

Harris, Markus

From: NAWCC [newsletters@nawcc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 2:12 PM
To: Harris, Markus
Subject: Horological Happenings from the NAWCC

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NAWCC ELECTION

[Click HERE to see the NAWCC Election Results](#)



"CLOCKWORKS" EXHIBIT OPENS AT NATIONAL WATCH & CLOCK MUSEUM

The principles that drove your grandmother's clock had many other applications. Clockworks are mechanisms powered by a coiled spring and regulated by some form of escapement; the power is transmitted through toothed gear wheels and used for centuries to drive a variety of things, including complicated clocks, toys, music boxes, and automatons.

This new exhibit presents fanciful and fun toys, devices, even mechanical bomb fuses, demonstrating the many uses, both practical and whimsical, for the clockwork mechanism.

[Museum link](#)

HELP THE NAWCC RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS!

Help us grow our membership and share our fine publications with more readers.

Dear NAWCC Member,

Spring is here, though storms and tumultuous weather have made the transition a bit rough. We look forward to warmer, calmer days ahead.

This month we share a fantastic all-metal indoor clock tower, welcome our first NAWCC Youth Member, and celebrate anniversaries, records, and several other notable achievements, both within and beyond our Association.

Enjoy these stories and more in this issue!

SCULPTURAL METALWORK GOTHIC REVIVAL "CLOCK TOWER"



Gothic Revival Clock Tower
8'L x 8'W x 20'H

Photo courtesy of
www.anvilworks.net

This sculptural metal "clock tower" houses the clockworks from the steeple of St. Michael's Church in Rochester, NY. NAWCC members might recognize these works, on view at eye level, as an E. Howard Company

[Easy-to-download membership applications](#) are available for distribution by our membership.

Print them as needed and distribute at Marts, your business...anywhere you find potential horologists!!

[CLICK HERE FOR FLYER LINK](#)

We also offer a special subscription rate to Libraries, Schools, Museums, and Associations to display the Watch & Clock Bulletin for educational purposes. Consider giving your local institution a gift subscription at our special rate!

[CLICK HERE FOR SUBSCRIPTION INFO](#)

Japanese Earthquake Affects American Clocks

On March 11, 2011, a magnitude 8.9 earthquake struck off the coast of Japan. Twelve minutes later the resulting shockwave disturbed the tower clock pendulum of the Santa Barbara Courthouse tower clock in Santa Barbara, California.

Click below to view the measured results:

[Earthquake Results](#)

HOFFMAN CLOCK MUSEUM REOPENS

On Saturday April 9, 2011, the Hoffman Clock Museum in Newark, NY, reopened after extensive modeling and redesign.

Click for more info:
[Hoffman Clock Museum](#)



Photo: Chicago Tribune.

FIRE DESTROYS FUTURE CLOCK MUSEUM

No. 2 Tower Clock.

The Gothic Revival design was created through collaboration by architect/designer Lee Pharr, clock specialist Durward Center, and the clock's owner. Metalsmith Lee Badger was commissioned to execute the design.

The tower, which took eight months to build, required extensive creative collaboration and consummate metal working skill. Hand-forged pieces were created to fit perfectly with ornamental castings and structural elements of worked steel. The tower was constructed in two sections for ease of transport to the owner's site.

Lee Badger has worked on several other projects involving historic clocks. One of these (including the Gothic Revival Clock Tower, above) appear in the book [Ironwork Today 2: Inside and Out](#) published by Schiffer Books, Jeffrey B. Snyder, editor. The Gothic Revival Clock Tower is illustrated and described on page 251.

For more information visit <http://www.anvilworks.net>

NAWCC SCHOOL OF HOROLOGY STUDENT SCORES HIGH IN SWISS ACCURACY TESTS

Chronométrie 2011, the second annual international horological competition based in Le Locle, Switzerland, officially begins in May. Nine international watch school students and four watch manufacturers are taking part, with a total of 18 watches registered to compete.

The competition was initially open only to European watches, but American **Derek Hadfield** of the **NAWCC School of Horology** scored so well in preliminary "art of adjustment" testing that he is being allowed to participate using a donated caliber ETA 6498 Swiss watch movement. Good Luck, Derek!

