1. INTRODUCTION

Dear Fellow Collector,

this NEWS is written to honor the noted plumb bob collector
NELSON DENNY architect, Lyme, CT U.S.A
Born September 7th 1946,
Deceased April 5th 2012
and to remember my collaboration between 2004 and 2012 with him.

I will show what he was thinking about collecting plumb bobs and what he has done for the International Plumb Bob Collectors community. It is the discussion between American and European collectors about tools.

I will let Nelson talk about the collaboration by his own email texts and his own pictures... about PLUMB BOBS, HIS COLLECTION AND HIS DREAMS...

2. FIRST CONTACT

In January 2004 Nelson was bidding on Ebay on a BOKER plumb bob made by the German factory Gampper. I asked him if he would be interested in further information about this factory and the Boker plumb bob. (At that time it was possible on Ebay to contact the bidders directly. Today you only see a code-number. 😒) At that time he already knew one other noted plumb bob collector and friend of mine, Riccardo Chetoni from Pisa, Italy.

His very first email:
WOLFGANG,
YOU, LIKE RICCARDO, ARE A GENTLEMAN AND A SCHOLAR! I WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION YOU MIGHT HAVE ON BOKER INCLUDING CATALOGUE INFORMATION IF AVAILABLE.
AS A PLUMB BOB COLLECTOR, MY COLLECTION IS PREDOMINANTLY AMERICAN AND ENGLISH.
TO HAVE IT GROW IN AN INTERNATIONAL WAY IS OF SOME INTEREST. RICCARDO HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN INTRODUCING ME TO THE WORLD OF ROMAN AND OTTOMAN PLUMB BOBS.
HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS FOR YOU. DO YOU GERMANS HAVE A HISTORY OF MAKING "MECHANICAL" PLUMB BOBS, THAT IS PLUMB BOBS THAT HAVE EXTERIOR OR INTERIOR STRING WINERS? SIMILARLY, IS THERE ANY TRADITION OF MAKING PLUMB BOBS OF A DECORATIVE OR CEREMONIAL NATURE?
VERY GLAD TO BE INTRODUCED TO "PLUMBBOBWOLF"! ---- I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU ON EBAY.

About his, profession and collection (Jan. 2004):
I'M 57 YEARS OLD, AN ARCHITECT THAT WORKS ONLY ON PRIVATE RESIDENCES.... MOST OF MY WORK IS ON WATERFRONT PROPERTIES THAT ARE FOR THE MOST PART, LUXURY VACATION HOMES.
I'VE BEEN COLLECTING PLUMB BOBS FOR ABOUT TWENTY YEARS BUT ONLY SERIOUSLY FOR THE LAST 3 OR 4 YEARS.
I AM IN THE PROCESS OF PHOTOGRAPHING AND CATEGORIZING MY COLLECTION IN A DIGITAL FORMAT THAT CAN BE SHARED WITH...
OTHER COLLECTORS ...... NOT THAT THE WORK IS EVER REALLY FINISHED (BECAUSE WE'RE ALWAYS ADDING AS YOU KNOW) BUT I AM HOPING TO PUT OUT THE FIRST DRAFT BY THE END OF THE WINTER.....ALTHOUGH I LIKE THE DIRECTION MY COLLECTION IS TAKING, GENERALLY SPEAKING, I AM AWARE THAT YOU AND RICCARDO COLLECT FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE AND WITH A DIFFERENT FOCUS WITH MUCH MORE EMPHASIS, I IMAGINE, ON EUROPEAN EXAMPLES..... SHARING INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDING WITH OTHER COLLECTORS AND SEEING OTHER COLLECTIONS IS AN IMPORTANT FEATURE IN MY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT SO WILL DO MY BEST TO HELP YOU WITH ANYTHING YOU NEED ON THIS SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC.

