



Time to Look Back

by

Karin Farrin

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“Yesterday is but today’s memory, and tomorrow is today’s dream.”
From the poem “On Time” by Khalil Gibran



Time and Memories

by
Beth Miller

Before the coronavirus pandemic shut down many of our work, social and everyday activities, we had a different sense of time. Perhaps you’ve thought of one of these during your day: “There’s not enough hours in the day.” “Where does the time go?” “Time flies so fast.” But starting in March we might think: “Time just drags.” “What day is it?” “It feels like forever.”

Back in the pre-COVID days, I was very fortunate to have my Camarillo Ranch docent tour day at the same time Karin Farrin arrived to check and wind the clock in the Old Ranch Office/Diorama Room. It was a lesson in patience and care. It was about looking back at time and setting the clock as smoothly and as accurately as possible. While standing on a small step stool, Karin was face to face with the clock as she gently turned the key in the winding spring hole. She already knew if the key would turn clockwise or counterclockwise. Very importantly she also knew that if the key wouldn’t move easily in either direction, the clock wouldn’t need to be wound. Karin would never force the key further. Then looking face-to-face with the clock, she would wait a moment to check the time and listen to the sound that brought the room to life. Tick tock. Tick tock.

When the Camarillo Ranch is once again open for tours, I hope this is the first sound I hear in the house. Tick tock. Tick Tock. As Khalil Gibran once explained, “Yesterday is but today’s memories and tomorrow is today’s dream.”

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In this article we're writing about clocks that were donated and are currently being displayed inside the Camarillo Ranch House.

In Adolfo's study is a black, 3-pillars on either side, 8-day time clock on the mantel. It is made by E. Ingraham Company, which started in Bristol, Connecticut in 1860. This style was popular in the 1920's.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KxszzYl8XeE>

To hear a similar style clock, click on you tube video above.

Also, in Adolfo's study a clock is pictured on right corner of the roll top desk, which has a plaque on it that says, 'To Adolfo Camarillo, with Sincere Appreciation, Horace Heidt.' Though that desk is no longer in the Camarillo home, the clock remains in Adolfo's private office/study and is displayed on the bookkeeper's ledger's desk. A current office photo was not obtained for this report.



Horace Heidt was a Big Band leader in the 1930s-40s, whose Musical Knights produced well-known tunes. He died in 1986. At this time, the connection between Adolfo and Heidt is unknown.

In the parlor on the wall above the piano, is a Seth Thomas clock hanging there. It's a 30-hour brass movement, weight-driven clock. These clocks were made between 1842 to 1865, and the company was started in Plymouth, Connecticut in 1831. It was donated in 2012 by Peter and Janet King, and restored in 2013 by Ernie Jensen, who volunteered his services. He is a member of NAWCC, (National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors).



Ernie was also able to get the clock in the Old Ranch Office/Diorama Room running again, by supplying parts to it that were missing. This clock is located

above the fireplace. It's a Sessions Regulator No. 4, 8-day time and calendar clock, and this style was popular around 1912. Sessions clock company started in Forestville, Connecticut in 1831.



The clock in Carmen's room on the mantel is from the New Haven Clock Company, in the Tambour style. The company was founded in 1853 in New Haven, Connecticut. This particular clock doesn't have keyholes on the face, so now I'm wondering if it's electric, although I didn't see a cord. Most all of the clocks in this style seem to have keyholes on the face for winding and are around the 1930's timeframe.



The clock in Pancho's room is a Seth Thomas, Cathedral style. Also referred to as beehive." It's an 8-day Sonora Chime clock. The company was founded in 1813 in Thomaston, Connecticut.



Circa 1930s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1I1w3ZSyRjA>

To hear a similar style clock, click on the above link.

The clock in Rosa's room didn't seem to have a name on it that I saw, but it looks like the style of the Ansonia Clock Company, which was founded in Ansonia, Connecticut in 1851.



Circa 1920

My Own Clocks...

I think I've always been interested in clocks. I enjoy hearing the 'tick-tock' and chimes. I have 7 vintage/collectable clocks at home such as Grandfather, Banjo style wall clock, Pendulum wall clock, Cuckoo clock, Harp-shaped wall clock, Anniversary clock with glass dome, Mantle clock, and numerous battery-operated clocks. It is an 'event' changing them twice a year, for sure! I feel very fortunate to have these 7 clocks. It just so happens that they all came from family...mine and Greg's. Most of our battery operated clocks (12 or more) we have purchased. Only one came from a friend.

