

NAWCC
Pacific
Northwest
Chapter 31

**Upcoming
Events**

- **Sun, Dec 16th**
Holiday Party @
Monarch Hotel in
Clackamas
- **Sun, Jan 20th**
Monthly Meeting
featuring Japanese
Clocks
- **May 15-18, 2008**
2008 PNW
Regional

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NAWCC Chapter 31

TIMEOUT

December, 2007

2008 Pacific Northwest Regional

- **What:** 2008 Pacific Northwest Regional
- **When:** May 15 - 18, 2008
- **Where:** Monarch Hotel, Clackamas, Oregon
- *Terry White, Regional Chairperson, is recovering from his kidney stone operation and I will report in his stead,*
- The 2008 Regional Planning Group met at the Vigal home to discuss the status of each of the functions and to resolve any problems that might exist. Terry had reported to me that the Insurance form had been submitted on 29 October and that Phil Gregory was to be the National Representative at the Regional.
- We have received the necessary approvals from National to admit the public on Saturday and steps have been taken to advertise that fact. Paul Drake is doing the advertising plans and everything is on target.
- A new feature of the Regional will be Mart Central which was the brainchild of Charles Schubert and will be a lot of fun. It will include book sales and other facets which we will report later. Bill Butcher reported that we would be getting a DVD from National to show on a continuous basis for the benefit of the public who attend on Saturday. We will need someone to operate the DVD and to answer any questions which might come up.
- Mark DeAtley is the Mart Chair with Jeff Gonzalez as his co-chair and he is looking for volunteers to assist in the mart area. Dan Miller reported that a Security firm had been selected and has that all under control. Leo and Kris have the Monarch Hotel and Convention Center all squared away for not only the rooms but for the meals as well, and John and Carol Bailey will do their usual fine job as hospitality hosts.
- Harold Baesler brought up some interesting questions about parking which resulted in a discussion about not allowing parking in the area to the north of the loading area. That sounded like a great plan and we will be trying to implement that if the Monarch will agree. Mary Martin answered many questions about the registration function and has it well under control.
- Pat Cavanaugh is in charge of the display for Chapter 157 and it is well under control and will be a good one. Generally all is well now we just need to get Terry better and there will be a really positive report. Hope to see everyone at the Holiday Party.
- *Horologically,*
- *Dick Vigal, Regional Co-Chair*

November Meeting Minutes

Submitted by, Mary Gonzalez

The November 18th meeting of Ch. 31 was held at the Beaverton City Library. Harold B. president opened the meeting and guests- Avonelle & Bob Barton and Donna Major. There were 38 people present.

Reports-secretary, Mary Gonzalez reported that the Ed. Committee at national would be introducing weekend field suitcase courses on very specific topics. These will start in 2008.

Website-Jeff Major reported that the new updated website is up & running. A big thank you to Jeff and his wife Donna for volunteering!

Treasurer-Report was read by Harold B. in Betty C.'s absence.

Programs-Dick V. reminds everyone that the holiday social will be Dec. 16th at the Monarch Hotel. Remember to register!

Membership-John Bailey- Announced new members, Martin Haddock & Wayne Davis.

Regional Report-Dick V. -States that the committee is on track and has received approval to allow the public into the regional mart next May. Cost - \$10.00 with some discount coupons that may be available. Charlie S. reported that at the regional there would be a central book sale. So donate your unwanted books to the regional.

Program - was on Eli Terry, Conn. Clock maker and special guest, great-great-great-great-grand daughter of Wm. Bradford, the founder and governor of the Mayflower pact. Eli Terry was a descendant of Wm. Bradford. A DVD on Eli Terry and his works by WL Wadleigh was watched.

Show and Tell was the letter T- A nice selection of Terry clocks were shown.

Door Prize and raffle was done by Jeff Gonzalez.

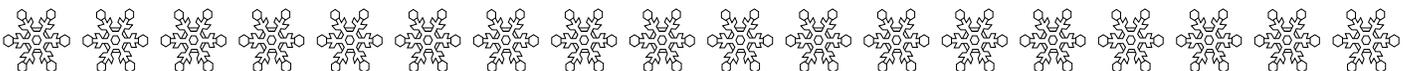
Thank you to Charlie Schubert for supplying coffee and the desserts. Charlie brought Dolly Madison's and shared the history of Eli Terry's time.