3. PATENTS and SOME SPECIAL PLUMB BOBS

His answers were very detailed and helped me very much to understand inventors and users of plumb bobs (below he talked about the PERFECTION PLUMB BOB) see PATENT NEWS 2007-31 mercury and lead filled:

PERFECTION PLUMB BOBS ARE NOTABLE AS AN EXAMPLE THAT GO TO THE OPPOSITE EXTREME OF EXTRAORDINARY SYMMETRICITY. THERE CLAIMS ARE THAT IT IS SO SYMMETRICAL "THAT IT COMES TO REST IMMEDIATELY" AND "POINTS DIRECTLY". DON'T BELIEVE EVERY CLAIM MADE IN A PATENT APPLICATION; MOST OF THEM ARE PURE MARKETING HYPE. IN THE CASE OF THE PERFECTION, THE BRASS SKIN OVER THE SOFT LEAD CORE IS SO THIN, THAT THE FIRST TIME IT BUMPS INTO SOMETHING SOLID, IT IS IMMEDIATELY RENDERED UNSYMETRICAL. LOOK AT ANY OF THE LARGER PERFECTION PLUMB BOBS THAT HAVE BEEN USE, THEY'RE FULL OF MAJOR DENTS THAT OF COURSE MAKE THE BOB UNSYMETRICAL.

THE SKILL OF THE USER IS FAR MORE A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR THAN THE SYMMETRICITY OF A BOB. WHERE YOUR EYE IS IN RELATION TO THE TIP OF THE BOB AND ACCOUNTING FOR THE VISUAL PARALLAX FACTOR WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR PENCIL MARK AT THE POINT OF THE BOB, TAKES SKILL AND PRACTICE AND OFTEN A NUMBER OF LITTLE MARKS ARE AVERAGED TO COME UP WITH ONE CORRECT READING. TAKE ONE OF YOUR BOBS AND FIND SOME WORK OR LAYOUT TASK TO DO WITH IT. YOU WILL DISCOVER THAT IT IS A TOOL THAT DOES NOT WORK AUTOMATICALLY, IT TAKES SOME TECHNIQUE TO GET ACCURATE READINGS.

About COMMON SENSE / LAMP plumb bobs (in 2004):

HERE IS WHAT I HAVE PAID FOR COMMON SENSE PLUMB BOBS OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS. BEAR IN MIND THAT ALL OF THESE ARE NUMBERED AND ARE ALL GOOD+ EXCEPT FOR THE #5 AND #6. THE #5 HAS HAD THE TIP GROUND DOWN FOR REPAIR, PROBABLY 2 OR THREE TIMES SO THE TIP IS ABOUT 1/2" SHORTER THAN IT SHOULD BE. IT THROWS THE PROPORTION OFF A BIT WHEN YOU SEE IT RIGHT NEXT TO OTHER BETTER EXAMPLES. MY #6 IS CLOSE TO MINT UNUSED CONDITION AND HAS A VERY NICE HAND CARVED BOX THAT FITS TO THE EXACT CONTOUR OF THE SHAPE OF THE BOB. THIS BOB AND BOX IS THE ACTUAL BOB THAT BRUCE CYNAR PHOTOGRAPHED FOR THE "PLUMB LINE" IN THE SECTION THAT DEALS WITH SHAPES.

#0 - $178.00, #1/2 - $99.00, #1 - $79.00, #2 - $286.00, #3 - $153.00, #4 - $150, #5 - $156.00, #6 - $450.00 (ALL ARE EXCLUSIVE OF SHIPPING)

ODDLY ENOUGH THE TWO THAT I HAVE THAT WERE HARDEST TO FIND WERE THE #1/2 AND THE #1. NOTE THAT THEY WERE THE LEAST EXPENSIVE. THEY WERE NOT, HOWEVER, BOUGHT AT AUCTION. RATHER I FOUND THEM BY CHANCE AT LITTLE SHOPS OUT IN THE COUNTRY. AS I SAID IN MY LAST EMAIL I AM STILL MISSING THE #00, THE SMALLEST OF THEM ALL. I AM ALSO LOOKING FOR A BETTER #5 THAN THE ONE I HAVE. AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, I ACTUALLY BOUGHT ANOTHER #5 WITHOUT A CAP THINKING THAT I WOULD JUST EXCHANGE THE CAPS. THAT DIDN'T WORK. AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW THESE WERE MADE BY MANY DIFFERENT MANUFACTURERS, WITH NO SPECIFIC INTERCHANGEABLY OF PARTS. IN THIS CASE THE THREADING OF THE CAP AND
THE PRECISE TAPER OF THE SHAFT WERE QUITE DIFFERENT. WILL PUT IT ON MY TO DO LIST TO SCAN THOSE PAGES FOR YOU AND WILL GET THEM OUT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

