



Free State Chapter 141

MD, PA, VA, WV

President

Lou Orsini

Vice President

Bob Rothen

Treasurer

Neil Amrine

Secretary

Patsy Rothen

Newsletter Coordinator

Al Bush

Webmaster

Alex Snouffer

Board of Directors

George Hudson

Frank Goad

George Tresansky

*For more information about the chapter, you may contact the President **Lou Orsini** at:*

oh2batc@verizon.net

or 703-352-7260.

*Feedback for the Newsletter should be addressed to **Al Bush** at:*

agbush172@verizon.net

or 410-531-5307.

Feedback for the Web Site

*should be addressed to **Alex***

Snouffer at: arsnouffer@gmail.com

August – September

No.2015-05

President's Message

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and whatever time off you could muster. Working in DC, I can tell you that the summer traffic is far less onerous than it is the rest of the year, and so there must be a lot of vacations being taken. Still, it's so hard for me to believe that I'm talking about our September meeting when the temperature outside is in the mid-90s with near 100% humidity - when will fall finally get here? At the same time, I see that there are aisles upon aisles of school supplies in the stores, and so I guess fall really is on the horizon.

As I said in our last newsletter, those of us serving in **Chapter officer positions** would like to pass the mantle on to the next generation. Each of us have served for several years - well beyond the normal expected two-year term - and we feel that the Chapter would benefit from a change. None of our positions are complex or involve a significant commitment of time and resources; all that is required is a willingness to serve. And so I ask everyone, once again, to please consider taking one of the positions (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Newsletter Editor).

Our next meeting is **Thursday, September 10** at Mountain Gate, a good opportunity to catch up with old friends on what everyone's been doing since we last met in May. We do not yet have a program confirmed, but as always, you know we'll have something good lined up by the time we meet. And don't forget to **bring a friend, colleague, co-worker, neighbor or anyone else who might be interested in joining us**. It's a good deal for your guest (adult, non-family

member), who gets a free meal out of it, and potentially good for you (also a free meal if your guest joins NAWCC and the Chapter), and definitely a good deal for the Chapter as a whole.

And here is a quick reminder for anyone who has not yet paid your **annual dues for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016**. As we have for the past decade, we have kept the price at just \$8/year; essentially enough to offset the cost of producing and delivering the Newsletter. Please send your dues to **Neil Amrine** (or pay him at the meeting) and you will continue to be a member in good standing with Chapter 141 for another year.

Finally, as always, please **remember our brave men and women serving in so many dangerous places throughout the world**. Unfortunately, those dangerous places now include locations right here in the United States as we've seen by the recent attack on two USMC recruiting centers by a radicalized individual. There appears to be no lack of individuals and organizations who wish to do harm to Americans, which will challenge not only our military, but also our law enforcement officers to be ever more vigilant to the threats we face. Those who defend us and promote U.S. interests at home and abroad, both military and civilian, need our support. Please keep these dedicated professionals and their families in your thoughts and prayers, today and every day. Take the time to provide a heartfelt thank you to our military and civilian public servants; our genuine moral support means far more to them than you could ever imagine.

Lou Orsini, president

Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 10th, 2015 at Mountain Gate Restaurant

For Your Information! *(Since there was no meeting in July, there are no minutes in this issue)*

Since it is time to select new officers for the Chapter, it seems appropriate to restate the description of the officers' responsibilities. We are looking for new energetic individuals willing to serve and keep the group going with active and interesting activities. Those currently serving have been in those activities for consecutive terms and a number of years of valued service. Any organization benefits from a change in leadership from time to time. You are encouraged to participate and join in. The requirements are not complex or complicated and I am sure the existing officers will be glad to offer you encouragement and advice. Volunteers are welcome. The positions are described below:

Position: President ~ Term: Two years ~ Responsibilities: Preside over all Chapter meetings and special events; serve as primary point of contact for Chapter business; with input from Chapter members as appropriate, make final decision on all questions/initiatives proposed; has authority to sign contracts and legal documents on behalf of the Chapter; chair the Board of Directors meetings; and write President's Message for Chapter Newsletter.

Position: Vice President ~ Term: Two years ~ Responsibilities: In absence of President, preside over Chapter meetings and special events; and solicit for and schedule a program for each Chapter meeting.

