

# LONE STAR TIMES

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors Lone Star Chapter 124 Grapevine, Texas "An Educational Group Dedicated to Preserving and Understanding Horology"

> www.chapter124.org August 2017 VOLUME 35-1 MEMBERSHIP 364

## President's Message 2017 National Convention Chapter Events



Greetings Everyone.

Who would have thought I would be returning as your Chapter President once again? I certainly consider this quite an honor knowing several requested I return, and I hope to make you proud. Those of you, who know me well, know I already have several things up my sleeve for this Fiscal Year.

First, I would like to thank the following Board Members who will be returning for another year: **Tim Brownlee**, **Stephen Haley**, **Evelyn Slough** and **Bruce Wooldridge**. Our newest members are **Mike Granderson**, **John Hunt**, **Barry Kilfoy** and **Brian Schmidt**. The Chapter Officers are: **Bruce Wooldridge** as Vice President, **Tim Brownlee** as Secretary and **Evelyn Slough** as Treasurer. **Brian Schmidt** will be the new Mart Director, **Barry Kilfoy** as Education Director, **Mike Granderson** as Convention Chair leaving **Stephen Haley** and **John Hunt** as Directors at Large. **John Acker** will return as the acting Past President Advisor.

I am not sure if this was explained at the Annual Meeting; however, we decided to split up the Secretary/Treasurer job into two positions for 2017-2018 and years to come. Over the years, Board members have expressed it is a big job for one individual. Our two Directors at Large will also be working with other Board Members where help is needed and to understand the different positions on the Board. It is always wise to move around some so Board members know a little bit about every position.

Until we know the 2018 schedule with the Founder's Building, we have two One Day Meetings scheduled. They are August 5<sup>th</sup> and October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We have planned an interesting August Educational titled **"The Making of Texas Instruments LCD Watches – Time Computers,"** which **Clinton Kleen** will present.

#### Bella Traveling Library Exhibit

The Bella Traveling Library Exhibit continues because of Evelyn & Hugh Slough. To date, we have been in three libraries and will be in McKinney the month of August and in Watauga the month of September. Kudos to this couple for continuing to promote these library exhibits for our chapter.



I want our members to reach out to anyone on the Chapter Board with suggestions as to what they would like to see us do. I for one would very much like to find another Chapter Project similar to the McClintock Street Clock and Master Clock we donated to the City of Grapevine. If you know of a Court House clock or one in another public facility we can restore, please let us know.

It has been recommended we take a "Field Trip" to the Perot Museum in downtown Dallas. As NAWCC members, one gets in free. I recently went with my grandson and his family. Not knowing the rules, they let my grandson in free as the 2<sup>nd</sup> adult and my great-grandson in free. We only had to pay for my grandson's wife. If you have not been, you are missing out, as my grandson and his family, who live in Austin, have been twice within two years. This would not be a guided tour, as everyone would go through the museum at their own pace. There is a restaurant where you may have lunch or a snack. Perhaps we would hire a Mini-Bus to drive us, so we do not have to deal with Dallas traffic or everyone caravan there after meeting at a general location. These details would need to be worked out and of course, to see what the expense would be for a mini-bus. If we have a mini-bus, the only requirement would be to have a time to return to our original gathering place. If you are not on time, then you will be responsible for getting back to the original meeting place to get your car. Is there an interest in doing this? If so, please let me know or any other Board member.







I want to congratulate **John Acker**, Chair of the 2017 National Convention, his Co-Chairs **Bill Edwards** and **Chuck Edwards**, plus all of the Committee Chairs and Volunteers for making our National Convention in Arlington one to remember! There is nothing like Texas Hospitality and Armadillo Races!

