



# Tick Talk - Chapter #33 N.A.W.C.C.

September 2025

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TORONTO CHAPTER OF NAWCC

MEETINGS ARE AT The Neilson Park Creative Centre

56 Neilson Drive in Etobicoke

## President's Message



Hi folks

Our last meeting was the traditional May Invitational and what a meeting it was! We had 115 people in attendance and two mart rooms. Thanks everyone for a great turnout and support.

Jeff Crouch provided a tremendous presentation on Pequegnat clocks and the celebrated family who manufactured and sold them. We had great examples on the display and terrific poster boards prepared by Russ Smith. Thanks to all who contributed to this fine event.

What a summer it has been with extremely high temperatures and very little rain. Now that the more autumn like weather is settling in it is time to think about clocks, watches and our September meeting.

Our first meeting of the fall will take place on Sunday September 21, at the Neilson Park Creative Centre. Mark your calendar and plan to be there.

Once again, we hope to have a great mart with a silent auction table, so join in the fun by bringing in items you may want to part with and of course looking at the items other members are offering.

I am pleased to be able to make a presentation at this meeting on Automata (or Automatons). An automaton is a mechanical object that is relatively self-operating after it has been set in motion.

Since antiquity, people have desired to have devices to replace manpower for doing chores as well as having inanimate objects come to life.

The result has been the development of machines that are exquisite in their artistry and ingenious in their mechanics. The presentation will include demonstrations of some of the finest automata from different time periods and cultures.

We have been asked to participate in this year's Toronto Timepiece show that is taking place at the Meridian Centre in North York on the weekend of September 20 and 21.

Since this is the same weekend as our Chapter meeting, I urge you to get tickets and attend the Saturday show so that you don't miss our meeting. The tickets are free but are limited in number. There are more details elsewhere in the Tick Talk.

The Chapter is always looking for people to help with our meetings. Please talk to one of the Executive about assisting by making a presentation, working on the executive or helping at the desk at the meetings. People make our chapter successful and enjoyable and we need you.

Looking forward to seeing you in September.

Cheers,  
Bob



**50/50 Winner Annie Poolman**



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***FOR OUR SEPTEMBER MEMBER DISPLAY PLEASE BRING  
MECHANICAL AUTOMATA DEVICES, CLOCKS OR WATCHES THAT  
FEATURE AUTOMATION OR RELATED EPHEMERA***

## Meeting Agenda Sunday September 21

- 11:30** Dealer setup
- 12:00 NOON** Mart and Silent Auction opens
- 1:15** Silent Auction closes
- 1:20** 50/50 Draw / Member Display
- 1:30** Automata and Automatons by Bob Pritzker
- 4:00** Meeting closes

## Upcoming Chapter 33 Meeting Dates

Sunday September 21, 2025

Sunday November 16, 2025



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## A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM OTTAWA CHAPTER 111

The Ottawa Valley Watch and Clock Collectors Club, Chapter 111 cordially invites you to attend.

"Coffee Clutch " with some of the Ottawa chapter folks. This is a meeting by Zoom with members from other clubs chatting, discussing, and sharing ideas and your success or frustration with work on clocks or watches. It's conducted in a friendly format and people find it very satisfying and helpful. It was initiated by Ottawa executives a while back and it's showing to be very popular.

The meetings are coordinated by Paul Sonnichsen who serves as Secretary Ottawa chapter.

It starts at noon every Tuesday and is only for one hour. Please give it a try. You may actually enjoy it and learn a thing or two.

If you would like to join the Zoom Meeting, here are the coordinates:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87474802762?pwd=Bfz56hUAGtJsVuglNs5XETisfaLYOZ.1>

## CHAPTER 33 E-TRANSFER NOW AVAILABLE

Chapter 33 members are now able to pay membership dues through the convenience of e-transfer.

This is a payment method many members have asked for and we are happy to announce that you can now pay your membership dues by sending payment to [chapter33.nawcc@gmail.com](mailto:chapter33.nawcc@gmail.com).

We want to thank Bill Keel for working to set this up and hope you can take advantage of this when renewing your membership.

