

# LOUPES AND TWEEZERS

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY FRED WHITE

We had a successful Fall Seminar with 15 people attending. The rain may have prevented some people from coming but those that attended were treated to three great speakers: Wes Grau CMW21, Deanna Lutz, and David Gorrell.

Wes Grau led off the morning with a presentation on Repairing an Elgin 37/s watch (clock). This time piece was used in automobiles, as travel clocks, and many other applications. He showed the breakdown and assembly of the 37/s, also sharing some of the techniques for repairing the particular time piece he brought for show and tell including replacement of the balance staff - which is a 16/s Elgin pocket watch staff. Waltham also made a 37/s and those in attendance were given a parts handout for this time piece.

Deana Lutz gave a presentation on Marketing Your Shop. She showed us how employing a few key strategies will help your shop to be listed near the top in a web search, the importance of a Google My Business listing and Maps placement, and how to use social media to reach potential customers as well as how it impacts that all-important search engine ranking. She was very informative and we had a lot of questions for her!

David Gorrell gave an interesting program on Finding Longitude, an overview of the difficulties that John Harrison experienced as he went built and improved upon several chronometers. Dave opened with the question "Where are You" then proceeded to give our Longitude and Latitude to the exact location where we were. This would never have been possible without Harrison's chronometer and its predecessors. Prior to the early 1700s, ships at sea had no idea where they were so the British Parliament offered a prize for anyone who could develop an accurate device. A carpenter by trade, the story of Harrison's four clocks is full of drama and in the end he received a generous compensation but not all that he felt he was owed.

Thanks to these fine speakers, it made a rainy day much more pleasant!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Please welcome our new members Deanna Lutz and Noah Kline! In fact, Deanna has stepped up to apply her skills as the next editor of the Loops and Tweezers. Many thanks to Deanna for filling that position and she already has some good ideas for updating our publication.

While planning is underway for our next convention, we are still in need of a volunteer to chair the effort. Please consider helping HAV in this capacity.

Before we closed the fall seminar, it was my honor to present Joe Jabour with a plaque for his service as past president of HAV. We are forever grateful for Joe's many contributions. A reminder to all that our next Board meeting is Nov 8th at 7pm. A zoom link will be sent out to the Board in advance of the meeting.

Thank you again to all for helping to make the HAV Fall Seminar a success and looking forward to sending you regular editions of the Loupes and Tweezers!

*Fred*

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# HAV FALL SEMINAR RECAP

BY BILLY BEST

Fall was in the air - hurricanes were in the air as well. That didn't deter the watch & clock technicians from hitting the road to Charlottesville. I hadn't been to a workshop in a year. When the announcement was sent out on this location, I decided to make the trip for a day of interesting subjects and programs.

Our seminar was held at the Ivy Creek Nature Center. This is also where we have our Board of Director's meetings. It is easy to find and is a very good environment in which to get things done. If learning new things is what is to be done, the nature center at Ivy Creek is the place!

There were three speakers scheduled for this seminar, Wes Grau, from Cornerstone Service in Illinois, Deanna Lutz from Southern Maryland Clock Repair, and Dave Gorrell of Millersville Clock Shop who put together an illustrated program on the trials of John Harrison, building his ships clocks - it was with these ship chronometers that England began to rule the seas.

First up was an illustrated talk from Wes about servicing an automobile clock manufactured by Elgin. It was a 37 size twin barrel model that would run 8 days with winding. It was shipped to Wes just to service it, but when he started to dismantle it for cleaning, he discovered it needed a new balance staff. Someone must have dropped it. So the program became how to change a balance staff properly. Nothing at all earthshaking, but it generated plenty of feedback from the watchmakers. It always does. My thoughts ranged from "Oh, I do that" " to "Oh, wow I must try that. "This is the basis of our kind of continuing education; finding ways to do our jobs better and in less time. I found it interesting even though I have done that same job on 16 size watches countless times.

