

June 2016



Loupes and Tweezers

Newsletter of the HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

2016 Convention Report

Dear Members,



As I left the convention on Sunday afternoon, I paused to think about the great company of people I had just spent the weekend with. It was wonderful to share some time with those I have known for years and those I had just met and hope to see in years to come. It was a weekend revolving around great conversation, lots of laughs, learning new techniques to apply at the bench, and being surrounded by downright good folk. Thank you to all who attended this year's convention. It was great seeing [More](#)

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President's Message (cont)

you.

The Board of Directors would like to thank our Convention Co-Chairmen Wayne Simpson and Rodney Graves for their dedication to the HAV in orchestrating this year's convention. Truly a great success! We also thank our speakers, August Cornell, Frank Poye, and Arthur Candenquist for their time, talent and dedication to the craft. Most of all we thank you, the members of the HAV for your continued support of this fine organization.

Planning for the 2017 Convention has already begun, and it is my pleasure to serve as next year's convention chairman. Tentative dates are - Apr 28-30. If you have any suggestions or recommendations for speakers, venue, or ideas to make a great event even greater please let me know. Your input is always welcome. Please use the email hav-convention@gmail.com for any correspondence relating to convention matters.

With summer approaching, I wish you long days and pleasant nights, with time well spent around those you love.

Kind Regards,
John C. Polk
HAV President

Convention Kudos

Wayne Simpson received two nice letters complementing the HAV and 2016 Convention organizers for doing a very nice job.

David and Catherine Hodgson of Alpharetta, GA were HAV's guests and participated in the entire convention. They felt very welcome and said the program was most enjoyable. They included a donation of \$300 as "a gesture of our appreciation and support for the HAV mission."

David and Shiela Todd also wrote that they enjoyed the convention. "The ladies tour of Montpelier and lunch were top notch." David said he learned a lot from the Clock program. They thought the Banquet food was "wonderful." Shiela said she was "thrilled" to get the pearl ear rings as a gift. David concluded with: "All in all, I think everyone enjoyed themselves."

HAV President's Award

Billy Best has been an active member of the Horological Association of Virginia (HAV) and the South Side Guild for many years. Billy is an accomplished watchmaker and has given freely of his time to expand the knowledge and expertise of his fellow horologists.



President John Polk (left) presents
Billy Best the 2016 President's
Award

Billy is a charter member of the Chronometer Club and wrote a "Destination Excellence" column for 10 years.

He currently serves as 1st Vice President on the HAV Board of Directors and provides outstanding leadership. Billy planned and organized the 2013 HAV convention. He has also been instrumental in lining up excellent programs for other conventions and seminars - events that were well attended and greatly appreciated by the HAV members. Besides planning and organizing the HAV educational events, he is a regular attendee and strongly supports all other HAV activities and Board meetings.

Billy is a colorful character who has contributed significantly to the watchmaking community at the local, state and national levels. His level of commitment to excellence in the field of horology make him an obvious choice to receive the HAV 2016 President's Award.

2016 Convention Summary/Comments

-- Billy Best --

Watch Program

Earlier in the year I got a call from my friend and convention co-chairman, Wayne Simpson. He started our conversation, with, "Billy, we're having a time getting a watch program together. Do you have any suggestions or ideas?" Well I did not. But of course I replied, "Wayne, give me a few days and I will think of something."

I decided to call watch instructors from watch making schools. We had good luck with AWCI and the Lititz Technicum. Thus, I decided to go out on a limb and call Frank Poye - Watch-making instructor for Paris Junior College, in Paris Texas. I had talked to him in the past on a few watch making problems.

All teachers like to teach, and all teachers want to get out of the classroom. I gave him a call. He was intrigued - a good sign. After a few minutes, we agreed to have him drive to Charlottesville, with his truck filled with teaching aids and a full program.

Clock Program

Our speaker, August Cornell, is an alumnus of our conventions so his invitation was just a phone call. In 2014 he presented a paper concerning the Antikythera Mechanism. He not only is an excellent clock technician, but has a foundation to repair eyeglass frames for anyone that needs them. August spent most of our clock teaching session on describing and demonstrating the art of gold soldering. This technique works with most metals and has many applications with repairing clocks as well as repairing glasses. Two of the attendees got a chance to do a bit of gold soldering during the class session.

Sunday Program

We were treated to a lecture by Authur Candenquist, a scholar of the 'War Between the States'. He focused on how the warring armies kept time utilizing various publications and equipment in the turbulent years from 1861 to

1865.

Authur has a colorful personality, but is also monochromatic. He always wears green, even his writing instruments are filled with green ink.

Spouses Program

Spouses were treated to a tour of the James and Dolley Madison house in Montpelier as well as lunch in the historic area of Charlottesville.

Banquet & Auction

As always we had a delicious meal followed by the fun and games of our annual auction.

Attendees

- 64 - Registrants
- 15 - Watch Program
- 16 - Clock Program
- 16 - Spouses Program
- 35 - Sunday Program
- ? - Banquet & Auction

President's Award

The author also received the President's Award Saturday night and wishes to thank all of his colleagues for this honor.

As the convention wound down to a close Sunday the consensus was that it was interesting, unusual, and an all around good time for all who attended.

See you next year.

Billy

Attendees - Watch & Clock Classes



Attendees - Spouses Program



Faces At The Convention



Photos by George Evans

Faces At The Convention



Photos by George Evans

Groups At The Convention



Photos by George Evans

Groups At The Convention



The Auction



Potomac Guild Meetings

March: Per Kullstam

Have you ever sat down and wondered:



“Why has the Pendulum become the Time Regulator of Choice for our Clocks?”