My favorite clock at home is probably the Cuckoo clock. At the Camarillo Ranch I enjoy the clock on the mantel in Adolfo's study, plus the one in Rosa's room.

Karin



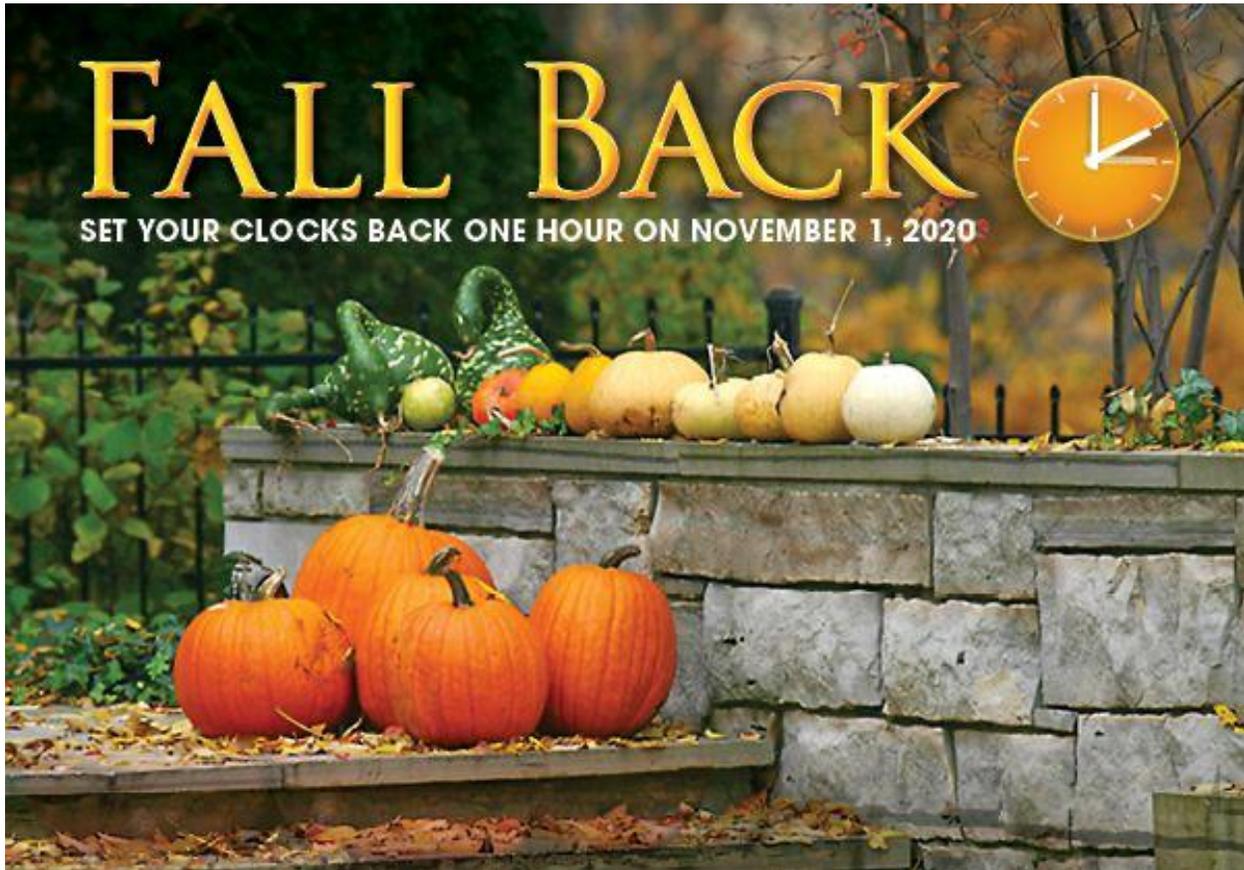
Karin's Cuckoo clock

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0aP1SmfTj4>

To hear a cuckoo mechanism click on above link

Do you have a comment or memory you'd like to share? Please tell us!
Contact Karin Farrin

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Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am on Sunday, November 1, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euCViLHKFrk>