The second speaker Deanna Lutz, was exciting and innovative because she spoke about the digital aspect of our work. She showed us how to ensure the name of your business comes up first when you do a computer search, as well as how to include your shop's location on a Google map. The use of key words on your website is one of the secrets to have your repair facility to come up on a web search.

The last speaker was the most colorful, with illustrations of Mr. Harrison's inventions including clips of his first chronometers demonstrating the pendulums connected with springs which kept them running onboard a rolling ship. Back then latitudes were relatively easy to navigate because they were equidistance all around the globe. Latitudes are more complex because they converge at the north and south poles. To navigate longitude the captain had to follow a compass heading and sail a certain amount of time so the timekeeping aspects had to be very accurate. Being just a few seconds off per hour would cause the vessel to miss its destination completely; and possibly wreck the ship and drown the crews.

## HAV FALL SEMINAR CONTINUED

Dealing with the British Admiralty was a job in itself. A prize was offered for an accurate timepiece and Harrison rose to the challenge. None of his early mechanisms impressed the Admiralty at all. He was instructed to go back to his shop and build more because the thought of his chronometers working to get the ships across longitudes was impossible for them to fathom.

Only when ships equipped with the fourth model, the H4, made a few flawless trips to Jamaica that he was able to convince the admiralty – and yet he still did not receive the prizes! With the successful voyages done, these clocks were ordered and ships from England began to travel to the south seas and Asia, starting the Empire on which the sun would never set.

A board of directors meeting was held between speakers and went well, planning the next continuing education events for our upcoming convention in 2023. The day ran long but was wildly successful and I was glad I attended. It was good to see and talk with my fellow watchmakers and clock makers. We need these events to reinvigorate the work we do.

# BUTTERWORTH'S CLOCKS ACQUIRES NORTH AMERICAN DISTRIBUTION RIGHTS TO ETSYNTHA OF AMERICA

We are delighted to announce that Butterworth Clocks, Inc has acquired North American distribution rights to Etsyntha of America. George Winn and his wife Monica decided it was time to retire and I am truly thankful that they and the parent company in Germany has given us this opportunity. We are stocking the full line of Dr. Tillwich products in our Iowa warehouse and look forward to serving you.

I would like to invite my good friends to sign up for my blog on groups.io. It is free and has weekly information on the latest factory news as well as my repair tips. If interested simply email me at the address to the right.

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WE HOPE THIS ISSUE BRINGS  
VALUE TO YOU.

PLEASE DIRECT COMMENTS AND  
CORRECTIONS TO THE EDITOR.

# KOMPUTER KORNER

BY STAN PALEN

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Have you been scammed yet? Scammers are getting better and better. They can copy the logos and other text from the real websites and then use them to trick you. To be safe, always check take a moment to hover over an icon or link to see what the link really is. When you hover over it, the address will show up at the lower left corner of your browser. All it takes is a slight change like an extra space to make a

link to their scam page that will also look legitimate so really scrutinize it. If the scammer is particularly crafty, just going to that bogus page can get you into trouble. If you are ordering something and have to enter your credit card information or other personal information such as a social security number, be extra sure the page is legitimate.

I am pretty careful, but I got scammed. I was trying to update my Adblock account and it seemingly did not go through. It actually did, but not the way I wanted it to. The credit card company blocked the bogus charges, but did not notify me. By happenstance, I had to call the credit card company about some charges from a hotel where they were supposed to credit me if I did not use any extras: \$20 times 4. Since my account had been flagged, my call to the company went directly to the fraud department. They were quick to help me with my problem, but now I need to have a new card.

If you leave your computer on all the time, you should restart it at least once a week. It seems to stop odd behavior. The same for your phone. I do not do it often enough myself. My Waze sometimes seems to get lost occasionally and rebooting my phone fixes it. But sometimes I have to restart the car, too.