## CHAPTER 33 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you haven't done so, we encourage members to renew their membership by paying your 2025 dues.

Membership dues cover a full calendar year January to December.

Payment options are:

- e-transfer by sending to [chapter33.nawcc@gmail.com](mailto:chapter33.nawcc@gmail.com) .Please include your name, email address and phone number in the comments section of the e-transfer.
- In person at a Chapter 33 meeting
- Mail a cheque payable to Chapter 33 Toronto

For payment by mail,  
please send your payment for \$35.00 (Canadian dollars) to:

EMIL COCIRLA  
3253 FOLKWAY DR.  
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO  
L5L 2A1

Please make cheques payable to: CHAPTER 33 Toronto







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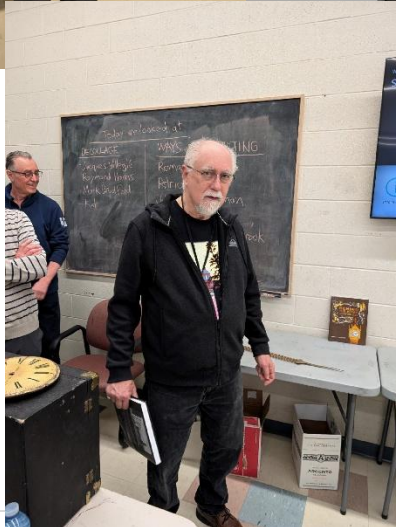
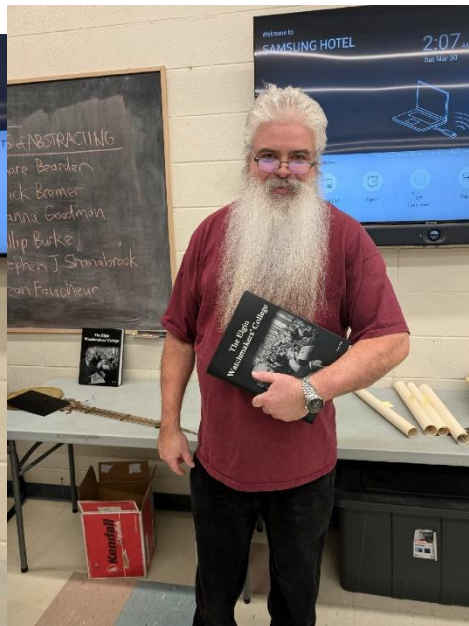
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## Our Lucky Door Prize Winners







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## May Mart







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## In Memory Of John Burke



The Chapter has lost a stalwart member with John Burke's passing. John was ever present at the Chapter's Marts. John served for many years on the executive and was a Past President of the Chapter. We extend our deepest condolences to his wife Maria.



## PEQUEGNAT CLOCKS: QUANDARY OR OPPORTUNITY?

By Jeff Crouch - Chapter 33

By Jeff Crouch - Chapter 33

Has it been altered during its life, or is it an opportunity to own something different from the usual?

The Arthur Pequegnat Clock Company was Canada's only successful clock manufacturer, and their clocks have always been popular with collectors.

Being a small and somewhat informal company, small changes and substitutions of components were made to standard models during their history of almost 40 years. They would also accommodate a customer's specific requests. This can add more collecting interest for Pequegnat collectors.

Jeff's presentation covered some basic history, then covered the typical characteristics of Pequegnat clocks. The main focus was on the casual changes and exceptions found with examples of the same model, from the specific catalogue descriptions. This information should better equip collectors to make a more informed evaluation of any clock they are considering purchasing.

Jeff has been an avid collector and enthusiast of Pequegnat clocks for over 40 years and has handled many hundreds of clocks since he began collecting in 1981.

The Pequegnat Clock company was formed in 1903, and the first shipment of clocks to the trade was in late 1904. From the start, the company's focus was to differentiate themselves from American clocks by offering a what they considered a superior product, and to appeal to Canadian patriotism, by touting that clocks were completely made in Canada, and by having models named after many cities and towns in Canada.

