

Harris, Markus

From: NAWCC [newsletters@nawcc.org]
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2010 10:43 AM
To: Harris, Markus
Subject: Horological Happenings from the NAWCC

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**Clockmakers
Wanted For Niche
Awards**

**2011 NICHE
AWARDS**

This annual competition recognizes artisans from America and Canada, including clockmakers, who have been under represented in past years.

This is a call for entries.

For more information about how to nominate a worthy artisan click [HERE](#).

Learn more about the Niche Awards here:

www.NICHEAwards.com

**Wristwatches Make a
Difference**

Chicago's Urban Prep Charter Academy has a mission -- for its students to graduate and succeed in college.

All 107 seniors in the graduating class of Chicago's Urban Prep Charter Academy were accepted at colleges across the country, a significant accomplishment considering they are from one of the toughest neighborhoods on the South Side of Chicago.

So how did they overcome the odds? School authorities created an environment that excused nothing -- and expected everything.

Dear NAWCC Member,

Every timepiece tells a story... A WWII Veteran's watch is returned, a Tex Ranger's watch is found, and time passes slowly toward High Noon.

Enjoy these stories and more in this issue!

**Lost Wristwatch Makes Great Escape,
Returned To Original Owner**



Jim Hoel is pleased to have his old wristwatch back for the first time since he lost it in World War II. The watch was an enlistment present from the bank where Hoel worked before the war; his name and address are engraved on the back. The last time he wore the old Gallet chronometer was on May 17, 1943, the day he used it while navigating a B-26 Marauder. The B-26, one of a flight of 10 that encountered heavy anti-aircraft fire while en route to bomb a power plant near Amsterdam, was forced to perform an emergency landing, or "ditch," in a canal. Hoel and three of the plane's six crewmen survived the crash. When Hoel arrived at a German prisoner-of-war camp a few days later, his watch was gone.

Hoel spent the next two years in German POW camps, among them the infamous Stalug Luft III POW camp. He survived the brutal "Death March of POW's in January 1945 and was eventually liberated.

Each entering freshman starting school receives a wristwatch to keep track of time.

"Kids would be late and say they didn't know what time it was," said a school spokesman. "Part of our creed reads that we make no excuses, so we wanted to remove that excuse. ... There was no excuse for being late."

TIME FOR LONDON 2010



Allen Richardson, in association with Passports Educational Travel of Spencer, MA, is organizing a nine-day horological tour of England starting on May 16, 2011. The tour includes a visit to the British Museum, a Thames river trip to the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, the Tower of London, Westminster Castle and Houses of Parliament, the Prescot Museum, the Guild Hall and Museum of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers, and elsewhere. Those interested can contact Allen at (610)437-4471, Ext. 3320 or by email at: aricchard@cedarcrest.edu.

CLOCK & WATCH SCHOOL GRADUATES HAVE TIME ON THEIR SIDE

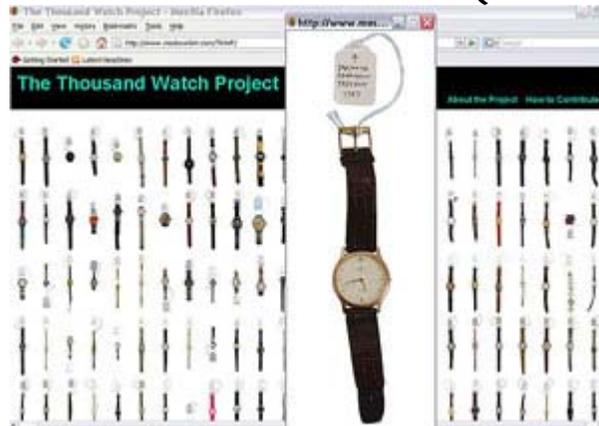
The watch and clock repair and restoration programs have expanded at the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors' School of Horology and new applicants are now being accepted for programs starting in June.

