



# The MAIN SPRING

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

## President's Message

~ Gene Galbraith

Clock and watch enthusiasts throughout the Southwest have opportunities to enjoy their hobby in ways never before offered. NAWCC chapters blanket the area with active programs which help collectors acquire timepieces and develop the skills necessary to maintain them.

SOUTHWESTERN CHAPTER 15, ARK-LA-TEX CHAPTER 45, ARKANSAS RAZORBACK CHAPTER 62, FIVE STATES CHAPTER 80, LONE STAR CHAPTER 124, and SAN JACINTO CHAPTER 139 provide programs for their members and friends which help to promote our horological interests. We have regional conventions, one day marts, workshops, and programs for all to enjoy. Websites link us to unsurpassed informational guides on any subject related to horology. Newsletters keep us informed on local happenings, monthly and quarterly meetings, and technical classes being offered. The **National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors** offers tremendous support to its members through its publications. We have only to avail ourselves of these great resources.

There are other groups and organizations which provide important services to collectors and horologists. The **American Watchmakers Clockmakers Institute** provides technical information and programs toward certifications. Their Standards and Practices Guide is an outstanding way to learn the professional approach to watch and clock repair. Classes are available to help students in their quest to become certified as 21<sup>st</sup> Century Watchmakers (CW21) or 21<sup>st</sup> Century Clockmakers (CC21).

Another Central Texas organization which plays an important role in horological pursuits is the **Capitol Area Watchmakers-Clockmakers Guild**. It has been recognized nationally for its excellence in educational programs and service to its members. The officers and directors work diligently to promote social and educational activities.

The **Southwest Museum of Clocks and Watches** promotes all horological organizations through its efforts to recruit members for the various groups. The Museum presents programs for the public at large which will inspire them toward learning more about timepieces and getting involved in clock and watch activities.

Without the dedicated leaders and volunteers of the above organizations, none of these opportunities would exist. The continued support and involvement of the membership will assure the future of horology. We must work to preserve our rich heritage for generations to come. Let us not waste time in these timely pursuits. Time waits for no one.

## **Great Southwestern Survey**

If you have not yet completed the Survey, please do so and mail to:

Pat Holloway  
1105 Lafayette Lane  
Pflugerville, TX 78660

Or email to:

[Secretary@nawcc-chapter15.org](mailto:Secretary@nawcc-chapter15.org)

Come on, how often does anyone ask you to complain, it is your golden opportunity to share your insight on how things should be done.

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

## Great Southwestern Chapter 15 Regional Results

Our move to New Braunfels in 2008 proved to be a success, both financially and participation-wise. The number of registered attendees (201) was significantly up and Saturday participation in particular was more robust than 2007. The number of tables rented was down very slightly, but only by five tables--the number normally rented by one of our former chapter presidents, who was busy planning the NAWCC National Convention and couldn't make it this year. Both figures can probably be improved upon with better and earlier advertising and promotion, along with incorporating the wants and desires of members about how to run the regional (feedback has been very limited).

My major focus of the 2008 regional was to cut costs while improving attendance and participation. At our prior location, numerous charges for incidental items caused us to lose \$1160.99 (\$545.40 of this amount was for coffee!!!). I'm pleased to report that subject to one or two small and late arriving bills, the 2008 Great Southwestern Regional is the black this year by \$942.10--an improvement of \$2103.09. Total income was nearly the same at a little more than \$7400, but 2007 income included \$1455 from the raffle of a clock donated by Gene.

Major cost reductions came from reduced rent for the exhibit hall and meeting room(s), security, insurance, coffee, and program design and printing. The City of New Braunfels simply gave us a much better deal than anybody else around (San Marcos Convention Center offered us a "discount" price of \$2500 per day for next year). Security and insurance costs were reduced by setting up the exhibit and mart later (Friday morning), which is part of the reason for the later than normal start to the mart. An early start requires setting up the exhibit the night before, which requires all night security at \$20 an hour.

A clarified interpretation from NAWCC of the exhibit location requirement allowed us to bring the exhibit into the same room as the mart this year, reducing our need for security as well.

The slight increase for "food" is a little misleading, because this year, the large exhibit hall allowed us to bring the hospitality tables into the mart room. More snack food was provided to feed more attendees at a more convenient location, but 75% of the cost was covered by donations that are reflected in "Fees and Donations". The NAWCC expense of \$295.00 was also included in Fees and Donations, as this was for memberships and fees for non-member mart registrations (to be applied toward NAWCC membership). Bank Fees were quietly imposed by our bank and had accumulated during the year until our account type was changed in March.

