

The MAINSPRING

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

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Save these 2017 dates

August 13th

6:00 p.m. – NAWCC Webinar
Luther Goddard’s Watch
Presenter – Noel Poirier

August 24th – 26th

All Texas Chapters Regional
Westchase Marriott, Houston TX

September 16th

10 a.m. – noon: Pok-e-Jo’s on Parmar
Horological Resources
Jay Holloway

September 17th

6:00 p.m. – NAWCC Webinar
Zeeland Clockmaking
Presenter – Andy Dervan

October 21st

10 a.m. – noon: Pok-e-Jo’s on Parmar
Program
Presenter - TBD

October 22nd

6:00 p.m. – NAWCC Webinar
Watch Company
Presenter – Sara Dockery

Current Board Members

President – Jay Holloway
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President’s Message

Welcome to all our Members and Friends of Chapter 15,

August is the month we forgo our normal meeting to attend the All Texas Regional in Houston. We encourage everyone to take time to attend. The regional is above average in size and attendance with interesting programs. It is fun to see old friends and make friends or future friends while meeting for three days.

Before going forward, I want to thank Gary Sertich, VP for our Chapter, for leading the program last month. I heard nothing but good things about the meeting. Another big thank you goes to Chapter members who helped at the National: Don Bugh who was Exhibit Chair and worked for many months to pull together the great Ives exhibit; Paul Golay who wore a big cowboy hat and gave up his time to be a door monitor – and Pace MacDonald who gave him a break; Mary Ellen Bell, Hugh Lindsay, Darrah Artzner, Evelyn Slough, and the many others who pitched in. It takes a lot to put on a National and all the volunteers make it possible. Thank you!

Our members have asked about having a one day horological sale in Waco TX area. I spoke with the President of Chapter 124 (Dallas) and 139 (Houston) about a joint venture one Saturday in the future. Finding a time between their regionals will be an issue. Another option may be a venture with Houston in the Brenham area. We still have a lot of planning to go before this will come to fruition.

On a second subject, Pat and I missed the July meeting to attend a Regional in Portland OR. The regional was held with a large antique show that traditionally has over 10,000 people attend. The attendance truly gave a nice buyer to seller ratio and most NAWCC members saw above average sales. The antiques dealers were also glad to have the Regional join them and many asked if it would become an annual event. We had lots of fun being able to enjoy horological items from NAWCC members as well as other unique items at the many antiques booths.

Please drive safely and bring lots of money to buy a few of the many items at the Houston Regional.

Jay Holloway,
President Chapter 15



Who Was Joseph Ives?

The 2017 National Convention exhibit featured an extensive collection of Joseph Ives clocks. While many of us have seen examples of these clocks, we might not know much about the creative mind behind them. Due to space constraints, following are a few notes about Joseph Ives and his clocks along with some additional resources if you'd like to learn more.

For several generations, the Ives family was very involved in the Bristol CT clock making industry. However, it is Joseph Ives' contributions that we hear most about. In an *Antiques Magazine* article about the hourglass clock, Brooks Palmer said, "Joseph Ives has been called the great genius of the Connecticut clock industry in the first half of the nineteenth century. He made with his own hand almost every type of clock movement, both wood and metal. From 1816 to his death in 1862, he was working on the famous wagon-spring power plant, developments of which he patented in 1833, 1845, and 1859. From 1825 to 1847 he had a hand in making the 8-day wagon spring, and then from 1850 to 1856 the 30-day variety, but it is not known just when he made the 30-hour type in the hourglass case. Town and other records provide no help." Even before his work on the wagon spring movements, he had made a torsion pendulum wooden works clock and patented his famous roller pinions that were intended to reduce friction and wear on pinions. Additionally, brass was very expensive during this time, and he devised a way to replace the solid plates with strips of brass. He also invented a movement with tin plates.

Because Ives worked in the industry for so long and was involved with so many different makers, his clock movements can be found in a wide variety of case styles from lowly ogees, to elaborate tall case, pillar and scroll, empire style and mirror clocks. Following are a few pictures of examples of clocks and the Ives movements within.



