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NAWCC Chapter
Relations Committee

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Chapter Officers Newsletter

Chapter Relations Committee

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SAVE THE DATES

2025 National Convention

natcon.nawcc.org

June 19-22

2025 Time Symposium

symposium.nawcc.org

October 13-16

Greetings, Chapter Officers and Reps!

I hope this message finds you well! As we look ahead to the rest of 2025, I wanted to take a moment to touch base with you about some key updates and initiatives from the Chapter Relations Committee.

Some important topics discussed during our recent Chapter Relations Zoom meeting included:

- An update to the **Speakers Bureau list**
- Guidance on **Chapter leadership transitions**
- Information on how to **vote in the NAWCC elections**, including details about candidates
- A preview of the **National Convention** and Crafts Competition that will take place in June in York, PA

As your Chapter Relations Chair, my primary goal is to ensure that we are all aligned and thriving as a community. That means I want to hear directly from each of you about what's working well within your Chapters, as well as where you're facing challenges. Sharing ideas, experiences, and best practices is essential to our collective success, and I am eager to learn from you all.

One of the highlights of the upcoming National Convention will be the **Chapter Officers and Representatives meeting**.

It's a wonderful opportunity for us to connect, share insights, and strategize for the future of our Chapters. We all know that membership has been in decline, and I'm sure you've noticed this in your own meetings as well. But the good news is, **we can help!**

The Chapter Relations Committee is here to support you in any way we can. For example, we can assist with **E-blast promotions** to help increase awareness of your Chapter meetings. We can also provide you with a **list of members in your area**, which has proven to be a valuable tool in reigniting local interest.

This little bit of support has already helped several Chapters to revitalize and rebuild their communities, and we are committed to continuing that effort. I encourage you to reach out if you're in need of assistance—we are here to help!

Lastly, I want to extend my deepest thanks to each of you for your ongoing dedication to the NAWCC community and, most importantly, to your Chapter. Your hard work doesn't go unnoticed, and I truly appreciate everything you do.

Looking forward to connecting with you all soon.

Warm regards,

Jeff Zuspan, Chair
Chapter Relations Committee

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2025 NAWCC Crafts Competition

Celebrating Members' Skills!

The Crafts Competition is an excellent opportunity for all craftspeople to have their work judged against that of their peers.

All classes will be judged by qualified experts. We will have our annual People's Choice award, which will be determined by ballot. Ballots will be in the crafts exhibit area at the York Expo Center and can be cast by both members and the public. The People's Choice winner will be announced at the evening banquet on June 21.

Purpose of the Competition: To showcase the finest work in current-day horological crafts. This contest highlights each artisan's talent as well as their understanding of history's influence on their craft. It provides opportunities to expand each member's historical appreciation of clocks and watches.

Members (excluding Youth Membership) of the NAWCC, in good standing at the time of any scheduled competition, are eligible to enter.

Youth Members who are 17 years of age or younger are eligible to enter all classes, and they will be judged as a separate group with medals and awards. Their projects will be displayed with all entries but judged as a Youth Entry.

There are many ways to enter the event:

1. Entries can be presented at the Convention by the entrant or his/her representative.
2. Arrangements may be made so entries can be shipped in advance. For more shipping instructions, contact Bill Slough.
3. You can send details in a binder or a digital file to be printed and placed in a binder. The items must be documented with photos or drawings to show the condition when the project began and when it was completed.

We encourage members from all Chapters to participate, including those local to the Convention and those from farther away.

If you don't have an entry but would like to participate, we do need judges, helpers, and sponsors for the Crafts Competition.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Bill Slough, Crafts Competition Committee Chair: 817-829-5675 or nawcc.craft@gmail.com.





Chapter 139's Project: The Galveston Tower & Street Clock

San Jacinto Chapter 139 of Houston, TX, recently undertook an ambitious project: restoring the historic clocks of Galveston. Led by Andy Staton, FNAWCC, a dedicated team of volunteers carefully dismantled a double-dial street clock and a Howard tower clock. The movements were removed and taken to the workshop.

