



NAWCC NEWS

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors
Atlanta Chapter 24
February 2, 2025 Minutes

April Meeting

Our next scheduled meeting will start at 9:30 AM on April 6, 2025 at our new venue,

The Gwinnett County Offices 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville

Directions:

From I-85 take Pleasant Hill Road East exit, go approximately 7 miles to Ronald Reagan Parkway (only one way to enter) take second exit Bethesda Church Road turn right, Bethesda Park Senior Center entrance is on the right.

OR

From Lawrenceville Highway (route 29) take Ronald Reagan Parkway East take first exit right to Bethesda Church Road. Bethesda Park Senior Center is on the right.

The Program will be "The Clocks of Abner Jones" presented virtually by Russ Oechsle.

If you cannot attend in-person, join us for the program at about 10:30 using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89034245509?pwd=g12oj4AJ57eSmiF73fjl1YxCJp3XSZ.1>

If Needed: Meeting ID: 890 3424 5509 Passcode: 267261

NAWCC Atlanta Chapter 24 Officers and Directors

Jeff Whitfield	President	jeffery_whitfield1@hotmail.com	(706) 354-8166
Kelly Sims	Vice-President	ksims01@gmail.com	(706)949-0110
Bob Geier	Secretary	bgeier73@gmail.com	(630) 220-9457
Gary Walton	Treasurer	gnc434@hotmail.com	(770) 446-0790
Mary Jones	Past President	maryisabeljones@comcast.net	(770) 939-8856
Mike Dennard	Director 2027	thedutchmd@hotmail.com	(229) 296-4799
Douglas Brown	Director 2026	gallagher.7902@gmail.com	(404) 289-2010
Michael Linz	Director 2025	mr.clock@earthlink.net	(678) 457-5248

NAWCC Atlanta Chapter 24 February 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes



President Jeff Whitfield

Prior to the Meeting, Jae Martin conducted a brief auction

Business Meeting President Jeff Whitfield welcomed thirty four members including three attending virtually, and one guest Bob Ring.

Jeff Whitfield presented groaners provided by and in the absence of George Waterhouse which are found on page 4.

Jeff presented a slide from Anthony Manis detailing who has volunteered to date for participation for the Labor Day Weekend 2025 Mid South Regional. The MSR is being held Dalton again. Please

contact Host Chapter (Knoxville Chapter 42) Co General Chairs Anthony Manis (amanis@rjvequipment.com) or Paul Young (pgyoung2@gmail.com).

Glen Kitts detailed times and locations for several upcoming regional and the 2025 National events.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Gary Walton and is summarized on page 4. Gary also discussed followup actions initiated by the proposal in December to consider investing treasury assets to offset meeting room rental expense. After several more road blocks than anticipated, Gary and Dan successfully invested \$18,000 in a seven month 4% CD.

Dan Butt discussed negotiations with Gwinnet County on the 2025 meeting room contract and the venue switch for the remaining 2025 Chapter Meetings. Dan also displayed pictures of the meeting room and kitchen for the Gwinnett County offices at the Bethesda location and described its advantages. The new venue address is 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville 30044 which will be the location for our April 6 meeting and beyond.

After the Program, Donna invited our membership to attend the annual All Mid-South Chapter Meeting to be held this year at the Gunter'sville State Park on April 5 starting at 10 AM. This meeting has been regularly held at the Henry Horton State Park in Tennessee and so it is now more easy accessible for our Atlanta membership..

Warren Brook forwarded greetings from Henry Neuman in Jensen Beach. Henry says "HI" but bemoans that there is not a clock community nearby.

Show and Tell

Randy presented an interesting skeleton clock puzzle that he received as a gift and successfully assembled. The parts were removed by pressing from laser cut plywood sheets. Among the more interesting features of the design is that it has a separate minute and hour dial to avoid a canon wheel. The shafts have plastic end bearings instead of pivots. A steel mainspring powers the movement and it actually runs for a while after supplied shims enable an even beat. Randy did not either credit or blame the "IKEA style" (pictures with no words) assembly instructions for the resulting three hour assembly time. This "Gearjits" puzzle by Mindware was manufactured in Minnesota .



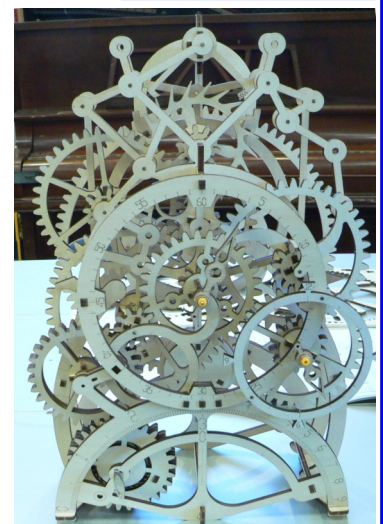
Guest Bob Ring



Dan Butt



Warren Brook



FEBRUARY 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Program

Vice President Kelly Sims introduced guest speaker Graham Morse who presented his program titled "A Tompion Clock Watch".

Program Summary:

The life of Thomas Tompion (1638-1713) of Northill, Bedfordshire, England, and his horological innovations and associations with George Graham, Robert Hooke and with the court of King Charles II, would establish him as the most recognizable name in English horology. Tompion combined sound business and marketing acumen, technical expertise and skill in creative design and employed the best specialist craftsmen to create over 500 clocks and 5,500 watches during his lifetime. He also made turret clocks, barometers, sundials and scientific instruments.

