



Do you love clocks and watches as much as we do? Click to join or renew.



# **NEWSLETTER**

## September 2025

#### Greetings!

The Museum collection has had some wonderful additions over the past year through generous donations and one purchase, using funds raised from the sale of deaccessioned items. We have acquired an important traveling regulator by E. Howard & Co. that was originally made for US expeditions to observe the transit of Venus in 1874 and 1882. This clock will be used in our galleries to help explain why timekeeping is so inextricably connected to astronomy and essential to accurate measurement of distance on land and in space.

The latest *Bulletin* features some special pieces from William H. Miller's donated collection. We now have two examples of the iconic Telechron clock known as the Smug, one of which graces the journal's front cover. Alongside these, we are accessioning a number of extraordinary antique clocks in that donation, including a fabulous early traveling clock by Meuron & Cie. (shown here), which has grande sonnerie striking and the rare musical movement hidden in its ebony base.

The School has been busy with a new addition to the range of workshops on offer. The inaugural chiming clock class in August went well with excellent feedback from attendees. Over the next few months, we have micro-



machining, enameling, and wristwatch servicing on the calendar.

We are looking forward to the first (of many) <u>Lancaster Watch Weekends</u>, with some exciting events at the Museum, Library, and School. We hope to see you then!



# 1st Annual Lancaster Watch Weekend

September 26-28, 2025

Hosted by the National Watch & Clock Museum, Hamilton Watch Boutique, RGM Watch Co., and Brent Miller Jewelers

Celebrate the past, present, and future of watchmaking in Lancaster, PA!

~ Special exhibits ~ Hands-on workshops ~ Guided tours ~ Presentations at the Museum and throughout Lancaster County ~ Events by the Horological Society of New York and RedBar

Visit <u>lancasterwatchweekend.com</u> for full details and RSVP links.

### This Month in Horological History

with Thomas Stocker, Librarian & Archivist

September 19, 1882

On this day, Josiah Percy Stevens obtained US Patent No. 264787 for a watch regulator. This unique regulator differed in its construction and adjustment from its predecessors. Stevens's regulator consists of a cam-grooved wheel and a regulator arm that is bent at its end to contact the wheel. There is a spiral on the surface of the wheel in which the bent end of the regulator arm sits. This spiral groove extends from the center of the wheel to the outer edge, functioning as the fast-slow regulator. A fixed pointer sits along the edge of the wheel to indicate the direction for adjustments. As the wheel is turned either direction, the regulator arm follows the groove to speed up or slow down the watch's rate.

Stevens described the adjustment in his patent as a 2-degree turn of the wheel that corresponds with a 6-second variation in the rate. He intended for this regulator to allow for extremely precise adjustment of the watch's rate.

The Stevens patent regulator first appeared on pocket watches from Ezra F. Bowman. It was also used in Stevens's eponymous pocket watches, as well as in watches from larger companies such as Hampden, Aurora, Columbus, Rockford, and Elgin.



From the Museum's collection: J. P. Stevens & Bro. 18-size watch, serial no. 55815, 1889, with the Stevens patented regulator, catalog no. 85.36.7.

2025 NAWCC Ward Francillon Time Symposium

## **Horological Treasures of the Midwest**

October 13-16 Evanston, Illinois

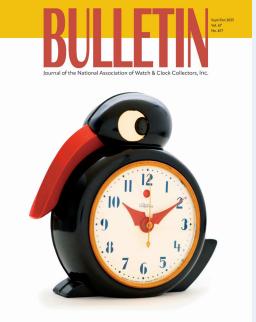


**Registration and Schedule** 

symposium.nawcc.org/evanston

#### **Bulletin Buzz**

Get your pumpkin spice ready and Fall into a great **September/October issue** 



#### of the Watch & Clock Bulletin!

~"The Mystery of the Gold Balance:
Hamilton Model 22 Deck Watch
Chronometer" by Thomas Stocker
~"The Seth Thomas Ship's Bell
Restoration" by Bert Townsend
~"The Norris Dynasty of Liverpool Watch
and Chronometer Makers" by Alan Myers
~"Electric Mantel Clocks Made in Canada"
by Allan Symons
~2025 National Convention Recap and
Crafts Competition Winners
~Plus book reviews, Chapter news, and
more!

Published six times a year, this peerreviewed journal is one of the perks of NAWCC membership. Join or renew today to enjoy your subscription.

