



Watch & Clock

Journal of the National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors

Bulletin



E. Wehrle

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NAWCC Publications Department

514 Poplar St., Columbia, PA 17512-2130
Phone 717.684.8261

Editor

Diana M. DeLucca
Ext. 206. ddelucca@nawcc.org

Associate Editor

Freda Conner
Chapter Highlights Coordinator
Ext. 207. fconner@nawcc.org

Mart & Highlights/WatchDig.org Editor

Hugh Dougherty
Ext. 212. hdougherty@nawcc.org

Associate Editor

Amy Klinedinst
Ext. 228. aklinedinst@nawcc.org

Publications Assistant

Elise A. Leytham
Mart & Highlights Coordinator
Ext. 208. eleytham@nawcc.org

Manuscripts being offered for publication and all editorial correspondence should be sent to:

NAWCC, Inc., Publications Department,
514 Poplar St., Columbia, PA 17512-2130
Phone 717.684.8261. Email ddelucca@nawcc.org.

Reports for **Chapter Highlights** (published in *Mart & Highlights*) should be sent to the above mailing address, or email chaphi@nawcc.org.

Change of address, membership applications, and dues payment should be sent to:

NAWCC, Inc.
514 Poplar St., Columbia, PA 17512-2130
Phone 717.684.8261, ext. 201; fax 717.684.0878;
email pgable@nawcc.org.

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Journal of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

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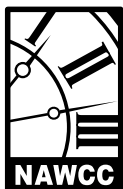
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Guiding Core Purpose

To Encourage and Stimulate Interest in the Art and Science of Horology for the Benefit of the Public and NAWCC Members.

Long-Range Vision

To be the Global Leader in the Pursuit of the Art and Science of Time and Timekeeping.

Letter from the Editor

This issue includes the first in a series of articles by Philip Samponaro on the working environments of Bristol, CT, clock companies Ingraham and Sessions. Dr. Samponaro is a historian, and this revealing study documents his original research into the lives of factory workers and the managers and owners who controlled their fate. Our cover story on the Wehrle Clock Co. includes clocks rarely encountered at marts or even museums; author Justin Miller's new book *Rare and Unusual Black Forest Clocks*, due out this spring, will offer even more examples of extraordinary works of art from this era. Those planning to attend the NAWCC National Convention in Pasadena this June will be able to see and hear some of these clocks, including several Wehrle musical clocks, at Justin's display in the mart room.

Bob Frishman begins a new column this issue titled "Horology in Art," which features insightful commentary on works by master artists who have included timepieces in their compositions. Wristwatch column author Bruce Shawkey took a break from his column this issue to spend time enjoying warmer weather in the South. Our Mosaic column is also absent this issue—the well ran dry. Mosaic showcases Chapter newsletter articles and news about Chapter members. If you are or have been a chapter newsletter editor, please consider sending us articles that might be of interest to the entire membership.

The NAWCC Publications Department staff continues to work on new tasks intended to promote awareness of the NAWCC and hopefully result in real gains in membership and resources. During January we developed an extensive contact list of antique dealers and auction houses and sent them information about the NAWCC. We contacted horological and related publications to promote advertising "trades" in their publications. These initiatives will be repeated and hopefully this year we will develop and put into action more ideas for outreach. Our departmental objective is to grow the *Mart & Highlights*, which, despite the ubiquitous Internet, is still the only way to reach every NAWCC member. Please consider the *Mart & Highlights* for your own advertising, or outreach, needs.

Editor Diana M. DeLuca

Front Cover: The clock on the front cover is a singing-bird clock made by Emilian Wehrle & Co, circa 1874. On the hour the clock reproduces the song of the bird, while the life-size (7") feathered song bird, which is exposed at the top of the clock, moves its beak head and tail in a fantastic automata display. The case is carved out of walnut and has an unusual motif. The clock measures 31" high. The photograph, taken in the late nineteenth century, is of the Emilian Wehrle & Co. trumpeter-clock factory. The name F. X. Wehrle can be seen across the front of the building. Emilian Wehrle's signature is from a letter dated 1868. See page 115 for the article, "Emilian Wehrle: The Man and His Clocks."

Photograph of clock by Justin Miller.

