



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

This is not going to be “rah, rah” we have a regional coming up article. It is rather going to be an article about a situation I have fallen into.

About three years ago while out on one of my scouting trips I visited a local resale shop where, from time to time, I have been able to buy a few good clocks. Upon entering, low and behold on the shelf behind the register was a massive Ansonia double statue clock called “Summer and Winter”. Because I visit this shop enough to be on a first name basis with the owner, behind the counter I go to assess my new find.

Other than a clean and complete break of “Winter’s” left leg the clock seemed to be in very good and complete shape. After visiting with the owner and learning she had a whole \$50.00 in the clock, I made my move. My offer, considering the break in the statue, was I thought very fair. No deal. She had her mind made up to send the clock out for repair. For the next two years as the clock sat on the same shelf gathering dust, I tried without success to buy it. Finally it disappeared and was at the repair shop. Weeks turned into months; and months into a year before the repair and restoration were complete and the clock returned to its shelf.

Around the first of March this year I made a trip to her shop to visit “Summer and Winter”. After waiting all this time I found a beautifully restored clock that was priced “way too” high.

After discussing the year-long trials and tribulations of having this clock restored, she told me that she had purchased a clock just the day before that I needed to see. Admitting that she knew little about antique clocks, the only clue she could give me was that it said “Fashion” on the glass. In about ten minutes I was the proud owner of a #5 Fashion for a fair price.

As it happened, a gentleman walked in off the street with some items for sale who was the nephew and caretaker of his elderly Aunt and Uncle living here in town. With and because of failing health, the nephew, with the blessing of other family members, sought out and moved Aunt and Uncle into a senior citizen facility of some sort. Needing immediate cash, for the couple’s slush fund, the nephew began selling some items from their home and again with the other family members blessing. When the son of Aunt and Uncle flew into town to check on Mom and Dad, as expected, he noticed several items had been removed from the home place. The problem now is that a clock is missing that was not among the items to be parted with.

It only gets more complicated from here. After confronting the nephew, the son learns about the resale shop that had purchased the items and gives my friend a visit. She readily admits that she did buy some items from the nephew but under the circumstances would be willing to sell them back at cost. The clock however, she told them, had been sold several days earlier to a cash buyer. Contact information for the family was left with my friend who owns the shop. So far she has refused to share that info with me so I could try to get the clock back in their possession. (continued on page 2)

President’s message – continued

I can’t help but feel bad about this whole deal but don’t have much of a next move. Apparently the proceeds did go towards the old couple’s needs, so I can at least feel good about that. I now wonder of all the clocks that I have bought, sold and traded through the years how many were on the shady side. What to do?

I will hang onto the clock until things wash out. Stay tuned.

Marcus
Chapter 139 President

February One-Day and Annual Meeting

Chapter 139 had a very active One Day Show. There were 40 people attending and 12 tables sold. It’s always good to see new faces at these shows. There was a lot of buying, selling and trading being done.

Tim Glanzman presented a very interesting and informative program on Pivot Polishing and Burnishing. He passed around some tools that were useful and necessary in accomplishing this step in clock repair. Tim discussed the pro and cons of using files versus burnishers in the polishing process. He also had some excellent magnified slides that showed good, better and best versions of pivots that had been polished. These slides showed the different stages of polish depending on the coarseness of your polishing material.



During the annual meeting, the current officers were re-elected as follows: President – Marcus Bush; Vice-President – John Trego; Secretary – Becky Bush; Treasurer – Avin Brownlee. The remainder of the meeting focused on firming up details for the All Texas Chapters Regional coming up in August.

Avin Brownlee shared the following story that goes to show – you never know what you might find at the One-Day shows

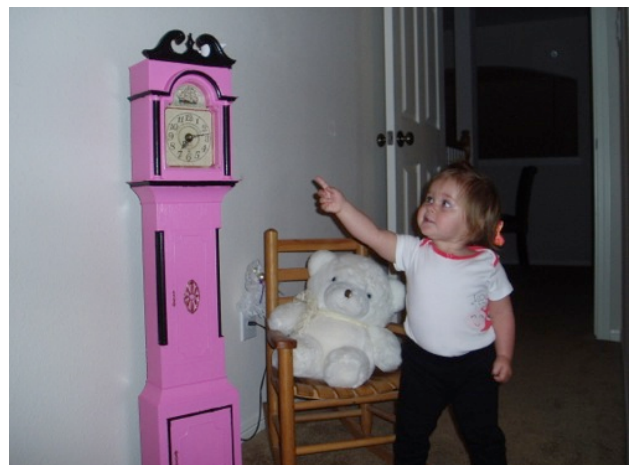
I saw this granddaughter clock at our One-Day show in February and walked past it several times. Andy Staton brought it and had priced it at \$10.00. No disrespect to Andy, but I kept thinking, "What an ugly clock". Then I had an inspiration and bought the clock. The pictures below tell the story and remind us that beauty is in the eyes of the beholder and everything can have value to someone.



