

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

November 10

Chapter 15 Program – 10 a.m.
Neon Clocks – Jay Holloway
Windermere Clubhouse
16800 Gower
Pflugerville TX 78660

November 18

Stenciling and Painting workday
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Holloways'
1105 Lafayette Lane
Pflugerville, TX 78660

December

No meeting
Happy Holidays!

January

New Year kick-off potluck
Details TBD

Current Board Members

President – Ken Reindel
President@nawcc-chapter15.org

Vice-President – Jay Holloway
VicePresident@nawcc-chapter15.org

Treasurer – Tom Tarpy
Treasurer@nawcc-chapter15.org

Secretary – Pat Holloway
Secretary@nawcc-chapter15.org

Director of Programs – Gary Sertich
Programs@nawcc-chapter15.org

President's Message

Dear Members,

Since my earliest days (somewhere around 6 or 7 years old, some debate still rages) I have been interested in clock repair and restoration. I don't know why. I am largely self-taught but have read endless stacks of books on the subject from these early years, and then applied what I have read until I could do what I needed to do proficiently. Learning this way, one tries a number of methods and then decides on one that is the most robust and workable given available tools. This method also has the advantage that you learn the theory behind the technique as well as the technique itself (which I haven't found to be the case in too many classes; there just isn't enough time). Some folks aren't crazy about book learning I have come to realize. I have always found it to be very beneficial to me personally. Strangely, I rarely if ever read novels or fiction; only how-to books. It's always been that way.

Those were the days without Internet, very few magazines, and no Dollar Book Store or Amazon. The only source for information was books in libraries. I remember going to the library and getting as many books as I could hold under my arm and hiking home in anticipation of what might be found once I could sit down in peace and read. I remember going on long drives to the lake or to relatives' homes with the family with a book on watch escapement repair. I would always bring along a book or two to read. For some reason I never had a problem reading in the car.

In my adulthood, this really has not changed much, except that I wish I had more time for it. However, the quality of the available books has. I am very thankful for those in recent times that take the time to document, illustrate and therefore share their knowledge so others can learn from it. Some of my favorite authors of all time include Donald DeCarle, Laurie Penman, and J. Malcolm Wild. Many have shared their thoughts in the now-discontinued Clockmakers Newsletter (CN for short, which to this day is one of my favorite references on general techniques). Many of the principles in the original CN series can be found in Steven Conover's various works which can be purchased on the CN website.

(Continued on page 2)

*Welcome new member
Shirley Perkins
San Antonio*

President’s Message (continued)

Among my favorite books in the shop is J.M. Huckabee’s “Top 300 Trade Secrets of a Master Clockmaker.” I had purchased the book some time before we left Cleveland (probably more than 15 years ago). Huck’s book should be a “must read” to anyone before they are allowed to touch a clock movement. His approaches are very practical and economical. Many have been standard mainstays in my shop for over a decade.

Some time after we moved to Austin, I discovered that Huck lived within nearly walking distance of our home in Cedar Park, but I never knew for sure where. I knew it was somewhere on Volente, or in Volente, or around there somewhere. In any case, he was certainly a Chapter 15 member for some time, and no doubt helped many long before we arrived in the Austin area. I have recently learned that Huck had moved a little farther away from us and is no longer practicing clock repair or restoration, which saddened me. But his wonderful works, contained in the “Top 300” is a great testimony to a very clever, passionate man of multiple disciplines who took the time to compose a book which I am sure has helped many, as it has helped me. Thanks, Huck!

Upcoming events

November 10th – Chapter 15 program

Because of the molding and casting class coinciding with our regularly scheduled October meeting date, we added a November 10th meeting. Our annual potluck will move to January when we’ll kick off the new year, without conflicting with football games and holiday events.

Jay Holloway will give a program on neon clocks, including their history and some of the manufacturers. Be sure to attend at 10 a.m. at the Windermere Clubhouse in Pflugerville to learn more about a very interesting facet of horology!

November 18th – Painting & stenciling workday

November is another busy month, so we’ll have one painting and stenciling workday on Sunday November 18th. The workday will be held at the Holloways’ in Pflugerville. At that time, Pat will also share photographs of some interesting reverse glass painting that we can use as reference for future projects. If you’re interested in attending, please contact Pat Holloway (512-252-3881 or pwholloway@suddenlink.net). Hope to see you there!

Chapter membership renewal

It’s that time again – time to renew your Chapter 15 membership for 2013. Payment can be made by check or with the PayPal option on the Chapter 15 website. If you have an email address, please consider receiving your newsletter electronically.