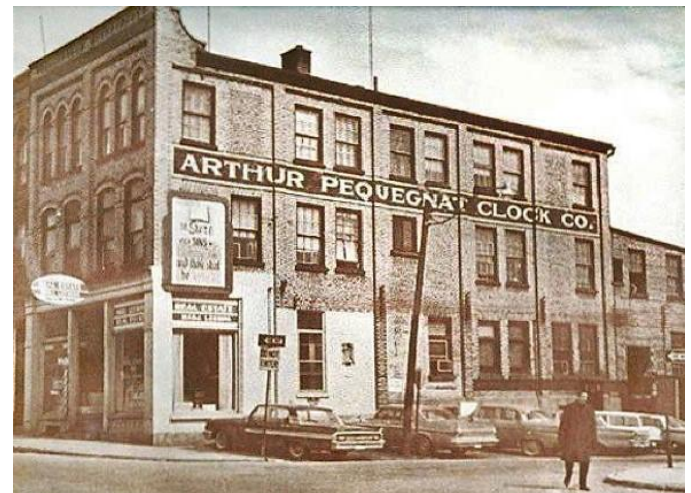
They ceased production in the early 1940's. Many believe it was due to material shortages brought on by the start of WW2. Truthfully, it was more likely specifically due to the ban of any Civilian manufacturing during WW2. Other factors that would have contributed were the increasing popularity of electric clocks, the waning interest by the family to continue the company after Arthur's death in 1927, and that the Pequegnat family were involved in other interests/businesses such as the School Board and church activities.



Arthur's son Edmund continued to repair clocks and was a salesman & distributor for Westclox until 1960.

The company charter was surrendered to the Ontario government in the 1960's. The factory building was demolished in 1964 for the new Kitchener Water Commission building.

The company had 64 catalogued models of shelf clocks (73 with the different styles of "Bonnie", "Dominion", "MapleLeaf", and "Monarch"), 15 catalogued models of wall clocks (16 with the different styles of "Beaver"), and 7 catalogued models of hall clocks. This gives a total of 86 catalogued models (96 with the different styles).



Pequegnat shelf clock movements show close similarity to Seth Thomas movements. Movements have steel plates with brass bushing pivot inserts, as were movements from Gilbert and Waterbury.

Most Pequegnat movements were nickel plated, usually just the surfaces that were visible. Some movements are found that are not nickel plated, and some movements are also found with brass plates.





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A number of differences have been observed between early and later clocks made by the company as follows:

Early movements found on 'gingerbread' style "Maple Leaf" clockshave escape wheels outside of the plates, but these are rare.

Early Berlin movements for the Regulator #1 and hall clocks have the motion work on the outside of the front plate, while later versions have the motion work moved to between the plates.

Early hall clock movements are like shelf clock movements with cutouts, while typical Berlin movements have solid plates.

The "Canada" hall clock seems to have a unique movement, rectangular in shape, taller than it is wide.

Kitchener hall clock movements have square plates, some with a square cutout in the bottom center, and some not.

Most movements were stamped, but some are not. After the name change from Berlin to Kitchener, the 'place' was dropped from the stamp.

The nut used to secure the hands was unique to Pequegnat, being a two-step design with a bottom recess.

Bezels used on shelf clocks during the Berlin period had an ornate design and were simple and plain during the Kitchener period.

Case styles too, became plainer. Shelf/Tambour style clocks used a simple cast heavy metal bob. Brass front/cast back pendulums have several different cast patterns.

Wood pendulum sticks were painted black during the Berlin period, but were stained the case colour during the Kitchener period.

Initially, cases were made by the "Berlin Interior Hardwood Company". In later years, Arthur had his own case factory located in Breslau.

Quarter cut oak was the chosen wood for most clocks, with several different colours of stain. Some models were also available in mahogany and occasionally walnut. Some cases came in mahogany or walnut "finish" applied to an inexpensive hardwood. Catalogue descriptions typically noted the case wood as "finish" or "genuine" or "real".

Hardware ("trimmings") finishes could be either "Gilt" or "Bronzed", with "Gilt" being more typically found.

Jeff's presentation went on to show the casual changes and exceptions found, by model name in alphabetical order.

'Special order' clocks were mentioned. Several examples of these have been made for a specific purpose, to accommodate a customer's specific needs.

