



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

### *Annual Meeting and One-Day*

The Chapter 139 Annual Meeting was conducted at our February One Day Show and the following members were elected to positions listed below:

Darrah Artzner – President (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

Marcus Bush – Vice President (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

Treasurer – Avin Brownlee (1<sup>st</sup> term)

Cheryl Davis – Secretary (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

Directors: Brian Martin, Tim Glanzman, Joe Mixon and George Kabacinski

John Trego who had been our Treasurer for the past two years could not continue with these duties due to term limits. He did a terrific job and I want to thank him very much for his hard work and tremendous effort keeping the books on an even keel. He worked primarily behind the scenes so most members did not witness his role in supporting the Chapter. John will stay on as a key advisor. Avin Brownlee accepted the nomination as the new treasurer and was voted in during the meeting. I want to welcome Avin to his new position and you can also welcome him by sending in your All Texas Chapters Regional Early Bird Registration Form as early as possible. It will make his job easier if forms arrive a few at a time rather than if they arrive all at once. He will appreciate it very much.

Our guest speaker was Jay Holloway who gave a super presentation on Walter H. Durfee – The Father of the Modern Grandfather Clock. Thanks again Jay.

Please consider donating some of your time to this terrific group by volunteering to help at the August regional. It won't be long before it is here.

### *Technical Sessions*

Chapter members have been very busy working on clocks and watches since the last newsletter was distributed. The Technical Work Sessions, held on the second Saturday of each month, have been widely accepted and will continue as long as interest remains. Learning about clock and watch repair does not necessarily mean one wants to work on movements as a steady diet. It can mean that someone wants the knowledge in order to make better assessment of what they have or what they are about to purchase. Learning about the



internal workings of a movement can give one another tool when assessing the condition and ultimate value of a clock. Knowledge is power and money.

At the March session Ben Fulbright presented a box full of clock movements that were donated by a Dallas member for attendees to work or practice on. This donation is a great opportunity for members wanting to work on movements but just do not have the technical skills necessary to tear into something of value. These movements will give someone the chance to practice on in which mistakes are of no concern. Experienced staff will be available to offer tips and tricks while in the process. Some of these movements are still available so the next time you attend a work session and want to practice or work up a movement for experience, just mention it to any of the staff and they will make one available to you.



Several members are continuing with their long-term projects. I have seen many but don't know their status since my nose is always buried in a watch movement. Speaking of watches...Gregory Graham completed the disassembly\assembly of a pocket watch and has started on his second one. He is beginning to understand that the most sensitive and critical part of movements is the balance and its associated parts. Any slips or rough handling in that area and the watch will be down for a long time. There are some clock movements that have balances similar to watches and owners of these movements should treat them with kid gloves as well.



The last session gave me the opportunity to explain how an E.N. Welch calendar clock works. I happened to be working on one at that time and adjusting it to display correct time and date is not hard, just a little tricky if parts are not aligned properly. Some clocks are like watches, again, in that they need some fine-tuning and that is what calendar clocks occasionally require. A slight bend or distortion in a piece of metal or part can turn a sensitive clock into a paperweight. Clocks such as cuckoos and anniversary (400 day) types also fit into this category. But, with some gentle nudging and persuasion they become a great collectable.

### **Classes**

In addition to the monthly Tech Sessions, Chapter 139 clock and watch education has continued at a rapid pace. We have now had two clock case restoration classes by Master Woodworker John Schmeig and a micro lathe class by Mike Helfrich. All have been tremendous successes.

Members who successfully completed the classes are as follows:

#### **Wood Case Restoration 1<sup>st</sup>**

Darrah Artzner, Tim Glanzman, Ann Jurecka, George Kabacinski, Joe Mixon, Nita Mixon and Gordon Shahin

#### **Wood Case Restoration 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Gary Briggs, Marcus Bush, Cheryl Davis, Natalie Glanzman, Tom Norris, Deborah Stam and John Stam

#### **Micro Lathe Class**

Gary Briggs, Roy Bryant, Tim Glanzman, John Hardy, George Kabacinski, Bob Kleeman, Edward McDowell, Joe Mixon and Gordon Shahin

### Field Trips

Several members participated in a field trip to San Antonio to visit Bea Copeland and her clock collection. She was a gracious hostess and it was a treat to meet and talk with her. Both she and her late husband had one area of clock collecting in common. They loved woodcarving and consequently many of the clocks they purchased together included that feature. There were a large number of carved cuckoos that are not your typical everyday cuckoo. Other categories were swingers, kitchen, exotic mantle, automated, and yes, even a few watches. There were plenty of memorabilia scattered throughout.

