

# The MAINSPRING

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

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## Save the date

### August 18-19

Self Winding Clock Workshop  
Ken's Clock Clinic  
Cedar Park

### August 23-25

All Texas Chapters Regional  
Marriott Westchase  
2900 Briarpark Drive  
Houston, TX 77042

### September 22

Chapter 15 program – 10 a.m.  
Windermere Clubhouse  
Pflugerville TX 78660

### October 27

Chapter 15 Program – 10 a.m.  
Windermere Clubhouse  
Pflugerville TX 78660

## Current Board Members

President – Ken Reindel  
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Vice-President – Jay Holloway  
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Treasurer – Tom Tarpay  
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Secretary – Pat Holloway  
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Director of Programs – Gary Sertich  
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## President's Message

Dear Members,

The hot summer days are a pretty good indicator that August has arrived to Central Texas! At the moment, it's not clear when we are going to see our next widespread rain, but that's the way it is in August. It's a nice time to stay indoors and catch up on clock work.

July's Program featured Jay Holloway presenting on the Welch Clock Company. This was a very intriguing study of Elisha Welch and his endeavors into clock making. It was evident that this Forestville, CT clock company represented some very special examples of American clock making. The cases were unusual, ornate and very finely crafted. Many of us are familiar with the "Patti" model but there were many other beautiful examples. Did you know that many models were named after divas and opera performers of the day? Did you know that Welch, Spring and Co. was the company name for a period and had nothing to do with clock springs?

Thanks to Jay Holloway for a very well done and interesting presentation. We were checking out Ebay as he spoke to see other examples of these fine clocks, which are sometimes difficult to find and often imitated...so be careful!

This month we will be holding the Self-Winding Clock Workshop at Ken's Clock Clinic in Cedar Park, TX. We have had a good response so far and our attendance is nearly full. It will be a hands-on opportunity to learn more about your self-winding clock, related electrical principles and components, and clock restoration in general. We encourage students to bring a self-winding clock (one per student). During the class, we will help you get your clock functioning again (if at all possible) and provide detailed assistance on keeping your clock healthy and functional over the long term.

As we said in the July newsletter, it continues to be a busy summer. The joint Introduction to Clock Repair session held in July (co-hosted by Chapter 15 and the CAWCG Guild) was a success, with 11 attendees. In this hands-on Workshop, students learned how to disassemble a clock movement, inspect for problems, manage the mainsprings, and reassemble their clocks. Thanks for those that sponsored as well as to all students that attended and made it an enjoyable day.

And, the busy schedule continues. Following are some upcoming events. Hope to see you there:

August 24/25 – All Texas Chapters Regional in Houston (if anyone missed Don Bugh's street clock presentation, or want to hear more, here's your chance).

(Continued on page 2)

## President’s Message (continued)

Dave Arnold has agreed to do a program on the UT Tower Clock in the fall. We are planning to reschedule the joint pocket watch repair class (TBA) as well.

Chapter 15 continues to offer a wide variety of top quality educational offerings, living up to our commitment!

### McClintock clocks

- Don Bugh

During this year’s National, a group of Chapter 15 members spotted a clock on the way to dinner. Being too interested in food and an opportunity to sit and rest our weary feet to give it another thought, we proceeded to the restaurant. Fortunately, the break revived us enough to retrace our steps and cross six lanes of traffic to give the clock a closer look.

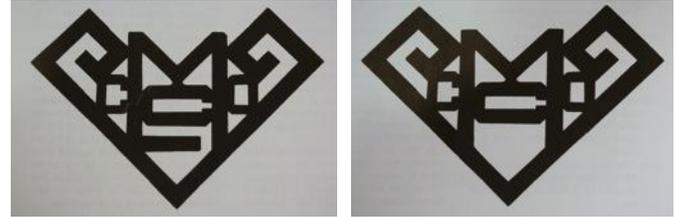
Don Bugh quickly pulled out his trusty phone to snap a few shots, promising to send them along for our Spot a clock feature. Not only did he provide the shots (see page 4), he also included the following excellent bonus material on McClintock clocks. (Ed.)

The McClintock-Loomis Company (1908 – 1917) succeeded by the O. B. McClintock Company (1917 – 1949) made large clocks that were typically sold to banks. These clocks were usually hung on the side of the building and often displayed the name of the financial institution. Many included a chime system. The exterior clocks were slave units driven by a master clock located inside the bank.

To identify a McClintock Clock, take a look at the corners of the glass panels. If it is a McClintock Clock, you will see either the McClintock-Loomis Company logo or the O. B. McClintock Company logo.



The “M C L” seen in the center of the left logo represents McClintock-Loomis; Company is represented by the “C” and the “O” found on either side of the center of the logo. When the name changed in 1917, the lower section of the “L” (for Loomis) was removed as shown in the logo on the right.