Over time, the group disassembled the clocks, cleaned every component, reassembled them, and applied oil before conducting rigorous testing. One of the Chapter members, Desmond Rolf, even designed a self-winding mechanism for the tower clock—a brilliant innovation that earned him well-deserved admiration from his peers.

The team divided into two groups for the final installation. After a few return visits for fine-tuning and adjustments, the clocks are running once again.

Chapter projects like this one are incredibly rewarding, but they don't have to be this complex. Some Chapters loan timepieces to local libraries, assist families in evaluating collections after a loss, or even repair and donate pocket watches to students and community events.

Has your Chapter worked on a special project? I'd love to hear about it!

Jeff Zuspan

jzuspan@nawcc.org



Donate to Our Endowments

Please consider supporting the NAWCC as we move forward.

Donations are invested to provide long-term funding for the NAWCC.

[Click Here to donate!](#)

Tax Deductibility

Information about the tax deductibility of NAWCC Individual Memberships is available via this link:

[Nawcc.org>About>Association Documents>NAWCC Member Documents](#)

Do You Know a Potential NAWCC Award Recipient?

Acknowledge a fellow member's achievements in horology or service to the NAWCC by nominating them for one of the Association's prestigious awards. Guidelines and forms are available online at nawcc.org/about/member-recognition-awards/.

The Chapter Bimonthly Report

Attention Chapter Presidents and Secretaries!

Please be on the lookout for the Chapter bimonthly (every other month) via email or USPS. This helpful report can be used to update your records, welcome new members to your Chapter, remind past-due members to renew their NAWCC membership dues, plus find out when we have lost important members of our organization. The report also includes the current contact information we have on file to connect with the members of your Chapter.

If you need help with the information provided in these reports, please call Marlo Davis at 717-684-8261 ext. 210 or email mdavis@nawcc.org.



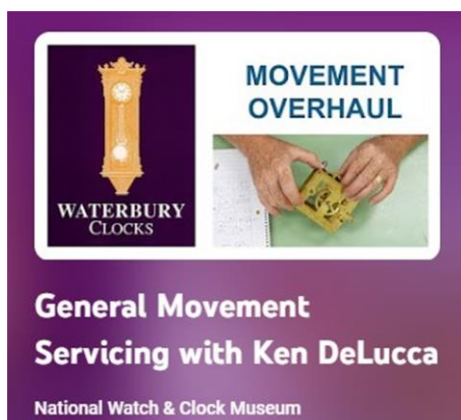
As a proud member of the [Blue Star Museums](#) program, the National Watch & Clock Museum provides free admission from Armed Forces Day through Labor Day each year for active military personnel and their families, including the National Guard and Reserve.

NAWCC Videos Online

There are many educational videos available online for members to enjoy on their own or at a Chapter meeting.

Visit <https://www.nawcc.org/research/nawcc-digital-video-archive/> to access a variety of videos:

- NAWCC Ward Francillon Symposium Lectures
- NAWCC Webinars
- YouTube Videos
 - *Collecting Conversations Series*
 - General Movement Servicing with Ken De Lucca
 - National Conventions
 - Many more!
- Zoom Videos
- 300+ Videos on Vimeo



Plus, the NAWCC Library & Research Center has hundreds of educational DVDs available for lending. Details are online at <https://www.nawcc.org/research/nawcc-digital-video-archive/>.

Got Officers?

NAWCC headquarters needs your list of Chapter officers and their email addresses!

When new officers are elected or when contact information changes, please notify HQ's Alex Simpkins via email at asimpkins@nawcc.org. He'll make sure the officers are updated on <https://www.nawcc.org/local-chapters/>, where Chapter websites are linked and where potential new members can connect with your Chapter.

Lead On!

Transitioning & Maintaining Chapter Leadership

Contributed by J. D. Castle

One of the biggest challenges faced by NAWCC Chapters is securing volunteers and fostering new leadership. Over time, we often see a few dedicated individuals carrying most of the workload, with long-term leaders staying in place because they feel no one else will step up, or fewer members remain active.