Chapter membership	
<p style="text-align: center;">If you’ve not yet renewed for 2012, please take a few minutes to complete and return the form below, or use the PayPal option found on the Chapter 15 website.</p>	
<p>Chapter 15 Membership Application New Application / Renewal (circle one) Membership Dues are \$15 <i>You must be a current, paid NAWCC member to join a Chapter. You may be a member of more than one Chapter.</i></p>	
<p><u>Please Print or Type</u></p>	
NAME: _____	
SPOUSE’S NAME: _____	
STREET: _____	
CITY: _____	
STATE/COUNTRY: _____ ZIP: _____	
EMAIL: _____	
PHONE: _____	
NAWCC Member # _____	
HOROLOGICAL INTERESTS: _____	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u> </u> <i>Please send my Chapter newsletter by email.</i></p>	
<p>Make Check Payable To: Chapter 15, NAWCC Enclose this application and check and send to: Pat Holloway 1105 Lafayette Lane Pflugerville, TX 78660</p>	

Treasurer’s Report	
Chapter Account	\$7,421.27
Inc: New member (less PayPal fees)	14.37
Exp: Aug, Sep newsletters; stamps	-75.35
Balance	\$7,360.99
Regional Account	\$4,063.60
No Change	0.00
	\$4,063.60

Did you know?

This month, we're again spotlighting some of the benefits of NAWCC membership. As Ken mentioned in his President's Message, one way we can learn more about horology is through the written word. In addition to back copies of the *NAWCC Bulletin*, most of us own at least one book on horological repair, restoration, history or identification.

Unfortunately, some of the books we'd like to read are out of print and no longer available or are cost prohibitive. As NAWCC members, we have access to the NAWCC Library and Research Center (LARC), one of the premier research resources in the world, where books, including many rare and out of print books, videos and microfilm reels can be checked out. Our only cost is to cover shipping. Up to three books or films and even microfilm reels can be checked out for 45 days at the minimal cost of \$4.00 for one, \$5.00 for two and \$6.00 for three. Items valued at more than \$100 may have an additional cost to cover insurance. To make it even easier to borrow, you can now reserve and pay online.

If you'd like to learn more about the process and available items, go to www.NAWCC.org and click on the Library & Research link. While you're there, click on a few of the other links to learn even more about the benefits of NAWCC membership!

What is Standard Time?

~ Pat Holloway

With this week's change from Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time, I've heard several people asking what is meant by Standard Time and others wondering about the purpose of Daylight Saving Time. These questions from individuals who are not horologists sent me to the Internet and to some of our reference books to see what I could learn. I was a little surprised at what I discovered.

Although Germany, Britain, and their allies, along with some of the neutral countries, enacted daylight saving time as early as 1916, it was 1918 before the United States joined the move. In the states, standard time and Daylight Saving Time were closely linked when on March 19, 1918, Congress passed "an act to save daylight and provide standard time for the United States." In all cases, it appears that this move to Daylight Saving Time was driven by efforts to reduce the use of fuel to produce light in the

evening hours and to promote efficiency during World War I by making productive use of the available light at the end of the day.

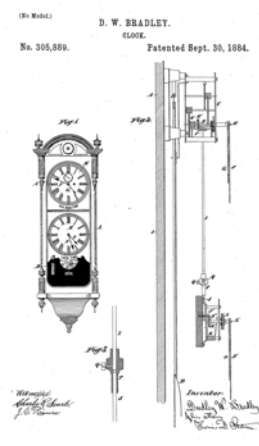
Shortly after World War I ended, there was a public outcry in the US to repeal the daylight saving part of the act. The repeal passed and daylight saving ended October 1919. However, the advent of World War II brought back daylight saving time year round from February 1942 through September 1945. During World War II, Americans were also encouraged to use the extra hours of daylight for such activities as Victory Gardening.

It wasn't until 1966 that national legislation was again passed in the form of the Uniform Time Act of 1966. The legislation does not dictate that all states and territories comply, merely that the same dates mark the start and the end of the switch for those who do use DST.

Now, we'll move to the "Standard Time" part of the question. Many of us are familiar with stories of the devastating train wreck that caused railroads to establish time zones and set a standard time for each. However, although the railroads began using standard time in 1883, it wasn't until 1918 that Congress signed the railroad time zones and time into law. This was done in the same piece of legislation that first enacted Daylight Saving Time.

Before standard time, each locality could set their own time, and interestingly, Seth Thomas produced two clocks, Regulators 6 and 17, with the option for two dials that show standard and sun or local time. Not your traditional double dial! One of these clocks is on display at the American Clock and Watch Museum in Bristol Connecticut, and if you ever have the opportunity to visit, this is just one of the amazing clocks you'll see. Thanks to the information attached to this clock, I learned that Seth

Thomas used Dudley W. Bradley's patent shown here for these clocks. Pictures of these clocks can be seen in reference books and can occasionally be found online or in the horological auction catalogs.



Newsletter Editor NAWCC Chapter 15
1105 Lafayette Lane
Pflugerville TX 78660

Spot a clock

This month, our spot a clock features some New England tower clocks sighted before Hurricane Sandy precipitated an early departure by the Holloways. On the left is the tower clock outside the American Clock & Watch Museum in Bristol, CT. On the right are pictures of a tower clock on the back of an antiques shop on the Maine coast (yes, they had some amazing clocks inside the shop, too) and the Waltham, MA city hall tower clock.

