

“Jack, with a loud jovial voice, said,

‘Where’s my pendulum?’

The owner instantly looked up with a Cheshire cat-like grin spreading ear to ear and with equally good humor said,

‘Right here waiting on you.’”

here who would be interested in an engraved pendulum from Auburn, Alabama.” So we took our time and finally walked back to the last aisle.

The pendulum’s owner was seated at his table. He had been told the price Jack had quoted. He told us the pendulum was acquired when a clock shop had been bought out. He would not accept Jack’s offer; Jack agreed it was a very beautiful pendulum, but he was firm on his offer. As we turned to leave, the man calmly said, “I’m going to put it in the silent auction.” Jack calmly said, “Fine. I’ll bid on it.” I was thinking we’re not going to get this pendulum. Well, they announced the silent auction and the owner did place it in the auction. Unbelievably, Jack was the only bidder, but alas, his bid was not accepted. We watched as the pendulum was taken back to the owner’s table. I thought that the owner was furious and that he wouldn’t sell that pendulum to Jack now for love nor money.

It was getting late in the afternoon, and we knew we had to leave soon, to be in Akron, OH, that evening, so we chose to purchase the Ingraham “Nyanza” banjo clock. It had been a great day—we had thoroughly enjoyed the Mid-America Regional and looking at the abundance of different clocks. The people were friendly and helpful, but I still wanted that pendulum. What a surprise to find it and what a loss to lose it!

Jack had been totally unsuccessful with his bartering, so I told him if he would put the banjo clock in the car, I would go back and try to purchase the pendulum. Jack replied, “We’ll both go back.” As we were making our way to the rear of the exhibition hall, I prepared myself for disappointment. This is a lost cause, I thought, as we

turned the corner to the last aisle.

Jack, with a loud jovial voice, said, “Where’s my pendulum?” The owner instantly looked up with a Cheshire cat-like grin spreading from ear to ear and with equally good humor said, “Right here waiting on you.” I watched in amazement as they shook hands like friends who had known each other for years. Who knew that the game they had been playing was over? Each was equally pleased with the outcome, and clearly, both were winners. Only I had not known it was a game.

But I am very happy that the Auburn pendulum is now ours. From time to time I shake my head and still wonder. A little later, as we were leaving, and driving east toward Akron, OH, Jack and I both agreed that we had had a wonderful time and were more than pleased with our acquisitions. We knew, without a doubt, someday we would come back to a future Mid-America Regional, in Auburn, IN.

The Ingraham “Nyanza” banjo clock hangs on our den wall. The beautiful Auburn University pendulum swings back and forth in my grandfather clock. I’m sure that the Auburn pendulum is destined to remain in our family for a very, very long time.

#### About the Author

Pat Hatfield’s hobby is genealogy, and she favors tall-case clocks and Vienna Regulators. Jack Hatfield is retired from the U.S. Marine Corps. Pat writes, “We enjoy learning more about our clock collection through the NAWCC, which Jack joined in 2007.”



**October 20-22, 2011**  
**Cincinnati Airport Marriott,**  
**Hebron, KY**

**Symposium information begins on page 376.**

## Wonderful Local Museums

**The Taft Museum of Art** The Tafts lived in this house from 1873 until 1929. William H. Taft accepted his presidential nomination here in 1908. The Tafts turned their home into a museum and donated their Greek Revival house and art collection to the people of Cincinnati in 1927.

**The Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal** is home to the Cincinnati History Museum, Duke Energy Children’s Museum, the Museum of Natural History & Science, the Robert D. Lindner Family OMNI-MAX® Theater, and the Cincinnati Historical Society Library.

**Cincinnati Art Museum** features an unparalleled art collection of more than 60,000 works spanning 6,000 years.

**Symposium information continues on page 446.**