



# The MAIN SPRING

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

## **The Great Southwestern Regional in New Braunfels is just around the corner!**

The 2008 Great Southwestern Regional is less than two weeks away!

Pre-registrations are running about 15% ahead of last year, which is exciting--especially since the Mart ad is just now arriving in mailboxes.

Because of this delay, the pre-registration deadline has been extended until April 11. (Registration forms are available online at [www.nawcc-chapter15.org](http://www.nawcc-chapter15.org) or in previous editions of this newsletter.) We have a much larger facility than last year, so tables are still available. As of this writing a few rooms are still available at the Faust Hotel, but they are no longer reserving a block of rooms for us and our special pricing may be requested, but is no longer guaranteed. For anybody who wants to attend the breakfast banquet but can't send in their pre-registration form to arrive before April 11, be sure to contact Pat or myself: we have to provide a firm headcount by the end of that day.

Many thanks to the volunteers who stepped up to help out with this regional, and a special thanks to Jerry Brazil, who took charge of the Mart room, Gene Galbraith, who took charge of the exhibit, Jeff Beehler, who took charge of security, and especially Pat Holloway, who stepped up at the very beginning to handle registrations. There are many others to thank--and they will be honored--but these four essential pillars of our regional made it possible.

Their efforts, the efforts of others, and your participation are what make the Southwestern regional Great!

Mike Williams, General Chairman  
Great Southwestern Regional

[VicePresident@NAWCC-Chapter15.org](mailto:VicePresident@NAWCC-Chapter15.org)

### **2008 Great Southwestern Regional Exhibit "The Parade of Time" will be worth the trip!**

- **Clock Organ, circa 1840, formerly owned by P. T. Barnum who purchased it in Europe in the 1850s. Fully restored throughout, the organ has 72 pipes and plays 10 different tunes. The Black Forest 8 day clock was probably made in the late 1790s or early 1800s. The clock hands are 10 carat gold. The clock organ stands 9' 2" tall.**
- **Early skeleton table clock circa 1675, single fusee, probably made by an apprentice in England as his "masterpiece."**
- **Silver paired case English pocket watch, circa 1830.**
- **Peter Stretch long case 8 day clock, circa 1710, made in Philadelphia.**
- **Japanese Shogun Era Temple Clock**

#### **And Check out the Great Programs....**

- **Ken Reindel will be teaching a class on wheel making (gear making).**
- **John Hubby, Vice Chairman of NAWCC and the leading Gustav Becker expert today, is presenting and publishing information that substantially corrects and enhances some of Kochmann's information.**
- **John Newman of Prattville, AL gave a presentation on starting a repair business at National, and he will be bringing his presentation to our regional as well. We will be following his presentation up with a panel discussion where audience members can interact with some businessmen that are currently working in repairs.**

**And, as always, you will have the chance to call upon the expertise of your fellow members in a relaxed atmosphere.**

**Visit Your NAWCC Chapter 15 Website at [www.nawcc-chapter15.org/](http://www.nawcc-chapter15.org/) - new information updates!!**

## Message from the President

Gene Galbraith

The Southwestern Chapter 15 Regional is only days away and Mike Williams, Vice President, is doing a great job at putting it all together. We are very fortunate to have his leadership and organizational skills in Chapter 15.

Chapter 15 is also fortunate to be able to use the convention facilities in New Braunfels, Texas. We have had the opportunity to preview the area and it is truly beautiful and well suited to our needs. Please make your plans to attend the Regional. If you only have a few hours to give to enjoy this exciting event and the City of New Braunfels, it will be well worth your and your family's time to do so.

We have been fortunate to have the leadership of the Board of Directors in their various capacities. Among these are Jerry Brazil, Director of Programs, and Ron Davidson, Director of One Day Marts. These two gentlemen have decided to retire from the Board. They have given many years of dedicated service to Southwestern Chapter 15 and the NAWCC for which we are most grateful and indebted. We wish them all the best during their interlude from chapter service.

Therefore, we are calling for people to step forward to fill these board positions. There are many of you who have considered giving some of yourself to serving Chapter 15. Now is the time to make that commitment. It may be that you would prefer to serve in a different capacity. Fine. We can accommodate your wishes. The point is: Get involved! If you would like to be President, I'll move over to another position and let you have it! We encourage the membership to give us names of prospects that may be reluctant to step forward, who may need a little nudge. Before you give a name, be sure the candidate approves and will serve, if elected.

"Meet me in New Braunfels!"

