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Save these 2015 dates

October 17th

10 a.m. – noon
Jay Holloway
"The Welch Clock Company"
Pok-e-Jo's – 2121 Parmer, Austin

October 18th

6:00 p.m. – NAWCC Webinar
"History of Cartoon and Comic Character
Watches"
Jeffrey Schuldenfrei

October 22-24th

Ward Francillon Time Symposium
Mechanical Music & Marvels
Westchase Marriott, Houston TX

November 7th

Clock Repair workshop with CAWCG
Windermere Clubhouse, Pflugerville

November 15th

6:00 p.m. – NAWCC Webinar
Presentation
Noel Poirier

Current Board Members

President – Ken Reindel
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VicePresident@nawcc-chapter15.org
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President's Message

Hello everyone and welcome to October 2015!

Just a few short years ago I was writing this Message to you, commenting about the incredible rainfall that seemed to be lashing out across the country. Parts of Colorado and California seemed to be floating away in deluges. This year, we had one heck of a deluge here in Central Texas from April through June and then—just like someone threw a switch—it all stopped and rarely a drop has fallen since. Meanwhile as if our drought hasn't been bad enough, those other areas of the country hit by damaging rains a few short years ago are now in a state of drought. It's hard to believe how far things can swing.

Much like Mother Nature, likewise our lives take us through evolution and changes. In the last Newsletter I shared with you some of the highlights of our trip to Colorado. Today I am writing this to you from our new home in Broomfield, Colorado. Very soon the rest of the family will join me here for our new adventure. Yes, regrettably we are moving away from central Texas and our wonderful friends and associates who we have so enjoyed here. It is with mixed joy and sadness—we will greatly miss our associates and friends here in Chapter 15.

Over the next few months we will transition Chapter 15 Directors. For now, I am back and forth to Austin enough that I can continue to interact with the Chapter as I have. Medium to long term, I hope to continue to bring you presentations and training sessions as has been the case over the last 5 years or so, and will continue in an advisory role for Chapter 15. Let's keep the momentum going! Today's expanse of technological offerings (Skype being one great example, FaceTime another) makes this very possible.

In particular one person that will be greatly missed by our entire family is Jay Holloway. He has been my friend and faithful companion in horology over the course of the last 5 years. Our weekly clock repair sessions were enjoyable, uplifting and enlightening. Jay knows that here in Colorado we have basements, and we remodel them to be finished like the rest of the home (or any other way we wish). That will be the home for my new shop, and Jay will have his own room there for his monthly stays (we hope he visits!). Travel from Austin to Denver is really easy (inexpensive direct flights) and hopefully we can continue our tradition while perhaps on a less frequent basis, but just as much fun and in a much roomier shop! And he knows he's welcome to bring others who might want to take part in some over-the-weekend hands-on classes.

Upcoming Events

October 17th – Chapter 15 Program

Jay Holloway will share a program on The History of the Welch Clock Company. You may remember that Jay gave a program on Welch, Spring and Company several years ago. This presentation will focus on the entire history of Welch, including some very interesting background around clockmaking at this time in and around Bristol, CT.

October 18th – NAWCC webinar – 6 p.m.

Jeffrey Schuldenfrei will be speaking on *History of Cartoon and Comic Character Watches*. Attendees will have an opportunity to see examples of some rare and unusual watches and learn the stories behind them. There will even be a fun, self-graded quiz to check your cartoon and comic character knowledge. Sign up at <http://www.nawcc.org/index.php/workshops/webinars>

October 22nd - 24th – Ward Francillon Time Symposium

We are very fortunate to have this year's Symposium on *Mechanical Music & Marvels* just down the road in Houston! This year's Symposium will feature presentations by experts in the field on topics covering music boxes, musical clocks and automata. As a very special feature, attendees will tour two extensive private collections. The registration covers all lectures, banquet Friday evening and lunch on Saturday. Additional information can be found on the Symposium website: <http://www.nawcc.org/symposium/index.html>

November 7th – Joint CAWCG and Chapter 15 class

This all day clock repair class at the Windermere Club House in Pflugerville will provide a round robin format for hands-on assistance with pivot issues, bushings, and escapements. The class is a wonderful follow-up to the earlier basic clock repair classes, as well as a good time to bring in that problem clock for some expert assistance with repairs. Watch for additional information in next month's newsletter, or contact Jay Holloway (512-294-7371 or jay@hollowaytrading.com) now to sign up.