Back Cover: The back cover features an image of some of the over 300 legged alarm clocks that are displayed floor-to-ceiling in NAWCC member Dennis Sagvold's Arizona home. And—anticipating the question that all first-glance alarm-struck viewers ask—yes, there are still others elsewhere. The real pleasure, however, comes from being able to ask Sagvold, not just one of the foremost collectors of these industrial alarms but also the author of a standard reference, about individual examples. "What about that little alarm...let's see, fifth shelf down, 17th from the left?" And then they're like individuals in a family photo. Read more about these clocks in "Wakers," starting on page 131.

Photography by M. J. Wilson.

Board of Directors

Officers

Terms expire 2013

Ruth Overton

Chair
1335 S. Main St.
Carthage, MO 64836
rwoverton@att.net

Jerry H. Thornsberry

Vice Chair
905 W. 120th St.
Kansas City, MO 64145
jthorns@yahoo.com

Terms expire 2015

Mary Ann Wahlner

Secretary
28897 Paseo Sabatini
Mission Viejo, CA 92692
wahlnut@cox.net

David A. Lee

Treasurer
1465 N. Western Ave.
Lake Forest, IL 60045
davidlee@theclockworks.com

Directors

Terms expire 2013

Fortunat F. Mueller-Maerki

P.O. Box 386
Sussex, NJ 07461
horology@horology.com

Joanne S. Orr

2601 W. Wilshire Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
joclocks@att.net

Thomas McIntyre

P.O. Box 352
Harvard, MA 01451
tom@mcintyre.com

Eugene R. Volk

636 Cherokee Trace
Lake Toxaway, NC 28747
evolk@citcom.net

Terms expire 2015

Thomas J. Bartels

1030 Foothill Rd.
Gardnerville, NV 89460
tomjbartels@gmail.com

Michael A. Dempsey

13550 Lannie Ct.
Elm Grove, WI 53122
mike@clocksandthings.net

David W. Dunn

215 N. Fulton St.
Strasburg, PA 17579
dadunn@state.pa.us

Philip C. Gregory

409 Guadalajara Circle
Irving, TX 75062
pgregory@flash.net

Ex Officio

Myron J. Mintz, Esq., Legal Counsel

J. Steven Humphrey, Executive Director

Official Notice

The full text of the approved minutes of the meetings listed below may be found in the March/April *Mart & Highlights* Newsletter and on the NAWCC message board NAWCC NEWS:

- Board of Directors' meeting, December 2011; electronic BOD meeting, January 2012
- Controller's Report: December 2011

Membership

Individual Membership: \$70/year (\$60/year online-only *W&C Bulletin/MART & Highlights*); **Associate/Youth:** \$20 per year; **Student Memberships:** \$35 per year. Online-only *W&C Bulletin/MART & Highlights* for Associate, Student, and Youth.

Business Membership: \$125 per year.

Lifetime Individual Membership: \$3,000 (under age 40); \$2,000 (age 40 and over).

Lifetime Associate Membership: \$1,500 (under 40); \$1,000 (40 and over).

Message from the Board Chair

Three Major Projects

Dear Members,

I recently read the following statement in a magazine: "Values are embedded in tradition, but hope lives in change!" This can be said of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc. Our values are deeply embedded in the many aspects of our mission, which is to encourage and support the art, heritage, and science of horology through our members, chapters, and the public.



NAWCC members have an opportunity to embrace and welcome change and with change, great hope! This year we will be focusing on three major projects to improve our organization so that we can be a viable source of horology well into the future.

This year, and in years to come, we need to focus on increasing our membership through our marketing staff, our chapters, regionals, symposiums, and national conventions. In June 2011 a task force was put into place to develop a plan to increase and retain our membership. This plan is now in full operation. You will soon be informed as to ways you, as a member, our chapters, and regionals can become a vital part of this marketing project. Embrace this, as it shows great hope!

We have so much to offer in the study of horology through our Library, Museum, School, Internet presence, educational staff, and Education Committee. A task force was also named at the June 2011 board meeting and is now moving ahead in ways to improve educational programs on the website, chapter, and regional level. There is absolutely no limit to how far we can go with this project. Our hope lives on!

Your Board of Directors, Executive Director, Finance Committee, and dedicated staff have struggled to keep the organization strong financially. But it is now time to move forward—hope and change! A development task force put into action at the June 2011 board meeting has spent these past months thoroughly studying fundraising and ways to increase our endowments to ensure that our vision of global leadership in distributing knowledge about the art, heritage, and science of time and timekeeping will remain our great hope. A development plan is being finalized. The membership will be kept informed as we progress on this hope and change.

