



# It's About Time!

A bi-monthly newsletter

Vol. 14, Issue 2

August/September 2017

## HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER 36

The National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors, Inc.

<https://net.nawcc.org/chapter36>

Chartered 1960

### Notice of Meeting

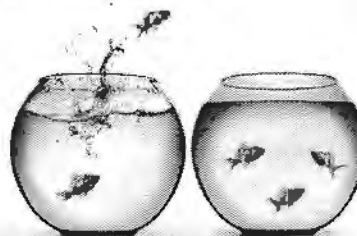
Sunday, August 13, 2017, 2 PM  
(Doors open 1:30PM)



Lenexa Community Center  
Room AB  
13420 Oak Road, Lenexa, KS

#### Program:

*Early American  
Spring Driven Clocks*  
by  
Jim Price



### We've Moved!

Please note our NEW website address:

<https://net.nawcc.org/chapter36>

### A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Culver Brothers

Culver, Indiana. Culver Military Academy. Culver-Stockton College. L. L. Culver Gymnasium. All have an intimate connection to the Southern Calendar Clock Company of Saint Louis and its famous "Fashion" double-dial perpetual calendar clock.

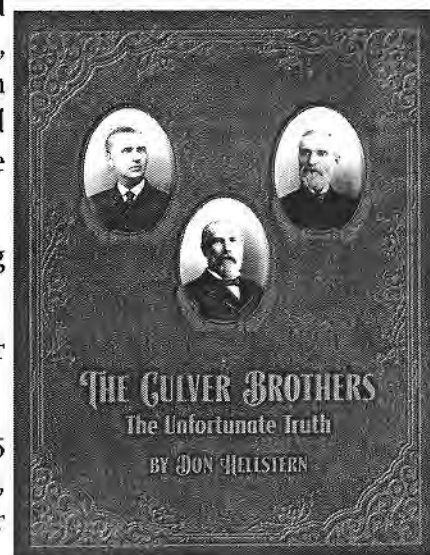


The Southern Calendar Clock Company was founded by three Culver Brothers: William Wallace ("W.W."), Lucius Lewellyn ("L.L."), and Henry Harrison ("H.H."). Their working lives were intertwined throughout adulthood. All three are buried in the Bellefontaine Cemetery in Saint Louis.

However, their journey to the cemetery was anything but brotherly.

Their legacy is anything but the Southern Calendar Clock Company of Saint Louis!

Thus, begins the tale from the research of over 35 years of Don Hellstern (*left*) as revealed in his book, and presented at our June meeting. "The Culver Brothers: The Unfortunate Truth" (*right*).



STORY CONTINUES ON 3

## ***It's About Time!***

**Volume 14, Issue 2**

*A bi-monthly newsletter  
for members & friends of*

**HEART OF AMERICA  
NAWCC CHAPTER 36**

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#### **NAWCC Director**

**Tim Orr**

#### **NAWCC Committee**

**Bill Dugan, Research**  
**Tim Orr, Membership**  
**Harold Engelhaupt, Convention**

#### **2011 National Convention**

**Bill Dugan, Chair**

#### **Star Fellow**

**Jerry Thornsberry**

#### **Fellow**

**Don Allen**  
**Bill Dugan**  
**Ruth Herrmann**  
**Wayne Herrmann**  
**John Martin**

**Tim Orr**

**Jim Price**

#### **Old-Timer**

**Ron Dickinson**  
**Don Mills**  
**Florent Wagner**

## **HEART OF AMERICA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH & CLOCK COLLECTORS CHAPTER 36**

**Member Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Sunday, June 11, 2017**

**Room AB, Lenexa Community Center, Lenexa, KS**

### **Opening**

The bi-monthly meeting of Heart of America Chapter 36 of the NAWCC was called to order at 2:00 PM on June 11, 2017 by Fr. Harry Firth, President.

### **Attendance**

In attendance were 26 members and 1 guest (sign-in sheet attached). Given that more than ten members were in attendance, a quorum was established.

Fr. Harry Firth welcomed everyone, especially guest Phil Wilson. He mentioned the success of our recent River Cities Regional and thanked Harold Engelhaupt for his service as chairman of that committee. Fr. Firth attended St. Louis' recent regional, along with other chapter members and said it was a very nice event. Fr. Firth mentioned our chapter had received an invitation to attend a showing of the movie, "Hugo" and some silent films, as well as enjoy fellowship on Friday, July 14 at the Filardo residence in Eudora, Kansas.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the February member meeting, as published in the April/May 2017 Newsletter, were approved by the members.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report, published in the April/May (actually June/July) newsletter, was approved by the members. Regional bank account balance is \$22,910.84; Chapter bank account balance is \$980.72. The balance of current funds allocated to Education was not included in the most recent report.

