

S.W.Chapter 15

# The Mainspring

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

February 2006

## Laurie Penman 5 day class Update

*We are exceedingly pleased* to report that Laurie Penman, Master and head Clockmaker for AWCI, an internationally recognized author and frequent contributor for BHI, *Clocks Magazine*, *Horological Times* and the *Clockmakers Newsletter* has agreed to conduct 5 days of clock repair training beginning Sunday, April 16 and running through Thursday April 20, 2006 in San Antonio. These are the five days immediately preceding the Chapter 15 annual regional show in Kerrville.

*Class size will be limited to 15. To date we have 8 which is an adequate number to "make" the class. Additional details will be sent out to students in the next few weeks. Interested students should contact Jerry Brazil for more information and or a reservation. See page 3 for address, e-mail and phone number.* ☺

## From the President

*submitted by Jeff Beehler*

Hello again, hope everyone is doing well. As some of you know the NAWCC Board last year approved a program to recognize and thank those members who have sponsored numerous new members, thus helping the NAWCC to succeed. Two hundred and six Diamond, Gold, Silver and Bronze Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to members who introduced others to the NAWCC. Retaining and recruiting members will allow our Association and Chapter to be strong and thrive. I would like at this time to applaud and recognize these members:

DIAMOND: Burley Bullock; GOLD: C C

(Jack) Whisenhunt; SILVER: George Kiser, Ralph Pokluda, Ben Fulbright, Joan Jensen and Robert Wingate; BRONZE: James West, Quillian Jordan, Harold Neil, W E (Mac) McCaslin, Babe Jensen, David Pasternak, Carl Schmieg, Keith Patterson, Jack Chipman, Dick Dorer, Wayne Haley, John Tope, Carroll Rosamond, David Tips and Walter Pietzsch.

Well done people and thank you. See you all in Kerrville.☺

## DUES UPDATE

*February 14 is the deadline for receiving 2006 chapter membership dues. If unpaid by this date your subscription to this newsletter will stop. If you don't see "2006" or higher in the upper right corner of your mailing label we have not received your chapter dues.*

## Membership News

●Jim West passed last month in Houston. He was a long time member of the NAWCC and this chapter. He was very knowledgeable in so many horological areas and quite a dial painter. He will be missed. ☺

## Upcoming Shows and Events

*(watch our website for more details)*

●March 17-18, 2006

Lone Star Regional, Mesquite Texas

Hosted by Chapter 124

●April 21-22, 2006

*Great Southwestern Regional, Kerrville TX*  
*Hosted by Chapter 15*

●June 21 - 26, 2006

NAWCC National Convention, Cleveland Ohio

●August 18 - 20, 2006

All Texas Regional, Houston  
Hosted by Chapter 139☺

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## 2005... a retrospective

by the editor

I've been struck by some significant events from last year for our chapter.

*Our membership  
...is larger than  
90% of the  
chapters in  
NAWCC.*

\*We enjoyed a very successful regional show in Kerrville, including: a good turnout in attendance and tables; educational that were well done; very positive comments on the exhibit; hospitality that was *world*

*class*; and to top it all off we came out in the black financially!

\*Additional activities held included: four one day shows (Gatesville in February; Temple in June; Wharton in September; and Austin in November); and in October we held a purely educational meeting on *Rare and Unusual clocks*

\*Our newly elected Vice President, Ted Orban, single handedly produced the Chapter 15 website. About May 1 was the debut of <http://www.nawcc-chapter15.org/>. It now is a showplace for horological information and a definite feather in the cap of our chapter. Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> century!

\*This newsletter is now available on line. 28 members or 13% of our chapter members received this issue by e-mail. It's a start, and an important one as more and more members have and use high

speed internet access, and as the expense of printing and mailing increases.

\*Our membership base is stable and reminds larger than 90% of all chapters in the NAWCC . Our financial position is positive and healthy. We had a good year!

Chapter 15 has enjoyed a lot of success and we have a lot of positive momentum as we start 2006. If you would like to be a part of it please let one of our officers know. All the work can't be done by one or even a few. We'd enjoy and appreciate adding what you might have to offer.☺

