



# Free State Chapter 141

MD, PA, VA, WV

## **President**

*Lou Orsini*

## **Vice President**

*Neil Amrine*

## **Treasurer**

*Darcy Bertelmann*

## **Secretary**

*Deanne Motsyn*

## **Newsletter Coordinator**

*Al Bush (temporarily Alex)*

## **Webmaster**

*Alex Snouffer*

## **Board of Directors**

*George Hudson*

*Frank Goad*

*Bob Rothen*

*Vacant*

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

*oh2batc73@comcast.net*

*or 717-457-0355*

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

***[agbush172@verizon.net](mailto:agbush172@verizon.net)***

***410-531-5307.***

***Or Alex Snouffer***

***Feedback for the Web Site should be addressed to Alex Snouffer at:***

***[arsnouffer@gmail.com](mailto:arsnouffer@gmail.com).***

## **December/January No.2019-01**

This is such an interesting time of the year as the leaves start changing Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all! I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and didn't overstuff yourself like I did. Of course, we are already full-blown into the holiday season with Christmas music everywhere, TV specials virtually every day, and retail store sales galore. Fortunately, for me at least, we are closing in on playoff football while basketball and hockey seasons are well underway. Gives me something to watch that isn't Christmassy when I'm not working on clocks. I wish for everyone a very happy holiday period and a prosperous new year.

This is probably a good time to remind everyone of our inclement weather policy regarding meetings. If the Frederick schools are closed on the date of our meeting, we will cancel – otherwise the meeting is on. If you have any doubt, call Darcy Bertelmann and ask. Our program again this year is our annual "Show & Tell". Bring something rare, odd, unusual, sentimental, beautiful, ugly or mysterious - anything with a story you can tell and/or a horological item that will generate questions and comments. Tell your story and invite others to comment. If you cannot figure out what your item does or how it works, bring it in and ask others to apply their knowledge and experience to solve the mystery. This meeting is always great fun because of your participation. It takes several people to make a good program, and it doesn't require any special talent; just bring a clock or watch (or anything related to clocks and watches) and provide a short explanation or story. The audience takes over from there – it's that easy.

Our November program was a very good one with interesting presentations by Bob Rothen and Tom Mostyn showing "inventive clock repairs" they've encountered over the years, which generated comments from others with similar experiences. We also enjoyed an informative presentation by Jim Michaels showing original drawings of unusual antique watches. Jim used his 1914 projector for the presentation and described the unique characteristics of each timepiece.

Finally, as always, please remember our brave men and women serving in dangerous places throughout the world, and particularly those continuing operations to maintain stability in Afghanistan. This can be a particularly hard time for them and their families as they endure family separations during the holidays and the uncertainty that is a routine part of their lives. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers, every day, until they return home, and look for opportunities to say thank you to our folks in the military whenever you can.

**-Lou**

***Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2019***

## Minutes for November 8th, 2018 Chapter 141 Meeting

President Lou Orsini presided over the November 08, 2018 meeting. There were 30 people in attendance, who enjoyed the Mountain Gate buffet. President Lou Orsini stated that he received a letter of appreciation from Tom Wilcox, Executive Director of NAWCC, for our Chapter's donation. To date they have raised \$7,500,000 towards their goal.

Mel Kornspan advised that a friend has a tall case clock for sale that is eight feet tall. It may not have original works. See Mel if interested.

The 50/50 raffle brought in \$75 total, which was split between the Chapter and the winning member.

Lou Orsini reminded everyone that at this time the National is offering membership at \$52 for the first year for new members.

Bob Rothen gave an interesting and informal presentation on "Bubba-ism". "Bubba-ism", as defined in the presentation, is someone who attempts to make repairs to a clock in an inappropriate manner, using inappropriate tools and methods. His example in the presentation was a ST Senora Chime mainwheel with missing teeth. The repair was done by drilling holes in the edge of the rim and inserting pinion wire straight into the barrel. Harry Lebherz received the clock from a customer, and asked Bob to make a new wheel. Harry brought the original movement from the customer.

Tom Mostyn brought in various "Bubba" repairs he has run into over the years. These are repairs you have to see to understand and/or believe. One was a strand of brass cable that held the weight on a grandfather clock. To keep the end from slipping through the seatboard the "repairman" wrapped duct tape around the end until a nice ball had formed. The proper procedure to replace a broken cord on a wooden movement is to take it apart to thread the new cord through the large hole of the main wheel drum and knot it. Instead, this "repairman" soldered a brass cable (you don't use brass wire on wooden movements) with a wood screw and screwed this onto the outside of the drum. Another example was a "repair" done to a suspension spring by opening the steel ends and putting a piece of flexible plastic between them.

Several members talked of their encounters with repairs similar to the commercially available Rathburn bushing concept. The difference being the material used such as a Campbell soup can and other types of metal.

Tom Mostyn advised that there is an effort by some members of Congress to shut down US government radio stations that announce official time. This signal comes from Fort Collins, Colorado and could have far reaching effects on certain electronic equipment.

Bob Rothen announced that Don Buck's clocks are being sold in lots of about 100 at a Hagerstown auction gallery. Bob will attempt to get additional information to pass on to members.

Jim Michaels passed on information regarding early watch movements, using an old slide projector from 1914 and slides from the same period. Jim made informative and interesting comments on each watch movement, with particular emphasis on the escapement components. Although unlikely anyone will come across some of the movements shown it was most interesting to go back in time and realize how things have progressed.

This was a most varied and interesting meeting.

