

## CAPITAL AREA

## WATCHMAKER & CLOCKMAKER

## GUILD NEWSLETTER

August 2008    cawcg.org

American Watchmakers-Clockmakers Institute “Chapter of the Year” -- 3 of the last 4 years

**Next Meeting is Tuesday, August 26th – 6 pm (arrive as early as 5 pm to visit with fellow members) – Kim Son Restaurant (10901 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite A1-501, (N. Lamar at Kramer), Austin, (512) 832-0500)**

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### **From the President:**

We were all saddened to hear of the death of Bill Smith. Many of you may know that Bill retired from the U S Air Force in 1987 with a rank of Major. For the next twenty years, Bill enjoyed a second career in making jewelry and repairing watches. Bill was a natural engineer, mechanic and builder and enjoyed diagnosing, repairing and salvaging all types of machinery,

electronics, automobiles, computers, tractors, computers and tools. In addition, he loved restoring and collecting antique clocks and timepieces, as well as antique phonographs. We'll miss you Bill!

This has been a particularly difficult month for me as I lost my own Dad on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. A quick story about my Dad – some years ago my brother Ken bought my Dad a Sessions mantel clock. Of course, it wasn't running so Ken quickly volunteered me to repair the clock! With my Dad frequently asking about the clock, I had to move the repair up to the front of the line. The clock was set up in my Dad's family room and as his eyesight began to fail, the old clock took on a great importance in his life as my Dad could determine the time by counting the hours as they were struck. About a year ago, the clock stopped and my Dad asked me to bring my repair tools in order to get it going again as quickly as possible. Fortunately, with minor adjustments to the escapement and some fresh oil - the clock was running strong once again. As the mainspring became increasingly more difficult for my Dad to wind, I found a large key for him to use for winding and then had him wind the clock twice a week. On that Sunday morning, one of the last things that my Dad did while on this Earth was to wind his beloved clock. He then took his morning nap and it was while napping, that God called him home. My family and I appreciate the flowers, cards, phone calls and emails that we received from the Guild members.

August marks yet another change for the Guild as we will try out our new home at the Kim Son Restaurant. Dan is including directions and a map to Kim Son in this newsletter. Our thanks go to Dan Havlik, Michael Webb and Rusty Horn for their efforts in finding a suitable location for future Guild meetings. Rumor has it that all three are currently on a diet after sampling the food from the restaurants under consideration! Thanks guys!

At our July meeting, Mary Ellen Bell "took us along" on her recent horological tour of China. Through her words and photographs, we learned some fascinating facts about life in China while gaining insight into the inner workings of the Chinese watch factories that the group toured. Thanks Mary Ellen!

Rob Putney will be in charge of the August Guild Meeting. I have one of those “must attend” meetings that doesn’t end for me until 4 pm that day. I hope to be able to join you but the meeting will be well underway when I get there.

Don

**New Meeting Place Beginning with This Upcoming Meeting—**  
**Kim Son:**

Tien Hong, where we had our last Guild meeting, has just closed. Beginning with our upcoming meeting in a few days, on August 26<sup>th</sup>, we will be meeting at the Kim Son Restaurant. It is located in Austin at 10901 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite A1-501, (N. Lamar at Kramer).

Heading northwest on 183 from I-35, you exit at and head north on N. Lamar. You go north 5-10 minutes to Kramer Ln. It will be on your right at that intersection. Or you can come in on Parmer Lane (734) from I-35. (Parmer Lane actually starts in Manor as 734, coming all of the way west to I35, and then to Mopac, and then further west.) From Parmer Lane, head south on Lamar for 5 minutes till you get to Kramer Ln. It will be at that intersection on your left. As you can see from the map below, the closest major road to Lamar is Braker Ln., which runs right into I-35. So it is also very easy to get to Kim Son from the Braker Ln. exit off of I-35.

When you arrive at Kim Son, ask to be seated in the banquet room. It seats 125, so sit on the far right side so that we can all be close together. Prices are comparable to Tien Hong (starting at \$7.95 for entrees). It is in a very nice brand new shopping center called Chinatown Center. Kim Son is on the front right side of the shopping center as you enter it from N. Lamar Blvd. The shopping center actually has about 8 restaurants in it! You can look at the menu at [kimsonaustin.com](http://kimsonaustin.com). Kim Son’s phone number is: 832-0500.





## **Education:**

**David Douglas:** A **Modern Calendar Automatic Swiss Wristwatch Course** will be held on Sept. 6, Saturday. The course will be 1 full day. Among items covered will be taking the watch apart, and servicing the barrel of these watches. Quite a bit of time will be spent on the mainspring barrel. AWCI standards will be followed. The course will be \$50 per person. The course will be held at the Southwest Museum of Clocks and Watches, Lockhart, Texas. There were 3 slots still open as of our July meeting. Contact David if interested at [watchdoctor@gmail.com](mailto:watchdoctor@gmail.com) or see David or Mary Ellen Bell at the upcoming Guild meeting.

