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NEWSLETTER

February 2026

Greetings!

Winter has well and truly arrived in Columbia, PA, and our thoughts are turning toward getting together at Regional events with our friends in warmer climes! These events offer the thrill of the chase to see what horological treasures we can find in the mart room.

Chapters across the country have been preparing Regional conventions, and there is a great selection coming up over the next few months. The [Florida Mid-Winter Regional](#) opens next week and registration at the door is still possible, in case you missed pre-registration. In March, we have the [Arizona Sunshine Regional](#) and the [River Cities Regional](#) happening, and it is still possible to book a table or secure your entry to the mart room now.



At HQ, we have been taking advantage of the winter hours when the Museum is closed to continue improving the exhibits. Work progresses on the new gallery that will showcase the clock affectionately known as Quincy. Preparing the floor and ground underneath has presented significant challenges, but we have a permanent solution in place to mount the 18.5-foot-tall cast iron clock.

Perhaps ironically, the soil below the gallery is largely made up of 100-year-old historic waste from a local foundry. We had to dig through around 10 feet of spent casting sand and clinkers before finding solid ground on which to build the concrete support for the clock. Restoring the paintwork and gilding on the clock will be undertaken by our [Tower and Street Clock Chapter](#) in early spring. The mock-ups shown here are dial variations under consideration by the Chapter.



Another of our specialist Chapters, the [Electrical Horological Society](#), will be joining us to help re-animate our display of electrical clocks in the Museum. Thanks to recent donations, we now have a stellar selection of electrical clocks. Updated storytelling in the display will introduce visitors to how electricity revolutionized measuring and telling time.

Our School of Horology continues to grow, and we are offering a great selection of introductory classes. This month starts with our second Introduction to Wristwatch Servicing, and there are plenty more on the calendar.

At the end of the month, we will reboot the local Chapter 7, which will meet at the Museum and School. It will be a great opportunity to get together with fellow watch and clock collectors for a mini-mart and evening of watch and clock fun at the Museum.

As ever, I hope that you enjoy this newsletter and look forward to hearing your feedback.
—Rory McEvoy, Executive Director

On Time ~ Online



Narrated Tour of the Public Time Gallery

The Museum's Public Time gallery showcases stellar examples of massive timekeepers. The gallery includes 18th- and 19th-century tower clocks from across Europe and the Americas from makers such as Thwaites & Reed, Seth Thomas, Renard, and E. Howard, among others.

On February 8 at 1:00 p.m. (Pacific Coast Time), renowned UK horologist [Keith Scobie-Youngs](#) will narrate and comment on these Museum pieces via Zoom, as Alex Simpkins provides real-time video of the collection.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to experience the collection with expert commentary and time for viewer questions. Details and the Zoom link are available by [clicking here](#).



Conserving a Rare Seth Thomas Precision Clock

NAWCC Executive Director Rory McEvoy and Education Director Ken De Lucca fully dismantled and cleaned a wonderful Seth Thomas precision clock, donated to the Museum by Richard and Mary Zipf. The clock has a gravity escapement—one of only three or four known Seth Thomas precision clocks that have it.

Check out the conservation work on [YouTube](#).

2025 NAWCC Ward Francillon Time Symposium

Videos of presentations from the 2025 Time Symposium in Evanston, IL, are available on YouTube: youtube.com/@NAWCCMuseum.



This Month in Horological History *with Thomas Stocker, Librarian & Archivist*

February 1, 1807



On this day, Silas Burnham Terry was born in Plymouth, CT. The son of the famous Eli Terry, Silas followed his father into the clockmaking business and apprenticed with him. He began his own clockmaking company in Terrysville, CT, in 1831. He manufactured weight-driven shelf and wall clocks at first, and later incorporated spring-driven clocks into his business. S. B. Terry & Co. formed in 1852 when Silas partnered with his nephew, but it changed to the Terryville Manufacturing Co. a year later. During these years, Silas received US patents for a marine clock (No. 9310) and a spring-driven balance clock escapement (No. 10277).

