



# Loupes and Tweezers

Newsletter of the HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

September 2009 Issue

## Jim Michaels Featured at HAV's Oct 18th Seminar

Jim Michaels will provide the main presentation at HAV's Oct 18th seminar at the Ivy Creek Foundation - just north of Charlottesville VA. Jim is the School Director and Lead Watch instructor at the NAWCC's School of Horology in Columbia, PA.

Jim attended the Chicago School of Watchmaking in 1971 and completed the Eastern New Mexico University curriculum in 1974. Following this schooling, Jim was awarded the Certified Master Watchmakers Certification in 1974 by AWI, and he attended advanced watchmaking courses in 1975 at the Watchmaker of Switzerland Technical Education Program in Neuchatel, Switzerland.



Well recognized in the field as both a talented instructor and watchmaker, Jim's businesses over the years have handled many high-end repairs and restorations of watches and clocks. He never realized how much he missed teaching until he started again this year, and he welcomes the opportunity to share his years of experience in the field with his students. "I am excited to teach "old school" traditional watchmaking methods, as well as the most modern and up-to-date techniques used today."

### **What's Inside?**

- 2 Seminar Details
- 3 President's Message
- 3 HAV Mission
- 4 Clock Class
- 5 Stan's Komputer Korner
- 6 Board Meeting Minutes
- 7 HAV 09/10 Budget

## More About HAV's Fall Seminar

**Date:** October 18, 2009

**Speakers:**

**Jim Michaels:** NAWCC School of Horology - Calculating and making a missing wheel in a watch, and using of a "rounding up tool" to actually cut the teeth of the wheel.

**Lowell Fast and Tuck Tompkins:** HAV Tri-City Guild - escapements

**Time:** 0800 Registration / 0830 Programs start

**Cost:** \$50 payable at the door

**Pre-registration:** There is no formal pre-registration. However, please call or send an email to Bob Stone (rhstone@cox.net, (h) 703-591-6690) (c) 703-717-3925 so that he can plan accordingly.

**Location:** Ivy Creek Foundation, 1780 Earlysville Road, Charlottesville VA 22901. The Ivy Creek facility is a very nice, barn-style building in a nature preserve. It has running water, modern sanitary facilities and a microwave oven. The HAV Board has met there twice and it is very nice meeting location.

**Food and drinks:** Donuts, coffee and soft drinks will be provided - else bring what you need/want. Ample time will be allowed for lunch. You can bring a lunch or drive to one of the local fast food establishments on Route 29.

**Motels:** There are a number of motels on Rt 29 within a mile or two of Ivy Creek.

**Directions:** Ivy Creek Foundation is about 5 miles north of Charlottesville via Route 29.

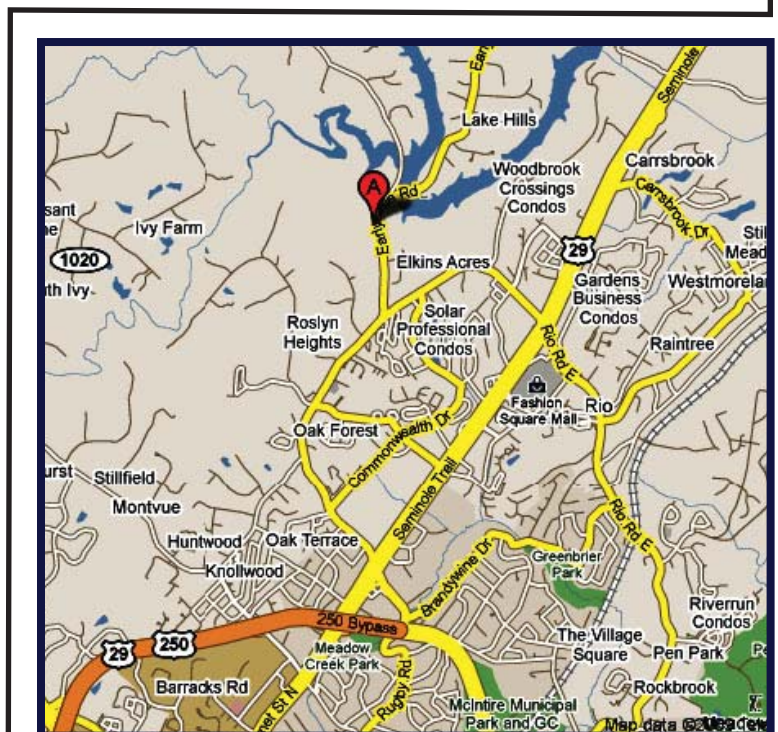
**From North:** Turn right on Rio Road.

