



The National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc.

Philadelphia Chapter One

Chartered November 1, 1943

The next Chapter One Meeting will be held on:

December 3, 2017 at the

Holiday Inn

1750 Sumneytown Pike

Kulpsville, Pa. 19443

215 368 3800

The Speakers for the December 3rd Meeting:

The Luncheon Speaker: Richard Newman. His topic will be: **“The Greatest American Clock & Watchmaker Ever Forgotten”**. Robert Leslie's story is a truly American tale. Coming from the humblest of circumstances in rural Maryland, Leslie was a self-taught clock and watchmaker who worked in Philadelphia and London and corresponded with America's most revered statesmen and inventors including Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and Benjamin Rittenhouse. Leslie was in the forefront of invention and innovation of clock and watchmaking and was awarded the first clock and watch patents in America. Had the records of his inventions not been lost in the catastrophic 1836 US Patent Office fire, his place in history would be secure. This presentation culminates three years of research and tells the story of the greatest American clock and watch inventor of his era, and includes exhibits and examples of his work.

The Workshop Presenter will be Dan Nied. His topic will be: **“Discussing and demonstrating the fundamentals of cleaning the Verge Fusee watch”**. He will show how to let down the power, remove the balance and cock, release the maintaining power and continue with the disassembly of the watch. He will discuss faults and areas of wear often found and touch on the methods of repair. .

Dan Nied is a horologist based in York, Pa., and is director of the York Time Institute. He has also served as Director of the NAWCC School of Horology...

Saturday Hands On Workshop The class will be devoted to Clock Case cleaning, refinishing and restoring. All types of cases will be welcome, wooden, metal or marble. Refinishing and small repairs will be a central focus. Participants should bring at least one clock case that needs some work; they may bring several if they choose. Several cases will be supplied for those who don't have them. This workshop tends to be messy so wear old clothes and be ready to get your hands dirty. Gloves and protective eye wear are required. The last hour or so will be dedicated to "Open Bench" where participants are encouraged to bring any of their Clock or Watch problems to the class and, hopefully, solutions can be found. If not the usual appropriate noises and meaningless gestures of grief will be offered.

The Last Chapter One Meeting: The August 27th Meeting was the first one to be held in our new venue. Despite the usual hassles, surprises and general mayhem that accompanies any Chapter One Meeting this one went very well. All of the tables were sold and the attendance was remarkably healthy. The Mart crew of Chairman Dave Houtz, assisted by Domenic Astemborski, Michael Allen, Don Buck, Jeff Fox, Tom Fluck and others did a great job in setting up the Mart room, finishing only seconds before the first table holders descended upon them. Manuel Lim and George Morrison handled the "Silent Auction" and "One Item Tables" in their usual inimitable fashion. Colleen Houtz handled the Registration desk and did a superb job. The "Best in Show Contest" featured several very interesting Watches and Clocks. The competition was fierce in both the Watch and the Clock categories. The workshop presented by Ron Hoppes on the science of mainsprings was enjoyed by a large audience. The Luncheon was well laid out and a great deal better than those endured at our last few meetings. So, in short Chapter One has weathered yet another venue change and is pretty much back to normal. The Holiday Inn is very accommodating, and so far, happy to see us. We hope that this will be our new home for quite some time, and we are looking forward to a long and prosperous relationship with them.

On the Lighter Side



Registration for the Meeting: December 3rd, 2017

Advanced Registration (All participants must pay these entrance fees to the MART)

NAWCC Member/ Spouse / Guest \$18.00 per person # _____ @ \$18.00 = \$ _____

Member's Child (Age 5 – 17) \$9.00 per child # _____ @ \$9.00 = \$ _____

I WILL STAY FOR LUNCH _____ I WILL NOT STAY FOR LUNCH _____

MART TABLE: Dec. 3rd Meeting \$20.00 EACH # _____ @ \$20.00 = \$ _____

EARLY BIRD (This fee is in addition to the \$18.00 /person entrance fee)

1 or 2 Members only + Spouse or Children \$15.00 # _____ @ \$15.00 = \$ _____

Names for the Badges (Please Print Clearly)

1) _____ NAWCC # _____

2) _____ NAWCC # _____

I WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP FOR THE "One Day Class" \$15.00/person \$ _____

Chapter One Membership Dues 9/1/2017 to 8/31/2018 \$10.00 per year \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Phone # () _____

Mail to: Jeffrey Fox 2 Pebble Drive Horsham, Pa. 19044

Or email your Registration to Jeffrey.W.Fox@gmail.com

Or call (215) 672-6947 (answering machines says "Ed's Clock Repair")

By filling out this form the payee/s agree to adhere to all Chapter One NAWCC, Inc., Mart Room Rules and By Laws.