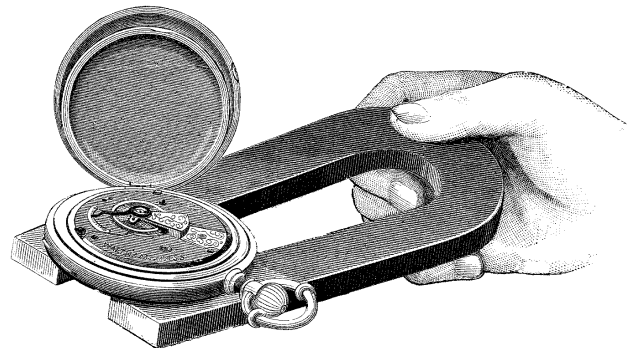
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## Repair Tip

submitted by Bruce Graham

After every Pocket Watch repair I test the watch for residual magnetism. I place a small magnetic compass on top of the balance cock and watch to see how the compass needle comes to rest. If the needle has even the slightest waver, the watch goes through the demagnetizer. Another important test is to see if the needle comes to a steady rest, but off magnetic north. Sometimes the regulator hardware will become magnetized and will affect the timekeeping qualities of the watch. Usually one or two passes through the demagnetizer will cure the problem, but it is always a safe bet to check for magnetism afterwards.☺

*Editors note: I'm so glad Bruce wrote about magnetism this month. But I want to warn clock repairers that this isn't only a problem for watches. Last year I had a customer with a*



*Hermele movement and new style balance wheel, it was so magnetized that the clock would not regulate. After changing out the balance unit for an unmagnetized one I discovered that in addition virtually all the steel in this movement was magnetized as well. I finally found a very large TV degausser that worked and the movement regulated to 9000 BPH as required. The compass test is an important one.☺*

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## Beginning Clock Repair Classes

*by the Editor*

Several people have asked about classes in clock repair and maintenance, especially with Laurie Penman coming to town. The Penman class has NOT been designed as the session for a beginner or the inexperienced. So we are planning a class comprised of six weekly sessions on beginning clock repair and maintenance.

As an outline and reference we will use the book by Dr David S. Goodman entitled **This Old Clock**. Don't go looking at your local bookstore or with most of the horological booksellers. It is only sold and published by the author. We have received permission from Dr Goodman to use the book and materials and he has assured us that he has copies in stock.



To give you a general idea of what we will cover I'm listing a portion of the table of contents:

*Tools for Clock Repair, Terminology, American Count Wheel Striking, French Count Wheel*

*Striking, French Rack Striking, Adjusting the Strike, Take the Clock Apart, Cleaning, Mainsprings, Bushing, Tooth Replacement, Lubrication, Recoil Escapement, Deadbeat Escapement, and much more.* This by no means is an exhaustive and inclusive list, but gives you an idea of the scope of what we have in mind.

If interested please write or call the editor. See my address, phone number or e-mail address below. Sessions will be held on Saturday's from 9 to noon, beginning approximately May 6th and running weekly.

Sessions will be led by Eldon Harris. Eldon is a long time Chapter 15 member with approximately 30 years of clock repair experience and currently has an active clock repair business. The only cost to the student will be the book, which is \$20. The class will be limited to 12 students per session so let me know soon if you wish to attend.☺

### ***Your Current Chapter 15 Officers and Directors:***

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## Chapter 15 Membership Application

New Application / Renewal (circle one)

Membership dues are \$10 per year. Dues are payable by December 31 each year. If joining initially after July 1<sup>st</sup> dues are \$5 for first year.

*You must be a current and paid member of NAWCC to join a chapter.*

You may belong to more than one chapter at a time.

**Please print or type**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: HOME:(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Horological Interests \_\_\_\_\_

NAWCC Member# \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: CHAPTER 15, NAWCC

Enclose with remittance and send to:

Jerry Brazil

26766 Fawn Mountain Road

Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015

(210) 698-6665 eggman@satx.rr.com

## *Classified Ads*

CLOCK GEARS, BARRELS, PINIONS

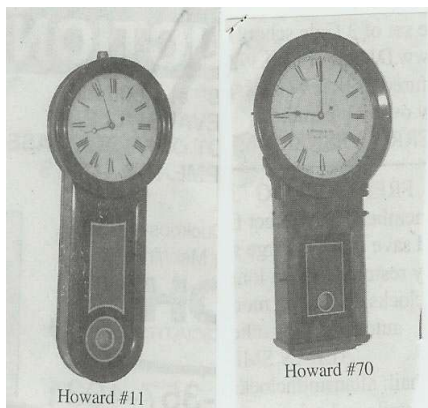
ARBORS AND ESCAPE WHEELS

All made to order from your sample

### H.O. GEAR SERVICE

"I do what it takes"

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P.O. Box 103 185 Pin Oak Drive  
Malakoff, TX 75148 Mabank, TX 75156  
(903) 451-3036 Howard C. Vaughn Sr.  
Member NAWCC Since 1974



### Clocks Wanted

E. Howard  
#11 or E.  
Howard #70.  
Clocks must  
be original  
and in good  
condition.  
Call Gaylord  
Hoyt at (361)

991-7785 or e-mail [suehoyt@aol.com](mailto:suehoyt@aol.com)

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