



# 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

### January 26

Chapter 15 Program – 10 a.m.  
 Connecticut Horology – Pat Holloway  
 Windermere Clubhouse  
 16800 Gower  
 Pflugerville TX 78660

### February 23

Chapter 15 Program – 10 a.m.  
 Willard Clocks – Jay Holloway  
 TBD

### March 1-2

Lone Star Regional  
 Mesquite, TX

### March 23

Chapter 15 Program – 10 a.m.

## Current Board Members

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

Vice-President – Jay Holloway  
[VicePresident@nawcc-chapter15.org](mailto:VicePresident@nawcc-chapter15.org)

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

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

Director of Programs – Gary Sertich  
[Programs@nawcc-chapter15.org](mailto:Programs@nawcc-chapter15.org)

## President's Message

Dear Members,

Winter is here, and the holiday season is upon us! You wouldn't know it from the temperatures however. The days have been wonderfully warm and the mornings just brisk enough. I am sure (actually somewhat hope) that is going to change. We could use some cold weather to kill the bugs, and some rain, too. I get the sense that we are falling behind further on our annual rainfall total and the lake shows it.

Of course with this time of year come the music, lights, decorations, celebrations and all the other signs that the holidays are upon us. Even earlier than last year, the radio stations and stores started playing Christmas songs just after Halloween! This year I am having trouble with starting the Christmas season so early...so I am tuning out the Christmas songs and tuning into a few other stations not playing the music, at least for now.

This week marks a major event for me personally. I have now officially resigned my position at National Instruments. It is time to do something new. After all the debate, that is pretty much all that there is to it. I've spent most of my life as a "closet" entrepreneur. Now is the time to "come out of the closet" and get started on doing something more serious in that area. While it has been the plan for some time (I officially resigned in mid-September), it is difficult to make such a big change and very tough to actually send out the announcement to everyone. On one hand I will greatly miss all of my friends there; but on the other hand, life has a way of distinguishing the truly enduring friendships.

If you haven't already read the NAWCC eHappenings this month, there is a very interesting article about Abraham Lincoln's pocket watch and its use in the recent film by Steven Spielberg (which, by the way, has received very good reviews). One of Lincoln's original pocket watches, safely kept at the Kentucky Historical Society, was actually used in the "filming" and its tick was meticulously recorded. It was fascinating that such a historic timepiece can be witnessed (and heard) in the movie. This is in keeping with the rest of the film, done with meticulous attention to detail and period accuracy.

(Continued on page 2)

*Welcome new member  
 Hudson Smith  
 Spicewood, TX*

## President’s Message (continued)

Meanwhile, in the clock shop, I am stormed by a great number of folks wanting clock repairs and restorations as gifts for Christmas! This year sets a new bar with 6 projects that need to be done and shipped by December 18. Honestly I am not sure I will be able to do it all. But I’ll give it my best. It has turned into a bit of a tradition for me.

Our last meeting in November was marked by a great presentation on neon clocks by Jay Holloway. This is actually the first time I have ever seen a presentation on the topic and as an electric clock enthusiast, I was very glad to see it. Jay presented a spectacular, colorful array of manufacturers, case styles, lighting technologies, etc. It was fascinating, educational, and entertaining. Thanks, Jay, for putting the effort into an otherwise nearly forgotten – but fascinating – area of horology!

This coming January, Pat Holloway will present a program on Connecticut Horology. We had talked about doing a potluck in January but it now looks like it would be best to put that off until later in the year. We’ll have more on that in an upcoming newsletter.

We want to wish all of you a great holiday season and all the best for the New Year

## Upcoming events

### December 16<sup>th</sup> – Painting & stenciling workday

With all the holidays and special events in December, we have scheduled only one painting and stenciling workday on Sunday December 16<sup>th</sup>. The workday will be held at the Holloways’ in Pflugerville. If you’re interested in attending, please contact Pat Holloway ([pwholloway@suddenlink.net](mailto:pwholloway@suddenlink.net) or (512-252-3881). Hope to see you there!

### January 26<sup>th</sup> – Chapter 15 program

We’ll kick off the new year with a program at 10:00 a.m. at the Windermere Clubhouse in Pflugerville. Pat Holloway will give a program on Connecticut Horology. We’ve had a few programs in the past couple of years on Connecticut horologists, but this program will provide an overview of the far-reaching impact of a multitude of individuals and inventions.

### February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Chapter 15 program

Jay Holloway will help expand our knowledge of the Willards, the “First Family of Clockmaking.”

## 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.

<b>Chapter membership</b>	
<p>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 <a href="#">Chapter 15 website</a>.</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 style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Please Print or Type</u></b></p>	
NAME:	_____
SPOUSE’S NAME:	_____
STREET:	_____
CITY:	_____
STATE/COUNTRY:	_____ ZIP: _____
EMAIL:	_____
PHONE:	_____
NAWCC Member #	_____
HOROLOGICAL INTERESTS:	_____
<p>_____ <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>	

<b>Treasurer’s Report</b>	
<b>Chapter Account</b>	<b>\$7,360.99</b>
<b>Inc:</b> Member renewals (less PayPal fees)	252.48
<b>Exp:</b> Newsletter	-14.50
Projector	-465.46
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$7,133.51</b>
<b>Regional Account (no change)</b>	<b>\$4,063.60</b>

## What did we do before mobile phones?

~ Pat Holloway

Did you ever wonder what we did before the days of cell phones and electronic tablets? How did we keep ourselves, or our children, entertained during a prolonged wait? And how did we ever know where we were going? Well, believe it or not, I think I've discovered a few answers to what might have filled these needs about 120 years ago.

Here are a few examples of items from a time when people were more easily entertained.



*A circular maze watch fob. Two of the tiny beads within the fob can be seen at the center of the right side.*



*A jointed "Punch" figurine that appears to climb up the pole and over the top to the other side.*

And to keep us headed in the right direction...



*Ingraham made a Pathfinder model watch that includes a working compass on the winding stem.*



*A "peeper" watch key and fob with Stanhope images seen through the peephole when held to the light.*



*This key served a dual purpose: to wind your watch and to provide the direction.*

*A miniature functional cap gun.*



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Pflugerville TX 78660

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## Spot a clock

This month, our spot a clock takes a holiday turn featuring some clock tree ornaments. Thanks to Mary Ellen Bell for sharing her tree and a few of her horological ornaments. We hope you enjoy these pictures and wish you all Happy Holidays!

