

Lone Star Times

National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors~Chapter 124

“an educational group dedicated to preserving & understanding horology.”

August 2014 Volume 30 Number 2~ Current Membership:460

www.chapter124.org

President's Message

Dear Chapter 124 Members and Friends-

I would first like to thank the members of chapter 124 for the honor of being elected your President for the next year. I am confident that your Board of Directors, along with our many volunteers, will continue the tradition of excellence as a chapter of the NAWCC.

For those of you who were not at the Annual Meeting, the following were elected as officers:

John Erickson – President, **Kelsey Downum** – Vice President and **Ronnie Mathis** –

Secretary/Treasurer. In addition, the following have accepted these appointments: **Mike**

Granderson – Convention Director, **Tim Henz** – Education Director, **Dee Koch** – Mart Director,

Sam Creech – Web Chair and Director-at-Large, **John Acker** - Director-at-Large and **Pam**

Tischler - Past President

Committees for the new year 2014 and 2015 are:

Awards Committee Chair

Nominating Committee Chair

Auction Committee Chair

Picnic Committee

Membership

National Convention Committee

Museum Committee

Pam Tischler

Fred Tischler

Bruce Wooldridge

Pam Tischler and Evelyn Slough

Gene Meysenburg

John Acker

John Acker



I will update you in the October newsletter when other Chairs are filled.

Check out the Education section of the website for details on classes offered for the rest of 2014. **Tim Henz**, our Education Director, is busy working on educational offerings for 2015. Watch the website and newsletter for new classes as they are scheduled.

Mark your calendar now for the 2015 Lone Star Regional. We will be in Mesquite at the Mesquite Convention Center on March 5th and 6th. Exciting exhibit and lectures are being planned, details will be revealed in the October newsletter.

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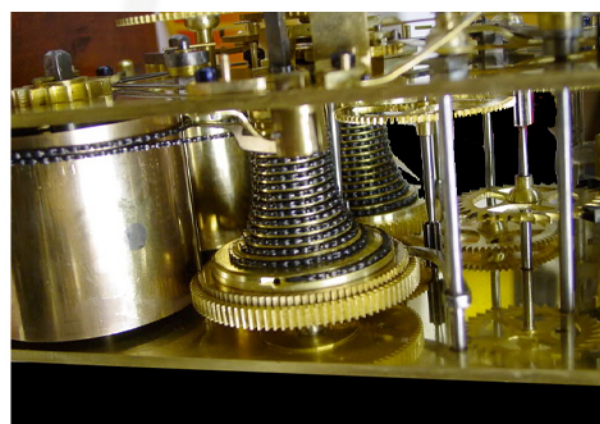
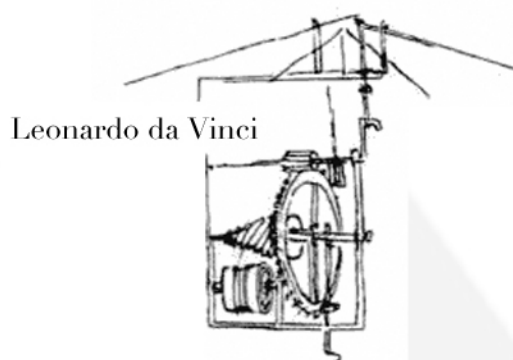
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Please plan on attending the **Lone Star Chapter 124 Picnic** on **Sunday, September 7 at 4:00PM** at the Greene Club House, 700 Carriage Way, Duncanville, TX 75137. The chapter provides the meat and drinks while the members bring a dish to share. More information and directions will be provided.

Please make plans on attending our next **One Day Meeting** and Mart on **August 2, 2014** at the Founders Building in Grapevine. You will not want to miss the educational by **Fred Tischler** titled **Restoration of a Year Running Fusee Clock**.

Sincerely,

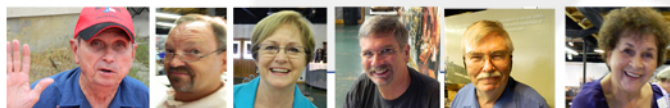
John Erickson
President



Upcoming Classes

Unless otherwise noted, all classes/workshops are held in the Founders Building, 701 South Main Street, Grapevine, TX 76051. For information regarding registration or other questions about classes offered by Lone Star Chapter 124, please contact Tim Henz, Education Director, 817-453-0502, or go to the Education page on the Chapter website (www.chapter124.org) and register on-line.

August 30	Jewelers Lathe II	Bruce Wooldridge, Instructor
September 20-21	Beginning Pocket Watch Repair	Bill Andrie & Clinton Kleen, Instructors
September 26-28	400 Day Clock Repair	John Hubby, Instructor
October 25-26	Introduction to Clock Collecting	Lex Rooker, Instructor
November 8	Open Bench Workshop	Mark Vozar, Coordinator
November 14-17	FSW F301 Intro to Basic Pocket Watch Repair	Lehr Dircks, Instructor Bill Andrie, Coordinator



Welcome New Members!

