

LONE STAR



TIMES

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors
Lone Star Chapter 124

"An Educational Group Dedicated to Preserving and Understanding Horology"

February 2021

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Membership—289

www.chapter124.org

President's Message

Greetings Chapter Members-

We have been planning for the 2021 Regional for a while, hoping that the COVID-19 virus would be under control. Well, it has only worsened and even mutated. Very few people have registered for this year's Regional. After lengthy negotiations with The Hampton Inn to reschedule our event, we were unable to find a mutually agreeable date, and we had to make a difficult choice; the **2021 Regional has been canceled**. Refunds will be made soon. If you have made reservations at the Hampton Inn, you need to cancel before March 1st.

One Day Meetings will be starting back in the summer. I hope to have an annual meeting the first weekend in June. This will be in person or on Zoom. If in person, we will have a mart and BBQ lunch. We will also be electing three new board members, as well as electing Officers. If anyone has a nomination for the board, please contact the Nominating Committee Chair, **Bill Edwards**, at thistledome2@gmail.com. Board meeting to follow.

We also need to fill two positions from our members. One is the Administrator position and the other is the PayPal Administrator. Please consider volunteering for these positions. Other areas for consideration are Nominating Committee Chair, Membership Committee, Awards Committee and Scholarship Committee. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Brownlee. timc.brownlee@yahoo.com

All NAWCC Chapters have talented people, and I believe many of our Chapter 124 members fit this description. In this issue, we highlight a project accomplished by one of our members, **Mark Vozar**. This was previously summarized in the NAWCC Highlights.

We cannot forget another one of our talented members, **Arnold Madnick**. He is restoring an old, late 1700s – early 1800s tower clock. Notice the length of the pendulum. As you can see, he is heavily involved in clock repair. You can see the evidence in the background.

As most of you know, **John Erickson** passed away last December. He was a valuable member of the Chapter and will be greatly missed. He served as the Chapter Administrator and Membership Chair. He taught classes and was eager to help with anything the Chapter needed. Because of John's interest in education, **Pam Tischler** suggested to daughter **Liz Erickson** that his name be added to the scholarship fund. Liz agreed and asked that memorials in her father's name be made to the fund. The board approved this change, and the scholarship fund will have the name of the **Tischler-Erickson Scholarship fund**.



The scholarship fund is now chaired by Debbie Hoganson. John Acker, Stanley McMahan and Bruce Wooldridge are on the committee with her. We plan to award a scholarship soon.

Larry Thomas is working on plans to restart our education program at our new location in Irving. We are looking for instructors and/or those who would like to train to be instructors. If you have an interest in working with the educational program, please contact Larry Thomas at 817-913-6981 ldthomas65@verizon.net or Tim Brownlee at 972-754-6156 timc.brownlee@yahoo.com

Tim Brownlee

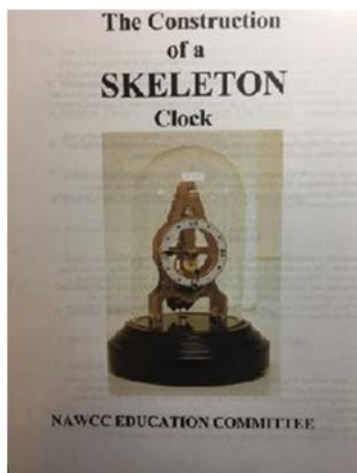
President

BUILDING A REGULATOR CLOCK

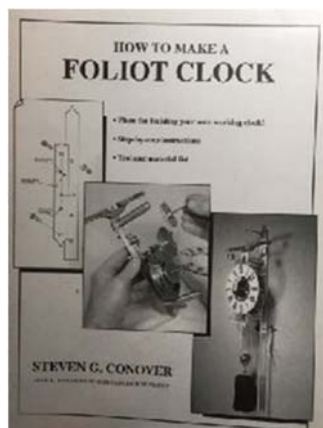
by Mark Vozar

I joined the NAWCC in 2002 and got involved in clock repair and collecting as something to do in retirement. I was always interested in acquiring a nice regulator for my collection, one that I call an Astronomical Clock. The type of clock you would find in an Observatory or other Scientific or Engineering setting where accurate timekeeping was important. At the same time, I started to think that building a clock from scratch would be fun.

