

NAWCC NEWS

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors Atlanta Chapter 24 June 4, 2023 Minutes

June Meeting

Our next scheduled meeting will be August 6, 2023 at the Mountain Aquatic Center starting at 9:30 AM.

The Program, French Horology, will be presented by Robert Frishman.



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Prior to the meeting, watch collector Austin Jones displayed several pocket and wristwatches. Brooks also auctioned four clocks.











Auction Team Brooks

Business Meeting

Thirty-one members, one guest and three virtually attending members were present.

Mary opened the meeting welcoming attendees and one guest, Gary Walton's son Brian. Brian is a photographer and provided some of the macro images of the watches provided in these minutes. Thanks Brian!

Old Business:

Gary Walton provided the Treasurer's Report; the details of which are found on page 4.

Mary reviewed the 2023 Mid South Regional schedule and discussed how it will be different from

2022. The registration form is available on the NAWCC events page and it was also published in the most recent edition of the Mart. Volunteers are still being sought for most every committee. Please consider attending this event (Dalton GA) and assisting as a volunteer. Two areas that can always use help are Registration and Security. Donna K is the Registration Chair and Jeff Whitfield is the Security Chair

Sherry Kitts provided an update on the 2024 National to be held in Chattanooga. She recognized volunteers who are assisting with registration and table sales for the 2024 National and helping to set-up the Mart during the 2023 National in Lancaster. Randy Grunwell was thanked for creating the Mart table layout drawing for a Chattanooga event as he has done for past regionals. Sherry discussed the need to register for a room at the Marriott early; as early as this month, because of the limited size of the block of rooms available. Sherry also announced that Mary Jones will be presenting her "Radium Girls" program at this event. The theme of the 2023 National is "Horological Specialties". The exhibit will be displays from each of the specialty chapters.

Doug Brown announced that he will be a tableholder at the 2023 National and generously offered to take items that members may wish to offer for sale to this event. Please contact Doug to coordinate.

Guest Brian

Walton

Sherry KItts

Prior to presenting his groaner (See page 4), George Waterhouse discussed an article he found in Garden and Guns Magazine about a watchmaker in Nashville named Cameron Weiss. Weiss actually manufactures the entire movement himself. George mentioned that he was named after his grandfather, George Weiss but does not know of a connection. Geoff Parker committed to researching and possibly visiting the Weiss Watch Company in Nashville.

JUNE 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Program

Geoff Parker repeated his 2022 MSR presentation, "Building Your Own Wristwatch". The MSR presentation can be viewed on Youtube. Geoff's empowering premise is that "you don't need to be a watchmaker to assemble a watch!"

The first steps to building a wristwatch are to determine the type and style watch you desire. The three basic movement types are mechanical, automatic self-winding and quartz movements. Styles of watches include skeleton, dress, pilot, diving and sport. He displayed examples of some of these styles which he had assembled or was in the process of assembling.

The next step is to decide the degree of involvement to which you would like to engage the project. Decide how much time, money and work can be committed to your creation. You could go as far as to build the movement and/or case or you can engineer and modify a movement. You can order a custom dial with inscriptions of whatever is desired. You can have a custom rotor made for your movement. Or, you can purchase complete kits. Geoff recommended Esslinger as a good source for kits. Esslinger also offers educational resources and high-quality support. Geoff discussed a project using an Esslinger kit. The basic kit cost \$199 which was further customized with a blue dial (\$40), a cyclops magnifier for the date dial, baton hands (\$8.35) and a complementing band.



Geoff Parker



Finished "Kit" Watch

Geoff viewed the acquisition of tools to be one of the most fun aspects of undertaking a watch assembly project. Necessary tools include a loupe or microscope, a set of jewelers screw drivers, tweezers (recommended sizes are #2, 5 and 11), calipers, pin vises, files, end nippers, hand pressers, movement holders, super or UV glue (for installing cyclops crystals), finger cots (to prevent finger prints on brass) and a ball (for case back removal).

Components including movements, dials, hands, cases and case backs, straps or bracelets and tools are readily available at NAWCC Regionals, through eBay or Etsy or other suppliers.

Geoff detailed the assembly of an Omega Blue Ocean "homage" watch. The watch does not say Omega anywhere and so it is ethical and legal to create a likeness. He used a \$400 swiss Elabore movement with broad arrow style hands, a blue (unlabeled) Omega style dial and a blue leather racing style "Barton" strap.

Finally, Geoff described a "Burlington Bulldog" pocket watch repair project for a friend of his sister. Upon completing the work, he decided to pursue building an example of his own. Geoff assembled what can be considered an original watch from parts he was able to find over the course of a few years and multiple NAWCC events. An Excellent Program Geoff!







Above: Omega Blue Ocean "Homage"

<u>Left</u>: Skeleton "Exhibition' Case back

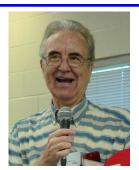
Right: Skeleton Dial

Tuesday Night Clock Group:



Treasurers Report By Gary Walton

The beginning balance for the period was \$17,331.51. Income for the period was \$133.00 from dues and the 50:50 and donations. Expenses totaled \$91.17. The closing balance is \$17,373.34 including \$50 cash on-hand.



Groaners By George Waterhouse

George cited the following Horological quip credited to Woody Allen:

"I'm so proud of my gold pocket watch. I got it from my grandfather who sold it to me when he was on his death bed!"



50:50

George Waterhouse held ticket number 8807 winning the \$35 pot.

Important Note:

Special Thanks to Randy Grunwell and Guest Brian Walton for providing photographs included in these Minutes!