

LONE STAR



TIMES

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors
Lone Star Chapter 124

“An Educational Group Dedicated to Preserving and Understanding Horology”

August 2020

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Membership—276

www.chapter124.org

2020 Annual Meeting

Announcement:

Greetings Members. I am sending this out amidst frustration of the COVID-19 virus. I hope everyone is staying well and safe. The board and I do not want to do this but, due to the increasing numbers of virus infections and to keep our members healthy, our annual meeting will need to be canceled. In order to curtail the uptick in the virus the State and Local resources recommend that no large gatherings take place or have placed other restrictions on events.

In this communication the Secretary's Report, Treasurers Report and the Education Report is provided along with a message from the President. Please email your vote to approve the Secretary's report and for new board members approval, so it can be recorded to: jsatex@att.net . Or, print and mail your ballot to: John Acker, 4047 Allencrest Lane, Dallas, TX, 75244.

From the President:

Our March 2020 Regional was the last one held in 2020 by any NAWCC Chapter due to virus concerns. Our Regional was a successful one. Several changes were made that proved successful; these will be implemented for the 2021 Regional. We started on-site registration Thursday, opened the mart for a couple of hours on Thursday and public day. Public Day publicity will be handled by E. K. Wilson. Letting vendors in a little earlier is being considered. Any other ideas or concerns will be taken up at the future One Day's. The net proceeds from the Regional were \$11,563. This is the biggest part of our annual operating budget. It will be important to have a successful Regional next year due to the loss of funds from classes and the Annual Meeting auction this year.

Our Chapter presented two classes this year. The first was the “Kitchen Clock Class” and “Escapement Class.” These two classes were presented in January and

February by Kelsey Downum and Larry Thomas.

Bill Edwards has worked to find new board members. I believe the ones he has chosen will be a tremendous asset to our Chapter. They have been nominated and are waiting for your vote of approval.

The board is excited about the new location for classes. The building needs a little more organizing, but is ready for classes. The location is 102 N. MacArthur Blvd. in Irving, TX. Cross street is Rock Island. Just as soon as it's safe, classes will resume.

The board is looking to add a more user-friendly ad section. This is to make it easier to publicize your business. You will be able to promote your service to the public with a better understanding of specifics offered by your business. Your ad will also appear in the newsletter. The annual cost will stay the same, \$40.00 annually. The Ads will run from June 1st to May 31 the following year.

One other issue is our membership. Arnold Madnick and Phil Ball were working to have a membership drive. Once again, the COVID-19 strikes again. Our membership is now 276. Last year at this time our membership was 373. When I joined the Chapter in 2012 the membership was 486. We have lost more than 200 members in 8 years. Tell your friends and neighbors about us, please.

One more thing. I want to thank all the board members who served and are coming off their term; John Hunt, Gerald Greener, Ed Sass and Barry Kilfoy. These members are what keep the Chapter going. Brian Schmidt served 3 years and wants to continue for 3 more. Thanks again!

Tim Brownlee

President

Minutes from 2019 Annual Meeting:

Lone Star Chapter 124, Inc.
Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 1, 2019
Founder's Building
Grapevine, TX

Call to Order – President Pam Tischler called the annual meeting of the membership to order at 10:00 am. She thanked those present for attending.

Opening Comments – President Tischler gave an overview of the 2018-2019 year and thanked the many volunteers that made all of the Chapter's activities possible.

Secretary's Report – Secretary John Acker passed out copies of the minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting. Hugh Lindsay moved that the minutes be approved as presented. John Hunt seconded the motion. Passed.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Tim Brownlee reported that the Chapter had realized a net gain of \$2,940.00 for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2019. The Chapter has total assets of \$138,817.00. Brownlee also reported that 150 members had attended the One Day Meetings throughout the year, generating income of \$1500.00, while our costs for Bartley's Catering were approximately \$1945.00, thus causing the Chapter to have to subsidize the meetings by about \$445.00. Educational classes also produced a loss of \$1924.00. Fortunately, the Lone Star Regional generated enough income to cover these losses and provide a small gain. The Fred Tischler Scholarship Fund currently has \$9533.00 – just \$467.00 away from the initial funding goal of \$10,000.00.

Education – Education Chair Barry Kilfoy reported that to date for 2019, 45 students attended 10 classes of 1 to 4 day duration of clock related instruction.

2017 – 8 classes – 41 students (2 classes canceled)

2018 – 12 classes – 75 students (2 classes canceled)

2019 - 10 classes – 45 students – (some with only 2 students)

So, since 2017, Chapter 124 has had 161 students attend 30 classes with 4 class cancellations. Few classes have been full. Cancellations are due to low or no interest. – Frankly this is puzzling – Our chapter (a little over 300 registered) is one of the more active NAWCC chapters in existence. We have outstanding instructors who prepare for and teach these classes with no pay – purely out of the desire to further the enjoyment of their interest with others. Our directors and board members (also unpaid) work hard to provide our membership a variety of horological subjects. Many classes have pre-requisites and are structured to add new to and hone skills and techniques already addressed in earlier classes. Often critical training, instruction or techniques will be covered or special tools will be made in one class will be required to properly complete and benefit fully during a later advanced class. Not having these skills or special tools often jeopardizes the safety and enjoyment of attending advanced classes.

