern train wreck in the late 1800’s caused watch inspections; two trains were on slightly different times and collided. Afterwards, the conductors, engineers, brakemen, and firemen had monthly time comparisons. There was a 2 second per day standard against a telegraph signal. Each RR had different inspections but the watches were generally size 16, 21 jewels, open face, lever set as a minimum. Each watch was cleaned every 18-24 months and the watch holder (owner) was responsible to get it serviced. A sample employee watch card from Chick’s collection is shown below.

Thanks, Chick, for this nice talk!

SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM EMPLOYEE'S WATCH COMPARISON CARD			
This is to certify that the watch of:			
N L LEONARD	ORG 225	CODE 086694	
EMPLOYED BY THE SOUTHERN RY CO ON THE			
PL Z99	TENNESSEE	DIVISION	
HAS BEEN INSPECTED AND FOUND TO BE SATISFACTORY			
FOR RAILROAD SERVICE			
DATE LAST CLEANED OR REPAIRED	8-7-69		
MAKER OF MOVEMENT	Bulova	GRADE	214
MOVT NO. C64865	INSPECTION DATE	8-5	19 72
INSPECTOR			
EMPLOYEE WILL RETAIN THIS PORTION OF FORM AND SURRENDER IT TO WATCH INSPECTOR AT			
BEGINNING OF NEW PERIOD. AT THAT TIME INSPECTOR WILL FORWARD IT TO NATIONAL			
RAILWAY TIME SERVICE CO.			
IF WATCH IS REJECTED, ALL 3 PORTIONS OF THIS FORM WILL BE RETURNED TO EMPLOYEE			



Photo by Bill Bugert

Tuck and Lowell on the platform!

Tuck Tompkins and Lowell Fast gave the third talk and video on tips from their vast horological knowledge.

The center of their presentation was a video Tuck and Lowell developed on sharpening twist drill bits. They have been working on a series of horological instruction videos and the fruits of their labor are now being realized. Much of the video contained detailed close-up motion and sound photography of the fine points of their instruction.

Many practical ideas were driven home with their video. Some of them include sharpening a twist drill bit. Their technique in summary includes using 220 grit emery cloth glued on a lathe disk (mandrel wheel). With the cutting edge of the bit on the wheel, rotate it slowly to follow the contour of the bit (usually 45 degrees), thereby affixing a sharper edge. They noted that watchmakers’ lathes are better with grinding wheels because you can control the speed better and work closer and put masking tape on the lathe bed to protect it. Broken bits can be sharpened many times all the way down to the end of the twists. They also recommended using a diamond disk to make big changes in a drill bit (e.g., fixing a broken end on carbide bits). Tuck and Lowell recommended Robert Porter’s book “How to Make Tiny Drills Quickly and Accurately.

Other bits of wisdom included mak-

ing perpendicular holes on a pin vise so that a steel rod could be fitted to hold a drill bit in a lathe. This will facilitate making the bit cutting edges. Additionally, Manhattan Supply Company sells stock carbide and hardened steel bits of various sizes.

Congratulations, Tuck and Lowell, on your success and thanks for taking the time and effort to make this video. It was well spent!



Photo by George Farn

David Todd with his excellent presentation

David Todd, Potomac Guild member and horological curator at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC, wrapped up the seminar with his excellent and fact filled presentation on the 16th century Nuremberg craftsman. He stated that at that time, a craftsman repeatedly made one part (e.g., clock hands, cases, wheels, pinions, etc.) for years often working long hours, six days a week. Surviving metal pieces often show great craftsmanship; hand tools were only used then and a craftsman developed great skills with them.

David then gave a virtual slideshow tour of the 16th Century craftsman. He depicted drawings of the time, site visits, paintings, and existing examples of tools and clocks.

Thanks, David, for this informative presentation!

Answer to “Know Your Fellow HAV Members”: Bill Bugert, Loupes and Tweezers Editor, and Steve Leonard, Alternate Director, George McNeil Potomac Guild. They are posing in front of the NAWCC Headquarters building in Columbia, PA.



Draft Minutes of the November 14, 2004 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

1.0 Attendees

- President - Mike Frost
- First Vice President - Lowell Fast
- Second Vice President - John Enloe
- Secretary - Lloyd Lehn
- Treasurer - Stan Palen
- Immediate Past President - Bill Trapp
- L & T - Bill Bugert absent
- Directors/Alt - George McNeil's Potomac
Ralph Smith, Bob Stone
- Directors - Peninsula
- Directors/Alt/Officers - South Side - Clarence E. Hardy, Bob Harris, Wayne Simpson
- Directors - Tidewater
- Directors - Tri City - Tuck Tompkins,
Lowell Fast
- Directors - At Large - Stan Palen
- Guests - George Evans

2.0 Invocation: Wayne Simpson provided the invocation.

3.0 Minutes: The minutes of the Aug 15, 2004 HAV Board meeting were distributed and approved.

4.0 Officer's Reports

Treasurer (Treasurer's Report)

- HAV currently has \$19,275.16. Report was approved subject to corrections being made.

5.0 Other Business

5.1 HAV Library

Chick Hardy brought in a list of the videos and books in the library. He will loan them out to anyone who asks for them. The list will be sent to Bill Bugert for inclusion in the Loupes and Tweezers.

5.2 2004 Fall Seminar

- Chairman/Coordinator: Ralph Smith
- Date: 3 Oct 2004
- Location: Best Western in Sandston VA.
- 22 people attended
- As of now have \$123 profit from seminar. Some speakers returned their honorarium.

5.3 2005 Convention

Mike Frost reported that Laurie Penman and

Jerry Faier had agreed to do a joint presentation on hairspring escapements.

