



**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

Three-fourths of the year is behind us, and as an NAWCC Chapter we've done well. This last quarter promises to be a good one as well. In the past couple of months five items come to mind that are worth special note. I'm probably forgetting something important to someone, so please forgive me. These special note items are in no particular order.

First, our generous host for monthly Tech Sessions, Tim Glanzman, has installed shelving at one end of the meeting room which gives us more floor space for our meetings. That's been great.

Second, our meetings have been well attended, with some interesting show and tell. Fortunately, the show and tell has included watch stuff too. Please take part in this fun activity by bringing items you're working on, items that are unusual, and items that you just like.

Third, both Darrah Artzner and George Goolsby have been "knighted" as NAWCC Fellows. This comes as well deserved recognition of Darrah's significant continuing contributions to Chapter 139 and horology in general. George's numerous activities at the national level are impressive and are also recognized by NAWCC. Thank you and congratulations to both Chapter 139 members, Darrah and George.

Fourth, we had a great All Texas Chapters Regional. Attendance was good. The number of tables sold was good. Income was good. We now take credit cards and Paypal for registration, both of which were firsts for us. The silent auction was good. We had compliments on our interesting exhibit. Ben and Marcus get special accolades for bringing big heavy clocks in for the exhibit. Katrina Clarke came through with a beautiful Elgin pocket watch inspired cake that brought in \$450 at auction. Presentations were well attended and topics were right on target for audience interest. The it's for free tables were abundantly populated with really good stuff. Thanks to everyone who worked to make it a success, with a special thanks to the door prize donors. Please give me or Shaun Clarke feedback on what we can do better next year.

And finally, Ben Fulbright wrote a book, and Bob Holkan edited the book and had it published. The books were donated to the Chapter and proceeds from sales, all profits and not just net, come to the Chapter. I sent a copy of the book to NAWCC for the library and they said it'll be put into the "Special Collection" and requested a second copy for the lending library. Thanks and congratulations Ben.

Your Officers and Board of Directors met recently and reviewed our financial situation. We were already in good shape, and the Regional net was sufficiently positive that we decided it is time to buy tools and materials to support our education program. (We'll need more shelves, Tim.) This is an important step for us in holding workshops. We also decided that it is appropriate to make a \$2,000 donation to the NAWCC's permanent endowment fund. The fund, when the monetary goal is met, will provide a continuous flow of money to help keep NAWCC programs alive. Even with these two expenditures the Chapter will not dip into existing financial reserves.

During that meeting and some subsequent discussion, we have firmed up dates for some classes. We're also working on plans for some specialized classes, such as a jewelers' lathe class and a metal working class. I'd like to also do an escapement class, covering the basics of each common escapement. If you have expertise in some area that you'd be willing to share, please talk with Joe Mixon, our Education Director, or with me.

We have some upcoming events that I ask you to look at and consider. Those include classes on Pocket Watches, Spring Barrel movement repairs, Wooden Works Repair, and Machining basics. Also we have the Houston Mini-Maker Faire and a One Day Show coming up in November.

Elections come up in February. We need individuals to step up to run for office, bringing with them new ideas and new energy. Talk to any of the Officers or Directors if you might be willing.

All the best, all the time,
Drew Lundgren

Educational events

Thanks to everyone who supports the Chapter's many educational events. Thanks to Shaun Clarke and Darrah Artzner for the recaps of each session. There are many more pictures posted on the Chapter website.

July Tech Session

The session opened with Chapter President Drew Lundgren providing an update on preparation for the August Regional and encouraging members to continue to repair and donate items for the silent auction. Members were also reminded that we need items for our regional exhibit "Timepieces in the Workplace".

The ever-entertaining Ben Fulbright regaled us stories of the history of Chapter 139 and shared a draft of his 66-page book of helpful practical hints from the workbench, *Tips and Tricks for Restoring Old Clocks*. He has assembled this book from his many years of clock repair, focusing on the types of tips and tricks that clock repair classes do not usually cover. Bob Holkan has generously arranged for publication and copies will be available for purchase at the Regional with all proceeds going to the Chapter.



Show and Tell included a brass movement that Drew has commenced restoring, and had considerable success using "Evaporust" to remove rust. It was quite a remarkable transformation when compared to the "before" pictures shown here to the left.

The session also featured a presentation from Mr. Nino Sardi, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator from the Watch & Clockmakers School of Western Australia (<http://www.wcawa.org.au/Training.html>) where Chapter 139 Vice President Shaun Clarke trained. Nino provided an interesting insight into the recent growth of interest in watch



and clock making in Western Australia and described the training that 37 students are currently studying at the school. Nino also showed a recent repair of a cracked mainspring barrel by removing the ring gear and fitting it to a donor barrel.

