



# Free State Chapter 141

MD, PA, VA, WV

February

No.2020-01



It's kind of hard to start talking about spring when it's only the end of January (as I'm drafting this); heck, the Super Bowl has yet to be played, but by the time we next meet spring will be but a week away! That must mean it's time for some spring cleaning and what better excuse to figure out those horological items you no longer need or want and bring them to the Chapter Mart. Getting some cash for items you don't want is a win for you and if priced reasonably, a win for the buyer. Please try to bring at least one item to sell.

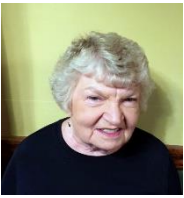
Once again, we had a great **Show & Tell** at last month's meeting with tremendous participation across a variety of subjects. If you missed it, there is a very good summary in **Deanne Mostyn's** Meeting Minutes on page 2. Our next meeting is

Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at the usual time and place. We again have another quality program on tap with **Ray Snouffer** presenting on a lifting arm clock he is building; details are available on page 2. Please make your reservations with **Wheeler Green** NLT Tuesday, 10 March. And while I don't think the weather will be a problem (after all, it's almost spring), our cancellation policy remains tied to the Frederick School system; if they cancel school that day due to inclement weather, then we will cancel our meeting.

As you all know, our Chapter continues to have interesting and educational meetings with a healthy dose of social interaction. What remains missing, however, is **membership growth and leadership rotation**. We offer an incentive of free meals to invite potential new members, but rarely have had to pay up, which is somewhat disappointing. Please think about folks you know who **MIGHT** be interested in what we do and invite them for a complimentary meal. If they join, you get a free meal too. Those of us serving in leadership positions are happy to do so, but we also feel that it is important to have more members involved in running the Chapter. We recently had a turnover in the Treasurer position, but this is an anomaly; most of us have been serving for more than five years, for some a lot more. Regular leadership rotation helps improve vitality and increases ownership in our members. Please consider both volunteering for one of these positions, and asking potential new members to try us out. Let's all work together to make a very good Chapter even better.

Finally, as always, I ask everyone to remember and honor our servicemembers and their families for the tremendous sacrifices they are making every day to keep us safe and free. These heroes willingly place their lives for much less money than they could earn in the private sector. They define the word patriotism and we need to recognize their service. Please take the time to say "thank you" and offer help when you can.

*Our next meeting will be .....* **Thursday, March 12, 2020 at Mountain Gate**



## THE CHAPTER 141

### FREE STATE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 9, 2020

**LOCATION:** Mountain Gate Family Restaurant, 133 Frederick Road, Thurmont, MD 21788

**WHEN:** Second Thursday of odd-numbered months, except July, 5:30 pm

**MEMBERSHIP INFO:** Lou Orsini-- [oh2batc73@comcast.net](mailto:oh2batc73@comcast.net), or Wheeler Green – [Sparco@comcast.net](mailto:Sparco@comcast.net)

**WEBSITE:** <http://community.nawcc.org/chapter141/Home>

#### JANUARY MEETING

JANUARY MEETING: President **Lou Orsini** presided over the January 9, 2020 meeting. There were 20 members and guests in attendance, who enjoyed the Mountain Gate buffet. A lucky member won the 50/50 raffle.

**Neil Amrine** announced that Wheeler Green has graciously volunteered to serve as Treasurer for our group. We give abundant thanks to **Darcy Bertelmann** for serving as past Treasurer and doing an excellent job. All responses for future meetings should be sent to Wheeler at [Sparco505@comcast.net](mailto:Sparco505@comcast.net). The next meeting will be held on March 12, 2020. The speaker will be member **Ray Snouffer**, who will talk about designing and creating a miniature Lifting Arm Mistry Clock that is based on 19<sup>th</sup> century French examples. Ray made the clock for his son **Alex** (also a member) for Christmas. Wheeler Green also brought to our attention this year's Cabin Fever on January 17-19 in Lebanon, PA.

The evening's meeting was Show and Tell, which is always a favorite topic. **Ray Snouffer** brought in a 19<sup>th</sup> century French torsion clock mechanism that would have been suspended from a large statue. It is unusual in that the rotating sphere only contains the hand motion works portion of the clock. Members are looking forward to the seeing of the completed clock at some future meeting.

