President’s Message

Gene Galbraith

Jack and Connie Duke, along with their son Craig, graciously opened their home to Southwestern Chapter 15 members on Saturday, July 21, to view their superb collection of clocks. Their warm expressions of kindness toward the Chapter 15 members in attendance will long be remembered. The tour of their home museum was an added bonus to the fine program that Director of Programs, Jerry Brazil, presented at the monthly meeting. We extend our thanks and appreciation to Jerry for his excellent work with the programs.

Vice President, Mike Williams, is diligently working on the arrangements for the Regional Convention in 2008. We look forward to his announcements in the near future about his plans for the Regional.

The Executive Committee is reviewing the Constitution & Bylaws of Chapter 15, and will be making recommendations for proposed changes to the document for presentation to the membership. Most of the changes will correct errors in punctuation, capitalization, redundancies, ambiguous phrasing, and contradictions. After the membership gives final approval of the revised document, Chapter 15 can then pursue its application for a 501(c)(3) exemption from taxes with the IRS. Although the NAWCC is designated as a 501(c)(3), its exemption does not cover the chapters. Each chapter must apply for its own exemption.

Chapter 15’s membership is a great cross section of people who share the common interest of horology, i.e., clocks, watches, clockmaker and watchmaker tools, and books on horology. Wouldn’t it be great to have a museum that would display the finest examples of horological pieces and a research library to explore the history of horology? The Southwest Museum of Clocks & Watches is in its formative stages of organization toward becoming a world class museum. Already the Museum has pledges from many individuals to loan or donate horological items for display when the Museum opens. If you are interested in knowing more about the Museum and how you can participate in its development, please contact us at genegalbraith35@aol.com. Central Texas needs a clock and watch museum where our children can enjoy and learn about the mysteries of clocks and watches and what makes them tick.

CLOCK REPAIR CLASS

San Antonio, Texas Aug 18, 2007 9:00 to 11:00

There will be a “round robin” clock repair class presented by members of Chapter 15 at the Coker Methodist Church in San Antonio. You are invited to take advantage of over 80 combined years of clock repair experience to answer your questions and get expert advice from these knowledgeable individuals. Jerry Brazil, Ron Davidson, Eldon Harris and Mike Webb will share their experience and expertise on the various aspects of bushings, pivot polishing, clock springs, and horological tools.

This is another one of our chapter educational activities where visitors are welcome, so bring along a family member or friend who may be curious about your clock addiction and introduce them to the wonderful world of clocks, horology, Chapter 15, and the NAWCC.

Scott Clark - Director of Workshops

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING SITE

Coker United Methodist Church is located near the San Antonio International Airport, west of highway 281, between Bitters and Nakoma at 231 E North Loop Rd.

Coming North on 281: Go north on 281 and take the Bitters Road exit. Move to the far left lane to take the turnaround. Go south on access road. You will pass Burlington’s, Sam’s Club, etc. Turn right on North Loop Road immediately past Shearer Hills Baptist Church. (There is a sign for Coker UMC). The church is approximately ½ miles down E. North Loop Road on the right-hand side.

From 1604: The church is located on the west side of Hwy. 281 between Bitters Road and Nakoma Drive exits. Take 281 south (towards downtown). Exit Bitters Road; go through the light at Bitters and continue south on the access road. You will pass Burlington’s, Sam’s Club, etc. Turn right on North Loop Road immediately past Shearer Hills Baptist Church. (There is a sign for Coker UMC). The church is approximately ½ miles down E. North Loop Road on the right-hand side.

From Austin: Take IH 35 South to Loop 1604 West. Follow 1604 W 8 miles to US 281 South: then follow the directions above from 1604.
July’s Austin Meeting
Pat Holloway

The Chapter 15 monthly meeting was held July 21st at Westover Hills Church of Christ in Austin. Following a brief business meeting, we were treated to a very interesting program on “Wonderful and Unusual Clocks” presented by Jerry Brazil. In addition to having the opportunity to see a wide variety of these clocks, we were able to learn more about the features that made them very unusual.