### **Increase of Dues Proposal**

Treasurer, Gregory Gould, presented a highly entertaining, yet very serious, PowerPoint review of the history of Chapter 36 member dues. He explained the current dues of \$10 annually causes a loss in the chapter's account. It was noted the greatest expense incurred annually by the chapter regards our chapter newsletter (printing and mailing). The Executive Committee is recommending an increase in annual dues of either a \$5 or \$10. A decision regarding the increase in dues will be made at the August meeting. The vote will be via ballot that will be provided to the membership, prior to the meeting, so all are able to participate in the decision.

### **Presentation**

Don Hellstern, author of *The Culver Brothers: The Unfortunate Truth*, presented the story of the founders of the "Fashion" clock made by the Southern Fashion Clock Company of St. Louis. The presentation was well received.

## Show and Tell

Lisa Shepard passed around her grandmother's wristwatch which she had recently received and had restored. "Digger" Odell presented an Ansonia clock he recently purchased at our regional and was attempting to decide if the statue, currently on the clock, was original. Larry Boucher presented what he termed was a "cute" New Haven clock with cherubs and a reverse painting advertisement. Bill Maune presented an 1841 Ogee and a Westclox alarm clock.

## 50/50 Drawing

The 50/50 drawing to benefit the chapter's education fund was won by Jim Williams. The chapter's education fund increased by \$42.

## Meeting Announcement

The next chapter meeting is Sunday, August 13, 2017 at the Lenexa Community Center, Lenexa, KS.

## Adjournment

It was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 3:36 PM.

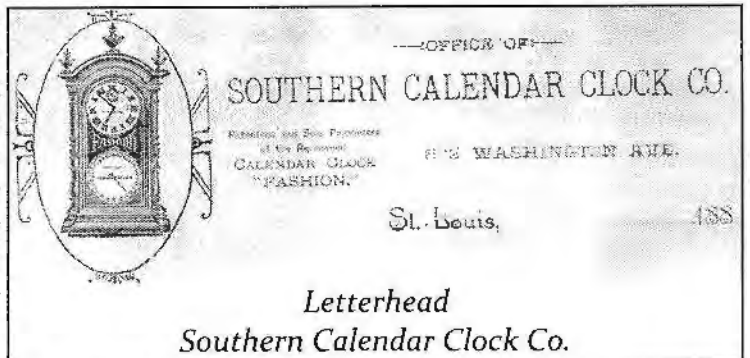
/s/ Lisa A. Shepard

Lisa A. Shepard, Secretary  
NAWCC Heart of America Chapter 36

## CONTINUED FROM 1

The Culver brothers' work association began by selling stoves. Their method of selling was directly to customers by utilizing teams of salesmen who would travel, farm to farm, throughout the South and the Midwest.

A "hiccup" in the economy caused them to leave the enterprise of selling stoves. In 1875 the brothers created the Southern Calendar Clock Company. They purchased patents relating to the calendar mechanism, and commissioned the Seth Thomas Clock Company to make their clocks to their specifications. They utilized their successful strategy of door-to-door sales gained from selling stoves to the selling of their highly regarded double-dial clocks.



In 1877 the brothers became involved in speculative real estate investing. In 1881 the brothers created the Wrought Iron Stove Company and went back to selling (and now also manufacturing) stoves. Both were immensely successful and profitable. It can only be speculated that the time involved in these two new businesses plus the desire to "control their own destiny" (not dependent upon the Seth Thomas Company) led to the end of the Southern Clock Company around 1885.

Financial success in the 1880s led to tension, disagreements, and outright disdain among the brothers. L. L. Culver broke away and started his own stove company in 1891. His company marketed stoves to dealers, who in turn, sold to the public. The other stove company continued the same tried and true strategy of selling door-to-door that was employed at the start of the brothers' careers as well as during the sale of the Fashion clocks. Both stove companies were successful and were going concerns (and competitors) until the mid-twentieth century when both were purchased by other companies.

Animosity among the brothers very likely led to their premature deaths. The clock business was so overshadowed by the stove businesses and the brothers' feud that it barely merits a mention in their biographies.

Want to learn more about the Fashion clock and the twists and turns of the feuding Culver Brothers?

Buy the book! Contact Don Hellstern at [srhellstern@sbcglobal.net](mailto:srhellstern@sbcglobal.net).