Corbitt Baker
Mark Love

Nacogdoches TX
Lufkin TX

Barbara Hicks Denton TX
Eric Fedoryshyn Dallas, TX



Upcoming Events

- August 2** **One Day Meeting & Mart – Founders' Building – Grapevine, TX**
- August 21-23 All Texas Chapters Regional – Houston, TX
- September 7** **Chapter 124 Picnic "The Green Club House" Duncanville, Texas**
- September 11-13 MKOA Regional – Oklahoma City, OK
- October 4** **One Day Meeting & Mart – Founders' Building – Grapevine, TX**

National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors~Chapter 124 2014~2015 Board of Directors

John Erickson, President
972-985-0855
john.erickson7@verizon.net

Kelsey Downum, Vice President
817-739-1543
downumk@gmail.com

John Acker, Director-at-Large
214-467-0076
jsatex@att.net

Mike Granderson, Convention Director
903-849-3439
grand42@embarqmail.com

Tim Henz, Education Director
817-453-0502
oldtymersclockshop@flash.net

Dee Koch, Mart Director
903-939-0950
mdkoch@att.net

Ronnie Mathis, Secretary/Treasurer
214-725-0017
ronniemathis@verizon.net

Sam Creech, Director-at-Large
972-251-9012
s.j.creech@verizon.net

Pam Tischler, Past President
972-612-0712
fswprogram@verizon.net



John
Erickson



Kelsey
Downum



John
Acker



Mike
Granderson



Tim
Henz



Dee
Koch



Ronnie
Mathis



Sam
Creech



Pam
Tishler



Mark your Calendar!

**Lone Star Chapter 124's Picnic
Sunday, September 7, 2014 at 4:00 PM**

Please note we have changed the date and venue to Sunday, September 7th, at 4:00 PM. This year we will be having our picnic at "The Greene Club House" at 700 Carriage Way, Duncanville, TX 75137. This is our time to gather together with families and friends to enjoy the camaraderie, along with Barbeque of Pulled Pork and Sausage provided by the Chapter. Everyone brings a dish to share and we always have plenty of Texas Caviar, Fruit Salads, Potato Salads, Deviled Eggs, Cole Slaw, Pasta Salad, Baked Beans and an assortment of delicious desserts.

Soft drinks and water are provided even though you may bring your beverage of choice. Remember this is an ideal time for a little "**Show & Tell**," so bring whatever you have that may be unusual or your latest find. The Club House is air-conditioned; however, there are plenty of picnic tables with lots of shade if you prefer the outdoors and sunshine.

For those of you into games, there will be plenty to play, plus you can take a dip in the swimming pool to cool off! It will be a fun time, plus all of the delicious food.

We will need a head count in order for the Chapter to know how much meat, soft drinks and water to provide. If you fail to sign up at the August 2nd One Day, please give Evelyn a call at 972-283-5560 (h) or Pam at 972-612-0712 (h) for more information. We will begin at 4:00 PM with Dinner being served around 5:00 PM. The directions will be in the August Newsletter, which you may also find on our Chapter Website (www.chapter124.org).

A reminder will be emailed to everyone around the end of August. We hope to see you there!



CURRIER & IVES—CLOCK LITHOGRAPHERS ?
by PHIL GREGORY

Several clocks in the author's collection and that he has viewed at Marts have recognizable Currier and Ives prints—used as transfers in reverse glass paintings on OG clocks. *Broadway New York* (Fig. 1), completed in 1875, is an example. Remarkably, a search of the BULLETIN INDEX revealed no references to these noted lithographers. Did artists use these popular prints without paying royalties or was that not even a consideration at the time? To determine the contribution of Currier and Ives to horology, we need to review who they were and what they accomplished.



Fig. 1. Currier and Ives print completed in 1875: *Broadway New York*.

At age 15 (1828), Nathaniel Currier apprenticed with William Pendleton of Boston, America's first well-known lithographer. In 1834, Currier completed his training and opened a firm at 137 Broadway in New York City. With an associate named Stodart (about whom not much is known), they produced sheet music covers and prints. In 1835, Currier opened his own firm on 1 Wall Street and produced six known pictorial lithographs. His brother-in-law, James Ives, joined Currier in 1852 and became a partner in 1857.

