



**A newsletter for and
about members of San
Jacinto Chapter 139 of the
National Association of
Watch and Clock
Collectors.**

Editor – Pat Holloway

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President's message

Our Chapter has hosted another successful All Texas Chapters Regional. Avin Brownlee and Darrah Artzner handled the early bird registration with ease. Because of this, registration on opening day went much smoother. Darrah, Pat Holloway, Hilda Norris and Becky Bush worked well together behind the desk. Hilda managed to keep the coffee pots flowing on the hospitality tables. The educational programs were well attended. Even the breakfast buffet attendance was up. Could it have been the \$200 cash giveaway?

The Chapter Sponsored Auction was again well managed by Joe and Nita Mixon. The Mart Room had few glitches thanks to John Trego. Drew Lundgren and Stanley Pryor handled the Silent Auction and "It's for free" tables during the show.

Over all, Chapter 139 had another wonderful year. This year would not have been as successful without a team of dedicated members.

My presidency will end at our Annual Meeting and One Day on Feb 7th. I would like to thank Director Tim Glanzman who has generously allowed the Chapter to use his facility for our monthly Tech Sessions. These sessions continue to grow because we have members willing to present programs and share their knowledge of clock and watch repair. Even we old timers manage to learn something during these sessions.

Darrah, as Director, continues his outstanding work keeping the website updated with reports, pictures and upcoming events. We have gained several new members because of Darrah's hard work. I have grown tired of bragging on his web site work. Sincere thanks goes to John Trego as V.P. for his constant and steady input of reliable advice. Who could ask for a better manager of our money than Avin Brownlee who guards it like it was his? Another special thanks goes to Ben Fulbright for coming up with programs and discussions on a moment's notice. Pat Holloway continues to do a fine job putting our quarterly newsletters together. Pat has also bailed us out of a couple jams by presenting last minute programs at our Regional. Thanks to my wife, Becky, for providing meeting minutes and pictures.

We have a Statue Repair class by Jay Holloway scheduled for Jan 31st and a Beginning Clock Repair class scheduled for Feb 21st. Contact Joe Mixon for details.

As you can see, it truly "takes a village" to make my job look easy. I appreciate the members of Chapter 139 for their willingness to keep this Chapter active and moving forward.

We will soon have a new slate of officers who are willing and very able to come up with new ideas for programs, projects and field trips. I ask that the membership continue to contribute your time and talents for the coming year.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your president. I will always be humbled by the confidence you have shown in my ability to lead the Chapter but as you can see in the paragraphs above I have had a lot of help.

Sincerely,
Marcus

Tech Sessions

Thanks to everyone who supports the tech sessions with your attendance and willingness to share. If you've never been to one of the tech sessions, make plans now to stop by for one. See dates for future sessions in the Upcoming Events section of this newsletter. Thanks to Becky Bush for providing write-ups and photos!

October Tech Session

This was a very lively Tech Session with twenty-four members present. The Chapter welcomed Giovanni Santarsiere, a new member.

Bob Kleeman brought in a glass faced clock looking for some assistance. The problem was that the hour hand could not be removed. This clock passed to just about everyone at the session and several suggestions were made. Hope at least one of them will help.



Albert Rambaud (see photo left) brought in a pretty, quartz Accutron clock that features a tuning fork movement. He said he knows it's quirky and not the norm for this group but that's the kind of clock he enjoys.

Tim Glanzman held up an item for the group to identify. It was an "old" (from the 1950's) gadget used to erase 8 track tapes. Tim uses it to demagnetize tools. Tim found this at a garage sale and it was much cheaper than the item you order from the catalogue.

Becky Bush purchased a book titled *Clockers* by Richard Price. The book caught her attention because she has always referred to our Chapter as the "Clockers" and also the author's name is the same as her son-in-law. But as she got into the book she realized that the term "Clockers" was also used for a street corner cocaine dealer. She is now trying to come up with a new nickname for our group.

Ben Fulbright mentioned that the mantle clock was ready to be returned to the Bishop's Palace in Galveston. Marcus said that he has e-mailed the Galveston Historical Society about the Chapter making the return of this clock a field trip with a tour of the palace and other attractions on the island. Ben suggested that we ask various locations such as the palace, museums, libraries, and doctors' offices if the Chapter could leave NAWCC Bulletins and information on the Chapter in their sitting rooms. This is a simple way for our organization to reach the public.

Prior to the Tech Session Darrah Artzner sent an e-blast for Gregory Graham requesting donations of any watch and clock parts for a project being done by the Art Department at Lovett Elementary School. The school is decorating a car titled "A Vehicle in Time" for the annual Houston Art Car Parade. He thanked everyone for their help and promised pictures of the finished project.

Darrah shared an E N Welch (Patti) movement that he was repairing for Sammy Johnson. When he disassembled the movement he discovered that it had two springs in one barrel. (see photo right) He waited to reassemble the clock so that he could show this unusual clock to the group. This is apparently a hard movement to work on. Marcus said that he didn't know what Darrah was charging Sammy for this job but he bet the next Welch movement like this the price would go up.

