

IT'S ABOUT TIME !



VOLUME 49, NUMBER 6

JULY 2013

<http://nawcc50.org>

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July Meeting

The July 14th meeting of Chapter 50 was a joint meeting with Chapter 135 and the WWCA (Washington Watchmakers—Clockmakers Association). We welcomed a total of 47 members, friends and guests.

An active Mart was held with a good supply of clocks, watches and tools on offer. After some spirited negotiation, a number of items found new homes.



The Mart in action



Brittany explaining a point to us

The highlight of our meeting was the program presentation by Chapter 50 member, Brittany Nicole Cox. Brittany is a graduate of the North Seattle Watch Technology program, who has gone on to specialize in conservation and restoration of automata, mechanical music, and complicated musical automata clocks and watches. She received a Masters in Conservation from West Dean College in England, and has gained wide experience with a number of museum quality pieces.

Her presentation was on Materials and Methods Used in Conserving and Restoring Automata and Horological Items

JULY Meeting, Cont.

Brittany explained how to approach an object and to evaluate options and materials to be used in the conservation / restoration. She presented examples of the challenges of the combination of organic and inorganic materials, and showed photos of the disassembly, restoration / conservation of various parts. She presented examples including an Automaton Bear and the Vichy Smoker.



The Automaton Bear, in process and finished



The Smoker, as received

The Smoker presented significant challenges. Not only the normal deterioration from the age, but that was complicated by the detrimental effect of the cigarette smoke on all aspects of the figure and mechanism. Brittany did substantial research on materials to restore the bellows, as well as materials and methods to restore the deteriorated figure itself.

Brittany is a unique talent that we are fortunate to have in our area. I would urge each of you to refer anyone who has need of such conservation/ restoration services to her. I am going to include a little further description of her services and contact information for your use.

Brittany Nicole Cox is an Antiquarian Horologist offering conservation and restoration services of fine antique automata, mechanical music, and complicated musical automata clocks and watches.

In addition to conservation and restoration services she provides bespoke mechanical jewelry and automata, and automaton toys.

"I am currently working on an extremely fine and rare 18K vari-colour gold, diamond, and enamel musical singing bird box with centre seconds watch by Frères Rochat and Jean-Georges Rémond, circa 1815.

Gilt-finished movements incorporating three different mechanisms, including chain fusée and cylindrical bellows for the singing bird automaton, controlled by a stack of 8 cams, separate watch movement with cylinder escapement, plain three arm balance, musical pin barrel with a stack of seven vibrating steel plates, entirely engine-turned geometrical and floral decorated rectangular-shaped box with rounded corners, black champlevé enamel and chased scroll and foliage decorated sides, corners and borders, top with chased and raised two colour gold foliage, floral and fruit decoration, the hinged oval lid, opening to reveal the singing bird and a gold engraved grill, activated on request, the bird will rotate on its axis, flap its wings and tail and turn its head, in time to a realistically imitated bird song, the bird also set with realistic multi-coloured feathers, when the song has finished the bird will automatically retreat inside the box and the lid will close, hinged front panel with glazed aperture with split pearl bezel revealing the white enamel dial, Roman numerals, sweep centre seconds, hinged panel to the left side revealing the key compartment, levers to front and back panels to activate the singing bird and musical mechanisms, bottom plate centred by a chased and black champlevé enamel trophy of music, case stamped GRC for Jean-Georges Rémond."

Her shop is located in the Georgetown neighborhood of Seattle. Visitors and clients are on an appointment only basis.

Contact: bcox.horologist@gmail.com , Web: www.mechanicalcurios.com

It's BBQ Time!

**Sunday, August 18th, 2013
11 AM — 4 PM**

It is almost time for the annual BC Chapter 121 BBQ and World Famous International Bocce Tournament. This spectacular event will take place again at Williams Park, Langley, BC on Sunday, August 18, 2013.

If you enjoy great food, short speeches, amazing prizes, exceptional camaraderie and International competition, you should make plans right now to attend this function. If you have attended in the past, you know how much fun it will be, if you have not, you have missed out on a lot of fun. Plan to change that this year!

