



San Jacinto Star

President's message

Thank you to the attendees of our February One Day Show and Annual Membership meeting for voting me in to serve another year as your President. Your confidence is very much appreciated. At that meeting we did have three changes in leadership that are noteworthy. First, Avin Brownlee moved out of his role as Treasurer and is replaced by Geoff Parker. Second, Avin isn't gone though, he is now a director. Avin is filling the slot vacated by John Trego who is tending to non-Chapter related matters, which is the third change. Thanks to all for your past service and your continuing service to the best NAWCC Chapter around.

Plans are underway for the August Regional. As one would expect, most things at the Regional will be familiar, with little changed from last year. If you want to have an active role in the Regional, there is much to be done. Contact me or Shaun Clarke for details. This year's exhibit theme is "Timepieces in the Workplace." If you have a time clock, a master clock, a slave clock, a security watchman's clock, a work related watch (e.g., nurses watch), a railroad pocket watch, a special timer, etc. that you'd be willing to display, let me know. We do not yet have an exhibit coordinator, so if you'd like to take on that role please speak up. I promise you will have help getting the display together - our members always step up to help one another.

I encourage members who haven't been active in a while to attend one of our monthly Tech Sessions. Attendance has been great and the presentations and show & tell have something for everyone. If you want to learn to repair a clock movement, we have numerous movements or you can bring your own. We have the tools and the expertise to help you work through the process and have a nice running movement in the end. As I counted in the March Tech Session, we had four members working on movements at the meeting in various stages of repair. We're never too old to learn something new.

Thanks again to those who make NAWCC Chapter 139 a wonderful place to be, at least once each month.

Sincerely,
Drew

Make plans now to attend
All Texas Chapters Regional

Marriott Houston Westchase
August 25-27, 2016



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

Editor – Pat Holloway

What's Inside?

President's message

Tech Sessions

February One-Day

Upcoming Events

Mid-Winter and Lone Star Regional Recaps

San Jacinto Chapter 139 – membership

Educational events

Thanks to everyone who supports the Chapter's many educational offerings with your attendance and willingness to share. There are many more pictures posted on the Chapter website.

January Tech Session

Everyone was very relaxed and peaceful until the mini sessions started. There were three in all this month.

The first was Shaun Clarke's demonstration of how to remove a pocket watch mainspring and clean or replace it. The second was Val Link's presentation on how to fill a worn pivot hole using silver solder and an acetylene torch. The third was Drew Lundgren's, with Ken Arnold's assistance, demonstration on re-silvering a dial.

All three presentations were super and any one of them would have been enough for a Tech Session. Having three was SUPER! Keep up the good work, guys!



Shaun Clarke demonstrates removing, cleaning and replacing a watch mainspring



Val Link shows how to fill a worn pivot hole using silver solder



Drew Lundgren, and Ken Arnold, giving a presentation on re-silvering a dial

February One Day Show

Besides buying and selling, the Chapter's annual meeting was conducted along with the voting in of new Treasurer Geoffrey Parker. Geoff joins President Drew Lundgren, Vice-President Shaun Clarke, and Secretary Nita Mixon. Appreciation went to outgoing Treasurer Avin Brownlee who now joins other previous Chapter leaders in becoming a member of the Board. Other Board members in addition to the officers are Darrah Artzner, Tim Glanzman, Marcus Bush and Joe Mixon. Becoming a Board member is an excellent way to learn about how the Chapter functions



Some of the attendees at the annual meeting

Behind the scenes. If you are interested in joining the Board, please talk with one of the current Board members.



A few of the nice clocks that were available

Vice President Shaun Clarke gave a very nice presentation on "Timepieces of Famous Historical Figures." The famous figures included politicians, actors, explorers and scientists. The presentation has been posted in the Education section of the Chapter website in case you would like to see it.

February Tech Session

It seemed that attendees at this session were truly the die-hards of the Chapter since this session occurred only one week after the One Day Show. Regardless, there were a couple of new attendees, and attendance was very good – but it did take a coffee and a doughnut or two for most to get going. This was a positive setting though since it gave some others a chance to present some tips, tricks and showings for a very attentive group.

Drew Lundgren gave a demonstration on how to repair the end of a main spring by reducing the temper on the spring end, punching a new hole and then trimming and smoothing the end. A perfect job! A new member brought in a 'problem child' mantle clock to see if it could be



straightened out, so to speak. Another newcomer came in for assistance on a clock he was given at the previous One Day Show for an initial lesson on clock repair. One long time



member brought in a recent acquisition that was an 18 size, model one, 19 jewel Rockford. It had a running problem that was easily fixed by replacing a balance jewel screw to one of correct size so that it would not interfere with the balance. He explained that

purchasing a watch that is not running is a gamble and are not usually this easy to diagnose and repair. Following the formal activities, a few folks stayed helping one another for another two hours.

