



The National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc.

Philadelphia Chapter One

Chartered November 1, 1943

The next Chapter One Meeting will be held on:

**November 15, 2015 at the
Williamson Banquet and Event Center
500 Blair Mill Rd., Horsham, Pa. 19044
215 675 5454**

The Speakers for the November 15th Meeting:

**The Luncheon Speaker is Adam Harris. His topic will be:
“.Starting a Vintage Wristwatch Collection Without the
Tears”**

**The Workshop Presenter will be: Kevin Bedgood. His topic
will be “ Turning Wooden Clock Finials”**

**The meeting next Chapter One Meeting will be December
6. We are working on the Meeting dates for the Spring and will
post them as soon as they are confirmed.**

Luncheon Menu for the Nov. 15th Meeting will be:

Maryland Fried Chicken, Italian Meat balls , and Sirloin of Beef
Fresh Garden Salad Bowl, Fresh Fruit Bowl ,Oven Roasted Red Skin
Potatoes, Vegetable du Jour etc.

One of the most Complicated Clocks in the World.

Throughout the history, astronomical clocks expressed very specific philosophies or dogmas. The huge public clocks of the late Middle Ages and the early New Age, mostly erected easily accessible in the cathedrals, served educational and religious purposes. They should demonstrate to the people how God created the cosmos as a huge and perfect clockwork, while the Holy Church had the key to its understanding, showing Earth's and the people's place in the cosmos. Later, the wealthy cities contestet this monopoly of time and cosmos successfully, and the astronomical clocks were moved from the inside of the cathedrals to the outside of the city's towers or townhalls. their character, as placing the cosmos in their centres, was left unchanged. Thus, the common layout of these wonderful timepieces concentrated onto astronomical displays, be it an astrolabe or a planetarium, with the time display itself not being the dominant element In the cathedral of Saint-Jean in the French town of Besançon, capital of the region Franche-Comté, however, we find a most magnificent and world famous astronomical clock, representing an entirely different philosophy. Before going into detail on this, some historical background is needed It is well known, that the Swiss horological industry, especially in the Geneva region, was introduced by French refugees, mostly protestants fleeing from the policy of catholic restoration after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. A second wave of talented and most welcomed refugees reached Switzerland during the turmoil of the French Revolution in 1789. Far less known, however, is that the centre of the French watchmaking industry in the French Jura was founded by Swiss refugees. In the aftermath of the French Revolution, Napoleon invaded Switzerland and installed a centralist regime, dissolving the old cantonal constitution. This was followed by a period of unrest and religious conflict, during which many watchmakers sought their safety in France, especially in the region of Besançon. Around 1900, two thirds of all French timepieces were produced in this city, which secured more than 12,000 jobs.

When the old clock of the town's cathedral Saint-Jean stopped working in the 19th century, it was of course a matter of tradition and honour to succeed it with a very special timepiece, nothing less than the most complicated clock in the world. Cardinal Mathieu ordered this work to be done in 1858, but there was barely a progress. Finally, Auguste-Lucien Vérité, who was not a local clockmaker, but came from Beauvais, was contracted to complete the piece. Vérité rebuilt the clock almost from scratch, in his own workshop in Beauvais, which of course was seen as a serious disgrace in Besançon, which considered itself the nation's clockmaking capital. The clock was installed in the cathedral in 1860, but nonetheless the work on it continued until 1863. Since then, it has been reorganised and restored twice, the last time in 1966. Immediately after the com-

pletion of his work in Besançon, Vérité constructed an even larger clock, with very different appearance in the medieval cathedral of his hometown Beauvais.: The clock is 5.80 metres high and 2.5 metres wide. Contrary to the famous medieval public clocks, and even to Vérité's subsequent work in Beauvais, the clock is not located in the cathedral's aisle, but hidden upstairs, in a room of the large spire.