It is going to be a great year for our Association. There is excitement about these three new focuses of the Board. The potential for organizational growth through increased membership and financial security will help us become a world leader in horological education.

Join me in talking about the great things going on with the NAWCC. BRAG loudly.

Chair Ruth Overton
NAWCC Board of Directors
rwoverton@att.net

Message from the Executive Director

Digital Keystones!

Dear Members,



The National Watch & Clock Museum will partner with the Hamilton Watch Company this year in celebrating the 120th anniversary of the Hamilton brand. The Museum is assisting Hamilton by providing access to Hamilton archival material and objects from the

Museum collection. Hamilton is creating a virtual Hamilton Museum online that will assist collectors with identifying their vintage and modern Hamilton wristwatches. This online interface will promote the Museum partnership through logos, and the Museum will be presented to the public as the "historian of the brand." Hamilton will also provide funds for the 2012 exhibit schedule and for an event at the Museum in September that will bring together former Hamilton employees and their families, Hamilton retailers, and Hamilton collectors.

The NAWCC Library, using funds generously donated by NAWCC members and chapters, continues its efforts to digitize its most useful collections. Recently the Library digitized 30 rolls of microfilm containing issues of the *Keystone* from 1889 to 1912. This will provide our members with immediate, searchable access to an essential resource that has for years been a challenge to research manually. The Library hopes that, with continued financial support from members and other outside sources, to continue to increase accessibility via the internet of the NAWCC Library holdings.

The NAWCC's modern watch blog, WatchDig.org, plays an important role in the NAWCC objective to increase awareness of the NAWCC in the modern watch world. Since May 2012 the site has grown to include references to hundreds of watches. Traffic to the site continues to increase. Hundreds of watch companies send press releases and new watch model announcements. The NAWCC staff built the site, maintains it, provides content, and updates the software and hardware, but a programmer is needed to implement a state-of-the-art database for modern watches. This database will archive extensive information on watch models such as press releases, technical specifications, links to reviews and articles from other websites, and photographs—a library of today's watches archived for collectors. We seek to contract an expert programmer who can enhance the database code and help develop the display and integration of information. We are seeking donations to match the \$1,500 generously provided as a matching grant from Buckeye Chapter 23. Every dollar donated will provide \$2 for the project. Please consider making a donation to this vital initiative—help the NAWCC be the archival resource for modern watchmaking. Make checks payable to NAWCC, designated for WatchDig.

Have a great TIME with the NAWCC,

Executive Director J. Steven Humphrey
shumphrey@nawcc.org

Dates to Remember

Access www.nawcc.org for additional information. All regional meetings must be scheduled through Convention Committee Coordinator Renee Coulson, 6522 Hideaway Rd. Ooltewah, TN 37363-5663 • (423) 238-1555 • reneecoulson@epbf.com

2012 NAWCC National Convention

June 13-16, 2012

Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, CA

Host—*San Fernando Valley Ch. 75*

Cohost—*Western Electrics Ch. 133*

2012 Ward Francillon Time Symposium

October 11-13, 2012

Minneapolis (Bloomington), MN

Host—*Minnesota—Oscar T. Lang Memorial Ch. 20*

Access information about the Convention and Symposium from the [nawcc.org](http://www.nawcc.org) homepage.

This listing only includes Regionals that have been confirmed as of January 23, 2012.

March 2-3—Lone Star

Host—*Lone Star Ch. 124.*

Cohosts—*Southwestern Ch. 15; Five State Collectors Ch. 80; San Jacinto Ch. 139.* Mesquite Convention Center & Hampton Inn & Suites Dallas/Mesquite, Mesquite, TX (National Rep. Ruth Overton).

March 9-10—Arizona Sunshine

Host—*Valley of the Sun Ch. 112.*

Cohosts—*Keywinders of Arizona Ch. 46; Southern Arizona Ch. 113.* Fountain Hills Community Center and Holiday Inn, Fountain Hills, AZ (National Rep. Steve Humphrey).

March 30-April 1—Pacific Northwest

Host—*Puget Sound Ch. 50.*

Cohosts—*Pacific Northwest Ch. 31; Inland Empire Ch. 53; British Columbia Ch. 121; Mt. Rainier Ch. 135.* Kent Commons and Best Western Plaza on the Green, Kent, WA (National Rep. Jerry Thornsberry).

April 12-14—Southern Ohio

Host—*Buckeye Ch. 23.*

Cohost—*British Horology Ch. 159.* Drawbridge Inn, Fort Mitchell, KY (National Rep. Tom Bartels).

