

Horologix



The place to come for all your Bulle and Eureka restoration parts.

Contact Peter Smith
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Eureka Clock Serial Number 3141

*Restoration of Eureka
Clock Serial Number 3141*

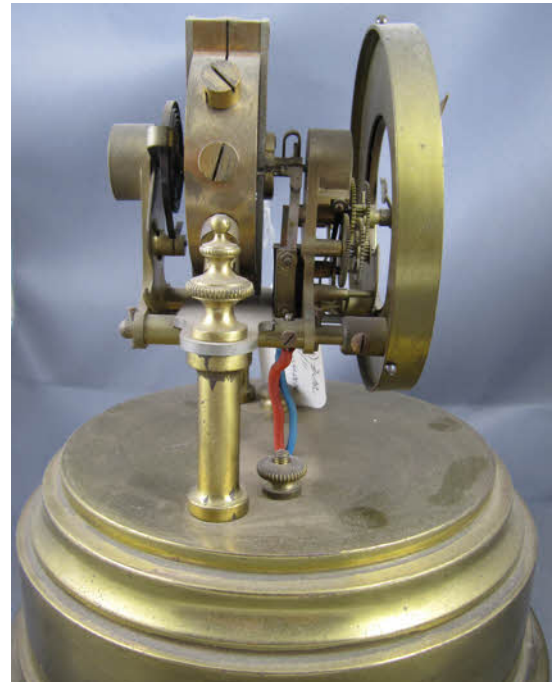
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Photos by kind permission of the owner.

This short movement Eureka looks to be in fair condition with no major parts missing, although it is quite dirty with some rust. I also noted that the battery cage underneath the base has the knurled nuts on the top outside of the base as arrowed instead of the underside holding the battery. There should be discreet countersunk screws here, so something is amiss. The clock was delivered without a dome..