Invented in Munich, Germany in 1798, *lithography* consisted of an image drawn or painted on a polished porous stone with a greasy crayon or liquid. Placed in an acid bath, unprotected parts of the stone were eaten away. The plate then was saturated with water which was absorbed by the porous unpainted surface. The stone's surface was coated with ink which adhered only to the drawing. The stone then could be used to make prints, much as etchings and engravings are used. [Contemporary lithographs are produced by a printing process in which the image to be printed is rendered on a flat surface, as on sheet zinc or aluminum, and treated to retain ink while the nonimage areas are treated to repel ink.] The principal advantage of lithography over other printing techniques was the combination of speed with which the plate could be prepared coupled with the large number of impressions that could be taken from each plate. A principal disadvantage was the talent required to prepare the stone. The surface must be polished to the point that a fingerprint will show and no erasure is possible. A good craftsman could produce about one stone each week.

Many firms used lithograph for commercial printing. Currier's contribution was in the artistry and subject matter of the pictures that he created. These pictures were a sidelight of his commercial business as he produced an average of about ten each year until 1844, when he expanded these efforts and created 37. By 1852, the firm mainly was creating prints for the popular market. This firm and the resulting follow on by the sons (until 1907) resulted in over 7,440 documented prints.

In addition to being an artist, Currier was a business man who believed in producing products that were in demand. At first, most of prints were of news happenings such as building or ship burning or pretty ladies, however as he added artists to the firm, decorative pictures to hang on the walls of homes became the

principle product. Many Currier and Ives prints were hand colored by young women who worked at a large table, each applying one color. At the end, a finisher would touch up as required. This process resulted in some variation between prints, just as is found in reverse painted glasses.

Subjects ran the spectrum from cartoons, news, important buildings, pastoral scenes, prostitutes, railroads, firefighters, portraits, religion, historical figures, river boats and sailing ships, horses, sporting events—anything the public would buy. Methods of sale ranged from retail in the store, push cart vendors, catalogue, to wholesale to other cities. Homeowners at the time hung framed prints over their parlor walls, changing them from time to time as a new scene caught their fancy.

Since clockmakers were quick to put pictures on their clocks, it is not surprising that some of the prints became reverse glass paintings, often with modifications that made them easier (read, 'cheaper') to use. As an example, in Fig. 1 the American flag and many of the people in the foreground were removed. This greatly reduced painting time on glass since the paint was oil and did not absorb and dry as quickly as on paper. The author has not seen any of the detailed paintings for which the firm is most famous today (Fig. 2) as reverse glass paintings, but has seen them inside Marshall & Adams triple decker clocks. The bottom glass on this clock frequently was left unpainted with curtains on the side. This allowed the pendulum to be seen easily. Perhaps individual owners placed prints inside over the label since this firm was out of business by 1857.



Fig. 2. Currier & Ives famous print, *Home for Thanksgiving*.

Back to our original question, did Currier and Ives knowingly contribute to horology or were they paid royalties for use of their work? Probably not. The firm made many of their prints by copying parts of other artists' work, so it seems that unrecompensed 'borrowing' was common practice at the time. Quantities of clock glasses produced probably would have been too small to interest them. Most like the clock manufacturers used any picture that the public liked that they could paint economically, changing them frequently to provide variety in the clock appearance.

No matter, Currier & Ives remain the most prominent illustrators of this dynamic period. Their works are collected with the same passion that many hold for clocks. Many of their original works sell for thousands of dollars. Check that old frame in the attic carefully before you discard the print.

For those interest in more details, you are referred to *CURRIER & IVES, Printmakers to the American People*, by Harry T. Peters; and *Currier & Ives, CHRONICLES OF AMERICA*, edited by John Pratt. Find these books at your local library. Since these books are rare, many libraries make them available for reference but not for lending. If you find one in a used book store, buy it!



One Day! MEETING & MART

August 2nd
at the Founders' Building
701 South Main Street
Grapevine, Texas



Chapter 124's Advertisers



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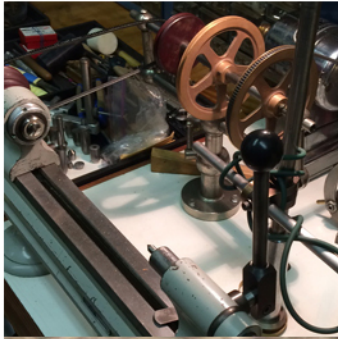
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Time Travelers



Lone Star Times



Time Travelers

*by Peter Crum, editor
with Fred and Pam Tischler*

I recently had the pleasure of interviewing Pam and Fred Tischler at their home/museum. They have a beautiful and extensive collection of several periods of mainly European timepieces. Fred also has a very efficient shop with computer aids to help him set the accuracy of a clock in for repair. He has a digital readout system on a small milling machine. Everything is very organized, placed in special drawers and his hours and invoicing is also kept on his computer.

Pam has organized their collection into a beautiful presentation throughout their home. The clocks have become part of their décor amongst other items. Fred keeps extensive records of each clock they own.

