



S.W.Chapter 15

The Mainspring

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

August 2006

From the President

submitted by Jeff Beehler

It is with great concern that I am writing to you this month. Our chapter is in desperate need of volunteers in all areas. Our Vice President, Ted Orban, has taken a position in North Carolina and as a result will not be able to continue as Chairman for our Regional. Ron Davidson, our Director of Programs has also had to resign due to family obligations.

Urgent Presidential Appeal

With these resignations that leaves myself, Jerry Brazil, Susan Hansen and Brice Beehler to run this chapter and plan events. This can not be done with so few

people. Our chapter is in excess of 200 members. It is time for members to step up to the plate and take on a position. There are several who have volunteered year after year and are at a point in their lives where they would like to turn these responsibilities over to other members. We have a faithful few that ALWAYS come through, but it is time for other members to step up and fill these positions and volunteer their time to ensure their chapter continues.

We can try using members on a one time basis meaning that if we want to put on a program we can get that member to do it for that time only so all their

time is not consumed trying to put on 10 or 12 programs a year.

We need at least two members to fill the vacant Board positions immediately, we also need volunteers to help the Board members with their duties. I, as well as other Board members, have pleaded for volunteers on numerous occasions with no response. We hear that "no one called me." Let this be your formal invitation to come forward and take on one of these positions or volunteer to help with the jobs necessary to make the Regional happen. You don't have to wait for a phone call. The Board needs to know that there is a person or persons willing to step up to fill these vacancies. Without volunteers to chair or work we are in jeopardy of having to cancel this year's Regional.

This will be my final plea for volunteers and people willing to take on responsibilities in your chapter. It is up to you to invest a small amount of your time to ensure the chapter stays alive. Come on people, don't wait for someone else to do it. Contact one of your Board members. No experience is necessary. We also need a new Webmaster. Ted Orban has agreed to continue until we can find a suitable replacement.☺

Education and Workshops

submitted by Brice Beehler

I have been working on a few ideas for a class, but not finalized anything as of this date. I have not received very much input from our members, so any help or interests you can provide me would be greatly appreciated.

I hope to have some ideas finalized in the next 2 weeks. Once this is complete I will communicate.☺

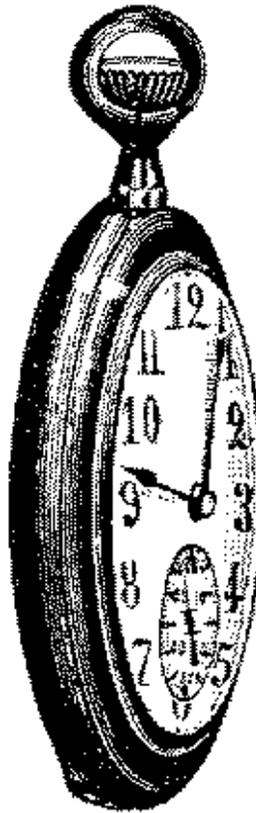
Upcoming Shows and Events

(watch our website for more details)

●August 18 - 20, 2006
All Texas Regional, Houston
Hosted by Chapter 139

●September 14-15, 2006
MKOA Regional, Oklahoma City
Hosted by Chapter 74

●October 28, 2006
Joint One Day Show, Waco
Hosted by Chapters 15, 124 and 139☺



shift or cock to a degree that the mainspring teeth will bind on the center wheel pinion. This can be a more acute problem with the “fine train” or quick beat watches that have more pinion leaves or barrel teeth than the coarse train or slow beat pocket watches. It can also be more problematic if the teeth on the mainspring barrel are very tall. Pocket watch makers added plate jewels on the mainspring arbor and/or jeweled barrels to help reduce this problem, but earlier watches should be routinely checked for excessive mainspring barrel play. This check can help diagnose those “low power” situations that sometimes look like the mainspring has taken a set.☺

Classified Ads

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Watch Repair Tips

submitted by Bruce Graham

Many times a watch repair person will use a new mainspring to “power” through some other problem with a pocket watch. One often-overlooked problem is excess play around the mainspring arbor.

