



*Do you love clocks and watches as much as we do? Click to join or renew today.*



## NEWSLETTER

**May 2025**

Education is at the heart of the NAWCC's mission, and April saw a diverse set of events at the Museum and School. We welcomed a local school to an introduction to the world of time, watches, and clocks. With horological subjects barely appearing in the school curriculum, it was great for students to see practical application of physics in clockwork. Our librarian, Thomas, and volunteer guide, Tom, did a great job demonstrating and explaining some of the principles behind pendulums and clockwork.

This week we welcomed Swiss watchmaker extraordinaire, Philippe Narbel, to the School, where he is delivering a one-week master class in watch decoration and finishing. Eleven lucky participants are learning new techniques for hand filing and polishing precise shapes on the structural components of a watch movement. This week is a special one for the School, as it marks the first time when two workshops are running simultaneously. In the micro-machining lab upstairs, eight students will be learning the fundamental machining skills that are critical to successful clock repair.

The NAWCC School of Horology is unique in that it is located on the same campus as the Museum, Library, and Archives. Students are able to step out of the classroom and cross the street to study historical timepieces as well as an abundance of old tools, books, and manuscripts.

Preparation for our [National Convention](#) continues, and we look forward to welcoming visitors to the Museum and School for the open house on Thursday, June 19, before heading to the York Expo Center for the main event. As ever, I hope that you enjoy this newsletter and that you will get back to us with any comments or suggestions.

—Rory McEvoy, Executive Director

# 2025 NAWCC National Convention

June 19-22  
York, Pennsylvania

**Largest Watch & Clock  
Show in America!**

Register at  
[natcon.nawcc.org](http://natcon.nawcc.org)



Presenting Sponsor:



Convention Sponsors:

**BULOVA**



**Jones & Horan**  
Horological Auctions

**PLUMIERO**



## Convention Banquet

June 21 ~ 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.  
Wyndham Garden Hotel ~ York, PA





Keynote Lecture by  
Roger W Smith

**Silent Auction Fundraiser  
at the Banquet**  
Bid for your chance to win unique  
experiences and fabulous  
timepieces!

Seating is limited and tickets are selling fast.  
Visit [natcon.nawcc.org](https://natcon.nawcc.org) to reserve yours today.

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# A NIGHT AT THE WATCH & CLOCK MUSEUM

Dedication of the new  
Bulova exhibit + screening  
of *America Telling Time:  
150 Years of Bulova*

AMERICA TELLING TIME

150 YEARS OF BULOVA



Meet Michael Culyba,  
director of the feature-  
length documentary  
commissioned for Bulova's  
sesquicentennial.

Tour the exhibit with  
Carl Rosen, Bulova  
Historian, and Julie Loftus,  
Bulova Archivist.

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres  
and an evening of  
horological celebration.

**June 20**

**6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m**

National Watch & Clock Museum  
514 Poplar Street, Columbia, PA 17512



RSVP to reserve your spot.  
[natcon.nawcc.org/bulova-film](http://natcon.nawcc.org/bulova-film)

## **This Month in Horological History**

*with Thomas Stocker, Librarian & Archivist*

May 26, 1874

On this day, George P. Reed received US Patent No. 151243 for a mainspring indicator for watches. Reed was a New Hampshire native who made his way to Massachusetts to work for Dennison, Howard, and Davis; Boston Watch Co.; and Howard Watch Co. This patent is one of the 13 he received during his career; others were for a mainspring barrel, watch escapement, and his famous whiplash regulator.

The purpose of Patent No. 151243 was to allow the owner of a watch to view the remaining power of a mainspring. The dial was to be connected directly to



the mainspring or barrel to have the most direct measurement of mainspring power. Reed mentions a previous patent of his for a mainspring (US117055) to show the use of his patents, both old and new. The mainspring barrel arbor was to be extended through the dial plate and affixed with a tooth pinion, which would mesh with the gear upon which the indicator hand was situated. Reed stated at the end of his patent that he was not claiming the combination of an up/down hand with a watch, but rather the interconnected nature of the indicator with the mainspring barrel.



*George Reed pocket watch, ca. 1880, Museum catalog no. 84.83.37.*



*George Reed pocket watch, ca. 1875, Museum catalog no. BS27.410.*

## STEM Day at the Museum

On April 8, the [Museum](#) welcomed 8th grade students from the Columbia Borough School District for a tour and presentation as part of their STEM Day activities. Students learned that the study of timekeeping offers the perfect mix of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for a curious mind.



