

Internet Horology – Program for members of Chapter 34 October 11, 2008

Some interesting sites to visit by Stan Palen and Ed Fasanella (note, this is just a very small list of sites that we have visited and found to be useful. We do not recommend these sites - this information is provided just to get you started)

The internet offers one the opportunity to perform horological research in the comfort of your own home. If you are looking for a particular item, a clock or watch that is hard to find, a part for a vintage watch or clock, an antique horological tool, a particular clock, the internet is well worth investigating. Many scarce horological items show up at auctions. Most large auction houses now list their items on the internet and some even allow one to bid online. You never know what will turn up on eBay. Some great “Buy-it-Now” horological deals turn up on eBay at very low prices. However, they do not last long, so you must bid fast if you see a really good bargain. Also, not all good items bring good prices. Items on eBay that have a bad title or are in the wrong category sometimes go for a fraction of their “book” value. Whether you want to research, buy, or sell antique horological items, the internet is now the place you may want to visit first. The internet has changed collecting forever as it brings the international market to you.

Searching the web

<http://www.google.com> Google has put together the biggest and most powerful search engine. Let Google help you find what you are looking for.

Watch and Clock Societies

<http://www.nawcc.org/> Our own NAWCC home page. Try out the emart, etc.

<http://www.nawcc-info.org/members.htm> This is a very useful link (roadmap) that takes you to research conducted by NAWCC members. Serial number lists of many watch companies and other research is available here. Also, pictures of many scarce and unusual old watches are available. If you like old watches, start here!!

<http://www.nawcc.org/headquarters/chapters/chaplend.htm> NAWCC slide and tape program list. If you see something you like, tell our VP, Ed, and he will get it for an upcoming chapter meeting!!

<http://www.awci.com/> American Watchmaker Clockmaker Institute – Offers Horological Times magazine, licenses watch and clockmakers, etc. Mainly for the professional as dues are now around \$100 a year. However, many serious hobbyists find it very useful to join as the society provides repair sheets and other information on request to members.

<http://www.bhi.co.uk/> British Horological Institute, an old respected source of information for serious watch and clock restorers and collectors.

<http://www.havhome.org/> Our own Horological Association of Virginia website.

<http://www.mbsi.org/> The Music Box Society International is an organization similar to the NAWCC for old music box enthusiasts.

NAWCC Chapter Sites – many chapters offer downloads of old booklets, repair manuals, research, etc.

<http://www.nawcc-ch34.com/> NAWCC Chapters – note many chapters have web sites, including our own. Stan has done a great job setting up our chapter website.

http://www.nawcc-ch149.com/pw_dbresearch.html Early American Watch Club NAWCC Chapter 149. This chapter has a lot of great information on their website. Also, databases on various American watches are maintained and available on this website. There is a virtual museum with pictures of members’ watches, etc.

<http://www.nawcc-ch168.com/> If you are interested in torsional pendulum clocks, this is a good site.

Untraditional Places to find watch parts, watches, clocks, discussion groups

<http://www.eBay.com>. eBay is one of the most useful sites to find watch and clock parts, as-is watches,

movements, cases, dials, and you name it.

<http://www.amazon.com> and <http://www.yahoo.com> Try out Amazon and Yahoo. There are also discussion groups on Yahoo, etc that are devoted to watches, watch and clock repair, etc.

Traditional Horological Supply Houses

Parts can now be found on the internet. All of the major horological suppliers now have websites. Also, many small operations (so-called mom and pop suppliers) have webpages. Much of the S. LaRose American watch parts inventory is now online or on eBay

<http://ptpwp.com/> Past Time Pocket Watch Parts – S. LaRose is no longer in business. However, many new old stock American pocket watch parts are still available at this site located in Greensboro. I have been told that a grandson of S. LaRose bought up this material. Prices have risen dramatically from the “good old days.”

<http://www.julesborel.com> Jules Borel website. Horological supplies. Jules Borel has a very good website. Their site can be used to look for watch part interchangeability as they have set up the site to cross-reference parts. You need to register to use the site.

<http://www.casker.com/> Watch Parts and supplies. Casker bought most of S. LaRose foreign watch parts and many of their supplies.

<http://www.esslinger.com/> Watch Parts and supplies and tools

http://www.clockmaker.com/html/clock_beats.php

<http://www.butterworthclocks.com/btwelks.html> Clock Movements

<http://www.crescentclock.com/> Wooden case parts & Clock reproductions

<http://www.bmumford.com/> Microset timing equipment.