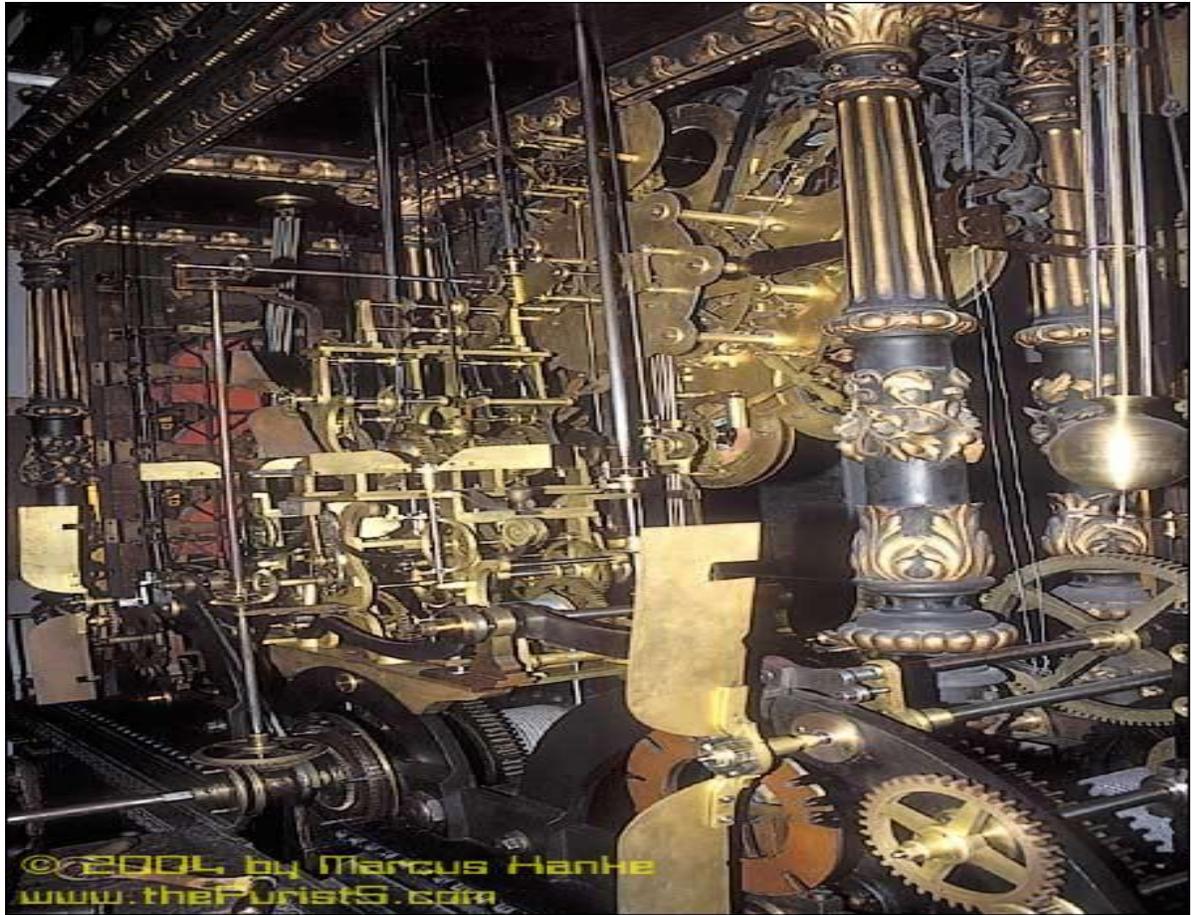
Also the appearance is very different from the aforementioned clocks: the only display typical for other astronomic clocks is an orrery, an astrolabe is missing. Even the orrery is not placed in the centre, but squeezed into a small compartment in the clock's base, barely visible for the visitor. The focus of this clock clearly is a scientific one, concentrating on the Earth and its movement, with the cosmos around being but a decorative element. Instead of astrolabe and tellurium, the clock features 70 dials, showing 122 indications; among them the local time of 17 places over the world, times and height (!) of the tides in 8 different French ports, p All this is driven by a mechanism consisting of more than 30,000 pieces, which also transfers the time to the cathedral's tower clock perpetual calendar, leap year cycles, times of sunrise and sunset. Altogether, the clock leaves a technical, engineered impression. Not astronomic education, but concise reference seems to be the primary motivation behind the clock. The spectator is more reminded of a mighty control panel with gauges, found in Captain Nemo's submarine. We are confronted with a representative of the industrial age, not of the medieval spiritual world. Therefore, the large group of 21 automatons on the top does somehow mismatch the clock's style. Every full hour, the jacquemarts move, with a deviation of less than a second per day

This clock alone makes Besançon a place worth a detour, yet the rest of the town is attractive as well. So whenever you find yourself in or near the French Jura, remember visiting the Saint

Jean cathedral



And the magnificent clock of Maître Vérité



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The One day Class for Saturday November 14th The Class will be in two parts; Part 1 will be Acid Etching on Clock Glass, Part 2 will be a “Refresher Course on Repairing Cuckoo Clocks” Starting at 10:30 AM. Bring a piece of Clock glass, a pair of rubber gloves, a razor blade or Exacto Knife. Also bring a Cuckoo Clock Mvt. And whatever tools you think you might need. You may also want to bring a Movement stand to test your completed cuckoo clock Movement.

The Best in Show Contest will be held as usual, so bring those interesting, clocks, watches, tools etc. The Winners for the Oct. 4th Meeting can be found on our Website at WWW.Philadelphia Chapter One.

