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Save the date

November 12, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Chapter potluck

Bob and Karen Rasmussen's
Liberty Hill

November 30, 10 a.m. – noon

State Capitol clock tour

December

No Chapter meeting

January

Chapter meeting

Windermere Clubhouse
Pflugerville

February

Open house from 1p.m. – 3 p.m.

Bea Copeland's, San Antonio

Current Board Members

President – Ken Reindel

President@nawcc-chapter15.org

Vice-President – Bob Rasmussen

VicePresident@nawcc-chapter15.org

Treasurer – Tom Tarpy

Treasurer@nawcc-chapter15.org

Secretary – Pat Holloway

Secretary@nawcc-chapter15.org

Director of Programs – Gary
Sertich

Programs@nawcc-chapter15.org

President's Message

This last month we saw the passing of Steve Jobs. Many of us who grew up in the 70's will remember Steve as the youthful young man cradling the Macintosh with a sneaky smile on his face. Somehow he knew that his new invention marked the beginning of profound changes to the world and the very way society worked. We remember the Time magazine articles depicting Steve as the young innovator, holding apples in his hand, showing his latest products. I remember wondering, "is this young guy for real?" wondering how he was able to do what he was doing. He was indeed for real. Steve would continue his impact on the world all the way to his last days.

But his impact didn't stop with computers. Steve succeeded in reshaping communication (through iPhone), the music industry (through iTunes), and even the movie industry (through Pixar). While considered an inventor, he often took things that already existed and made them better. His biggest accomplishment was to make difficult technology accessible to everyday folks and by so doing, "made his dent in the universe."

So, how *did* he do it? Steve made his impact at the intersection of technology and humanities. It was where science and art crossed paths that he saw the opportunity, and worked painstakingly hard to create innovation there. He had the ability and insight to challenge the conventional thinking at this intersection and create great things.

I've long believed that Horology is one of those areas that stand at the intersection of technology and the arts. Throughout history, horological science existed as the earliest expression of the state-of-the-art in technology. We see these devices as capturing the artistic themes of the era as well. There's the technology and science of the movement. There is the art embodied in the dial and case work. Often, understanding the challenges society faced in a given era gives us deeper understanding into the origins of the timepieces found in that era.

An early interest in horology can be the foundation for an entire career. It can help inspire, in young folks, an interest in engineering, science, history, and art. During our October officers meeting, we were reminded that one of our goals was, and still is, to engage the youth to enhance our membership. It remains a challenge. But, it is a very worthwhile one. (cont. page 2)

President's message continued

We can change the lives of young folks forever with an interest in horology. We all have to find a way to share our interest with them.

On a lighter note, I wish to acknowledge and thank Carolyn Spillers for an outstanding program this month. Her lighthearted presentation of Rogers and Carolyn's clock collection, entitled "Once Upon a TIME," showed how engaging, entertaining and interesting horology can be. Pictures can be found in next month's Newsletter. Be sure to check it out!

Treasurer's Report	
Chapter Account	\$7,376.74
Exp: Oct. Newsletter and	(40.62)
Inc: Membership and renewals	<u>156.36</u>
(net of Pay Pal fees)	\$7,492.48
Regional Account - unchanged	\$4,163.60

Fourth annual potluck

It's almost here! Our fourth annual Chapter 15 Potluck Social will be **Saturday, November 12th at Bob and Karen Rasmussen's home** (101 Howard Lane, Liberty Hill TX 78642).

To allow travel time to and from surrounding areas, the social will be a lunch, from 11 a.m. till 2 p.m. Spouses and friends are also invited. What better way to introduce them to this great group of people?

Coffee, iced tea, water and paper goods will be furnished. Please plan to bring a dish of your choice: meats/main dishes, vegetables, salads, breads, desserts, etc. are all needed.

Driving directions:

From I-35, turn west at Georgetown and follow TX-29 for about 15.5 miles. Turn right on County Road 200. In .7 miles turn left on Bridget Lane (Cierra Vista subdivision). Continue straight at the traffic circle and turn left on Howard Lane. Bob and Karen's house is on the right at the end of the cul-de-sac.

From west Austin, take US183 north to TX-29. Turn left on TX-29 for about 3.5 miles, then right on County Road 200 and follow the directions above.

Special treat in November!!

We owe a big **THANK YOU** to Bob Larson for arranging a special tour of the historic clocks at the state capitol! Make plans now to join us from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, November 30th for this bonus event. We'll meet in the rotunda at 9:45. Visitor parking is available in the garage east of the capitol between San Jacinto and Trinity. Additional information will be included in a later email reminder.

