



S.W. Chapter 15

The Mainspring

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

September 2005

Katrina Impact

Submitted by John Hubby

**Because of the aftermath of
Hurricane Katrina, the Great
Southern Regional that was to be
held September 30 - October 2 in
Metairie, LA has been
CANCELLED.**

There will be additional information posted soon on the NAWCC website (<http://www.nawcc.org>) and on NAWCC_NEWS, however there presently are no communications available to Regional registration staff and may not be for some time. If you have made reservations or pre-registered, please be patient while the folks there get things sorted out. **However please understand that the Regional will NOT be held.** ☺

NAWCC Members and Hurricane Katrina

*submitted by Connie Stuckert,
Executive Director, NAWCC*

In the wake of the recent disaster caused by Hurricane Katrina, many members of the NAWCC are expressing concern about fellow members in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

We have 268 members in the affected areas of these states. Here at Headquarters we are helping members

locate one another and providing as much essential information as is possible and appropriate. If you go to our website, <http://www.nawcc.org> you will find lists of members we have located, and others we are still looking for. Please help in this effort.

If you have heard from a member in these afflicted areas, please let us know.

If you are concerned about a member in these afflicted areas we may have information that will put your mind at ease.

Thank you for your help and concern for our fellow members during this troubled time. Here in Columbia, we will do all we can to help those members and chapters who need our assistance and support. ☺

Member Location Update

As of the printing of this newsletter, September 6, 2005 the NAWCC National website knew of the following members that had not been found:

1. Joel Dunipace
2. Ray & Pat Harris
3. Paul Odendahl

If you know anything about the whereabouts of these members please contact either the NAWCC Headquarters in Columbia PA directly or one of our Chapter 15 Officers. ☺

Donations

While our chapter is not set up to accept or distribute donations we want to encourage our members to donate to helpful organizations such as the Red Cross and many others who can. Help as you would like to be helped. ☺

From the Chapter President

submitted by Jeff Beehler

Who says you can't give someone the gift of time! The other day while my wife, Laura and I were working on our kitchen remodeling project, we were discussing our upcoming trip to Kansas to attend the wedding of her niece and also view her sister's recently remodeled Mission style home. While trying to think of a gift for the wedding and sorting through the usual possibilities such as vases, champagne glass, punch bowl set, none of which would have been used, we came up with an idea of, yep... you guessed it ...A CLOCK! Well this suited me just fine as it gave me a chance to break away from the tedious, on-the-knees job of scraping up old vinyl and go out to the garage and sort through lots of possible candidates. After sifting through dozens of clocks I decided on a nice Welch OG in pretty good shape. (This is one way of getting rid of an OG!) And a Gilbert Mission shelf clock to give her sister as a house warming gift. So with a few evenings of cleaning, adjusting and spiffing up they are ready for the trip north. I know that these gifts will be welcomed into their new homes as both her sister and niece have shown interest in our clock collection. So isn't this really what it is all about "sharing time"; letting others appreciate what former Masters of the clock trade have produced and putting a little history in our lives? Every time they look at the clock they will think of the person who gave it to them. They will also think of them when it strikes three and it's only two-thirty! The old saying "love isn't love until you give it away" comes to mind. The same applies to time. So let's spend time with friends and loved ones as often as possible. After all people, time is getting short.☺

...participate in the first of a series of presentations on Unusual and Wonderful Clocks

Chapter Presentation Saturday, October 22, San Antonio, 10AM to 12 noon

We've had some feed back on activities and events our members are interested in. We've also had some thoughts on growing our membership and directing activities toward newer and less experienced members. As a result our October chapter meeting will be held in San Antonio at the shops and facilities of Clocks of San Antonio! Joel Ferris is the owner and proprietor of this sales and repair business. **The address is: 15669 San Pedro (the north west side of Highway 281 North and the Brookhollow Ave exit.)** Their telephone number is (210) 495-8463. Joel is a new chapter member and has very graciously offered the use of (portions of) his shop for our chapter meeting. Please come and welcome him and participate in the first of a series of presentations on Unusual and Wonderful clocks. It is our thought that many members may not have seen or even heard of some of the wonderful pieces that make clock collecting so exciting.