**Mary Ellen Bell:** A **Basic Clock Repair Course** will be held on Oct. 25, Saturday. The course will be 1 full day. Twelve identical American kitchen clock time and strike movements (with count wheels) have been purchased from Merritt's for the class. Among items covered will be disassembly, assembly, getting your clock in beat, etc. The course will be \$50 per person. The course will be held at the Westover Hills Church of Christ (Steck at Mesa), Austin. There were still openings in the class as of 8/14. You will be able to register for the class and pay your money for it at the upcoming

Guild meeting, or contact Mary Ellen at [salembridge@yahoo.com](mailto:salembridge@yahoo.com) There might be a second and a third class, building on this introductory class, which would cover things such as bushings and repairing teeth.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The operating account currently has \$4,266.65. The education account has \$9,815.83 in it

### **Upcoming CAWCG Meetings and Classes:**

**CAWCG Program and Meeting** (Dave Arnold will conduct the program on **Horological Items Beginning with the Letter "T"**), August 26, Tues., Austin, Texas, Kim Son Restaurant, 10901 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite A1-501, (N. Lamar at Kramer), meeting begins at 6 pm followed by program (arrive as early as 5 pm to visit with fellow members). A warning – you will be fined for not bringing an item beginning with the letter "T". Penalties range from 25 cents to a dollar! All penalties do go to a good cause though – the CAWCG treasury. And in case you thought about bringing just a common "T"ool, such as a screwdriver, the Guild members in attendance, by voice vote, will decide on whether you have to pay or not. Now a specialized tool would be a different story, e.g., a depthing tool.

**Modern Calendar Automatic Swiss Wristwatch Course**, Sept. 6, Sat., Lockhart, Texas, Southwest Museum of Clocks and Watches, 101 E. San Antonio. The course will be 1 full day. Among items covered will be taking the watch apart, and servicing the barrel of these watches. Quite a bit of time will be spent on the mainspring barrel. AWCI standards will be followed. The course will be \$50 per person. There were 3 slots still open as of our July meeting. Contact David Douglas if interested at [watchdoctor@gmail.com](mailto:watchdoctor@gmail.com) or see David or Mary Ellen Bell at the upcoming Guild meeting.

**Basic Clock Repair Course**, Oct. 25, Sat., Austin, Texas, Westover Hills Church of Christ (Steck at Mesa). The course will be 1 full day. Twelve

identical American kitchen clock time and strike movements (with count wheels) have been purchased from Merritt's for the class. Among items covered will be disassembly, assembly, getting your clock in beat, etc. The course will be \$50 per person. There were still openings in the class as of 8/14. You will be able to register for the class and pay your money for it at the upcoming Guild meeting, or contact Mary Ellen at [salembridge@yahoo.com](mailto:salembridge@yahoo.com)

### **Upcoming Conventions, Marts, Classes, and Auctions Held by Other Organizations:**

**All Texas Chapters Regional (NAWCC), August 22 - 24, Houston, Texas, JW Marriott, 5150 Westheimer**

**Horton's Antique Clocks August 2008 Silent Auction, August 31 midnight deadline for bids, [hortonsantiqueclocks.com](http://hortonsantiqueclocks.com)**

**NAWCC Chapter 15 One-Day Mart, September 13, Wharton, Texas, First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 8 am**

**Introduction to Basic Time & Strike ... The American Kitchen Clock (NAWCC Field Suitcase Workshop), September 18-21, Houston, Texas (NAWCC Chapter 139 is the sponsor)**

**Micro Lathe Workshop (NAWCC Chapter 124 Class), September 20, Grapevine, Texas, 701 S. Main**

**Advanced Lathe Skills (NAWCC Field Suitcase Workshop), September 27-30, Grapevine, Texas (NAWCC Chapter 124 is the sponsor)**

**Wood Clock Case Restoration Workshop (NAWCC Chapter 124 Class), October 4-5, Grapevine, Texas, 701 S. Main**

**Repair and Replacement of an American Strip Recoil Escapement Workshop (NAWCC Chapter 124 Class), October 11-12, Grapevine, Texas, 701 S. Main**

**NAWCC Annual Tri-Chapter One-Day Show**, October 18, Lockhart, Texas, First United Methodist Church Family Center Gym, 8 am

**Chime Clock Repair Workshop (NAWCC Chapter 124 Class)**, November 8-9, 15-16, Grapevine, Texas, 701 S. Main

**NAWCC Chapter 139 One Day Mart**, November 22, Houston, Texas, St. John's Presbyterian Church

**Time & Strike Clocks with Spring Barrels (NAWCC Field Suitcase Workshop)**, January 24-27, Grapevine, Texas (NAWCC Chapter 124 is the sponsor)

**Reminder:**

Please bring door prizes to be given to some lucky individuals at our meetings. And also please bring your used watch batteries to our meetings. These batteries will be sold to benefit the Guild.