There was also an interesting discussion about which lubricants to use on clocks. It was batted around whether to use synthetic products or not. This was all above my head but I do remember they seemed to agree that if the product "stinks" don't use it.



December Tech Session

About 20 members were present at the December Tech session when Ben Fulbright led a discussion on spring barrel repair.

Marcus announced that a small group of Chapter members delivered the restored black flat top clock to the Bishop's Palace in Galveston. On that same day Chapter 139 donated a #2 Seth Thomas Regulator to the Galveston Railroad Museum. Museum Director, Morris Gould and Chapter 139 members hung the clock in the museum. There are plans for the Chapter to make a trip to Galveston in the near future and maybe have lunch in the old railroad dining car. Marcus suggested everyone check out the museum website for pictures of the "new clock". Pictures are found at www.galvestonrrmuseum.com.

A tower clock on the 5th floor of an old mercantile building in the Heights was the next topic of discussion. Our Chapter has been asked to help with the restoration of this clock. Details and the depth our involvement are to be worked out at the first of the year.

Ben bought up the meaning of a couple of clock expressions that he came across recently. He also posed a couple questions to the group, such as "why does the weight of a cuckoo clock turn" and "when does the hour chime begin in a Westminster chime?"

The group discussed two upcoming educational classes. The first one will be a statue repair workshop by Jay Holloway on January 31st. Our next class will be a beginning clock repair class on February 21st and 22nd.

Drew Lundgren will demonstrate and discuss gear tooth replacement at the January Tech. He suggested we bring a gear with missing teeth or simply some brass stock.

Albert Rambaud will lead our February One Day educational on shaft re-pivoting.

Tim Glanzman discussed a monthly meeting of the Home Metal Shop Club. It is a meeting of lathe enthusiasts at the library on Carbondale Street.

It was good to see Dave and Pat Powell at our meeting.



Attendees Bob Kleeman, Arthur Madrid, Ben Fulbright, Gary Briggs (standing) and Giovanni Sentarsiere

November One-Day Meeting



The cool weather created a chipper mood for close to forty people attending this One Day Show. New member, Brian Nielsen joined the group and soon found something he could not live without. The Chapter also welcomed Dan Mauldin and his dad, Hugh.

Using one of Brian Martin's clocks as an example, Ben Fulbright talked to the Chapter about the five points of valuing clocks and watches. The insurance/replacement value being the most expensive, factoring the time it would take to find another clock or watch of

the same type. Retail value (shop price) would come next. Wholesale (clock show prices)/auction and or /bulk buys would be the next grade item. Of course if you purchase a collection of clocks or watches or distressed items you would give a lower amount per item. This would be an amount that satisfied both the seller and buyer. The relative difference between each pair within the five valuations is perhaps as much as 100% and as little as 10%.

Ben also spoke to the group about promoting the NAWCC and our Chapter. He recommended leaving some of your old *Bulletins* and *Marts* along with current national and chapter membership forms. As you go antiquing or to resale shops, leave these items and tell them about the organization. If someone shows an interest in the organization, follow up with a phone call or e-mail and invite them to the next local event.

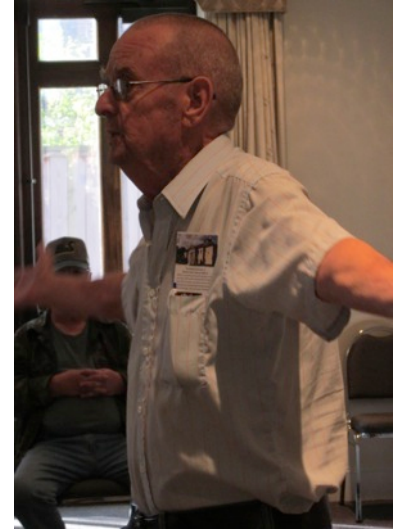
Marcus Bush expressed the need for members to step up and present a program for the Tech Session or One Day Shows in 2015. If there is some clock or watch related program you are interested in please let one of the officers know.

There was also discussion as to whether the Tech Session should be held in the months of February, May and November when our One Day Shows are held. Everyone seemed in favor of keeping the Tech Sessions as a regular event the second Saturday of each month.

Greg Graham thanked everyone for contributing so many clock related parts for a school art car project. Donations are still very welcome. He promised to keep us posted with pictures as the project advances.

There was some confusion as to the time factor of the Chapter dues. Marcus said that the yearly memberships are due every January. (If you haven't renewed, there is a form on the last page of the newsletter.)

John Trego announced that the new officers for the Chapter will be voted on at the business meeting after the February One Day Show. Drew Lundgren has willingly accepted the nomination of President, Shaun Clarke as Vice President and Nita Mixon as Secretary. Avin Brownlee has agreed to remain in office as the Treasurer. If you or anyone you know is interested in holding an office as Director please step forward. All Chapter members are encouraged to attend this meeting.