August Tech Session

The latest trend during the Tech Sessions of 2016 has been Show and Tell and problem solving tips and tricks and this one was no exception. Several members brought in items that had problems solved but wanted to share that solution with others. That was just Super! Darrah Artzner gave a Power Point presentation of the servicing of an Ansonia alarm carriage clock, shown to the right, and a pdf of it is available on the Chapter website in the Tech section. There is no verbiage and you just had to be there to get a full benefit out of it.



Geoff Parker receiving Chapter of the Year Award

Geoff Parker attended the National in Kentucky and accepted on behalf of Chapter 139 the **Chapter of the Year Award** (Photo courtesy of Tim Orr). He also brought George Goolsby's Fellow award back to Houston and presented it to him during this session. Congratulations George! George is also a member of the NAWCC Board of Directors and will be the National Representative at our All Texas Chapters Regional in August.



George Goolsby receiving Fellow Award

Fellow member Bob Holkan, Ben Fulbright's manager during their time working together at NASA and now retired, managed to collect many tips and tricks that Ben Fulbright had documented over the years and thought it worthy for publishing this year. He did just that and presented Ben with several copies of the book. Ben, in turn, presented several copies to the Chapter to do with as it pleases. The Chapter thanks him very much. Copies will be available for sale at the August Regional, and two copies will be donated to the NAWCC.



Ben presenting copy of his book to Drew

September Tech Session

There was just about 100% Show and Tell during this session since it was requested that members bring any recent purchases from the Regional and talk about why they bought it. You'll want to check out the pictures on the website to see more of the interesting items that were shared.

Ben Fulbright gave an interesting presentation about iron front clocks (picture to the right) and noted that they are not all iron. Some can be found made from spelter and others aluminum. Marcus Bush brought in a mini drill press that was his present from Geoff Parker. Both Geoff and Marcus wanted to bid on it during the Chapter-sponsored Silent Auction but Marcus was not available to bid on it. Geoff won the bid and later presented it to Marcus. It is really a special drill in that it is inexpensive but is built with ball bearings and is highly accurate. One had



to know details of that press in order to realize that it was a super buy at the final winning bid. Marcus really appreciates the gift, Geoff.



Marcus also brought in the skeleton clock (pictured left) that he made during the last class that was taught by Del Rolison. He suggested that the Chapter get another class ready for the up-and-coming year. By the way, Del told attendees that he is getting an introductory CAD class ready and, with luck, should have it finalized for the new year.

Darrah Artzner brought in an Ansonia swinger that Marcus gave him to iron out some problems. Darrah in turn presented the group with those problems and how they were solved. They are pretty simple clocks yet there are many minor adjustments that are necessary in order to make them run reliably. Some of those problems can be found related to the stand in which the clock is supported. He also noted that not all the swingers utilize the same size jewel bar and that acquiring a correct one can be an event in itself. For example, Junghans and Ansonia swinger jewel bars are different in distance between the jewels than those for Asian swingers. Sometimes they have to be made using new or pressed out cup jewels.

Someone brought in a watch for Geoff Parker to identify as real or fake. Sorry to say the watch was a dud – hope the owner did not pay too much for it. A hunter watch was also brought in for further identification. It was a Thomas Russell & Son movement.

Introduction to Woodworks Movement workshop

John Hardy will conduct a one-day workshop on Introduction to Woodworks Movements on October 15th and/or October 22nd for members who are interested in wood works but have little or no experience working with them. Those having experience in wood works repairs likely would not benefit very much from this workshop.

Prerequisites: Interest in wood works movements; experience in disassembly and reassembly of brass clock movements; familiarity with count wheel striking. This was covered in the Kitchen Clock Movement Class.

Topic: Disassembly / reassembly of wood works movements, cleaning and treatment, tooth replacement, bushing repair, misc. topics, Q/A

Dates: Saturday, October 15th and/or Saturday, October 22nd. Both dates if sufficient interest.

Time: 9:00am - 4:00pm

Class size: 5 Students

Location: 5039 Redstart St. Houston 77035 (John Hardy's home)

Cost: \$10.00 to cover shop supplies

Those interested may contact John at john.t.hardy9@gmail.com or at [713-723-6266](tel:713-723-6266) for more details and to indicate preference of date.

2016 All Texas Chapters Regional

By Darrah Artzner

Based on participant feedback, this was the best run Houston Regional of all time and we hope everyone had a successful buying/selling experience. The weather treated us well and everyone seemed to be having a great time. Only one person thought we came up short by not having a speaker Thursday evening but, as I explained to him, we have not had an evening guest speaker since moving to the Westchase Marriott hotel in 2010. He could not believe it. Other than that, everything went well except the recurring problem that members continually ignore the Regional policy of not buy/selling during unloading. Therefore, unless someone has an excellent solution, exchanging items next year will more than likely begin as soon as unloading commences.