Hoel was directly involved in the events that took place in Stalug Luft III, which were immortalized in the classic film "The Great Escape."

His old watch was sent to Hoel's American home from England by a 56-year-old truck driver, Peter Cooper. Cooper had found it in the possession of an elderly neighbor in the village of Kirton, 75 miles northeast of London.

David Laurence, managing director of the Gallet watch company, has taken Hoel's story to heart. Laurence is taking part in a Gallet-sponsored research project to trace the history of historic Gallet time pieces, including the Hoel watch--one of many manufactured by Gallet during the war years and used by Allied servicemen. Laurence said: "We are awed by the contribution that Jim made to the cause of peace and freedom. We are also very proud to know that Jim was wearing one of our company's timepieces during his historic mission."

THOUSAND WATCH PROJECT (UPDATE)



Screen shot of the project website

Partially due to the NAWCC's participation in the Thousand Watch Project (as detailed in the January 2009 *Happenings*), the project now has a total of 820 watches. The collection can be viewed online here: <http://www.moskowlinn.com/TKWP/index.html>

A radio interview about the collection was conducted by NPR as part of their "Living on Earth Interview" series. The interview can be heard under the "PRESS" category on the above site, or read the transcript here: [Living on Earth Interview](#).

The collection, once complete, will be donated to the Smithsonian Museum on 10/10/10.

140 more wristwatches are needed to complete the collection. To contribute please send your wristwatch to

[Moskow Linn Architects](#)

88 Broad Street
Boston, MA 02110

Be sure to include a 10 word epitaph and your email address (optional). Moskow Linn will transcribe the epitaph onto a tag, catalog the watch and post your contribution. When complete, They will notify you via email so you can visit your watch online. **Please note, donated watches do not need to function.**

Noted Researcher and Curator Chris Bailey To Retire



Watch Repair Graduates



Combined/Clock Repair Graduates

Fifteen recent graduates can attest to their own success in learning extremely marketable skills for an industry seeking skilled craftspeople.

To learn more, visit:
[NAWCC School of Horology](#)

Congratulations to our recent graduating classes!

Heroes of Horology

Interested in Horological History? NAWCC member Bob Terwilliger, along with many other volunteers and contributors, have created a website to house portraits and links of famed horologists the world over.

The site is constantly expanding, and Terwilliger hopes to see it grow into a truly formidable resource.

Congratulations Bob! This is a project worth watching!

[Click HERE To Visit Heroes of Horology](#)

HOW THE WATCH WAS WORN: A FASHION FOR 500 YEARS (UPDATE!)



Chris Bailey (right) and Chapter 6 Vice-President Gary James inspecting an F. Kroeber clock following Chris's talk on Florence Kroeber and the Kroeber Clock Co. (NAWCC BULLETIN, Aug 1984).

Chris Bailey, curator of the American Clock & Watch Museum in Bristol, CT, will be retiring in several months. Chris has been involved with the American Clock & Watch Museum for over thirty years. Many know Chris through his numerous books and articles on clocks and watches in America. He also wrote the histories of the clock companies that appear in Tran Duy Ly's guide books.

The American Clock & Watch Museum will honor Chris at a farewell luncheon on Saturday May 8 at noon.

Chris Bailey has a long history of service to the NAWCC. There are few people left in our trade who have dedicated their lives to clocks and clockmaking, and it is only fitting that we give each of them the honor and respect they deserve.

--Excerpted from an announcement by John Smayda, President, American Clock and Watch Museum, Bristol, CT

Home-Grown Horologist Discovers Pocket Watch with Tons of Texas History

Texan Jimmy Butler, the grandson of a Georgia jeweler, takes comfort in disassembling and reassembling time pieces. At least he did, until **Henry W. Grabers** late-nineteenth-century "Size 18" Rockford, lever-set, triple-sunk dial pocket watch came into his life.

