

# CHAPTER 53 NEWSLETTER

April 2024 Kennewick



Editor: Dennis Armstrong daa3@msn.com

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[Next Meeting](#) [The details:](#)

[Saturday](#)

**April 20**

Time: 11:00 AM

[Location:](#)

**Applebee's Restaurant**

606 North Columbia Center Boulevard  
Kennewick, Washington

Lunch at noon - Individual order from menu

Need directions - please let me know



Please RSVP before April 18

by email to Dennis Armstrong  
at [daa3@msn.com](mailto:daa3@msn.com)  
or call to 509-430-5304

**Mart will begin at 11:00 AM**

Bring some stuff for a super trading session.

MASKS = Optional

Lunch at noon - Individual order from menu

**Pay Dues**

**for 2023 & 2024**

Still only **\$7.00** per year

Mail to: Dennis Armstrong

1610 Johnston Ave.

Richland, Washington 99354

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Please visit our Chapter web page:

<https://new.nawcc.org/index.php/chapter-53-inland-empire>

[Help our Chapter Grow](#)

Bring a guest to the next meeting.

[Program for April 20:](#)

[We have ordered three DVD's](#) – will do a popularity vote at the meeting on which to show.

- 1) The Railroads and Time by Dave Gorrell (60 min.)
- 2) What is a Railroad Watch by Tom Huber (56 min.)
- 3) Carriage Clocks and How They Were Made by Doug Minty (33 min.)

**Sharing** letter is



**"J"**

**Bring your "J" item and share.**

members are also welcome to bring

[Special or Mystery Tools](#)

Or some other neat thing - to show and share.

## [April Tech Topics:](#)

The **Julian calendar**, introduced by Julius Caesar in 46 BC was a reform of the earlier Roman calendar, taking effect shortly after the Roman conquest of Egypt. It was the predominant calendar in the Roman world, most of Europe, and in European settlements in the Americas and elsewhere, until it was refined and superseded by the Gregorian calendar.

The **Julian calendar** has a regular (common) year of 365 days divided into 12 months with a leap day added to the month of February every four years (leap year). This made the Julian year 365.25 days long on average.

Although the **Gregorian calendar** has become the international civil calendar, the Julian calendar was still used by some countries into the early 1900s. Some Orthodox churches still use it today to calculate the dates of moveable feasts, such as the Orthodox Church in Russia. Others who still use the Julian calendar include the Berber people of North Africa and on Mount Athos.

Carl Edvard **Johansson** invented and patented gage block sets in 1896 to be used for length standards in machine shops. These rectangular blocks are frequently called "**Jo-blocks**" for that reason. The individual gauge block is a metal or ceramic block that has been precision ground and lapped to a specific thickness. Gauge blocks come in sets of blocks with a range of standard lengths. In use, the blocks are stacked to make up a desired length.

An important feature of gauge blocks is that they can be joined together with very little dimensional uncertainty. The blocks are joined by a sliding process called *wringing*, which causes their ultra-flat surfaces to cling together. They are used as a reference for the calibration of measuring equipment used in machine shops, such as micrometers, sine bars, calipers, and dial indicators (when used in an inspection role). Gauge blocks are the main means of length standardization used by industry.

**We need your ideas for future programs and meeting venues. Contact any of your officers.**

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**Get Featured**

***Each of us has something to share - Please consider volunteering to do a short "Tech Talk" at a future meeting.***

Our thanks to **Phil Matson** for his demonstration on a method to polish Verge contacts at our last Spokane meeting.

## **2024 Meeting Schedule**

**May 17-19 - [NW Regional in Clackamas, Oregon](#)**

**May 25 (Saturday) [Spokane Darcy's](#)**

**June 13 - 16 - [National in Chattanooga, TN](#)**

**June & July - no Chapter meeting**

**Please confirm before traveling**

**The Inland Empire Chapter 53 of NAWCC covers Eastern Washington State, Northern Idaho and Northeastern Oregon. Meetings rotate between Spokane and the Tri-Cities.**

**[Wear your Badge to every meeting](#)**

**Need one?? - Simply order at the next meeting.**

**Pin Back is \$9.00 or**

**get the new Magnet Back style for \$11.00.**

### **Your Chapter 53 Officers:**

President: **Walt Swita**  
[sue\\_sammy51@hotmail.com](mailto:sue_sammy51@hotmail.com)

Vice President: **Phil Matson**  
[pmjmnewlife@hotmail.com](mailto:pmjmnewlife@hotmail.com)

Secretary / Treasurer: **Dennis Armstrong**  
[daa3@msn.com](mailto:daa3@msn.com)