The month of May brings flowers and a bounty of fresh articles in the May/June 2025 [Watch & Clock Bulletin](#). Here's a sampling:

~"Roger W. Smith, The Watchmaker" by John Cote

~"The Itinerant Clock Tinker" by Damon Di Mauro

~"William Knottesford's Watch: An Early Wandering Hour" by Richard Newman

~"Bushings, Bearings & Friction in Clocks & Watches" by Gnaanavarun Parthiban, David Moline, John Wagner

~"The Patent Vertical Watch & Its Maker" by Luigi Petrucci

~"Mary F. Starr: WW1 Red Cross Ambulance Driver & Her 1918 Waltham Depollier" by Bob Stokes

~Plus Chapter Highlights, puzzles & more!



Join or renew to receive your subscription to the *Bulletin*, the official journal of the NAWCC.

[Membership](#)

### *The Watchmaker's Apprentice*

Click the image to view *The Watchmaker's Apprentice*, a feature-length documentary made in 2015 available on YouTube. It shares the extraordinary stories of George Daniels and his only apprentice, Roger W. Smith.

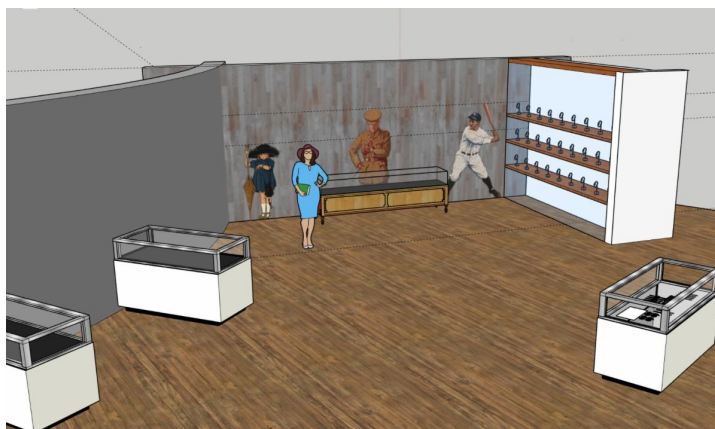
The film traces the paths each man took into watchmaking and their passion to produce timepieces of the highest quality. As Daniels states, "There's nothing more attractive than a good watch. It's historic, intellectual, technical, aesthetic, amusing, useful."



## Wristwatch Gallery



In addition to featuring the Bulova and Hamilton exhibits, the Museum's newest gallery will explore the history of the wristwatch. Objects, photographs, and vintage ads tell the story from its humble beginning as a converted pocket watch to today's powerhouse of form and function. A sneak peak at a draft mock-up of the space is shown here!



## Out with the Old...

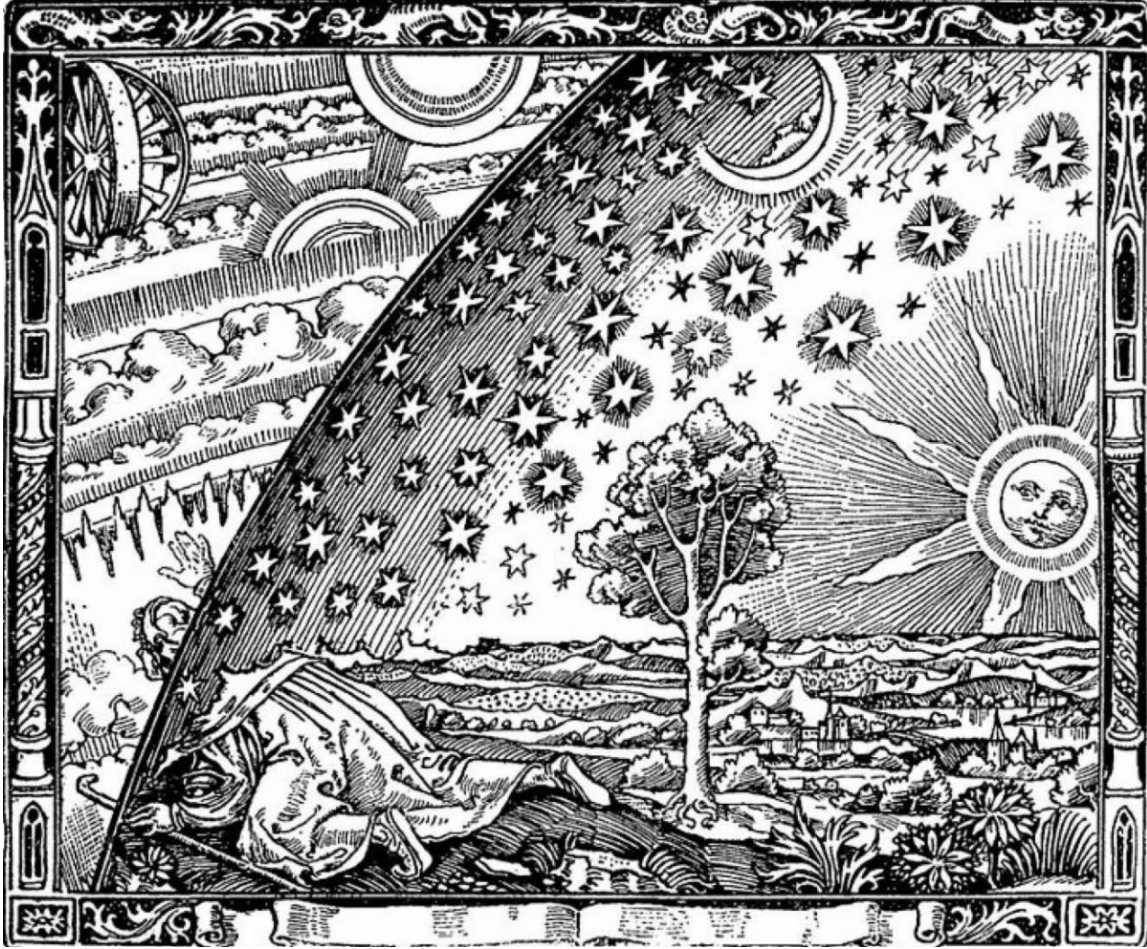
...and in with an improved HVAC system! Work has begun on repairing and updating the equipment that lets us safely preserve our extensive Museum and Library collections and provide a comfortable environment for visitors and staff.



