



Oversight & Advancement Accomplishments

December 2019–March 2020

This message is from the Oversight & Advancement Committee and is intended to keep all NAWCC members informed about accomplishments and changes at the National Office during the above period.

Technology and Security Upgrade

1. A project was completed in December to evaluate the organization's entire hardware infrastructure. Objectives included creating a complete equipment inventory as well as evaluating all computers, network equipment, and software to identify security vulnerabilities, productivity issues, and unsupported hardware.
2. Funds were successfully raised and computers ordered, configured, and fully implemented to provide all employees (full-time and part-time) with up-to-date computers and software. The office was previously working with 7- to 10-year-old equipment running Windows 7 that severely hampered productivity, was no longer supported by the manufacturer, and could not support remote operations in the case of a disaster.
3. A number of server farm equipment upgrades are currently taking place to replace the Exchange email server and two other network servers that were 12 years old and well beyond their useful life. A failing storage system that supports the Museum and Library was also identified and has already been replaced. These upgrades will provide a more responsive, safe, and secure environment for staff and members.
4. The antiquated projection system in the theater stopped working. It was replaced with current technology that supports wireless operation and will provide an improved experience for presentations and Museum visitors.

NAWCC Website (nawcc.org)

1. The website project initiated in late 2018 to upgrade our old site was evaluated and shut down in November 2019. It was replaced by a new project, with a new requirements and oversight team composed of our leadership staff, board members and volunteers. Programming and design was outsourced to EZSolutions and Joe John Consulting, both local firms known to the Board of Directors with proven track records.



2. The current status is that the project is on-budget and on-plan with a Phase 1 release date targeted for the end of the second quarter. The objectives of this initial release are:

- a. Entice people who find the NAWCC on the Internet to develop interests in horology, the NAWCC, and becoming an NAWCC member
- b. Improve ease of use and access to information
- c. Increase traffic to the website and ability to monetize that traffic
- d. Improve staff efficiency through better integration with our back-end operational systems
- e. Improve member experience for key website activities including renewing membership, signing-up for events, finding local Chapter information, and finding business members

3. For the first time, HQ staff worked in close partnership with the Mid-Winter Regional leadership team to capture and process all preregistrations. Best practices have been learned that will be integrated into a future release of the new website; the Board of Directors & HQ Staff are keenly interested in finding ways to help local chapters.

Museum Update

1. A new Public Time Gallery focused on public timekeeping is being constructed in the Museum. This exhibit is being installed in the space near the entrance that was previously used to display a large model of Stonehenge. The project includes the installation of a large number of tower and street clocks, including examples in the collection that have not been displayed before as well as the restoration and display of the very rare Ansonia Street Clock, "Quincy." As a show of support, a member of the Museum Collections Committee has donated a large English tower clock to this initiative.

2. A study on Museum and Research Library attendance was completed and has resulted in new hours for public admittance. Please note that the NAWCC has been monitoring the evolving challenges due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus and has closed the National Watch & Clock Museum, Gift Shop, and Library & Research Center as a precautionary measure until further notice.

3. Logistics for preparing for the arrival of the significant collection of Ives and Salem Bridge clocks donated by George Goolsby is complete. Another collection of important Pennsylvania shelf clocks is also on the way. Conservation of the collections will begin in April.

4. The Welte Orchestrion, a gift from a first-time donor, has been installed in the Museum and is fully functioning.



Capital Projects

1. Four estimates to repair or replace the failing roof have been received and are being analyzed.
2. Estimates to repair or replace the failing HVAC system are still being submitted.
3. Surface mold was discovered, analyzed, and remediated as reported in the last update. The affected areas were re-tested again, and the entire area reorganized for improved access and use. At no time was there a risk to any item in the collection.

Fundraising Events & Attendance

1. This year's Extraordinary Give raised \$8,450, an 8% increase over last year.
2. The Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission awarded us an educational event and exhibit grant for \$11,000.
3. The New Year's Eve kids' event included a scavenger hunt through the Museum, decorating cookies, and story time. A total of 232 visitors attended and the event raised more than \$1,100.

Publications

1. Walsworth, the printer of both the *Watch & Clock Bulletin* and the *Mart & Highlights*, has entered the November/December 2019 *Watch & Clock Bulletin* in this year's Gold Ink Award competition. The Gold Ink Award is an honor bestowed in the commercial printing industry. Printers nominate issues from within their own stable of publications. Walsworth is the number 6 magazine printer in the U.S. and Canada, so there was a good amount of competition just to be nominated. Winners will be announced later in 2020.

Staff and Hiring Updates

The intense focus on job enrichment, technology efficiencies and teamwork, led by your Board of Directors in partnership with our great leadership team has reduced total headcount by 40% in the past year.

We are pleased to announce the following additions and promotions to our great staff at HQ.

- Terry Zaporozec is the new lead in charge of Museum Admissions and the Gift Shop, reporting to Jennifer Byers



National Association of
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- Stacey Strayer has been promoted to Member Services Manager, reporting to Jennifer Byers
- Rhianna Lau is the new Member Services Administrative Assistant, reporting to Stacey Strayer
- James Campbell has been promoted to head the Library & Research Center and is also supervising all building maintenance activities; James reports to Jennifer Byers
- Archivist Kate Van Riper has left the organization. We wish Kate all the best in her future endeavors. Her position was changed to Library Research and Archival Assistant and was filled by Benjamin Errickson. The part-time Library Research role was filled by Greg Slye. Both Benjamin and Greg report to James Campbell
- Two part-time interns, Elliott Bollinger and Erin Slough, have also joined our team. Both are seniors at Millersville University and are working with PastPerfect, the system that tracks our Museum collections; they are also assisting with displays
- Two additional paid interns are working on the Hamilton archives in the Library & Research Center: Project Archivist Greg Slye, courtesy of a grant from the Hamilton Archive Project, and Benjamin Errickson, whose position is paid for by two donations. Both Greg and Benjamin will transition to their new positions as mentioned above.
- The entire organization wishes Pam Lindenberger all the best in her retirement from the NAWCC after a career spanning 42 years. The Board of Directors, staff, friends, and family recognized her accomplishments with a fabulous retirement party in the Museum rotunda at the end of February.