The Terryville Manufacturing Co. went bankrupt in 1859, and Silas had to turn to working for other clock companies. After brief stints at the W. L. Gilbert & Co. clock manufactory and the Waterbury Clock Co., Silas formed a new company with his four sons. The Terry Clock Co. formed in 1867 and was moderately successful, but it ultimately faced bankruptcy after

Silas died in 1876. The remnants of the Terry Clock Co. were eventually purchased and renamed the Russell & Jones Clock Co.

Above: A 30-hour time-and-strike clock manufactured by Silas Terry, ca. 1846. Museum catalog no. 91.1.2.

The Peripatetic Quincy

by John Paolini, Director of Philanthropy

As work continues to build a permanent home for Quincy at the Museum, we are delighted to see a wide level of support from our membership. But donations to date, including revenue from Quincy t-shirt sales, total just over \$17,000—still a long way from the total of \$135,000 needed to complete the restoration and installation project. Please help us reach our fundraising goal—[click here to donate to this special project](#). Thank you for your generosity.



Pre-order your Quincy t-shirt today!

This limited-run, Museum-exclusive shirt is \$50, and all proceeds support the restoration of the Ansonia Street Clock (nicknamed Quincy) and its installation in the Museum.

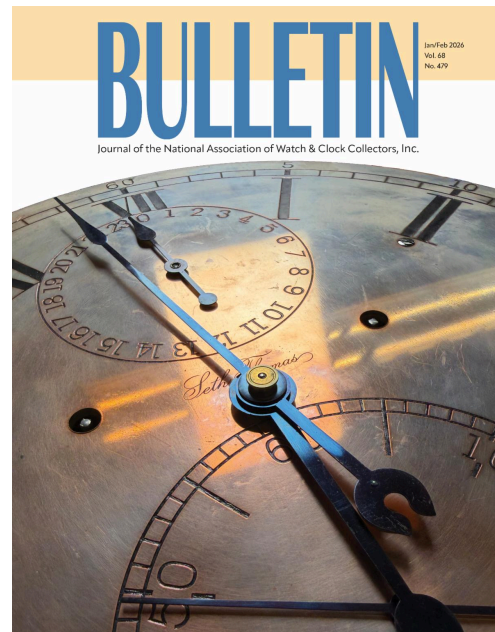
[Click Here to Order](#)

Bulletin Buzz

It may not be heart-shaped, but the [January/February Watch & Clock Bulletin](#) is full of love for horology and its passionate enthusiasts!

Published six times a year, the peer-reviewed journal is one of the [perks of NAWCC membership](#). Join or renew today to enjoy your subscription.

[Click to Join or Renew](#)



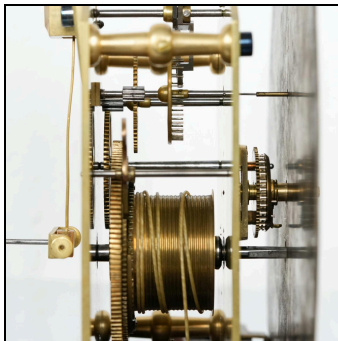
A Closer Look in the Museum

with Ken De Lucca, Education Director

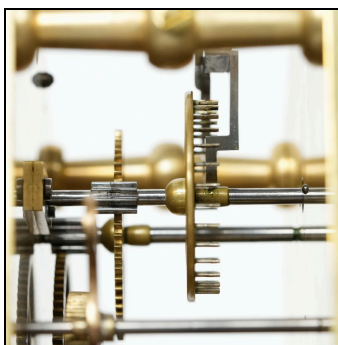
As I was strolling through the Museum thinking about this month's *Closer Look*, I came upon a regulator clock that was made right here in Lancaster County, PA: the Godfried M. Zahm clock. The dial reflects that it had something to do with the Lancaster Watch Co., but that is a story for another day! The *Watch & Clock Encyclopedia* (by Don De Carle, 1977) says a regulator clock is "the name given to a precision, weight-driven timepiece clock" (p. 210). This object certainly fits the bill.



It has several other attributes that make it a well-made precision device. One of which is referred to as *maintaining power*. Maintaining power can be described as the ability a clock has to keep power to the train (a timepiece clock such as this one has only one train, the time train) even while it is being wound. Without maintaining power, the train may run backwards (severely affecting timekeeping in a precision clock), possibly knocking the pendulum out of beat, and may even damage the escapement. All good reasons to have maintaining power.