<http://www.blackforestimports.com/contactus.asp>

<http://www.empireclock.com/>

<http://www.randmimports.com/index.html>

<http://www.timesavers.com/> Clock parts and supplies

<http://www.livesaysinc.com/> Watch Parts and supplies

<http://www.ofrei.com/> Watch Parts and supplies

<http://www.mccawcompany.com/> Watch Parts and supplies

<http://www.twincitysupply.net/catalog/>

<http://www.whitescrystals.com/products.html>

<http://www.merritts.com/store4/public/default.aspx> Clocks, Clock parts and supplies

<http://www.ronellclock.com/> Clocks, Clock parts and supplies

<http://www.skymaxcompany.com/> - Watches

<http://www.grobetusa.com/index.html> Grobet has an online catalog of tools, etc. However, they do not list prices. They manufacture and distribute tools for jewelry, watchmaking, dental work, etc.

<http://www.eternaltoolshorology.com/> This UK company has some very specialized tools for clockmakers and watchmakers. The prices are a little high, but with the dollar improving against the pound, you may soon be able to buy at a more reasonable price. This company even has a “You Tube” video on their website showing how to use diamond and carbide drills and gravers on the watchmaker’s lathe, etc.

Our own Chapter 34 members’ sites (note, if you have a site, let us know)

<http://www.dashto.com> Tom Mister has a **huge** selection of horological tools, material, parts, used horological items, etc.

<http://www.watchdoc.com> Ed Fasanella has a site devoted to watch repair lessons that he has written, plus used horological books, tools, watch parts, used movements, military straps, etc. Also tips on watch repair, how to evaluate a watch, etc.

<http://www.stanpalen.com/> The Tic Toc Shop - Stan has a very interesting site with information on watches and clocks, watch and clock repair, and even a Komputer Korner.

<http://www.militarywatchmuseum.com/> Larry Crutsinger now supplies Hamilton parts for military WWII watches and chronometers. You will find parts catalogs on the Hamilton 21 and 22. On this website, he has uploaded interesting pictures of rare and unique Hamilton items made for the military during WWII.

Auction Devoted to Horology

<http://www.jones-horan.com/> This auction site in New Hampshire offers very high quality vintage and antique watches and clocks. There is no buyer's premium. They also offer online catalogs and prices realized.

Watch and Clock Company web sites

Current watch companies typically have web sites. Some sites offer repair sheets and instructions on how to operate their watches.

<http://www.omegawatches.com/> Omega watch company site. The site also has repair prices by model for their watches.

<http://chelseaclock.com/index.cfm?TASK=HOME> Chelsea clock company home page.

<http://www.orient-watch.com/global/company/index.html> Orient watch company, another good Japanese watch manufacturer.

<http://www.citizenwatch.com/COA/English/settings.asp> Here is where you can get setting instructions for citizen watches. Some of the complex watches require these directions.

<http://ballwatchusa.com/index.html> Ball Watch company. Many old names have been bought and new watches made.

Chronometer Boxes

<http://www.shipsclock.com/> If you need a reproduction box for a chronometer, this is the site to visit.

Useful information

http://www.cwrnh.com/techpages/watch_nomenclature.htm Good web with information on watch nomenclature.

<http://www.webspawner.com/users/germanwatch/> German military watches.

<http://germanwatch.proboards43.com/index.cgi> German military watch forum. Ask or answer questions about military watches.

<http://www.pixelp.com/gruen/1867.html> Gruen watch company history.

<http://www.lathes.co.uk/latheparts/page2.html> Good information on watchmaker's lathes. A Moseley lathe is illustrated and each part labeled. Also, many other lathes are described. This site is in the UK.

<http://www.vintagezodiacs.com/Articles/Synop.htm> History and other information on Zodiac watches.

http://elginwatches.org/databases/elgin_sn_intro.html Elgin watch database. You simply plug your serial number in and you find out the run, production figures, year made, etc.

<http://www.time.gov/timezone.cgi?Eastern/d/-5/java> Here is the official US time. If you need the "exact" time, here it is!!

<http://24.153.124.124/watchmaker/hairsprings.html> Website that offers to vibrate a hairspring for your favorite watch for around \$100. Note we are not recommending this site as we have never done business with them. However, they do have a very large assortment of old hairspring stock for American watches.

<http://www.timezone.com/> A good source of information on watches.

<http://www.pricelessads.com/m57/> Origins of the Waltham model '57 keywind. This website is a good source of information on the early Waltham model 1857 18 size keywind, one of the most fascinating and interesting American mass-produced watch.

<http://www.horologysource.com/Identification.htm> identification and dating