Tompion initiated the earliest numbering sequences known for spring watches starting in about 1675 with Robert Hooke. At one point he employed George Graham who did not apprentice under Tompion. Tompion did however take on 27 apprentices during his business ventures. Graham would eventually marry Tompion's niece Elizabeth and join him in a partnership between 1711 and 1713. Graham would then continue Tompion's numbering system and go on to apprentice Thomas Mudge and William Dutton who would in turn continue Tompion's numbering sequence.

Tompion made some of the first balance spring watches with Robert Hooke in 1675. This association gave Tompion access to the Royal Society. He invented a predecessor of the cylindrical escapement for watches that would be later perfected by George Graham. He also became known for building clocks including the year going regulators for the then new Greenwich Observatory and year going spring clocks with complex striking including the Scott Cumberland Clock.

Graham Morse then described his restoration of an important example of a clock-watch, Tompion's serial number 83 which was built in 1691. This verge clock watch is not a repeater but strikes on the hour as it goes. Over its 300 year life, this watch movement has been subject to several alterations including a later case, dial and hands and several repairs. Graham explained reasoning for reperforming of the repairs to a higher standard while others were untouched and deemed satisfactory. The number 83 is unusual for an English watch in that winding is from the front. The inner case (called a box at the time) is elaborately pierced and engraved to let the sound out. The balance cock, pillars and many other components are also very elaborately engraved.

Tompion was buried in Westminster Abbey in 1713. Later George Graham would be buried along side Thomas in 1751.

The complete presentation, which is too detailed to convey here, can be viewed at the Atlanta Chapter 24 YouTube channel using this link:

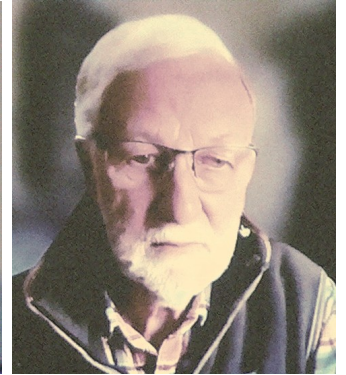
<https://youtu.be/mcBwKCfpKHQ>

This presentation was thoroughly enjoyed and most appreciated by our members.

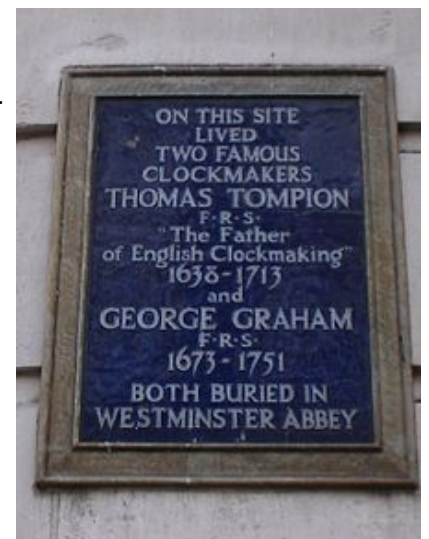
Thank you Graham!



VP Kelly



Graham Morse



FEBRUARY 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday Night Clock Group



FREE! Learn Antique Mechanical Clock Repair

at the
Tuesday Night Clock Group
Most Tuesdays 6 - 8 pm

"We share knowledge, experience, and tools"





Berkmar High School
405 Pleasant Hill Road
Lilburn, GA 30047
Volunteers of NAWCC Chpt. 24

For information, contact:
Randy Grunwell, Coordinator
770-309-3735
nawcc24@gmail.com

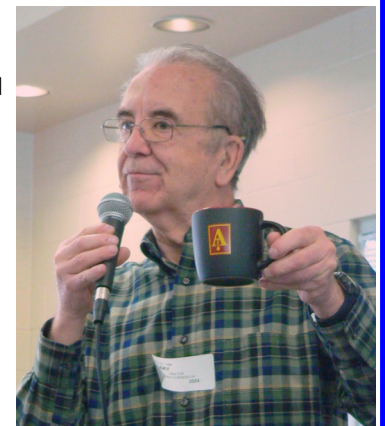


Treasurers Report

By Gary Walton

Gary Walton reported a beginning balance of \$22,462.72. Revenue from the period included \$245 from dues and \$35 from the 50:50 for a total of \$280.

Expenses included Gwinnett County meeting space rental of \$1,722, a refunded damage waiver (\$200), Christmas dinner supplies of \$34.51 and the Liability Insurance Premium of \$515 for a total expenses of \$2071.51. The closing balance was \$20,781.23 including \$2671.21 in checking, \$50 in cash and the CD (\$18,060.02).



Groaners

By George Waterhouse

Why didn't the clock work? Well it just needed a hand

The best time to open a gift is the present.



50:50

Doug Brown held the winning ticket number for the \$35.00 pot.

As a second prize, Kathy Brook donated a Coffee Mug with Todd Porter's Antique American Clocks logo. Gary "modeled" the mug in the Treasurer's Report pic above. Sherry Kitts had the winning ticket

Special Thanks to Randy Grunwell for providing photographs included in these Minutes!