For SHOW and TELL there were several interesting items **Ron Gaskins** showed us a hairspring vibration for Hamilton Watch Company and explained how it is used to vibrate watch balance springs. **Gordon Beglin** brought in a very attractive metal case Gilbert Clock that was originally part of a candelabra set. Gordon said that at one time the Gilbert Company factory had 500 employees. Only two of the original four buildings are still standing, which are now a 72-unit apartment building. **Tom Mostyn** presented a small New Haven easel clock with a reverse decorated glass. The hands from the factory are on the outside. Tom also had a Welsh, Spring & Company double dial calendar clock that had been in a flood and which he refinished. He purchased the clock at the York Regional for \$15. Tom also had a Bridge and Peck cornice and column with a four-wheel time and four-wheel strike strap movement with translucent reverse painting. **Darcy Bertelmann** brought in an interesting Rolex catalog from an upscale jeweler. As to be expected with anything from Rolex, the photographic quality of the pictures was fantastic. In addition, she showed us a 1940s Army Air Corp Bulova with Air Corps wing on either side of the dial. This was an unusual and attractive piece. **Mel Kornspan** brought pictures of two beautiful stained-glass panels made by a friend, a Catholic priest, who taught art at several of the local colleges. The panels, designed for Mel due to his love of clocks, represent a tall case clock with one panel depicting the hood and dial of the clock and the second showing the waist and pendulum. Somewhat hidden in the design of the panels were the Roman numerals I thru XII. Mel takes great pride in the panels as they remind him of the now deceased priest who designed and made the panels for him. **Frank Goad** showed us three 16 size Illinois Model 5 (Getty) pocket watches and explained the differences between them. Getty is the individual who designed the layout of the movement. One watch was 15 jewel marked Rail Road Dispatcher Extra no adjustment markings but with a micro regulator; it is not railroad grade. The second watch was a 21-jewel marked Wm. J. Miller Baltimore with no adjustment markings, but with a micro regulator. **Wheeler Green** shared a cat novelty clock with moving eyes that had a missing pendulum, which Wheeler is looking for. In the interim, Wheeler has the clock running using a paper clip and washer. Creative! **Lou Orsini** brought in a piece that was the highlight of Show and Tell. It has a horizontal boiler on which is mounted an 8-day clock and an aneroid barometer. It also has a movement to run a piston and various levers representing industrial machines of that era. It is missing several decorative pieces and its thermometer. This is a most exceptional piece of automation in need of restoration, which Lou hopes to complete in future years. President Lou Orsini closed the meeting at 8:25 PM. Respectfully Submitted, *Deanne Mostyn*, Secretary.

**President -- Lou Orsini**, For more Chapter information contact at: [oh2batc@verizon.net](mailto:oh2batc@verizon.net) or 7703-352-7260

**Vice President -- Neil Amrine**, contact at: [neil54@aol.com](mailto:neil54@aol.com) or 301-229-2587

**Treasurer -- Wheeler Green**, contact at: [Sparco@comcast.net](mailto:Sparco@comcast.net) or 301-801-5005

**Secretary -- Deanne Mostyn**, contact at: [dgm0714@hotmail.com](mailto:dgm0714@hotmail.com) or 410-337-6835

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**Webmaster -- Alex Snouffer**: For feedback or input contact at: [arsnouffer@gmail.com](mailto:arsnouffer@gmail.com)

**Board of Directors--** \*George Hudson \*Frank Goad

# If you have an interest in Clocks, Watches or Horology You won't want to miss Our Next Meeting

Thursday, March 12th, 2020 at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant

## CHAPTER 141 PROGRAM FOR March 12th, 2020

The program for this meeting will have our own **Ray Snouffer** as the speaker. He will be presenting a talk on a clock he is building for his son, Alex, who is also a member of our group and maintains our Web Site. I'll leave the details to Ray but I believe some mention was made of it at our last meeting. Come find out and hear the full story. It sounds very interesting, better come out and not miss it.