I tend to be systematic in my approach to doing things, and I started to think about how I could acquire the tools and the skill set to construct a clock. Looking back, I see several events that fostered the idea of building a clock. First, Mike Dempsey and Fred Tischler put together a course/project to build a skeleton clock. Fred organized a group of Chapter 124 members to make the clock and give feedback. For simplicity, the project used the wheels from an existing Hermle movement, with the participants making the plates, pillars and dials by hand. This project introduced me to several clockmaking concepts such as depthing.



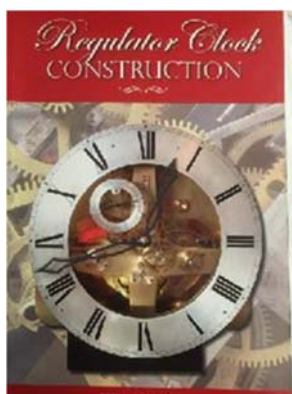
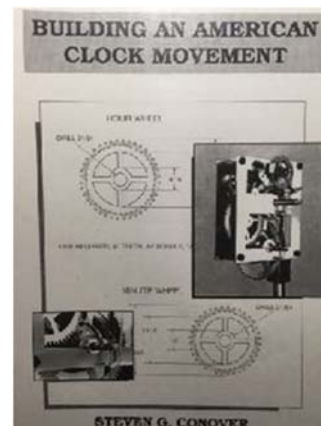
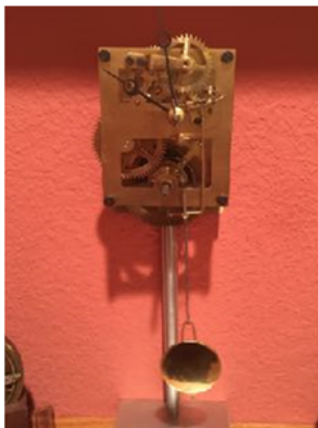
The second and most important thing I did was to take Jerry Keiffer's mill class and subsequent wheel cutting class at the NAWCC School of Horology at Columbia, Pennsylvania. After taking these classes, I acquired a Sherline Mill and CNC Rotary Table (used for indexing) and the confidence to cut my own clock wheels.



Over the next couple of years, I added to my tooling and my clockmaking skills by constructing two clock movements designed by Steven Conover. The first was construction of a weight driven Foliot Clock with verge pinwheel escapement,



and the second was a time-only, spring-driven movement patterned after an American kitchen clock. Each project added to my skills, confidence and tools. (You have to make a lot of tools and fixtures to make a clock.)



With these two projects completed, I was ready to attempt the Regulator clock project. I found a book written by Peter Heimann who is a British model engineer. The book described building exactly the type of regulator I was wanting to make.

- ★ Eight day going weight powered
- ★ "Seconds" Compensated Pendulum 3600BPH
- ★ Dead-Beat Escapement with Vulliamy (Adjustable Pallets)
- ★ No Motion Work to reduce Friction (Three Dials - Minutes, Seconds Hours)
- ★ Barrels, Weight Pulley and Central Arbor run on Ball Bearings
- ★ Maintaining Power mechanism for winding

The clock has three plates of 1/8 inch thick brass. The weight is 8 lbs (lead filled) and the pendulum bob is a 2 inch diameter, 8 inch long brass cylinder suspended from the middle on a 1/4 in invar rod for compensation.