Darrah Artzner was working on a relatively new 6 size pocket watch with center seconds hand in which the seconds hand looked more like a Z than an arrow. After the third time of fitting and straightening he had it about 98% straight and wanted to get at least one more percent from it. However, pulling it off of the arbor the fourth time caused it to develop wings and took off. He felt so bad that he took it home and replaced it. It doesn't happen often but does happen. He has decided to take a magnet along next month and see if he can find the original hand.



Four members stayed after and sorted out clocks for the Chapter sponsored Silent Auction in August. Darrah accepted the challenge, taking home a 400-day anniversary and vintage Mastercrafter animated electric clock. Both have broken parts that will need replaced or made and then cleaned.

March Tech Session

Turnout at the tech session was very good, and there was much active discussion both before and after the formal part of the meeting. We had no guests in attendance.



First, Darrah Artzner gave us an overview of his plan for the upcoming March 20th NAWCC Webinar in which Darrah will give an overview of Rockford pocket watches. This is nice recognition of Darrah's expertise.

During the show and tell part of the session, Edward McDowell shared a topping tool that he had purchased at the show in Mesquite. The mostly brass tool shows great workmanship. It received much attention. (See photo to the right.)

Albert Rambaud showed us photos of a "basket case" French clock movement that Jim Dubois donated to the Chapter. After verifying that most of the essential parts were present, Albert showed his expertise in restoring the movement, including some parts fabrication. Be sure to see

the photos on the Chapter website. Albert's handiwork will be included in the Chapter's silent auction.

Shaun Clarke brought in a watchman's clock and leather case that he purchased at the Chapter 124 Regional. The rather small clock looked almost new.



Marcus Bush showed us a rather common looking black flat top mantle clock that had a bit of a twist. The clock has an alarm in the case that is separate from the movement. The alarm is wound through a winding arbor in the base below to the left of the dial. Marcus is graciously donating this clock to us for the Silent Auction.

We had two formal demonstrations, both of which drew crowds around: Shaun Clarke brought in his electronic, high tech watch timer and gave a demonstration of how it works with various watches. Ken Arnold gave a demonstration of installing bushings in a clock plate that was brought in by Giovanni.

Florida Mid-Winter Regional

~ SHAUN CLARKE – VP, Chapter 139

In mid-February, I was fortunate to have the chance to attend the Florida Mid-Winter Regional in Lakeland, Florida hosted by the Daytona Beach Chapter 154.

The mart opened at midday on Friday and comprised over 400 tables spread over two rooms. To my delight, about two-thirds of the tables were watch-related with a good selection of restored and unrestored wristwatches and pocket watches available. There was also a good selection of new and used tools and materials with several commercial vendors represented.



There was vigorous trading on the mart floor on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning but lost a little steam by Saturday afternoon. The show was opened to the public on Saturday only; however, it was difficult to ascertain if this had any significant impact on trading volume.



The speaker program delivered an interesting and broad variety of watch and clock related topics. I attended "Happy 100th Birthday, Wristwatches" where Bruce Shawkey spoke to the development and evolution of the wristwatch through the early 20th Century. The second session attended was "Robert Leslie Remembered, The Untold Story of an Important Early American Watch & Clock Inventor" by Richard Newman who provided a fascinating insight into the life and times of a forgotten pioneer of early American Watch & Clock making.

Informal polling of table holders indicated a mixed result for sales. I spoke with many knowledgeable and friendly sellers who were more than willing to take the time to chat and offer advice. Several I spoke to indicated they intending to go to the Lone Star Regional in Mesquite, and I was quick to mention they would be very welcome at our 2016 All-Texas Regional coming up in August!

The live auction was held on Saturday night and comprised over 90 lots, with a significant number of clocks and clock-related parts. During the day, the silent auction table was well managed and attracted a good variety of bargains.

I was successful in picking up a number of small tools (including a lathe motor/pedal and a depthing tool) as well as some “bargain bags” of parts including watch crystals, balance staffs and mainsprings. Additionally, I purchased a number of pocket watches including some higher grade, named movements that are “restoration ready”. (Two of these watches are pictured above.) I was also able to speak with a vendor who had a wonderful selection of marine chronometers including NOS parts, and was able to secure a hard-to-find setting plate for Wayne Denham’s M22 Hamilton Marine Chronometer.

Unfortunately, I was not successful in securing this “unique” Junghans Kangaroo clock and am astonished that someone would want this more than me!

