

The MAINSPRING

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

President's message

~ Ken Reindel

We had a great turnout at the annual meeting in San Antonio on the 14th. Mike Williams, who has served as Chapter 15 president for the last two years, was unable to attend due to a family emergency, so I transitioned into the role as your president just a few minutes sooner than normal. As I accept this position, I'd like to begin by saying that this Chapter has very much to be proud of: resources, expertise and passion are here; we have great people with lots of heart, and folks want to share, teach and learn. ***I am very proud to be in this role.***

For those of you who don't know me, I'm Director of Analog Measurement Technology at National Instruments. I'm also the father of three girls and one boy who range in age from 13 to 28. As proprietor of Ken's Clock Clinic I'm involved in clock restoration, clockmaking, and self winding clock Replacement Parts and Supplies. I'm also the inventor for KCC Scientific, creating electric clock batteries, synchronizers, winders, master and slave clock winders and universal precision inverters. And now, I am also in a new role – President, NAWCC Chapter 15.

You might be asking "Why Chapter 15 President...doesn't he have enough to do?" Yes, I do, but I have a strong belief that we learn in order to share – what other purpose is there for learning but to teach others? This Chapter has huge potential. We should be one of the premier Chapters in the NAWCC. In addition, if we can spark or deepen an interest in horology in someone, it can be the basis for an entire career. Think about it. Engineering, technology, craftsmanship, several of the arts are all woven into the study and practice of horology.

In addition, the horological interests that we share are the basis for friendship and community that we experience. Not many of us can share our latest clock story with anyone who would be interested at the coffee machine on Monday. But when Chapter 15 gets together, there are plenty of stories to share!

My horology-specific interests include antique clock restoration and repair (more than 40 years now); all technical aspects. Early electrics are a specialty; but also, fine American and European clocks, alarm clocks, and case restoration from plating to wood working and finishing are of interest. I'm also accomplished in micro-machining and clockmaking including gearmaking, custom parts and tool design, rotor and commutator restoration and coil winding. I am not a historian; and while I'm interested and have done several horological history programs, it's not my expertise. Others in our Chapter have a much deeper interest and expertise than do I.

At our annual meeting, a slate of officers was presented and unanimously elected as follows: Bob Rasmussen who has served the last two years as our Treasurer was elected as Vice-President. Tom Tarpy will join us as Treasurer; Pat Holloway is returning as Secretary, and Gary Sertich will serve as Director of Programs. Watch for more detailed introductions of your officers in upcoming issues of *The Mainspring*.

Over the last several months, conversations with our officers have revealed what they also want for the Chapter. We have a lot to share and like me, they love to teach. We are committed to make Chapter 15 one of the most vibrant Chapters in the NAWCC. Over the next few years, we want to recognize the greatness in this Chapter, both individually and collectively. And, WE NEED YOUR HELP to make the Chapter vibrant and exciting!

Our focus is echoed in the Chapter 15 Mission Statement:

*We in Chapter 15 are committed to excel as the most vibrant Chapter in the NAWCC. We will demonstrate this through **superior educational programs on clocks, watches, and other related horological topics**, the most comprehensive website in the NAWCC, and engaging, fun social opportunities for all members. Our social programs will be an example for other Chapters to follow.*

We believe in working with other horological societies—not competing with them—to serve our

members. We will reach out to the community to spread our passion, with hopes of inspiring them to learn from the decades of experience we have here locally. Through this effort we can preserve our great Chapter history while growing our continued interest in Horology.

How can you help effect these goals? Consider volunteering to present a program – or sit and share your knowledge with one of us, and we’ll do it with your help. Volunteer to help one of the officers. All of our officers are also volunteers and they could often use a hand. Come and be part of our programs and events – at least once in a while – or at least tell us what you like to see, or would want changed. You might also want to encourage the youth of today to look into horology as a hobby. Many of us got started in engineering careers this way. Sometimes it only takes a small spark to ignite the interest.

We’ve had some great programs over the last couple of years and have more planned for 2011/2012. Some of these include: all day workshops on basic clock repair, hands-on wood clock case restoration, Self-Winding Clock restoration, history of electrics – both synchronous and battery clocks, and metal working fundamentals, to name a few. We’ve discovered one facility that can accommodate more of us for programs and hands on workshops and are continuing to explore options for multi-day classes. Are there others you’d like to see, or share in presenting? We’re looking for your input.

Chapter 15 has a great outlook for 2011/2012, and we’re just getting started! We’re looking forward to getting to know you better, so don’t be surprised to hear from us. Thanks to all of you for being Chapter 15 members!