Fred joined the NAWCC in 1987 while Pam joined in 1993. They are both Life Members of the Association.

Both Pam and Fred are very involved in the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC) and are both Star Fellows of the Association. Fred is a past Director of the NAWCC and past Trustee of the Museum before the merger took place. Fred, along with several others, played a major part in the merger of the NAWCC and the Museum.

Both Pam and Fred are involved in the NAWCC's Field Suitcase Workshop Program (FSW). Fred is one of the original instructors of the FSW Program, which began in 1998, and has taught a total of 79 classes to date. Pam has been involved as the Administrator of the FSW Program since June of 1999. Since she began, the FSW Program has had 352 classes.

Fred is currently on the NAWCC Education Committee, as well as the Nomination & Elections Committee. Pam is presently on the NAWCC Awards Committee. They are both active in Lone Star Chapter 124 as well. Fred served six years on the Chapter 124 Board as a Director, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-President, President and as Past President.

Fred developed the four Chapter Basic Clock Repair Courses that are still taught today. He continues to teach specialty courses for the Chapter. Fred also gives lectures at the Chapter One Days, as well as at Regionals. He does an educational on the "History of Clocks" for local Libraries and other organizations.



Pam served two years as the Chapter Vice-President, two years as President and is now serving a third term as Past President. She continues to Chair the Chapter Awards Committee, as well as the Banquet and Hospitality for the Lone Star Regional. Pam and Evelyn Slough chair the Annual Picnic, which continues to be a success

How did this all begin?

Pam grew up in the small town of Gonzales, Texas, where her parents owned and operated the family department store known as Knight's Dry Goods until she was in the 8th grade. At that time, her Dad changed careers into Real Estate and the Oil & Gas business.

She attended school in Gonzales; however, she graduated from High School in Gulfport, MS at Gulf Park College and High School for Women. She also received her Associate of Arts Degree from Gulf Park College for Women and attended Trinity University in San Antonio.

Pam grew up around horses beginning when she was in the 5th grade. She used to barrel race while her brother, Richard, liked calf roping. This was the beginning of raising Quarter Horses until 1970. One of the highlights as a 6th grader was riding her Palomino from Altair, TX to San Antonio for the annual Livestock Show.

Fred grew up in the small town of Pilot Point just Northeast of Plano. His parents farmed; therefore, Fred was born and raised in the country farming once he was old enough to drive a tractor. He spent many an hour on that tractor. Once he graduated from High School, he did all sorts of odd jobs until he settled down and decided it was time to attend college. He worked for Texas Instruments in their Co-Op Program and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from SMU. He had the opportunity to work for Bell Labs and attend NYU, where he received his Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering. Fred had two children by a previous marriage.

Both Pam and Fred worked for Texas Instruments. Fred worked for 35 years at TI with one of his jobs being head of an Electrical Engineering Department. He worked in Dallas, Houston, Austin and then back in the Dallas area his last 10 years. Pam was with TI for 20 years as an Administrative Assistant starting out in Dallas and then transferring to Houston.

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They were both married to other people at the time; however, they would see each other in the halls or cafeteria in Houston and became acquaintances. Some time after each were divorced, they started dating and two years later were married in 1985. They moved to Plano in January of 1986.

They actually bought six clocks on their Honeymoon not realizing they were going to become interested in clocks as collectors one day. Three of the six were gifts, two have since been sold and only one remains in their home today. It was actually Pam who came into the marriage with five clocks, which she began purchasing in 1968. Pam still has the first clock she purchased, which was a Vienna Regulator, as well as a French clock. Pam and Fred began their collecting in 1987!

They have traveled the world to see and experience some of the most beautiful clocks in museums and private collections. Once in awhile, they have found something special to add to their collection. Fred has his "bucket list," so the search continues.

Their spirit is a big part of Lone Star Chapter 124!



Do you think they
said "cheese?"



Pam & Fred Tischler by Diana DeLucca



Got Time?

Join Us at
chapter124.org

*National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors
Lone Star Chapter 124*

APPLICATION/RENEWAL FOR LONE STAR CHAPTER 124, NAWCC

An educational group dedicated to preserving and understanding horology.

Complete and send with applicable check made payable to: Lone Star Chapter #124

To Gene Meysenburg 11028 Creekmere, Dallas, TX 75218

Please PRINT:

Mr. ___ Mrs. ___ Ms. ___ (Please check appropriate blank.)

NAME _____

NAWCC # _____

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I'm most interested in _____

Check appropriate box:

☐ New #124 Member

☐ Renew my membership

Dues are \$10 per year.

Yrs @ \$10 =

Join/renew for 1-5 years



To join Chapter #124, you must be an NAWCC member, or have applied for NAWCC membership. Have you applied for National membership, but haven't gotten a membership number? Check here _____. (Date of your application/check to National.)