Our programs are of general interest to all and very informative. Plan to come join us for a pleasant evening with friends and fellow Horologists. We'll look forward to seeing you there. If you have been around as long as time itself, or just acquired your first clock or watch or are even just thinking about it, come join in, we will welcome you. It is a social atmosphere where horological problems, solutions, history and finds are all shared, enjoyed and relished by all. If you don't enjoy it and take something away with you, be it information or a special horological acquisition, then you must not have been at our get together. And don't forget, if you don't get all the food you can eat, it is your fault. (You can go back for seconds or thirds or more in the food line. I usually make it in one or two trips.) We will be looking forward to seeing you there. Oh! If you are having horological problem, absolutely do not hesitate to ask for help. The room will be well saturated with experts. If we don't know the answer, we probably know someone who does. (By the way, if you ask a question, I may learn something too.)

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

**Meeting Reservations:** You may use the meeting reservation form below to mail in your reservations for Free State Chapter 141 meetings. You should indicate the meeting date as you complete the form. You may also make reservations via e-mail to [Sparco505@comcast.net](mailto:Sparco505@comcast.net) by providing Wheeler Green with the information requested on the meeting reservation form or by Calling Wheeler at 301-801-5005 and informing him 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 Chapter 141 Meeting on \_\_\_\_\_

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

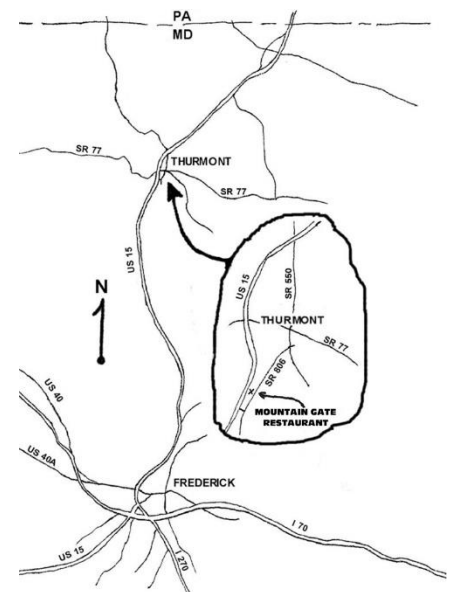
Number Coming \_\_\_\_\_ x \$17.00 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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 Wheeler Green, 13619, Harrisville Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771-7923

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



# From your Treasurer

*Hello! There are a couple of things I need to make all members aware of.*

## **The deadline for making reservations for a meeting: Tuesday before the Thursday meeting**

I need to have a count for the restaurant by the morning of the day before the 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 waiter staff for us. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

**Chapter Dues for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 must be paid by June 30, 2020 in order to be current.** I have included a line item for dues on the reservation form should you wish to pay them now. Annual dues are only \$8.00 (unchanged since 2007). **New** members must use the renewal form below and include the **additional membership information** so we have the correct information for contacting you and providing the newsletter.

Contact me at [Sparco505@comcast.net](mailto:Sparco505@comcast.net) or call me at 301-801-5005 if you have questions. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Mountain Gate Restaurant for the next meeting. Please be prompt with your RSVPs for the meeting reservations.

*Wheeler Green*

### **Attention:**

It is important also to **keep Wheeler Green advised** of any change in your membership information, address changes, etc. He can be reached at [Sparco505@comcast.net](mailto:Sparco505@comcast.net) or 301-801-5005  
Please Note: **We cannot keep you informed if you don't keep us informed.** Thank you in advanced.

## **FREE STATE CHAPTER 141 MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL APPLICATION**

*NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ NAWCC No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Prefer Newsletter via EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ or USMAIL \_\_\_\_\_.

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:

Please make checks payable to Free State Chapter 141 and mail to  
Wheeler Green, 13619 Harrisville Road, Mt Airy, MD 21771-7923  
PHONE: 301-801-5005 Gmail: [Sparco505@comcast.net](mailto:Sparco505@comcast.net)