Granddaughter clock-\$10.00



Granddaughter, Ella Brownlee, with her new clock-PRICELESS



Tech Sessions

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 for one (see Upcoming Events). 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.

January Tech Session

By Becky Bush

There were about twenty-four attendees at the January Tech Session held at Turn Key Coatings. It was good to see long time Chapter members, Jack and Elinor Goldberg, in from Washington State. Although there was no formal program or workshop scheduled it was a very lively session.

Darrah Artzner was first up in the "Show and Tell" format with a discussion on Seth Thomas pocket watches. He brought and displayed three Seth Thomas pocket watches while giving a brief discussion of the different grades of movements as well as the various numbers of jewels according to the grade.

Ken Arnold brought two unusual factory altered movements made to be installed in shelf cuckoos. He is currently refurbishing old cases for the movements.



Ben Fulbright then showed and discussed an old English or French cow tail movement alarm clock. It was most unusual as the bell for the alarm was outside and completely surrounded the movement. Ben also donated the first three clocks for our Chapter sponsored silent auction in August.

Marcus Bush read some excerpts from two letters from an 87-year-old member in Florida. She was most grateful for the battery operated clock winder that Ben donated and Becky Bush mailed to her in the name of Chapter 139.

From there we went on to diagnosing problems with the clocks brought in by Dan Riley and Clyde Crouch.

There was a very informal one-hour discussion about our upcoming All Texas Chapters Regional in August. There are a few minor details to be worked out such as hours for public day, cash door prizes, Mart Room opening time, silent auction items, main exhibit subject and food.

The forum discussed the importance of our next Board of Directors meeting in February. This is our Annual Chapter Meeting with the election of officers. There will be some discussions made as referenced above about the upcoming Regional.

February Tech Session

The February Tech Session was very active and well attended with about 20 members and three visitors present.

Ray Yanus, one of our guests, brought along a problematic black flat top clock that he needed help with. Roy Bryant was glad to help him out. Before the Tech Session was over, both Roy and Ray announced that they were well pleased with their resolution of the problems.

Ben Fulbright presented a short program about the two faced street clock that is located on the Strand in Galveston. This clock was made by the Gillette Clock Company, a concern that apparently made only a relatively

few similar clocks. All were apparently slave clocks, requiring a master clock for proper timekeeping operation. The clock dates from the 1920's and its early history is unknown.

The street clock, colloquially known as the lollipop clock, was discovered in a San Antonio, Texas warehouse about 1980. It was subsequently purchased by Sullivan Enterprises of Galveston, and donated for installation in Galveston in 1989. The initial restoration at this time was accomplished by former Chapter 139 member Billy Young (now deceased) of Dallas. The original master clock unit has never been recovered and likewise the master unit, which Billy used, has not been located. Ben and Drew Lundgren, another active Chapter member, will provide a master clock unit for this installation. Hopefully the clock will be re-installed in the next month or so. It has not operated since at least Hurricane Ike (2008) and possibly since considerably before that. Interestingly, the dials for the clock are quarter inch glass and the clock will be illuminated. The Galveston Historical Foundation is currently restoring these dials.

During the Tech Session of last month, several clocks were bought in as possible candidates for restoration for the Chapter Silent Auction during the upcoming All-Texas Chapters Regional Meeting. Ben suggested that one in particular, a French statue clock, be restored by the Chapter and donated to the Bishop's Palace in Galveston. This landmark has been taken over by the Galveston Historical Foundation.

There is also a potential project in the Heights for a restoration of a more modern four-faced street clock.



Ben discusses the Galveston street clock



Troubleshooting a black mantle clock

March Tech Session

Ben Fulbright led off the March Tech Session with "Show and Tell". Ben came across a quirky pair of scissors that was in with some clock repair tools. The top blade was thick but split and the bottom blade went into the slot in top blade. Usually someone in the group will come up with an explanation but everyone was stumped. Ben also had an electric master clock that was in a very unusual double-wide case.

Darrah Artzner was showing off his new "solar" watch. One charge from normal daylight will charge the battery for up to 6 months. This watch should run forever. Darrah also had a wooden box housing a magneto. It had a hand crank on one side. As he demonstrated, you had to be careful how you pick up this box.



John Trego brought the works to an E. Howard that he was repairing for someone. He had close-up pictures showing the problem. As usual there were several opinions on how to make the repairs. The group agreed that since this was such a nice clock it would be best sent to a machinist to make a new part.

Tim Glanzman continued his educational from the February One Day Show with a hands-on demonstration of polishing and burnishing a pivot. He showed off a very elaborate lathe procedure vs. a wooden “penny polisher”. Both gadgets would get the job done but your margin of error was greater in the hand made instrument.

Assistance was also given to a couple other members who brought problem clocks.

Field Suitcase Workshop

Nine members of Chapter 139 completed the NAWCC F501 Field Suitcase Workshop. Fred Tischler was the instructor for the **Repair/Replace American Strip Recoil Escapement** course. The students were taught two



methods for making new verges for American Recoil Escapements. Each student’s clock was to be working with either of the two newly made verges before the end of the second day.