Ben Fulbright discusses clock valuation and promoting the NAWCC and Chapter 139

2014 Holiday Party



Hosts Nancy and Avin Brownlee

Avin and Nancy Brownlee warmly hosted this year's Chapter 139 Christmas party. Besides the fellowship with about 33 other clock and watch lovers, the best part of the Christmas party is seeing the host's clock collection. The Brownlees' beautifully displayed collection did not disappoint. The wide assortment of food was wonderful and all low in calories, I'm sure.

As usual the white elephant gift exchange was the hit of the party. I think Hilda Norris replaced Gary Briggs as the winner in having to open the most presents or having the most gifts stolen from her. One unusual gift was a watch with no glass on the dial. Everyone was eyeing this gift but it was frozen early in the game.



Hilda Norris with her unusual watch

Thanks, Avin and Nancy for such a great party!

A Different Kind of Horological Education

- by Avin Brownlee

I am on the faculty at Houston Baptist University. Recently, one of my colleagues, Dr. Chris Hammons, Dean of Humanities and Professor of Government, found out about my interest in clocks. Dr. Hammons asked if it would be possible for me to get a mechanical clock movement for him to use in class. He wanted to use it to illustrate the concept of “Checks and Balances” as outlined in our Federal Constitution. His idea was to run the clock with the pendulum bob on and then remove the bob and show the students that the clock would run faster when the bob had been removed. Thus the pendulum bob “checks” the speed of the clock.



On the workbench

I took the movement from one of the clocks that had been donated to Chapter 139 for educational purposes. It looked to be in really bad shape but after being cleaned and oiled it ran fine. I mounted it on a board and presented it to Dr. Hammons. I showed him that there are actually many places on a clock where one sees “checks” of the clocks action. We started with the clicks and click springs on each train. I showed him how the verge and escape wheel work and then removed the pendulum bob, then removed the suspension spring, and finally removed the verge and crutch, each time causing the clock to run faster.

On the strike side we discussed the lift lever, the drop lever and cam wheel, the count wheel and count lever, and showed how each must be in the right place at the right time or the clock would not function properly (producing something analogous to gridlock in government).

Dr. Hammons was very appreciative of the clock and in fact, one of his former students, a high school teacher wants one for his classes.



Dr. Chris Hammons demonstrating “checks and balances” to HBU student Lynda Chowdry

Upcoming events

Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend these upcoming events.

➤ January 10	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session
➤ January 31	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Statue Refinishing Class (limited class size) Contact Joe Mixon to register
➤ February 7	8 a.m.	Chapter 139 One Day Show Grace Community Church 1021 Campbell Rd, Houston 77055
➤ February 21-22	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Kitchen Clock Repair Class Contact Joe Mixon to register
➤ March 6-7	See Regional announcements	Lone Star Regional Mesquite Convention Center
➤ April 11	8 a.m. – noon	Tech Session

*Location: All Tech Sessions and classes are held at Turn-Key Coatings, 8411 Rannie Road, Houston, Texas 77080 (just off of Hempstead Highway / near Bingle). Fellow member and company owner, Tim Glanzman, donates the space.

San Jacinto Chapter 139
Treasurer's Report
January 1, 2015

Summary of Assets	Sept. 29, 2014	Jan. 1, 2015
Wells Fargo Checking Balance	\$17,698.41	\$14,011.47
JSCFCU Assets	\$35,668.54	\$35,784.34
Total Assets	\$53,366.95	\$49,795.81
Deposits since Sept. 29, 2014.....	\$695.00	
Debits since Sept 29, 2014.....	\$4,381.94	
Rental of tables from Freeman for regional		\$2,050.00
Donation to National Office		1,000.00
Purchase of ST #2 Regulator		650.00
Christmas party		118.99
Recurring miscellaneous expenses		562.95
Breakdown of assets at JSCFCU.		
Regular shares		\$57.62
24 month CD maturing 08/30/2014		\$20,572.31
24 month CD maturing 12/23/2015		\$15,154.41

Respectfully submitted January 5, 2015
Avin S. Brownlee, Treasurer

San Jacinto Chapter 139 – Renewal/Membership application

If you are a member of NAWCC and would like to join with other collectors and your friends as a member of San Jacinto Chapter #139, please complete the form below and return along with \$10.00 dues to Avin Brownlee, Chapter 139 Treasurer, 426 Overlook Drive, Friendswood TX 77546. Please make checks payable to San Jacinto Chapter 139. A spouse/significant other who is also an NAWCC member can join for an additional \$5.00 per year. If registering your spouse/significant other, please include their full name as well.

Membership is concurrent with the calendar year, and renewals are due each January.

Name: _____

Spouse/significant other name (if also registering): _____

Mailing address: _____

Email address*: _____

Phone Number: _____ NAWCC membership number: _____

New membership / Renewal (Please circle appropriate choice) Number of Years? _____ *To reduce time and expenses, all newsletters and Chapter 139 correspondence will be distributed electronically to members with email addresses.