**John Acker** will have more info in the Newsletter about the National Convention. Congratulations to **Bruce Wooldridge** for receiving the NAWCC Fellow Award at the 2017 National Convention. We are all very proud of Bruce, as he is a dedicated Chapter Member, Board Member, Instructor, and a great Volunteer! Bruce never turns us down and spends countless hours making our Chapter what it is today. If you stopped by the Exhibit at the National Convention, you noticed the panels he made holding the Joseph Ives Clocks. You also saw him unloading and loading clocks for people, as well as helping with the Auction. Well, that is just a sample of Bruce's work! He spends countless hours and miles picking up Auction items for our Chapter. He is just an all around Fellow of the Chapter. **Kudos to Bruce!** 





#### **Fred Tischler Scholarship Fund**

Two of our members donated a generous sum to start a *"Fred Tischler Scholarship Fund"* in Fred's memory. Everyone knows Fred was all about Education and we feel this will be a wonderful program for our Chapter. Since the initial donation, others have donated as well. John Acker will Chair the Scholarship Fund Committee with Mike Dempsey, Mark Vozar and Bruce Wooldridge as Committee Members. Now that our 2017 National Convention is over, the committee will have time to finalize our mission. Before we award scholarships to Chapter 124 Members, the fund must grow considerably. If you care to donate no matter the amount, please send Evelyn Slough a check made payable to Lone Star Chapter 124 and in the "Memo" part of your check, write "FT Scholarship Fund." Evelyn has established a separate account, so the money will not be comingled with our General Fund. Evelyn will also mail you a letter so you may use it as a write-off. To date, we have \$1900 in our scholarship fund.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and try to stay cool!



Pam Tíschler Chapter 124 Presídent



#### Chapter 124 Education News by Barry Kilfoy

Educational opportunities for Chapter 124 remain strong for the rest of 2017. A fourday "Chime Clock Repair" course (CR300) was supported by instructor Phil Ball (July 15/16 & 22/23). A Cuckoo-Clock Class (SR-100) is scheduled for August 19 supported by instructor Gerald Greener. The second wood case course "Wood Clock Case Restoration II" (CD-200) is scheduled for September 1-3 supported by instructor Dee Koch. Two "Pocket Watch Repair" classes (Part A (WR-100) for September 23-24, and Part B (WR-200) for October 28-29 are scheduled for the remaining quarter of 2017 offered by instructors Bill Andrle & Clinton Kleen. Here is a chance to get great "first exposure" to pocket watch repair.

Additionally, Mark Vozar continues Chapter 124's "just show up" Open Bench series (OW-100 & 101) with several projects. The Skeleton Clock project will result in a new clock constructed by wheels and components of a commercially available clock works being added to newly designed/constructed plates and pillar posts. Mark provides instructions, the brass for the plates and posts and information on depthing. A new addition to these "projects" includes a Trundle cutter. (Remember what a trundle is, right?). Visit an "Open Bench" night (OW 101) to check out this and other projects. Open Bench (OW 101) will meet August 1, September 5 and October 3 from 4:00-9:00 pm to complete 2017. Saturday Open Bench (OW 100) will meet on August 26<sup>th</sup> for the final time this year. Check the Chapter Class Schedule and Calendar on the website. Members can contact Mark at msvoze@sbcglobal.net (817-399-9894) for more information. The year of class instruction by Chapter 124 is basically completed by a four-day class "Fundamental Skills for Lathe & Clock Repair I" (F200) offered by FSW instructor Phil Ball. What a great year for Chapter 124 – all this clock/watch/tool training and a National NAWCC Convention to Boot - Wow! Stay tuned for continued outstanding clock or watch training sessions provided by our great Chapter 124 instructors for 2018.

#### **Auction Items**

We are always in need of Auction Items whether it is clocks, watches, tools or books! If you are or know of someone who wants help disposing of these items, please contact **Bruce Wooldridge** by emailing <u>bawool@suddenlinkmail.com</u> or phoning 903-571-3093. You may also contact any Board Member. We also accept things that are "It's for Free," which we put on a table at our Regional. You will always find Bruce, **Mike Granderson** and **Joe Richards** picking up Auctions items from members whose spouse has passed or else one who wants to down size with clocks and tools. These three, plus **Mark Richards** when available, are a team!