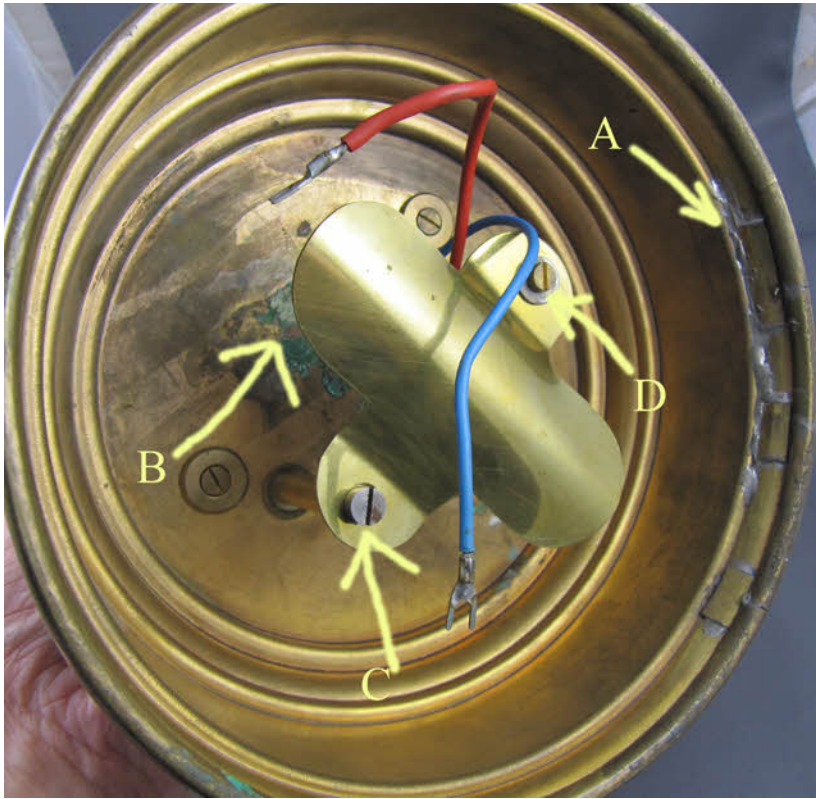
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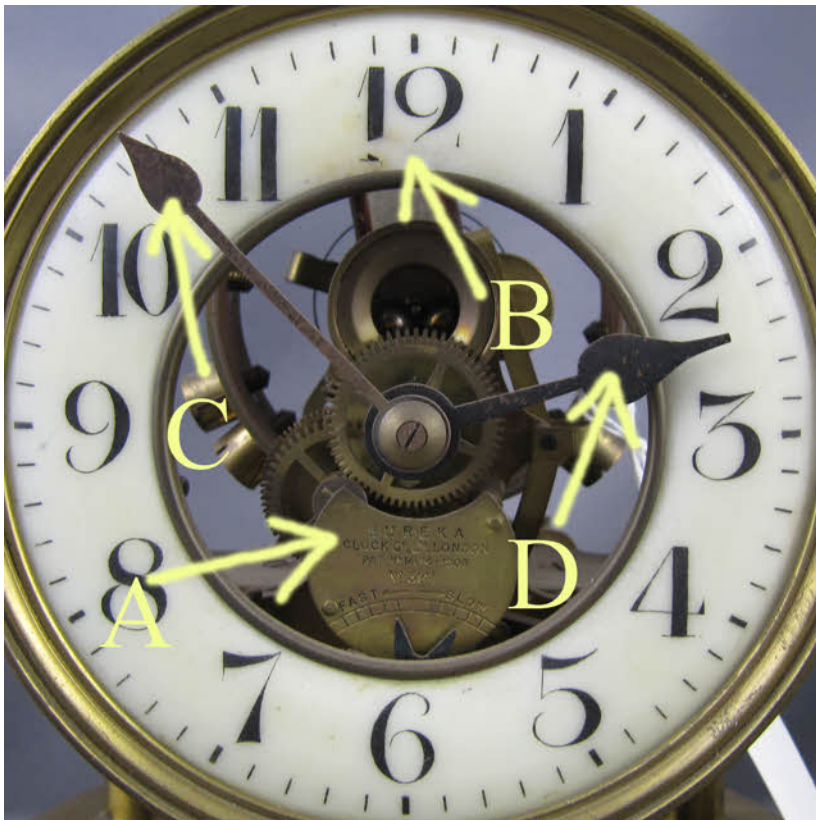
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The underside of the base has a few problems. It has been damaged in the past and at (A we can see some reinforcement repairs, which will be left as is. There is quite a lot of acid burn (B) which will need treating. The battery holder is a homemade replacement but it is not bad and will be retained. The two pillars holding the battery support are upside down which explains the knurled nuts on top. But the screws (C and D) are wrong and so two countersunk ones will need to be made.