NO REFUNDS AFTER 12 NOON THE SATURDAY one week PRIOR TO THE MEETING, November 26th, 2017

Meeting Schedule:

Saturday December 2nd "One Day Class" Clock Case Refinishing

Starts at 10:00 ends at 4:00PM

Sunday December 3rd General Meeting

7:30 A.M. Registration Opens –

7:30 to 8:30 A.M. -- Mart Room set up Table Holders and Early Birds Only

8:30 A.M. -- Mart Room opens to all other registered participants

10:30 -- Workshop Dan Nied "Cleaning a Verge Fusee Watch "

12:00 -- Noon Mart Room Closes. No Security, the Mart Room must be cleared

1:45 -- Luncheon Speaker Robert Leslie "The Greatest Clock and Watch maker ever forgotten "

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Chapter One Meeting Schedule for 2018

January 21st, March 18th, May 6th

All of these Meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn in Lansdale (Kulpsville), Pa.

Tales From the Bench

by Ferdinand Geitner

A CRAZY ESCAPEMENT

I thought I've seen most forms of escapements but on a Mailbox Clock I found a new design which has an interesting arrangement. At first glance it seems more complicated than it needs to be.



Normally (if there is such a thing), there is a complete separate platform escapement attached to the mechanism as in Carriage clocks, French clocks, or the escape wheel is protruding through a main plate and has a bridge on top of the plate. The pallet has its own lower bearing set into the plate and its own separate bridge or a bridge shared with the escape wheel. Then there is a lower jewel setting in the main plate for the balance with its own upper bridge holding it in place acting like a platform escapement without the lower plate.



NORMAL PLATFORM ESCAPEMENT

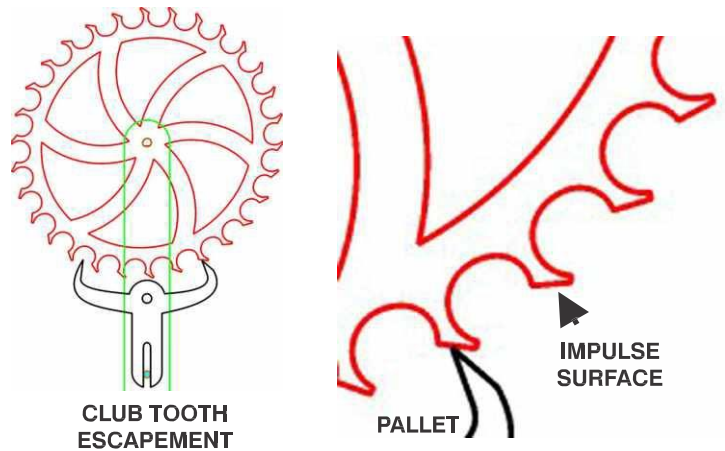
But in this design all the gears run between the plates, including the pallet. The pallet shaft protrudes through the back plate and its fork (working above the back plate) points towards the balance, which is secured by its own bridge. The pallet interacts with the escape wheel between the plates and with the balance through the fork above the back plate.



The balance has its own lower jewel setting in a small separate plate screwed onto the back plate. The balance bridge, with hairspring and regulator, is screwed into that. There is no adjustment.

The only adjustment is on the front plate for the pallet pivot by an eccentric bush, to adjust the depth of the pallet into the escape wheel.

One of the most unusual features of this clock is the escape wheel. It is a “club tooth” escape wheel, rarely seen in clocks. What makes this unique is; the impulse surface is on the escape wheel tooth, and not on the pallet. This arrangement is common on watches but not on typical clock movements.