Lastly, custom-cased (or privately cased) clocks were covered. These mostly fall into the hall clock category. Several show minor modifications to catalogued models and are likely factory produced, but the majority (80%?) are uniquely distinct and likely made by individuals or furniture companies.

In summary, causal changes made to catalogued characteristics provide more collecting interest of Pequegnat clocks.

Armed with the information provided in Jeff's presentation, collectors should feel more confident when assessing a particular clock they come across. We want to thank Jeff for sharing his significant and valuable research on this great Canadian clockmaking family.







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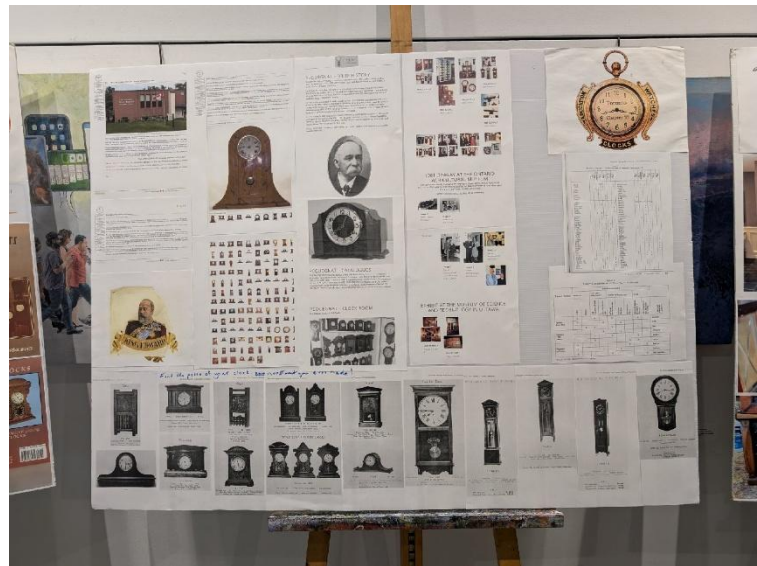
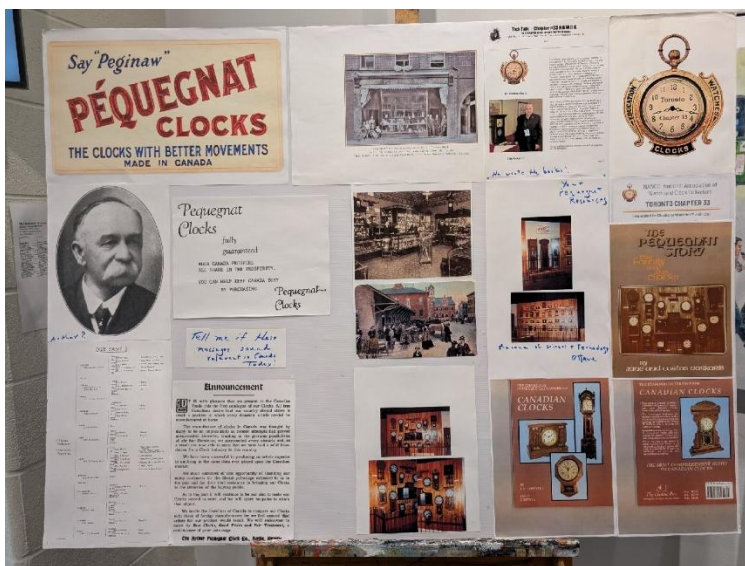
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## May Member's Display and Presentation







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## Classifieds

**WANTED:** Pequegnat 15-Day Double Spring Time Only movement with cast iron bracket, to fit Moncton or Regina wall clocks. Will buy with or without pendulum, hands, etc.

