



## **Oversight & Advancement Accomplishments April – August 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, Library & Research Center, Education**

The Museum and Library & Research Center reopened on November 10, 2020, to members and on November 11, 2020, to the public. Bus tours and large museum events have not been restarted and will continue to depend upon health conditions and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania guidelines.

1. The McClintock clock was repaired and re-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 completed in September 2020. A welcome consequence is a dramatic improvement in climate control management and associated operating expenses. This was the largest capital project in decades; half of the expenditure was raised through donations. Thank you!
3. The special exhibit gallery that houses the Joseph Ives and Salem Bridge Clock Collection donated by George and Cathy Goolsby has been completed. A video on this exciting new exhibit is being produced for the website.
4. The new Public Time Gallery, the first new Museum gallery in many years, continues to be developed, thanks to sponsorship by the Tower & Street Clock Chapter, led by Frank Del Greco. It currently comprises 22 tower and street clock movements on display. Special thanks to Frank Del Greco, John Colwell, and Gary Stone for their assistance.
5. A recent donation of a very rare Seth Thomas precision clock was put on display in the Public Time Gallery. Special thanks to Chris Miller, Don Saff, John Cote, and Andy Dervan for helping with the transportation, photography, and documentation.
6. As previously reported, the Library & Research Center significantly improved its collection of primary-source materials with the addition of several rare maker account books and author research materials. Please contact the Library if you have, or have knowledge of, research materials that would benefit the membership. In 2020, during the pandemic lockdown, the staff conducted a comprehensive inventory and associated updating of policies and procedures to continue to appropriately curate the collection. An inventory of Museum collections, a much larger effort, is currently taking place. One of the goals of this activity is to improve



the way in which all collections are presented and made available to members online.

7. Fourteen chapters conducted Zoom meetings that were scheduled and posted on the Events page of the website. The addition of online educational Chapter events has been extremely successful and popular with the membership.

## **Financial Performance**

1. The Board passed a balanced budget for fiscal year 2021–2022 in March, and has scheduled the independent annual audit of the financials and associated financial controls for Q4.
2. Loans/grants authorized by Congress to offset payroll and benefit impacts due to the pandemic worked as intended. We were able to maintain staffing levels and continue operations uninterrupted throughout the challenging past year. Other grants received included \$6,252 from the Cultural and Historical Support Grant, and \$11,059 from a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) grant.
3. Over \$7,000 was raised to support the NAWCC in the 2020 Extraordinary Give event that is run each year by the Lancaster County Community Foundation.

## **Technology**

1. The Board authorized the conversion of our outdated accounting system to QuickBooks Pro, which is expected to simplify operations and be significantly less costly to administer. The transition was completed in August 2021.
2. The new voting software implemented two years ago continues to work as intended and has saved approximately \$15,000 to-date in operating and licensing fees, including about \$6,000 this fiscal year. The Board is pleased to also announce that voting participation in the last election (April 2021) was significantly higher than elections in the past 10 years.

## **Publications and Website**

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

1. Website enhancements in-progress include continuing to make our large archive of *Bulletins* and other materials easier to search and retrieve online, and implementation of single sign-on technology that will help unify the various technology platforms that are “behind the scenes.”
2. The new Board-sponsored membership for youth and student collectors (under 25 years of age) to join the NAWCC is being promoted on the website. The program features free Student/Youth memberships for one year.
3. A new online Mart ad section was added to the Forums for advertisers to better reach our large online community.



4. Episode 5 of the NAWCC Watch & Clock Podcast provides a new venue for advertisers to reach their target audience and a new source of advertising revenue for the NAWCC.
5. Award requirements, guidelines, and forms for nine NAWCC awards have been updated on the website. Award requirements are located under the "About" tab.
6. Public outreach programs included the development of a new rack card brochure to promote the National Watch & Clock Museum that has been placed at tourist sites across Pennsylvania, new ad campaigns to promote local tourism in the publication *Live.Work.Play*, and a Museum ad on three local billboards, courtesy of Brent L. Miller Jewelers.

### **Staff and Hiring Updates**

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

1. Marlo Davis has been promoted to Member Services Manager.
2. Stephanie Stills was hired as the new Member Services Administrative Assistant.
3. Kevin Osborne retired after more than 13 years of service as the IT & Chapter Support Specialist and transferred responsibilities to Seth Huber. The entire organization wishes Kevin well and thanks him for his continued help and advice on a part-time basis.
4. Kate Jones has been hired to help in the gift shop and admissions. She is a student at Harrisburg Area Community College.
5. Pat Doherty, our part-time Accounting & Administrative Assistant and a student at York College, has departed to complete a finance internship. Denise Falcone has joined us as the new part-time Accounting & Administrative Assistant. She brings a wealth of applicable business and marketing experience to the NAWCC.

### **Leadership Team**

The Oversight & Advancement 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 the National Office, over and over again. Without exception, all membership services continued uninterrupted, and the executive office received many letters of appreciation from members.