### **2017 NAWCC CONVENTION**



#### by JOHN ACKER

As the dust settles in Arlington, the comments continue to roll in, and it appears that the 2017 NAWCC National Convention was a success! Attendance was right at 1,100 people, and 650 tables were sold. We had 43 new or renewing members, 16 of which took advantage of our special convention offer of a 4-month introductory NAWCC membership.

Activity began early on Monday with a WCTW Beginning Pocket Watch Repair class taught by **Ferdinand Geitner**. **Pete Cronos**, the new chair of the WCTW program was on hand to make sure all of the equipment was there for a successful class. Five students attended.



### **2017 NAWCC CONVENTION**

Around noon, trucks and vans began to converge on the convention center to begin assembly of the Joseph Ives exhibit. Months before, **Bruce Wooldridge** had been busy constructing heavy-duty 4' x 8' wooden walls in his East Texas workshop to hold the massive hanging clocks. Twenty-two of them! Bruce arrived with all of the panels and the necessary hardware, and a small team of volunteers began wheeling them into the convention center. **Mike Granderson, Joe Richards, Mark Richards, Pete Cronos, Philip Morris, Jim Dubois, George Goolsby, James Barren, Stephen Haley, Thom Betts and John Acker** were among those who helped with the set-up. By the end of the day, things were beginning to take shape.

On Tuesday, a second class began – Atmos Clock Repair – taught by **Jeff Hamilton**. Another five students attend this class.

Tables and chairs arrived and were set up in the main hall for the mart under the direction of Mart Chair **Evelyn Slough.** All of the tables were covered in red, white and blue plastic in keeping with our Texas theme. Meanwhile, the exhibit team worked at bringing in the more than 75 rare (and heavy) Joseph Ives clocks. **Philip Morris** had spent the last two years begging and cajoling friends and fellow collectors to loan their prized clocks for this once-in-a-lifetime exhibit, and it was with great excitement (and great care) that each was uncrated or unwrapped and set in place. **Bill Edwards** arrived with a watchmaker's bench loaned by **Barry Kilfoy**, and Exhibit Chair **Don Bugh** began filling it with a large collection of period horological tools as a complement to the Ives clocks. **Peter Nunes** arrived after a long layover in Atlanta, and added his help in putting the exhibit together. After a full day of work, we were almost ready to welcome the crowds.

Wednesday – Final placement of clocks in the exhibit, as well as installation of the storyboards took place. Entries for the NAWCC Craft Contest started being delivered, and Craft Contest Chair **William Slough** was ready with proper item identification to help entrants in placing their entries. The talent and skill of many of our members is always amazing, and this year's entries did not disappoint. **Cathy Slough** was not far away setting up her table for the Children's Area. Games and crafts were offered to help in getting our younger members introduced to the art and science of horology.





Evelyn and her team of Gene Meysenburg, Dick Ganschow, Hugh Slough, Tommy Slough, Corbitt Baker, Gordon Summers, Ron Daniels, Joe Richards, Mike Granderson, Polly Cronos, John Hunt and Chris Grimm finished up preparations in the Mart by labeling tables and placing row letter on wooden posts. At 1pm, another team of volunteers including Pre-Registration Chair John Erickson, Pam Tischler, Sue Gary, Renee Coulson, Polly Cronos, Claudia Smith, Alvina Marsolek, Sue Hicks and others started handing out packets to those who had pre-registered. In addition to their packets, everyone received a commemorative tote bag from Lone Star Chapter 124, a commemorative pen from Old Timers & Fellows Chapter 22 and a beautiful book, *Clockmakers and Watchmakers of America, Volume 3* by Tom Spittler, generously donated by Ralph Pokluda, Jeff Zuspan and Chappell Jordan Clock Galleries. A tour of AT&T Cowboys Stadium and GlobeLife Texas Rangers Ballpark was organized by Bill Edwards and filled the afternoon for our out of town visitors.