Birge & Fuller sharp gothic



Ives 8-day wagon spring



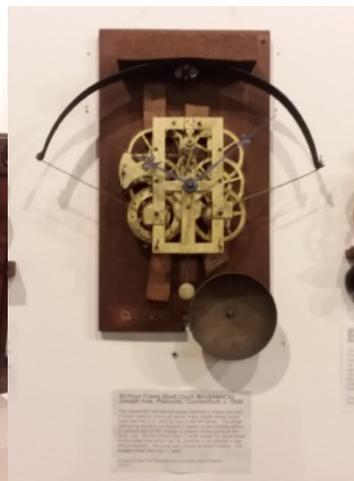
Atkins short drop



Ives 30-day wagon spring



Hourglass clock



Ives single leaf wagon spring



Noah Brewster patent case



Ives tin plate movement

Treasurer's Report	
Chapter Account	\$7,741.40
Inc and Exp No change	0.00
Closing Balance	\$7,741.40
Regional Account – no change	\$3,113.60

Upcoming Events

August 13th – NAWCC webinar – 6 p.m.

This August webinar topic will be **Luther Goddard's Watch** by Noel Poirier. Noel will be talking about Luther Goddard and the recently acquired rare Goddard watch from the early days of American watchmaking. This webinar is available for registration https://net.nawcc.org/NAWCC/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=WBAUG17

August 24th–26th All Texas Chapters Regional - Houston

Doors open for unloading and Mart entry at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday the 24th. The Mart will be open until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, then is open again from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. There are great prizes planned throughout the event.

Although it's too late to take advantage of the 25% Early Bird discount, you will be able to register onsite. Links for an onsite registration form and hotel reservations are all found on the Chapter 139 webpage: <http://www.chapter139.com/>

Please note that Chapter 15 cohosts the All Texas Chapters Regional, and, as in past years, there is no additional Chapter meeting in August.

September 16th – Chapter 15 Program

Jay Holloway will present the September program on horological resources – where you can find various parts, tools, etc.

September 17th – NAWCC webinar – 6 p.m.

The September webinar topic will be **Zeeland Clockmaking** by Andy Dervan. Registration is now available at the link above.

July Meeting

The meeting began with a debriefing of the 2017 National Convention. Most of those in attendance made the journey north to Arlington, and believed that it was well worth the trip. The Joseph Ives clock exhibit was outstanding, and alone worth the trip. Kudos to Don Bugh for not only providing antique tools of the trade for the exhibit, but also in organizing folks to assist with the set-up and dismantling of the exhibit. We

expressed our thanks to Paul Golay who tirelessly watched the mart room entrance and greeted all conventioners with a smile and helpful directions when necessary.

The Chapter next moved on to the monthly topic, which was “bring your favorite tool.” While President Jay Holloway could not attend, he did send photos of his favorites, including a host of Dremel® tools and a rotary sharpener for gravers and other edged tools. Don White showed a nice kit containing an assortment of screw starters; very handy for positioning and starting those small screws in tight places. Dennis Warner brought two items. The first was a mystery that Dennis passed around and had the group guess what it was. Two tubes, one rotating within the other and having familiar threads on it. The answer: a collet pin vice. Another tool to hunt at marts. Dennis also brought another mystery that turned out to be a watch wheel flattener.

Harold Peter brought a few items, including an inexpensive demagnetizer that he obtained on eBay. He also showed how paint can openers obtainable for free at most hardware stores could be used as hand, gathering pallet and chime cam removers. Harold also showed how desiccant capsules, found in many pill bottles, could be used for storing tools in a moisture-free environment. Finally, Gary Sertich showed a tool rack he made from scrap Plexiglas, bent with a heat gun into a “C” shape to form legs, with the top drilled at various diameters for holding a variety of screwdrivers, pliers, tweezers, etc. Gary also brought a helpful device that Jay told him about: An inexpensive turntable sitting on a tall box upon which one may easily reassemble a clock movement. It turns out that many of the members present use such an arrangement.

Thanks everyone for a lively and informative discussion!

And thanks to Gary Sertich for leading the program and providing this great summary!



Don White's screw starter tools

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Spot a clock

Here are pictures of a few additional Ives clocks that were transported to the National Convention from the National Clock and Watch Museum. There are many very interesting articles about Joseph Ives in the Watch & Clock Bulletin. Just type in his name in the Bulletin Index Search. Additionally Kenneth D. Roberts authored an excellent book called *The Contributions of Joseph Ives to Connecticut Clock Technology 1810-1862* that is available for check out from the NAWCC Library and Research Center.