After taking Bea out to lunch, the remaining group traveled to Lockhart to visit the Southwest Museum of Clocks and Watches. We were given the grand tour and told about how they want to purchase the building and expand. Their website provides viewers the option to donate either electronically or by standard mail by providing their physical address.

I might add that some members of Chapter 15 also attended the visit to Bea's home and it was great to meet and visit with them. The Chapter is scattered throughout Texas and beyond but those in the area are very active. Many Chapter 139 members also belong to Chapter 15. It has the distinction of being the first NAWCC Chapter in Texas. Check out your fellow chapters as it is a great experience and there is plenty of learning to be gained from it. Let me give you an example. Patricia Holloway, Chapter 139 newsletter editor, I call her Pat, recently sent out the Chapter 15 newsletter in which Chapter 15 President Ken Reindel's message included the following: "I want to both encourage and thank those who go out of their way to take active membership roles with other Chapters and societies here in Texas. A great deal can be learned from interacting with Chapters outside of Texas as well. Some of you know that I am an electrical horology enthusiast. As such, I interact with several members of Western Electrics Chapter 133 on the West Coast as well as the Electric Horology Society Chapter 78. With my longtime interest in alarms, I share my passion with members of the Howard Banta Alarm Clock Chapter 178 as well. From this, I have learned the value of these relationships. These interactions create opportunities to make friends and learn new things from one another, and of course to help each other out on issues related to mutual interests. With modern technologies and services such as Skype, you can even "tour" each other's collections. It's fun!" Well, guess what? I have an interest in electrical mechanical clocks too and did not know Ken enjoyed the same technology. It is a small world and that is a perfect example of what I mean by 'getting out', meeting other Chapter members and learning from that experience. Thanks, Ken, for your comment.

### Web Page Update

Your [Chapter website](#) is still out there and is being updated on a routine basis. Some photos of our recent field trip and museum visit, mentioned above, can be viewed by clicking the appropriate item from the main page. I am experimenting with various applications to test the limits of what our web provider can offer. I placed a short video there for you to try and view. Videos are in varied formats today and, I guarantee, only about 80% of viewers will be able to run it. I am working on various options to increase this percentage. Anyhow, if you are successful, it will show a clock that P.T. Barnum owned and had in his home. It is a clock/desk with music and you should be able to hear its 'circus like' sound if you are one of the lucky ones.

Go to the website if you need an Early Bird Registration form for this year's Regional. I have been successful in working with our Guest Hotel (Marriott Westchase) representative to get a link that will take you to their reservation site. One nice thing about that is that it will include the member discount for the room rate when registering. The page needs to be 'prettied' up and I am working with them on that issue.



Previous newsletters are also posted for your viewing. I have some of the original Star drafts and hope to get them uploaded at some point. They are primarily text with no pictures.

Do you have comments about the site? If so, send your positive comments to me, and the negative ones to Marcus.

### **Regional Main Exhibit**

The 2012 Regional Main Exhibit will be titled Novelty & Advertising Clocks and Watches. By novelty is meant clocks and watches with advertising and those made to attract attention by their action, shape or design. This is a general definition and if you have something that might fit but are not sure, just contact Nita Mixon ([necessitiesbynita@gmail.com](mailto:necessitiesbynita@gmail.com)) and discuss it with her. She is the main lead and any questions about the display should be directed toward her. Don't hesitate. Let her know if you think you have something to contribute for this display.

### **Question Of The Day**

I have a challenge for everyone. Send me your definition of what makes a clock a clock and a watch a watch. Is a clock composed of a movement and case where the case is designed for style and does not generally conform to the shape of the movement? Is a watch a timepiece consisting of a movement and case in which the case is designed around the movement in the most compact form possible? Send your comments to my email address that is listed on the Chapter web page.