Position: Treasurer ~ Term: Two years ~ Responsibilities: Receive all funds payable to the Chapter and pay all authorized

Chapter expenses; keep an adequate account of all Chapter receipts and expenditures; maintain a Chapter checking account; solicit annual dues and maintain a current membership list for tracking dues payments; take meeting reservations from Chapter members and work with restaurant to reserve a meeting space adequate for the number of meeting participants; collect monies from members for dinner and pay restaurant for total bill; and report on the Chapter's financial situation at each meeting.

Position: Secretary ~ Term: Two years ~ Responsibilities: Maintain Chapter records; and take meeting minutes for publication in the Chapter newsletter and NAWCC Bulletin Chapter highlights.

Position: Newsletter Editor ~ Term: Indefinite ~ Responsibilities: Solicit inputs and organize materials bimonthly for Chapter Newsletter; maintain a current Newsletter mailing list; and work with NAWCC to publish six Newsletters per year.

Position: Webmaster ~ Term: Indefinite ~ Responsibilities: Maintain and keep current the Chapter website.

Position: Board of Directors (Consists of Officers plus up to four other Chapter members (optional) ~ Term: Two years ~ Responsibilities: Consider all questions, comments and initiatives proposed by members or other individuals with potential to impact the organization, finances or running of the Chapter.

– Patsy Rothen

“Treasurer's Tidbits”

Hi folks!

I would remind all members to send in their dues, if they are not fully paid... dues are due at the end of June. Contact me at Neil54@aol.com, or call me at 301-229-2587 if you have questions. I look forward to seeing everyone at the [Mountain Gate Restaurant](#) in September. Please be prompt with your RSVPs for the meeting reservations. We will need to know the head count for the meal so reservations can be made.

Thank you!!

Neil Amrine

Attention: It is important also to keep Neil Amrine at Neil54@aol.com or 301-229-2587 advised of any change in your membership information, address changes, etc. We cannot keep you informed if you don't keep us informed.

FREE STATE CHAPTER 141 MEMBERSHIP-RENEWAL APPLICATION

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

Date _____ NAWCC No. _____ Interests _____

(CLOCKS, WATCHES, TOOLS, OTHER)

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Wish to Receive Newsletter via Email or US Mail

As of January 2007 Annual dues are only \$8.00 payable to Free State Chapter 141. Please send your check with this completed application to:

Neil Amrine, 5621 Ogden Road, Bethesda, Maryland, 20816. Phone: 301-229-2587; email: neil54@aol.com

If you have an interest in clocks or watches you are invited to Our Next Meeting
Thursday, September 10th, 2015 at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant

CHAPTER 141 PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER 10th, 2015

The program for September 10th is yet to be announced. Bob is still working on it. I am sure it will be an interesting one. Plan on attending, we're looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Come out and join us for a pleasant evening.

– Bob Rothen

Meeting time is ~ Dinner: about 6:15 PM **Mart:** Come early for the mart **Business/Program:** follows dinner

MEETING RESERVATIONS: You may use the Meeting Reservation form below to mail in your reservations for the Free State Chapter 141 meetings. Please indicate the meeting date as you complete the form. You may also make reservations via e-mail to neil54@aol.com and providing Neil Amrine with the information requested on the meeting reservation form or by Calling Neil at 301-229-2587 and informing Neil directly. (Please RSVP at least 48 hours before the meeting date)

Cancellation Policy: Our policy on meeting cancellations is simple. If the Frederick schools are closed due to inclement weather on the day of our meeting, we will cancel. Otherwise, you can expect the meeting is on. In the event of a cancellation, Neil will try to contact everyone who has made reservations (especially those who don't live locally), but it's all based on the school decision. (Several Radio & TV stations in the region carry closure information including WMAR 2, WTTG 5, WJLA 7, WUSA 9, WBAL 11, WJZ 13, x 45, & WETA 26.)