Chapter membership renewal

It's that time again – time to renew your Chapter 15 membership for 2012. Payment can be made by check or with the PayPal option on the Chapter 15 website.

Chapter membership

If you've not yet renewed for 2012, 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 \$10

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

Restoring wood alarm clock cases

~ Repairing the Veneer

In our previous section, we were left with our wood clock case stripped of its original shellac finish. We were able to remove it by first using shellac thinner to soften and dissolve the finish. Turning the cloth multiple times as we went, and rubbing patiently, the finish came off onto the cloth. The cloth unfortunately snagged a bit of loose veneer along the way, and we were left with the problem of replacing this veneer. As you recall, we saved the original pieces of veneer which will assure an exact color match and fit.

To repair this veneer, we must start by scraping out all of the loose glue seen as white



haze in the picture to the left. This is an easy job if done with a razor blade or sharp utility knife blade. Light scrapes across the surface will disintegrate the

glue very easily. Be careful not to gouge any of the surface, and especially be careful around the edges. Use the same method to clean the glue from the back of the piece of veneer, but be extra careful here!

To glue this piece back in place, we will be using a product called Ground Hide Glue. You will want to use Ground Hide Glue, and no other product. Do not be tempted to use Elmer's glue, contact cement, or any other glue. Hide Glue has the properties needed to make perfect veneer repairs on our antique clock case. It will tend to provide an initial tack, allowing adjustability and clamping, and will dry tenaciously hard. If you make a mistake, the piece can be disassembled by applying water and heat. It is reversible, which other glues are not. Even the pre-mixed hide glue is NOT to be used for this repair.

Hide glue is what was used to assemble and veneer your clock originally. It is a little fussier to prepare than liquid glue but it is worth it. You'll need to mix it up. For small repairs like

veneer, an ideal mix is equal volume parts of glue and water. This is far from scientific but it works well, again for small veneer repairs. Mix a small amount in a jar, perhaps ¼ inch depth at the bottom of a 1 inch diameter pill jar and no more! Add equal parts water. You can mix it up but it will not really dissolve until it is heated.

Now, immerse this jar into a larger one such as a pickle jar. This is the "bath" water which acts to hold the heat in the smaller jar, keeping the hide glue warm (140°F is ideal). Fill the pickle jar with water to a depth of about 1 inch. Now microwave this whole thing for about 15 seconds at a time (be careful not to boil it!) until the glue mixes to a liquid and completely dissolves in the water. Again, the proper temperature of the water "bath" is 140°F and if you have a small food thermometer that would be helpful.

There are special thermostat equipped glue pots made for mixing hide glue and keeping it warm for longer periods of time. If you have a large project, or a good deal of veneer to repair, this is great. But if you are doing a small 1 inch veneer repair, it is more trouble than it is worth and the microwave method is fine. Just watch carefully and do not boil the glue out or it will be instantly ruined.

Once the glue is ready, heat the area of the case with a heat gun or hair dryer until it is

warm to the touch. Don't hold the heat gun too close, or leave the heat gun on too long in one place because you



don't want to scorch the wood. But you want it warm in preparation for applying the glue. Apply the glue with a stick or toothpick to the clock case first, then to the veneer piece. You only need a thin coat of glue, not a heavy blob. Position the veneer in place and close the seam as best you can. Clean off any excess from the seam. Once the glue begins to get tacky (it will take only a minute or two for this to happen), confirm the

position of the patch and clamp as shown. Never apply the clamp directly to the piece; always use a block of wood in between the clamp and the veneer. As a hedge against having the glue stick to the block, a small cut piece of wax paper can be sandwiched between the veneer and the clamp block. Let dry for 4 hours.



Once you have removed the clamps, you must do some minor touch up sanding around the edges of the veneer and over the surface to remove any excess glue that may have oozed out onto the surface. This also tends to blend the veneer patch to the surrounding area. Once you do this, you will have a finished result that looks as shown above. The repair is virtually invisible.

Proposed changes to by-laws

You may recall that during our annual meeting in May, there was preliminary discussion about several proposed changes to the by-laws: 1) an increase in dues taking effect after the vote in 2012 to help cover the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter, 2) the possibility of spouses serving concurrently *in certain roles* and 3) reducing the number of directors. The recommended changes for numbers 2 and 3 are due to the number of people who are willing or able to serve in leadership roles.