President Lou Orsini closed the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**-Deanne Mostyn, Secretary**

### **WEB SITE NEWS BIT from your webmaster, Alex Snouffer**

I'm still keeping an eye on our website. Just to let you know, I have been doing some research and am considering changing our website over to a more user-friendly platform such as Wix. The National's web servers are becoming a bit clumsy and were designed using yesterday's tech. I will bring this up during the meeting, but I believe we should consider making this change.

-Alex, [arsnouffer@gmail.com](mailto:arsnouffer@gmail.com)

## **“Treasurer’s Notes”**

We are still awaiting word from the IRS concerning the Chapter’s tax status. In the spring of 2018, we applied to have our not-for-profit status reinstated. We will inform members when we have an official reply.

**Our Upcoming Meeting:** The deadline for making reservations is **Tuesday, January 8, 2019.**

Please call or email Darcy Berytelmann to make reservation(s) or mail the form in the newsletter. Pay in advance or at the meeting. Dinner costs \$17.00/person.

Phone: 717-487-5198

Email: horologybuff@gmail.com. See address below.

Please remember that Darcy needs to have a count for the restaurant on the Wednesday morning before our meeting. Please make every effort to get your reservations in by the Tuesday deadline so we are fair to Mountain Gate, and they can accurately plan for food and wait staff for us.

**Make checks payable to:** Free State Chapter 141

**Mail to:** Darcy Bertelmann, 925 Johnson Drive, Gettysburg, PA 17325-8903

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

**Has your contact information changed? - Have you changed any of the following: your address, email or phone number? Please send that information to Darcy either by mail, phone, or email. Help us keep you informed.**

Chapter 141 meets 5 times each year on the second Thursday of odd numbered months, excluding July. Meetings begin at 5:30pm with time to socialize, followed by dinner, a brief business meeting and a presentation on a horological interest. Mark your calendar now with these dates:

**March 14, 2019**

**May 9, 2019**

**If you have an interest in clocks or watches you are invited to Our Next Meeting Thursday, January 10th, 2019 at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant**

CHAPTER 141 PROGRAM FOR January 10th, 2019

**Speakers: *It Could be YOU!! – It’s SHOW-and-TELL TIME***

**Discussion:** Come one and all for a great time, good stories, and even better company. Show and Tell is one of our favorite meetings. Feel free to bring anything and everything horologically related. You will be given the opportunity to discuss, ask questions, and show off what has great meaning to you, so please bring anything to share with the group and have a few words to say about it.

**PERSONAL POSTINGS FOR CHAPTER 141**

**ATTENTION:** This page 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. 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. However, it is not intended that editing will be required for information you submit. It will speed things up if the information is submitted in Microsoft WORD file format as a .doc or .docx file by email to [AGBUSH172@VERIZON.NET](mailto:AGBUSH172@VERIZON.NET). 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. Some sample postings that will give you an idea of what can be posted in a 2x3½” space were given in the 2013-04, June-July, issue of this newsletter. Effort will be made to maintain your posting, wording and presentation as you have submitted it.

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**NO POSTINGS AT THIS TIME**

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*Meeting time is 5:45 Dinner: about 6:30 Mart: Come early for the mart Business/Program: is before dinner*

**Meeting Reservations:** You may use the meeting reservation form below to mail in your reservations for Free State Chapter 141 meetings. Please indicate the meeting date as you complete the form. You may also make reservations via e-mail to [horologybuff@gmail.com](mailto:horologybuff@gmail.com) and providing Darcy Bertelmann with the information requested on the meeting reservation form or by Calling Darcy at 717-487-5198 and informing her 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.)

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**Free State Chapter 141 Meeting Reservation Form**

Reservation for Free State Chapter 141 Meeting on \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Names \_\_\_\_\_

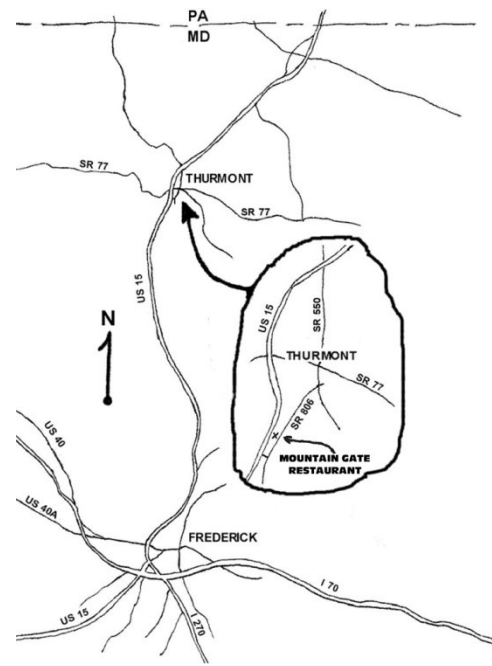
Number Coming \_\_\_\_\_ x \$17.00 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Mart Tables \_\_\_\_\_ (Mart Tables are Free)

Local Chapter Dues Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00 per member for the year beginning June 30.  
(New members please use Membership & Renewal form under "From Your Treasurer").

Please make checks payable to Free State Chapter 141 and mail to  
Darcy Bertelmann, 925 Johnson Drive, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325-8903  
Phone 717-487-5198  
Email [horologybuff@gmail.com](mailto:horologybuff@gmail.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*



**NOTE TIME & LOCATION** for our NEXT MEETING on **THURSDAY, November 8th 2018** at the **MOUNTAIN GATE FAMILY RESTAURANT** in Thurmont, MD 21788, 301-271-4373.

Hope to see you all there!