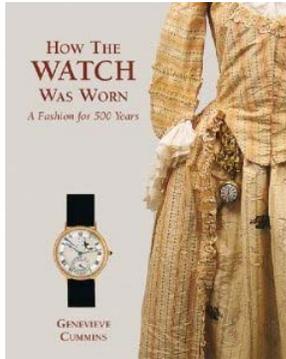
That watch was given in exchange for an afternoon's work on a friend's car. But as things turn out, it might be worth tens of thousands of dollars.

The value of Butler's watch comes from its association with Henry Graber, a German-born Hempstead merchant who was a member both of the Texas Rangers and of Terry's Texas Rangers, a Houston-based Civil War company that fought 275 battles in seven states.



(Jimmy Butler displays the Graber watch.
Photo: Houston Chronicle)

Wounded near Bowling Green, KY, Graber was captured and held in a Union prison before escaping and returning to Confederate territory. Graber's



This amazing book has now been released and is days away from bookstores.

Author **Genevieve Cummins** will be at the NAWCC National Convention, June 16-20, 2010, to promote the book as part of a special exhibit.

Read a review on the book here:

[Fortunat Mueller-Maerki Review](#)

Advance orders can now be taken via Amazon.com:

[Pre-order the book](#)

NEW MEMBER RESOURCES!

Hamilton Ledgers

A project years in the making, the scanned records of the Hamilton Watch Company ledgers have been digitized and converted into a searchable index available online to NAWCC members.

Railroader's Index

The complete text of the famed "Railroader's Corner" column from the NAWCC BULLETIN is now available online for the use of our members.

4Sale\$NAWCC

The new NAWCC Classified horological exchange site is now open for testing and limited use. Auction software to follow!

[Click HERE To Visit NAWCC Member Only Resources Page](#)

(Member Log In Required)

name and the words "Brenham, Tex." are engraved on the watch case. Graber most likely bought the timepiece and had it engraved in the mid-1880s, long after after the war.

"Anything associated with Terry's Texas Rangers is rare," said Alan Olson, curator at the Dallas Historical Society.

Christina Stopka, curator at Waco's Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, might be interested in acquiring the watch. "Any time there's a direct tie with a Ranger, it's very exciting," she said.

Meanwhile Jimmy is ready to start working on another pocket watch. "I hope the next watch I hold has no attachment to anybody. I just want to take it apart," said Butler.

Horology in the Media



Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly in High Noon. (Photo: United Artists)

HIGH NOON: An Powerful Depiction of Time in Film

"This is just a dirty little town in the middle of nowhere. Nothing that happens here is really important."- The Judge

High Noon is an American 1952 western film directed by Fred Zinnemann and starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly.

Will Kane (Gary Cooper), the longtime marshal of Hadleyville, New Mexico, has just married pacifist Quaker Amy (Grace Kelly) and turned in his badge. Then the town learns that Frank Miller (Ian MacDonald), a criminal Kane brought to justice, is due to arrive on the noon train. Miller has vowed to take revenge against Kane and anyone who dares aid the marshal.

Kane reclaims his badge, but while many townspeople profess to admire Kane, none are willing to lend a hand. Kane's wife threatens to leave on the noon train with or without him, but he stubbornly refuses to give in.

In the end, Kane faces the four gunmen alone.

The film is full of extremely powerful horological images. Clocks of various sizes and shapes loom over almost every scene, silently bearing witness to the approaching threat. The large wall regulator in the Sheriff's office become a major character in the film, the harbinger of menace as time passes.

High Noon portrays real-time events as



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they occur in 85 minutes from 10:35 am until the showdown at noon. The viewer experiences the clock's count down to the ultimate noontime showdown, just as the film's characters do.

In 1989 High Noon was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress, one of the first films to be so honored. The film is no. 27 on the American Film Institute's list of great films.

Click below to view the climactic countdown montage, one of most powerful scenes ever filmed.

[THE CLOCK TICKS DOWN TO HIGH NOON](#)

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