Following are the recommendations that are proposed by the Board. Please remember that these are only recommendations. We would like to hear your input and feedback over the next couple of months before the finalized recommendations are presented for a vote at the annual meeting in April. Please don't hesitate to contact any of the officers either by phone or email to discuss any concerns or additional changes.

Proposed changes for 2012:

Constitution

Article IV – Officer

Discussion:

We have such few one day marts and workshops that having a director for each seems un-necessary especially given the fact that it's getting harder to fill these positions. The president has the authority to create committees to perform tasks that they deem necessary to the good of the chapter. This can include organizing a one day mart. The officers and director propose the following change.

Proposal:

Line two currently reads:

“There shall be three Directors and they shall consist of a Director of Education and Workshops, a Director of One Day Marts, and a Director of Programs.

The Officers and the three Directors shall constitute the Executive Committee of this Chapter. Each member of the Executive Committee shall have an equal vote.”

Change this to read:

“There shall be one Program Director in charge of Education and Workshops.

The Officers and the Director shall constitute the Executive Committee of this Chapter. Each member of the Executive Committee shall have an equal vote.”

Bylaws

Article I. Officers

Section 1. Duties

Section 1b. Duties of the Vice President

Discussion:

In the past when we were holding the annual Great Southwest Regional the responsibility automatically fell to the vice president to plan and organize this event. This

caused membership to not run for this office. Since the chapter has discontinued holding the annual regional the requirement to have the vice president plan and organize this event is no longer required. In the future if the chapter decides to resurrect its regional then the president at that time can appoint a committee to plan and organize this event. The officers propose the following change.

Proposal:

Remove the following paragraphs from the duties of the vice president:

“The Vice President shall be the General Chairperson for the Annual Chapter meeting, otherwise known as and herein referred to as the Great Southwest Regional meeting of the NAWCC. As General Chairperson the Vice President shall have the overall responsibility for coordinating all activities undertaken during such meeting, including but not limited to the organizing of any and all displays, exhibits, programs, marts, lectures, and educational demonstrations. As General Chairperson the Vice President shall update the records maintained by the Meeting Director and Educational Director for the meeting under his or her production.

The Vice-President shall be the Program Chairman, and is charged with the duty of preparing the technical portion of the program of each chapter meeting. During this period, he shall preside and introduce the speaker.”

Bylaws

Article II. MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

Section 2. Elections

Discussion:

The chapter is getting more and more spouses who are becoming active and willing to hold executive offices. Currently the by-laws state that spouses are not allowed to hold offices at the same time this includes Director. If we exclude active and qualified spouses from holding offices concurrently we will continue to stifle the

growth of the chapter and struggle to fill these positions. In order to allow willing and able spouses to serve on the board and help with the growth of the chapter the following change is proposed.

Paragraph two currently reads:

“A spouse cannot be nominated to the Board of Directors if his or her spouse is also nominated. A Director cannot appoint their spouse to follow him or her as a Director. The Directors shall nominate their successors in advance.”

Proposal:

Change this to read:

“A member cannot hold nor be nominated to any officer or Director position if his or her spouse already holds or is nominated for the office of President or Treasurer.”

Bylaws

Article VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Section 3. Dues

Discussion:

In order to keep track with the increased cost of producing and mailing the newsletter the board proposes an increase in dues beginning fiscal year 2012 from \$10 to \$15. If both husband and wife are members then the dues of one spouse will increase to \$15 while the other will remain at \$10.

Currently reads:

“The annual dues shall be ten (\$10) dollars. The amount of dues shall be increased or decreased as expenditures require, upon approval of the membership of the Chapter.”

Proposal:

Change this to read:

“The annual dues shall be fifteen (\$15) dollars for the first family member and ten (\$10) for spouse. The amount of dues shall be increased or decreased as expenditures require, upon approval of the membership of the Chapter.

Newsletter Editor NAWCC Chapter 15
1105 Lafayette Lane
Pflugerville TX 78660

Spot a clock with a twist

Do you know where these clocks are?

To enter to win a **free year of Chapter 15 membership**, send your answer to Pat Holloway at pwholloway@suddenlink.net or give her a call at 512-252-3881. All correct entries will be entered in a drawing – sorry, limit of one entry per member. The winner will be selected and announced at the Chapter Potluck on Saturday, November 12th. You need not be present to win. If you've already paid for 2012, we'll extend your membership another year. Current board members and their spouses are not eligible to win.

Don't wait! Send your answer today!!

