

Harris, Markus

From: NAWCC [newsletters@nawcc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 5:43 PM
To: Harris, Markus
Subject: Horological Happenings from the NAWCC

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**GALLET WATCH
 Develops National
 Watch and Clock
 Museum Chronograph**

GALLET
 GENEVE - 1685



Gallet Watch Co. will produce a **National Watch & Clock Museum Special Edition GALLET FLYING OFFICER multi-timezone chronograph** for release next summer. A portion of the proceeds from each sale will be donated to the Museum! We salute the Gallet Watch Co. for its generosity and commitment to the National Watch & Clock Museum.

Dear NAWCC Member,

This issue explains the adopted name origin of a Victorian watch fob style, provides updates on Association business and activities, lists a series of truly historical watch auctions, and recounts the story of a plucky watch-making mouse who saved Christmas for his hometown.

Happy Holidays!



Westclox Alarm Clock Ad, 1930. Saturday Evening Post.
 (Photo: Collectors Weekly.)

**Congratulations to
 our New Member
 Third Quarter Prize
 Winner!**

**DICKENS LENDS HIS NAME TO
 1800s WATCH FOB TREND**



Prizes have again been awarded in our 2009 New Members rewards program! The third quarter winner was Mr. Joel Wecker of Fox Island, WA. The winning name was randomly chosen from among our new 2009 members to receive a handsome collector's wristwatch valued at over \$350--in this case, a Reidschild Swihanic 1107-3. Happy Holidays, Joel, and welcome to the NAWCC!

Spring NAWCC Clock Appraisal Workshop Scheduled

A 6-day NAWCC Clock Appraising Class has been scheduled for April 12-17, 2010.

Instructor Joe Cohen will once again teach this class at the NAWCC campus in Columbia, PA. In addition, an all-new Watch Appraising Course is currently in development for the Summer.

For more information on registration, contact Jccohen3@comcast.net.

Search The Museum Collection Online



An online database system now allows NAWCC Members to search the Watch & Clock

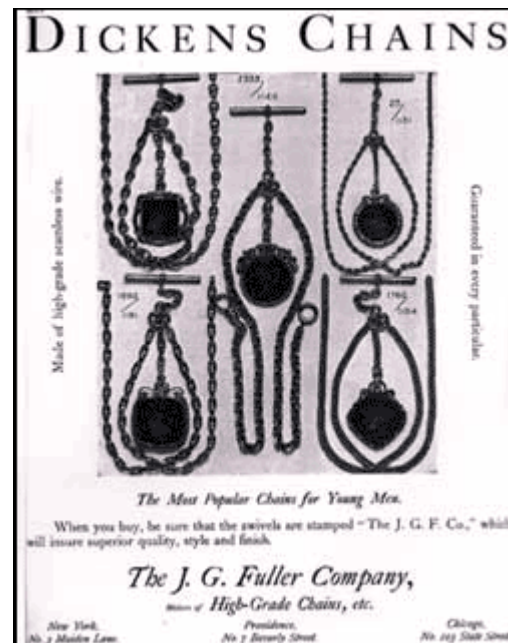


Charles Dickens, circa 1867, wearing his famous double Albert chain and fob.

By 1847, the year Charles Dickens authored *A Christmas Carol*, he was already a best-selling author and novelist, whose works were growing in international popularity. *A Christmas Carol* was a runaway best seller that has never been out of print.

Few Americans today know that Charles Dickens **also** influenced how Americans wore their watches in the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

THE DICKENS CHAIN



An American advertisement for double Albert watch chains and fobs, advertised as "Dickens Chains," 1902.

During Queen Victoria's reign, it became fashionable for gentlemen to wear their pocket watches on double vest chains from a central buttonhole, often with a short central fob chain hanging beneath a "T" bar attachment. Originally intended to carry a watch key for key-wind or key-set watches, the second chain was used for pen knives, mechanical pencils, personal seals, compasses, and the like.

In Britain this style of watch chain was called a "double Albert" chain, and had been popularized by Victoria's consort Prince Albert. But Americans first

Museum Collection online.

Information and images of museum artifact are now viewable!

[SEARCH THE COLLECTION](#)

National Watch & Clock Museum Prepares for James Bond Exhibit

Museum Director Noel Poirier and NAWCC staff met with James Bond expert [Dell Deaton](#) during the second week of December to plan "[BOND WATCHES... James Bond Watches](#)" scheduled for exhibition during Summer 2010.

NAWCC Members Interviewed by Collector's Weekly

Last summer NAWCC members Jeff Hess and Bill Stoddard were interviewed for features in *Collector's Weekly*. Follow the links below to read these excellent interviews. They're worth a second look!