The registration plate (A) will need to be re-waxed to show up the serial number and timing marks. The dial has damage underneath the twelve (B) and will need specialist attention. Both the hands are wrong and will need to be replaced. The bearings are badly gummed up with old oil but that has saved them from the dreaded rust.

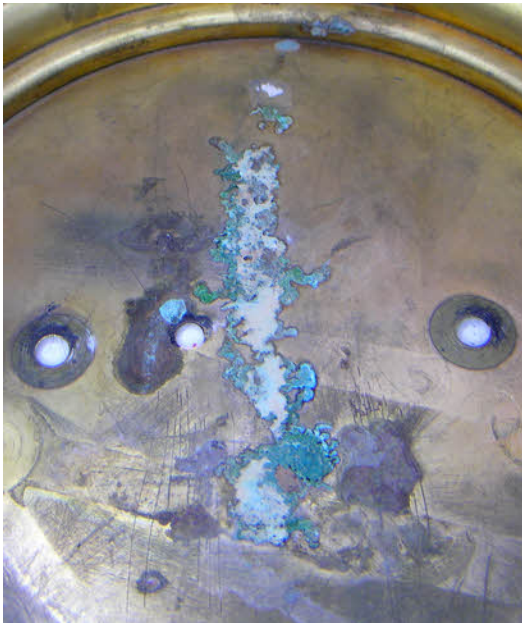
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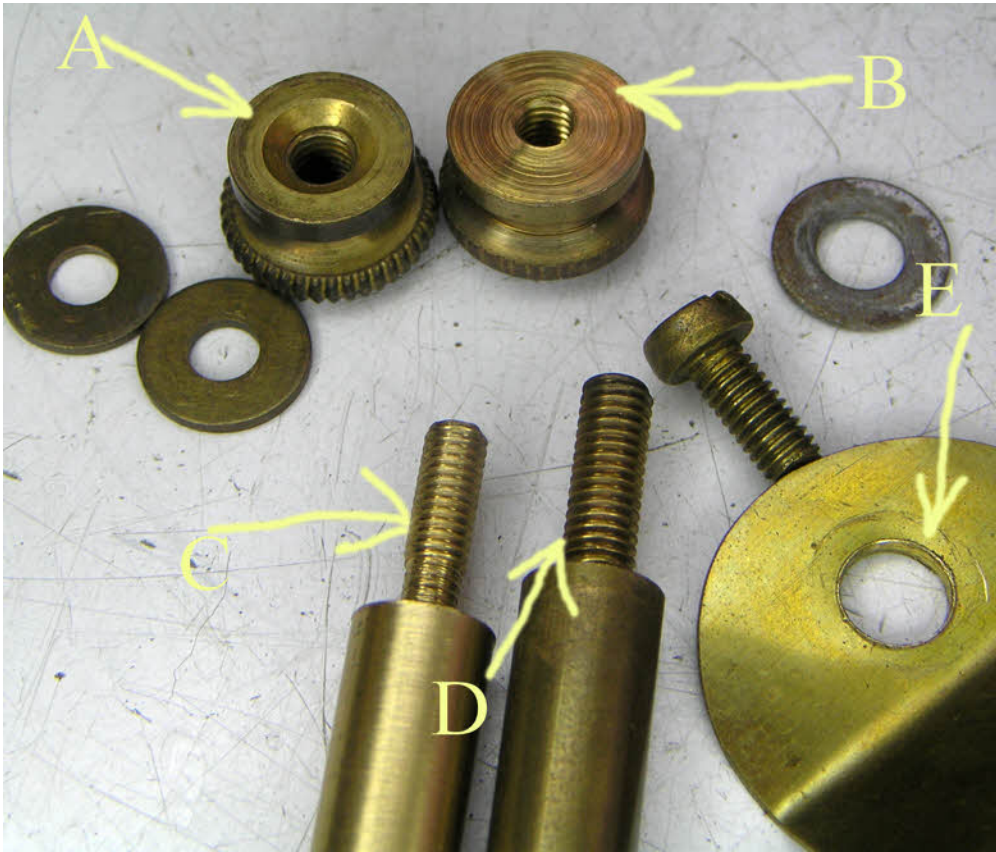
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This photo shows the acid damage in more detail



This photo shows the outside of the base where the brass has been reinforced. There are solder burn marks but these should polish out OK. But the joints will still be noticeable.



Here we see the battery support pillars and knurled nuts. Note that (B and (C are replacements that have different threads. I will manufacture a new set with the same dimensions and threads as the originals (A and (D. Note the rough hole through the battery retainer. (E. I will tidy this up a little.

