



A newsletter for and about members of San Jacinto Chapter 139 of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors.

Editor – Pat Holloway

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## President's message

Well 2013 is now history and 2014 is staring us straight in the face. This past year has been a good one for Chapter 139 and we can discuss our wants and needs for this year soon. Rather than rehash last year's events I would like to share a few memories and stories. Maybe this will help you remember some good days from your past.

Have you ever gone shopping for a live Christmas tree when it wasn't drizzling rain or below 40 degrees? It seems that we had to wait on Dad's payday to buy a tree. But why couldn't it be on a sunny day.

Remember the Christmas morning that Santa delivered the only two items that you asked for? You couldn't ride that shiny new candy apple red and chrome Schwinn bicycle because, you guessed it, it was raining. And that Daisy Red Rider BB gun, with no BBs because your Mother said you would shoot someone's eye out. Why give me a gun I couldn't shoot?

Then there was the time we started to prepare a turkey for dinner only to find it spoiled because Grandma set it on the range top to thaw? The pilot light underneath the range top was just enough heat to cause spoilage. There were no 24 hour HEBs in those days. Heavy on the dressing but light on the turkey.

Have you ever been awake until 4:30 a. m. assembling a train set for a much too young 3 year old, or been to Walgreen's at 6:00 a. m. Christmas morning looking for batteries to a slot car set because you and your brother-in-law played with them all night?

Then there was the time that my wife's aunt made our youngest son, who was still in a high chair, his very favorite cherry pie. When she put the slice of pie in front of my son it was so thin that all of the ingredients ran from between the crusts. Rather than taking a bite he simply looked at it and very bluntly asked "Good God, what is that"?

Remember the old Christmas tree lights that when one bulb went out the whole string went dark? How many hours did you spend looking for that one bad bulb? Did your tree remain half lighted?

As I sit here jotting down the words for this article my wife is up front decorating the house for Christmas. She comes in frequently and asks me to retrieve another "must have" decoration from the depths of a closet or shelf. Admittedly this is not my favorite time of year. It is not that I am a scrooge or a non-believer, it's just a very melancholy season for me. I terribly miss our loved ones that have gone on before us. I miss my children not being young. I miss not being Santa. I miss not being young. In the process of losing my youth, I have been blessed by gaining two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Aside from the clock world, this is where most of my pleasure comes from these days. Witnessing children at a Thanksgiving feast or seeing their eyes light up on Christmas morning is a fair exchange for growing old... I hope each person that reads this article is as blessed in their life as I have been.

Marcus  
Chapter 139 President

## Tech Sessions and One-Day event

Tech Sessions are held the second Saturday of each month and One-Day events are held quarterly. If you've never been to one of the tech sessions, make plans now to stop by on January 11<sup>th</sup>. You'll see below that there is a time of sharing – show and tell – where objects are shared and questions are answered. You can also bring watches or clocks and our team of volunteers will help troubleshoot and repair.

### October Tech Session

By Becky Bush

There were 20 members and 1 guest on hand when Ken Arnold presented a program on how to remove and repair a click on an American great wheel. He showed the group the tools that are really handy in this quest. Ken and several other members gave some tips on what to do and not do while completing this project.



For the "show and tell" Ben Fulbright had some old but still useful let down keys. Ben also shared several wooden pieces and some kind of set made of celluloid, and asked if anyone knew what they were. Darrah Artzner said that they were old watch repair items. Among the lot were watch-oiling cups. One in particular was a cube with indentions that aided in holding a watch case still while removing dents. Darrah said that



because they had no slot for the winding stem this cube was not very helpful. But it was neat looking and a great conversation piece.

Tim Glanzman brought in an old electric clock that he ordered off E-bay. Even though the clock was very well packed for shipment and the pendulum securely taped down it broke loose and broke the pendulum stick. The group agreed with Tim that the pendulum bob was too heavy for this clock and probably not correct. This bob did put a couple dents in the dial but hopefully all is okay. Lesson learned is to put a note in with your payment for the seller to please take off the pendulum and pack separately.

### December Tech Session/One-Day

In November, the Tech Session and One-Day were combined for an exciting event! In fact, a recent survey



says: buyers made some super deals and sellers did not make as much as they would have liked. They never do. Ha! All in all, everyone seemed to enjoy this combo session for the 2013 season. Marcus brought in the third and final batch of estate clocks (80) for sale. Part of the Chapter's benefit to members is to assist on the valuation and dispersion of collections. This show was a perfect example of a portion of that process.

Another benefit to members is the opportunity to attend events such as the one-days and tech sessions. The Chapter would like to thank Grace Community Church and Tim Glanzman for supporting our cause by providing us with such a wonderful space for these events. It is difficult to find such decent locations and we thank both parties for offering us the ability to utilize their facilities. THANK YOU!

Darrah Artzner brought in his lathe, staking set and associated tools to present the process of staffing a watch balance to watch enthusiasts. The basic premise was to define each process of staffing and what tools were needed to complete the job. The steps to replacing staff and getting it into final running form are: remove



damaged staff, staff selection and where to locate; truing balance wheel and poising; attaching new staff; sizing pivots; brief mention on timing.

Ben Fulbright gave attendees a great presentation on tools needed to repair most clock movements. He brought plenty of examples and described them in detail. His caution was to use good quality tools and keep the serrated pliers away as they will leave teeth marks on the parts. This is truly a sign of poor repair. He finished up by mentioning the use of proper oils and wound up unrolling his fabulous toolbox as pictured below.