## New Members

We welcome the following to the family of Heart of America, NAWCC Chapter 36:

*It's About Time!*

Rick Bauer  
Richard Kloeckener  
Alan Monshausen  
Michael Norris



Interested in the latest sales and auction events?  
DON'T MISS OUT!

Sign up for the new  
NAWCC AUCTIONS & SALES Email Newsletter!

**NOW** also listing member eBay items!

Here is the address:

<https://nawcc.org/index.php/member-resources/auction-list>

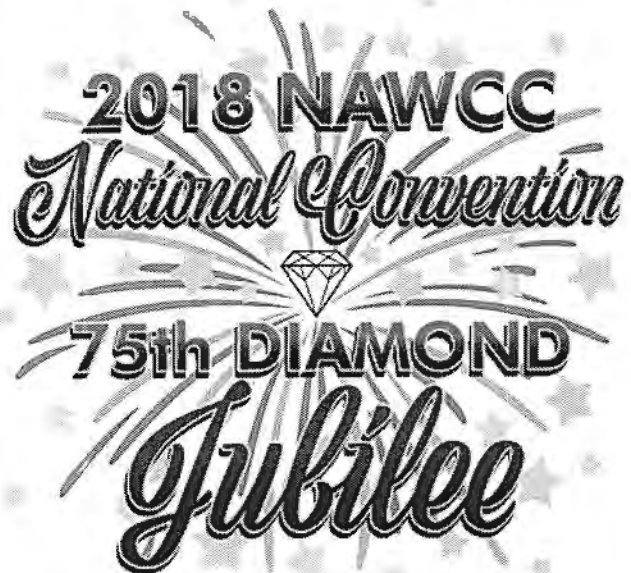


**NAWCC**  
**WATCH & CLOCK**  
Collectors  
**AUCTIONS & SALES NEWSLETTER**  
**UPCOMING AUCTIONS & SALES**  
**NAWCC eBAY SALES LISTINGS**  
**FEATURED MEMBER STORES ON eBAY**

Or, go to the website at <https://nawcc.org>:  
click on "Members,"  
click on "Members Area,"  
scroll down the list,  
click on "Auction and eBay Sales List," and  
click the "Sign Up Now" button.  
Give it a try! It's included in our member dues.

## Treasurer's Report

Financial results for the River Cities Regional were presented in the special edition newsletter. As of 31 July 2017, cash on hand: "Chapter" checking account: \$966.68; "Regional" checking account: \$22,910.84; Education fund: \$2,524.50 (included within the checking accounts). Comments, suggestions, questions are welcome.



**NAWCC 75th Anniversary!**  
and  
**2018 National Convention**

The 2018 National Convention will be held in York, Pennsylvania which is a 20 minute drive from the NAWCC Headquarters and Museum in Columbia, Pennsylvania. The convention will commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the NAWCC. A huge Jubilee and Gala celebration will be held in conjunction with the convention.

In addition to the normal activities of a national convention, a full day party at the NAWCC Headquarters to meet members, see the facilities and enjoy great food and music will be held.

Additionally, Museum and Library backstage tours will be conducted.

So, stay tuned and check back for updates on this website:

<http://75thanniversary.nawcc.org/>



## Milestones



From July through August 2017, the following members of Chapter 36 have continuously maintained membership in the NAWCC:

**30 Years**

Steve Stoecker

*Congratulations!*

## Happy Reflections on "MAVERICKS OF TIME"

(the 2017 National Convention in Arlington, Texas)

Reported by Harry Firth  
Photos by Wayne Andrews



Heart of America Chapter 36 was well represented at this year's National Convention: 17 members included Sham Agayev, Wayne Andrews, Bruce Bleser, Mark Bradfield, Tim Busenbark, Harold Engelhaupt, Harry Firth, Greg Gould, Don Hellstern, Jim Kuhn, Michael Norris, Tim Orr, Justin Overton, Dwain Paugh, Jim Price, Brad Wardlow, and Jim Williams plus several spouses!

Eleven hundred participants browsed a bustling mart of 650 tables (by comparison, our 2017 regional had 115 tables) and 43 new members signed up!