Overall an expansive show with the opportunity to pick up some interesting watch bargains.



Lone Star Regional – Mesquite TX

Chapter 139 was well-represented at this year’s Lone Star Regional in Mesquite. The members who attended enjoyed the many activities associated with the event. The events began on Thursday with a hairspring workshop led by Mike Dempsey. This was followed by vendor unloading and set up, then a social hour and silent auction. In addition to activity in the Mart Room, Friday and Saturday events included a wide variety of presentations, the banquet and a live auction.

Darrah Artzner attended several of the presentations, and provided the following summaries:

Art Deco Design by Peter Crum – He very succinctly defined and gave examples of what he knows as Art Deco from an architects’ point of view. He showed many buildings, cars etc. that were characterized by precise and boldly delineated geometric shapes with strong colors. I don’t remember seeing clocks with Art Deco styles for comparison, he may have shown one or two, but got me in the mood to see more.

Antique American Clock Glass by Don Bugh – Don dealt with the standard thickness that is commonly found on clock cases and gave an excellent demonstration on how to cut glass. He presented tools for use and showed how they are used.

Clock Screw Bluing by Bruce Woodridge – Bruce gave a demonstration on how to blue screws and the theory behind it. He detailed the preparation process and materials used. He explained that it is done for looks and also to aid in rust prevention. No watch screws or explaining how it could be done though.

How I spent My Summer Vacation; 3D Printing in Horology by Mike Dempsey – Demonstration of 3D printing groundwork was laid and explanation of why he got into it was given. Basically, he uses it to test fit clock pieces before doing a final by hand. He showed slides of his machine, how it performed and current prices and their quality. He gave sources of hardware and software and had examples present for examination.

Shaun Clarke also provided the following feedback on Don Bugh and Mike Dempsey’s presentations.

Friday’s presentation on the **History of Glass** by Don Bugh provided a fascinating background into the manufacture of flat glass from early Roman days through to cylinder blown sheet glass and modern float glass. The presentation included videos of the methods employed in glass manufacture and examples of how to distinguish various types of glass typically found in clockmaking.

The presentation was followed by a practical demonstration of safe glass cutting techniques and included tools needed, straight cutting techniques (and how to safely remove surplus) and cutting holes in glass. The combination of presentation and demonstration was particularly effective and attendees were offered the opportunity to try cutting a sample for themselves.

Mike Dempsey gave an interesting presentation on Saturday morning on **3D Printing in Horology**. After describing the hardware and software setup required, Mike was able to give several practical examples of the benefits of 3D printing for watch and clockmakers including;

- Replacement parts (for example, verges) can be designed and printed for “proof of concept” and testing prior to manufacturing in metal.
- Spacers for quartz watch and clock movements can be quickly designed/adapted and printed to suit specific applications.
- Specific tools and aids can be printed, enabling work to be completed easily and safely. Mike gave the example of a tall case clock winding barrel cable retaining clip he had designed and utilizes when shipping serviced movements to customers.

The presentation introduced these state-of-the-art developments and how this technology can complement traditional repair skills moving forward.

This year’s exhibit of Art Deco clocks provided a glimpse of the 1920s to the 1940s. Period illustrations and ads, books, photographs, radios and other items interspersed among the clocks helped visualize life during this period. Following are a few pictures of the exhibit.



Upcoming events

➤ April 9	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session
➤ April 10	6 – 7 p.m.	NAWCC Webinar – Register at NAWCC.org Questions to Ask Before Buying a Wristwatch Adam Harris
➤ May 14	8 a.m.	Chapter 139 One Day Show Grace Community Church 1021 Campbell Rd, Houston 77055
➤ May 15	6 – 7 p.m.	NAWCC Webinar – Register at NAWCC.org Bulova: A History of Modern Richard Callamaras
➤ June 11	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session
➤ June TBD	6 – 7 p.m.	NAWCC Webinar – Register at NAWCC.org Religious Symbolism in Horology Kim Jovinelli
➤ July 9	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session
➤ July 20-23	Hours vary by day	2016 NAWCC National Convention Louisville, KY

Following are other upcoming events to plan for now

➤ August 25-27	Hours vary by day	All Texas Chapters Regional Marriott Westchase Houston, TX
➤ October 6-8	Hours vary by day	2016 NAWCC Ward Francillon Time Symposium Clocks at Winterthur; Wilmington DE www.clocksatwinterthur.com

*Location: All Tech Sessions and classes 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 – 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 Dr. Geoffrey Parker, Chapter 139 Treasurer, 11152 Westheimer Rd. #410, Houston TX 77042-3208. 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.