And then the "Official" activities began...

Wednesday evening started with the Chapter Relations Reception at the Sheraton. This was the first of several functions involving food that were planned by Food Function Chair **Pam Tischler**. Pam and the Sheraton staff worked closely to plan menus that would appeal to all, but still have a bit of Texas flair. They succeeded! Following a presentation by Chapter Relations Chair **Lu Sadowski**, Door Prize Chair **Marion Krajewski** began giving away some of the many donated items she had worked at amassing during the last year. As the reception ended, everyone moved into the Hall of Fame ballroom for the keynote address. **Philip Morris** was our guest speaker, and gave a captivating talk entitled "**The Remarkable Clocks of Joseph Ives**," which proved the perfect enticement for a visit to the exhibit.





Thursday started with the Annual Meeting of the Membership and the introduction of the newly elected officers. They are: Rich Newman - Chair; Jay Holloway - Vice Chair; Leroy Baker – Secretary; and Chris Miller – Treasurer. While the business meeting was taking place, eager vendors with multiple tables were already lining up to begin unloading into the Mart. Unloading Chair Chuck Edwards had assembled an impressive team of volunteers including a huge contingent from San Jacinto Chapter 139 in Houston. Volunteers included: Jim Beckham, Mike Brazil, Dale Brogdon, Gary Coffman, Barry Conklin, Tom Currier, Dick Ganschow, T. Grisso, Ronnie Hicks, Barry Kilfoy, David Leinen, Arnold Madnick, Tom Mattox, Bill Nash, Rusty Nowak, Neal & Marian Palmquist, Dane Reynolds, Ernest Smith, Jerry Smith, Roland Welch, Ken Arnold, Geoff Parker, Corbitt Baker, Joe Plunkett, Joe Richards, Mark Richards, Mike Granderson, Bruce Wooldridge, Marcus Bush, Giovanni Santarsiere, Toney Tolbert, Tim Glanzman, Drew Lundgren Shaun Clark, Stanley Pryor, Andy Staton, Darrah Artzner, John Trego, Sammy Johnson, Bob Holkan, Joe Mixon and Bob Turk. Many thanks to these tireless workers for getting folks moved in quickly with few incidents.

Following the Annual Meeting, On-Site Registration Chair **Gene Volk** rallied his forces to begin registration for walk-in attendees. Volunteers assisting with registering the 200 people who showed up at the door included: **Gerald Greener**, **Brian Schmidt**, **Barbara Koch**, **Gil Peterson**, **Sam Creech**, **Sue Hicks**, **Renee Coulson**, **Elizabeth Erickson**, **George Augustus**, **Phil Ball**, **David Hendricks**, **Peter Crum**, **Claude Leis**, **Tom Mattox and Bill Bishop**.

Those not already in the Mart were allowed in at 1 pm, and buying and selling began in earnest. Several commented on the positive "energy" in the Mart, and felt that sales seemed a little better than usual. **Chris Grimm**, with his series of flashing lights, kept Silent Auctions going throughout the afternoon.



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The sun hardly sets on clock and watch collecting, and sundown in Arlington brought everyone together for the annual Live Auction. Auction Chair **Stephen Haley** did a masterful job in gathering the 92 items offered in the auction. Between 150 and 200 people attended the auction led by veteran auctioneer **Tom Harris**, and approximately \$27,000 changed hands that evening. Volunteers assisting with the auction included: **Pete Cronos**, **Polly Cronos**, **Ronnie Hicks**, **Sue Hicks**, **Bruce Wooldridge**, **Mike Granderson**, **Claude Leis**, **Ed White**, **Barry Kilfoy**, **John Erickson**, **Evelyn Slough**, **Mark Vozar and Cathy Slough**.