*Darrah demonstrates staffing a watch balance*



*Ben Fulbright's roll-out toolbox*

### December Tech Session

This very informal session began with Marcus Bush and Ben Fulbright leading a twenty-minute discussion on why our City of Houston Tower Clock plans and proposals went awry. Among those several reasons were insurance, dollars to be charged and OSHA.

The "Show and Tell" session was of a very special Illinois pocket watch that Becky Bush gave Marcus for their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Tim Glanzman gave an excellent program on "A Systematic Approach to Estimate Clock Values." He used as his example Seth Thomas #2 Regulators listed and sold on E-bay from March through December 2013. He incorporated condition, authenticity, and cost in his study.

Tim Glanzman also won the \$20 cash door prize.



### 2013 Holiday Party

Our annual Chapter Christmas party was very graciously hosted by Connie and Michael Shourd. Upon arrival we were given access to any and all rooms in the home. There was not a room without a clock. Some rooms had many clocks. Some rooms housed very special clocks. There was a great turnout. Of the thirty-three attendees at least twenty-six were Chapter members. The buffet tables were adorned with fried turkey, baked ham and smoked salmon along with more sides, salads and desserts than you can imagine.

The "White Elephant" gift exchange was very





active with many gifts being stolen. Several gift items were stolen enough times to be considered “frozen”. Once again Gary Briggs opened more gifts than anyone. It seems that every time he opened a gift it was immediately stolen. Running a close second in stolen gifts was Ben Fulbright. Others in the room were begging for gifts to be stolen. The favorites of the gift exchange seemed to be two complete clocks and two 3-pound bags of chocolate



candy.

Thanks again to our hosts Connie and Michael.

### Help wanted:

Now it is time to get back to work. Our first One-Day Show of the year is February 15<sup>th</sup> featuring Tim Glanzman with a hands-on pivot-polishing program.

Our All Texas Chapters Regional plans must begin soon. Volunteers can be used in almost all of the chairman positions. I am sure that all of the chairs from last year can be counted on again this year, but we are working some folks way too hard. Please don't be shy. The time to begin looking for Regional speakers, program, exhibits and auction items is now. We need to get our early bird registration forms in the mail sometime in March.

We will elect new or re-elect incumbent officers at the Board of Directors meeting following the February 15<sup>th</sup> One Day Show. Please be present and you can be heard. Nominations are welcome. See you soon, Marcus.

### Upcoming events

Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend these upcoming events.

➤ January 11	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ February 8	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ February 15	8 a.m.	<b>Chapter 139 One Day Show</b> Grace Community Church 1021 Campbell Rd, Houston 77055 Tim Glanzman – <i>Hands on pivot polishing</i>
➤ March 7/8	All Day	<b>Lone Star Regional – Chapter 139 cohost</b> Mesquite, TX <i>Twist &amp; Turn – The Evolution of Torsion Pendulum Clocks</i>
➤ March 15 – <i>NOTE DATE CHANGE</i>	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session* - Date changed to avoid conflict with the Lone Star Regional dates
➤ April 12	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ May 10	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ May 17	8 a.m.	<b>Chapter 139 One Day Show</b> Grace Community Church 1021 Campbell Rd, Houston 77055

\*Location: All Tech Sessions are held at Turn-Key Coatings, 8411 Rannie Road, Houston, Texas 77080 (just off of Hempstead Highway / near Bingle). Fellow member and company owner, Tim Glanzman, donates the space.

Chapter 139  
Treasurer's Report  
January, 2014

Treasurer's Report  
January 6, 2014

Summary of Assets	Sept. 23, 2013	Jan. 6, 2014
Wells Fargo Checking Balance	\$21,354.41	\$10,057.21
JSCFCU CD Balance	\$25,305.54	\$35,398.78
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$46,659.95</b>	<b>\$45,455.99</b>

In addition to the usual recurring expenses we had the following withdrawals from the checking account:

10/29/13	\$1,000	donation to the NAWCC
11/02/13	200	space rental for November One-Day show
12/19/13	100	Christmas party
12/23/13	10,000	purchased CD at JSCFCU

Breakdown of Chapter 139 assets at JSCFCU

Regular shares	57.50
24 month CD maturing 08/30/14	\$20,337.58
24 month CD maturing 12/23/15	\$15,003.70

Submitted by Avin S. Brownlee  
January 6, 2014

## San Jacinto Chapter 139 – Renewal/Membership application

If you are a member of NAWCC and would like to join with other collectors and your friends as a member of San Jacinto Chapter #139, please complete the form below and return along with \$10.00 dues to Avin Brownlee, Chapter 139 Treasurer, 426 Overlook Drive, Friendswood TX 77546. Please make checks payable to San Jacinto Chapter 139. A spouse/significant other who is also an NAWCC member can join for an additional \$5.00 per year. If registering your spouse/significant other, please include their full name as well.

Membership is concurrent with the calendar year, and renewals are due each January.

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

Spouse/significant other name (if also registering): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ NAWCC membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

New membership / Renewal (Please circle appropriate choice) Number of Years? \_\_\_\_\_

**\*To reduce time and expenses, all newsletters and Chapter 139 correspondence will be distributed electronically to members with email addresses.**