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### A Closer Look in the Museum



Fryer and Co. clock, ca. 1900, Lancashire, England. Museum catalog no. 75.1.77.

One of the things that I absolutely love about writing these Closer Look pieces is that I get to examine some of the wonderful objects we have in our Museum. And this Closer Look is a perfect example of that!

The photo above shows a most interesting clock with side pieces. The side pieces are metal tins with lids and appear to show a Native American warrior on horseback and possibly a Middle Eastern warrior also on horseback.

The front of the metalwork that holds the clock depicts another Middle Eastern image with a camel and two individuals looking at an intriguing box (of treasure, perhaps?). The other corner of the clock case depicts a nobleman being fanned and listening to the harp. I was definitely curious about the three red jewels on the clock's metalwork case at the top and in the bottom left and

right corners. This is where it got more interesting!



When I looked at the back of the tin and read the text there, lo and behold, I discovered that those aren't jewels on the front. My guess is that they're lozenges, or "Winter Sweetmeats" for those "cold journeys"! Even more curious was when I opened that back panel and found that the clock was an alarm clock. The two standing feet were left on it even though they were not needed. But, as stated on the back of the tin, "Customers ask for these specialities [sic] as regular 'as a

clock.'" You can find this clock in the Jeweler's Shop Gallery of the Museum.

# Second Annual Time & Eternity Poetry Series

September is the last month for **Word Hive's** poetry series at the Museum. The event occurs



on the third Saturday of each month, beginning at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to drop in and enjoy a space for reflecting on the meaning of time in our lives.

#### **Time to Learn**



**Register online** for an NAWCC workshop:

School of Horology (Columbia, PA) September 13-14, 2025: Wheel & Pinion Cutting Using the Tabletop Milling Machine Filled!

October 6-10, 2025: Master Class in the

Ancient Art of Enameling Filled!

October 10-11, 2025: Introduction to Wristwatch Servicing

October 24-26, 2025: American-Style Time/Strike Movement

November 7-9, 2025: Foundational Repair Skills I

November 21-23, 2025: Foundation Repair Skills II

**Traveling Workshop** 

October 23-25, 2025: F201—Lathe Skills for the Clockmaker (Shalimar, FL) Filled!

*March 5-7, 2026:* F102—The French-Style Clock Movement (Shalimar, FL)



From left to right: Peter Lovell; Eric Davis; Sam Gradel, School of Horology Coordinator; Tim Miller; and Ron Lambert. Photo by Ken De Lucca.

The School of Horology has had a very busy 2025 so far! The School has been able to offer new workshops just recently designed and created. During August 22-24, the School ran its first chiming clock workshop in a long time. Participants traveled from as far away as Maine, Alabama, and Kentucky to attend!

Instructed by Ken De Lucca, Education Director, the workshop centered around the basics of a modern German clock (Hermle) movement and the key elements of synchronizing the movement after a complete disassembly. Needless to say, it was an intense few hours during the reassembly process; however, all were successful with the reassembly for 100% proper operation.

This chiming clock workshop had a first for the School: volunteer-manufactured seat boards that were needed for the new replacement movements. Ken De Lucca asked School of Horology volunteer Erich Gochenauer if he would create seat boards for the new movements. Being an avid woodworker with strong mechanical skills, Erich accepted the challenge, donating substantial time to the project even with still being active in the corporate world. After creating a prototype or two, Erich delivered the finished seat boards to Ken, who used them in the August chiming clock workshop. Many, many thanks go to Erich for his donation of time, effort, and supplies in creating seat boards that will be used in many future workshops with the chiming clock movements.

### **TOTEally New Merchandise**

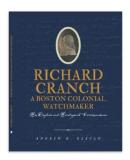
We're pleased to offer our new Museum tote bags in red or blue. Fill your bag with some selections from our excellent inventory of horological books!

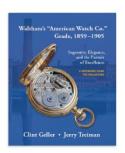
Check out the variety of gifts, clothing, puzzles, and more at <a href="mailto:shop.nawcc.org">shop.nawcc.org</a> or visit the Museum Store in Columbia, PA.

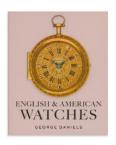
NAWCC members receive a 10% discount!

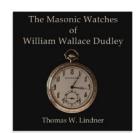


Each purchase supports our mission to preserve and promote the craft of timekeeping.









Each month, you will receive more updates and the inside scoop on the latest events, exhibits, classes, and more.

Warm regards,

National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors

Help us share the story of time with everyone.

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