The cost of this Annual Event is a mere \$15.00 per person, a bargain considering the fine dining and exceptional entertainment you will enjoy, as well as absorbing the spectacular and unparalleled beauty of British Columbia. They also supply FREE Mart tables, so bring your treasurers for offer to the International audience.

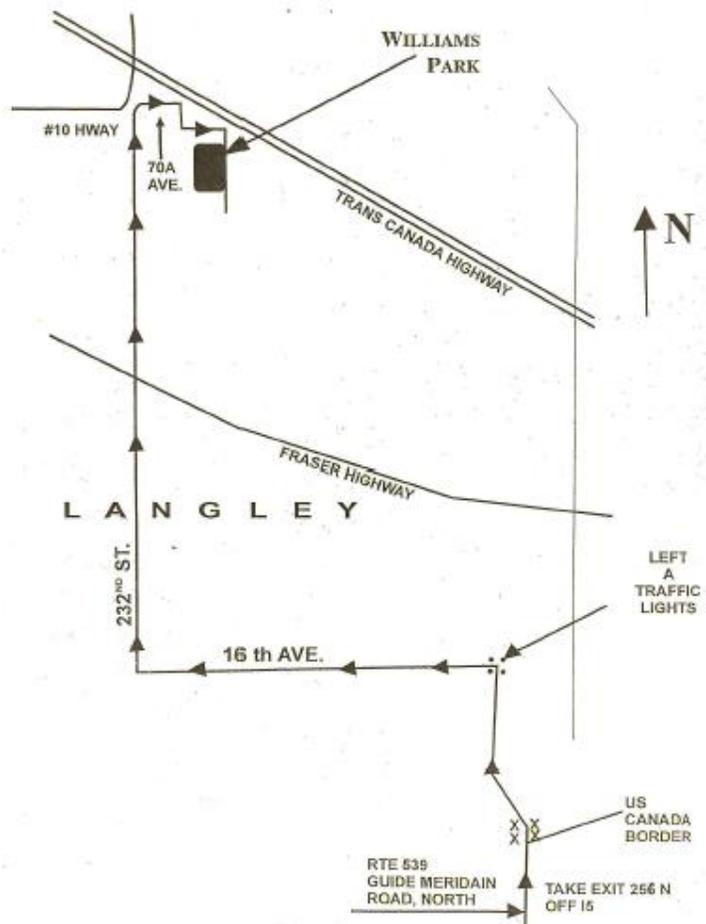
Please contact BBQ Chairman, Malcolm Wilson at malcolmwilson@dccnet.com or by phone at 604-594-7971 to purchase your tickets. Tickets will be available at the site, but it will be very helpful in their planning to let Malcolm know in advance.

PLAN TO ATTEND

NAWCC
CHAPTER 121(British Columbia)
BBQ & GAMES
LOTS OF GREAT FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP
Sunday, August 18th, 2013
11:00AM - 4:00PM



**HOME OF THE WORLD FAMOUS
INTERNATIONAL BOCCI BALL TOURNAMENT**
WILLIAMS PARK, 238TH ST. & 68TH AVE., LANGLEY, BC
TICKET SALES: malcolmwilson@dccnet.com
PHONE: (604) 594-7971



Dates to remember

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| August 18th | Chapter 121 BBQ, Williams Park, Langley, BC (No Regular Meeting in Edmonds in August) |
| Sept. 8th | TENTATIVE—MultiChapter Meeting |
| Oct. 13th | Chapter 50 Regular Meeting, Edmonds (Auction meeting) |
| Nov. 10th | Chapter 50 Regular Meeting, Edmonds (Election meeting) |
| Dec. 8th | TENTATIVE — Joint Ch.50 & 135 Christmas meeting. |
| 2014 | May 15-17 |
| | 2014 Regional, Murano Hotel, Tacoma, WA |

In Memorium

Richard Kruse

We were informed that Chapter 50 member, Richard Kruse, passed away on July 19th. Richard was a member of Chapter 50 for a number of years, and had presented programs about several of his watches at Chapter meetings.