Jerry began the program with a mini-exhibit of wonderful clocks including a three foot tall French swinger with a time AND strike movement, and moved then to a replica of Benjamin Franklin’s clock that had a single hand, a dial divided into 4 twelve hour segments, and a weight driven movement consisting of only three wheels. Dulen Lee also shared an unusual French clock made by Odobez. The clock had a Morbier type strike and a divided plate that allows access to the time and strike train independently.

From these fascinating examples, the program moved to a slide presentation that ranged from a triple fusee skeleton clock with a Whittington chime on 8 nested bells, to a Riefler Observatory clock, prison art clocks, and a French water wheel clock, to a Scottish clock with a piano-type sounding board with the very large chime movement driven by a 50 pound weight.

In addition to the morning’s program, long-time Chapter 15 member Jack Duke and his wife Connie opened their home to the Chapter for a tour of their fabulous collection of French clocks later in the day. Those who were able to attend spent a fascinating hour with Jack, Connie and Craig Duke. We’d like to thank them for the invitation, and for sharing their warm hospitality and wealth of knowledge and experience with us.
September's Program

In San Antonio on Saturday September 15 we'll take an in depth look at a Japanese Lantern Clock. We'll consider what it means to say “pre-Western time keeping.” We'll study what a foliot is, and actually see a clock with two of them. And we'll actually be able to see and enjoy a superb example that is over 6 feet tall, a presentation piece, a clock from the 1860's. Please come and enjoy the time together with a wonderful clock.

Horological Hints

When using a Jeweler's saw, a little bee's wax on the blade will make things go a little smoother. Also, your blade should “sing” a little when plucked. To get it mounted in good and tight, first adjust the saw frame such that it is about 1/8" to 1/4" too long to grasp the blade. Then rest the frame end against your bench and the handle against your chest. Lean on the handle just enough to draw in the frame to get the saw blade attached. You should now have good tension on the blade. But be careful with the tension, or your “singing” blade will go “boing” and it will be time to reach for another blade.

Chapter 15 Membership Application

(Circle one) New - Renewal

Memberships Dues are $10 per year. Dues are payable by December 31 each year. If joining initially after July 1st, dues are $5 for the first year. You must be a current and paid up member of the NAWCC to join a chapter. You may belong to as many chapters as you wish.

Please PRINT or Type

Name: _______________________________
Spouse’s Name: ________________________
Street: ________________________________
City: __________________________________
State: ____   Zip code: ___________________
E-Mail: ________________________________
Home Phone: ___________________________
Horological Interests: _____________________

________________________________________
NAWCC Member # _______________________

Make Check Payable to: NAWCC Chapter 15
Enclose with this form and send to:
Pat Holloway, Secretary Chapter 15
1105 Lafayette Lane
Pflugerville, TX  78660

Events to Remember

į Chapter 15 Workshop
Saturday, August 18th
Clock Repair “Round Robin” Class
Coker United Methodist Church

į NAWCC - Texas All Chapters Regional
August 24th - 26th
Houston, Texas

į San Antonio Meeting  (see article this page)
September 15th
“An In-depth Look at a Japanese Lantern Clock”

į Wharton Meeting
September 15th - 8:00 - 12:00
Methodist Hall on Boling Highway
Open House at Secor’s After Meet

į Combined Chapters One-Day
October 20th - Saturday
Waco, Texas - Texas Ranger Museum

į NAWCC - Five State Collectors Regional
November 2nd - 3rd
Amarillo, Texas

The Mainspring – August 2007 - Page 3
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The Southwest Museum of
CLOCKS & WATCHES
PO Box 91852
Austin, TX 78709
For information:
genegalbraith35@aol.com
(512) 658-3853
Donations are tax deductible.

NAWCC Chapter 15
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