Construction started in October, 2018 and was completed in October 2020. I logged 367 hours of machining time during construction of the movement and another 20 hours in making the case. The case is made of African Mahogany. I obtained the wood from Hardwood Lumber of Dallas. They were able to do all the mill work for the stiles and crown molding. All I had to do was cut to length, miter and glue it together and stain it. (I am not a wood worker.) I used tung oil, hand rubbed with 0000 steel wool to give a nice satin finish.



Ratchet Wheel

Maintaining Power Wheel

Hour, Center, Third and Escape Wheels

Great Wheel



Pallet Arm with Pallets



Wheel with Lantern Pinion





Milling the Chapter Ring (Minute Dial)



Engraved Minute Dial



Test Fitting the Dials



Pallets Arm with Beat Adjustment Mechanism and Crutch



Suspension Spring



Weight and Rating Nut

I learned a lot making this clock – and I made my fair share of mistakes along the way – and I have a whole box of attempts to prove it. Each mistake led me to refine my techniques and skills, or to buy a new tool to make the job easier.

My advice to anyone wanting to make a clock is to take your time, be patient and just work on one part at a time. Pretty soon you will have all the components made. Always know where you are heading with a particular part and how it fits with the other parts before making that first cut. Don't be discouraged by mistakes. Mistakes are your key to doing a better job the next time.

The satisfaction of creating an heirloom quality clock is worth all the time and effort you put into its construction.



Bella Library Exhibit

Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, the library exhibits are on hold. **Evelyn & Hugh Slough** look forward to starting back once the coast is clear.

Welcome New Members!

Kenneth Larsen—Terrell, TX
Daniel Wolf—Grapeland, TX
Philip Soley—Midland TX

Membership

Declining membership continues to be a concern. The virus has something to do with it, but some older members are not renewing. If you know some past members, ask them to consider coming back. We need to keep our membership strong during this difficult time, so that we're ready to hit the ground running when restrictions are

Erickson Memorials to Help Boost Scholarship Fund

John Erickson was a champion of Chapter 124's education program, and his daughters Liz and Kristine have asked that memorials in John's name be designated for the Fred Tischler and John Erickson Scholarship Fund of Chapter 124. The following people have contributed so far:

Gregory Harned
Donnie Johnson
Glenn Johnson
Stacy Johnson
Connie Johnson LaRoche
Dixie and Brian Pennington
Barbara and William Shields
Pam Tischler

If you would like to make a contribution in John Erickson's memory, please make your check payable to: Lone Star Chapter 124 and indicate "Erickson Memorial" on your check. Mail to: John Acker, Treasurer, 4047 Allencrest Lane, Dallas, TX 75244.
Thank you!

CLASSIFIED ADS



CLOCK PARTS
MADE NEW OR REPAIRED
Wheels, Pinions, Barrels
Richard Cox, CMC, CMBHI (29585)
FENDLEY & COX'S CLOCK SHOP
1530 Etain Road Irving, TX 75060
972-986-7698

Place your ad here, too. \$40.00 annually (June 1st—May 31st).

Contact Tim Brownlee for ad 972-754-6156

timc.brownlee@yahoo.com

JOIN US!!!

Please use this form to renew your Chapter 124 membership or, if you're not already a member, please consider joining. As a member, you will always be the first to know about Chapter activities, classes and meetings. **Please help keep our Chapter strong!**



LONE STAR CHAPTER 124

Membership Application & Renewal

Donation to the Fred Tischler Scholarship Fund _____

Dues are \$10/Year Join for 1-5 years _____

Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Ms. _____

Name _____

NAWCC # _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Interested in _____



Send to: William Slough 4647 Bonanza Dallas, TX 75211
sherlock.clock@outlook.com 817-600-7501

You must be a member of NAWCC or have applied for membership. Date of application _____
 You can also apply on line at NAWCC.org & Chapter124.org

Please use this form to renew your Chapter 124 membership - or, if you're not already a member, please consider joining. As a member, you'll always be the first to know about Chapter activities, classes and meetings. Help us keep our chapter strong!

