

# LONE STAR



# TIMES

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors  
Lone Star Chapter 124

*"An Educational Group Dedicated to Preserving and Understanding Horology"*

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Membership 280  
[www.chapter124.org](http://www.chapter124.org)

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## Chapter 124 President's Message - August 2025

Chapter 124 Members,

**If you missed the August 2<sup>nd</sup> One-Day, you really missed a lot!** We started early – 7:30 – and had an excellent turnout and special lunch offering.

### **What you missed if you didn't attend:**

A great Mart! - An excellent assortment of clocks, tools and parts changed hands.

**Tom Hefner** conducted an auction of **both Club-owned and Member-owned items** – always entertaining! We encourage members to bring things to our next One-Day Auction!

### **We had our first 'Show and Tell' sessions!**

**Barry Kilfoy** presented **Tips and Kinks for the Clock Workbench** .... Some good ideas, and he showed some devices he has built. Interesting!

**Ralph "Doc" Ward** talked about a **miniature Flying-Ball Clock** he was trying to work on for a friend. He described the difficulty of getting into it and solicited ideas.

**Scott Stauffer** gave a talk about **Railroad Watches** – a little history, details about their manufacturers, and descriptions of the inspections that these beautiful pieces of history had to pass every two weeks. He explained the accuracy required, and how many railroads had watch inspectors and repair personnel all across their service area. Scott was swamped with questions after his presentations – lots of interest!

Scott also gave us an update on the **Ronald McDonald's House Christmas Toy Train Exhibit** opportunity. Their exhibit is held during the Christmas season at the NorthPark Mall in North Dallas. It is attended by thousands each year, and is one of their biggest fund-raising events. They have asked our Chapter if we would consider adding displays of railroad-related watches and clocks to spice up their event. So, we put together a team to see what

we might be able to do. If this comes to fruition, we will need assistance from many of our members to be able to dazzle the public. There are a lot of details to be worked out – display cases and areas, security, etc. We will keep you posted as this develops – a great opportunity to get our Chapter much-needed publicity.

Thanks to our **Mart Director, Mike Brazil** and to all of you who contributed to making this a great One-Day!

The One-Day event wrapped up with a **special lunch – a Mexican Fiesta!** – Great tacos, guacamole, and all the fixings! We had everything except a Mariachi band!

**An Important Note:** **I hope you enjoy the lunches at our One-Day meetings as much as I do.** These are the opportunities we get to sit and visit with good friends that we see infrequently and catch up on everything. A very nice way to wrap up our meetings.

However, as we all know, **prices on everything seem to be going up.** And the Chapter is now subsidizing the lunches in most cases. So, I asked the Board about ways to cut costs to stay within our budget. There isn't much to cut - donuts, maybe? Cold sandwiches for lunch instead? - No way.

A proposal to raise the entry fee by \$5 per meeting was made. And, after a lot of discussion, finally approved. ***So, we will be able to continue with donuts, coffee, drinks and a great hot lunch.*** Thanks for understanding and helping to keep our Chapter afloat!

#### **Other News:**

#### **WE NEED WATCHES AT OUR MART!**

Our name is NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF **WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS!** Please bring watches to buy and sell, watches to brag about, watch tools, watch parts – pocket, wrist, military, cheap or expensive! **Younger folks are particularly interested in high-end watches;** so, dig out a few and bring them to our next Chapter One-Day!

#### **2026 Lone Star Regional**

Our **2026 LONE STAR REGIONAL and MART** is only a few months away! Well, not really; but, we are now making plans for a really outstanding Regional next year. **Tim Brownlee pointed out that our Nation will be 250 years old next year** and suggested that we build upon a patriotic theme... **"TWO-HUNDRED-FIFTY YEARS OF AMERICAN TIMEKEEPING"** - or something similar.

We might want to have an exhibit featuring clocks from each era; or **military clocks and watches;** or **DISPLAYS** denoting **significant breakthroughs in timekeeping** over the years. I think this is an excellent start and you can help by sharing your thoughts and ideas on this. More to come in the next few months!

#### **Recent Classes**

**Tim Brownlee** conducted the 4-day **"CR-200, Spring Barrel Clock Repair"** class and graduated four members on July 27. Congratulations to all!



*Leo LaBauve, Janet Anaya, Clif Raborn, Mel Crews, Tim Brownlee (Instructor)*

### Upcoming Classes

Also speaking of classes, there is a lot of interest in adding an **“Introduction to Clocks”** class – subjects might include information on collecting, tools used, cleaning movements, etc. - **to teach the basics** that relate to all the subsequent classes.

Due to popular demand, our educational committee is busy working on a lot of different classes for the next 12 months! Those that we will try to add, assuming member interest and availability of instructors, will be finalized and available on the website in the near future.

**We need your input!** If you are interested in any of the new classes or have ideas about other possible classes, **please call our Past President, Brian Schmidt.** Contact the instructors or class registrars to sign up for scheduled classes.

### **"PW-100-2 Pocket Watch Repair"**

And speaking of new classes, **Garin Frazee**, an instructor from the Texas School of Horology in Paris, Texas is coming to teach the **Second class in the series - "Pocket Watch Repair"**. Look for registration information for this class, planned for September, in the very near future and sign up early for this one –**the class will likely fill quickly.**

Well, that's it for my first Newsletter of our new fiscal year. I hope to see you all very soon and I'm looking forward to a great 2025-2026 for Lone Star Chapter 124!

**Bill Edwards**  
**President**  
**NAWCC, Chapter 124**

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