NAWCC'S FIRST YOUTH MEMBER IS: BELLA GRIMM!



10-year-old Bella Grim (TX) recently became the first member of the NAWCC through our new Youth Membership program. Youth Membership includes full member benefits, except voting privileges and with online-only periodical access. Parent or guardian membership is not required. This is a great way to pass the torch of NAWCC membership along to a new generation. Youth Memberships, which cost \$20, make wonderful gifts.

Congratulations, Bella!

GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS RECOGNIZES TALKING CLOCK COLLECTOR

Author and clock collector Mark McKinley has been confirmed by the Guinness Book of World Records as being the owner of the most talking clocks.

The 70-year-old psychology professor has collected more than 900 talking clocks, valued at \$1.2 million. McKinley purchased his first talking clock in 1990, and has been collecting ever since.

McKinley goes through hundreds of batteries annually to keep his clocks operational. Switching the chattering clocks to standard and daylight saving times is also a rigorous process. "For the fall time set back, it takes about five hours," he recently told reporters. "But for the spring set-ahead, it only takes about three hours -- think about it."

A vacant three-story Victorian house in a northern Chicago suburb, intended as a future clock and stained glass museum, was gutted March 15 in an overnight three-alarm blaze.

Cameel Halim spent the last five years converting the house into a museum to display his extensive collection of stained glass and 600 antique timepieces (many purchased from the former [Time Museum](#) collection, auctioned in 2004).

The fire caused about \$800,000 in damages. No one was injured. The collection wasn't in the home when the blaze started. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

to help us vet our new watch identification examination test.

Interested parties can click below to contact us by emailing:

mharris@nawcc.org

TEXAS MUSEUM CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

The **Southwest Museum of Clocks and Watches** in Lockhart, Texas, recently celebrated its 3 Year Anniversary. Visitors enjoyed refreshments and toured the facility. The restored Seth Thomas No. 16 Tower Clock from the Hood County Courthouse was on exhibit. This project is part of the Museum's Tower Clock Initiative in cooperation with the Texas Historical Commission.

NAWCC members who find themselves in south central Texas are encouraged to visit the museum. It is always "Time Well Spent!"

[Museum Website](#)

METSKER LEGACY CONTINUES

The first talking clock was introduced in 1911. Talking clocks are available in more than 30 languages.

McKinley is the author of a new full-color, 175-page book called "[Tick, Tock, Talk: The Collected History and Significance of Talking Clocks](#)," published by the NAWCC. The book includes a DVD, allowing readers to hear many of the clocks featured. Dr. McKinley is currently working on a second book entitled "[It's About Time! Perspective, Profundities and Perplexities in the Fourth Dimension](#)."

McKinley, NAWCC member and founder of the International Society of Talking Clock Collectors, has uploaded 52 videos on YouTube that demonstrate his entire talking clock collection in action. More than 23,000 people have viewed the videos. See his collection online at www.talkingclocks.net.



Commemorative Nazi Watch

Photo: Daily Mail Reporter

HITLER BIRTHDAY WATCH

Commemorative Watch Created for Dictator's Birthday Discovered by Polish Customs Officers

A rare, limited-edition watch, reputedly produced by the Nazi Party in celebration of Adolf Hitler's 47th birthday in 1936, has been discovered and seized by customs officials in Poland after a suspected smuggler was stopped. The pocket watch is covered in Nazi insignia with an accompanying fob medal commemorating the date. It is believed to have been produced for the inner circle members of the infamous National Socialist (Nazi) party. Border guards in Grzechotki, Poland, discovered the timepiece in a "secret compartment" in the trunk of an auto when they detained its nervous driver at the Russian border crossing.

The confiscated watch has now been turned over to the Polish Historical Museum in an attempt to confirm its purpose and verify its history.

People lined the streets of Berlin to celebrate the German Fuhrer's 47th birthday in 1936; Hitler was at the height of his power in the years leading up to World War II.