Free State Chapter 141 Meeting Reservation Form

Reservation for Free State 141 Meeting on _____

Name _____

Guest Names _____

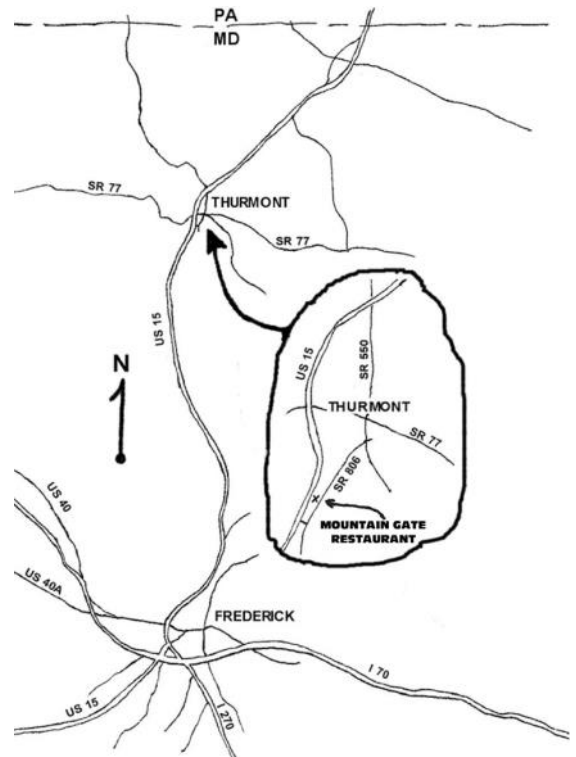
Number coming _____ x \$16.00 = Total \$ _____

Number of Mart Tables _____ (Mart Tables are Free)

Please make checks payable to Free State Chapter 141 and mail to Neil Amrine, 5621 Ogden Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816

Phone: 301-229-2587; email: neil54@aol.com.

Directions: Mountain Gate Family Restaurant is in Thurmont, about 16 miles north of Frederick. Take Route 15N if coming from Frederick or 15 South if coming from PA. Take the Thurmont ramp to MD806 and go east on Thurmont Blvd (right if traveling north, left if traveling south) for about a quarter mile, then take a left on Route 806 (Frederick Road) heading north. The restaurant is about 600 ft. on the left. If you need additional directions, please call the Mountain Gate Restaurant at 301-271-4373.



Horological Talk & Tips

Assessing repairs needed on a miniature carriage clock

This clock was purchased 8/17/1998 @ Merritt's Antiques, Duncansville, PA. as a "Fix-Me-up". It was a miniature Carriage Clock made in Germany. Probably dates before WWII. The purchase price was not cheap for the condition it was in but it had an air of curiosity about it.



It was dirty, not running, missing the hour hand and the alarm setting hand. All of the knobs for setting and winding were missing as well. The dial was rotated roughly 45 or

50 degrees counter clockwise and did not appear to be secure. A quick look inside the back showed all the parts, except the hands and knobs, were apparently there. While it looked close to a bucket case, it did look like it would be restorable. So I went for it. It was different than others I had. Now I will start the restoration process 17 years later.

First is to open the case carefully and remove the movement. I remove the single remaining nut holding the back in place and the back is easily removed. This does not free the movement for removal. A knurled rim on the bezel suggests the crystal screws off which we need to do to retrieve a loose piece of a hand inside the crystal. Unscrewing the bezel released the movement to remove it from the back. Someone had attempted to solder the hour hand back onto its hub and failed to hold. We will need new hands, small size, that I hopefully have in my junk box.

The next step is to assess the work that will be needed, first on the case and then on the movement. The case appears to be sound with a couple of dings and some scrapes on the finish. The finish is either a form of paint or anodizing and mostly needs cleaning and the brass trim polished. The crystal looks good but needs cleaning. As noted before all the knobs and winding key are missing on the backside. Those must be replaced or substitutes obtained so we can determine if it can be wound and set. The dial is free to rotate. I must determine how it was secured or devise a way to do so. We have no idea what condition the movement is in. We know the back is held on by three nuts on studs protruding from the movement and two of the nuts are missing. The third has damaged threads and all of the threads on the 3 studs are stripped.



The alarm is turned on and off by raising the handle on top of the clock case to vertical and turned off by laying the handle down flat. The handle is designed with the two ends of the bail forming the handle pivoting in posts secured to the clock case. (See photo to left) The pivot on one end of the handle has a flat ground on it

so that when the handle is straight up the flat will be facing down toward the movement. The securing post has a hole through it from the pivot socket to the bottom of the threaded stud. This allows a pin to be inserted in the post such that when the handle is laid down the round portion of that pivot will force the pin down. The pin is held in the post by the upward pressure of a spring attached to the post stud on the other side of the handle. That is visible in the photo (see the adjacent photo). The free end of the spring also serves as a lever to press down against another lever in the movement to inhibit the alarm from sounding. This appears to be working, but will have to be verified when the movement and clock case are joined after servicing. It may still need some alignment and adjusting.