Mike said he had confirmed the 15/16/17 April date with the hotel. Mike will contact Ewell Hartman about other speakers from chronometer area.

5.4 Email Voting

Lloyd Lehn contacted AWCI and asked for background information on the procedures used by AWCI. They did not provide the basis of their system. Lloyd recommended we not formalize the process at this time.

5.5 Presidents Award

Bill Trapp pointed out that he needs written nominations for the 2005 Convention Presidents Award. It must be provided by the next meeting where it will be voted upon.

5.6 HAV Officer Election 2005

Bill Trapp pointed out that we need to select a slate for the officers for next year. If the normal logical progress is followed and people agree move up on position, the one slot in need of filing is the 2nd VP. Bill pointed out that we need to find a candidate willing to serve in that position and move up the line over the years. Ideally, the candidate should be from other than Northern Virginia since it is already heavily represented.

5.7 New Member Form

Lloyd said he would edit the existing form so that it can be used for potential new members and distributed electronically to those who might need it.

5.8 Guild Status

It was observed that no representative of Peninsula and Tidewater have attended either of the last two Board meetings. It was suggested that maybe we should disband these two Guilds and put the members in the At-Large guild. Mike Frost said he would contact a representative of both Guilds in order to determine what should be done.

5.9 AWCI Interface

Lloyd Lehn pointed out that the HAV motion on video tapes passed by the AWCI Board of Directors was being ignored. The recent draft list of AWCI committees showed that the meat of the motion had been removed. Lloyd has been in contact with the President of the AWCI Board of Directors, Jim Door and the AWCI Executive Director, Jim Lubic. Mr. Door said the committee charter/list would be corrected. However, Mr. Lubic indicated he did not intend to follow the Board's guidance and would not apply the standards to be developed to new videos made in a conference environment. He said we would have to go back to the Board. Lloyd Lehn pointed out that the arguments Mr. Lubic made for his case had

been stated at the Board of Directors' meeting and that the Board had not agreed and passed the HAV motion. Thus Mr. Lubic appears to be going against the wishes of both HAV and the AWCI Board of Directors. Lloyd pointed this out to Mr. Door.

Lloyd pointed out that the draft committee list had not included the AWCI motion to require the HT Committee to produce a "Potential Authors" booklet. Mr. Door said it would be corrected. Lloyd also pointed out that he had been dropped from the HT Committee probably because of his activism on the committee to make it more productive and structured which the chairman did not like. The removal from the committee had not been discussed with Lloyd.

The HAV Board of Directors encouraged Lloyd to pursue this and continue to make an issue of it.

During the course of the discussion, there were a variety of views stated such as:

- The AWCI staff should be accountable to the Board
- Lubic is an employee who's job it is to carry out the policies/direction of the Board of Directors
- HAV should perhaps create a dues boycott - we are the 2nd largest affiliate
- HAV needs to flex its muscle and get people it wants on the AWCI Board of Directors. HAM will probably coordinate with HAV.
- Lowell Fast noted that AWI-matters traffic has been reduced to a trickle - perhaps it is being censored by the AWCI staff to prevent /controversial/critical views from being expressed.

The HAV President will set up a special meeting to discuss this overall subject with several members who have had experience with the AWCI Board. The Horological Association of Maryland will be invited to participate in this meeting.

6.0 Announcements: None

7.0 Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held at 1000 hours, Feb 27, 2005 in the Holiday Inn Motel in Charlottesville.

Prepared By: Lloyd Lehn
Secretary HAV



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
Lloyd Lehn, CC

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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.

Remembrances

Unfortunately, we lost two HAV members during the past quarter.

After a long fight with cancer, Pete Abramaitys, Tidewater Guild, died in December. His funeral was on December 11th.

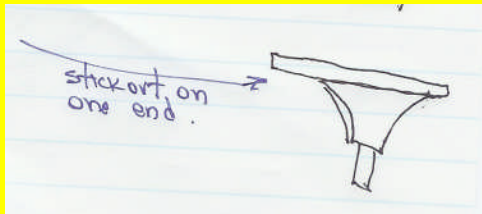
Trevor Power, Potomac Guild, died on December 8th. He was cremated and services were held with family only.

Condolences to their loved ones and friends. May they rest in peace!

On a happier note, Charlie Soukop, Tri-City Guild, underwent quadruple bypass surgery on December 6th. He reportedly is recovering well. We wish you a speedy recovery, Charlie!

Hint: (Thanks to Donny Sobel)

To protect the T-rest on your watchmakers lathe, braze a 3/32" x 2" steel rod on top of the T-rest to act as a guard from damage. See Donny's sketch below:



Mark your calendar !

- February 1, 2005 - Potomac Guild meeting, Elena's Oven, Fairfax, VA
- February 15, 2005 - Tri-City Guild meeting, Piccadilly Cafeteria, Richmond, VA
- February 27, 2005 - HAV Board Meeting, Charlottesville, VA (Open to all members)
- March 1, 2005 - Potomac Guild meeting, Elena's Oven, Fairfax, VA
- March 15, 2005 - Tri-City Guild meeting, Piccadilly Cafeteria, Richmond, VA
- April 15-17, 2005 - HAV Annual Convention, Lynchburg, VA
- June 8-12, 2005 - NAWCC 60th National Convention, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.



Horological Association Of Virginia
Loupes and Tweezers January 2005 Newsletter
c/o Bill Bugert, Editor
1230 Red Rock Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325-6927

To:

First Class Mail

**Save the date: HAV 2005 Annual Convention
April 15-17, 2005
Lynchburg, VA**