

IT'S ABOUT
TIME!



National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors
Chapter 50 Puget Sound

VOLUME 49, NUMBER 10 NOVEMBER 2013

<http://nawcc50.org>

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2014 Regional
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"HAPPY HOROLOGICAL HOLIDAY"

**THE TIME FOR THE JOINT CHAPTER 135 / CHAPTER 50
CHRISTMAS PARTY IS ALMOST HERE!!**

*The National
ASSOCIATION OF
WATCH & CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.*

Chapter's 135 & 50

*The National
ASSOCIATION OF
WATCH & CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.*

"Christmas Party 2013"

Sunday Dec 1st

Mart: 9:00 am - Brunch: 10:45 am - Adjourn 1:00 pm

La Quinta Inn - Pine/Fir Room

1425 East 27th Street, Tacoma, WA

Program: Philip Johansen - "New Frontiers in Clockmaking!"

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY REGISTERED, PLEASE CALL LEONARD WINCHELL -253-564-4816
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Directions to La Quinta Inn & Suites

**1425 East 27th St
Tacoma, WA 98421-2200
Phone: 1-253-383-0146**

From I-5 South-Bound:

Take exit 135 toward Portland Ave

Merge onto E 27th St - Destination will be on the right 0.3 mi

From I-5 North-Bound:

Take exit 134 toward Portland Ave

Merge onto E 28th St

Turn left onto E Portland Ave

Take the 1st left onto E 27th St - Destination will be on the right 0.1 mi

November Meeting

The November meeting of Chapter 50 was held on Sunday Nov. 10th. We welcomed visitor (and now new member) Jeffrey Grossman.

A number of our members were still at the Time Symposium in Pasadena, but Chet Ekstrand caught an early flight and got back in time to come give us a quick report on the Symposium. It sounded like a great success with lots of interesting information presented.

Elections

Election of Officers was held, and the new slate of Officers (for a 2 year term) was elected. Your Officers are: Mark Smith, President; Cecilia Dunn, VP; Ron Kowalski, Treasurer; Dick Krueger, Secretary; John Stewart; Director; and John Runciman, Director. Congratulations! (?)

Program

We had a very interesting program of "Show & Tell". Ron Kowalski told us about the clock that he picked up, that has just been donated to the West Coast Clock & Watch



Dial, movement and parts for 1830s Tall Case Clock



Chet Ekstrand reporting on Time Symposium

Museum in Bellingham. The clock is an 1830s tall case clock which was made in York, PA. It has been in the same family for 10 generations. It has a German movement with wood plates and brass wheels. Ron showed several pictures and had a number of the parts on display.

Ron also described the Waltham moon phase dial pocketwatch that he has. It is believed to be a "one-of-a-kind", made by a supervisor at the Waltham factory.

Phil Johansen brought a clock from the 1870-1880 period, with 24 hour dial with Japanese characters. It has an Ansonia movement. Ernie Lopez gave us a few more details on the background of these clocks of this period for the Japanese market.

Bob Selene brought a watch he had obtained from a friend with an antique store. It had an enamel dial with world leaders. He said it was not expensive, but rare. It was passed around for all to see.

2014 Meeting Schedule

JANUARY	NO MEETING		JULY	13TH
FEBRUARY	9TH		AUGUST	BBQ/ CH 121
MARCH	9TH		SEPTEMBER	14TH
APRIL	13TH		OCTOBER	5TH
MAY	REGIONAL		NOVEMBER	9TH
JUNE	8TH		DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS PARTY

Note: All 2014 meetings are on the 2nd Sunday **EXCEPT** for October, which is the 1st Sunday.

Chapter Dues

Another year has passed, and it's DUES time again! Thanks to all who have already paid their dues for the 2014 year.

Dues for the 2014 year are now due for all of us. The cost is still the low low rate of \$15.00 per year.

We are also going to offer a little "encouragement" for all of you to get your dues in early this year. For all who pay their dues before the end of the year, you will be eligible for a drawing for a FREE MEMBERSHIP for the following year (2015).

Your dues can be paid at the Christmas Party on December 1st. If you wish, you may mail your dues payment to our Treasurer, Ron Kowalski, 3681 S Heather Place, Bellingham, WA 98226.

TICKING SINCE BEFORE THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Peter Stretch, an 18th-century clockmaker in Philadelphia, left only wisps of evidence of his family life and career.

Scholars have searched mostly in vain for paperwork from his workshop and newspaper accounts of his prolific output of chiming clocks in walnut and mahogany cases.

“He fell right in the middle of this sort of black hole of information,” Frank L. Hohmann III, a clock collector and historian, said in an interview at his Manhattan home, where clocks all around tick not quite in synchrony.