4. DISPLAYING AND INVENTORY

About displaying and inventory:

THE STORY OF DISPLAYING PLUMB BOBS AND KEEPING AN ACCURATE INVENTORY OF THEM IS A STORY OF ITS OWN AND LIKE MANY THINGS IN LIFE IS A PROCESS OF LEARNING BY MAKING MISTAKES.

FORTUNATELY, BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN I COULD COUNT MY COLLECTION ON MY FINGERS AND TOES, I HAD THE FORESIGHT TO PURCHASE A SIMPLE DATA BASE COMPUTER PROGRAM ON WHICH I DESIGNED A FACT SHEET THAT ALLOWED ME TO RECORD THE ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ON EACH ITEM AS IT WAS COLLECTED. I ASSIGNED A NUMBER TO EACH ITEM AND A DESCRIPTIVE NAME BUT IT BECAME CLEAR AT ABOUT THE COUNT OF 50 PLUMB BOBS OR SO, THAT THE BOBS THEMSELVES AND NOT JUST THE LISTING HAD TO HAVE A NUMBER TAG AFFIXED TO IT, AND A PHOTOGRAPH ATTACHED TO THE LISTING. FINDING A SPECIFIC ITEM WAS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT THOSE THREE ELEMENTS.

BEING A PERFECTIONIST, I WANTED THE PHOTOGRAPHY TO REFLECT THE QUALITY OF THE ITEM, THAT GOT ME INTO SPECIAL LENSES FOR THE CAMERA. I ALSO NAÏEVELY THOUGHT THAT AN ITEM SHOULD BE PHOTOGRAPHED HANGING. IF YOU’VE EVER WAITED FOR A PLUMB BOB TO COME TO REST, SOMETIMES HOURS FOR THE HEAVIER OF THEM, I GAVE UP ON THAT NOTION PRETTY QUICKLY. I DO SEEM TO ACCUMULATE FASTER THAN I HAVE SPARE TO DO THE PHOTOGRAPHY. ¹ I’M ALWAYS SEVERAL HUNDRED BEHIND. AT SOME POINT I’M GOING TO TAKE A FEW WEEKS OFF TO CATCH UP ON THIS ELEMENT OF THE EQUATION.

About the danger to hang plumb bobs over his head:

ON THE SUBJECT OF DISPLAYING PLUMB BOBS: FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, WHEN I STILL HAD THE ENERGY TO STRAP ON A TOOL BELT, I BUILT THE HOUSE I STILL LIVE IN. WITHOUT PLUMB BOBS IN MIND AT THAT TIME, I BUILT A LIVING ROOM WITH A VAULTED AND BEAMED CEILING. AS PLUMB BOBS CAME MY WAY I BEGAN TO HANG THEM FROM THE BEAMS AND CROSS MEMBERS, WHICH INVOLVED HAULING OUT A STEP LADDER AND DOING A BALANCING ACT FOR EACH NEW ARRIVAL. AS YOU ACCUMULATE MORE, YOU BEGIN TO WANT TO MAKE SENSE OUT OF THE RANDOM

¹ See THE PLUMB LINE CONTINUUM page 9 THE GREAT SHAPE DEBATE (Bruce Cynar and Bernhard Ridens)
ORDER OF THINGS BY GROUPING BOBS INTO "LIKE KINDS." THAT INVOLVES MOVING THINGS AGAIN AND AGAIN.

THEN WITH THIS OVERHEAD HANGING ARRANGEMENT, I HAD ONE RATHER HEAVY POINTY BOB GET AWAY FROM ME; IT DROPPED TEN FEET OR SO AND CAME TO REST IMBEDDED AN INCH OR SO IN A HARDWOOD FLOOR. THEN I STARTED HAVING DREAMS OF THE NEWSPAPER HEADLINES THAT MIGHT APPEAR, "NOTED COLLECTOR KILLED BY FALLING PLUMB BOB."