Microsoft is doing the distribution of Windows 11 differently. After the initial version, they are sending out additional upgrades that are significant for the rest of this year and on into 2023. Previous upgrades were mostly bug fixes and security improvements.

As usual I am reminding folks to back up their systems. I have had 2 laptops die on me recently so thankfully, I had back ups for both. The hard drives are still good, so used a USB hard drive connection to be sure I had all the data I needed but I had to buy a new USB interface to the SSD hard drives. Now I can safely recycle the laptops. I sometimes get a hard drive enclosure to make them an extra external drive. It is easy to do and they are not very expensive. New computers come with Windows 11 which is a big change but I am trying to get used to it. My main desktop is still Windows 10. One of these days I will have to upgrade that one.

HINTS, HELPS,  
SUGGESTIONS  
AND NEWS  
FOR IBM  
COMPATIBLE  
COMPUTERS.



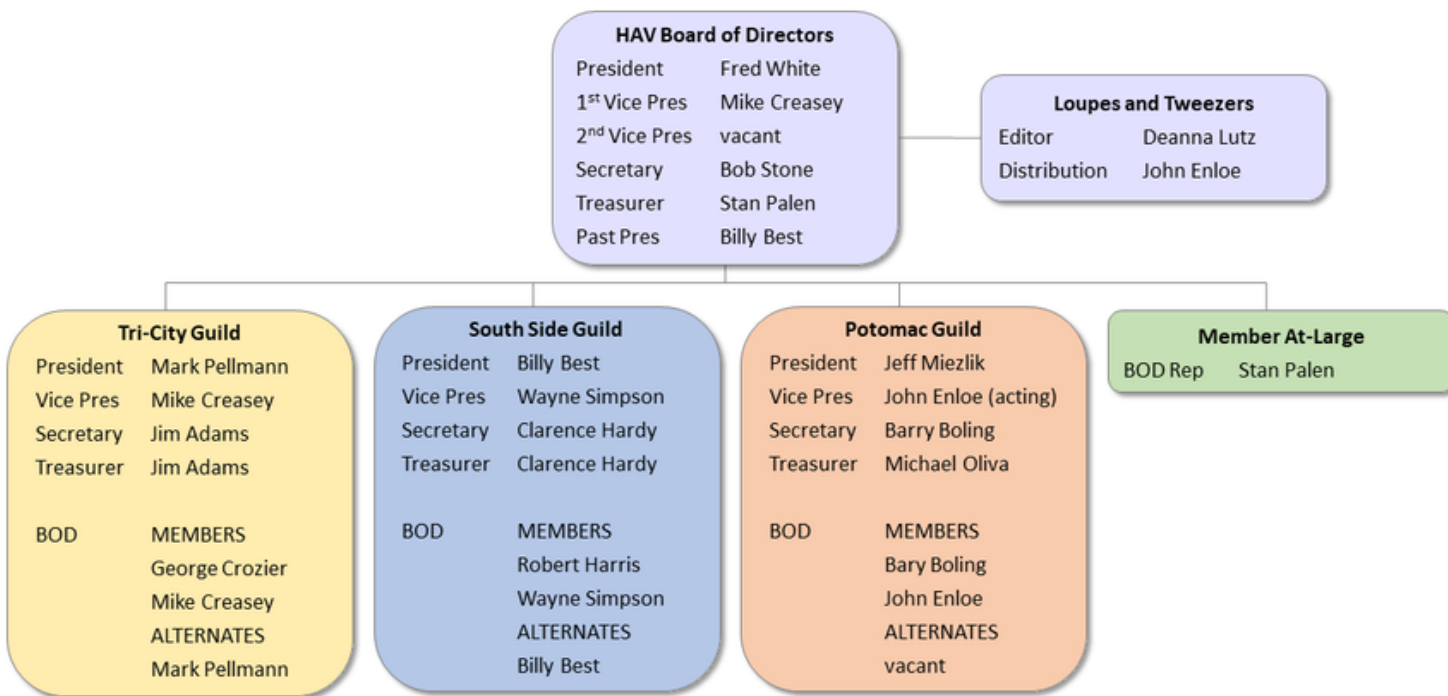
KOMPUTER KORNER CONTINUED

I use the DuckDuckGo search engine extension for Chrome. It does quite a bit to protect you from folks tracking you and adds encryption both ways. I just added it to Microsoft Edge. Go to DuckDuckGo.com using the browser of your choice and it will give you instructions for installation. Lots of folks recommend it and I do to.

