



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of WATCH and CLOCK COLLECTORS

Mt. Rainier Chapter 135



Meeting Minutes - April, 2010

General: The meeting was called to order by President Al McBride. There were 18 members and 3 guests present. One of the guests was Ward Tingley, a friend of Erick Jenkins (of Chapter 135). Ward is the proprietor of Heirloom Clocks of Tacoma <http://heirloomclockstacoma.com/> - Ward expressed interest in Chapter 135 and in participation in the Puyallup Fair booth.

The group thanked host's Julia and Stan Mueller for their gracious hospitality and for once again making their home available when no other meeting place was available!

Treasurer's report: Leonard Winchell reported that there is \$2483.49 in the treasury.

Old Business:

1. Chapter 135 Website: Chet Ekstrand reviewed the new Chapter 135 website which can be accessed at: <http://nawcc135.org/> John Runciman, NAWCC Fellow and webmaster for the site was present and was thanked for his contribution, including achieving efficiencies with respect to the cost of the site. Chet and John will work together to refine the website with a primary goal of using it to attract interest in the chapter and, hopefully, new members.
2. July Meeting: All were reminded of the now scheduled joint meeting with Chapter #50, Washington Watchmakers - Clockmakers Association (WWCA) and Chapter #135 – Sunday, July 11th at the Shoreline Museum. Tom Payne (of Chapter 50 and WWCA) is responsible for planning the program and updates will follow as more information becomes available. This meeting will be in place of the previously planned Chapter 135 meeting on July 10th. Volunteers are needed to assist with setup for the meeting.
3. Puyallup Fair: All were reminded that it is time to begin planning for the Puyallup Fair, which will be September 10th through the 26th. It is estimated that there will be 68 time slots for Chapters 135 and 50 to fill for purposes of manning the fair booth. It is hoped that Bill Brengman will brief on fair planning at the next Chapter 135 meeting. Chet Ekstrand has accepted an assignment to update the list used at the fair of watch/clock repair persons.

4. Chapter 135 Meeting Locations: At the time of the meeting, we had no hosts for the October and November meetings. Andy Baudino had previously offered to host a meeting and Stan Mueller agreed to contact him. Stan did follow up and Andy has agreed to host the November 6th meeting. A host/location is still needed for the October meeting. Since no meeting occurs in May due to the Regional in Spokane, the next meeting will be in June at the Winchell's home in University Place.

New Business:

1. President McBride brought a book received from NAWCC, called "50 Years of Time. The book is currently on loan to Bob Alley. Let Bob know if you would like to review it next.
2. John Runciman, NAWCC Fellow, recently gave a presentation on "Timing Machines" at a Washington Watchmakers - Clockmakers Association meeting and he has offered to repeat it at the upcoming Chapter 135 meeting in June.
3. There being no urgent further new business, the business meeting was adjourned, to allow sufficient time for the program.

Misc:

1. Julia and Stan Mueller have advised that Bob (Robert Leeds) Macomber Jr., previously a member of Chapter 135, passed away on February 27, 2010. His son-in-law, Julien Berg, has a clock repair shop in Sequim, where Bob helped him with the clock repair. An obituary is available at the following:
http://www.sequimgazette.com/obituaries/article.exm/2010-02-24_obituaries
2. Chapter 135 was contacted by a jeweler in Aberdeen, WA, indicating he had a large number of railroad pocket watches (Elgin, Hamilton, Waltham, etc.) for sale. The watches were from his father's estate and had been collected over many years. Anyone interested should contact John Stullick (Stullick Jewelry) at 360-533-3848

Note: I apologize for the delay in issuing this report – hopefully, with no meeting in May, the delay has not caused any difficulty.

Program:

Jack Goldberg (shown right), from San Jacinto Chapter 139 in Houston, TX, presented a fascinating PowerPoint presentation on The Gruen Watch Company – From Beginning to End.

The presentation is a fascinating review of the history of the Gruen Watch Company as well as a look at many of the watchmaking innovations introduced by the Gruen family. In addition, Jack showed pictures of cases, dials and movements (sample below) for many of the high-end Gruen pocket and wrist watches; many of which are in his personal collection. Chapter 135 is privileged to have had such a noted expert as Jack present this fascinating information and he was thanked by all present.

Chet Ekstrand has a copy of Jack's presentation which will be available for viewing at Chapter meetings.