**From South:** Turn left on Hydraulic Road.

- Rio Road and Hydraulic Road form a loop off to the west of 29

- Earlysville Road is off of that

**Destination:** 1780 Earlysville Road



**The President's Message**  
**by Steve Leonard**



Greetings to all!

I want to talk about an important HAV event and a critical HAV need.

The important event is the 2009 HAV Fall Seminar. Bob Stone has organized another great program this year. You'll find all the details elsewhere in this issue of Loupes and Tweezers, but I want to remind everyone that the Fall Seminar is one of the benefits of being a member of HAV, and it's offered at a very reasonable price. Each year we strive to bring you quality, well-known speakers from the world of horology to increase your professional knowledge and skills. Please join us at this very worthwhile event.

As you're no doubt aware, the HAV has two critical positions vacant – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Loupes and Tweezers Editor. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President is the first office of an eight year journey that culminates with President, though really finishes with Past President. We also need a Loupes and Tweezers Editor. Lloyd Lehn, our HAV Secretary, has taken the lead for a small group of contributors and pulled together the last two issues. But, we need a "full-time" Editor. Lloyd has agreed to take over Editor if someone will take the position of HAV Secretary. Understandably, Lloyd doesn't want both jobs. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. None of them require a great deal of time, and there are many of us around to help. Remember, we're only as strong as our membership.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the 2009 HAV Fall Seminar!

Steve

## 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 cause of the HAV.

The HAV was formed in October 1939 for the purpose of promoting cooperation among the horologists, principally watchmakers, through the Commonwealth of Virginia and surround 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 promoting of fair and ethical trade practices.

# Potomac Guild Clock Repair Class Continues

August 26<sup>th</sup> marked the kick-off for another year of the George McNeil Potomac Guild clock repair class. The class was started by Marvin Whitney in the 1970's. It continues today as a unique class providing hands-on clock repair instruction. The class meets 7-10 pm Monday and Wednesday in the City of Fairfax Senior Center. The class has always been well attended. This Fall there are 27 students. Each student brings their own clock. They learn the basics: disassembling the movement; examining each part and correcting any wear or damage; polishing all pivots; reassembling the movement; and testing and regulating the time keeping. Students are encouraged to initially focus on the American 8-day time and strike movement. However, many students progress to more complex movements over time. George Evans and John Enloe are the current instructors. The photos show scenes from the class.



Photos from George Evans



STAN'S KOMPUTER KORNER

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](http://www.stanpalen.com). My columns will be posted there when I have completed them.

Windows 7 will be here soon. I understand you can purchase the upgrade to it for \$49 if you do it before it is released. It is a replacement for Vista. Early reviews indicate that this one is more user friendly. It is hoped that all your hardware and software is compatible. Beta copies have been available on the Internet for a while if you want to test drive it. Speaking of updates – Apple's new operating system Mac OS X Snow Leopard is on sale for \$29. It is cheap, but it does not contain any major changes. It is supposed to be faster, but not much.

I had another problem with my new laptop because I dropped it and broke the screen. I am really glad I opted for the extended warranty because they fixed the screen under warranty. I only dropped it about a foot. The new one is much heavier than my old one. The old one was dropped farther than that several times with no problems.

I have had a lot of problems with my main computer when it was left alone. It would go into screen saver mode and then power down the monitor and it would never come back on. I was sure it was the video card in my computer or the computer itself. It turned out to be the monitor. When I move the mouse or hit the space bar, I wait a bit and turn my monitor off at the switch, and then on again, it will come up. I had been assuming that the computer had crashed and so rebooted it. This sometimes lost data. At least now I have a solution, even though it is a bit inconvenient.

Are you having trouble remembering passwords etc.? There is a free program called password prime that will store all your passwords in an encrypted file on your computer with one password. This way you will only have to remember one password. It works with all versions of windows. It is located at <http://www.oversightcorp.com/freeware/password.php> There are quite a few other interesting free programs at this site too.

Are you fond of your telephone book? ATT in Florida is planning on printing just the yellow pages. You can request a copy of the white pages. They will be issuing a CD ROM with the white pages on them. They say this is a money saving effort, but I doubt it will be reflected in the phone bills in Florida.

