

NAWCC Pacific  
Northwest  
Chapter 31

Upcoming Events

- **Aug 17, 2008** — Picnic at John Pohlpeters followed by Chapter 31 Monthly Meeting
- **Sept 21, 2008** — Monthly Meeting @ Beaverton Library
- **Nov 8, 2008** — Horology Workshop, Monarch Hotel

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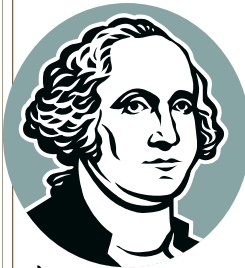
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NAWCC Chapter 31

# TIMEOUT

July & August, 2008

## Ch. 31 President's Message - Terry White



### July Message

First of all, we are looking for a person to take over the duties of "Door Prizes." Jeff Gonzalez said that he would like to hand the job over to a willing chapter member, so please contact Jeff or myself if interested. No volunteer means no door prize drawings.

How would you like to learn to tear down your jewelers lathe for a cleaning, or perhaps re-pivot an arbor? There has been chatter going around a few of the chapter members that it would be nice if we could again have workshops like we had in the "good old days." One of the problems is finding a location to hold the workshops, and someone to standup and teach them. Over lunch, Al Pohlpeters and I discussed possible options to get things rolling along again. One suggestion was to have only one or two workshops annually, each being one half day in length and covering two or more topics, and would be open to participants from other chapters. The location seems to be a problem, so we were thinking about renting a meeting room at the Monarch. Thanks to Leo Freiermuth, we can rent a room with needed chairs and tables for \$75. And we now have a volunteer to teach two sessions mentioned above at our first workshop, date to be determined but likely in either October or November. So watch the upcoming newsletters for date, time, and registration information.

### August Message

We are still in need of a person to take over the duties of "Door Prizes." Jeff Gonzalez said that he would like to hand the job over to a willing chapter member, so please contact Jeff or myself if interested. No volunteer means no door prize drawings.

Mark your calendar for November 8<sup>th</sup> to attend the Chapter 31 Workshop. If you plan to attend, the registration form in this newsletter needs to be filled out and returned so we can have an accurate headcount. If you can think of other topics, please drop me a note and we can start a "wish list" of presentations.

It is time again for our annual club picnic, information form in this newsletter. This is the only time that mart items can be non-horological. So load that car up with a dish or two of your favorite food, and items you want to sell and head on out to Redland for our summer event.

Don't forget the Multi-Chapter meeting sponsored by Chapter 121 on September 14: in Delta British Columbia, Canada.



# The Horology Workshop Is Back!!

NAWCC Pacific Northwest Chapter 31  
will be holding a horology workshop on  
**November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008**  
from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm at the  
Monarch Hotel, Clackamas, Oregon

- How to tear down, clean, oil, and reassemble your jewelers lathe,  
*presenter is Mike Robinson*
- How to handle, repair, and clean mainsprings,  
*presenter is Jeff Major*
- How to re-pivot an arbor,  
*presenter is Mike Robinson*



Bring along your favorite jewelers lathe and learn how to teardown, clean, and oil the fine machine! No tools required, cleaner and oil provided.

Registration is required so we know how many chairs will be needed.

*Please reserve me a chair at the November 8<sup>th</sup> Horology Workshop*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Fill out and send to:*

*Terry White, 9480 S. Gribble Rd., Canby, OR 97013  
503.263.8357*

## NAWCC – CHAPTER 31 Meeting Minutes – 20 July 2008

The regular meeting of Chapter 31 of the NAWCC was called to order at 2:10 PM by President Terry White. Twenty-Four (24) members and guests were in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes** – Unanimously approved as they appeared in the Time-Out.

**Treasurer's Report** - was read by Betty Chism. She indicated a few bills are still outstanding from the Regional. There was a modest profit noted.

**New Business** – Terry opened conversation regarding possible classes from the National as suggested by Phil Gregory. These would involve several successive weekends. Question was raised about transportation costs for the speaker.

**Matter was tabled for further consideration.**

Terry announced a one-day course will be offered at The Monarch on Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup> in one of their board rooms. Pre-registration will be required. More information will be forthcoming.

**Old Business** - The club's Annual Picnic will be Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup> at John & Mary Pohlpeters's residence & museum (18347 South Redland Road).

**Action Item:** Kris will send flyer to Jeff Major to send out to members having e-mail with the directions, etc.

Program was a NAWCC series on early French Clocks with discussion and pictures of many beautiful items presented by Dave Jacobs

Details of the coming events and programs will be in the Time-Out publication next month.

