

Chronology of a Horological Library

- The American Horological Society called upon all watch and clockmakers in Chicago to attend a meeting Thursday evening on June 9th, 1892 in order to set about forming an association "which shall encourage and improve American horology." Theodore Gribi was the first president of the organization.
- There was a meeting of the New York Uhrmachers Verein in March 26th, 1866, which was founded by German immigrants to encourage communication between watchmakers and to lend aid to its members
- J Andrew Key and Adelbert Weiss led the first meeting of the Associated Watchmakers of America on August 13th, 1917 in St. Louis, Minnesota.
- Interest in precision grew with the First World War. H. E. Howe, who was chairman of the Division of Research Extension of the National Research Council, examined concerns of the industry in May of 1921. He and the researchers found a shortage of competent watchmakers, a need for stabilizing and standardizing repair techniques, wider education, and more formalized certification.
- Upon his death in 1928, James Ward Packard of Packard Motors signed his collection of 31, highly-intricate watches to HIA.
- HIA's 15th annual meeting in DC in May of 1936 marked the start of cooperation between HIA and the United Horological Association of America (UHAA).
- Donald Leverenz as president of AWI (1963-64) participated in the return of the Packard collection to AWI from the Smithsonian.
- In June, 1976 AWI acquired a building in Harrison, Ohio to house its national operations.
- In January, 1977 AWI published its first issue of Horological Times.
- Under the presidency of Orville Hagans (1978-79), the AWI staff produced an index of library materials, and instituted a more effective system of book lending.
- On June 28th, 1987 the ELM trust approved a rededication of the library as the Henry B Fried Resource Library. The board also dedicated the museum to Orville R. Hagans.
- In 1989 Mrs. Helen Bensch secured the donation of her husband Otto Bensch's horology library of 1000 volumes to the Henry B Fried Library. Henry B Fried made large donation in 1991. The volumes were fully incorporated by June 28th, 1991, and the ELM trust announced a completed fifty-five page index in 1992 as the culmination of a four year project.
- On March 19th, 1996 Henry B Fried passed away.
- Four scholarships were established in 1996 to fund future students in watch repair at AWI.
- On June 13th, 1997 the first AWI class graduated.

Color Coding the Old Index Spread Sheet

 	Material Added to Index
 	Material on Shelf
 	Material Missing from Shelf

Old Library Index

Process of Data Entry

The original spread sheet of the library index lacked thorough organization. The spread sheet did not have columns for publisher information, page numbers, ISBN, or the language of the item. The spread sheet accounted for most of the individual items on shelf, but was not complete, and did not include a fuller count of copy numbers. In the overhaul of this spread sheet, it became apparent that many items were missing from the library, but that many more had not been added to the original index.

Indexing Project at the Henry B. Fried Resource Library At the American Watchmakers - Clockmakers Institute

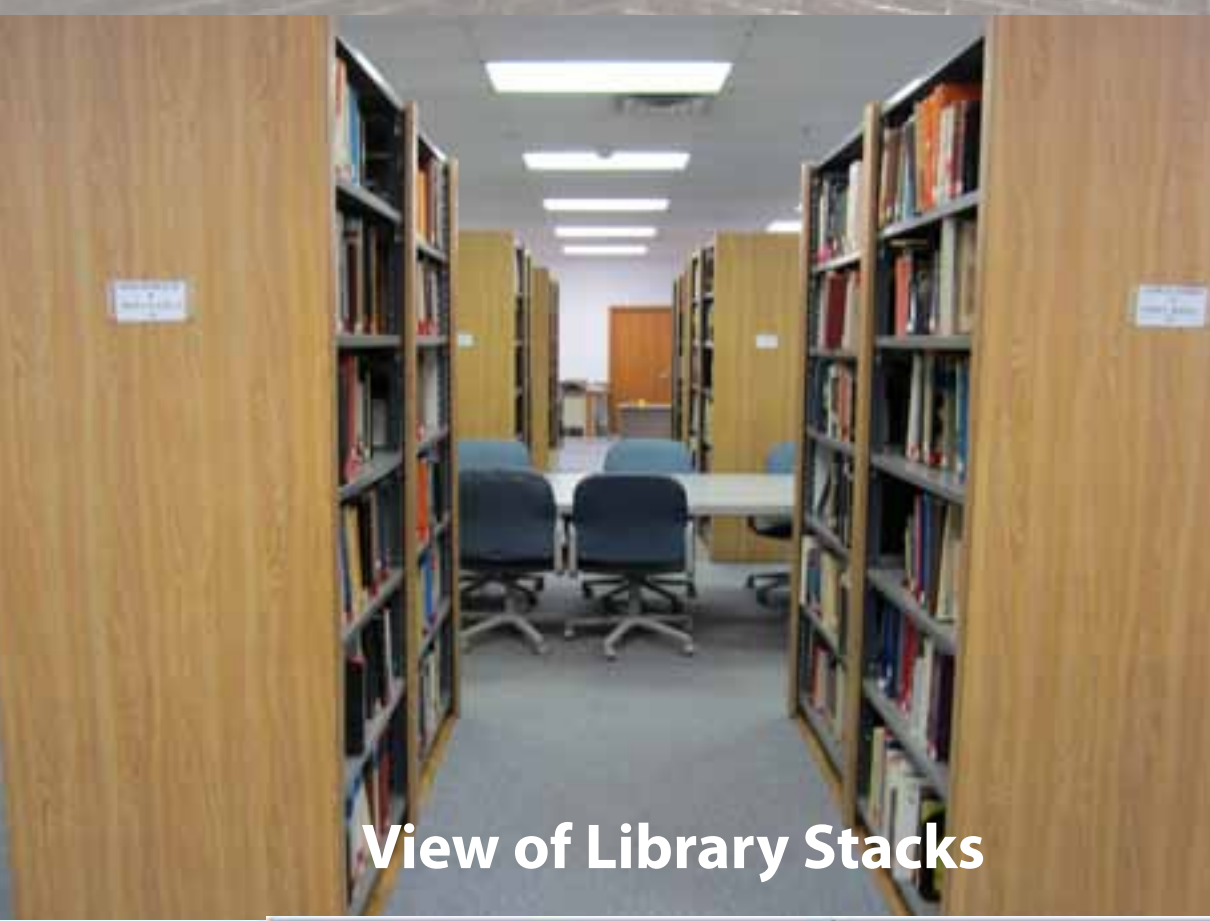
Materials in Collection:
The collection of the Henry B Fried includes a pamphlet collection, a library of technical documents, an index of watch and clock making articles, and a small microfiche collection.

The library has been underused in the past few years on account of its disorganization. **There are plans in the future to make the index available online**, but in a format that may better facilitate searches than in an Excel or PDF document. A number of programs are being considered, and cost is the main concern.

The next phase of the overhaul is to account for the material in storage. Now that the process of constructing book call numbers is known, it is possible to add new titles to the library index. There is a growing pile of documents left without a folder in the library of technical documents, and it is imperative that these receive proper storage. There is uncertainty as to what the pamphlet collection contains, and it is necessary that this collection be reviewed.



Library of Technical Documents



View of Library Stacks



Materials Waiting to be Processed



Objects in Pamphlet Collection

David Eicher