Are you considering buying a new software package or electronic device? I use [www.cnet.com](http://www.cnet.com) to look at reviews of my planned purchases. They do an

excellent job. They review it for viruses, spy ware, trojans etc. They compare your item with similar ones. A friend was contemplating purchase of a GPS offered on Home Shopping Network. It turns out it was an entry level device and overpriced by about \$25.

I found a site that shows historic devices like clocks reproduced with Computer Aided Drawings (CADs). The fellow is adding more all the time. <http://www.gouldstudios.com/scientific.html> He has reconstructed items from sketches, drawings or whatever he could find. Several of the items do not exist any more and this is a way to preserve history. If you click on Museum of Technology at the top, it will take you to his other categories that are very interesting also.

Have you noticed that the thumb drives and small memory cards have gotten a lot cheaper and have much more capacity? They are also much faster. It pays to have more than one as they sometimes do go bad. To have your computer or camera read some of the larger ones, you may need to upgrade your computer or camera. Cameras do need software updates from time to time. You should also use the Safely remove icon at the lower right when you remove your device from your computer. It will tell you if your device is still in use. One problem with doing this is that you will need to reboot your computer in order to use the device again in Windows XP and Vista. I know you have probably just pulled the memory device out of your computer and gotten away with it many times, but one day it will bite you by making the card forever dead.

My county is installing countywide WiFi. I am not sure what speed it will have but it will be \$50 a month. High speed cable is available starting at \$30 a month. Verizon can't spell my county's name when it comes to high speed Internet. There are some places in the county that cable does not go, but it looks to me that the county will have a money losing system on it's hands.

Open office – the free suite of programs that are similar to those expensive ones from Microsoft – is up to version 3.1. If you have an older version, you should do an update. It includes a word processor, a spread sheet program, a data base program, a presentation program like Power Point, a drawing program and a math program. It has the capacity to read and save in the competitions formats to insure compatibility with what other folks are using. It even reads the new formats that Microsoft uses with it's latest MS Office suite that no one can read unless you have their programs. (Dumb move by MS)

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.

If you have questions about any of the above or other computer questions, please feel free to email me at [spalen@crosslink.net](mailto:spalen@crosslink.net) or [stan@stanpalen.com](mailto:stan@stanpalen.com).

## Summary Draft HAV BoD Minutes 23 August Meeting

### 1 Opening

Steve Leonard called the meeting to order at roughly 1000.

Wayne Simpson provided the invocation.

### 2 Attendees

Officers: Steve Leonard, Lloyd Lehn, Stan Palen

Potomac: Bob Stone, Barry Boling

South Side: Wayne Simpson, Robert Harris

Tri-City: Charlie Soukup, Tuck Tompkins, Lowell Fast

### 3 Reports

#### 3.1 Secretary-Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

#### 3.2 Treasurer's Report

Stan provided three handouts:

a - May 31st showing balance on hand as of April 26th

b - August 23rd showing balance on hand as of May 31

- This file was revised for correctness on the Aug 24th

c - Proposed budget for 2009-2010

The Reports and the proposed budget were approved.

#### 3.2.1 Auction results

HAV made \$418.22 from the auction at the convention.

#### 3.2.2 Membership

HAV currently has had a decrease in membership from 92 to 85 over the past year.

### 4 Continuing Business

#### 4.1 Budget for this Fiscal Year (attached)

The Budget approved for 2009-2010 (attached in L&T).

#### 4.2 2009 Fall Seminar

Bob Stone is the chairman of the seminar.

##### 4.2.1 When

Sunday 18 October 2009

##### 4.2.2 Where

Ivy Creek Nature Center north of Charlottesville.

##### 4.2.3 Speakers

Watches: Jim Michaels has agreed to talk for three hours on watches. Jim is the Director of the NAWCC School and the chief watch instructor. He talked about hairsprings the last time he visited HAV. Bob is working with Jim to establish content.

Other: Lowell and Tuck said they have some material on escapements they would share with the group.

#### 4.3 2010 Convention Plans

Steve suggested we need a convention committee to carry out all the tasks that need to be done.

John Enloe has made a reservation for 30 April - 2 May at the Williamsburg Marriott - the same location we've use the past two years.

The speakers have not yet been confirmed. The merits of having Tom Schomaker again were discussed.