Albert Rambaud, assisted by Giovanni Santarsiere, did an excellent job of assembling timepieces related to advertising and job-related duties for the Main Exhibit. They, along with members of the Board, would like to thank those who provided items for viewing. It was a huge task for some, as one item must have weighed at least a hundred pounds. Photos of the exhibit and contributors' names are posted on the Chapter website.

(<http://sanjacinto139.homestead.com/Gallery2.html>) Contributors included: Ben Fulbright, Drew Lundgren, Shaun Clarke, Marcus Bush, Desmond, Geoff Parker, Darrah Artzner, Joe Mixon, Wayne Denham, Val Link, John Trego and Frank Thayer.

Several presentations and demos hit the spot with their information on the varied topics that included professional question/answer session and the following horological topics: how to value wrist and pocket watches; why the Swatch company was and is so important to the watch industry; how to successfully adhere glass and plastic for the production of cases and other items; duplicating wood moldings; a Chapter 168 meeting and presentation on torsion clocks; and making pivoting aids on the lathe. The Board and 2016 Regional Committee would like to thank Ralph Pokluda, Richard Cox, Geoff Parker, Patricia Holloway, Gordon Shahin, Bob Holkan, John Hubby, and Drew Lundgren for donating their time and knowledge toward this series. Chapter 139 has a reputation of educating members on many topics of horology and this is what it is all about.



The Mart not only had several successful Silent Auctions and It's For Free events but over on the far east side of the building Ben Fulbright was autographing his book that was collated and produced by his friend Bob Holkan. The Chapter-sponsored Silent Auction held in the foyer was, once again, highly successful. The 'Buy It Now' table associated with the Silent Auction in the foyer was new this year and was also very successful.

The breakfast Banquet was attended by over 60 persons who took the opportunity to enjoy the great buffet and pleasant company. Chapter President Drew Lundgren introduced our National Representative George Goolsby who informed us of the state of the Association. Other Chapter representatives reported news on various topics, including the upcoming Southern Regional in Metairie LA, the 2017 National in Arlington and the 2017 National Craft Contest. Then Drew introduced Marcus Bush who presented Darrah Artzner with a Fellow award for his contributions to the National and Chapter (pictured right).





As previously mentioned, the Chapter Silent Auction was very successful even though select items have been getting harder and harder to locate. (If you have items you'd like to donate for next year's auction, it's never too early to bring them to a tech session or other event.) Several members donated items and others spent much of their time servicing donated items by getting them in running condition and sprucing them up. The Board thanks them very much for their time and efforts. Nita Mixon and Shirley Tolbert ran the event as professionally as ever and are to be commended for it. Joe Mixon did the dirty work of transporting the items and was assisted by Tim Glanzman and no doubt some other unidentified volunteers.

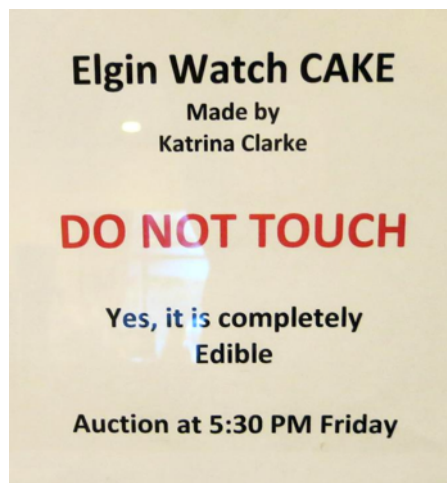
Thanks to the folks who helped with set up and to the unloading crew headed by Ken Arnold and Sammy Johnson Jr. They and their crew did a super job and are carrying on the Houston Chapter tradition of providing a wonderful but thankless task. I too wish to express my thanks to them as that was my first task when introduced to the All Texas Chapters Regional way back when. I have since graduated to the duties of pre- and onsite registration, a task that cannot be performed by oneself successfully, and am grateful to have been assisted by Geoff Parker, Becky Bush, Hilda Norris, Carol Turk, Patricia Holloway and Kerry Despaux. By the way, Geoff took on the job of Regional Treasurer and headed all the cash flow this year including the acceptance of credit cards. He has brought some other ideas with him to the registration process and we will be implementing them over time. Stay tuned!



Don't touch that watch!

Katrina Clarke, wife of Chapter Vice-President Shaun Clarke, came through again with an amazing horological cake. This year's contribution was an amazing replica of an Elgin watch. Having learned from last year's experience, a rope was put up surrounding the cake display, and signs were posted alerting everyone that it was edible.

Ben Fulbright acted as auctioneer, leading some very spirited bidding, and even having Katrina hold the cake for all to see. At the end of the bidding, Katrina handled the cake-cutting honors and the delicious cake was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Katrina and Ben for their contributions!



Upcoming events

Table with 3 columns: Date, Hours, and Event Description. Includes events like '2016 NAWCC Ward Francillon Time Symposium', 'Tech Session', 'NAWCC Webinar', and 'Chapter 139 One Day Show'.

*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.

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.