Historically Chapter membership can explore subjects that include reverse glass painting to cabinet refinishing, kitchen clock repair to Fusee or weight driven clock repair; Pocket watch repair to the introduction and advanced usage of the watchmakers'

and/or mini Sherline lathe. We even offer such subjects of advanced instruction for clock, watch, tool and material classes through the FSW offerings – all at our local location. The chapter even offers “Open Bench” sessions (Saturday full-day and week-day afternoon) where members can avail themselves to chapter assets, tools, equipment all supported by an expert experienced instructor.

Why our membership does not overwhelm these opportunities available to them is puzzling. Our classes should all be full. If you have taken a class, take it again – hone your experience – perhaps learn something new. If you don't see a class you are interested in, contact a board member or offer your talent to support or conduct a class on your own. Our membership and board members need to continue to work together to preserve and enrich this fine chapter.

Nominating Committee – Dee Koch, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, passed out a proposed slate of nominees for the Board of Directors and for Officers. Koch thanked Kelsey Downum and Mark Vozar for serving on the Nominating Committee with him. He stated that they had reviewed the By-Laws for rules governing the elections, and had spent time finding suitable and willing candidates. Tim Brownlee, Bill Nash and William Slough were put forward for three-year terms as Directors, and Ed Sass and Gerald Greener were put forward for one-year terms as Directors. Koch asked if there were any nominations from the floor, and if so to write-in these candidates when voting. Paper ballots had been distributed earlier, and the membership was asked to vote. The votes were tallied, and the slate was elected as presented.

Koch presented the slate of officers:

President – Tim Brownlee

Vice-President – Brian Schmidt

Secretary – John Acker

Treasurer – Barry Kilfoy

John Hunt moved that the slate of officers be accepted as proposed. Gerald Greener seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Koch also announced that Pam Tischler had agreed to serve in an advisory role as Past President.

Other – There was an open discussion about the pros and cons of opening the Regional to the public. This would benefit the vendors by bringing in new customers, and possibly benefit NAWCC and Chapter 124 by recruiting new members. The new board will take this under advisement.

Adjournment – There being no further business, Pat Henz moved that the meeting be adjourned. Pat Holloway seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Acker
Secretary

Treasurers Report:

The bank statement on May 31, 2019

Checking; \$37,022.

Savings; \$92,269.

Scholarship \$9,577.

The bank Statement on May 31, 2020

Checking \$28,937.

Savings \$92,269.

Scholarship \$10,079.

All books have balanced

Scholarship fund is funded

Our cash was used for the new class location, community project and supplies for classes. Membership is down, classes have not been full and the City of Grapevine has limited use of the Founders Building. The COVID-19 virus has affected the bottom line too. Although we did have a good regional overall income was down. Unless the COVID-19 virus gets under control soon, the next fiscal year will be down, too.

Educational Report:**“The Lost Year”**

Our educational program, which for many years has been the flagship of our chapter, has been struggling recently. Attendance was been down, and instructors are showing signs of burn-out. However, a major problem had been scheduling available dates with the City of Grapevine. As Grapevine's tourist industry grew, we were slowly being squeezed out of prime calendar dates, and we were only allowed to book a month or two out. Seeing the writing on the wall, the Board began a search for new classroom space. Finding something affordable, in a good and safe location, with long-term stability was a real challenge. A storefront location in Irving, TX became our best option, and we began leasing the new space in February of 2020.

We were excited about the prospect of having our own space where we controlled the access and the calendar. As soon as the Regional was over, we were poised to begin rebuilding our educational program. Then COVID-19 hit, and everything had to be placed on hold.

Future educational classes have been discussed at our board meetings. We have had trouble filling our classes, and may incorporate other Chapters with teachers and or students. Our normal classes CR 100, CR 200, and CR 300 will remain and start as safety permits. We will talk to Jerry Kieffer for a gear cutting class for January, using a mill. We are looking for a watch instructor for watch classes. We have a possibility for a good teacher but, he lives in California. His cost will be high and a full class is imperative. FSW teachers are being considered. The big problem is the COVID-19. Safety is our biggest concern. Classes will resume as soon as possible.

Hang in There and Stay With Us!

Annual Business Meeting

Because of the restrictions due to the pandemic, we are having to hold a "virtual" Annual Meeting. A separate ballot is available for members to print out and complete. If you are working from a computer, you can download the ballot, check the appropriate boxes, save the file and then send the file to: jsatex@att.net. If you prefer snail mail, please print your ballot, cast your votes and mail your completed ballot to: John Acker, 4047 Allencrest Lane, Dallas, TX, 75244. Please respond by August 15, 2020. Thank you for your participation!!!

Membership Renewal

If you have not renewed your Chapter 124 Membership, please take a moment to fill out the form below, and mail it with your check to John Erickson. We are a membership organization, and depend on the generosity and participation of people like you to keep us moving forward. Help us make sure, that when it is safe to gather again, Chapter 124 will be there to welcome you!

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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 John Erickson 3516 Interlaken Dr. Plano, TX 75057

john.erickson7@verizon.net 972.985.0855

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!

Welcome New Members!

We are pleased to welcome the following new and returning members. We appreciate their support in keeping our chapter strong!

Don Bugh
Mike Brazil
Jacobe Chandler
Alex Stone
Anita Wasielewski

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Interested in placing an ad in our newsletter?

Contact John Acker at 972-571-0663