



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:

**February 27, 2022** at the  
Holiday Inn, Lansdale  
1750 Sumneytown Pike Kulpsville, Pa. 19443  
215 368 3800

At the present time, if you are fully vaccinated you do not have to wear a mask, but you can if you are more comfortable. This could change by the time of the meeting so you may want to bring a mask with you.

**The Luncheon Speaker will be: Russ Oechsle.** The topic is "Empire State Empire Clocks 1815-1845 ". In the period 1815-1845 Greek Revival and Empire styles swept the country, no more so than in Upstate NY, where the prosperity brought on by the opening of the Erie Canal was reflected in the Greek Revival/Empire style homes, furniture (and clocks) produced in the region.

**The Workshop Speaker will be: Orland Bergere.** The topic is "Inlaying Terry style escutcheons in clock doors".

**Upcoming meetings.** The meetings for 2022 will be February 27<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, September 11<sup>th</sup>, and December 4<sup>th</sup>. All the meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn in Lansdale (Kulpsville), Pa.

**The Best in Show.** Do you have a watch, clock or horological related item? Why not bring it in to present in the Best of Show. This is a great way to educate other members. The winners will receive \$50 in Mart scrip to be used in the mart room. This can be carried over to future events if you don't use it the day you win.

**Saturday Hands On Workshop** The "One Day Class" for Saturday February 26<sup>th</sup> will be: "Restoring an Antique Clock for Collection or Sale." Each participant will choose an Antique clock from a pile donated by a Chapter One member. The class will cover two sessions. The first session will include cleaning the case and the movement. The second session, which will be conducted at the next Chapter One Meeting, will cover, overhauling the movement. Participants can bring their own clocks if they choose. Participants should bring whatever tools they think they might need. All other materials and tools will be supplied by the instructor. Once the clocks have been restored, they will be placed in the Silent Auction and sold to whoever wants or needs them. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Chapter. The classes will start at 10:00AM and end around 5:00 PM. Please let the Secretary or the Instructor, Dave Gorrell know if you are going to participate in this class so the number of clocks needed can be determined. For this or any other questions please call the instructor Dave Gorrell at 443 694 4972 or email him at [djgclocks@aol.com](mailto:djgclocks@aol.com).

**Next Year's Dues** With the cost of printing and postage and the labor involved in creating the newsletter, the cost of dues will rise to \$25. **However**, if you are willing to take the newsletter by email, the cost will drop to \$5. There is a lot of time, work and effort involved with mailing the newsletter out, so I hope you will consider taking the newsletter by email.

**We need your help.** The chapter is looking for volunteers for different tasks. If you can help with covering the tables, helping with the registration desk, helping with setting up the A/V equipment or recording the speakers, taking pictures or joining the board, let one of the officers know. Let us know if you have suggestions for lunch or workshop speakers. We are always looking for new ideas.

**Elections At the May Meeting.** We will have elections for officers and some of the directors at the May meeting. Officers are elected every two years. Directors are elected to a 4 year term. If you have interest in helping guide the chapter let one of the officers know.

## **A Mystery of the Watch World solved.....Somewhat.**

One of the most complicated Pocket Watches ever produced and owned by one of the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century's most wealthy men has been located,... Somewhat! Most people have never heard of, much less seen, this watch. This watch made over 112 years ago has 24 complications ( it charted the sun rise and sun set, the phases of the moon, tracked the equinoxes and the solstices, the path of the constellations, the signs of the zodiac, the declinations of the sun, showed the days of the week, month and corrected for leap years, had a grand and a petite sonnerie, was a minute repeater, displayed the running equation of time, indicated the tidal levels, had a one minute tourbillon, and kept time). The watch was made by Nicole Nielsen for J. Player & Sons, a preeminent watch maker in the last days of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early days of the twentieth century. The watch weighed a whopping 1.75 pounds. Its case was made of 18kt gold. The watch, it is said, had taken four years to complete. It was originally sold to the American banker J. P. Morgan in 1905 for 1,000 pounds (around \$5,000 in today's dollars). Upon his death in 1913, Morgan's watch began its peripatetic journey. It changed hands several times in the 1940s. It was owned by Benjamin Mellenhoff. In 1974 it turned up in the hands of Jan Skala. He then sold it to Sam Bloomfield, who in turn, sold it to the Sultan of Oman, Qaboos bin Said for the sum of \$250,000. The Sultan died in 2020 but he is said to have sold it to someone through the Bobinet Antique Watch dealer to an unknown buyer in 1983. Since the Sultan's ownership of the watch no one has seen or heard of it. The whereabouts of the watch has been a mystery for the past 38 years; many thought it was lost or as most likely the case, secluded away in someone's collection. There the mystery remained until Carl Player, an accountant and grandson of Joseph Player, the owner of J. Player & Sons, became interested in the watch. He had been searching for the watch for several years, primarily to ensure that his grandfather received the recognition and honors associated with the creation of this historic and horological significant timepiece. Unfortunately, his search has not been as successful as he had hoped. He was able to ascertain that the watch is, in fact, still in existence and reposes safely in the hands of a noteworthy, yet unnamed, collector. So, until such time as this collector acknowledges his ownership of this watch and agrees to allow the public to see and appreciate it, we, like Carl Player, will have to be content with pictures and verbal descriptions of one of the world's most remarkable timepieces.

(Picture next page)



# Officers and Directors

Council Officers 2020 – 2022

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice Presidents</u>	
Dave Gorrell	Allen Richardson	George Morrison
410-987-5915	610 770 9854	610 384 0388
djgclocks@aol.com	arichard@cedarcrest.edu	Watchwldr@verizon.net
<u>Secretary/Treasurer</u>	<u>Past President</u>	
Jeffrey Fox	Ken Garrett	
215 672 6947	484-557-9753	
jeffrey.w.fox@gmail.com	keng@garrettliners.com	
Directors		
2020 – 2024		
Michael Allen	Colleen Houtz	David Houtz
2018 – 2022		
Terry Addison	Lee Davis	John Evans
Thomas Fluck	David Lauer	

## Registration for the Meeting: February 27, 2022.

**Please Submit by Wednesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> if you want lunch or a table.**

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

**NAWCC Member/ Spouse / Guest \$18.00 per person. Day of the meeting is \$25**

Member's Child (Age 5 – 17)                      \$9.00 per child                      # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
# \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$9.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I WILL STAY FOR LUNCH \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL NOT STAY FOR LUNCH \_\_\_\_\_**

**MART TABLE:    \$20.00 EACH   # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**EARLY BIRD for non-table holders (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    9/1/2021 to 8/31/2022      \$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**

**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 ON February 19<sup>th</sup> WHICH IS 8 DAYS BEFORE THE February 27<sup>th</sup> MEETING.**

### Meeting Schedule:

**Saturday February 26<sup>th</sup>                      "One Day Class"**

**Starts at 10:00A.M. ends at 5:00P.M.**

**Sunday February 27<sup>th</sup>                      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**

**10:45 A.M. Best in Show Contest.**

**11:00 A.M. -- Workshop**

**12:00 – Noon   Lunch will be served and then the lunch speaker will present.**