Do you know of winding durations of 30, 60, 90 days or more? Do you know of complicated escapements, double escapements, gravity escapements, water escapements, folio escapements, clocks from Japan before 1800, master clocks or slave clocks? Each are ones we will endeavor to discuss. Come and join in, share your experience with others. Bring your questions, your interest and your support.☺

Membership News

- Jack Duke in San Antonio is selling some of his collection in anticipation of a move. Call him at (210) 434-4039 if you are interested.
- Don't forget to help if you know of the status of members affected by Katrina, see page 1.

Warning: Reproductions Ahead *submitted by Editor*

Things are changing in our world, rapidly. Included are certainly the significant effects and impact the huge nation of China is having. Those of us in horology are not left untouched.

My full time business is the repair and restoration of antique clocks. I can't say I've seen it all, but I've been fortunate and have had a very nice selection come across my bench from many different makers, styles and nations of origin. Surprises are still out there, but they present themselves less and less often these days. The purpose of this piece is to bring to

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your attention the work, much of which is absolutely amazing, of the Chinese reproduction.

Especially on the Internet and

specifically on Ebay you can easily find many models of swingers, calendar clocks, French clocks and bronzes. These are NOT the clocks we've seen from Taiwan in the past!

I have in my shop at the moment four examples of reproductions produced in China. The first is a 2 day small Junghans elephant swinger. The second is an Ithaca double dial, model number 3. The third is a mantle size fancy French temperature compensating pendulum. And lastly is a Gale astronomical short drop wall model calendar clock. I bought each of these with the full knowledge they were reproductions, each are stunning they are so accurate in detail and appearance. Without a very detailed familiarity of the specific makers and models I think each of these pieces could easily pass for period pieces. That is a good thing and a bad thing. It's wonderful for those of us in the restoration business because often original parts and pieces are simply not available to complete a job, especially for decorative

case ornamentation. It is a questionable thing however in that not all sellers and restorers are 100 percent up front with their customers about the origin of their inventory. That is assuming they themselves know.

I've personally heard one of our chapter members, who will remain nameless, say even with his very extensive experience in the business of antiques and clocks these days he would not buy a metal mantle clock unless he knew the seller well. It's simply too easy to get fooled.

What's a collector to do? That is exactly what we will cover in the next installment of Warning: Reproductions Ahead! Tune in next month, space and interest permitting ☺

Upcoming Shows and Events

(watch our website for more details)

●September 17th

One Day Show in Wharton, details on page 3.

Hosted by Chapter 15

●October 15

One day show in Dallas hosted by Chapter 124 see <http://www.chapter124.com> for details

●October 22

Chapter meeting and Presentation on Unusual Clocks. Hosted by Chapter 15. See page 2 for details.

●November 12th

One Day Show in Austin, details to follow

Hosted by Chapter 15 ☺

Classified Ads

CLOCK GEARS, BARRELS, PINIONS
ARBORS AND ESCAPE WHEELS
All made to order from your sample

H.O. GEAR SERVICE

"I do what it takes"

H.O. Gear Service For UPS Delivery
P.O. Box 103 185 Pin Oak Drive
Malakoff, TX 75148 Mabank, TX 75156
(903) 451-3036 Howard C. Vaughn Sr.
Member NAWCC Since 1974

**Upcoming
Wharton One-Day Show
Reminder**

The next Chapter 15 sponsored one-day show will be in Wharton Texas on September 17th from 8AM to 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church at 1717 Pioneer Street.

Contact Shirley Secor at (979) 532-3363 or hsecor@sbcglobal.net for more information or refer to prior issues of this newsletter, or go to our website <http://www.nawcc-chapter15.org>.

Chapter 15's New website

Check it all out at:

<http://www.nawcc-chapter15.org>

**Southwestern Chapter 15
26766 Fawn Mountain Road
Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015**

**Chapter 15 Membership Application
New Application / Renewal (circle one)**

Membership dues are \$10 per year. Dues are payable by December 31 each year. If joining initially after July 1st dues are \$5 for first year. **You must be a current and paid member of NAWCC to join a chapter.** You may belong to more than one chapter at a time.

Please print or type

NAME:_____

SPOUSE'S NAME:_____

STREET:_____

CITY:_____

STATE/COUNTRY:_____ ZIP:_____

E-MAIL_____

PHONE: HOME:(_____)_____

Horological Interests_____

NAWCC Member#_____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: CHAPTER 15, NAWCC

Enclose with remittance and send to:

Jerry Brazil

26766 Fawn Mountain Road

Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015

(210) 698-6665 eggman@beecreek.net