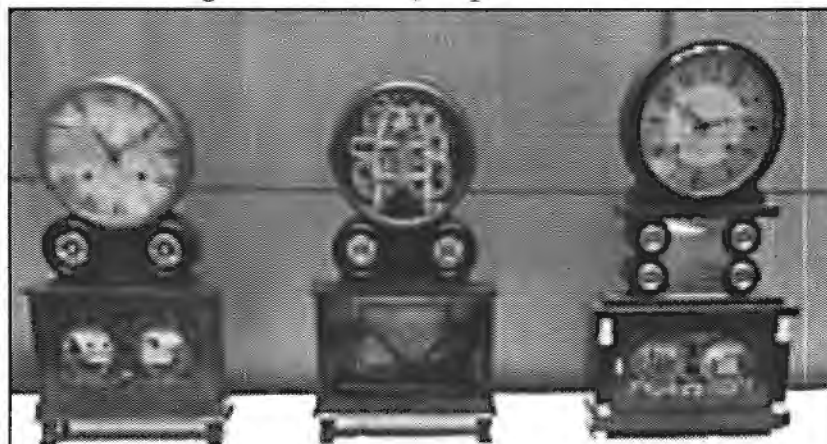
We all rejoiced with our fellow member Jim Price, when he was named a Fellow of the NAWCC during the Awards Banquet. Additionally, Robert Williams joined a rarefied group of members by being awarded the Golden Circle Award for 50 years of continuous membership in the NAWCC!

Most of us had never been up close and personal with an armadillo, so we will probably never forget the Great Armadillo Races held immediately before the banquet. Competing contestants kneel down at the starting point, holding a racing armadillo in gloved hands. The animal is lowered onto the track when the starter whistle blows. It is followed on hands and knees, being urged to greater speed by blowing on the creature's tail. The first to reach the flag wins a prize can of armadillo milk. Dwain Paugh distinguished our chapter as one of the illustrious contestants.



*Dwain Paugh, right, preparing to receive his armadillo!*

The keynote address and convention exhibit featured an outstanding collection of Joseph Ives clocks and a review of early horological technology



*A few of the stellar Joseph Ives clocks in the exhibit room.*

manifested in his creations. Again, we were proud that Jim Price enhanced the exhibit with several clocks from his collection.

Richard Newman succeeds Phil Gregory as chairman of the NAWCC Board, and Tom Wilcox will begin his duties as CEO in August filling the shoes of Steve Humphrey, who is retiring after 9 years of service.

*(continued on next page)*

## IMPORTANT! READ THIS!

### PROPOSAL TO INCREASE ANNUAL DUES

A presentation and discussion regarding our chapter dues were held at the June meeting.

Our current dues of \$10 per year per member are not sustainable.

The members approved a proposal to be voted upon at the August meeting to raise our dues.

The proposal provides for two choices with respect to increasing our annual dues which have not changed in 25 years.

Because we want all members to have the opportunity to cast their vote, a ballot is provided on the next page. The ballot fully describes the two choices presented to the membership for their vote.

Use the ballot **ONLY** if you do not plan, or are unable to attend, the meeting.

**your VOTE  
is your VOICE**

*(continued from previous page)*

George Goolsby reported that the FOR ALL TIME endowment campaign has received over \$5,500,000 to date, toward the goal of \$7,500,000 which we hope to celebrate next July at our 75th Anniversary Convention in York, Pennsylvania. Meanwhile, I look forward to working with all our Chapter 36 members in hopes that Chapter 36 will manifest as nearly 100% participation as we can!

Michael Dempsey of Elm Grove, Wisconsin lectured on "The 3D Printer — New Clock Repair Tool" demonstrating the promising capabilities of this equipment to exactly replicate damaged or missing materials needed for movements and case ornaments. We examined a working clock movement completely created by his 3D printer, including the hairspring!

Chris Barthold from Fort Worth, Texas addressed "The Date of Easter in Clocks and Watches," noting how Christianity's primary moveable feast presents very difficult complications for anyone trying to incorporate this feature into a modest sized clock or watch.

All in all, the national convention in Arlington was an exhilarating opportunity to examine and buy interesting timepieces, to gain new horological insights, to reconnect with old friends, and to make new ones!



*2017 Awards Banquet (l) to (r): Dwain Paugh, Wayne Andrews,  
Harry Firth, Greg Gould, Tim Busenbark, Jim Williams*

Heart of America  
NAWCC, Chapter 36

# BALLOT

**TO BE USED ONLY IF YOU EXPECT TO NOT ATTEND THE AUGUST MEETING.**

## **Proposal to Increase Annual Dues:**

The Executive Committee has determined that dues must be increased effective 1 January 2018. Two proposals for an increase in dues were approved for vote by the membership at the May 2017 Executive Committee meeting. The two proposals were presented to the members in attendance at the June 2017 member meeting. The vote to increase dues will be held at the August 2017 member meeting.