In a typical pocket watch, the arbor actually runs on 4 surfaces, two on the mainspring barrel, as well as the dial plate and mainspring bridge. Excess wear can be cumulative on these surfaces and cause the barrel to

Editorial License:

As someone “in the business” I want to highlight this article for all of us who do clock repair. Yes I know Bruce wrote this article thinking about watches, but if you removed the references to jewels it is splendid advice for any proper and thorough clock repair. Don’t overlook the need to at least check the winding arbor holes in each mainspring barrel and barrel cover. I often find these have been overlooked during previous repairs. If you think about it this seriously reduces the power right from the start. Why would we want this condition in a properly repaired clock movement? No reason I can think of.

The repair requires chucking the barrel and or barrel cover in a lathe, and will take a larger than normal bushing and sometimes even require cutting one, but is a very necessary and rewarding repair.

Thanks again Bruce for an excellent article.

Wooden movement repair takes a stand!

comments and accolades by the Editor

Don Bugh and Terry Palmer are much too modest to take any credit, but as a fellow clock repair person I'm going to pass along a very good tip for all of us who repair wooden movements. Within the preparation for the Austin Watch Guild's Wooden Works Class scheduled to be held in College Station in October Don and Terry have developed plans for a very nice wooden movement holder. For those of you with good memories you may recall Don had his version on the Exhibit table during the last Kerrville Regional. Pictures of this are on our website. Well now to trump that effort they have put the entire construction plan in a PDF format and out on the web for anyone to download and enjoy. Please go to:
<http://members.cox.net/winspire3/other/clockstand.pdf>
This is a very useful tool and one easily built. Thanks Don and Terry!☺

Editorial Policy for The Mainspring *by the Editor*

I'm getting more of my share of ink in this issue and in my eyes that's not the intention of this newsletter. I believe **The Mainspring** is intended to be articles and ideas for our membership. It is after-all your chapter and your newsletter. However a professional chapter requires a professional presentation. I believe you will find that any publication has a single editor responsible for final copy and continuity of publication. In the spirit of full

disclosure the following published policy is presented.

1. The intent of this newsletter is to inform NAWCC Chapter 15 of events and information that will be helpful to them as members. Submissions therefore should be relevant to the operation or members of the NAWCC, Chapter 15, or horology in general.
2. Submissions will be included on a space available basis. Attempts will be made to include submissions in the next edition.
3. The standard submission deadline for articles is the first day of month. Written articles should be mailed directly to the editor, or sent by E-mail.
4. The editor reserves the right to edit copy submitted for grammar, content and appropriate language. While submissions with negative messages will be considered for print, no inflammatory or abusive copy, or submissions without a constructive message will be printed.
5. It is not the intent of this newsletter to take the place of other publications or to serve as advertising media for people or organizations other than current Chapter 15 members.
6. Only original copy will be printed unless written permission from the author is provided in advance.

Questions or comments concerning these policies should be directed to the Editor.☺

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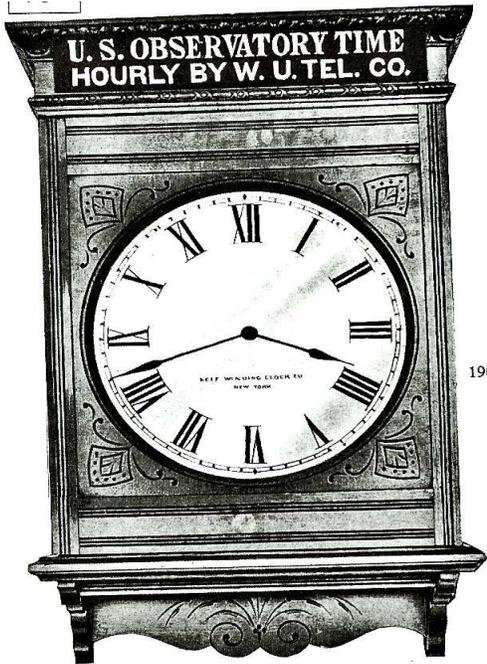
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No. 10

Self Wind Gallery No 10
courtesy of Tran Duy Ly

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:

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