## MENOMONEE VALLEY TIMES®



Volume V Issue IV

MENOMONEE VALLEY CHAPTER 47 WISCONSIN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH & CLOCK COLLECTORS, INC

**SEPT 2017** 

# **NEXT MEETING - SEPT 24**

#### September Program

Robert Olney -"American Military Clocks of WWII"

Show and Tell—Bring a Military timepiece

#### Menomonee Valley Chapter 47

September 24, 2017 November 19, 2017 January 7, 2018 March 18, 2018 May 6, 2018 September 16, 2018 November 18, 2018

#### Madison Chapter 171

First Wednesday of even number months

#### Chicagoland Chapter 3

February 5, 2017 April 9, 2017 September 10, 2017 November 12, 2017 December 3, 2017

#### Chapter 47 Officers and Directors

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▶ Vice Pres.: Harry Schulz
▶ Secretary: Ed Buc
▶ Treasurer: Danno Osterud
▶ Past Pres.: Mike Dempsey

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➤ Director: Karyn Critelli

#### **Committees**

► C47 Midwest Regional: Representative Craig White

► Web Master: Amelia Osterud



## **President's Message**

Please note our new location is: Knights of Columbus, 1800 South 92<sup>nd</sup> Street, West Allis, WI 53214. There is ample parking in their lot. The hall is very similar in amenities. Come join us for the September meeting and see our new location. Also note the dates have already been assigned for 2018, see side-

bar.

Thanks to Jack Heisler for his talk at the May meeting. His talk was on chronometers and why we developed the need for them. Some say it started with the Scilly English naval disaster of 1707, when 4 warships and 1550 sailors were lost because they did not know where they were and ran aground in a storm.

The need to accurately know your local time vs. time at a know source such as Greenwich to determine local longitude was a very high need to help guide ships at sea. The Longitude Prize of 1714 was offered to find a solution to the problem.

£20,000 (equivalent to \$3.6 million in 2015)
Must determine correct longitude within 30 minutes
George Harrison eventually received £23,065 in 1773, but it took 36 years to receive. He was 80 years old at the time. He was repeatably asked for further improvements until the final sum was received.

Robert Olney is going to do a presentation at the Sep 24 meeting on collecting American Military Clocks of WWII.

Brad Smith is going to do a presentation at the Nov 12 meeting on the Rolling Ball Clock he built.

Thank you, Craig White

### Spot a Clock

The May 'Spot a Clock' was a public clock on Building 1 of the Milwaukee Soldier's Home Complex.

Can you identify the clock below?



## **Treasurer's Report**

April 1, 2017	
Opening Balance	\$1,768.95

i Income:

Dues and Admissions	<u>\$230.00</u>
Total Income	\$230.00

i Expenses:

Coffee Donuts Fruit	(\$	39.61)
Newsletter	(\$	68.29)
Hall Rental	(\$	79.50)
Business Expenses	(\$	10.00)
Website Hosting(3 years)	<u>(\$</u>	284.09)
Total Expenses	(\$	481.49)

July 31, 2017 Closing Balance \$1,517.46



Dan Osterud, Treasurer

### Photos from the May 2017 Chapter 47 Meeting







## "Spot a Clock"

This month's 'Spot a Clock' is Building 1, also known as the Headquarters Building, located in the National Soldiers Home Historic District in Milwaukee



Caring for veterans returning from war was one of several issues the country faced in the aftermath of the Civil War. In 1865, Congress and President Lincoln authorized the creation of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Solders. The Milwaukee facility represents the Northwestern Branch, one of the three original branches. Construction began in 1867, with the majority of the buildings in the historic district being constructed by 1895. Among these is Building 2, the "Main Building", often referred to as Old Main



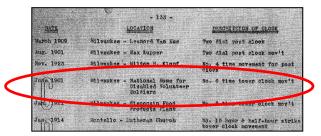
A 1941 Building Schedule lists 100 buildings on the 150-acre property, which is also the home of Wood National Cemetery. Among the first buildings constructed was Building 1, completed in 1896.



This two-story Renaissance Revival building served as the headquarters for the complex until 1942, and was constructed at a cost of just under \$10,000. Early photos show that the cupola atop the building had louvers on each side, but later photos depict a clock on the west side of the cupola.



The Seth Thomas factory records available on the NAWCC website indicate that the clock movement was a No. 6 time tower clock movement, purchased in June 1901 by the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.



Discussions with facility staff indicate that the movement was replaced with an electric movement at an unknown date. Portions of the original movement are still present.



In addition to its ongoing mission of caring for veterans, the complex is on the National Register of Historic Places. A walking tour is available through a downloadable podcast available for smartphones (search 'Milwaukee's Soldiers Home' on your app store).

If you would like to suggest a clock for the newsletter's 'Spot a Clock', please contact Ed Buc at the Chapter meetings or by email at time-craft wi@yahoo.com.

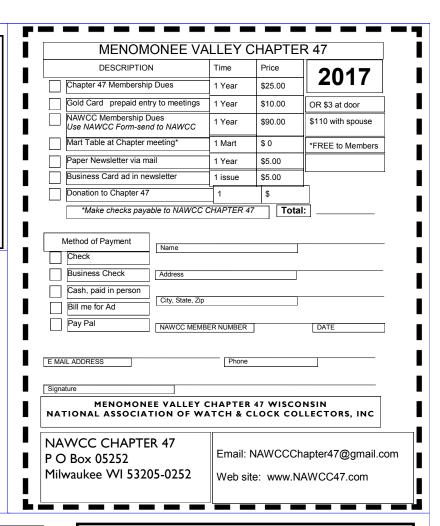
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NAWCC CHAPTER 47 P O Box 05252 Milwaukee WI 53205-0252

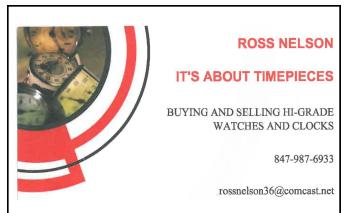
> We're on the Web www.NAWCC47.com



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#### "By the Book"—Repair Tips and Techniques

Many of us have shelves of horological books, but how often do we use them? Each issue, we will feature a repair tip or historical tidbit taken from a common reference book. These tips are offered for informational purposes only. Chapter 47 or its board do not endorse any of the tips or techniques offered herein.

From "Revolution in Time" by David Landes:

"As late as World War II the American Government—by far the most generous in matters of equipment—issued timepieces only to those command and operations personnel who could not do without them: pilots, navigators, and selected combat officers. The assumption was that the wise officer or soldier would buy his own, which even the lowliest buck private could do for less than a month's pay. Of course a GI watch was not the same as a civilian timepiece: the former usually had a hacking device—a means of stopping the mechanism completely and starting it again at the press of a button—the better to synchronize within a second or two; the latter was just a timepiece."