”HOROLOGY IN HOLLYWOOD by Janet Fox

The next film I will be discussing is a charming film called “Babe”. This is the story about a little pig, named Babe. He comes to live on Farmer Hoggett’s (James Cromwell) farm. There he learns about life on a farm and tries to find his place in this world. After her puppies are sold, a Border Collie named Fly, adopts Babe. There he is happy and interacts with other animals on the farm. One of his friends is a duck named Ferdinand. He imitates a rooster and “crows” to wake up the Hoggetts. One day something dreadful happens. Ferdinand is about to crow, when a “mechanical rooster” (an alarm clock) rings out. Mrs. Hoggett turns it off and remarks “What a splendid way to wake up each morning!” Ferdinand is worried. He enlists Babe’s help to sneak inside the farmhouse and steal the “mechanical rooster”. Babe doesn’t understand why Ferdinand is upset. So the duck explains to him a sad reality of farm life. Some animals are indispensable. For example, cats catch mice, sheep give wool, while dogs herd sheep. However, ducks don’t have any function. So the farmer and his wife, eat them. This is why Ferdinand crows in the morning to serve a purpose. Babe can’t believe that this is true. But he agrees to help Ferdinand steal the “mechanical rooster.” The mission goes haywire and Babe and the duck make a mess in the house. Ferdinand becomes a fugitive. Babe is no longer allowed to sleep in the barn, he must sleep outside under the wagon. Later Babe learns how to herd sheep. Farmer Hoggett, despite ridicule enters him into a sheep dog competition. Babe earns a perfect score. All those who jeered Hoggett, now ring out cheers for him, and Babe.

Besides providing a comical episode for the movie, the mission to steal the alarm clock, is a clever way to develop the story. It makes a reality of farm life, something not so scary, for children watching the film. It also helps Babe, himself to start to understand his position on the farm. In fact, he doesn’t fully understand this until Duchess, the cat, tells him out of spite that pigs only exist to be eaten. It is only when Farmer Hoggett expresses his affection for Babe by singing and dancing a jig for him that Babe has the courage to go on. Babe, like us, had to find his place in the world. He did this not only by having a unique talent. But mostly, by bringing love to his farm family.

Silent Auction –One or Two Item Table: Remember that our Silent Auction is alive and well. Bring in those items you really don’t need and convert them to cash. This can be done very easily and cheaply on our Silent Auction Table or on our One or Two Item Sales Table.

Registration for the Meeting: November 15, 2015

Advanced Registration (All participants must pay these entrance fees to the MART)

NAWCC Member/ Spouse / Guest \$18.00 per person # _____ @ \$18.00 = \$ _____

Member's Child (Age 5 – 17) \$9.00 per child # _____ @ \$9.00 = \$ _____

I WILL STAY FOR LUNCH _____ I WILL NOT STAY FOR LUNCH _____

MART TABLE: \$20.00 EACH # _____ @ \$20.00 = \$ _____

EARLY BIRD (This fee is in addition to the \$18.00 /person entrance fee)

1 or 2 Members only + Spouse or Children \$15.00 # _____ @ \$15.00 = \$ _____

Names for the Badges (Please Print Clearly)

1) _____ NAWCC # _____

2) _____ NAWCC # _____

I WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP FOR THE "One Day Class \$10.00/person \$ _____

Chapter One Membership Dues 9/1/2015 to 8/31/2016 \$10.00 per year \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Phone # () _____

Mail to: David Gorrell 1179 Dicus Mill Rd. Millersville, Md. 21108

By filling out this form the payee/s agree to adhere to all Chapter One NAWCC, Inc., Mart Room Rules and By Laws.

NO REFUNDS AFTER 12 NOON THE SATURDAY PRIOR TO THE MEETING, November 7, 2015

Meeting Schedule

Saturday November 14 "One Day Class" –Part 1 Acid Etching Clock Glasses" Part 2, "Repairing Cuckoo Clocks, a refresher course" Starts at 10:30 ends at 4:00PM

Sunday November 15th

7:15 A.M. Registration Opens –

7:30 to 8:30 A.M. -- Mart Room set up Table Holders and Early Birds Only

8:30 A.M. -- Mart Room opens to all other registered participants

10:30 -- Workshop Kevin Bedgood "Turning Wooden Clock Finials"

12:00 -- Noon Mart Room Closes. No Security, the Mart Room must be cleared 12:15 to 1:45 – Luncheon Speaker, Adam Harris "Starting a Wrist watch4Collection without the tears "

Chapter One Scholarship: There is still time to submit your application for a Chapter One Scholarship for Horological studies. Call or submit your application to Charlie Buttz. There are already 4 applicants and time is short ,so get yours in right away. See the Scholarship Application and criteria on our website at www.Philadelphia Chapter One and on our NAWCC Community bulletin Board.

Some views of the Mart and Workshop and One Day Class