(choose one)

- I vote to **INCREASE** member dues to **\$15** per year, per member, with the understanding that the chapter's newsletter will be sent **by email only** to those with an email address and by mail to those without an email address.
- I vote to **INCREASE** member dues to **\$20** per member, per year (**\$25** per year per household), with the understanding that the chapter's newsletter will continue to be mailed to all members.
- I **ABSTAIN** from voting on an increase in member dues.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(your **PRINTED** name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(your NAWCC member number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(your **SIGNED** name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date ballot completed)

### **Instructions:**

- In the space above,  
⇒ Print your Name  
⇒ Sign your Name  
⇒ Indicate your NAWCC member number  
⇒ Date your Ballot

### **Return the ballot to:**

Heart of America, NAWCC Chapter 36  
Ms. Lisa A. Shepard, Secretary  
3309 NW 67th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64151-2283  
pisceschick@kc.rr.com

*Please see also page 6, "PROPOSAL TO INCREASE ANNUAL DUES"*

*Please contact the Secretary if additional information is needed.*

*To be counted, all requested information must be provided!*

**Ballot must be received by no later than Friday, 11 August 2017!**

# HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER 36

of the

National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors

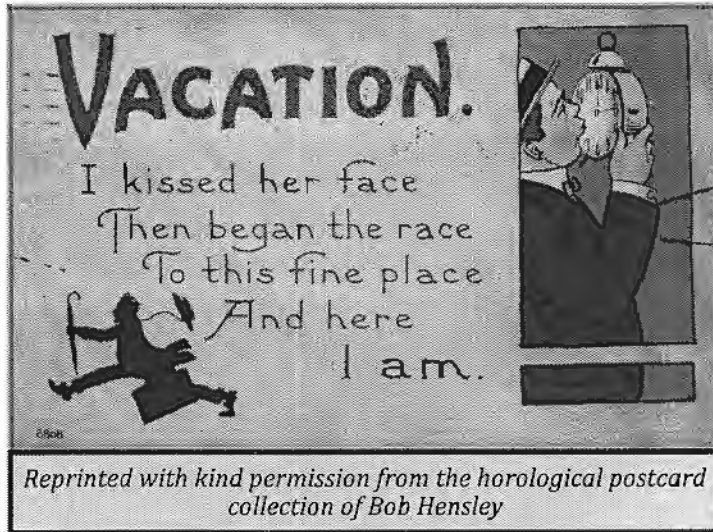
Gregory D. Gould  
Treasurer

1210 West 69th Terrace  
Kansas City, MO 64113-2055

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**August/September 2017**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



**Snack Alert!**  
August Meeting:  
Please bring a tasty treat if your last name begins with the letters "G" thru "L."

**Upcoming  
NAWCC Events**

**September 21-23**  
MKOA Regional

**October 8**  
Chapter 36 Meeting

**December 10**  
Chapter 36 Meeting

## August 2017 Program

We are extremely honored to have Jim Price present "Early American Spring Driven Clocks" at our August meeting.

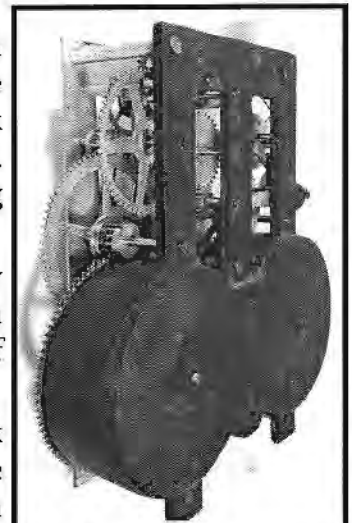
This program will trace the first American spring driven movements and will include the contributions of Charles Kirk's cast-iron back plate movements, both 30-hour and 8-day. This includes Kirk's patent 8-day repeating strike movements with rack and snail.

An example of a remote fusee beehive by Brewster, examples of Kirk's 30-hour cast iron back plate movements, and all 3 versions of Kirk's 8-day patent will be presented.

Jim authored "Charles Kirk's Cast Iron Back Plate Movement" which appeared in the NAWCC Bulletin (August 1983, issue 225, on pages 412-445).

He also presented the extremely well-received program at our past regional, "Early American Steeple Clocks" along with an amazing display of clocks from his collection.

Jim was awarded status as "Fellow" at the 2017 NAWCC National Convention.



*Back view of movement of Brewster & Ingrahams steeple clock, circa 1843-1845 (seen on page 1), with cast iron back plate.*