Those taking and completing the session were: Roy Bryant, George Kabacinski, Stanley Pryor, Glyn Gibson, Joe Mixon, John Trego, Tim Glanzman, Gordon Shahin and Marcus Bush

The two-day class was held at Turn Key Coatings, 8411 Rannie Road in Houston. Thanks Tim for providing your facility’s for our use. Thanks to Joe and Fred for getting together and coordinating the class. We can thank Nita Mixon for all of us leaving Sunday a couple of pounds heavier. She provided a wonderful apple and pecan cobbler Saturday followed by an equally delicious blueberry one Sunday.

Upcoming events

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

➤ April 12	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ May 10	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ May 17	8 a.m.	Chapter 139 One Day Show Grace Community Church 1021 Campbell Rd, Houston 77055
➤ June 14	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ July 12	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session*
➤ August 21-23	See times on page 7	All Texas Chapters Regional Houston Marriott Westchase

*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.

San Jacinto Chapter 139
Treasurer's Report
March 22, 2014

Summary of Assets	Jan. 6, 2014	March 22, 2014
Wells Fargo Checking Balance	\$10,057.21	\$10,425.49
JSCFCU Assets	\$35,398.78	\$35,464.15
Total Assets	\$45,455.99	\$45,949.64

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

01/21/2014	\$150.00	Donation to Chapter 124 for Lone Star Regional
02/27/2014	\$150.00	Tools to keep for Tech Session
03/20/2014	\$175.00	Insurance policy for August 2014 Regional Meeting

We made the following deposits:

02/03/2014	\$ 120.00
03/17/2014	\$1,257.00

Here is a breakdown of our assets at JSCFCU.

Regular shares.....	\$57.50
24 month Cd maturing on 08/30/2014.....	\$20,378.69
24 month Cd maturing on 12/23/2015.....	\$15,027.96

Submitted by Avin S. Brownlee
March 22, 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.**

ALL TEXAS CHAPTERS REGIONAL

Sponsored by San Jacinto Chapter 139 and co-hosts 15, 80, 117 and 124

Early Bird Pre-Registration!



August 21-23, 2014 Houston, Texas

The Registration staff of the All Texas Chapters Regional would like to offer you the opportunity to sign up for the Big Summer Show at special reduced rates.



10% Off Registration Fees¹ With This Form

Houston Marriott Westchase² → FREE PARKING

This form must be in the hands of Chapter 139 staff before July 31, 2014 to take advantage of this Early Bird offer.
(On July 31, 2014, this form and discount rates shown will become invalid)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY			
Name _____ <small>(Your name as you want it to appear on your badge)</small>	NAWCC ID (card required) _____		
Street Address _____	Email _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____	Phone (____) _____
Spouse / Children Names (if applicable) _____			
I am a: NAWCC Old Timer__ Fellow__ Star Fellow__ National Officer (office held)_____			
Check specialty	Clocks _____	Watches _____	Supplies _____ Other items _____
<<< Please honor NAWCC rules by ONLY selling horologically related items. >>>			
Schedule			
Early Bird Registration	Quantity	Amount	Total
NAWCC Member (adult)(\$30)		\$27.00*	
Registration (17 and under)		Free	
Breakfast Banquet(Sat.)(\$15)		\$13.50*	
Tables (6')(no ½ tbls)(\$35)		\$31.50*	
*Includes 10% discount	Grand Total		

Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014
2pm-4pm Unload Vendors - 4 or more tables
4pm-6pm Unloading / Social - cookies & coffee

Friday, Aug. 22, 2014
7am- 8am Unload Vendors
7am Mart Opens
5pm Mart Closes
5pm - 6pm Social in foyer-hot finger food

Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014
7:30am-8:30am Breakfast Banquet
9am Mart Opens
1pm Mart Money Give Away
2pm Mart closes - Security Ends

Please make checks payable to: San Jacinto Chapter 139

Send completed form to: All Texas Chapters Regional, Avin Brownlee, Treasurer, 426 Overlook Drive, Friendswood, Texas 77546. **Only two (2) badges will be issued per exhibitor.** Questions? Contact Mart Chairman, John Trego (alltexaschapterregional139@gmail.com or 936 756-7650) or Chapter 139 President, Marcus Bush (mbush9@comcast.net or 713.202.4029). Additional addresses and phone numbers can be found at Chapter 139 web site (Google San Jacinto 139 or use this address = <http://sanjacinto139.homestead.com/Officers.html>)

For room reservations, Contact the Marriott Westchase (2900 Briarpark Dr. Houston, TX 77042) directly: 1-877-852-4468 (toll free) or 877 849-7468 and mention **NAWCC All Texas Chapters Regional to receive a reduced room rate** of \$99. You may also go to the San Jacinto Chapter 139 web page for hotel registration link (www.sanjacinto139.com) when available. This room rate will be valid until August 3, 2014.