# Horological Tips & Talks

## STRIKE ADJSUTMENT

### HOW TO ADJUST THE HANDS TO SYNCHRONIZE WITH THE TIME OF STRIKE.

*(WHEN THE MINUTE HAND IS SLIGHTLY BEFORE OR AFTER "12" WWHEN THE GONG SOUNDS)*

There are several reasons the strike and time can be off. If the position of the minute hand on its arbor can be rotated and retightened (i.e. it doesn't have a square shank) that would be an easy fix. Most of them have a pin on the minute hand drive wheel that trips the strike (if it is not a chime and strike) and this wheel may need to be lifted and rotated a tooth or two clockwise to make it strike sooner. (Or in the in the counterclockwise direction to male it strike later.) The clock usually strikes when a/the lever drops off that pin. If the time strikes OK but the half hour is off, you should find a second pin on the wheel that is positioned differently to trip a single half hour strike. Some movements use star wheels, particularly for chimes with 4 points where one point is longer. The short points trip the quarter chime and the long one gets the strike. A two-point star could have one long and one short point to get the strike with the one, usually the long point and the half hour with the short one. The drive of the element that determines the position of the star would have to be rotated relative to the minute hand. In all cases you should use a magic marker or a scratch to mark the original position before making the change so that if it doesn't work you can go back and try again or at least restore it to its original condition. (If the original condition you marked turns out to have been in error you should buff it off and place a new mark in the correct position. I have found clocks that have a brass hub that fits on a square shank where the hand is riveted to the hub, but it is slightly offset from the position it should be. Sometimes the hub can be placed on a square shaft. I grind a square shank on a concrete nail for this and hold it in the vice and the hand itself can be grasp close to the hub and rotated on the hub. Be careful not to twist and break the hand if doing this. After rotating it. You may want to tap the hub to retighten the riveting or you might put a touch of super glue on it. If super glue, be sure it is set/dried and cleaned off before putting back on the arbor or it might be difficult to get off in the future. Short story is that the repair depends on the type of strike trip mechanism. (For the type that has only the half hour off, you can often bend the pins one way or the other to correct it. Generally, with those if you bend the half hour and it corrects for a minute, then you bend the hour strike in the opposite direction the same amount it will correct for another minute making a total of 2 minuet correction. What you are doing is increasing the circumferential distance between the strike time and the half hour strike. The object is to have them diametrical opposite. I tell you this so you can see that if both time and half-hour are off, this spacing is probably OK and you don't want to bend the pins, the problem is likely elsewhere. But you have to consider all things on these old clocks because you don't know who has "worked" on them before you and what they have done. Maybe someone had already bent both pins in the same direction to make a correction before (that wasn't needed if the clock was assembled correctly).

AGB

2020-1

*Editor's Note:* We (I) may be running slightly late on this issue. An unfriendly malware found its way into my computer, even with all the Firewalls, Fly Spray and nasty bug killer I have installed on my system. Apparently, I shut the system down before it had finished down loading an update and some malware took full advantage of it. Fortunately, I was able to clear the system and restore it. However, since the upgrade saves some data & programs when doing an upgrade and then reloads it back in once the upgrade is installed and I turned the machine off before it had completed and it left me without some of my original programs and data. The end result was that I lost some of my received email data and had to reinstall some of my software programs. The malware was called REIMAGE and it worked like clockwork for what it was designed to do. Fortunately, I don't think I have to worry about it getting into any of the clocks I have, but I refused to send any emails, etc. out until I had the all clear. Fortunately, I use duplicate back ups but unfortunately, I didn't have everything covered.

# Web Page Update



I'm still keeping an eye on our website. We have had a number of interruptions while attending to the fact that some of our newsletters are not available on our website. This has been traced primarily to two factors. The issues when published were not also placed on our website and in some cases, there was no newsletter published for that date. *(Editor's note: I am in the process (which has been delayed for a couple of months) of helping trace down any actual missing newsletters and taking steps to insure that as the newsletters are published and are also placed on our website. In the process I have also found that in the distant past newsletters were placed on previous websites Chapter141 had at locations other than the NAWCC website. These websites are no longer active but I was able to retrieve several past issues before the site was taken down. As time allows, we will attempt to include these past newsletters on our current website.*

A/)

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

## Personal Postings for Chapter 141 Members.....

**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@gmail.com](mailto:agbush172@gmail.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. Some sample postings that will give you an idea of what can be posted in a 2x3½" space was 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.

**NOTE: TIME & LOCATION** for our NEXT MEETING on **THURSDAY, MARCH 12 , 2020** at the **MOUNTAIN GATE FAMILY RESTAURANT**

Thurmont, MD 21788, 301-271-4373

----- HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE -----



+++++ POSTINGS +++++

We hope your New Year has gotten off to a good start and you ae on a way to a Happy New Year, that we all can look forward to seeing you at our informative and friendly meetings.