### ***What is that Stuff Anyway?***

Nickeloid - 40-45% Copper, 55-60% Nickel

Silverine - 45% Nickel, 54% Copper  
1% Manganese

## **Doing Pocket Watch Research?**

There are quite a few resources available online to help out. One of our own Chapter 15 members, Henry Burgell, has a webpage with serial numbers look-ups for Hamilton, Hampden, Rockford, and South Bend. There is also a link to information on private label Elgin and Rockford, as well as some jewel listing and other details. All very helpful information – thanks Henry. All of this free at [http://www.nawcc-ch149.com/pw\\_dbresearch.html](http://www.nawcc-ch149.com/pw_dbresearch.html)

If you need information about Elgin pocket watches, point your browser to the website at [http://elginwatches.org/databases/elgin\\_sn\\_intro.html](http://elginwatches.org/databases/elgin_sn_intro.html). It has a serial number look-up database and a wealth of other information on grade numbers, mainsprings, private label names, and other data. The gentleman providing this information is Wayne Schlitt, and he is a NAWCC member.

There are tables with serial number listings for Waltham, Illinois, Columbus, and other pocket watches as well as some limited history at [www.oldwatch.com](http://www.oldwatch.com). This site is a commercial site that sells watches as well, but it does provide quite a bit of information and some good photos.

I am sure that many of our members have found helpful websites for watch or clock information – both historical and repair. If you know of a site that has been useful, please share by forwarding information to the editor at [newsletter@nawcc-chapter15.org](mailto:newsletter@nawcc-chapter15.org)

## **Save The Date**

- **Great Southwestern Regional**  
**April 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**New Braunfels, Texas**  
**New Braunfels Civic Center**
- **NAWCC National Convention**  
**June 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Springfield, MO**
- **Texas All Chapters Regional**  
**August 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**JW Marriot**  
**Houston TX**

## 2008 Membership Renewal – Last Call

You will not be receiving this newsletter in May if you have not renewed. Please use the form below or join at the Great Southwestern Regional.

Dues are \$10 per year and run concurrent with the calendar year. Please complete the Membership Application found below so we can check our records for addresses and other details. We assume that by indicating an e-mail address you agree to receive this newsletter by e-mail. If that is not correct please indicate this on the application. E-mail distribution helps save postage and production expenses, thus allowing us to utilize the available funds for outreach and educational programs. Thank you for your support of our chapter!

Chapter 15 Membership Application  
New Application / Renewal (circle one)  
Membership Dues are \$10

You must be a current and paid member  
of NAWCC to join a Chapter.

You may be a member of more than one chapter.

**Please Print or Type**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAWCC Member # \_\_\_\_\_

HOROLOGICAL INTERESTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Make Check Payable To: Chapter 15, NAWCC  
Enclose this application and check and send to:

Pat Holloway  
1105 Lafayette Lane  
Pflugerville, TX 78660

## Treasurer's Report

Neill Day, Chapter 15 Treasurer reports that the account balances on the last statements are:

Chapter 15	\$8508.49
Regional	\$3081.93

## Self Winding Clock Class

March 15, 2008

Our first hands-on repair class of 2008 was held in Austin, Saturday March 15, 2008. About twenty Chapter members and guests gathered: some with self winding clocks and clockworks in hand, some armed only with pen and paper and a desire to learn more about these fascinating clocks. The class kicked off at 9 a.m. and the attendees were still anxious for more when the 12:00 hour rolled about signaling the end of our scheduled time.

As the class began, Ken Reindel provided additional movements to those who did not have a clock so that everyone could reference the works as he presented the information. During the class, Ken provided excellent background and historical information, including detailed photographs and explanations in a video format, all in terminology that was very understandable - even to those of us who are novices. Once the groundwork was laid, there was a time for actual hands-on experience. Ken and our guest self-winder repair instructor Mary Bess Grisham provided individualized assistance.

Our thanks to Ken, Mary Bess and our Program Directors for planning and presenting this class! Judging from the enthusiasm and attendance at this hands-on session, it's safe to say that additional classroom experiences will be planned for the upcoming year. If you have ideas or would like to learn more about any particular aspect of clocks or watches, please take a minute to contact any of the Chapter 15 officers or directors, either by phone, email or in person at our upcoming Great Southwestern Regional.

### MOVING TO SMALL HOUSE JACK & ELAINE CHIPMAN

Must sell most of my clock and watch collection.  
We have a little of most everything-

- 2 tall case clocks
- several wall clocks
- mantle clocks
- 1 watchmakers bench
- 1 complete Watchmakers Lathe & collets
- tools
- Pocket & wrist watches
- And more

We are located at:

791 Moonglow Ave.

New Braunfels, TX 78130

Phone: 830 237 8235 or 830 237 8782



**THE Southwest Museum**  
**OF CLOCKS & WATCHES**

101 E. San Antonio  
Lockhart, TX 78644  
Donations are tax deductible  
Membership dues are \$20.

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

## **H.O. GEAR SERVICE**

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P.O. Box 103  
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Mabank, TX 75156

(903) 451-3036 ❖ Howard C Vaughn Sr.  
Member NAWCC since 1974



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