That was the title of Per Kullstam’s Potomac Guild talk.

His engineering background/curiosity led him to explore the mathematical formulations of pendulums. He hoped to gain a deeper understanding of pendulum clocks and their design. The basic pendulum formulas themselves may not be so interesting. However, they tell us about something about good clock design. Stable time keeping depends on many factors - some aspects are important and some are not. Per searched the formulas to find out what really matters. He shared his findings with the Guild.

April: Dave Staib

What do you do when you have a chance to buy a top quality long case clock at a real bargain? The catch is that the clock has been in a flood.



The case has many defects and the movement has silt in it.

Why of course you buy it.

That is what Dave did and then he spent almost three years repairing the clock. The end result is a beautiful tall case clock worth 3 to 4 times the money Dave put into it.

Working on a movement that has been silted and is rusting is a major challenge. Parts had to be cleaned. New parts made. A case with water damage also provides a series of challenges - especially when you’ve never done this stuff before. Repairing the case was an education itself.

Dave documented all of it and shared it with Guild.

Potomac Guild

May: Joe Jabbour



The Potomac Guild's May meeting featured Joe Jabbour who demonstrated the use of a video microscope plugged into a

laptop to enable watch repairman to better see what is going on in a pocket watch. The laptop was plugged it into a projector so Guild members could see what he was talking about.

Joe demonstrated with an antique gold minute repeating calendar chronograph with moon phases. He was able to show the members various features of the watch movement. The hammers which struck the two gongs in the watch were of particular interest.

Joe also brought a silver watch and again pointed out the various features of the watch using the microscope.

Joe said he had invested on the order of \$300+ in the microscope.

"Smart Moves For People in Charge"

A book with the above title is by Sam Deep and Lyle Sussman. It has lists of items one should consider/follow in various situations. This is a summary of quotes on:

"Leadership"

- Leadership is liberating people to do what is required of them in the most effective and the most human way possible. - Max DePree

- The horse never knows I'm there until he needs me. - Willie Shoemaker

- The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done and self-restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it. - Theodore Roosevelt

- I consider my ability to arouse enthusiasm amount the men the greatest asset I possess, The way to develop the best that is in a man is by appreciation and encouragement - Charles Schwab

- We have too many high sounding words, and too few actions that correspond with them. - Abigail Adams

- Of the best leaders, when their task is accomplished, their work done, the people remark, "We have done it ourselves." - Lao Tsu

STAN PALEN'S Komputer Korner

This column includes hints, helps, suggestions and news for IBM compatible computers.

Windows 10 News

If you want Windows 10 you need to install it before July 29, 2016. It will cost you after that. I do not know what the price will be. The current price for upgrading from Vista to Windows 10 is \$126.

If you do not want Windows 10, you need to take steps to prevent it from being installed. The first step is to stop automatic updates. This may not stop Microsoft from forcing it on you. There are several better solutions found by using Google search.

Many folks have opened up their computer and found that it had been upgraded to Windows 10. Most are unhappy about it. Their files and programs are usually found, but it takes some digging. If you play games, your high scores are gone. Standard games like Solitaire that you play on your machine are no longer available.

I tried installing the solitaire game that I copied from a Windows 7 machine and it would not work. Windows 10 has an online version. I do not want my games played on line.

There is an option to step back to your Windows 7 or 8



operating system but you must do it within 31 days.

The good news is that once it is installed and licensed to your computer, you can reinstall Windows 10 for free at a later date.

The Cortana system of voice help has still not been very helpful to me. You can type or say your question. I get strange results sometimes. Many of the familiar programs or services have different names. File Explorer and Microsoft Edge (Internet Explorer) are a couple. Edge is quite fussy about where you go or what you download. I tried to download a file and it refused. I checked it on another machine and it was OK, but had to transfer it with a thumb drive. One big help that I found was a right click on the blue windows icon. It gives a lot of the things I was looking for, but some had new names or different uses for similar names. It takes a bit of poking around to find what you are looking for.

Updates

Many earlier versions

of windows have had problems with Microsoft's updates that are sent out each version and cause problems. In Windows 10 they changed it so that each time they send out an update. They send them all out and your configuration of Windows 10 picks out the updates it needs. They are hoping it will work better. I hear that there are still a few problems.

Ransomware

Ransomware is growing. Criminals are now adding ordinary people to their targets. They get control of your computer – encrypt all your files and ask for money for the unencryption key. Typically it is about \$500. In a few days, it doubles. They go by the names of such as CryptoWall, CryptoLocker, and TorrentLocker, encrypts files stored on computers, and even network drives. You really need to back up your files, preferably on a separate external drive that is only connected for backups.

Dell Problems

It appears that Dell Computer Company has been hacked. There are several reports of folks getting a phone call, email or a popup on their computer stating they have a virus. They know your service number and your serial number. It is a scam to get control of your

computer and your files, banking info etc. I had the popup come up on my laptop. The only way I could get rid of it was to reboot the computer. Dell has not admitted to any intrusions. They have been asked.

Robocalls

Are you tired of robocalls. Go to nomorobo.com. It is free and seems to get good reviews. I have not tried it out myself yet.

Networking Machines

I have several machines on most of the time. I thought it would be great to be able to directly access each one from the other directly with a click of a mouse. Microsoft has a Garage! It is where employees can develop software on their own. There are several programs there that you can download for their own use. One is called mousewithoutborders. You can use one keyboard and or mouse with up to 3 other machines. Go to Microsoft.com and search for mousewithoutborders. I have played with it a bit. For example, you can cut and paste from one machine to the other. This is handy for me so I can have several sources of info for an article or web page different machines.

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