To learn more about McClintock Clocks, check out Jim West’s article entitled “Notes on O. B. McClintock Clocks” published in the April 1994 NAWCC Bulletin. Jim also made a video on McClintock Clocks in the early 1990’s. It can be found on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wF-r4nBZLU>

Treasurer’s Report		
<b>Chapter Account</b>		<b>\$7,119.14</b>
<b>Exp:</b>	July Newsletter	15.86
	Postage	45.00
	New Chapter website	9.95
		<u>-70.81</u>
<b>Balance</b>		<b>\$7,048.33</b>
<b>Regional Account</b>		<b>\$4,163.60</b>
<b>Exp:</b>	All Texas Chapters Regional	
	Door prizes	100.00
		<u>-100.00</u>
		<b>\$4,063.60</b>

### Upcoming events

**August 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> – Self-Winding Clock Workshop.** To register, contact Ken Reindel at [ken@kensclockclinic.com](mailto:ken@kensclockclinic.com) or by phone at 216-410-1455. The cost for the two-day class is \$100.

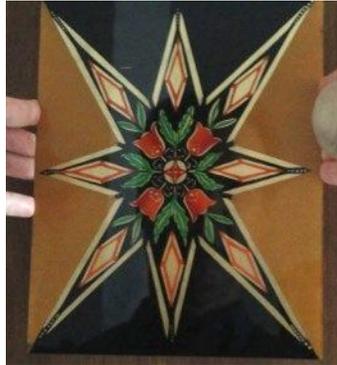
**August 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> – All Texas Chapters Regional** in Houston. Chapter 15 is a cohost for this great Regional, so if you’d like to pitch in and lend a hand, please contact Pat at [pwholloway@suddenlink.net](mailto:pwholloway@suddenlink.net). A great exhibit of horological novelties, advertising and ephemera; a wide variety of programs as well as a Friday night Silent Auction and Social are scheduled. There will be something for everyone. All of this is on top of the mart and “It’s For Free” events. Chapter 139 is also providing us a Chapter table at no charge! Make plans now to attend and stop by our table!

## Painting and stenciling workdays

The painting and stenciling workdays held on Saturday and Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> offered a great opportunity to finish some projects. We'll be taking a break in August, but if you would like to hear more, or see some of the finished projects, stop by the Chapter 15 table at the All Texas Chapters Regional in Houston. Hope to see you there!



*Project in progress*



*Finished glass*

## Basic Clock Repair Class

On July 21<sup>st</sup>, Chapter 15 and the Capital Area Watchmakers and Clockmakers Guild teamed to offer a Basic Clock Repair Class. Despite a last minute change of venues, eleven students enjoyed a very beneficial session. Thanks to Dave Arnold, Hugh Lindsay and Jay Holloway for leading the class.

There have been multiple requests for another session to build on what was learned during this class, so watch for more to come.



## Basic Pocket Watch Repair Class

The joint Chapter 15 and Capital Area Watchmakers and Clockmakers Guild Basic Pocket Watch Repair class is being rescheduled. Contact Jay Holloway (512-294-7371) for additional details or to register.

## July Program - Welch Clock Companies

On July 28<sup>th</sup>, Jay Holloway presented a very interesting and informative program on the history of the Welch Clock Companies. Most of us have heard of Welch clocks, even if we may not actually own one, but not many of us were aware of the rich and varied history of the company. Thanks to Jay for providing the following highlights in Welch clock evolution.

The Welch clock company started in 1826 when the Welch family established a foundry in Bristol, CT, that made and supplied clock parts to most of the local clock manufacturers. They often received finished clocks in payment for the parts, and young Elisha Welch was given the job of peddling these clocks. He was quite successful and in 1831 he formed a partnership with Thomas Barnes to barter clocks, Barnes & Welch.

This was a profitable endeavor, and soon Elisha was loaning money to businesses. When his father died in 1843, he had enough money to purchase the foundry the next year. In 1850, he added the Bristol Brass and Clock Company to also provide clock plates and gears, and in 1856 he began acquiring clock and case companies that were consolidated into E.N. Welch Manufacturing Co.

As his companies grew and the market changed, Elisha Welch formed an association with Solomon Spring whose strengths were as a manager and design engineer, excelling in designing and making cases. One of his famous designs was the London Mantle model. Their clock company was called Welch, Spring and Company. They soon realized that they needed to include calendar clocks, and Benjamin B. Lewis provided the expertise needed to accomplish this.

Between 1868 and 1884, the Company went through several stages from shelf clocks, to quality regulators and calendar clocks. Fancy shelf and wall clocks followed these, and ultimately they produced ornamental clocks named for well-known people in the musical world. The first and most recognized clock during this period was the ornate Patti model, named for Adelina Patti, the supreme prima donna of the day.

After the death of Elisha Welch in 1887, the company fell into decline and suffered severe setbacks in the form of two fires in 1899. The Sessions family bought out former stockholders and took control of the firm in 1902.

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## Spot a clock

- Don Bugh

This month's Spot a Clock is a nice example of a McClintock Clock found in Pasadena, California - very close to the site of this year's NAWCC National. After a full day at the National, a number of Chapter 15 members (Pat and Jay Holloway, Terri and Ken Reindel, April and Randy Welch and Don Bugh) decided to walk to a nearby restaurant for dinner. It was on the way to dinner that we "spotted" the clock.

Thank you, Don, for the pictures and bonus info! (Ed. note: See page 2 to learn more about McClintock clocks.)