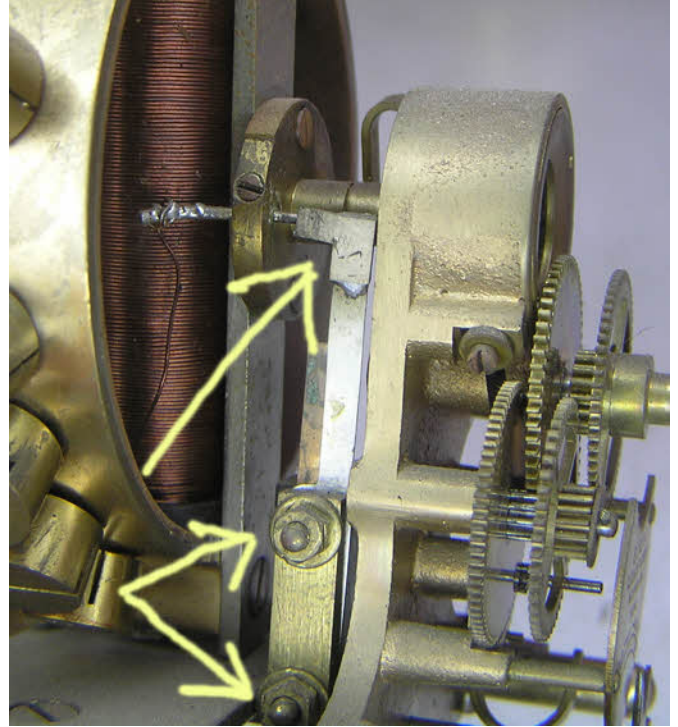
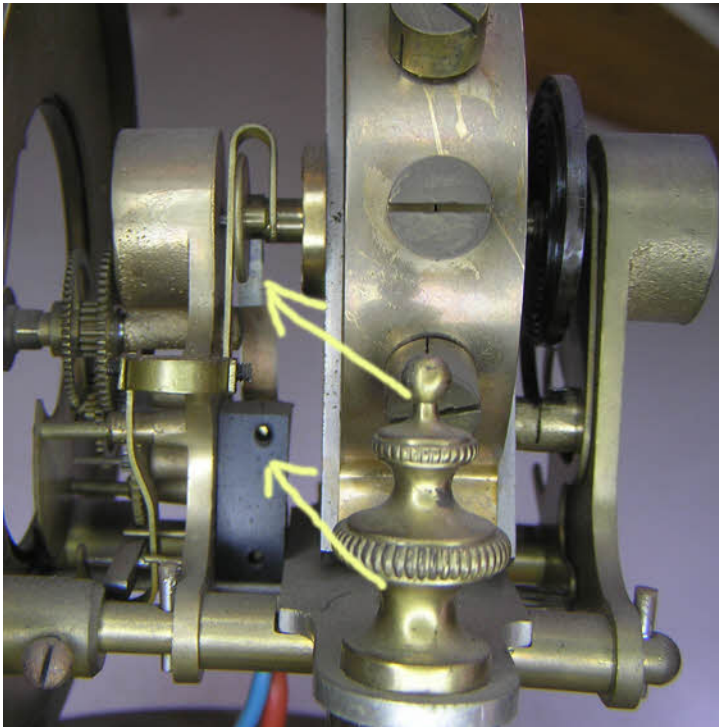
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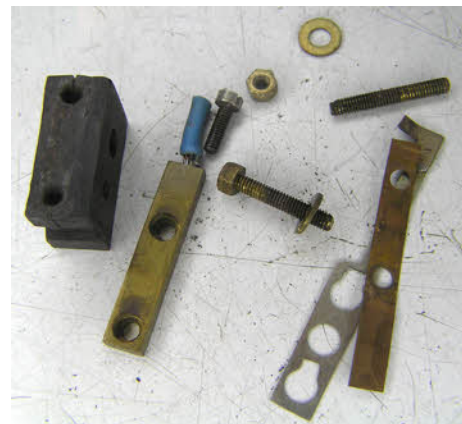
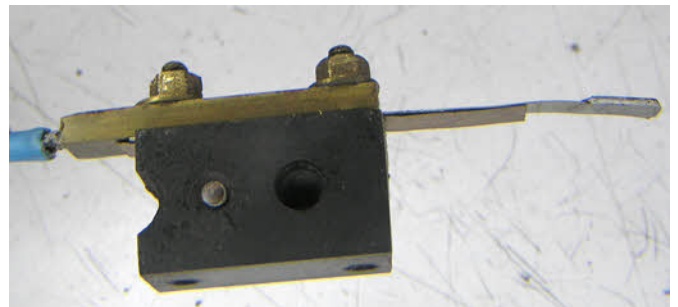
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This photo shows that the flag contact assembly is a home made piece of spring steel with a piece of silver soldered in place. The block to which it is attached looks to be damaged with two large nuts and bolts holding the flag in place. The whole assembly will need replacing.