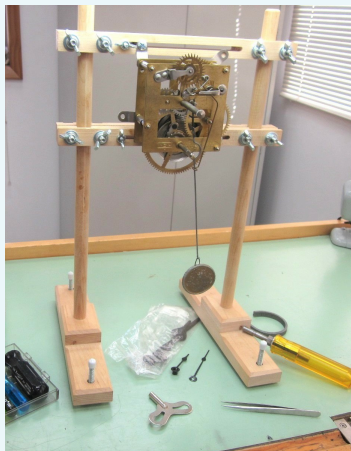


## Second Annual Time & Eternity Poetry Series

[Word Hive's](#) poetry series returns to the Museum on the third Saturday of each month from May through September at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to drop in and enjoy a space for reflecting on the meaning of time in our lives.



### Time to Learn



[Register online](#) for an NAWCC workshop:

#### **School of Horology (Columbia, PA)**

May 2-4, 2025: Foundational Repair Skills I  
*Filled!*

May 17-18, 2025: Introduction to Gilding on  
Clock Tablets

June 18-19, 2025: Introduction to Antique  
Clocks

June 28-29, 2025: WS-120 Using a Micro Mill  
for the Beginner *Filled!*

July 11-13, 2025: The American Wooden Clock Movement

July 21-25, 2025: Mentorship in Clockmaking *Filled!*

#### **Traveling Workshop**

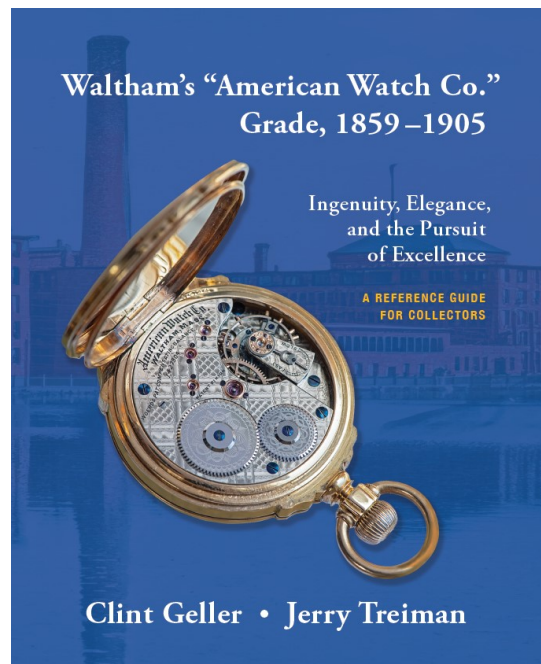
October 23-25, 2025: F201—Lathe Skills for the Clockmaker (Shalimar, FL)



## Now Available!

This new book published by the NAWCC is the ultimate guide to Waltham's American Watch Co. grade. It provides an in-depth exploration of the company's innovations, gambles, and failures. Available in [paperback and hardcover](#).

Check out our selection of books, clothing, gifts, and more at [shop.nawcc.org](http://shop.nawcc.org) or visit the Museum Store in Columbia, PA. NAWCC members receive a 10% discount!



Each month, you will receive more updates and the inside scoop on the latest events, exhibits, classes, and more.

Warm regards,

National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors

Help us share the story of time with everyone.

[Click to Donate Today](#)

NAWCC | 717-684-8261 | [www.nawcc.org](http://www.nawcc.org)



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