



# The MAINSPRING

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

## Contents

President's Message .....	1
Upcoming Events .....	2
Recent Area Regionals .....	2
Member News .....	3
Chapter membership renewal .....	3
National Craft Competition.....	3
What's New?.....	3
Spot a clock.....	4

## Save the date

### November 16

Chapter 15 Program – 10 a.m.  
Military Timepieces  
Tom Smith  
Pok-e-Jo's - 2121 Parmer, Austin

### November 17

Painting/stenciling workday – 9 – 5  
Holloways'

### December 7

Wood case restoration class – 9-5  
Windermere Clubhouse  
16800 Gower, Pflugerville

### January 25

Chapter 15 Program  
10 a.m. - noon  
Pok-e-Jo's - 2121 Parmer, Austin

## 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,

For certain, it has been a very interesting weather-related October. The rains have been quite regular. In fact, we had a few tense moments with flooding in some areas of south Austin around ACL. Monthly rainfall totals were exceeded as multiple Pacific storm systems collided with multiple cold fronts drifting south through central Texas. Great for the vegetation, and Lake Travis has risen from its low point in September of 618 feet to its present level of 625 feet. That's progress! But, we have to get her back up to the "normal" 665 feet. We'll have to see what Mother Nature has in store for us. Only 40 feet to go. If we can get a 7 foot rise per month for another 6 months, we'd be there before next summer! That's a lot of rainfall and would take an unlikely series of storms to make it happen!

In more ways than weather it has been a challenging October. As some of you know, our Treasurer Tom Tarpy has experienced some difficult health-related challenges. While it seems that he is on the mend at this point, he could use all of our best hopes and prayers. Hang in there, Tom! We are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

Also during October, we've had some challenging family-related issues. Some of those have since resolved but others will be in work for some time. We also saw a historic Government shut down which has thankfully resolved. In the same timeframe however, we saw the rollout of the new Health Plan, which was accompanied by a great deal of chaos and confusion and the dust is still settling. Hopefully that will be resolved soon, as so many companies are modifying their 2014 plans in the hopes of this new program being in place and working properly.

Within the NAWCC, the new, updated website launched late in October. While it generally went smoothly, there were some issues reported by members, most of which have since been corrected. When you look close, the NAWCC is making some very positive changes to keep its services current with modern technology, including the update of their iMIS software. We are fortunate to be members of an organization committed to applying new technology and its advantages so we can get answers to our horological-related questions and stay networked with fellow members.

The Holiday season is upon us. This year, Thanksgiving occurs on November 29<sup>th</sup>, very late in the month, which seems to give us a longer month and has opened an additional week for a Chapter 15 program. And, we have some very interesting programs scheduled. You recall we have a program Saturday November 16. Tom Smith will present on military timepieces. On December 7, Jay and I will present a program on clock and furniture finishes and refinishing. More information on these fun programs later in this Newsletter.

## Upcoming Events

### November 16<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.

Chapter 15 program at Pok-e-Jo's, 2121 Parmer Lane, Austin. Tom Smith will be sharing a presentation and many examples of military timepieces. This will be an informal presentation with plenty of time for questions and answers. Visitors are welcome, so if you know anyone who

is interested in this topic, be sure to invite them to join you for this program.



### November 17<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Reverse glass painting and stenciling at the Holloways'. Plan to join us if you would like to learn more about decorative clock painting or stenciling.

### December 7<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

One-day wood case restoration class at the Windermere Clubhouse, located at 16800 Gower St., Pflugerville TX. There are currently two openings for this joint Chapter 15/Capitol Area Watchmakers and Clockmakers class.

Ken Reindel and Jay Holloway will lead the class. If you don't have a clock case in need of restoration, you may bring any small wooden piece, or a case can be provided.

For additional details, please contact Jay Holloway by phone at 512-294-7371 or by email at [Jay@HollowayTrading.com](mailto:Jay@HollowayTrading.com). The investment for the training is \$40 with checks made out to NAWCC Chapter 15. They may be mailed to the attention of Jay Holloway, 1105 Lafayette Lane, Pflugerville TX 78660.

## Recent Area Regionals

Several Chapter 15 members have recently attended Regionals presented by Chapters in surrounding states. Although we don't co-host either of these Regionals, our Chapter was well represented at both the MKOA Regional in Carthage, Missouri and

the Creole Regional in New Orleans, Louisiana. It's always fun to support other Chapters' efforts, and what better way to have an opportunity to purchase more treasures and get to know others who share the same interests?

The MKOA provided a wide variety of activities in addition to the Mart and programs. There was a chili supper, an open house at the Overtons', and a barbecue and auction. Needless to say, no one went hungry! The very interesting exhibit showcased clocks that had been restored by Chapter members. There was an informal "Meet your National Rep" time on Saturday morning. While everyone enjoyed donuts and coffee, Mike Dempsey provided an update on the exciting educational opportunities that the Education Committee is working on. These include virtual training classes that will allow individuals who can't travel to Columbia or another location to participate in a variety of classes.