I am searching the Internet quite a bit to see how to do things. Last week was how to find and change the cabin air filter. I am very handy with most things, but looking at a video speeds up the process. It also lowers the possibility of making expensive errors. You may need to experiment with wording of the search to get the right answer.

If you have questions about computers, I may be able to help you. Please reach out!

## HAV ORGANIZATION



## LOUPES AND TWEEZERS PUBLICATION AND SUBMISSION DATES

After a year-long pause, Loupes and Tweezers, the newsletter of the Horological Association of Virginia, is being revived! It is our hope that it will be published regularly with some leeway around life and events to meet a quarterly schedule. **Targeted publication dates are 1 November, 1 February, 1 May, and 1 August.** Please send articles of interest and photos to [Deanna.Lutz@gmail.com](mailto:Deanna.Lutz@gmail.com) no later than the 25th of the month prior to publication to be included in the next edition. Thank you!

# HAV PRESIDENT'S AWARD PRESENTED TO RONNIE C. SPIGGLE

With the temporary suspension of the Loupes and Tweezers, we didn't have the opportunity to share how proud we are to have presented the 2020 President's Award to Ronald (Ronnie) C. Spiggle. Ronnie has contributed so much to the success of HAV, and has been a fixture and good friend to all our members. It is not insignificant that Ronnie was the Mayor of the Town of Appomattox, Virginia. He is a great patriot and is also quite entertaining!



Graciously volunteering to run our annual auction held in conjunction with our convention for many years, Ronnie is great auctioneer! Through his efforts, he helped raise money from the sale of our members horological "stuff", benefiting both our members and the HAV. His auction was always the highlight of our annual convention.

In April of 2006, Ronnie was made an Honorary Member of HAV, a well deserved honor.

We thank Ronnie, once again, for his many years of service to the HAV and to all our members.

WAYNE  
SIMPSON  
PRESENTING  
AWARD TO  
RONNIE  
SPRIGGLE

To the President, Board,  
and Membership of HAV  
I am humbled for receiving  
the HAV Presidential  
Award for 2022. The award  
was totally unexpected. I am  
Extremely grateful for the  
friendship I have made during  
the year with HAV and will  
treasure this for my lifetime.  
HAV is truly a great  
organization of incredibly  
talented people. I thank you  
for the honor you have  
bestowed on me. →

July 18, 2022

More than  
"thank you"  
could ever say—  
your thoughtfulness  
is appreciated.

Ronnie Spiggle

May HAV continue to be the  
great organization I have come to  
know and appreciate.

RONNIE'S THANK YOU MESSAGE

The **Horological Association of Virginia, HAV**, welcomes all with an interest in clocks and/or watches, whether as a collector, clock or watchmaker, craftsman, enthusiast or just as a casual visitor. Comprised of three Guilds located throughout the state, the scope of HAV has expanded with the purpose of offering education to its members in the latest techniques, up to date technology, and the prompting of fair trade practices.

The following is a brief summary of the many` things HAV is actively doing for each of its members:

- Technical Seminars
- Annual Convention
- Loupes and Tweezers Newsletter
- Magazine Subscriptions at Reduced Prices
- Membership Certificate and Lapel Pin
- National Publicity Affiliation with the American Watchmakers-Clockmakers Institute.

Please share this newsletter with a friend and invite them to visit our website at [havhome.org](http://havhome.org) for more details on how to become a member.

## **HOROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA**

c/o John Enloe

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