One other important feature is a pinwheel escapement. In this style of escapement, pins are fastened into a wheel at right angles. The pallets embrace and release one pin at a time, and in so doing provide impulse to the pendulum to keep it swinging. As mentioned in the *Watch & Clock Maker's Handbook Dictionary and Guide* (F. J. Britten, 16th ed., 1978), since the pressure is always in one direction, it provides more precise time keeping (p. 247).



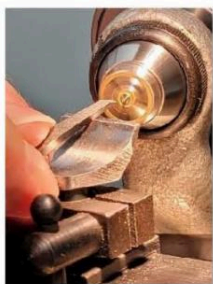
*Top: The dial with a signature "G M Zahm / Maker".
Middle: A side view of the movement.
Bottom: The pinwheel escapement and pallets.
Museum catalog no. 79.23.1.*

Inaugural Meeting of Chapter 7 February 28, 2026

National Watch & Clock Museum
514 Poplar St., Columbia, PA

- 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.: Mart at the National Watch & Clock Museum
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.: Free Pivot Polishing Workshop with Dave Gorrell at the School of Horology
- 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.: Evening Program at the Museum - tours and light refreshments

RSVP for the Workshop by [Clicking HERE](#) (limited seating)



National Association of
WATCH & CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.

Kathleen H. and Wilbur L. Pritchard Award for Excellence in Watch Repair and Restoration

A prize of \$1,800 will be awarded
at the National Convention banquet.

Details at nawcc.org/about/member-recognition-awards.

Submission deadline is April 30.



2026 NATIONAL CONVENTION



480+

Mart Tables

1300+

Event
Participants

12+

Workshops

58+

Program Hours

June 25-28 — Lexington, KY

Huge Mart ~ Lectures ~ Exhibits ~ Live Auction ~
Workshops ~ Chapter Meetings ~ Convention Luncheon
Crafts Competition ~ Banquet

natcon.nawcc.org

Time to Learn



[Register online](http://natcon.nawcc.org) for an NAWCC workshop:

School of Horology (Columbia, PA)

February 21-22, 2026: Cuckoo Clock Repair Basics

*March 7, 2026: Machinist Bootcamp: Introduction to the
Tabletop Lathe — **Filled!***

*March 8, 2026: Machinist Bootcamp: Introduction to the
Tabletop Mill — **Filled!***

March 28-29, 2026: Using the Micro Lathe for the Beginner

— **Filled!**

April 10-12, 2026: Introduction to the Anniversary, or 400-Day, Clock

April 10-12, 2026: Introduction to Wristwatch Servicing

April 24-26, 2026: American-Style Time/Strike Movement — *Filled!*

May 9, 2026: American Shelf Clock Tablets with Stenciled Borders

May 22-24, 2026: Rack-and-Snail Striking and an Introduction to the Tall Case Clock

June 8-12, 2026: Mentorship in Clockmaking

July 10-12, 2026: Pivot Polishing/Burnishing and Bushings

July 24-26, 2026: Foundational Clock Repair Skills II

Traveling Workshops

March 5-7, 2026: F102—The French-Style Clock Movement (Shalimar, FL) —
Only 1 spot left!

2026 National Convention (Lexington, KY)

June 25, 2026: 400-Day Torsion/Anniversary Clock Workshop

**NAWCC
Members
receive a
10%
discount!**

Hibernating for the winter?

Stay warm & fuel your brain!



 **The Museum Store**

 **514 Poplar St., Columbia, PA**  **shop.nawcc.org**  **717-684-8261**

Used Book Sale

If you're in the neighborhood between February 5 and March 1, stop by the Museum Store in Columbia for great deals on used books.

Around 1,000 books will be ready for browsing bookworms. Most titles are horology related, and the others focus on topics such as antiques, art, and history. All are heavily discounted!

The Museum Store is open Thursday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments are also available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays by contacting David Ganse at dganse@nawcc.org or (717) 684-8261, ext. 234.



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

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

NAWCC | 717-684-8261 | www.nawcc.org



National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors | 514 Poplar Street | Columbia, PA 17512-2130 US

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