The **next meeting** will be held on **Jan. 20, 2008** at the Beaverton Library and the program topic will be **Japanese clocks**.



Meeting Dates — Mark Your Calendar

- **Sun, Dec 16th** Holiday Party @ Monarch Hotel in Clackamas
- **Sun, Jan 20th** This meeting subject will be **Japanese Clocks** and will be presented by Merle Snell who is well known locally as an expert in the study of Japanese clocks. This is such a unique area of horology that I highly recommend attendance to this meeting. Merle's presentation will include slides of many beautiful and rare early Japanese clocks. It will be nice to see Merle again and I hope the turnout is large. The show-and-tell letter is U so I will leave it up to each of you to figure that one out.



Clock of the Month

Seth Thomas Regulator Number 2

The Hunt

One day I heard that an estate sale of heavy machinery, tools, and personal belonging coming up, and that there were watchmakers equipment also. I arrived early and was instructed by the sellers that if anyone is interested in the watchmakers tools, to please indicate so when entering the large building as they were being held in a special room, keeping the general public from scattering the items. Being number six into the sale, I told them my interest and was quickly taken to a room containing the watchmakers tools. After about 20 minutes, I left a written bid for the jewelers' lathes only and decided to take a look at the remainder of the estate items in the adjoining shop area.

I headed to the back of the room and quickly saw a kitchen clock, which was constructed from particleboard by its now deceased owner, how funny. And just beyond this was another clock lying flat on the table. From knowledge gained at our Pacific Northwest Regional just a few months earlier, I recognized the clock as a Seth Thomas No. 2 regulator. This one with its broken cord had lost its weight, pulley, and the seconds' hand was also missing, marked price \$200.

I snatched the clock from the table and headed to the cashier to store and mark the clock as "sold." I then asked her if she may have seen a brass weight and her answer was "yes, but I don't know where." She took a short time to locate the weight but came back with nothing. I then launched into a search and rescue mission and spotted the weight in the middle of a huge table built on sawhorses and a sheet of plywood. Reaching through the crowd of interested buyers, I again snatched the item from the table: the pulley was never found.

With my treasures in hand, the cashier said that "this is a Seth Thomas clock and worth the asking price of \$200, but seeing that the dial has some missing paint and the seconds hand is missing, how about \$180?" I quickly paid my bill and scurried out to the car to store my treasure and head to work. Oh, I didn't mention that this sale was on a "work day" and I was a little late in arriving at my office that day.

The Restoration

The original owner of my new treasure had poorly re-shellacked over the oak case and its original finish, this had to come off so the complete case was stripped to bare wood. This took a great deal of time but was worth the effort. The stripped case was allowed to dry for many days before applying the new finish. Using an airbrush, taking the time to sand between every two or three coats of orange shellac, I applied multiple coats. After about ten to twelve coats, I decided the finish looked rich enough and let it again dry for several days. The final touch was to rub the shiny shellac with mineral oil and rotten stone to remove the high gloss, giving it a rich satin finish.

Over the years of use, the original lacquered pendulum bob and weight had worn through leaving a dark oxidized patch on the brass. The original owner solved this problem by applying gold paint to each. Once the paint was removed, both polished to their original beauty. After the movement was disassembled, cleaned and oiled, it was put into service once again. From studying the characteristics of my clock, I determined that it was manufactured between the years of 1913-1921.

Oh yes, I had been chastised for removing the National Rifle Association (NRA) sticker from the tablet during this restoration, but that simply had to go. I ordered a new seconds hand and a friend gave me the correct pulley for this clock.



History

The Seth Thomas Number 2 Regulator was introduced in the early to mid 1860s and produced until 1950, likely the only clock with such a length of production. Originally selling price is unknown, but by 1873, the price was \$16 and when production ended and priced at \$110. The timepiece with its 12" dial and long wooden case is handsome on any wall. The number 2 was again reissued in 1976 with only four thousand being manufactured. At this time, Seth Thomas was a division of General Time, a Talley industries company.

When introduced, the case was a walnut veneer. Around 1890, cherry, oak, and old oak cases were introduced; with the final wood case available in mahogany and oak around 1913. The overall case length varied between 34 to 36 ½ inches depending on the period in which it was manufactured.