September Program Recap

In September, Ken Reindel gave a very informative, interactive presentation on using your ears to diagnose clock issues. While beat is the common sound associated with clocks, Ken shared a wide variety of sounds that can be clues to necessary repairs or adjustments. He had recorded various sounds using an app on his phone. During the presentation, he played each sound, and allowed time for the attendees to guess what the sound was and what it might indicate.

As might be expected, this led to some lively and interesting discussions. The recordings included clocks that were in beat and out of beat, noisy electric motors, a broken gear tooth, as well as cuckoo clock music box and bellows problems. At the end of the presentation, he asked the attendees to name other issues. Surprisingly, five or six additional sounds were identified.

Ken also discussed several beat amplifiers, outlining the benefits and additional functionalities of each. Thanks to Ken for such an interesting and useful presentation!

Chapter membership renewal

It's that time again – time to renew your Chapter 15 membership for 2016. Payment can be made by check. If you have an email address, please consider receiving your newsletter via email as it helps control our costs.

Chapter membership

If you've not yet renewed for 2016, please take a few minutes to complete and return the form below.

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

Cool Clock Collecting

Last month, we looked at collecting Southern Fashion and Seth Thomas calendar clocks. There are several other makers who were famous for their “double dial” calendar clocks, including Ithaca Calendar Clock Company and companies that were affiliated with Welch Clock Company. Many nice examples can still be found in the mart room at regionals and national conventions.

To provide a little background on calendar clocks, let’s take a step back. The history of clocks with calendar movements took two paths. One was having a single dial with month numbers outside the time dial ring. This style did not account for leap year and operated from a simple 24-hour cam that advanced the day of the month hand. The second system involved the use of a second dial located below the time dial. This system involved the perpetual calendar that gave the day of the week, the month and the numeric day of the month. It accounted for leap year and the shorter February dates automatically. The Bristol CT area was a hot bed for clock makers in the mid 1800s and this brought many inventors to the area to promote their perpetual calendar design. BB Lewis, Carter Brothers, Spring, and Gale are just a few that made inroads in this specific market.

While the Southern Fashion Clock Company used Seth Thomas clock movements, the calendar mechanisms were from the Mix Brothers patent. Rather than the Mix brothers’ calendar movements, Ithaca used Henry Horton’s patent. The Ithaca Calendar Clock Company used clock movements from Welch and Pomeroy, and the earlier models used Laporte Hubbell movements. Some of the other companies that used Welch movements had calendar movements by B.B. Lewis. Jerome & Co., a name used by New Haven Clock Co, also used B.B. Lewis’ movements.



Ithaca Regulator 1



Ithaca Index



Ithaca Brisbane



Ithaca Belgrade



*Welch Arditi
Gale calendar movement*



Lewis Calendar



*Lewis Calendar 2
Sold by L.F. & W.W. Carter*



*Jerome & Company Dneister
New Haven trade name*

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Spot a clock

Thanks to Don White for this month's Spot a clock. On a recent trip Don spotted this astronomical clock in the Notre-Dame cathedral in Strasbourg, France. This amazing clock, which stands about three stories high, is actually the third clock on this site. The original clock was built in the 1300s and included several automata. The second clock was completed in 1574, and the current clock was completed in 1843. In addition to the automata, which include 18-inch high figures of Christ and the Apostles, this clock includes a perpetual calendar, an orrery, or planetary dial, a display of the real position of the sun and moon, solar and lunar eclipses.

In a manner similar to the astronomical clock at the NAWCC Museum, just after noon each day, the Apostles proceed past Christ as a life-sized cock crows thrice. To see more, check out one of the videos posted on YouTube.

