



# The MAINSPRING

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

## **San Antonio Public Clocks**

### **~Topic of October program**

Make plans now to come join us in a presentation on the restoration of a highlight in San Antonio history. Around for over 100 years the E Howard No. 1 post clock is located at the corner of St Mary's and Houston Streets in downtown San Antonio. In front of a long time jewelry business, now a classic city sky scraper, it is best known as the "Hertzberg Clock." During the summer of 2008 it had a comprehensive restoration. Join the man responsible and hear of its history, as well as the care and work involved in its renewal.

Mr. Ed Gaida, a long time San Antonio historian and author, is our presenter and his discussion will also include his restorations of other public clocks in and around San Antonio and South Texas. We will meet 10 AM to noon, Saturday morning, October 24 at the facilities of Coker United Methodist Church located at 231 E North Loop Road. This is very near the San Antonio airport and the intersection of Highway 281 North and Bitters Road. Their phone is (210) 494-3455. A map and more information will follow in next month's newsletter.

## **All Texas Chapters Regional**

According to the NAWCC website, "NAWCC Regionals offer opportunities for learning, networking, and collecting; for buying and selling, including replacement parts and tools, in the mart; attending educational seminars; asking questions and getting answers; and enjoying good fellowship with friends in the NAWCC. Be sure to attend the next Regional in your area. The experience will add another

dimension to the pursuit of your favorite collectibles."

If the smiles and noise level in the Mart Room and treasures heading out the door were any indication, this year's All Texas Chapters Regional succeeded in all of the above! Chapter 15 was well-represented, with member sightings everywhere: enjoying an afternoon break in the hospitality room on Friday, listening and taking notes in the educationals, admiring the exhibit, and in the Mart - selling, buying, learning, visiting and just having fun. Several members were spotted expanding their collections while others discovered previously unexplored "horological frontiers" and broadened their horizons.

This year's exhibit was a fantastic collection of torsion clocks. When we hear about torsion clocks, many of us automatically think of an anniversary, or 400 day, clock from our childhood, with its slowly spinning pendulum and protected by a sparkling dome. After viewing the exhibit, it became quite obvious that torsion clocks have a long and varied history and comprise quite a range of styles. Inspired by the exhibit, and no doubt by John Hubby's program, there was definitely increased activity around the Mart tables that included 400 day clocks.

Wrap all this up with the opportunity to learn about new/useful techniques and products, a sprinkling of silent auctions and topped with lively "it's for free", and you have a Regional that definitely lived up to the NAWCC website's claim.

*Welcome*

Join us in welcoming new Chapter 15 member  
**Robert Shans**  
**Fredericksburg, Texas**

## Lead, Follow, or...never mind

I recently read through some of the oldest newsletters on our website, dating to January 2005. I was amazed at how little some things have changed. The chapter vice president was pleading for volunteers to help with the upcoming regional, the chapter president was begging for candidates for chapter officers and directors, and very few people were working hard to keep everything together. But things have changed. Many of the people then who worked so hard were "burned out" and some are no longer chapter members. They've done far more than their fair share of work for the chapter, but we haven't had enough "new blood" to fill their shoes. Members who have been reading this newsletter know that we don't currently have a chapter vice president and our treasurer from our previous two year term agreed to continue in that capacity until we can find a replacement. That was nearly five months ago. As a result of this lack of volunteer manpower, Chapter 15 will be scaling back some of our plans, as detailed below:

1. The 2010 Great Southwestern Regional will be cancelled (unless we are able to fill the general chairman/chapter vice president position by September 30 and he or she is willing to tackle this assignment). On October 1, I plan to make our plans known to NAWCC. In lieu of a regional, we will plan on a smaller April one day workshop, mart, and general membership meeting (location to be determined).
2. We will plan on periodic classes, educational presentations, and workshops on roughly a quarterly basis. Classes will generally be planned for as many as 12 people with a financial break-even point at 9 people, and class cancel/continuation point at 6 people. Recent experience has shown that we get more participation on a Saturday at a member's home, so we will lean in that direction. We are always looking for people willing to give a presentation, teach a class, or

help conduct a workshop, and we are especially interested in knowing what members want to learn! Many eager learners or participants make the effort worthwhile for an instructor or presenter. But if somebody spends countless hours putting together a great presentation and drives hundreds of miles to present to six people...

There's an old adage for members of an organization "on the go": "Lead, follow, or get out of the way!" (PC version) The thought is that people often argue and impede progress rather than organize to get things done. But this also applies to Chapter 15. To remain a viable organization we actually need people in all three categories. If everybody decides to "get out of the way" at the same time, we cease to function!

Mike Williams  
President

### Board Officers and Contact Information

President – Michael Williams  
(512) 733-7375

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

Vice President – Open

Treasurer (acting) – Neill Day  
(830) 896-2363

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

Secretary – Pat Holloway  
(512) 252-3881

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

Director of Programs – Luther Lucko  
(512) 260-8942

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

Director of Workshops – Scott Clark  
(210) 824-0794

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

Director of One Day Marts – Roy Barnard  
(512) 225-4783

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

NAWCC Chapter 15 website  
[NAWCC-chapter15.org](http://NAWCC-chapter15.org)

## All Texas Chapters Regional Exhibit



A very small sampling of the amazing Torsion Clock Exhibit

### Thanks

Thanks to Dick Dorer for sharing some wonderful photographs of Chapter 15 events in the 1970s. There are several unidentified individuals in the pictures. We'll have the photos at upcoming meetings and are hopeful you can help us "Name those Chapter 15 Members." Dick was kind enough to have the pictures enlarged to 8x10, which should make this task easier.

If you have pictures you'd like to share, please let us know. If you prefer to keep your photographs, we can make copies and return the originals. Sharing photographs and stories of Chapter 15's early days helps us preserve our history and remember the things that have made our Chapter what it is today.

### Member news

Earlier this month we learned that Keith Patterson, a Life Member of Chapter 15, passed away on July 1st. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

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

You must be a current and paid NAWCC member 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

<b>Chapter Account</b>	<b>\$8,247.63</b>
<b>Regional Account</b> Houston Regional co-sponsor door prize contribution \$100	<b>\$4,463.60</b>

Combined watch key and seal



Newsletter Editor NAWCC Chapter 15  
1105 Lafayette Lane  
Pflugerville TX 78660

### **Save The Date**

- MKOA Regional  
Carthage, Missouri  
September 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>
  
- Chapter 15 monthly program  
October 24<sup>th</sup>  
Coker Methodist Church, San Antonio  
Ed Gaida – San Antonio area public clocks
  
- Chapter 15 Annual holiday potluck  
November 14<sup>th</sup>  
The Holloways' in Pflugerville
  
- December – no meeting scheduled

### **October Workshop postponed**

The dial painting class with Phil Gregory will be rescheduled to after the first of the year. If you are interested in attending, please notify Pat Holloway as soon as possible so the timing and location of the class can be scheduled and plans finalized. Additionally if there are other workshops you would like our Chapter to plan, we'd like to hear from you.

The Five States Collectors Regional originally scheduled for August 14 – 15<sup>th</sup> in Lubbock has been rescheduled for a Regional One-Day event on September 12<sup>th</sup> in Plainview. Additional information is posted on the Chapter 15 website.