

The Mainspring

*A Monthly Publication from Southwestern Chapter 15
of the National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors*

March 2005

Message from the President

Submitted by Benny Blanchard

Hello,

Well the Gatesville 1-day show is behind us and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. We only had about 35 in attendance but there was lots of activity among those present. Watches were selling fairly slow, but lots of clocks were going home with new owners.

Ron Davidson did a great job with our educational, using rock tumblers for horological cleaning and polishing; everyone was really impressed. For those that missed it be looking for him to do this demonstration again at our Kerrville regional.

The officers and directors present at the Gatesville show had a short business meeting. Among the things discussed were some proposed by-laws changes to be voted on during the business meeting at our regional. All Chapter 15 members are urged to attend this business meeting. Remember, our Southwestern regional will be April 15th and 16th at the Inn of the Hills in Kerrville.

In Memoriam

Submitted by Joan Jensen

Last month's *Mainspring* had the news of the passing of Pat Murphy. Older members remember how hard Pat, and Mavis, worked for Chapter 15. It took them several years, along with Earl Cureton, to get a National in San Antonio. What a great one it was. Texans still get compliments about the 1978 National.

Pat and Mavis traveled the country and didn't miss many antique stores or clock collectors. If you found one you can rest assured they had already been there.

Chapter 15 and its members lost a jewel when we lost Pat Murphy.

Proposed Changes to Chapter 15 By-laws

In accordance with the requirements of Article VI of the By-Laws for our chapter the following notice is provided to the membership at the recommendation of the Officers and Directors. The following changes are recommended :

1. Page 2, Article I, Section 4. Term of Office. The first sentence will be changed to read: ***The term of Officers shall be two years.***

2. Page 4, Article VI, Section 3. Dues. The first sentence will be changed to read: ***The annual dues, beginning with calendar year 2006, shall be ten dollars.*** The membership is reminded that to become effective these changes require a majority vote of those members present at the next business meeting. This will be held at 5:15 PM Friday, April 15 during the Kerrville regional just after the Mart floor closes for the day.

Various National news items

Jim Reid, the Crafts Chairman for the 2005 NAWCC National asks that we take notice of the upcoming crafts competition at the National Convention in Ft Lauderdale. I am aware of at least one potential and serious entry from our chapter and feel this is a newsworthy item; ***the results will be equally newsworthy.*** If anyone is interested in making a submission check your ***Bulletin*** or ***Mart*** for details.

I have received more than one request for endorsement by people running for a position on the NAWCC Board of Directors. I will not make editorial endorsement, but I will say that all elections are important and are our privilege as Americans; ballots must be received in Columbia PA no later than March 31, 2005, include the your NAWCC member number and zip code. See your ***Bulletin*** or ***Mart*** for details.

Upcoming Shows and Events

April 15-16

Great Southwestern Regional, Kerrville TX, hosted by Chapter 15. Make your plans now to help and attend.

2005 NAWCC National
June 9 - 11, Ft Lauderdale, FL
check your Bulletin for details

June 18, August 6, October 15
One day shows in Dallas hosted by Chapter 124
see <http://www.chapter124.com> for details

June 25th
1 Day Show in Temple-Belton area
Hosted by Chapter 15, watch for details
August 26 - 28

Houston Regional, hosted by Chapter 139
September 17th
One Day Show in Wharton, watch for details.
Hosted by Chapter 15

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News about our Members

Submitted by members for members

Jack Whisenhunt tells me that Jack Kline had a stroke in early February. At the time of this printing he is out of the hospital, but recovering slowly. Jack also tells me that Jack Strickland was recently released from a hospital in Houston. He is now at home recovering. We wish them both a thorough and speedy recovery and hope to see them at the Mart this April.

Clyde Day in Kerrville tells of the triple by-pass for his son Neil, also a Chapter 15 member. Neil is scheduled for this procedure on March 10. We wish him well and a speedy recovery.

If you know of news about our membership that should appear here please submit to the Editor.

Bench Tips for Watchmakers by Bruce Graham

Many old replacement parts for watches come in small glass vials with cork stoppers. And since many Seitz jewel vials have the jewel sizes printed on the top of the cork, it is particularly frustrating to have a stuck cork break in half separating top from bottom. Many times you can free a stuck cork (before it breaks) by gently pushing the cork straight down into the vial before attempting to pull the cork out of the vial. Try this tip if you have old or seldom used parts vials where the corks have been breaking on removal.

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