As leaders, it is our responsibility to address these issues by actively engaging others. But how do we do that? Here are some key insights:

Leadership

- **Establish and maintain a vision:** Create a clear statement that reflects the Chapter's purpose and goals.
- **Engage all members:** Leadership isn't just about leading; it's about ensuring every member feels involved and valued.
- **Communicate effectively:** Be open, clear, and consistent in your communications with the team.
- **Foster a collaborative approach:** Make every step a team effort, and celebrate successes together.
- **Adopt "Servant Leadership":** Of all leadership models, this one is strongly recommended. It focuses on empowering and supporting your team rather than simply directing them.

Preparing for the Transition

- **Create excitement:** Transitioning leadership should be seen as an opportunity for growth and renewal, not just a change of hands.
- **Review the current structure:** Take time to understand how the Chapter is currently organized and identify areas for improvement.
- **Build energy around improvement:** Find ways to revitalize the group through new ideas and initiatives.
- **Celebrate the change:** Make the leadership transition a meaningful event, celebrating both past achievements and the future ahead.

The Transition

- **Hold a celebratory gathering:** Host an event to mark the transition, making it a memorable occasion for all involved.
- **Acknowledge accomplishments:** Even if the current leadership only maintained the Chapter's operations, celebrate their efforts and successes.
- **Current leadership's perspective:** The outgoing leader should speak to the value, history, and potential benefits of the new leadership.
- **Symbolic passing of the baton:** Consider a symbolic gesture, such as passing a pendulum or large key winder, to signify the transition of leadership.

Lead On! *(continued)*

The Path Ahead

- **Encourage member input:** Ask every member to suggest one way to improve the Chapter. This helps create ownership and investment in the Chapter's future.
- **Stay visible:** Regularly check in with members, keeping them engaged and involved in Chapter activities.
- **Solidify key functions:** Appoint Program Directors for essential activities to ensure consistency and smooth operations.
- **Create a pipeline for future leaders:** Depending on the Chapter's size, having Program Directors can serve as a developmental channel for the next generation of leadership.

Foundational Fundamentals

- **Show passion:** As a leader, your enthusiasm will inspire others.
- **Be sincere and transparent:** Always communicate openly and honestly with your team.
- **Confirm communications:** Never assume. Always confirm important details to avoid misunderstandings.
- **Set the tone:** As the leader, you establish the Chapter's culture. Make sure it's one you're proud of.

Call for Speakers

Did you know the NAWCC website has a Speakers Bureau list at <https://www.nawcc.org/about/chapter-support/>?

We're currently updating this list and are eager to include more speakers! If you have a talk or lecture you'd like to share, and you're open to traveling to Regional or Chapter meetings, we'd love to hear from you. Send a message to the Chapter Relations Committee via <https://www.nawcc.org/about/organization-contacts/chapter-relations/>.

Once the list is updated, we'll send it to those interested in booking speakers. This is a fantastic opportunity to support NAWCC Chapters and Regionals by sharing your expertise!

Chapter Highlights

Share the latest goings-on in your Chapter by submitting a Chapter Highlights report for publication in the *Watch & Clock Bulletin!*

Chapter reporters provide summaries of the educational content of programs, workshops, and Chapter- and community-related horological projects. Reports also mention future meetings, topics, and speakers, as well as members who recently passed away. Each Highlight report should be approximately 600 words and will be edited for length, clarity, spelling, and grammar. The reporter's name will appear at the end of the submission when it is printed in the *Bulletin*.

Photographs should be high resolution with a minimum of 300 dpi or 500 kb in size. A photo should be sent as an attachment to an email; do not embed the photo into the text or in the body of the email. Only one photo per Chapter is permitted due to space limitations.