Meeting was adjourned at 4PM.

**NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup> @ POHLPETERS MUSEUM**

Respectively submitted

Kristen Freiermuth, Secretary with notes taken by Leo J. Freiermuth

## From The Regional Chair

First, I would like to thank the BBQ hosts, Judy and Harold for hosting the "wrap-up" BBQ. It is always nice to visit other collectors and see their shop.

Secondly, I would like to thank each regional planning member for all of his or her hard work, making the regional such a success, and the BBQ possible. I hope to have you again participate in our next regional in 2011.

Terry White, Regional Chair



## NAWCC Chapter #31 Annual Picnic

When: Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Time: 2 PM

Place: John & Mary Pohlpetter Home & Museum  
[18347 South Redland Road](#)

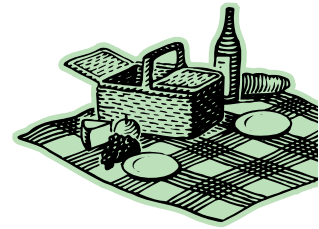
- Bring your favorite picnic entrée, salad or dessert to share.
- Hot Dogs/Buns will be provided by the club
- Please bring your own utensils, plates, & chairs, etc.
- Chapter #31 will provide soft drinks for your enjoyment.
- Be sure & bring something for the Mart Table (can be non-horological)

For information or directions call: Leo Freigermuth at  
(503) 255 7685 or (503) 720-6089

Directions: Take I-205 to exit #10 turn East  
Take 2<sup>nd</sup> stop light to Redland Road.

Drive 5.5 miles (Pohlpetter's is just East of the Redland  
Café) on the North side of Redland Road

Go the full length of the drive to Pohlpetter's Home & Museum



All newsletter  
submissions must be to  
Jeff by the end of each  
month

Send to

[newsletter@nawcc31.org](mailto:newsletter@nawcc31.org)



## Did you know this Clock Trivia?

In 1656, the pendulum was invented by Christian Huygens, making clocks more accurate. Huygens' pendulum clock had an error of less than 1 minute a day, the first time such accuracy had been achieved. His later refinements reduced his clock's errors to less than 10 seconds a day.

<http://inventors.about.com/library/weekly/aa072801a.htm>



Willamette Valley Chapter 157 Entry Clock Restoration

Japanese 1955 Copy of a European Art Deco Electro-magnet Pendulum Clock.

- Bob Schug - Movement Restoration
- Dial - George Lytel
- Case - Charles Schubert, Brent Losey

An Electro Magnetic Pendulum Clock

This clock was originally purchased in Malaysia in 1958 and in storage for 23 years. The only information we have now is that the post war Japanese Magner company produced this and rare on these types of clocks. The strike is rack and snail and activated by a small electric motor.

This clock took 2nd place in the NAWCC Horological crafts competition in Springfield Missouri 2008 National Convention.

**Congrats to their efforts and accomplishments!!**



# Clock of the Month

## Wooden Works Work by John Bailey

Recently we acquired three: thirty hour wooden clock-work mechanisms from Bob Higgins. These movement only- no cases or dials. One is a "Jerome", one a "Hopkins", and one goes by the generic name "groaner". All were made in Connecticut, likely between 1820 and 1840. Charlie Schubert took the Hopkins since he has a case and dial for it.

Wooden works clock production started the robust growth of the American clock industry during the early nineteenth century. Using mass production techniques developed by Eli Terry in 1807, these clocks became affordable unlike earlier hand-made movements and cases. However, manufacture declined after 1837 as they were displaced by cheaper brass movements. It was earlier scarcity and consequent high cost of quality brass that led to wood for inexpensive clocks. Plates are quarter-sawn oak, wheels are cherry or mahogany, and the arbors/pinions are mountain laurel. The brass escape wheel is the only non-wood wheel.

Production of mass-produced wood works clocks lasted only about thirty years, peaking from 1810 to 1840.

### The Groaner Movement

We like wood works because they are interesting and unique. Few people, (non-NAWCC folks of course), know they were ever made. So our "groaner", now running, demonstrates a classic from the wood works period. It was fairly easy to bring back to life. Advice from Bill Butcher (who supplied the 18 inch long pendulum suspension rod) and Jeff Major plus parts from Timesavers ( four pound weights, four inch diameter bell, and a pendulum bob) completed the job. The movement is mounted on two ornamental steel brackets obtained from the local hardware store.