Unfortunately, we do not have very much information about Richard. I have found a very brief on line obituary which I believe was “our” Richard Kruse.

Richard A. Kruse was born on July 12, 1944 in Markola, Oregon and passed away on July 19, 2013 in Seattle, Washington.

We do have remembrances of Richard from some of our members, which I'll print here.

We know nothing of Richard's background but he was a prince of a fellow. He always showed up at meetings with treasures for the mart. We both have several watches that we acquired from him. He gave many great programs over the years and never used notes. We both enjoyed talking with him and he will be missed. Leon and Jan Jaussaud

I remember in Richard's lectures, he talked about being down town and seemed like he knew a lot of people and knew where things were going on to get stuff. Then the last time I remember him was after the last regional when he needed a ride home from the banquet. This was a rather peculiar journey because in trying to figure out which exit to get off, we overshot and the convention center was having a sci-fi convention and traffic was a nightmare. Except Richard was happy as can be because he wasn't driving and he could sightsee. It was rather nice sightseeing around the convention center with all the young ladies which unfortunately I couldn't look at due to heavy traffic other than be aware that they were there. They were all dressed up in costumes is why they stood out more than usual. John Runciman

Sorry to hear about Richard's passing. I am afraid I don't really know much about his background or family. I thought that he had some kind of position with the Salvation Army but I may be mistaken about that. I met Richard a number of years ago at the old Midway Swap Meet which has been gone for quite a few years now. Richard like myself was a regular at the swap meet. He was always looking for watches and freely shared his knowledge of watches. If you made a mistake in your purchase Richard wasn't shy about letting you know it but he was a good mentor when it came to learning how to evaluate a used watch. Over time I got to know him a little and he invited me to attend a Chapter 50 meeting. I don't believe I ever met anyone who had a greater overall knowledge of watches than Richard. I don't recall ever having a conversation with him that didn't involve watches. I was never at this apartment but understood that he not only collected and studied watches and the companies that made them but also worked on them at least to a degree.

Sad to hear that he has left us and unfortunate for Richard that the Edmonds location didn't work out for him as I know he was really committed to the chapter. John Shultz



National Association of
WATCH & CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.



Puget Sound Chapter 50

2013 Meeting Schedule

| Month | Date | PROGRAM – SPEAKER | HOSTS |
|-----------|-------------------------------|---|---------------|
| January | 13th | Video – Story of a Watch Mark Smith | Mark Smith |
| February | 17th Note Date Chg. | Joseph Mayer Street Clock Research Paul Middents | Donalee Payne |
| March | 10th | Life & Times of a NSCC Watch Student Cecl Dunn | Cecl Dunn |
| April | 9th 13th & 14th | NO Regular meeting in Edmonds Connell MultiChapter | |
| May | 16 - 19th | Pacific Northwest Regional – Clackamas, OR May 16 - 19, 2013 NO Regular meeting in Edmonds | |
| June | 9th | Regular Meeting - Edmonds Program – "In the Works", a film on evaluating and repairing techniques for clocks. | Chet Ekstrand |
| July | 14th | Joint meeting with Chapter 135 & WWCA Program: Nico Cox, The Art & Science of Conservation of Horological and Automata Artifacts. National Convention - Dayton, OH July 3-6, 2013 | |
| August | 18th | Ch. 121 BBQ Williams Park, Langley, BC, Canada NO Regular meeting in Edmonds | |
| September | 8th | Regular Meeting - Edmond Program - Repivoting -- Tom Payne | Bill Porter |
| October | 13th | Regular Meeting - Edmonds Auction Ron Kowalski | Rose Olsgaard |
| November | 10th | Regular Meeting - Edmonds Election of Officers Program TBD | Oliver Stark |
| December | 8th | Joint Ch. 135/50 Christmas Party | |

Tentative

2014 – Pacific Northwest Regional, May 15–17, Hotel Murano, Tacoma