With the movement out of the case we see the alarm bell still encases the movement. We have to remove the alarm bell to see that stamped on the back plate is: "NO JEWELS, 3 ADJUSTMENTS, MÜLLER & SCHLENKER, SCHWENNINGEN, GERMANY." We are now able to verify movement functions and observe the mechanical motion obtained by rotating the various arbors available from knobs on the back of the clock. First the fast-slow adjustment which has a squared shaft protruding for adjusting timing rate. In my junk box I find a key that will fit it but the adjustment appears to be frozen. A pair of flat nose pliers and a little force reveals it is free but gummed up with deteriorating solidified oil. Since there is a scale on the outside of the back of the case for the fast slow adjustment, this will require a knob with a pointer. I also see light rust on some arbors and springs but no apparent pitting. The inside is covered with lint and dust.

(See photo, right)

By turning the wheel associated with winding the alarm, it reveals the alarm mechanism is operational. The main spring also seems to be almost fully wound and not broken. The time train refuses to run, though it appears to have no obstructions other than dust and gummed up pivots. By applying synthetic clock oil to the escape wheel teeth, pallets and pivots while manually rotating the balance wheel, the movement would run for short periods. This says it will probably work when fully cleaned and oiled. While the hands are missing, it appears that when the alarm and time setting arbors are turned, their arbors are rotated, meaning they are functional. One more interesting observation is the winding method for both the mainspring and alarm spring seen in the dusty photo above. That I will discuss the next time along with the cleaning process and any further problems detected.



Al Bush 2015-05

WEB SITE NEWS BIT

from your webmaster, Alex Snouffer



I thought it would be best to let you all know first that even though I am going to college in the fall, I am will be serving as webmaster; however, my attendance at the meetings will vary month to month depending on my schedule. My father will still attend the meetings, and any updates I would be happy to send along with him, if I am unable to attend, or email them out to one of you all prior to the meeting.

Here is the link to our website: <http://community.nawcc.org/chapter141/home/>

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting,

Alex

Personal Postings For Chapter 141 Members

INTRODUCTION: This section is for Chapter 141 members to post horological questions, ads, or notices at no charge. The Newsletter Advertising Policy is repeated here for your convenience. It has been defined and will be on file with the Chapter 141 records for viewing. Updates will be posted from time to time as needed.

Members submitting information for posting will need to provide the information in a form that can easily be conveyed to NAWCC Headquarters for editing, printing, and distribution. It is not intended that any editing will be required for information you submit. The information should be submitted in Microsoft WORD file format as a .doc or .docx file by email to albushWLIVE@hotmail.com. This email address will be checked for input when the newsletter is prepared to send to press. If you do not have access to a computer, I suggest you contact a friend and seek their help to prepare and email the posting for you. Sample postings to give you an idea of what can be posted in a 2x3½" space were given in the June-July issue of this newsletter. Effort will be made to maintain your posting, wording and presentation as you have submitted it.

NAWCC PRESENTS:

PERSONAL POSTINGS

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING? HAVE SOMETHING SOMEONE ELSE NEEDS?

POST IT HERE!

NOTE TIME & LOCATION for our NEXT MEETING ON:

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 at the
MOUNTAIN GATE FAMILY RESTAURANT
in Thurmont, MD 21788, 301-271-4373.**

Hope to see you all there!



**Cloktoberfest
2015**

Cloktoberfest

WHERE: National Watch & Clock Museum
Columbia, PA
WHEN: Saturday, September 26th 2015
9:00am to 3:00pm

Coming September 26, 2015 and in conjunction with *Smithsonian Magazine's Free Museum Day*, the National Watch & Clock Museum is hosting its first ever Cloktoberfest!

The event will include food, music, horologica, time-piece evaluations, behind-the-scenes tours, kids activities, and more! Vendors interested in selling horologica at this event are encouraged to contact Abby Krouse at akrouse@nawcc.org.

NAWCC Members will receive a discount on table fees for the event! Visit the event [Facebook page](#) for more information.