

James E. Cheney

Ph (614) 841-0118

579 Blandford Dr.

Worthington, OH 43085

Fax (614)841-0631

The Daily Gazette
2345 Maxon Road Extension
Schenectady, NY 12308

Dear Editor:

I read with interest Shirin Parsavands' write up of the Schenectady Museum's acceptance of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Historical Mechanical Engineering Landmark on Ultra-high Pressure Apparatus for production of Man-Made Diamonds. (The Daily Gazette June 13, 1998)

I was disappointed that Dr. H. T. Halls picture was not included as he was a principal, if not the principal, designer of the apparatus used in most diamond and Borazon production all over the world and is the sole inventor on the patent. He also invented another apparatus and a press to operate it called the "Cube " These two apparatuses are in operation in the States, Ireland, South Africa, China, India, Korea, Japan, Russia, Italy and other sites around the world. It is a tribute to the uniqueness and efficiency of these apparatuses that they are still in use, and are the preferred designs, after almost 45 years. Some other apparatuses have been developed to operate at the required pressure and temperature for diamond synthesis but none have been as efficient or as dependable. Dr. Hall learned from the work done by others but the double ended, sandwich gasketed HALL BELT was his own unique design.

Drs. Strong and Bundy went on to define the phase diagram for carbon and direct (uncatalyzed) transformation of carbon to diamond on research type apparatus and the growth of gem diamonds in Hall Belts. Dr. Wentorf invented Borazon and polycrystalline diamond, which have expanded the utility of usable products made with the application of ultra high pressure apparatus, using Hall Belts.

I feel Dr. Hall's work is often minimized or over looked and feel that not including his picture in the article is another case in point and would like to use this note to put some perspective on his work.

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June 18, 1998

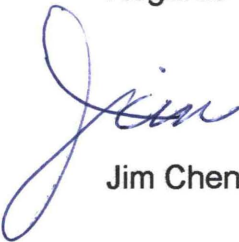
H. T. Hall
1711 N. Lambert La.
Provo, UT 84694-1858

Dear Tracy:

I was disappointed in the Gazette write up and sent the editor a note on it.
I thought you might be interested.

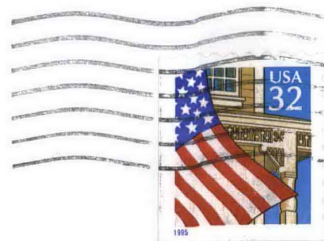
Shirley and I enjoyed seeing you and Ida Rose and look forward to seeing
you both in Utah in August.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning and a trailing flourish.

Jim Cheney

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