

Chapter 89 NAWCC
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2018

Date and Location Our 5th meeting of 2018 was held on Saturday, September 15th, at the Brunswick United Masonic Hall. Attendees caught up on news and talked about projects during the coffee hour. Everyone enjoyed a lunch of sandwiches, pickles, chips, cookies or brownies, and drinks.

Call to Order, Attendees Vice-President Tim VonReyn called the meeting to order, and he and Tim Martel passed along the sad news that had been reported at the summer picnic – the loss of James Lea has left a void in our Chapter and in the entire horology field. A moment of silence was observed in honor of Jim’s life and accomplishments. Another tribute was scheduled to be held at the same day and time as our meeting – a sports car parade and antique airplane fly-over had been planned at the Owl’s Head Transportation Museum, where Jim had been a long-time volunteer.

Guests and New Members There were two guests present – Sue Cormier, with husband Paul, and Marilyn Karl here with Roger. No new members this time.

Secretary’s Report The Secretary’s minutes of the summer picnic meeting were accepted as printed and/or e-mailed by Mark. Due to computer and e-mail issues, we did not get Highlights published in the recent (September) Mart issue, but a summary of the May and July meetings should appear in the November issue.

Treasurer’s Report Bruce was absent from this meeting, but Kathi Smith had brought his account transaction report for the whole year. The checking balance as of September is \$5402.57. The expense transaction report will be reviewed by the Directors as an annual audit, as required in the by-laws. Kathi also passed along several ideas from Bruce:

1. Bruce feels that the Chapter may benefit by having permanent name tags for members to wear at meetings, rather than making an effort to print adhesive paper tags for each meeting.
2. He also recommends that all the dates for the next year’s meetings be established at the first Executive Council meeting.
3. An auction committee should be established to help the annual auction to run smoothly and consistently each year.

Announcements

- A. The RO Schmitt auction this fall will run for three days – the first day, Friday, will take no phone or internet bids – all bids and sales of approximately 400 lots will come from those present in the room in Manchester, starting at noon.
- B. Kathi and Dave Smith gave a report of their experience at the NAWCC National meeting this summer in York, PA. They had asked for our ideas and concerns to take to a Chapter Q&A meeting. Some results from this session:
 1. No changes, scaling, or discounts in the national dues structure are planned
 2. We do not need to worry about filling all of our available officer positions
 3. There has been some objection to the increase in watch articles in the Bulletin; the editors try to balance watch vs clock interests
 4. NAWCC is discussing some type of certification program for repairers

5. NAWCC does not re-assign member numbers – someone who lapses and later renews membership will retain their original number. It is suggested that our Chapter do the same.

Kathi also reported some ideas for growing the Chapter membership. These included a social media presence, including Craig’s List, having a Tailgate Party, opening meetings up to the public, and sponsoring antiques roadshow type events.

Dave and Kathi expressed some concerns about the scheduling and results of planning that went into some of the National Conference and 75th Anniversary events, and while they thought the Mart and the Donor’s Ball were very well done, they suggested that regional meetings such as the Southern Ohio Regional might be good options for us to consider attending in the future.

Upcoming Events The 2019 National Conference will be in Springfield, Mass, at the “Big E” Exposition Building.

Old Business

- A. Tim VonReyn said that he has been in contact with the National office about membership pins. NAWCC members are eligible for recognition pins at 10 year intervals. If anyone who is due one or more pins has not received these, we can contact the NAWCC to request them. Tim has a list of everyone’s membership duration.
- B. Portland Street Clock update: The Conservation Easement between the city, Greater Portland Landmarks, and the clock owners is finished. The owners are embarking on a two month fundraising drive this fall. Work on the movement has started at Paul’s shop in Scarborough. Our hope is that the cast iron case can be dismantled this fall, for the restoration work to be done over the winter.
- C. Sam reported that Bill Green’s Maine still wants to put together a segment for the TV show, perhaps about Noah’s shop in Aroostook County, but also including the Street Clock work.

New Business

- A. Tim Martel announced the slate of officers that will be voted upon in November.

President	Tim VonReyn
1 st Vice-President	Tony Accardi
2 nd Vice-President	- open -
Secretary	Mark Beever
Ass’t Secretary	Sam Ogilvie
Treasurer	Bruce DeLugo
Ass’t Treasurer	Kathi Smith
Directors 1st	Paul Fournier
2nd	Tim Martel
3rd	Jinny Mead

50:50 Drawing The winning ticket was held by Paul Cormier, and the second prize went to Tom Vance.

Show and Tell Paul Fournier showed a wood movement with an internal (between-the-plates) alarm that he had found on e-bay. The Boardman & Wells works is typical of the Type 1 four-axle internal alarm movements, which utilize a small 3rd weight to drive the alarm train.

Presentation

David Smith brought some fine examples of clocks to complement his informative talk on Brewster and Ingrahams gallery clocks.

Elisha C. Brewster primarily made the movements, and Elias Ingraham and Andrew Ingraham designed the cases for a series of gallery clocks and a few other styles. These two distinct companies worked together from approximately 1843 to 1852, and Dave discussed the variations and some of the changes in their designs over the years.

Initially they used Charles Kirk's style of cast iron back plate behind the movements, stepped for the pendulum.

Around 1850, they changed to thinner brass plates, ribbed for added strength.

The gallery clocks were offered for sale in sizes varying from 10" to 22" diameter, by 2" increments. The earliest gallery clocks had the front door hinged at the top, but later doors were hinged on the 3 o'clock side. Some of the doors were intentionally made without any glass, and Dave had an example in which he could see that there was never any rabbet or groove for glass to be fitted.

Dials were either painted metal screwed to posts from the backboard, or painted wood that was pinned in place.

Dave reported that some E. Manross movements were used in these clocks until 1852. Also, some of these popular gallery clocks were bought by Daniel Pratt for re-sale with his label in them.

Dave showed one other interesting variation in which the 12" gallery style clock was modified by adding a tapered neck and a base box to make a banjo clock. The typical B&I east-west brass movement had to be rotated to a north-south orientation, and a longer pendulum added, to compete with the popular Boston banjo clocks of the period. (Audience members theorized that the longer pendulum required a new escape wheel of fewer teeth in order to maintain time-keeping).

After Dave's talk, Tim VonReyn set up a projector to show a video recording of a presentation by Joe Katra on Maine Clockmakers. This program explained some of the geographic and economic reasons why Maine clockmakers were at a disadvantage in production, marketing, and distribution of their clocks and watches compared to the Connecticut and Massachusetts areas. Even so, there were some high quality pieces produced. The program began with brief descriptions of the work of Edward L. Grueby in Portland, Joshua Tolford in Saco, and Edward Moulton of Portsmouth then later in Saco.

Due to time constraints, we did not view the entire video to hear about other prominent Maine clockmakers. This program is available to borrow from the NAWCC Library. Nan & Tom Vance reminded everyone that Joe Katra published this information in NAWCC Bulletin Supplement #17 (Summer 1989) and also expanded the coverage in his book published in 2008 by the NAWCC, [Clockmakers and Clockmaking in Maine 1770-1800](#).

Draft of minutes submitted by Mark Beever, Chapter Secretary



Photo by Kathi Smith