Contact: Jeff Crouch Text or call 705-888-5597 or email [jcrouch@rogers.com](mailto:jcrouch@rogers.com)

**For Sale:** Stark lathe made for Waltham clock and watch factory.

Included with the lathe are a three jaw chuck, ten collets, a drill chuck on the tall stock, and a dial inductor. The compound motor is variable speed with reverse speed. Mounted on a 2in hard wood table. (Photos below) Asking \$1400.00

For info, please call Joe Romano at 905 736 4525

Email [trespade@hotmail.com](mailto:trespade@hotmail.com)

**Buying:** Watches and Clock Collections. Large electric master clocks and parts wanted. Watchmakers tools.

Contact: Harold Steurer 905 450 6211  
[haroldsteurer@rogers.com](mailto:haroldsteurer@rogers.com)

**WANTED:** Watchmakers tools: lathes, watch cleaning machines, Jeweling sets, staking sets etc. Also looking for Clock repair tools

Contact: Rudy Bonilla 905-348-1621  
[rbonilla@sympatico.ca](mailto:rbonilla@sympatico.ca)

**Buying and Selling:** Affordable vintage watches and pocket watches.

Ryan Lynds- Georgetown

[littlekingwatches.com](http://littlekingwatches.com) 905-515-8612

Something to add? Contact us at:  
[Chapter33toronto@gmail.com](mailto:Chapter33toronto@gmail.com)





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## Member Services

We are often approached by folks looking for someone who can help them fix a watch or a clock they have. At Chapter 33, we have a lot of talented folks who may be able to help you out.

Do you provide a service? Buy or Sell? Drop us a note at [Chapter33toronto@gmail.com](mailto:Chapter33toronto@gmail.com) and tell us about it. We'll feature your ad in the Newsletter as well as our club Internet site: [www.TorontoChapter33.ca](http://www.TorontoChapter33.ca)

### Service Your Watch or Clock

John Rocha - Cambridge ON

[joaorocha73@yahoo.com](mailto:joaorocha73@yahoo.com)

519-620-3723

Rob Poolman – Hamilton/Grimsby

[robsantiqueclocks@bell.net](mailto:robsantiqueclocks@bell.net) 905-407-0360

### Clock repair instuction

Ron Metcalfe - Brampton ON

[rmetcalfe1048@rogers.com](mailto:rmetcalfe1048@rogers.com)

### Halmo Jewelers

Mark & Cheryl Halmo –

Watchmakers/Gemologists

140 Queensway E. Simcoe ON N3Y 4Y7

PH: 519-426-3948 FAX: 519-426-2582

Mechanical and quartz watch repair with many vintage parts in stock. Clock parts including Hermle and some cuckoo clock parts.

[www.halmojewellers.com](http://www.halmojewellers.com)

### Glass Tablet Restoration/Reproduction

Dennis Burgin - Oakville ON

[dennis.burgin@sympatico.ca](mailto:dennis.burgin@sympatico.ca)

### Glass Cutting/Bevelled Glass

Ben Orszulak - Grimsby ON

[ben.orszulak@gmail.com](mailto:ben.orszulak@gmail.com)

### Roman Dial Restoration/Repainting

Dennis Burgin - Oakville ON

[dennis.burgin@sympatico.ca](mailto:dennis.burgin@sympatico.ca)

### Gear Cutting and Precision Machining

Ben Orszulak - Grimsby ON

[ben.orszulak@gmail.com](mailto:ben.orszulak@gmail.com)





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Our meeting location is now at the Nelson Park Creative Centre.

The meetings will be held from 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM

The Centre is located at 56 Neilson Drive in Etobicoke close to HWY 427 & the Gardiner Expressway QEW









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 416 410-1310  [info@sundayantiquemarket.com](mailto:info@sundayantiquemarket.com)

**The SUNDAY ANTIQUE MARKET**

HOME ABOUT US NEW LOCATION WHAT YOU CAN FIND CONTACT & VENDOR INQUIRIES [STAY IN TOUCH!](#)

**THE SUNDAY ANTIQUE MARKET**  
(Formerly at St. Lawrence Market)

**Next Show: Sat. September 27, 2025**

NEW FALL OUTDOOR SHOW!  
ANTIQUES AT THE HARBOUR  
BRONTE HERITAGE WATERFRONT PARK, Oakville

UPCOMING SHOWS 2025  
At the SMALL ARMS INSPECTION BUILDING:  
**9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m**  
November 2, 2025 | November 16, 2025  
November 30, 2025