



## **Oversight & Advancement Accomplishments September 2020 – January 2021**

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.

### **Museum and Library & Research Center**

Although the Museum and Library & Research Center were closed to the public for much of this period, significant progress was achieved by staff and volunteers working both on-site and remotely:

1. The McClintock Clock was repaired and hung on the exterior of the Museum. Huge thanks to Bob Desrochers and Lee Davis for leading this effort.
2. Replacement of the roof over the entire building (Museum, Library, and business offices) was begun in early July and final inspections were completed in September. There is already a dramatic change in climate control, and we thankfully no longer require contingency funds to manage leaks. This was the largest capital project in decades; half the expenditure was raised through donations. Thank you!
3. The special exhibit was completed. This gallery houses the Joseph Ives and Salem Bridge Clock Collection donated by George and Cathy Goolsby that was received in March 2020. Plans are now in process to produce a video of the collection for the website.
4. The new Public Time Gallery construction continued with installation of new flooring to support the exhibit. The project is being sponsored by the Tower & Street Clock Chapter, led by Frank Del Greco. A recent donation of a very rare Seth Thomas precision clock was put on display in this Gallery in response to viewing requests. Special thanks to Chris Miller for packing and transporting this clock a few thousand miles to get it to the Museum, and Don Saff, John Cote, and Andy Dervan for helping with the photography and documentation.
5. The building experienced a leak in the fire suppression system, which prompted a thorough review of the system and implementation of a new nitrogen-based fire suppression system. Please note that no collections or artifacts of any kind were impacted in any way by this issue. A number of other facility maintenance projects were completed, including seal coating the parking lot, replacing ceiling tiles previously damaged by water, cleaning carpets, and COVID-19 tasks such as installing sanitizer stands, signage, and other safety measures.



6. Several promotional programs have been established with the Lancaster/Columbia community to promote the Museum for tourism. Even though bus tours have not resumed due to the pandemic, we had over 100 tourists visit in November.
7. The Library & Research Center received a number of rare and historically important manuscripts, including two clockmakers' account books from the early 19th century. Special thanks to Chapter 60—Florida Gold Coast, Chapter 176—Big Bend Timekeepers (Florida), and Chapter 23—Buckeye (Ohio) for donating funds that helped to acquire the account books, Steve and Lu Sadowski for donating an important Eli Terry land deed, and Allan Purcell for donating the personal research notes and photographs from the well-known researcher Robert Kemp.

### **Financial Performance**

1. We continue to successfully qualify for and receive loans/grants authorized by Congress to offset payroll and benefit impacts due to the pandemic. About \$11,000 was received in January from the PHMC Grant. In addition, the NAWCC raised over \$7,000 from this year's ExtraOrdinary Give Event.
2. Just over \$150,000 was raised toward the \$250,000 match challenge made by an anonymous donor who recognizes the significant accomplishments being achieved by your Board of Directors and our excellent leadership team at HQ. Due to the extraordinary circumstances over the last year, the donor has extended the deadline for the remaining \$100,000 match challenge to the July 2021 National Convention in Virginia. We are already making a dent toward that important \$100,000 matching opportunity. If you can help with a matching donation, please email Development Chairman, John Cote, at [jcote@comcast.net](mailto:jcote@comcast.net).
3. Our new voting software was validated with the Bylaws Membership vote that we reported in the past period updates, and is now ready to be used for our Director and NEC elections that will begin in January. The software change has saved approximately \$6,000 in this fiscal year.

### **Publications and the Website**

The website replacement initiative, the largest project undertaken in many years, was completed and launched ahead of schedule on May 26, 2020.

1. The Forums (message board) team implemented a major upgrade to the forum pages to make it more streamlined, add features, and make it easier to use. The Forums (message board) are used by a worldwide community of 60,000 horologists. The team is working on a second enhancement that will allow members and registered users on the Forum to experience a single log-in experience (SSO) across our internet platforms.
2. Final editing, layout, and publication was completed for Killian Robinson's book titled *Passing Time Across the Water*. Members can acquire this new book at a discount from the "Shop" on [nawcc.org](http://nawcc.org). Also, as reported in the last update, Clint Geller's



book titled *The Appreciation and Authentication of Civil War Timepieces* is also available (at a discount to members) through the Shop.

3. A member-only database for clock labels was added to the Research section of the website. Thanks to Ted Orban and the COG Counter Chapter for sponsoring this effort.
4. We are working to make our large archive of *Bulletins* and other materials easier to search and retrieve online. Recent *Watch & Clock Bulletins* have been posted online as a single, complete PDF on [nawcc.org](http://nawcc.org) for the Sept/Oct, Nov/Dec, and Jan/Feb issues to improve ease of access.
5. The fourth episode of the NAWCC Watch & Clock Podcast about the Engle clock was completed. Professional podcast producer Anna Tran is working with our Publications staff to complete the fifth episode of the podcast about Paul Morphy and his mysterious chess watch.
6. Website Events and Forum information was enhanced to promote the many educational Zoom meetings taking place through local Chapter and HQ initiatives.

## **Staff and Hiring Updates**

We are pleased to announce the following changes and/or additions to our great staff at the National Office.

1. Rhianna Lau was hired as Ad Sales Coordinator in Publications. Rhianna was the Administrative Assistant in Member Services and transitioned to this important role for the Association in November.
2. Marlo Davis was hired as Administrative Assistant in Member Services in December. She has significant experience as a small-business owner, and before joining the NAWCC she worked in a law firm.
3. Michael Nocella, an intern from Millersville University, joined us in January to assist with the development of a marketing and social media plan to improve our online presence.
4. Sarah Gallagher, HR Manager and Development and Marketing Associate, passed her Society for Human Resources Management Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) exam. Well done, Sarah!
5. The entire Museum staff—James Campbell, Ben Errickson, and Emily Leister—completed a certified program for managing archives.

## **Leadership Team**

The Oversight & Advancement (O&A) Committee commends the entire staff for their dedication and professionalism during these unprecedented times, and for the smooth transition to conducting business between home offices and HQ, over and over again. Without exception, all membership services continued uninterrupted, and the executive office received many letters of appreciation from members.



National Association of  
**WATCH & CLOCK**  
Collectors, Inc.

Preparation for the 2021 National Convention in Hampton, VA, is full speed ahead. Please know that your safety is a primary focus of every planning meeting. If you have time and energy to help, volunteers are always needed to put on these events. The Convention website is now live (<https://natcon.nawcc.org/2021/>), and registrations and table reservations have been very strong.