THEY ARE STILL ALL HOUSED IN THIS ONE ROOM, SUCH A DOMINANT FEATURE I MIGHT ADD, THAT THEY OVERSHADOW THE 2,000 OR SO BOOKS THAT ALSO OCCUPY THE SAME SPACE. HOPEFULLY BY KEEPING THE OVERHEAD ITEMS TOWARD THE PERIMETER OF THE ROOM I HAVE AT LEAST MINIMALIZED THE RISK OF AN UNTIMELY DEATH.

5. COMMUNICATION WORLDWIDE

His dream in 2004 of a WEB SITE for all plumb bob collectors: (a part of this dream is realized with this web site here and by publishing the PLUMB BOB NEWS)

I AM TOLD THAT THERE ARE ABOUT 5 OR 6 MAJOR COLLECTIONS OF PLUMB BOBS IN THIS WORLD (OVER 500) BUT THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF COLLECTORS THAT MIGHT HAVE SIGNIFICANT PIECES IN RELATIVELY SMALL COLLECTIONS. I ALSO DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A PERMANENT COLLECTION ANYWHERE, IN A TOOL, ART, OR NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM. IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO WRITE A BOOK ON THE SUBJECT BECAUSE NO ONE REALLY KNOWS WHAT'S OUT THERE; COLLECTORS AND COLLECTIONS SEEM TO BE SOMEWHAT SECRETIVE.

THE WEB SITE THAT I HAVE IN MIND IS TO DEVELOP A MUSEUM OR A PLUMB BOB COLLECTION ON LINE, USING MY OWN COLLECTION AS THE INITIAL CORE OF THE DISPLAY. THE NOTION IS TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO ENCOURAGE OTHER COLLECTORS TO CONTRIBUTE LISTINGS OF ITEMS IN THEIR COLLECTIONS INTO THE DATA BASE FOR COMPARATIVE PURPOSES. IT COULD ALSO BE A FORUM WHERE PHOTOGRAPHY OF COLLECTIONS IN SITU COULD BE DISPLAYED. ON ONE LEVEL IT WANTS TO BE A COFFEE TABLE BOOK (LIKE VISITING AN EXHIBIT AT A MUSEUM) ON THE OTHER HAND, WANTS TO HAVE ACCESS TO MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON A SUBJECT FOR THE GEEK.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT I AM ENOUGH OF A BUSINESS MAN TO KNOW THAT I ONLY SEE MONEY GOING OUT OF POCKET. I DON'T THINK THAT THERE IS AN ADEQUATE MARKET FOR SUBSCRIPTION SUPPORT. AND, I QUESTION WHAT WOULD MOTIVATE OTHER COLLECTORS TO TAKE THE TIME TO CONTRIBUTE "MUSEUM QUALITY" LISTINGS. EVERYONE HAS DEVELOPED A DIFFERENT TIME CONSUMING SYSTEM FOR RECORDING THEIR COLLECTIONS.
6. HIS COLLECTION

His wish to get information and plumb bobs from other parts of the world (here from Spain):

AS YOU KNOW I AM SOMEWHER OF A GENERALIST IN MY COLLECTING HABIT .......
RECENTLY, PRIMITIVO SENT ME A WONDERFULL AND COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY OF HIS
COLLECTION. I HOPE THAT YOU ARE ALL
FAMILIAR WITH IT......ONE THING THAT I
NOTED IN PARTICULAR WERE THE 20 OR SO
PIECES THAT I WOULD CALL SINGLE PIECE
LUMP CASTINGS IN LEAD (SOMETIMES WITH A
WIRE LOOP OR PRIMITIVE POINT MOLDED INTO
THEM), THE MOST PRIMITIVE OF PLUMB BOB
TYPES......I DON'T SEE ANY OF THIS TYPE
AVAILABLE IN THIS COUNTRY...... SO, IF YOU
SEE ANYTHING LIKE THIS IN THE COURSE OF
YOUR TRAVELS I WOULD BE VERY
INTERESTED......I THINK THAT THE PILGRIMS
(OUR EARLIEST IMMIGRANTS) MUST HAVE
BEEN CARRYING FANCY ENGLISH MADE TOOLS
WHEN THEY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH ROCK.....

