



NAWCC NEWS

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

Atlanta Chapter 24

December 2020 **ZOOM Meeting** Minutes

JANUARY ZOOM MEETING

Our next meeting will be Sunday

JANUARY 10 starting at 10:30 AM

WE will NOT be meeting at the Aquatic Center!

The Program is TBD.

Please consider contributing to our Show and Tell.

Contact Us to find out how if you are not familiar with ZOOM

NAWCC Atlanta Chapter 24 Officers and Directors

Dan Butt	President	edanbutt@yahoo.com	(678) 662-3848
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Minutes of NAWCC Atlanta Chapter 24 December 2020 ZOOM Meeting

Our next meeting will be on January 10, 2021. An email message will be distributed at about one week ahead of the coming meeting with a call-in link and program details.

If you need assistance using Zoom, please contact either Mary Jones (maryisabeljones@comcast.net; 770-939-8856) or Bob Geier (bgeier73@gmail.com; 630-220-9457).

The December Meeting and its Program, Building a Case for an Antique English Tall Clock Movement by George Waterhouse can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNHubnpHM6k>

Dan opened the meeting by thanking everyone for joining the call. There were twenty members present.

Treasurer Charles Carrol was not in attendance and so the Treasurer's Report was not presented. It can be found at the conclusion of these minutes.

New Business:

Dan discussed our rental agreement with Gwinett County for the use of the Aquatic Center. Even though it was open and we had contracted for its use, after we had opted to not conduct several meetings due to the pandemic, the county graciously credited our account. Credit for these cancelled meeting will be applied to our 2021 schedule.

As usual, we have scheduled our Chapter Meetings on the first Sunday of even months at 10:30 for 2021. Meeting dates for 2021 are February 7, April 11 (the weekend following Easter), June 6, August 1, October 3 and December 5, 2021.

It was agreed to conduct our next Zoom Call on January 10. We will discuss the feasibility of a face to face meeting at the Aquatic Center in February at that time. We will also evaluate the availability of wi-fi for a possible simultaneous face-to-face meeting with Zoom for those wishing to remain isolated. The Program for this meeting will be a second installment of the Mansion Clock video series.

The election of officers for 2021 was then conducted. There were no new nominations or volunteers for President or Vice President as of this meeting. In November, Mary Jones offered to accept that role for 2021. Michael Linz volunteered to accept the Director position to terminate in 2023. Mary's term as Director concludes in 2020. Dan will serve another one year term as President and Mary will serve one year as Vice President. The Treasurer and Secretary positions were unopposed and are two year commitments.



Virtual Traditional Christmas
Goose and Luncheon

DECEMBER 2020 ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

Dan updated us on a phone discussion he had with Brooks Coleman earlier this week. Brooks suffered two heart attacks in the past weeks. Following his release from the hospital he was then stricken by Covid. Brooks told Dan that he had turned the corner and that doubters should consider the virus real. Three other members of Brooks immediate family also tested positive for the virus.

Other members had also been in contact with Brooks and his family since.

Program

George Waterhouse discussed the restoration project of an English antique longcase clock movement and the construction of an appropriate case. This was George's first case construction project which he began in 1994.

A fellow clock collector and co-worker friend was on a work trip around 1972 to Mississippi. He saw a couple of interesting English Grandfathers and a loose movement in an antique shop and proposed that if George would buy one of the grandfathers then he would buy the other and ship them to Atlanta. Eventually George gave the grandfather clock that he bought to his sister and brother in law. Around 1990, his fellow collector friend was moving to North Carolina and sold the loose movement including weights, bob and dial to George rather than move it. This is how George acquired the movement that initiated this project.



Restored Dial

The movement is a two weight time and bell strike Powell and Davies from Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire South Wales circa 1810. As-found, the movement was in exceptionally good condition. Martha Smallwood performed a minimal and amazing restoration of the dial. It appears untouched. The hands are original.

On the front plate of the movement is scratched: "Cleaned by William Parry 1864". George's research of directories indicates that Clockmaker William Parry was working in Aberdare in 1848, in 1856 on Asaph Road in Holywell, and from 1868 to 1881 on Rasperra Street in Newport. It is likely that Parry cleaned the movement while in Holywell, a village in Flint about 14 miles WNW of Chester, England.

In selecting a design for a case, George explained that he had researched Powell and Davies to find examples of their clocks to model but was not successful.

DECEMBER 2020 ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

Program Continued

George selected cherry for the primary wood of the 7-1/2 foot tall case. Secondary woods include cedar, poplar and pine.