The balance in the regional account, after 2008 expenses noted below, was \$4175.85. Based on our experience and cost estimates for 2009, a \$1060 deposit was paid to the City of New Braunfels to cover 50% of the cost of renting the exhibit hall again for next year, leaving a balance of \$3115.85. Again, one or two minor expenses have yet to clear, but this cost will not affect the bottom line by very much.

Please let me know if you have any questions and let me know of your ideas on how to improve upon this year's regional.

Mike Williams,  
Vice President  
General Chairman, Great Southwestern Regional

*Editor's Note – the financial statement would not fit on this page; please find it on the next page.*

### Save The Date

- **Chapter 15 July Meeting**  
**“Time Pieces of the Civil War Era”**  
**July 19<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am**  
**Southwest Museum of Clocks & Watches**  
**Lockhart, TX**
- **Texas All Chapters Regional**  
**August 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**JW Marriot**  
**Houston TX**
- **Wharton One Day Mart**  
**September 13<sup>th</sup> , 8:00 a.m.**  
**1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall**  
**Wharton, Texas**

	2007	2008	Difference
<b>Costs</b>			
Postage	\$39.86	0	-\$39.86
Ads	\$715.00	\$715.00	\$0.00
Fee refunds	\$100.00	\$270.00	\$170.00
Printing/Pub	\$365.98	\$229.26	-\$136.72
Program design	\$300.00	0	-\$300.00
Insurance	\$643.08	\$375.00	-\$268.08
Prizes	\$223.00	\$300.00	\$77.00
Security	\$1,290.00	\$570.00	-\$720.00
Hotel Rooms	\$384.20	\$535.62	\$151.42
Meeting Rooms	\$2,902.56	\$2,120.00	-\$782.56
Coffee	\$545.40	\$0.00	-\$545.40
Food	\$176.91	\$234.23	\$57.32
Banquet	\$884.00	\$863.02	-\$20.98
NAWCC	0	\$295.00	\$295.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Total Costs	\$8,569.99	\$6,567.13	-\$2,002.86
<b>Income</b>			
Fees & Donations	\$5,954.00	\$7,439.23	\$1,485.23
Raffles	\$1,455.00	0	-\$1,455.00
Total Income	\$7,409.00	\$7,439.23	\$30.23
<b>Net</b>	<b>-\$1,160.99</b>	<b>\$872.10</b>	<b>\$2,033.09</b>

## **NAWCC National Convention** (through the eyes of a newcomer)

Wow! I think that one word pretty much sums up my feelings as I walked into the mart room at the Springfield Convention Center. And that was before someone said, there's more through those doors at the end of the room!

All of the 900+ tables in these two rooms were occupied and were covered with every type of clock, watch, book, tool and horological accessory imaginable. And surrounding the tables were hundreds of people who were linked by a shared interest.

Throughout the three days we were there, we found that Texas was very well represented among sellers, buyers and lookers. And everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. In addition to

the purchasing opportunities, there was a wide variety of educational offerings; a fantastic clock exhibit in which all the clocks were for sale in a silent auction / buy-it-now format; and a craft exhibit filled with amazing examples of clock related creations, carvings, paintings, restorations and tools.

As I think back to our time at the National, I believe I could have spent another day or more there looking, talking to people, and learning more about the fascinating world of horology. I'm already looking forward to future conventions and my hat is off to all the individuals and businesses who contributed to the success of this year's National!

Pat Holloway

## Websites for Horological Organizations

NAWCC Chapter 45 "Ark-La-Tex"

<http://www.nawcc-ch45.com/>

NAWCC Chapter 124 "Lone Star"

[www.chapter124.com/](http://www.chapter124.com/)

NAWCC Chapter 139 "San Jacinto"

[www.nawcc139.org/forum/](http://www.nawcc139.org/forum/)

Capital Watchmakers-Clockmakers Guild

[www.cawcg.org](http://www.cawcg.org)

NAWCC National

[www.nawcc.org](http://www.nawcc.org)

AWCI National

[www.awci.com](http://www.awci.com)

Mike Williams, webmaster for Chapter 15, has added the Clock Mainspring chart formerly found in the LaRose catalog to the Chapter 15 website. If you are not sure what spring you need - and all springs are suspect until proven correct - this is a great place to start! Thanks Mike!

## Welcome to New Member

We welcome new member Roger Spillers to the Great Southwestern Chapter 15.

Remember that new members are the lifeblood of any organization. Please encourage anyone you know that has an interest in horological matters to become a member.

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