A great part of his collection Nelson bought from Bruce Cynar (the author of THE PLUMB LINE) when he wanted to add some excellent plumb bobs to his collection.

Bruce wrote me for this topic:

“The Internet, and one of its earliest, very successful children, eBay, have been a wonderful gift to collectors around the world. Yes, because of eBay, prices of items have gone up as more people are drawn to collecting and become aware of the amazing things that are out there. But on the positive side, it has brought incredible things to market that we would never have found in a lifetime of searching; and it has given us the opportunity to connect with new friends, all around the world.

It was eBay that brought Nelson and I together: first as friendly competitors, then buyers and sellers and eventually good friends and collaborators. I had collected bobs for 20 years and had written the original Plumb Line in the early 1990s. As my collecting interests evolved I became more focused on steam whistles, governors and gauges. Nelson and I began talking about his interest in purchasing the core of my collection. Along with 250+ beautiful, early and unusual bobs (the other 500 in my collection had already been sold on eBay) this comprised some 20 miner’s plummets, some individually boxed and some in
boxed sets of 2 or 3 plummets; also there were about 25 bobs with internal winding mechanisms. A few of these had their original packaging from the late 1880s. And there were 8 or 10 complete sets by different American and English manufacturers. I drove out to Lyme and personally delivered the collection to Nelson. The photo of his study shows less than half of his collection, even before mine were added.

Nelson brought several significant assets to the world of plumb bob collecting: he had an excellent artist’s eye for the bobs he collected and the way he displayed them; his organization and record keeping (which Wolf shows elsewhere in this newsletter) is the finest I’ve seen from any tool collector, and finally his willingness to connect and share with other collectors is a lofty model for all of us.

He shall be missed.”

Figures below: Bruce Cynar and some of his “new friends”, the steam whistles. (But he still is an expert in plumb bobs!)
Even when Nelson was a generalist in collecting plumb bobs, he had some special highlights in his collection: The mining plummets and the mechanical plumb bobs. Below some examples (With his marking of the photos):
7. THE LEISTNER & HEIMBACH STORY

THE PLUMB BOBS OF
PAUL GUSTAVE LEISTNER
AND
JOSEPH OSCAR HEIMBACH

The German Art of Metalwork
St. Louis & St. Charles, Missouri
7-24-2008

By Nelson Denny and Mike Urness

This story was published also in THE GRISTMILL, a publication of the Mid-West Tool Collectors Association in December 2008.

At the end of the story we read:
“Some readers may have Heimbach and Leistner artifacts. We would be greatly interested in details about those items.

Nelson Denny is an Architect from Hadlyme, Connecticut. Needless to say, he collects plumb bobs.
Mike Urness is a tool dealer & patent researcher from Chesterfield, Missouri. His research uncovered some of the essential material from St. Louis and St Charles.

We needed some years to find all the details for the story. You can read and download it on my web site www.plumbbobcollectors.info on page LEISTNER & HEIMBACH.
8. THE PLUMB LINE CONTINUUM

With the huge collection that he bought from Bruce Cynar Nelson Denny also got the rights for THE PLUMB LINE and wanted to continue this good work as “T P L continuum” and digitalized it: Below you find the his introduction …