After a good night's sleep, it all started again on Friday. In addition to the previous day's activities, Education Chair **Mike Dempsey** had planned four outstanding lectures. **Mark Vozar** spoke on "**The Construction of a Die Filer – A Useful Tool for the Clockmaker/Repairer.**" Mark followed his talk with a demonstration of his die filer in Salon A. **Mike Dempsey** took us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with "**The 3D Printer – The New Clock Repair Tool.**" And, like Mark, he followed his presentation with an ongoing demonstration of his 3D printer in Salon A. In fact, the printer ran constantly throughout the convention, so people could stop in several times to see the progress being made. **Richard Cox** gave a popular talk on "**Making a** *Prize Winning* **Clock**," detailing some of the entries he has made over the years in the NAWCC Craft Contest. As an added bonus, Richard brought several of his prize-winning clocks for display in the Craft Contest area. And finally, **Chris Barthold**, a student at the North American Institute of Swiss Watchmaking in Fort Worth, enlightened his audience with "**The Date of Easter in Clocks and Watches**" – an interesting discussion on designing a horological complication to calculate the fluctuating date of Easter.

Friday evening, and it's time for the Awards Banquet - - - well, not quite. First, we had a surprise for everyone – Armadillo Races!!!

Fortunately, we had a lot of good-natured competitors who didn't mind crawling around on their hands and knees blowing on an armadillo's tail.

A few adult beverages didn't hurt, either.



Photo by Chirag Sainju





Then everyone moved into the Champions Ballroom for the banquet. Once again, **Pam Tischler** had planned a beautiful meal, and **Evelyn Slough** had done a terrific job on the table decorations (commemorative coffee mugs filled with pralines and wrapped in red, blue and clear cellophane bags). Continuing the Texas theme, we were entertained by **Joe Herrington – The Cowboy Poet.** Joe regaled the audience with stories of Texas, the Greatest Generation and Cowboy life. His easy, conversational manner was well-received by the crowd. Speeches, awards and door prizes followed – and one of our own Chapter 124 members, **Bruce Wooldridge**, was honored with a **Fellow Award!** 





Another round of buying and selling started Saturday, as members started saying their goodbyes and making plans for next year.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who made it happen – those previously mentioned – as well as **Peter Crum** for the great graphic designs, **Lu Sadowski** for scheduling all of the meetings, **Chuck Edwards** for securing sponsors, and **John Erickson** for his other role as Finance Chair. You are all **Mavericks of Time!** 



Note: All photos by Peter Crum in this issue except where noted.



#### **Collaboration pays off in Craft Contest**

**Mike Granderson & Peter Crum** worked together to create a unique clock that was entered in the Craft Contest at the National. The clock was an old Herman Miller that was brought back to life by Mike Granderson and designed by Peter Crum. The clock featured an antique silver finish, a cow hide back, leather wrapped weights, a stained dial, a ship lap floor and a ceramic gecko. Lighting highlighted the interior. The clock was topped off with steer horns from Fort Worth. The awards were a First Place and Third place for Horological Achievement.



#### New Lone Star Chapter 124 Members

Please welcome the following new members:

Amelia Aquino of Euless, TX	Aleksandra Halic of Euless,TX
Chris Bridges of Fort Worth, TX	Mark Hall of Garland, TX
Evan Espy of Arlington, TX	Adam Johnson of Cleburne,TX
Samuel Genson of Fort Worth, TX	Logan Wallace of Grand Prairie, TX
Adam Greubel from Arlington, TX	Brian Webster of Euless, TX

On another note, quite a few of our members have not renewed their membership, and perhaps it was because we did not have a Regional in March. We plan to reach out to them in hopes they will renew.



The Alarm Clock-Diego Rivera-1914

# Got Time? Join Us at chapter124.org

National Watch and Clock Collectors Chapter 124 Grapevine,