



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of WATCH and CLOCK COLLECTORS
Mt. Rainier Chapter 135



Newsletter – October, 2010

General:

The October 2nd meeting was held at the home of Jerry Cooper and Karla Schweinfurth. As usual, they were the consummate hosts; Karla had prepared a number of delightful hot and cold munchies and refreshing beverages, while Jerry assisted!

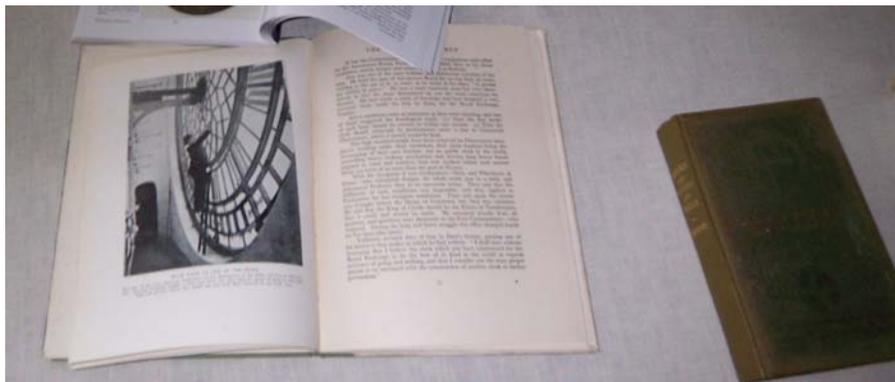


Karla working hard!



Jerry helping!

Paul Middents brought a number of fascinating books from his extensive collection of antique horological masterpieces!



As usual, Jerry and Karla's museum like home, with their extensive collection of vintage clocks of all kinds was very much enjoyed by all!



Business Meeting:

As the President of Chapter 135 was absent due to health reasons, the meeting was called to order by Secretary, Chet Ekstrand. There were 13 members and guests present as a result of numerous members being absent as a result of end of summer vacations. In addition Stan and Julia Mueller were absent as they were celebrating Stan's 80th birthday with family. The group boisterously wished Stan a very "Happy Birthday!"

Chet introduced Allan Sommarstrom of Seattle, a guest and potential new member of either Chapter 50 or 135 and asked him to tell a little about his interests. Allan is a "pocket watch" guy, having had his interest initially stimulated by the inheritance of a beautiful Keystone Howard, from his grandfather. He brought the Howard with him and it as well as its original boxes and papers were examined by all present. He also brought a beautiful Hamilton 992B which garnered considerable attention. Allan's participation was very much enjoyed and he was highly encouraged to join a local chapter



Allan Sommarstrom



Allan's Howard!

Old Business:

Treasurer's report – Leonard Winchell was absent on vacation on the Oregon coast, but he sent in a report. The total amount present in the Chapter 135 account is \$2485.48, but relatively minor Puyallup Fair expenses have not yet been deducted. Currently, the Chapter has 48 paid up members. Leonard also sent in a reminder that dues of \$15.00 will soon be due for 2011.

August/September Minutes – Were accepted by membership

West Coast Watch and Clock Museum – It was reported that plans to move the museum to California now appear to be unlikely and effort continues to assure a viable presence in Bellingham.

New Business:

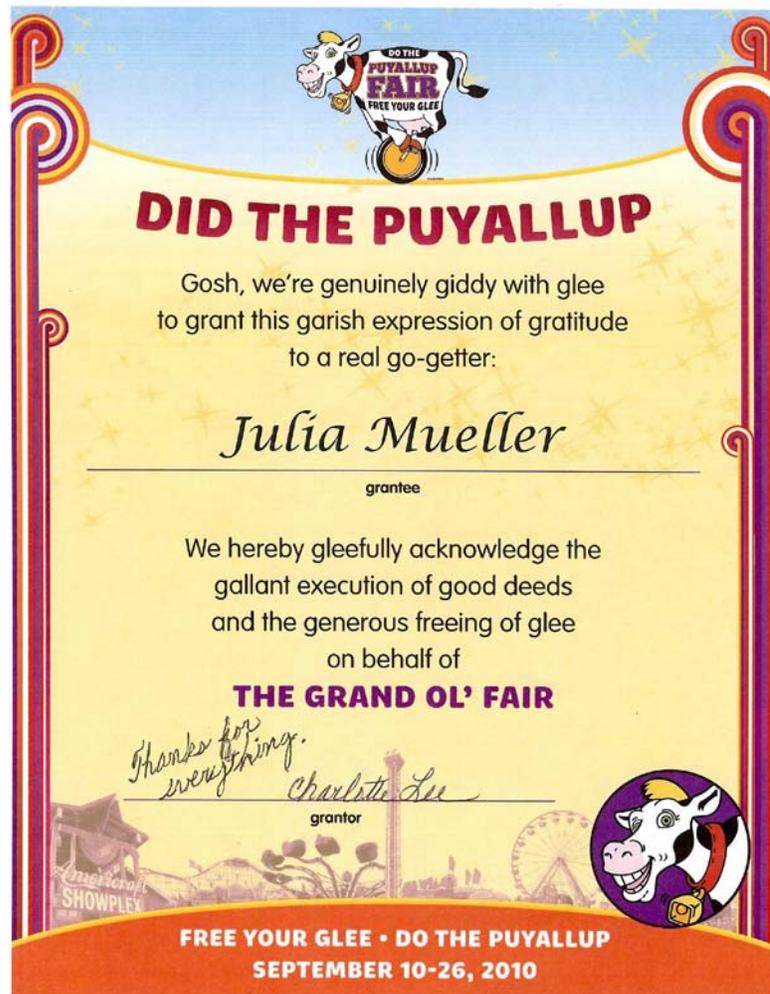
Pacific Northwest Regional 2012 – Karla Schweinfurth brought up the need to begin planning for the Puget Sound based 2012 Regional. Karla offered to play a leadership role which was applauded by those present. A "theme" for the event of "Military Timepieces" was suggested by Karla and supported by those present. It was suggested that Paul Middents would be a great keynote speaker on the topic and he indicated willingness to consider such. Much discussion also ensued with respect to the need to create an opportunity for more involvement by the public and, as a result, enhance the opportunities for increasing membership in local NAWCC Chapters. There was a view voiced by most (but not all) present, that the related Mart should be open to the public; a not insignificant challenge with Washington State sales tax requirements. All agreed the challenges needed to be better understood and the potential opportunities (or lack thereof) needed to be defined. A working group for 2012 planning needs to be put in place to deal with all of the above.

Chapter 135 Officers – President Al McBride has indicated that he will be unable to continue in office as a result of his medical issues and ongoing treatment. Additionally, Chet Ekstrand is Chapter Secretary as well as continuing to act as Vice President for Programs. Chet Ekstrand indicated nominations (self or otherwise) for Chapter officers were needed for 2012.

Membership – The ongoing challenges in sustaining membership levels and attracting new members, as recently highlighted in correspondence from Clare Bungay, were discussed. While all present rejected the notion that Chapter membership fees (\$15/Year) were a deterrent to membership, all did agree that the reasons for declining membership needed to be better understood and addressed.

Chapter 135 Board of Directors – NAWCC recommends, but does not require, that Chapters have such a Board and Chet Ekstrand proposed that a Board be put in place that includes current and immediate past officers. He further suggested that the Board take up the development of a slate of Officers for 2012 and the development of plan for encouraging Chapter membership. He proposed that he attempt to call a Board meeting prior to the November meeting and, hopefully, report out at that meeting. Those present approved the proposal and effort is underway to call the meeting. If successful, a separate mailing will announce the meeting and those not identified as Board members will be welcome to attend.

***Puyallup Fair** – Numerous individuals present gave glowing reports of the success of the NAWCC booth at the fair. It is believed that the booth is the “Number One” attraction in the Hobby Hall. While the exhibits are always a hit, the availability of working clock models was recognized as a major attraction for children. The need for an exhibit of women’s timepieces in the 2011 exhibit was identified. The outstanding efforts of Julia Mueller in organizing the event and planning staffing were applauded by all, as was the effort put forth by the Mueller’s, Selene’s and Wirth’s to put together (and tear down) the exhibit. Display items by the Ekstrand’s, Mueller’s, Reichel’s, Selene’s and Tingley’s were very much appreciated by Chapter members and fair-going public.*



Julia Mueller was recognized by the Puyallup Fair for her outstanding contributions to its success!

General – As a result of limited attendance and the length of time allowed for discussion, it was decided that the Program would be delayed until a future meeting. The meeting was called to close by Secretary Chet Ekstrand.