VOLUME I - 2005
THE ORIGINAL 14 ISSUES
JANUARY, 1996 THROUGH DECEMBER, 1996
NEWLY INDEXED AND ANNOTATED

Introduction

THE PLUMB LINE CONTINUUM

MILESTONES

Died Metaphorically, Bruce Cynar; 58, As the Author of the Newsletter and CEO of the Publishing Empire known as The PLUMB LINE, published 1991 - 2005, whose success was to be the repository of “known” and “sometimes speculative” information on the tool, The Simple Plumb Bob. He was born in Harlem, Manhattan, New York and grew up in Hempstead, Long Island, son of Helen and Bob. Bob, an Industrial Arts Teacher and Printer, had a printing press set up in the basement where Bruce learned to read upside down and backwards, by hand setting type, intellectual gymnastics he systematically applied to most questions he encountered in his life. As an adult, he took a Bachelor Degree from the New York Institute of Technology, majoring in Television Production which launched his “day job” in sales for a major television network. For entertainment he started buying Plumb Bob Shape as at tag sales and auctions, eventually building a collection of great import. His innate intellectual curiosity led him to collect and interpret as much detailed information on the subject as he had Plumb Bobs in his collection. The PLUMB LINE was an avenue to that end. He is a member of MENSA andLintel and a self taught machinist. He has been married to Kari for 36 years. He is survived by his wife (she must be a saint), his son, a physician in Dallas, his daughter, a 911 Operator for Allen County, and a grandson, Joey, to say nothing of all the Friends he made in the Plumb Bob Collecting Community.

EULOGY

To those who already know it, THE PLUMB LINE has become like the Bible to the Believer, the Holy Word on the subject of Bobs to the Plumb Bob Collector. In fact, it remains to this day, the only book on the subject of Plumb Bobs. In a self conscious and modest way it sweeps away from being a Primer for collecting Plumb Bobs by “shape” in the first newsletter, to introducing and outlining the big questions left for future research, in the latest issues. We learn by reading THE PLUMB LINE as Bruce was “learning by doing” the major work of THE PLUMB LINE publication.

I met Bruce Cynar several years ago on the Internet in order to arrange for the shipment of a Plumb Bob. Casually, I happen to ask for a very short and, as I recall, a rather naive Plumb Bob question. His response was in the form of no less than 230, kind, well crafted, informative, encouraging and witty words. This is the generosity of spirit of the Bruce Cynar that the Tool Collecting Community has come to know, rely on and respect.

Unfortunately, I have only met the man once in person, such is the distance from New England to the Mid West; but hundreds of exchanged emails have allowed me a fair picture of the man. As we exchanged correspondences, it became clear that I had met Bruce at that moment in time when he had accomplished his personal objectives concerning Plumb Bobs, and was on to other interests, Steam Engines and Whistles and GRAND CHILDREN. He was selling off the last of his Bob Collection, and The PLUMB LINE was coming on its 9th birthday as a self published book incorporating the original 16 newsletters.

Earlier this year, as I referred some new Plumb Bob acquaintances to THE PLUMB LINE, I discovered that the stock of copies was gone. Having inspired so much of my own thinking on the subject of the Simple Plumb Bob, it seemed unthinkable that reprints would not be available to new and seasoned collectors. Attempting to be encouraging about keeping THE PLUMB LINE in print, I confess to badgering Bruce to get the originals to a printer.

Two days later, I suspect in retaliation to my incessant prodding, I received a package from Bruce, sent Priority/ Mail (Plumb Bob material, to those who know Bruce, always warrants Priority treatment), which included the original 16 newsletters and the following document:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Re: THE PLUMB LINE

This document is to confirm that I Bruce Cynar, author and original publisher of The Plumb Line, do hereby sell all rights, titles, interests, and future profit potential, including future publication in any form, or amorphous; to Nelson Denny, of the Brush Hill Road Denneys, in exchange for the sum of one U.S. Dollar ($1.00) and the promise of a future meal (contingent of eating/friendship appreciated); and the occasional cocktail (sometimes needed, sometimes over-served, but always enjoyed).

This document outlines the totally, sum and complete transaction, except for the things I may think of at a later date.

(Signed)
R. Bruce Cynar, only the First Part…indeed The Sum of all His Parts (handwritten)
(Incised)
Rainbow Bird

Bruce, once again, you have taught me a lesson, this time about Endings and Beginnings!

THE PLUMB LINE CONTINUUM – The Immediate Future

Having been tagged as the new Editor and Chief my immediate priority was to get the Plumb Line book in print quickly. In the form of THE PLUMB LINE CONTINUUM, the New Edition incorporated some “structural improvements”, a new Table of Contents, a sequential page numbering system linking all 16 issues, and an Index, all adding to the convenience of navigating the original newsletters. A new article and additional photographs supplement the content.