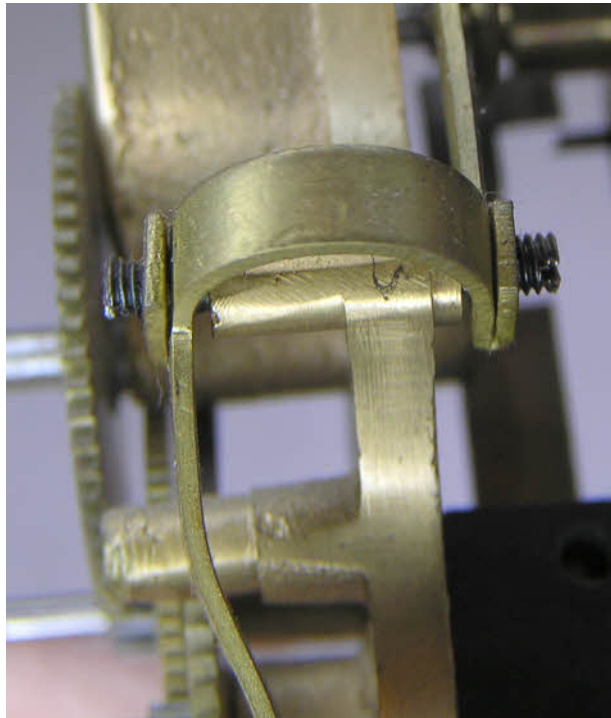
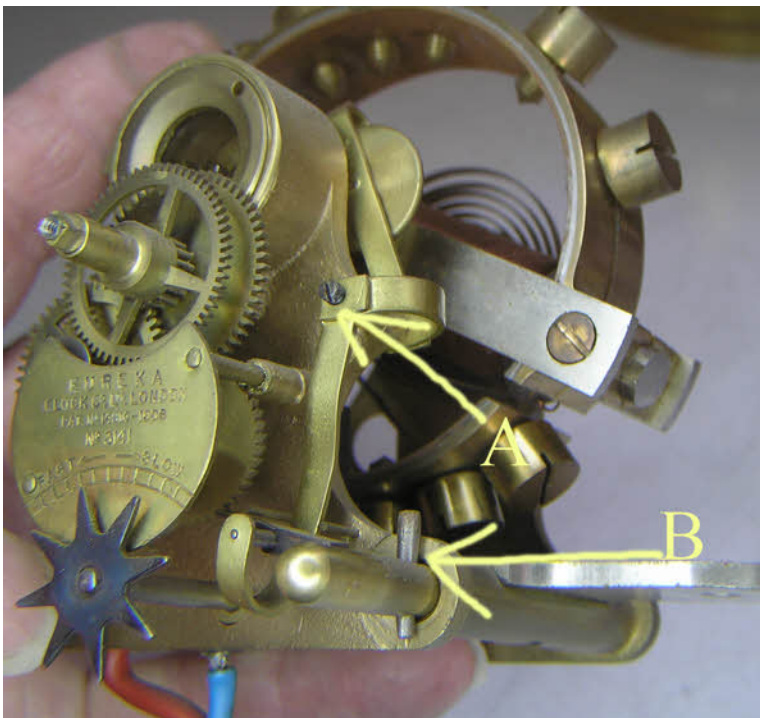
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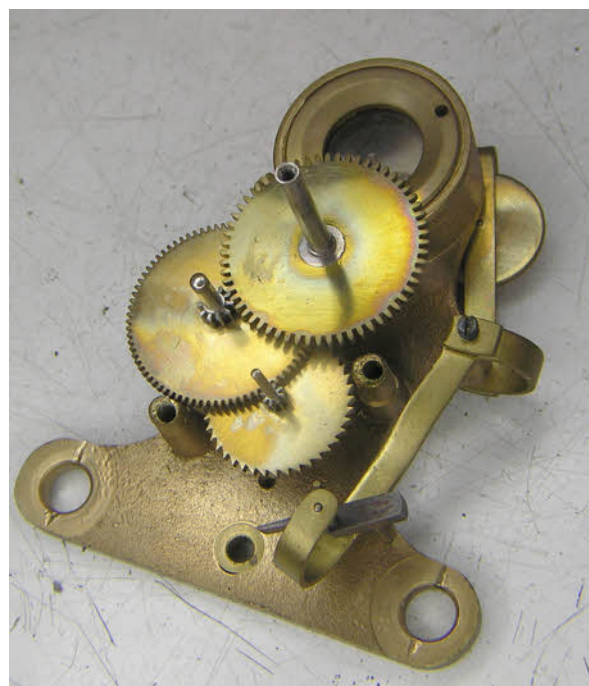
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This is interesting as it is the first Eureka I have restored with setting screws (A used as pivots for the impulse arm. Not also that the frames are held in place by large taper pins (B rather than nuts.



The condition of the nickel plating under the ornate finial nuts is in almost perfect condition compared to the unprotected areas.



The front plate and motion work ready to be disassembled.