George described the complexity of fitting the multiple layers of material together for the moldings, door arch and swans necks and fluting. Pictures from the rear of the bonnet clarified the complexity. The case was assembled using no nails; glue only.

George discussed how he added details such as “reeding” to the vertical front corners of the waist. The edges of the waist door are routed to add a fillet and bead or radiused. He discussed the painstaking multiple attempts to obtain an acceptable fit of the door hinges.

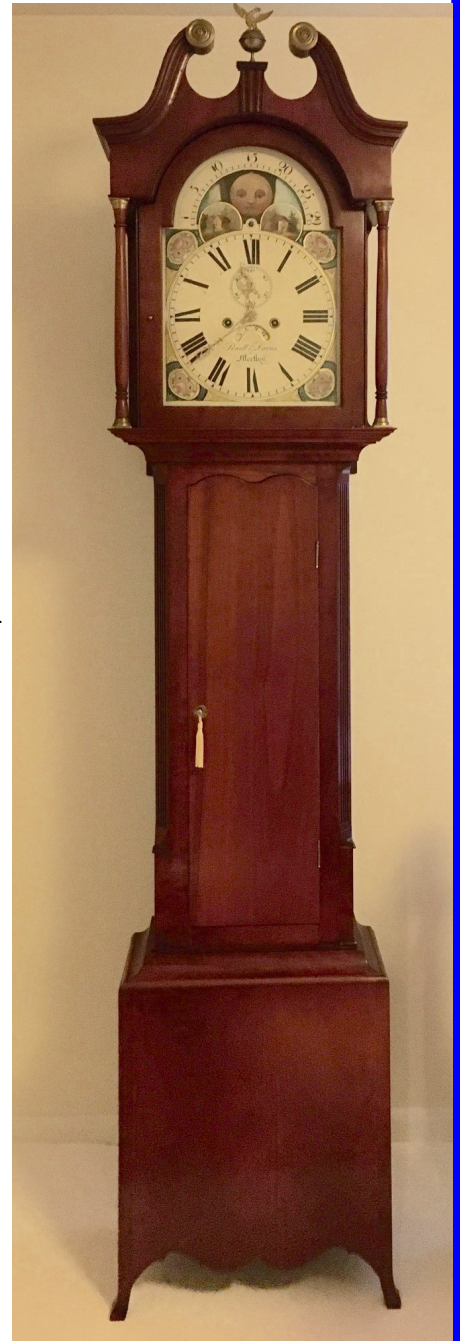
The brass components, except for the antique center finial eagle, are contemporary pieces. These include the pillar capitols and bases and escutcheon plate.

George discussed the products that were used to stain and seal the case and the challenges he faced in their application. He assembled the case before finishing. He mentioned that if he were to perform a similar project today, he would use shellac finish rather than the tung oil finish as used for this project.

Pictures of some of the still surviving patterns used to cut the various curved components of the door and base were shown to explain how the components were duplicated and constructed.

Like the Durfee clocks discussed in Pete Schreiners presentation last month, George pointed out that this movement may have been imported and destined for an American built case. It just took a little over 180 years to find the right American case builder. Many nineteen and early twentieth century American clocks actually used English manufactured movements and dials. Pete added that this style of movement is not uncommon in vintage longcase clocks.

A beautiful clock and case. Thanks George for another interesting presentation!



DECEMBER 2020 ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

Show and Tell

Dick Johnston did a quick show and tell of a Lux wind up clock.

Larry Welk also held up an unmarked clock from Waterbury CT. He requested help for its restoration.

Mary Jones shared medical expertise with regard to types of face masks and the protection offered by different designations. After the meeting, Mary requested that the following clarification be shared.

Clearly, staying home is the safest approach to COVID avoidance. But, if you are one of those folks who must be out in public, the KN95 mask is better than other options - other than the gold standard N95 mask. But as Warren pointed out, total avoidance is the optimally safe strategy.

Stay safe everyone,

Tuesday Night Clock Group: **CURRENTLY NOT MEETING**

Treasurers Report *By Charles Carroll*

The beginning balance for the period was \$17,214.11. Expenses during this period were \$221.00 and there was no income. The ending balance is \$16993.11.

GROANERS (*ENCORE!*) *By George Waterhouse*

The only thing better than one of George's groaners is two:

- ◆ Why was the guy fired from the calendar factory?
Answer: He took a day off.
- ◆ After Jimmy swallowed the watch, he had to wait to pass the time.