[READ MORE](#)

HOROLOGY IN THE MEDIA

Tom Harris Auctions will host the **87th Gene Harris Semi Annual Antique Clock & Watch Auction** on Friday, May 6th and Saturday, May 7th, 2011. This auction is a special one, as it will include numerous items from the estate of NAWCC Star Fellow **Ursula Metsker**, and her husband, NAWCC Fellow **Paul Metsker**. Proceeds will benefit the NAWCC and three other charities.

[Click HERE for auction information](#)

STOLEN WATCH ALERT!

The following watches were stolen on March 10, 2011. A substantial reward will be provided for information leading to the return of any or all of these items. Please call 512-451-4135.

[CLICK TO VIEW CATALOGUE](#)

NAWCC Members are invited to register their collectibles with the Art Loss Registry. No fee will be charged for this service.

[Click HERE for more information on the Art Loss Registry](#)

HELP WANTED

Our friends at The American Clock & Watch Museum in Bristol, CT, are currently seeking a new Executive Director. The Executive Director reports to the President of the Board of Directors and assists the Board of Directors in advancing the museum's Charter Purpose and mission, implementing the policies approved by the Board and achieving the goals and objectives set forth for the organization.

Click below for more information:

[Executive Director Search](#)

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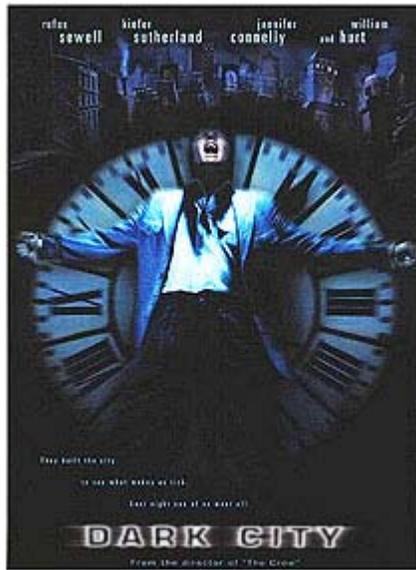
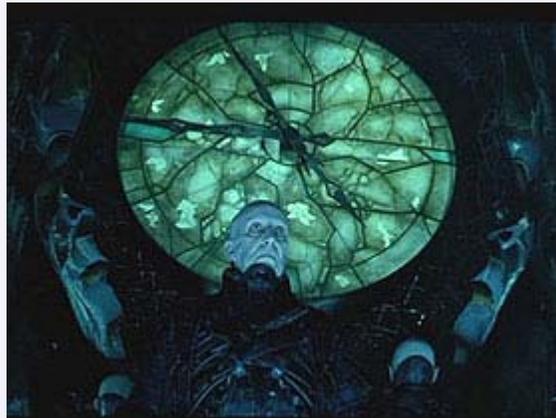


Photo: New Line Cinema

FILM

DARK CITY:
ALIEN CLOCKS LOOM THROUGH ETERNAL NIGHT IN THIS STYLISH SCI FI THRILLER



The Alien Clock. Photo: New Line Cinema

Dark City is a 1998 "neo noir" science fiction film directed by Alex Proyas and starring Rufus Sewell, William Hurt, Kiefer Sutherland, and Jennifer Connolly. It depicts a strange city whose inhabitants never see the sun, and whose lives are manipulated by mysterious other-worldly "Strangers" masquerading as humans. The Strangers have the ability to extract the memories of the hapless city dwellers, to change their personalities. They rebuild the city and the people in it, over and over, as part of a bizarre experiment.



The Clocks of Dark City. Photo: New Line Cinema

The Dark City is dominated by horology. Whether in the form of massive sculptural alien clocks ringing in the changes to the city and its inhabitants, or in the ever-ticking pocket watch of a mad doctor, time is a hungry specter that rules Dark City in ways its citizens can't begin to suspect.

The film's production design includes many clocks. A major clock in the film shows no hours, suggesting that time, though eternally present, sometimes has no meaning. Especially if time lies beyond one's personal control.



Dr. Schreiber's Hunter Cased Waltham.
Photo: New Line Cinema

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