According to Jeff Major, the movement was likely made by Chauncey Boardman and his partner Joseph Wells in Bristol, Connecticut. They made wooden movements exclusively until their company began brass work manufacture about 1840. Unusual features include the overhead horizontally mounted bell, and striking and time trains off-set to the right side of the plates. The bell location and train lay-out was to avoid infringement of Eli Terry's 1826 patents which attempted to control train lay-out of wooden works.

The "groaner" name derives from wheel noise during striking. Or, as Jeff suggests, it issues from restorers working on the movement. Certainly it was hard to reassemble. Since the oak plates have no large openings, access to the interior is limited to space between plates. Another complication during assembly is the obscured location of the escape wheel and escapement between the plates. Most wooden works have easily accessed escape wheels and escapements outside the front plate.



## The Jerome Movement

The Jerome was made by Chauncey Jerome's company in Bristol, Connecticut during the period 1824 to 1837. Interestingly, Jerome's initial venture used "groaner" movements purchased from Boardman.

It was the Jerome brothers, Chauncey and Nobel, who saved the American clock industry from collapse in the late 1830s. It was failing due a severe country-wide depression (no government bail-outs in those days!) plus competition from too many makers of wooden works clocks. Many smaller companies went bankrupt. However, at this time good quality rolled brass sheet became available at a price competitive to wood. Chauncey realized brass movements could be made using mass production methods just as wooden movements were. So his company switched to one-day brass movements, using a simplified movement patented by Nobel. Their shelf clocks were housed in inexpensive ogee cases. Thus began the end of the wooden works industry as other makers soon followed Jerome's lead. No longer were wood works needed for affordable American clocks. Ultimately, Jerome's companies failed but the newly formed New Haven Clock Company carried on with his equipment.

Our Jerome needed wheel repair. The escape wheel pinion had broken leaves. It also had been replaced during an earlier repair. Since the replacement was mounted at a slight angle to the arbor, smooth meshing was impossible. The fourth wheel, which drives the escape wheel pinion, had a replacement segment. Teeth in the segment were poorly shaped, likely causing the damage to the escape wheel pinion.



Both Jeff and Terry White told us about services provided by Donald Bruno. Donald makes replacement parts for wood movements. His business is in Connecticut, certainly a suitable locale for a restorer of American wood works clocks. His email is [torringtonclockco@clockcollector.com](mailto:torringtonclockco@clockcollector.com) and his website is [www.clockcollecting.com/bruno/index.htm](http://www.clockcollecting.com/bruno/index.htm). We sent the two damaged arbors and the clock plates to him. Within a remarkably short time we received back a new escape wheel arbor and pinion, and a new fourth wheel mounted on the original arbor. The Jerome and the original damaged parts beside their new replacements are shown.

The new wheel and arbor mesh perfectly and the time side runs. The bell mounts vertically below the movement as in typical for most wood movements. Also typical is the external escape wheel and crutch.

Wood works are ruggedly made and should be run according to Jeff, who specializes in their repair and also collects them. While there is concern over tooth breakage, this can also happen with brass wheels.

So join us in working your "woodies"!



NAWCC Pacific  
Northwest Chapter 31  
Portland, Oregon

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## *Your Council Members at work for you!*

### Council Members

#### ***President***

— Terry White (president@nawcc31.org)

#### ***Vice President***

— Mary Gonzalez (vicepresident@nawcc31.org)

#### ***Secretary***

— Kris Freiermuth (secretary@nawcc31.org)

#### ***Newsletter Editor & Webmaster***

— Jeff Major (newsletter@nawcc31.org)

#### ***Treasurer & Sunshine Person***

— Betty Chisum (treasurer@nawcc31.org)

### Directors

Jeff Major (2010)

Leo Freiermuth (2010)

George Matto (2012)

Dan Miller (2012)

Mark DeAtley (2012)

### Committee Chairs

#### ***Historian***

— Dan Miller

#### ***Mart***

— Jeff Gonzalez

#### ***Membership***

— John Bailey

#### ***Program***

— David Jacobs

#### ***Nominating & Elections***

— Harold Baesler

#### ***Mailings***

— Jeff Major

#### ***Workshops***

— Mike Robinson

#### ***Raffle & Door Prizes***

— Jeff Gonzalez

#### ***NAWCC Bulletin Coordinator***

— Tom Hammond

#### ***Outside Events***

— Leo & Kris Freiermuth