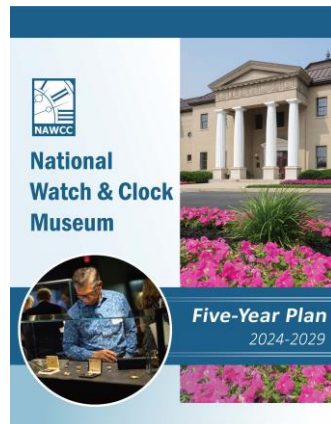
The deadlines for each issue are:

<i>Bulletin Issue</i>	Submission Deadline
January/February	November 10
March/April	January 10
May/June	March 10
July/August	May 10
September/October	July 10
November/December	September 10

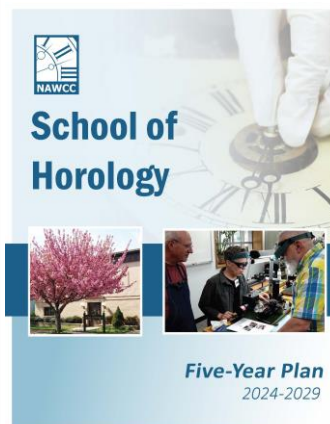
Details and a report template are available at <https://www.nawcc.org/publications/chapter-highlights-submission/>.

Reports and any questions should be emailed to ChapterHighlights@NAWCC.org.

The NAWCC Looks Ahead



The five-year plan for the **National Watch & Clock Museum** presents details for reinvigorating the Museum galleries and preparing them for use by the next generation. The vision is to make a visit there an inspirational, educational experience for the uninitiated and a must-see destination for professionals, collectors, and enthusiasts. The approach to the Museum's revitalization is to work strategically, being mindful of the critical importance of careful conservation of objects, clear and factual storytelling, and meticulous stewardship of donations.



The NAWCC's **School of Horology** is one of only four institutions that provide a part-time course in horology in North America. It is unique in its connection with the National Watch and Clock Museum.

The School is undergoing a renaissance. Part of the building is being developed for use as a maker space with milling machines, lathes, cleaning equipment, and a woodshop, where past students can repair and/or make clocks. A new watchmaking studio is being built, equipped with eight fully adjustable student benches to accommodate different heights for optimal comfort and accessibility. The School is committed to preserving and passing on horological skills to future generations.

The Five-Year Plans are available online at nawcc.org/about/strategic-plans.

What You Need to Know about Nonprofit Organizations

Contributed by Andy Dervan, NAWCC Silver Star Fellow

Here are four key points on nonprofit corporations excerpted from LII Legal Information Institute Cornell University Law, law.cornell.edu/wex/non-profit-corporations.

1. A nonprofit organization is a group organized for purposes other than generating profit and in which no part of the organization's income is distributed to its members, directors, or officers. Nonprofit corporations are often termed "non-stock corporations." They can take the form of a corporation or an individual enterprise.

2. Nonprofit organizations must be designated as nonprofit when created and may only pursue purposes permitted by statutes for nonprofit organizations. Nonprofit organizations include churches, public schools, public charities, public clinics and hospitals, amateur sports organizations, political organizations, organizations, labor unions, professional associations, research institutes, museums, and some governmental agencies.

3. Nonprofit entities are organized under state law. For nonprofit corporations, some states have adopted the Revised Model Nonprofit Corporation Act (1986). State law also governs solicitation privileges and accreditations requirements such as licenses and permits. Each state defines a nonprofit differently.

4. For federal tax purposes, an organization is exempt from taxation if it is organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, public safety, literary, educational, prevention of cruelty to children or animals, and/or to develop national or international sports. Non-Profit Basics from IRS Publication 557 nonprofit organizations are identified as 501C (x). NAWCC National Organization is a 501C (3) charitable organization. Most NAWCC chapters are identified as 501C (7) – Social Club. All exempt organizations must have an EIN (employer identification number).

All nonprofit organizations are obligated to file income tax return annually by 15th day of fifth month after the end of their fiscal year. If the organization fails to file its annual tax return 3 consecutive years its nonprofit status will be revoked by IRS. If the organization's annual gross receipts are less than \$50,000 it is required to only file 990-N, Electronic Notice (ePostcard) that contains basic information on the organization required by the IRS.

- The organization's legal name and mailing address
- Any name under which it operates and does business
- Its internet website address (if any)
- Its taxpayer identification number
- The name and address of principal officer
- Organization's annual tax period
- Verification that the organization's annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less
- Notification if the organization has terminated.