April 20-21—River Cities

Host—*Heart of America Ch. 36.*

Cohost—*Great Plains Ch. 58.* Lenexa Community Center, Lenexa, KS (National Rep. Ruth Overton).

April 27-28—Memphis Annual

Host—*King Cotton Ch. 48.*

Cohost—*Arkansas Razorback Ch. 62.* Bartlett Station Municipal Center, Bartlett, TN (National Rep. Mary Ann Wahlner).

May 18-19—North Coast

Host—*Lake Erie Ch. 28.*

Cohost—*Ohio Valley Ch. 10.* Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH, and Red Roof Inn, Willoughby, OH (National Rep. Tom McIntyre).

June 29-30—Kentucky Bluegrass

Host—*Kentucky Bluegrass Ch. 35.*

Cohost—*Kentucky Thoroughbreds Ch. 140.* Fern Valley Hotel & Conf. Center, Louisville, KY (National Rep. Ruth Overton).

July 20-21—Rocky Mountain*

Host—*Colorado Ch. 21.*

Cohost—*Colorado Centennial Ch. 100; Boulder Horological Society Ch. 160.* Jefferson County Fairgrounds and Days Inn, Golden, CO (National Rep. Tom McIntyre).

August 3-4—Mid-West*

Host—*Chicagoland Ch. 3.*

Cohosts—*Menomonee Valley Ch. 47; Peace Pipe Ch. 83; Madison Ch. 171.* Porter County Expo. Center and Courtyard by Marriott, Valparaiso, IN (National Rep. Gene Volk).

August 10-11—Eastern States

Host—*Central New York Ch. 55.*

Cohosts—*Western New York Ch. 13; Toronto Ch. 33.* Holiday Inn Convention Center, Liverpool, NY (National Rep. Joanne Orr).

August 24-26—All Texas Chapters

Host—*San Jacinto Ch. 139.*

Cohosts—*Southwestern Ch. 15; Five State Collectors Ch. 80; Lone Star Ch. 124.* Marriott Houston Westchase, Houston, TX (National Rep. Steve Humphrey).

August 30-September 1—Mid-South*

Host—*Rocket City Regulators Ch. 61.*

Cohosts—*Dixie Ch. 16; Atlanta Ch. 24; Tennessee Valley Ch. 42; Alabama Ch. 54;* Chattanooga Convention Center and Marriott Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN (National Rep. Tom Bartels).

September 14-15—Great Lakes

Host—*Great Lakes Ch. 6.*

Cohost—*Saginaw Valley Ch. 67.* Ford Community and Performing Arts Center and Double Tree Hotel, Dearborn, MI (National Rep. Mary Ann Wahlner).

September 28-29—Mid-America

Host—*George E. Lee-Michiana Ch. 26.*

Cohost—*Indiana Ch. 18.* Kruse Museum and Best Western Auburn Inn, Auburn, IN (National Rep. Fortunat Mueller-Maerki).

October 19-20—MKOA*

Host—*Cherokee Ch. 30.*

Cohosts—*Ozark Ch. 57; Sunflower Clock Watchers Ch. 63; Sooner Time Collectors Ch. 74.* Buddy LaFortune Community Center, Tulsa, OK (National Rep. Phil Gregory).

October 26-27—Mid-Eastern

Host—*Philadelphia Ch. 1.*

Cohosts—*Carolina Ch. 17; Shenandoah Valley of Virginia Ch. 32; Old Dominion Ch. 34.* York Expo Center, York, PA (National Rep. Jerry Thornsberry).

November 1-3—Arkansas Razorback*

Host—*Arkansas Razorback Ch. 62.*

Cohosts—*King Cotton Ch. 48; Ozark Ch. 57.* Fort Smith Conv. Center & Holiday Inn City Center, Fort Smith, AR (National Rep. Ruth Overton).

November 10-11—Southern

Host—*Creole Ch. 43.*

Cohost—*Magnolia Ch. 41; Queen City Timekeepers Ch. 167; Big Bend Timekeepers Ch. 176.* Best Western Landmark Hotel, Metairie, LA (National Rep. Phil Gregory).

November 15-17—

Southwest California

Host—*San Diego County Ch. 59.*

Cohost—*Palomar Ch. 136.* Del Mar Fairgrounds in the Wyland Center & Holiday Inn Express, Del Mar, CA (National Rep. David Lee).

*Public day offered.



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