But to its credit it works very well, now. ■

The Old-Clock Shop:

Christmas Eve had arrived. As last-minute shoppers were going home, a thick, white sheet of snow lay over Salt Lake City, USA. Yet the lights were still burning in the old-clock shop, as Ray, its old, [deaf](#) owner, worked on a clock he had sold that day.

Having finished his work, Ray stood up and was on his way to the back room when a cold rush of air from the front door hit the back of his neck.

He turned [to meet](#) a last-minute shopper, but his old, wise eyes told him that this was not a shopper. He saw two men, one in his twenties, the other closer to fifty. The younger man remained at the door. The older man approached the counter with no sign of friendliness in his eyes. Ray was able to hide his growing fear as he slowly pushed a notepad and a pencil across the counter.

He smiled at the unfriendly face, then pointed to his ears and shook his head from side to side. A quick look of surprise changed the man's face as he studied the notepad, then turned and said something to his friend.

Ray used the chance to look closely at the man, paying attention to the shape of a gun and a restless hand in the man's right coat-pocket. Anger boiled within him, but it was kept down by an inner voice that said, "Be still." He wrote on the notepad, "May I help you?" For the first time the older man looked directly at Ray and smiled. A cruel, mocking smile. They both understood why he was there, why his friend remained at the door. They looked like men who were down on their luck and were now ready to try something they would later be sorry about.

The clocks ticked on. Ray calmly wrote another message. "Have you come to pick up a clock or watch?" Then he pointed to [the loan](#) board filled with hanging clocks and [pocket watches](#). He was not a [pawnbroker](#), but at the same time couldn't say No to the needy people who placed their old [watches](#) or clocks before him for anything they could get. He loaned more than he should. They would be there when the owners wanted them back ... at the same price he had paid with no interest.

Then the older man seemed to feel a little easier, took out his hand from his pocket and quickly looked at the watch on his wrist. "How much will you give me for this?" the man wrote.

Ray noticed a little shame in the grey eyes looking at him. The watch was nothing special and yet had great powers. It was something to exchange, a way out of a bad situation. Knowing that great need had brought the man to his shop in the first place, Ray asked, "How much do you need for it?" The reply came back on the notepad: "Whatever it's worth."

Ray reached into his cash-box, pulled out a fifty-dollar note and passed it into the man's hand. As they [shook hands](#), Ray looked into the man's eyes; they seemed to say, "Thank you!" They both knew the watch wasn't worth that much. Before turning to leave, the man wrote, "I will be back to pick it up as soon as I can. Merry Christmas!"

The little story ended on the half hour with the clocks striking all together. The timepieces, which had been looking on silently all the while, rang out the time with such [feeling](#) that even Ray thought he could hear them. Their sweet, musical message was filled with hope. The timeless message of 'Peace on earth, [goodwill](#) towards all' was felt by the three men who stood in the old-clock shop

The 2017 Mid Eastern Regional this year's regional was an outstanding success. All of the 320 Mart tables were sold. The NAWCC added 37 new members with 4 month memberships. There were 153 Walk INS to swell the overall attendance to close to 700 participants.

Rick Robinson and Michael Tyler from Virginia Chapter 34, Old Dominion" put together a great Exhibit on Ansonia Clocks. There were 10 tables full of unique and rare Ansonia Clock and watches. Rick's demonstration of "Clock Dial Restoration" and Michael's lecture on "Ansonia Crystal Palace Clocks" were heavily attended. George Thomas's talk on "Restoring 200 and 500 year old watches" was also enjoyed by an equally large audience. The Chapter One members who worked so hard to ensure that this year's Regional was the success ever one has come to expect were: Registration: Ken Garrett and Colleen Houtz, Mart: Jeff Fox, Treasurer: Lee Davis, Security: Tom Fluck, Volunteers: Nancy Dyer, Signage: Lisa Morrison, Silent Auction: George Morrison and Charlie Buttz. Special thanks also goes out to those who worked very hard on the "behind the scenes" tasks that few people see but are indispensable to a great Regional. They are: Dave Houtz, Michael Allen, Terry Addison, Don Buck, Al Dodson, and Teri Buttz, and Domenic Astemborski. A heart felt THANK YOU also goes out to all of you who attended this Regional, for without your patronage and support and despite all of the hard work mentioned above, the Regional would not have been the success it turned out to be.. Dave Gorrell: Over all Chairman