## **March Field Trip**

~ Becky Bush

Saturday morning, March 31, about 20 members of Chapter 15 and 139 converged on longtime NAWCC member Bea Copeland's home in San Antonio. For years Chapter 15 has regarded Bea Copeland as the "Hostess with the mostest". She proved that again when she graciously opened her home to us for a tour of her collection.



*The clock that started it all*

Bea and her husband Andy began their clock collection in 1947 with the purchase of a cuckoo clock and as they say "the rest is history". As you know every clock has a story and we enjoyed hearing Bea's as to how they acquired many in this vast collection. The Copeland's collection includes American, English, German and French clocks, but the visitors were most impressed with all the Black Forest clocks. You saw something different each time you reentered a room.

One of the most unusual pieces was a dome covered animated clock with a music box, flying birds and a waterfall. The amazing thing about this clock was that much of it was made of wax. A special thanks to Bea again for opening her home and allowing us to see some very special clocks.

The group continued their road trip to Mamacitas with traditional Mexican food in a setting that resembled the Alamo, complete with a fiddle serenade by Davy Crockett.

A dozen members then drove to Lockhart, just north of Luling, to visit the Southwest Museum of Clocks and Watches ([swmuseumofclocks.org](http://swmuseumofclocks.org)). Gene Galbraith, a Chapter 15 member, founded this museum four years ago with



*Bea and Tom Norris*

the help of other members through donations in time, money and clocks. Dan Sweet treated us to a tour of the museum that has a collection of clocks and watches on display that runs the gamut from black flat tops to a working tower clock. There is also a magnificent animated musical clock once owned by P.T. Barnum. This museum that operates solely from donations is open 10 am – 4 pm on Saturdays or by appointment. It is worth the trip if you are ever in that area. (Editor’s note: See more pictures of the Museum and watch a video of this amazing clock by visiting your [Chapter website](#).)



*Part of the group who enjoyed Bea’s hospitality*

## Upcoming events

**NOTICE - Chapter Sponsored Silent Auction at the November One Day Show (November 3rd). All proceeds to support Chapter 139. Tax deductible.**

Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend these upcoming events. Additional details will be provided in upcoming issues of the newsletter as well as on the [website](#).

➤ May 12	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ May 19	8 a.m.	<b>Chapter 139 One Day Show</b> Grace Community Church 1021 Campbell Rd, Houston 77055 Entry \$5; Table \$5
➤ June 9	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ June 13-16	All day	2012 National Convention Pasadena Convention Center Pasadena CA 91101
➤ July 14	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ August 11	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ August 23-25	Thurs – unloading 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Friday – 8 a.m. -6 p.m. Saturday – 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	All Texas Chapters Regional Marriott Westchase 2900 Briarpark Drive Houston TX

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

Register now for the 2012 All Texas Chapters Regional and receive **10% off**

August 23 – 25 at the Houston Marriott Westchase

**FREE PARKING**

**GREAT PROGRAMS and WORKSHOPS**

**FREE PARKING**

*Want to be a part of making this exciting Regional happen?  
Contact Marcus Bush, Darrah Artzner or Nita Mixon (Exhibit)*

Chapter 139  
Treasurer's Report  
March 1, 2012-April 6, 2012

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance (3/1/2012).....	\$7,629.47
Deposits.....	1,688.50*
Debits.....	770.01**
Ending Balance (4/6/2012).....	\$8,547.96

\*Deposits .....\$ 450.00 Tuition for lathe class  
                  1.238.50 Membership renewals and Regional registrations  
Total.....\$1,688.50

\*\*Debits.....\$450.00 payment for lathe class  
                  190.00 lunch in San Antonio for field trip  
                  27.04 envelopes and file folders  
                  45.00 postage stamps  
                  57.97 recurring charges  
Total.....\$770.01

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

Balance as of April 6, 2012 .....\$23,777.07

Respectfully submitted,  
Avin S. Brownlee, Treasurer  
April 6, 2012

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, 1123 Glendale Dr., Sugarland, TX 77479. Please make checks payable to San Jacinto Chapter 139. A spouse/significant other can join for an additional \$3.00 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. Not only does electronic distribution save money, it's good for the environment.