Treasurer’s Report	
Chapter Account	\$7,445.97
Dues	28.44
Newsletter and annual meeting*	(357.58)
	\$7,116.83
Regional Account	\$4,263.60

*The deposit from the annual meeting registration will be included next month. The total net income from the meeting was \$67.80.



June Program

How many of you have read the “The First One...” articles in the *Watch & Clock Bulletin*? Several Chapter members have commented on how much they enjoy this feature, and that they would like to hear about “The First One” from our members. The June meeting will provide a time to do this. Please plan to bring the clock/watch/advertisement/tool or whatever that first sparked your interest in horology. Everyone will have a time to share the story of their “First One.” If you’ve also been inspired to do any research on your first one, we’d also love to hear what you’ve learned. We’ll have the computer and screen set up in case you’d like to share an electronic picture or information. Spouses and guests are also encouraged to participate. See you there!

Chapter membership

If you’ve not yet renewed for 2011, please take a few minutes to complete and return the form below, or use the PayPal option found on the [Chapter 15 website](#).

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

You must be a current, 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: _____

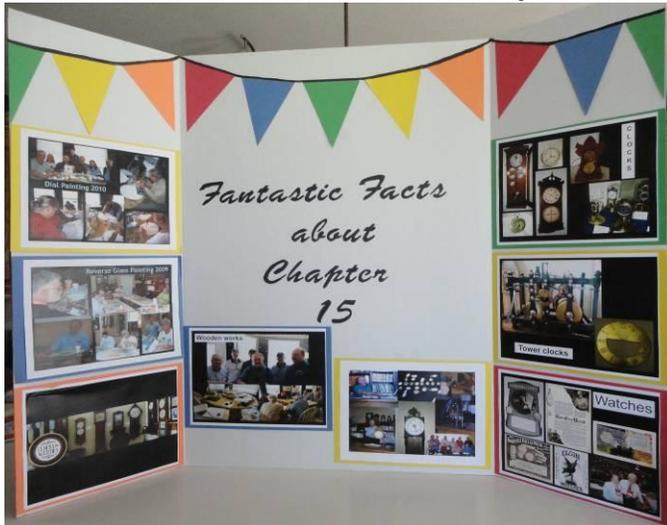
NAWCC Member # _____

HOROLOGICAL INTERESTS: _____

____ Please send my Chapter 15 newsletter by email.

Make Check Payable To: Chapter 15, NAWCC
Enclose this application and check and send to:
Pat Holloway
1105 Lafayette Lane
Pflugerville, TX 78660

2011 Annual Meeting and One-Day A Celebration of Fantastic Facts about Chapter 15



Saturday, May 14th, was Chapter 15's annual meeting and one-day held at Coker United Methodist Church in San Antonio. Twenty-eight attendees enjoyed a mart and visiting before joining Jay Holloway for a program entitled "A clock by any other name: a guide to clock identification." The program began with a "pre-test" to see how much everyone knew about clock names. This was followed by a discussion of ways to identify clocks. Each attendee then graded their own test to see how well they had done.



After this strenuous brain exercise, it was time to enjoy a time of fellowship and a barbecue meal with all the fixings. Immediately after lunch, the annual meeting convened and the slate of officers was unanimously elected as follows: Ken Reindel - President, Bob Rasmussen - Vice-President, Tom Tarpay - Treasurer, Pat Holloway - Secretary, and Gary Sertich - Director of Programs.



Those who were able to stay were treated to a program and demonstration by Ken Reindel on "Soldering Essentials" to finish out the day. Both programs evoked quite a lot of discussion and included plenty of time for questions and answers.



Needless to say, this year's one-day was jam-packed with fun and educational activities from start to finish and we missed those of you who weren't able to attend.

Current Board Members and Contact Information

President – Ken Reindel

President@nawcc-chapter15.org

Vice-President – Bob Rasmussen

VicePresident@nawcc-chapter15.org

Treasurer – Tom Tarpay

Treasurer@nawcc-chapter15.org

Secretary – Pat Holloway

Secretary@nawcc-chapter15.org

Director of Programs – Gary Sertich

Programs@nawcc-chapter15.org

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Save the Date

- **June 8 – 12**
National Convention
Overland Park, KS
- **July 23, 10:00 a.m.**
Chapter program
Windermere Clubhouse, Pflugerville
- **September 24, 10:00 a.m.**
Chapter program
Windermere Clubhouse, Pflugerville
- **November**
Chapter potluck
- **June 25, 10:00 a.m.**
Holloway's, 1105 Lafayette Lane
Chapter program – The First One...
- **August 26 – 28**
All Texas Regional
J.W. Marriott, Houston
- **October 22, 10:00 a.m.**
Chapter program
Windermere Clubhouse, Pflugerville
- **December**
No meeting