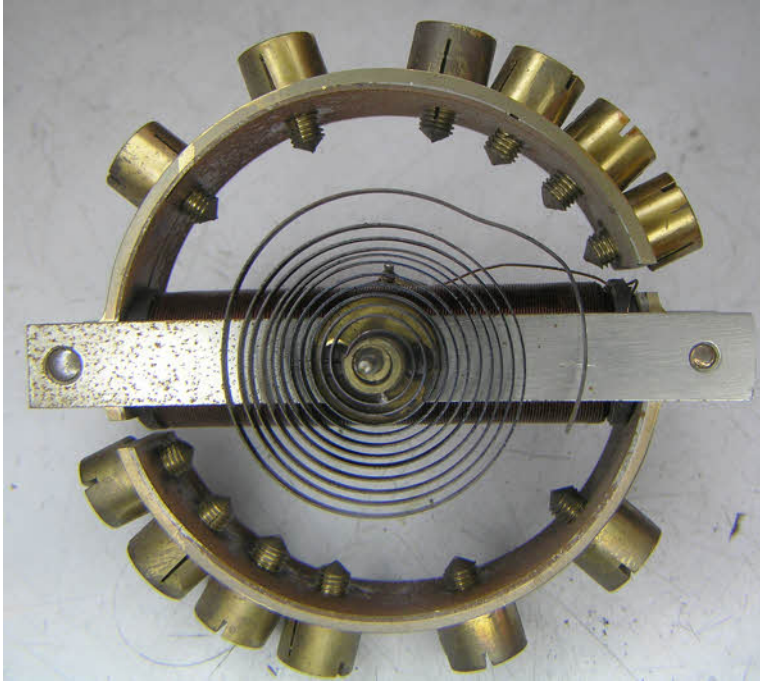
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The balance spring is in a bit of a state but with a little care it can be straightened. When removing the balance wheel screws I note the clock position of each one (1 o'clock, 2 o'clock etc) and weigh them on a sensitive balance to within one tenth or a gram. I then record the position and weight. After cleaning I only need to weigh them again to find the correct position. Note the rust on the steel of the balance wheel rim. Unfortunately removing the rust will also mean removing some of the nickel plating. But its position will mean that it will not be that noticeable.



*The new pillar,
knurled nut and
countersunk
screw.*

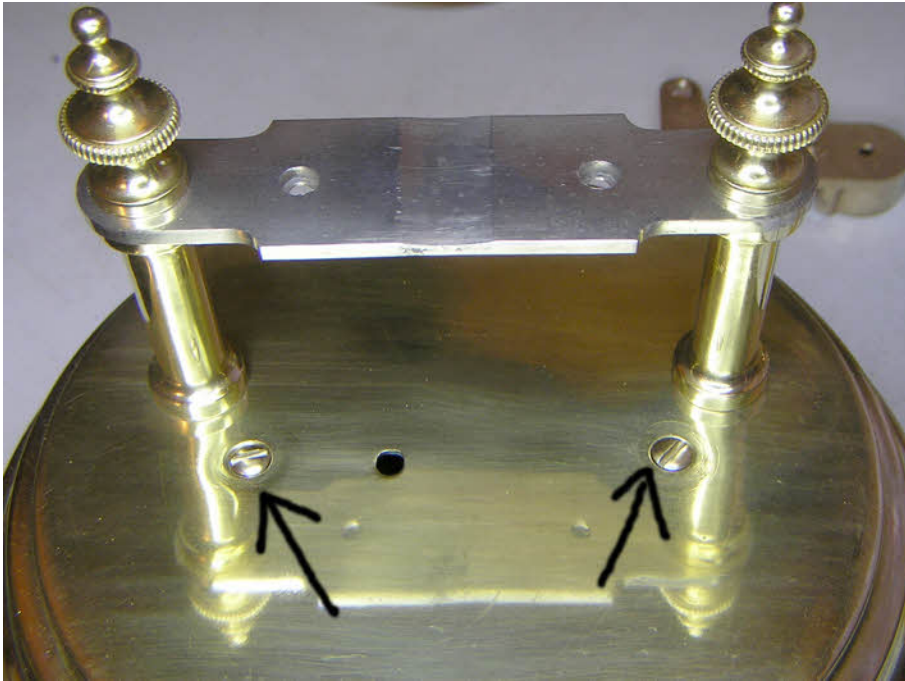
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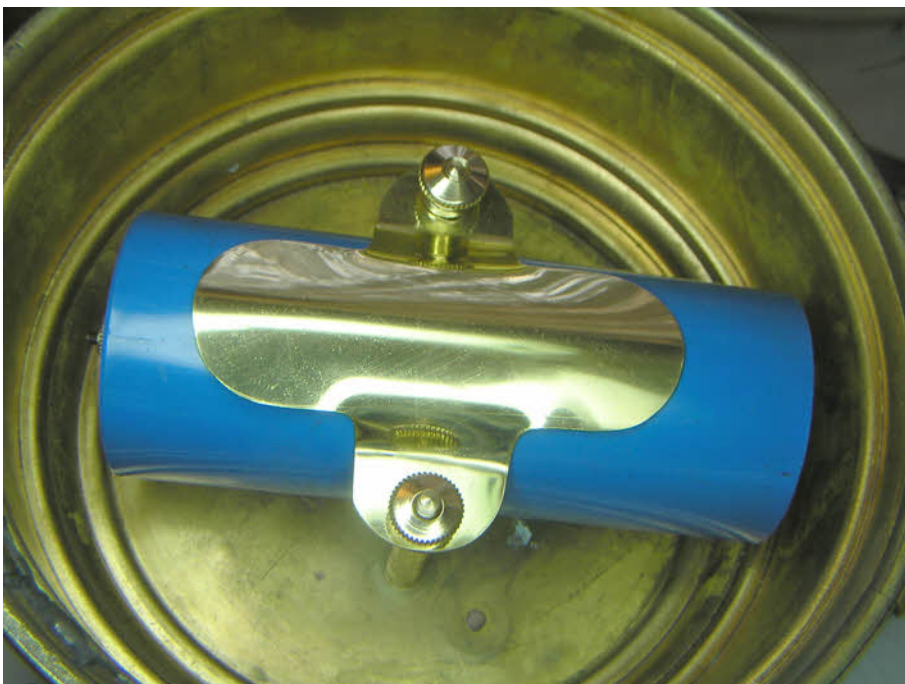
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The new screws in position showing how they should look from the top of the base.