He has been there the past two years. Other names considered were Tamara Hauk, Herman Mayer, and Dan Fenwick.

Lloyd raised the issue of whether the chairman had been given enough money in advance so that he did not have to pay for items out of his own pocket until he was reimbursed. Everyone seemed to think that the \$500 now allocated was enough.

#### 4.4 HAV Membership Certificates

Lloyd expressed concern that mailing each of the membership certificates is now \$1.05. He suggested that most people did not care if they got one or not

while others really want them. The bottom line of the discussion was to wait until the Board meeting at the Convention and then vote on using a block on the registration form which requests a certificate. If the block is not checked, no certificate will be prepared for that member.

#### 4.5 Filling HAV positions

There are two vacant positions in HAV: 2nd VP and the L&T editor.

Lloyd volunteered to do the L&T job but would only do it if he dropped the Secretary's position. There was some concern over whether or not the President could appoint a new Secretary if Lloyd vacated the position since the Secretary is an elected position whereas the L&T position is appointed.

There were no volunteers for any of the vacant positions. Potomac Guild has been encouraging Barry Boling to take over the Secretary's position but he has not yet agreed.

#### 4.6 Officer PDs

Lloyd Lehn prepared a position description for the Secretary's job with the hope it would provide any potential candidate with the knowledge of the job.

Lloyd was quite surprised at the number of tasks on his PD. He suggested that we should have something like it for every HAV position so that people will understand the job. He was particularly concerned about doing so for the Treasurer's job. Stan is the only one who knows what the job is. Steve asked Stan if he could work up something for the next Board meeting.

### 5 New Business

#### 5.1 Records

Lloyd Lehn pointed out that he has several boxes of HAV records that he has inherited but never looked at - hence they probably can be culled to some meaningful set of information that might be useful to retain.

Steve suggested a committee take a look at them one day and cull them. There was a general consensus that 10 years for normal operational documents would be a good cut off. However, special items like charters etc would be retained.

No date was set for when to do it.

#### 5.2 Liquidation of Items

Steve said he had received a request from someone to help dispose of estate items of horological nature. He will distribute the photos of the items. Lowell and Tuck have experience doing this and said they would talk to the owner to see if they can help. They pointed out that most estates assumed the items were far more valuable than they really are.

#### 5.3 Nature Center Donation

The group agreed to donate \$50 to the nature center for the use of the building.

### 6 Announcements

a Wayne pointed out that Spidel has gone out of business. It has been around for many years and people ask for items by that brand name. He had no idea why they shut down.

b Ewell Hartman is out of the hospital and attended their last Guild meeting.

**HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA**

**BUDGET 2009 - 2010**

<b>Expenditures</b>		<b>Income</b>	
<b>AWI</b>		<b>Membership Dues</b>	<b>\$2,800.00</b>
Affiliate Chapter Dues	\$175.00	(80 x <del>25</del> )	
2006 Annual AWI Meeting	\$0.00	Interest <sup>35</sup>	\$125.00
Delegate Expenses			
<b>Awards Committee</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>Loupes and Tweezers</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Board of Directors Meetings</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	Advertising	
<b>Library Committee</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>Guild Dues</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>
<b>Loupes and Tweezers</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>Convention Return</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Postage</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>		
<b>Printing and Supplies</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>		
		<b>AWI Delegate Check</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Presidents Expenses</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Tax Exempt Fee</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>From Savings</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>
<b>State Corporation Commission</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>		
<b>Convention Advance</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>		
<b>Convention</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>		
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>\$225.00</b>		
<b>Seminar</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>		
<b>Return of Guild Dues</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>		
<b>Budget Reserve</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>Planned Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4,525.00</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$4,525.00</b>

## **WE STILL NEED HELP!**

**We still have two vacant slots in the HAV organization:**

- 2nd Vice President**
- Loupes and Tweezers Editor or Secretary**

**HAV is run by volunteers. It is organizationally dangerous to have two few people doing all the work. If one or more of them suddenly is unable to do their job(s), HAV could be in a world of hurt. It could simply become completely inactive. Each of you needs to think about stepping up to the bar and helping your fellow members run this organization.**

## **WE STILL NEED HELP!**

Horological Association of Virginia  
c/o Lloyd Lehn  
3723 Ivydale Drive  
Annandale VA 22003  
703-256-2684

**TO**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**