In addition to actively participating in the Creole Regional's lively Mart, Jay and Pat Holloway both presented programs at the Creole Regional. Everyone enjoyed the exhibit, "My Favorite Clock," which comprised a wide variety of clocks, each accompanied by the owner's name and why it was their favorite. Several items included stories of how they had been rescued and lovingly restored – and a couple had been entered in the National Craft Contest. One of the traditions at this Regional is an all you can eat Cajun buffet. As you might imagine, it was well attended. Once everyone had enjoyed the buffet, Ruth Overton, the National Rep provided a very informative "introduction" of our NAWCC directors, including their name, term, and special skills they bring to the organization. Through this format, she also discussed the directors' contributions to the organization's current efforts. Interestingly, when Ruth asked who could name all of the Directors, out of about 100 attendees, only one hand went up!

Treasurer's Report	
<b>Chapter Account</b>	<b>\$7,678.82</b>
<b>Exp:</b> No change	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$7,678.82</b>
<b>Regional Account</b>	<b>\$3,863.60</b>
<b>Exp:</b> No change	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$3,863.60</b>

## Member News

As Ken mentioned in his message, our Treasurer and long time Chapter 15 colleague Tom Tarpy is doing well as he continues the rehabilitation process. We wish him the best.

For those of you who wish to send greetings and cards, Pat and Tom's address is 11305 Bellows Falls Avenue, Austin, TX. I'm sure he would enjoy hearing from you.

## Chapter membership renewal

It's that time again – time to renew your Chapter 15 membership for 2014. Payment can be made by check or with the PayPal option on the Chapter 15 website. Thanks to everyone who has agreed to receive your newsletter electronically. The savings allow us to support other efforts.

### Chapter membership

If you've not yet renewed for 2014, 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 \$15

*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 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

## National Craft Competition

Over the last several years, Chapter 15 member Hugh Overton has shared his skills with other NAWCC members through entries in a wide variety of National Craft Competition categories. 2013 was no exception. If you visited the craft exhibit at the National in Dayton, you had an opportunity to see Hugh's entries in the following categories:

Class 6 – Wood Clock Cases – Solid or Veneered:  
Honorable Mention

Class 7 – Other Material Clock Cases – First place

Class 11 – Authentic Replica Cases – First, second and third place

Hugh was not the only Chapter 15 member whose skills were displayed. Phil Gregory also had entries in a couple of categories:

Class 7 – Other Material Clock Cases – Phil's two entries tied for second place

Class 20 – Metal Engraving and Decorative Metal Parts – First place

If you weren't able to attend the National, don't despair, you can see Phil and Hugh's amazing entries beginning on page 595 of this month's Watch & Clock Bulletin. Thanks to both for sharing both their skill through these entries, and their time teaching and mentoring others to pass along their knowledge!

## What's New?

Not only do we have an updated NAWCC website, a large number of video programs have recently been made available to all members. Some of these programs have been skillfully converted from their original 35mm slide format while others have been recorded at recent Regionals and the National.

To find the list of programs available for lending or to access the videos online, go to Library & Research > Lending Library > Video Programs. The recently converted programs range from *Ingersoll Advertising Ephemera* to *200 Years of Morbier Clocks* to *How to use a Bushing Machine*. Other recent online video offerings include several programs from the 2013 Symposium on carriage clocks.

Which leads us to something else that's new. Did you know that there is now a special interest International Carriage Clock Chapter #195? If you'd like to learn more about carriage clocks, this Chapter might be of interest to you. Contact information is included in the Chapter listing in the *Bulletin*.

Newsletter Editor NAWCC Chapter 15  
1105 Lafayette Lane  
Pflugerville TX 78660

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## Spot a clock

This month's Spot a clock moves back from San Antonio, Texas to a beautiful tower clock in Prattsburgh, New York Presbyterian Church, sent to us by Tom Smith. Curious about the clock, Tom sent an inquiry to the local historical society and received a very interesting reply. According to a letter written by E.H. Hopkins in 1923, his father, H.A. Hopkins, a millwright by trade, made the original clock of cherry wood (1845). Although there was to have been a covering over the clock to protect it from the elements, this was never built, so you can imagine what happened to the clock. Of course, the clockmaker received the blame, so when he tired of hearing about it, he told the town officials that "for the sum of \$200 he would build a clock and guarantee it for twenty years."



For this new clock, he had iron wheels cast from wooden patterns. The clock was extremely simple and was largely handmade in his home. Large boxes of stones were used for the weights. This clock, which was made in 1852, was a very accurate timekeeper, keeping time for almost 70 years. Unfortunately, in 1923 there was a fire. After the fire a new clock was donated, so a Hopkins clock no longer graces this tower.

Thank you, Tom, for sending along the picture and the wonderful story behind the clock!