THE PLUMB LINE CONTINUUM – What’s Ahead

Operating in the spirit of the original newsletter, it is hoped that readers, will come to see the “CONTINUUM” as a repository for additional information on Plumb Bobs. Bruce’s Original Three Goals still stand, as my own. During my term as Editor, aside from keeping this New Edition in print, it is my personal goal that future volumes will appear, made up of New Newsletter on Advanced Plumb Bob Topics and feature stories on the Great Collectors and Plumb Bob Collectors of the World.

The Editor
9. HIS WORK AND THE FUTURE

Sometimes he was so busy that he had no time for his hobby. His clients had first priority. About his work (when I asked him in 2006 why he did not answer to my emails for some weeks):

AH WOLFGANG.......I AM HERE! AND YOUR COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN COMING THROUGH......AND AS ALWAYS MUCH APPRECIATED.

I MUST CONFESS THAT MY ENERGIES HAVE BEEN DIVERTED FOR THE LAST 6 MONTHS ON A VERY IMPORTANT ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT FOR ME.....I HAVE A VERY WEALTHY CLIENT THAT I HAVE WORKED WITH PERIODICALLY FOR MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS THAT COLLECTS HOMES IN EXOTIC AND BEAUTIFUL PLACES IN MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. HIS NEW ACQUISITION IS A THREE ACER ISLAND OFF THE SHORE OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT. WE HAVE A TWO DIFFERENT LARGE AND LAVISH HOMES UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND A SWIMMING POOL; THEY SIT ON A GRANITE CLIFF OVERHANGING THE OCEAN, ABOUT 40 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL. .... SO AS AN ARCHITECT IT IS PARTICULARLY CHALLENGING, NOT ONLY IN THE SENSE OF DESIGN, BUT ALSO IN THE SENSE OF HAVING TO INVENT THE TECHNOLOGY OF DELIVERING WORKERS AND MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF WOOD, STEEL AND STONE TO A VERY REMOTE AND INACCESSIBLE LOCATION.......WORKING WITH A LOCAL CONTRACTOR WHO IS GENERALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, WE EMPLOY BARGES AND CRANES AND ON OCCASION A HELICOPTER TO TRANSPORT EXCAVATORS, REDI-MIX CONCRETE AND ALL SORTS OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TO THE ISLAND. IT IS ONE THING TO DESIGN IT, AND ANOTHER TO MAKE IF HAPPEN IN AN EFFICIENT WAY.....

About the future (2006):

I HAVE ANOTHER FEW YEARS TO GO FOR COMPLETION OF THIS PROJECT..........THEN, RETIREMENT, TO INVEST MORE TIME IN THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE......PLUMB BOBS!

The last revision for the English version of the monthly WOLF’S PLUMB BOB NEWS he did for us end of 2010 with the report of the International Plumb Bob Collectors Meeting in Cologne, Germany.

The last email news from him I got on March 09, 2012 (asking if a special plumb bob – the J.W.ANDREWS- of his collection is offered in the auction of Martin Donnelly in Nashua):

My life is an open book! Fine to tell him the item is mine and some other selective item.

NELSON DENNY

These statements from Nelson Denny should give you an idea how he was thinking about collecting plumb bobs and the collaboration with others.

I will continue working in this mind of my friend Nelson.

Wolf Ruecker
10. ADDITIONAL INFO

You can read a short version of this NEWS on http://www.plumbbobcollectors.info/209101.html

LINKS TO OTHER INFORMATION AND PICTURES OF THE COLLECTION NELSON DENNY on my web site. I recommend visiting these pages!

(click on the line and you get the file; perhaps you must press the CTRL-button before. If it does not work, feel free to ask me)

- PICTURE GALLERY 1

- THE PLUMB LINE continuum

- LEISTNER and HEIMBACH plumb bobs

- SPECIAL PLUMB BOBS

- SHOWROOMS, DISPLAYS, SHOW CASES from plumb bob collectors worldwide

- HIGHLIGHTS FROM plumb bob COLLECTIONS

REMARK:
This is an article of the monthly published WOLF’S PLUMB BOB NEWS that is sent on demand as PDF-file attachment by email. FREE.
You can see all former publications on the website www.plumbbobcollectors.info
Remarks and contact by email: plumbbobwolf@t-online.de

Thank you for your interest

Wolf