The new contact flag block cut from the solid and with the new flag below.



The underside of the base with model test battery in place with knurled nuts.



The new moon hands ready for blueing and mounting on collets.

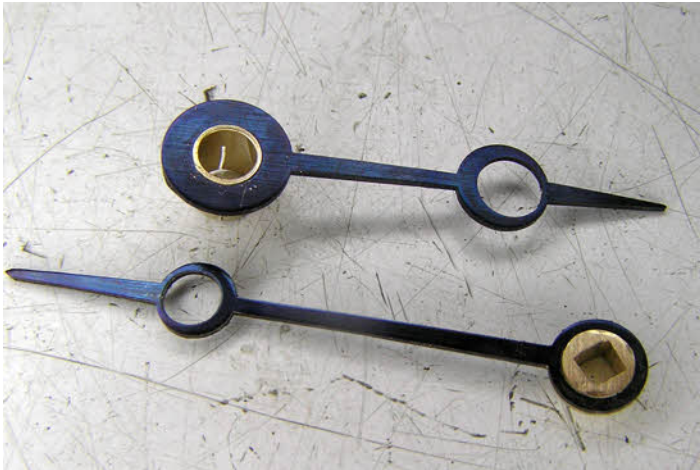
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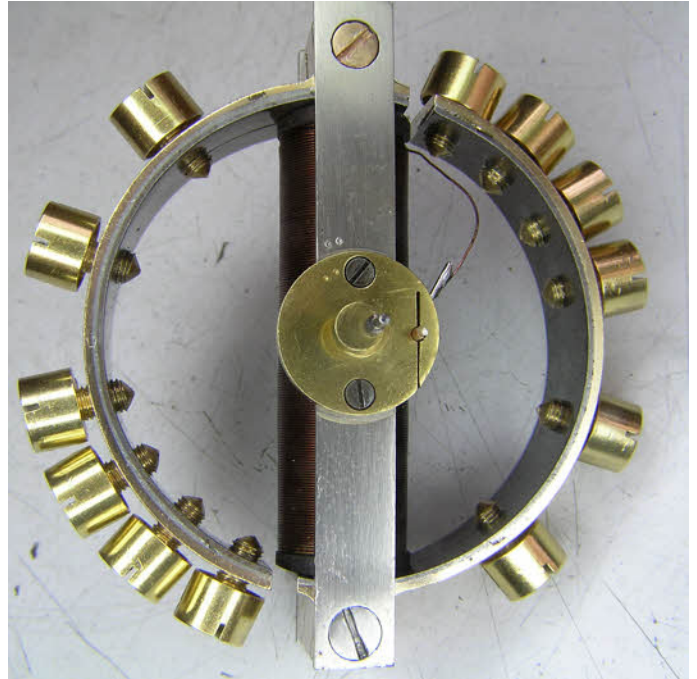
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The finished hands.



The balance wheel cleaned and reassembled waiting for the balance spring.

The photo below shows the finished base and counter-sunk screws.