[Jeff Hess](#)

[Bill Stoddard](#)

Modern & Classic Pocket Watch Designs Keep Style Alive in 2009



[Freehand by Angular Momentum](#)

noticed and widely began to emulate the style after Charles Dickens' several American lecture tours. The style caught on, and the "Dickens Chain" was born, a style occasionally still used even today.



December 19 is the last day of Hannukah.

Celebrate the date in horological style with a [musical Hannukah clock](#) like the one above!

Innovative Designers Produce an Expensive Delight for Horological Music Lovers



The Grande Sonnerie detail.
(Photo: Jaeger-LeCoultre)

The Grande Sonnerie, a musical repeater that sounds the passing hours and quarters like a miniature tower clock, is claimed to be so difficult to assemble and adjust that only a few watchmakers have mastered the art. In the Grande Sonnerie complication, each quarter is sounded by the appropriate number of chimes, followed by a repeat of the hour.

Manufacturer Jaeger-LeCoultre filed 17 patents, designed a completely new movement, and introduced an innovative mechanism (the "Trébuchet Hammer") to improve the sound of the strike in order to build its new Hybris Mechanica à Grande Sonnerie.

Jaeger-LeCoultre claims the Hybris Mechanica à Grande Sonnerie is the most complex wristwatch in the world, with 26 complications, and the only one that can chime 2,500 notes in a day. It plays "Carillon de Westminster," the same chimes as Big Ben in London. It took five years to design and construct the new watch.



[Glashutte No. 1](#)



[Richard Mille RM020](#)

Cartier Easter Watch Gifted To Edward VIII Scheduled For Auction



Edward VIII.

(Photo: The Press Association)

A specially commissioned Cartier art deco-style rectangular watch, given as an Easter gift to King Edward VIII by his lover (and future wife) Wallis Simpson, will be sold at auction next March.

Edward reigned from January to December 1936, when he abdicated to marry the American divorcee.

Horologically Themed Play Wins 2009 Wasserstein Prize

Playwright Marisa Wegrzyn has won the 2009 Wasserstein Prize, a \$25,000 award given to young female playwrights, in recognition of her new play "Hickorydickory." The play is

The new repeater is being sold for \$2.7 million as part of a three-piece set that also includes the Hybris Mechanica à Gyrotourbillon and the Hybris Mechanica à Triptyque. It comes in a specially designed leather-coated safe weighing well over a ton, which also acts as a watch winder and a sound enhancement system. The unit is specially designed so the chiming of the watch inside can be heard from the outside even when the safe is closed and locked.

What a Christmas present for the discerning collector!

DILLINGER'S POCKET WATCH



John Dillinger's Hamilton Pocket Watch.
(Photo: Pegasus News)

A collection of John Dillinger's artifacts was offered at public auction on December 12 in Dallas, TX, including a gold-plated Hamilton pocket watch (above) owned and carried by Dillinger. The watch was in the late outlaw's pocket when he was killed outside the Biograph Theatre in Chicago on July 22, 1934.

To generations of Americans, John Dillinger, half Robin Hood and half Public Enemy Number 1, was the most notorious bank robber ever to have captured the public's imagination.

Horology in the Media



The Welcome Santa Clock. (Photo: Rankin/Bass)

'Twas The Night Before Christmas: Horology Saves The Day

One of the better-received animated Christmas specials of the 1970s, *'Twas the Night before Christmas* (produced by the legendary cartoon artists Rankin/Bass) is a beloved tale of two families trying to right a

set in a watch and clock repair shop in the Chicago suburbs, where everyone comes equipped with a "mortal clock"--a pocket watch wrapped around their heart--telling them exactly when they will die.

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terrible wrong and save Christmas for everyone in the Edwardian town of Junctionville, USA. Released in 1974, and featuring the vocal talents of George Gobel (Father Mouse), Joel Grey (Joshua Trundle), and Tammy Grimes (Albert), this heartwarming story is a holiday favorite.

Synopsis: A young, modern-minded mouse named Albert sends a letter to the North Pole claiming that the population of Junctionville

doesn't believe Santa Claus exists. Feeling offended, Santa makes it clear he intends to bypass the town on Christmas Eve. Town clockmaker Joshua Trundle builds a magnificent tower clock to invite Santa back to town, but Albert accidentally breaks the clock before it can be used. Albert is in more trouble than ever! Can he fix the clock in time? Will Santa forgive them and return to Junctionville?



This Christmas gem can be viewed online at:

['Twas the night before Christmas \(You Tube\)](#)

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