

# MOVEMENT HOLDER FOR DIFFICULT TO HOLD MOVEMENTS by Lloyd Lehn PhD CC

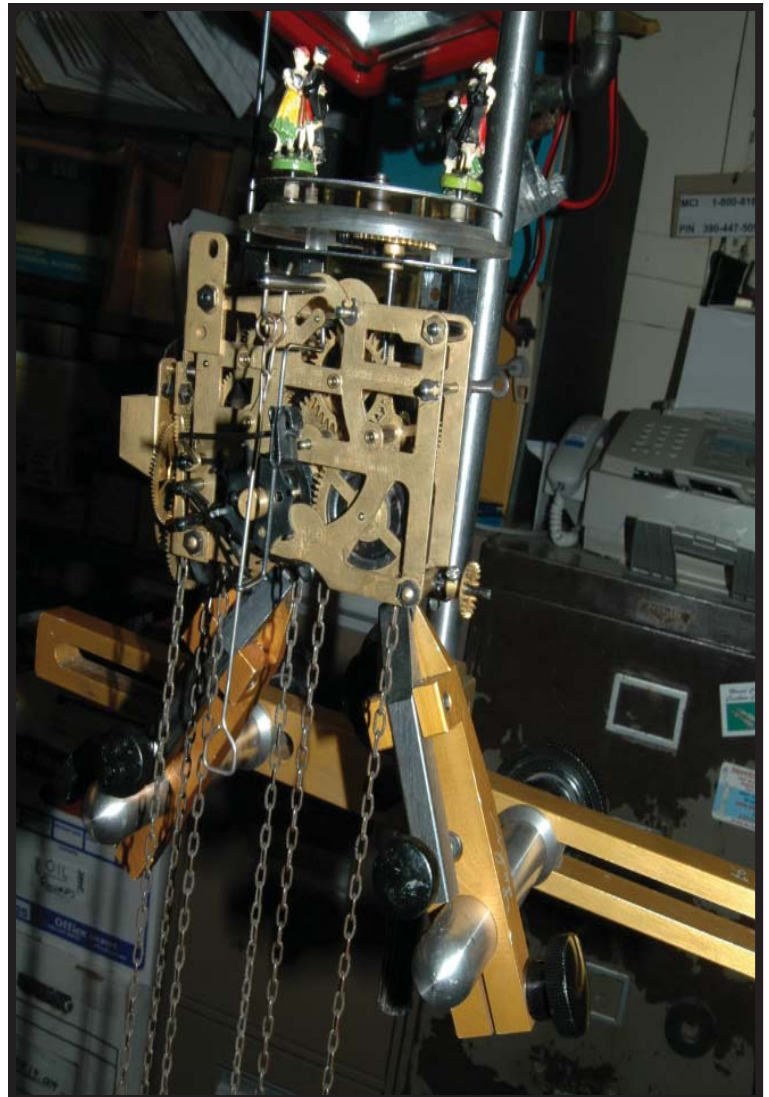
A week or so ago someone asked about movement holders for difficult to hold Smeckenbecker movements. It just so happened that I have one of those movements in my shop today so I thought I would share with you how I hold the movement in a test stand.

My setup is shown in the following pictures. It is based on:

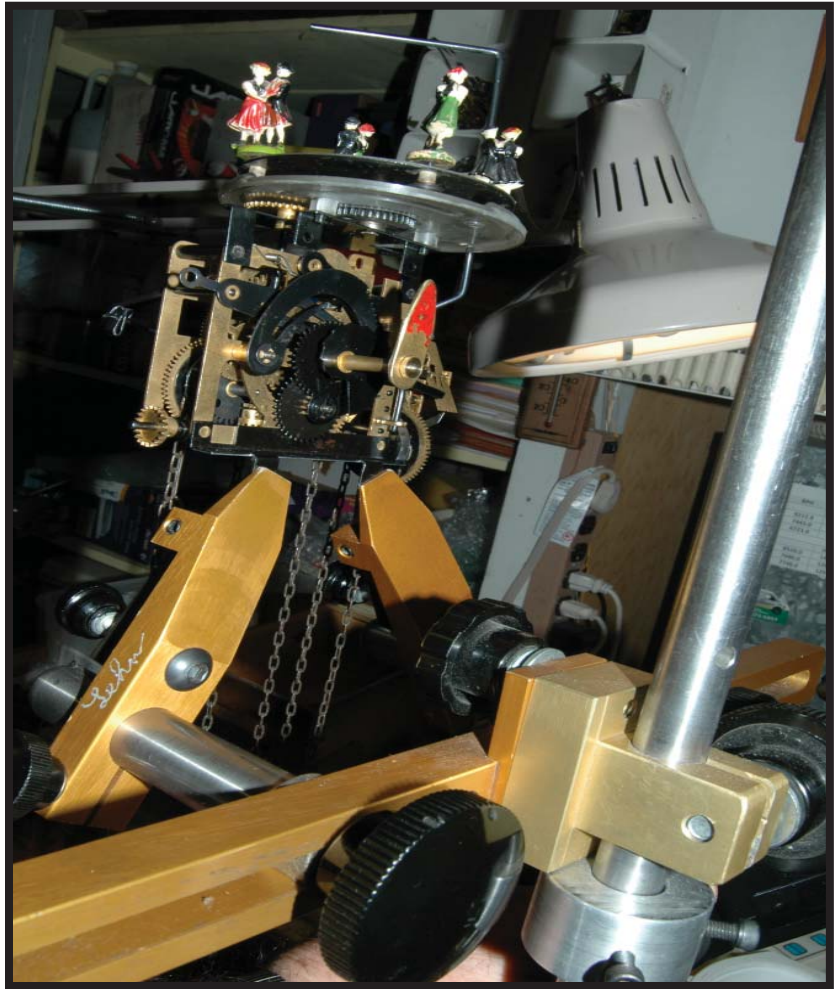
- A Parker Movement holder sold by Merritts
- A pipe/steel rod suspended from the ceiling of my work area.

The Parker Movement is made from anodized aluminum and stainless steel. Merritts sells it. It is a bit pricy at around \$200 the last time I checked. I've found it to be well worth the money.

The holder is a horizontal bar (which tilts) with two clamps. The pins move in and out and the clamps themselves can rotate around the pins or slide in and out. The actual clamping force is leveraged from the screw which pushes the jaws together - in this case on the mounting feet of a Smeckenbecker movement.



This shows the back side of the same movement. One can see how the feet are being grabbed by the clamps.



The above photos might surprise those who have normally seen the movement holder portion of the Parker movement holder fasten to a post on a board such as is shown on this picture. The post and foot come with the movement holder.

I have used my movement holder on the post when working on an American kitchen clock movement. But when working on a movement with chains, I use mine slightly differently. I hang it from the ceiling on a pipe and steel rod.





The photo on the left shows the pipe fitting mount to the ceiling joists. There are two 90 elbows at the bend which allows one to tilt the pipe in any direction. The pipe union allows me to put other things on the same pipe mount. I have a whole set of different cuckoo clock holders that fit on that pipe

The photo on the right shows the same shot of the movement on the holder.

Hope this helps those who have movement holding challenges.