Subject: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by kastner on Tue, 27 Dec 2022 18:53:15 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Model name : 50th Anniversary
Type : Pocket watch
Period/date : 1924 (The movement was made in 1924, but it is unclear when this watch was cased and sold)
Gender : Men's

Case Maker : Gruen Cincinnati
Case Material : 18kt white gold
Case Serial : 1072311
Case Style no : none
Case Inscription (inside caseback): "Made Especially for Gilbert J Easton"

Caliber : See below
Movement Maker : Gruen
Movement Serial: 204

Movement details from Priceless Possessions of A Few by Fuller.

17-linge (approximately 10-size) open face, 23 jewels (21 extra quality ruby jewels, plus two faceted diamond cap jewels over escape wheel and balance wheel pivots on upper plates)
12kt gold plates (total 19 penny weight), individually engraved in floral relief pattern
Steel cup in each counter-bored hole for plate screws
Follow-up die used to slightly bevel around edge of spoke and inside rim of wheels
Gold plated train wheels
Chronometer style balance with solid gold screws
Detachable staff which can be removed without disturbing relationship of balance hairspring, collet, and roller jewel
Jewel pin fastened in balance arm with a bearing twice the length of the usual watch, making it doubly secure against coming loose
Double steel roller
Hand finished visible steel escapement with posing arms
Patent micrometic regulator of continuous equal action
Meantime adjusting gold screws
True isochronal and Breguet hairspring
Finest Swiss mainspring of lasting quality and great elasticity made by hand-rubbing so that the motive power is practically constant whether watch is fully wound or nearly run down
Patented American pendant-set device of very few pieces
Geneva style stop works and cut-away barrel bridges
Eight adjustments to all positions, isochronism and temperature
Fine Silver dial
Patented inverted (Verithin) wheel train construction
Extra finely finished in all details

,

,

File Attachments

1) 50th Anniversary.jpg, downloaded 4311 times



2) 50th Anniversary Movement 2.jpg, downloaded 4130 times


STERLING
14K GOLD

3) 50th Anniversary Movement 3.jpg, downloaded 4318 times



4) 50th Anniversary Movement 1.jpg, downloaded 4181 times



Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by Jenneke on Tue, 27 Dec 2022 21:43:17 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Congrats with your find! A shame this movement is hidden.

Quote: Detachable staff which can be removed without disturbing relationship of balance hairspring, collet, and roller jewel
What does that mean? Friction fit instead of riveted?

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by thesnark17 on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 00:04:58 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

The detachable staff is a friction fit, and continues the principle of the earlier Chronometer Balance found on the V1, V2, and V3.

The earlier balance design integrates the roller jewel and double roller into the balance so that they cannot be removed, meaning that a restaffing will not disrupt their relationship. This design seems to take the idea even further. I would love to see a close-up of the balance removed to see how it works.

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by kastner on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 00:32:40 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

This watchuseek thread has some pix of a disassembled movement.

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by afire on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 17:00:38 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

So cool. I think we're going to need more pictures.

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by thesnark17 on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 19:33:02 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I think so too! I really enjoyed the pictures, but the balance was not closely pictured. And I want to see more anyway...

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by JackW on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 05:18:58 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Seems Gilbert J. Easton was into mayonnaise.

What a beautiful watch; quite the nice purchase. I'm curious on your plans for servicing?

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by Ephemerald on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 06:48:54 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

8o Said it before n I'll say it again, 5Oth's are one of the neatest pocket watches ever designed. Echoing everyone, more pics! And a really nice scoreand thanks for sharing.

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by kastner on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 17:39:38 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I'll work on getting some more pictures. As for servicing, I'm curious about my plans for that too. I feel like I should get it serviced and while I have a local guy who is fine, I'm just not sure if he is really the craftsman I need for this.

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by kastner on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 22:00:49 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

More pictures of the watch. I should have mentioned that this is a hinged case

,

File Attachments
1) 50th anniversary balance.jpg, downloaded 3142 times



2) 50th Anniversary caseback.jpg, downloaded 3263 times



3) 50th Annivserary Movement.jpg, downloaded 3167 times



Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by Ephemerald on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 22:20:31 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Interesting. "MADE ESPECIALLY FOR" is also used on the 50th you linked to.
Wonder if Fred did this one too or perhaps by the purchaser.
Beauty.

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by JackW on Mon, 04 Sep 2023 03:56:08 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Someone was keeping track of 50th Anniversary serial numbers.
Here is 024:
https://www.watchuseek.com/threads/gruen-fiftieth-anniversar
y-pocket-watch.5510327/#post-56910722

Hopefully I didn't get too much wrong in a reply.

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by thesnark17 on Mon, 04 Sep 2023 13:41:40 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Looks like you got it all right. That's an original late watch, and a beauty.

However, I never really looked at Art's SN 79 before. The more I see, the more I question it. It's obviously the wrong dial, and that makes me suspect the case too, since the dial has been redialed as a 50th anniversary (therefore someone had money).

Looking over my data (which is a bit thin for 50th, I'll admit), here is the distribution for Gruen gold cases with 7-digit SNs:
103xxxx - 1 (suspect; probably a marriage)
106 - 5
107 - 5
108 - 3
117 - 1 (SN 79)

Conclusion: I really need more data.

Case serial 1178002 would match up best with 1928-29. So I guess one question is when/whether Gruen had cased up these watches, or whether they reserved cases for them. We know there were several style lines of case as well, so it's not a simple question - plus these watches could be ordered to taste.

Looking into the other information I have for case serials 117, I think it could be original, but I'm inclined to be skeptical.

File Attachments

1) Screen Shot 2023-09-04 at 10.08.48 AM.png, downloaded 2094 times

V4	537007			Gruen Verithin Preci
V50	79			50th Anniversary Gr
VE	145228			Dietrich Gruen Preci
V4	522682	10/24/1934		Gruen Verithin Preci
V2	148959	Jan-29		Dietrich Gruen Preci
V2	144956	Jan-29		N/A
V4	540261			Gruen Verithin Preci

Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch
Posted by JackW on Mon, 04 Sep 2023 14:26:55 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

More data is always the correct answer. Yet, there is a trend that can be discerned and your info suggests that the #79 may not be a late sale but something else, and tbd. It is an outlier, to say the least.

Glad to know I didn't give bad information to the other thread.