The underside with Horologix battery in place.

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The dial as returned from the dial restorer. An excellent job. I couldn't see "the join". Below is the finished movement, dial and hands. Note the newly waxed registration plate.



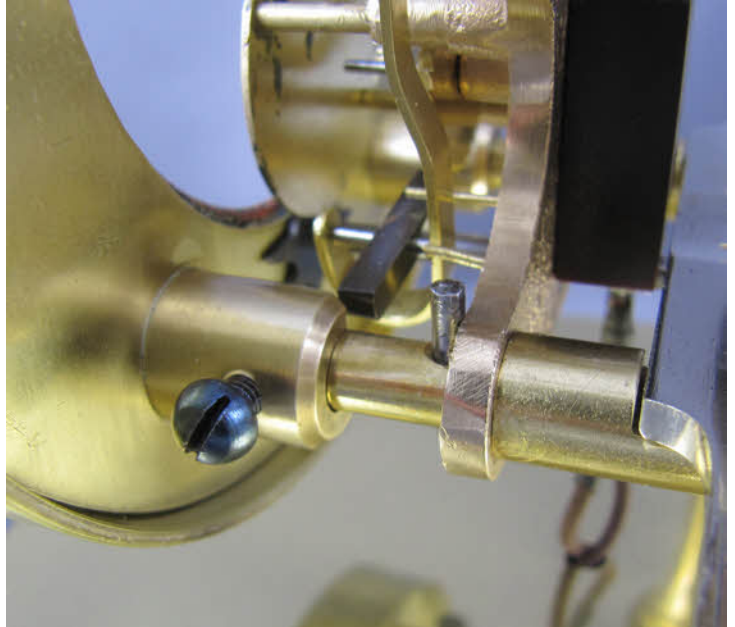
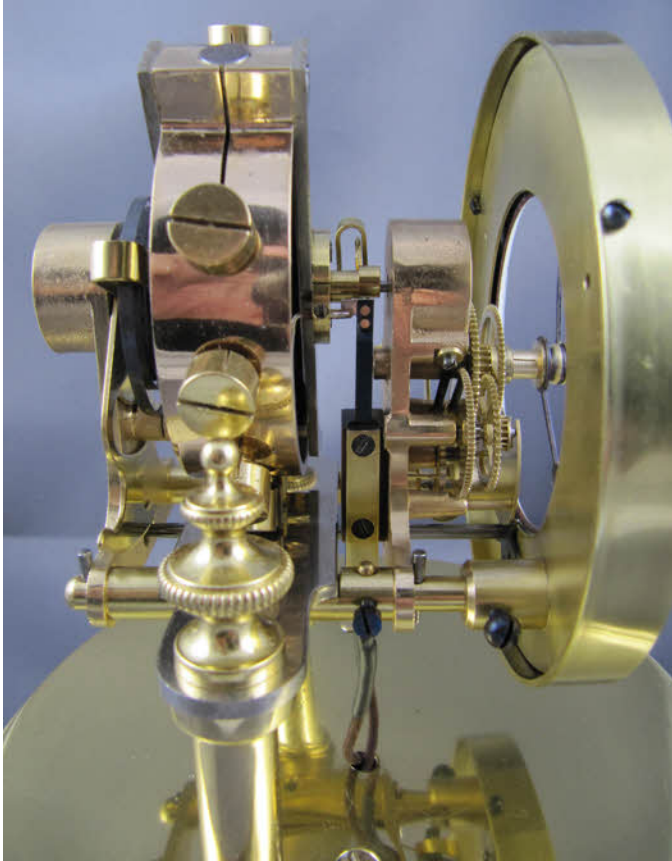
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Above is a view of the dial pan screws after blueing and holding the pan in place. The photo at left is a view of the movement with new flag and block in place. Below left is a rear view of the finished clock while directly below is a full on view of the face.



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Side View of the finished clock

Normally, I would not polish a Eureka base if there is a substantial amount of the original gilding left but in this case the finish had been polished and rubbed off many years ago so I decided to polish and lacquer it. The only issue was the repair marks on the front (as seen on the next page) where the thin brass had been reinforced with inserts. The cracks can be seen from the outside but other than spending many hours removing the old repair, and then silver soldering in new segments for an invisible repair, I decided to leave well alone. Besides which the brass is so thin in that area that I doubt whether it would be substantial enough to effect a decent repair. It all adds to the character of the clock

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The finished clock