Dating the manufacturing period can be difficult as there are many characteristics that need to be studied. As mentioned, the available woods changed, as did the construction and style of the base, the tablet, case length, dial and the numeral style, seconds bit, and the hands. Another feature in dating the number 2 is the area directly below the dial and above the lower door and tablet called the "bow tie." The bow tie can be made up from one to three pieces of wood depending on its age. Some of the later cases have a series of numbers stamped or stenciled on the back of the case and by decoding the numbers, the month and year of manufacture can be determined.

Over the life of the regulator, four different Seth Thomas movements were used in the timepiece, the number 61, 77, 77A, and the 77B. Each of the movements had a Graham deadbeat escapement, maintaining power, weight driven, and designed to operate with a 2-pound pendulum on a wooden rod.

The Seth number 2 is an accurate timekeeper and the railroad used them in their system showing the correct time to the many travelers passing through the train stations. Many were fitted with a Montgomery dial, which today is coveted by collectors.



Now to quote Paul Harvey, "now for the rest of the story." A company named Bradley Woodworks in Ontario, Canada is offering a Seth number 2 in kit form. Their German weight driven movement is a product of Hermle, and for less than \$800, you can have a new Seth No. 2. So the famous regulator that Seth Thomas started manufacturing in the 1860s lives on.

Parting Comments

About two weeks after the sale, I noticed a sign "final sale, all items must go." I returned just before the doors locked, made them an offer on all of the watchmakers' tools, they accepted and took them home.

While at the estate sale, I discovered a family member that told me she remembered the Seth Regulator Number 2 ticking away in her grandfather's home. I assured her that it was going to a loving and caring home where it will again tick the time away.

Submitted by Terry White

Eli Terry Descendent Attends Special Meeting

Bill Butcher gave a very interesting and informative talk on Eli Terry and his clock making. During the well attended program, Bill went over the Terry family tree and introduced Avonelle Terry. Avonelle gave a few words about the Terry's family connection with William Bradford, descendent of the Mayflower.

Several members proudly displayed some examples of great Eli Terry clocks.



Avonelle Terry and several Eli Terry clocks



Many members proudly displayed excellent examples of Eli Terry Clocks and dials

Presidential Cookies — Eli Terry Era



Once again, Charlie Schubert provided a very informative and in-depth talk on our history during the period that Eli Terry was making clocks.

He covered James and Dolly Madison's roles, the war of 1812 and Eli Terry's development of interchangeable parts in a manufacturing environment. A pivotal role in American history.

He treated the group to 'period-specific' delights taken from his "Presidential Cookies" cookbook.

A very special thank you to Charlie and the Beaverton Bakery, for providing excellent treats and an interesting look back at 1812.





NAWCC Chapter 31 proudly presents the Annual

Holiday Gathering

Sunday, December 16th, 2007

Monarch Hotel
12566 SE 93rd Ave
Clackamas, OR 97015

2:00 pm – Mingle (Mart Table Available)

2:30 pm – Dinner

\$16.00 per Person (*Bargain price for a fabulous meal, you don't want to miss it—Portland Chapter 31 is paying for a portion of your meal.*)

Entertainment by **Reggie Houston**, Cascade Blues Association's 2007 Hall of Fame Inductee. www.reggiehouston.com

Menu Choice

- Combination 8 oz. Rib Eye and two Scampi Style Prawns served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables , Rolls & Butter, Chef's Assorted Desserts
- Vegetarian Meal (by request only)



RSVP by **12/13/2007**



Name		Meal Choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rib Eye	\$16.00
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Vegetarian	
Guest		Meal Choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rib Eye	\$16.00
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Vegetarian	

Cut and mail this slip along with payment (make check payable to NAWCC):

Portland Chapter 31 NAWCC Holiday Gathering
559 NE 167th Place
Portland, OR 97230-6103



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Your Council Members at work for you!

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Bill Butcher (2008)

Jeff Major (2010)

Leo Freiermuth (2010)

Charles Schubert (2008)

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Mart

— Jeff Gonzalez

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— Dick Vigal

Nominating & Elections

— Dick Vigal

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— Jeff Major

Workshops

— Mike Robinson

Raffle & Door Prizes

— Jeff Gonzalez

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— Tom Hammond

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— Leo & Kris Freiermuth