In collaboration with the Winterthur Museum in Delaware, Mr. Hohmann has published “Stretch: America’s First Family of Clockmakers.” Mr. Hohmann and his co-author, the historian Donald L. Fennimore, spent nearly a decade on the project. They traveled from England to Alaska tracking down about 140 surviving Stretch clocks. They pieced together biographical scraps suggesting heroism, philanthropy, frugality, fame and alcoholism in the Stretch clan.

“We wanted a kind of human quality to the story,” Mr. Fennimore said in a phone interview.

Stretch, a Quaker from a hamlet in Staffordshire, England, brought along his tools when he settled in Philadelphia around 1702 with his wife, Margery, and four small children. The family arrived highly recommended by their British church congregation.



A 1730s Peter Stretch clock with walnut case.

“We could have been glad to have had their company here,” friends and relatives wrote in a letter that survives in a Staffordshire archive.

Peter and Margery became role models for Philadelphians. They gave advice to unmarried Quakers about maintaining “moderation or modesty” in budding love affairs. The couple donated money to widows, orphans and victims of house fires and kidnappings by Indians. For elite customers, Peter Stretch built brass clocks with multiple dials that tracked the time and moon phases. The dials were surrounded by metal cherubs and crowns. The carved wooden clock cases mostly came from the Philadelphia cabinetmaker John Head, a fellow English Quaker émigré. (Head’s account books, rediscovered in a Philadelphia archive in 1999, have page after page listing transactions with Stretch.)

The clockmaker’s workshop was so renowned that its address, at the intersection of Second and Chestnut Streets, was known as Stretch’s Corner. His buyers flaunted the clocks in their finest parlors, and the survival rate is high. A few of the antiques still belong to his clients’ descendants, and two-thirds of perhaps 200 made in Stretch’s career have been identified, sometimes with handwritten notes attached describing their travels over the centuries.

“That speaks volumes to me about how cherished these clocks were,” Mr. Fennimore said.

Stretch died in 1746, and the workshop from Stretch’s Corner outlived him by a few decades, but in the hands of less upstanding children and grandchildren. Quaker records scold one of his sons for “unchaste freedom before Marriage” and condemn a grandson for neglecting his trade and family while “Drinking Strong liquors to Excess.”

The new book is rich in geeky clock terms like “collared winding holes” and “deadbeat escapement.” The clocks were disassembled for photography, to expose their guts. (CDs with hundreds more images are available through Mr. Fennimore at rustiometalman@yahoo.com.)

When Mr. Fennimore alerted owners to any damage and alterations he discovered in the machinery, and possible misattributions to Stretch, “they were not happy with me, but I look on that as part of my responsibility,” he said.



Works from a Peter Stretch clock built in the 1720s.

TICKING SINCE BEFORE THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION — Cont'd.

He and Mr. Hohmann studied clocks in museum back rooms, including a 1730s walnut piece that the Metropolitan Museum of Art has put on view partly dismantled in its Americana storage cases. Numerous works in the book only recently came on the market. They typically bring five-figure prices, although in 2004 Winterthur paid almost \$1.7 million at Sotheby's in New York for a mahogany Stretch about nine feet tall.

"Peter Stretch has this rather singular position of recognition, both in his time and since then," Philip H. Bradley, a dealer in Downingtown, Pa., specializing in clocks, said in a phone interview. Kelly Kinzle, an Americana dealer in New Oxford, Pa., said in a phone interview that finding the best Stretch pieces required patience.

A great clock can stay in one collection for decades, never published or exhibited. The owners' mind-set, Mr. Kinzle said, is, "I'm going to be dead before it ever gets sold."

Courtesy of New York Times.

**NAWCC CHAPTER 50
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
November 1st, 2012 to October 31st, 2013**

INCOME:		EXPENSES:	
Dues	\$720	Meeting Room Rent	\$420
Donations	\$ 50	General & Administrative	\$ 51
50 / 50 Draws	\$554	Regional Door Prize	\$50
Xmas Party	\$1,144	Xmas Party Expense	\$1,156
Auction Paddles	\$62	Meeting Snacks	\$115
		Symposium	\$250
		Web Site (2 years)	\$58
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INCOME	\$2,530	EXPENSES	\$2,100
NET INCOME OVER EXPENSES	\$430		

NOTE: Some items like Dues and Web Site span 2 years

**NAWCC CHAPTER 50
BUDGET FOR
November 1st, 2013 to October 31st, 2014**

INCOME:		EXPENSES:	
Dues (55 Members @ \$15)	\$825	Meeting Room Rent	\$480
50 / 50 Draws	<u>\$600</u>	Snacks at Meetings	\$120
		General & Administrative	\$150
		Regional Door Prize	\$ 50
		Miscellaneous	\$300
XMAS PARTY	<u>\$1,200</u>	XMAS PARTY	<u>\$1,200</u>
INCOME	\$2,625	EXPENSES	\$2,300