



Tick Talk - Chapter #33 N.A.W.C.C.

April 2026

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TORONTO CHAPTER OF NAWCC

MEETINGS ARE AT The Neilson Park Creative Centre

56 Neilson Drive in Etobicoke

President's Message



Hi Folks

At the outset, I have to say that our meeting in March was outstanding! Thanks to everyone who attended. We had 70 members and a record 30 guests who actively participated in the mart. Not only that, but there was a standing room only crowd in attendance for the super presentation on casework that Lothar Lauer made.

A huge thank you to Russ Smith for putting together a remarkable display and to Lothar for bringing along examples of his craftsmanship as well as sharing his knowledge with us. I would be remiss if I didn't thank Doug Thomson and Emile Cocirla for their efforts at the front desk and for their attendance at the antique show that serves as a great outreach for the Chapter.

Talking of outreach, many of the guests at our meeting have come because folks have found our presence on the Internet. Our webpage is very well organized and the information on it is very clearly presented thanks to Emil Cocirla and Alex Kung. We have learned that people have found out about us through the links provided by Ryan Linds on his webpage.

If you have a webpage, please include links to the Chapter webpage so that more people can find out about us.

Our next meeting, on May 3, is our annual Invitational meeting where people from across the province, and neighbouring jurisdictions attend.

It is our largest meeting of the year and the only meeting for which we charge admission and vendor tables. This year, admission is \$25 and each table can be rented for \$30. Information about this can be found elsewhere in the Tick Talk but if you want a table be sure to arrange with Ben Orszulak because we only have a limited number and they are snapped up quickly.

I erred in the last President's message because this year we are not having a silent auction.

As I said in that message, our guest speaker will be Dave Richardson from Rochester, New York who will be presenting an illustrated talk on French Clock Movement Restoration. Dave is a NAWCC Fellow and a master clock repairman with extensive experience on these beautiful clocks.

Our display will be of French Clocks so please share with us examples in your possession. To do so, you don't have to bring in the timepiece for, as you know, Russ Smith can take pictures that you send him and add them to our display. To participate, please contact Russ.

This year we are going to try something new. For a door prize, members of the executive will be wandering the Mart. They will purchase from one of the vendors, fairly early in the meeting, an item of value which will be the door prize. The item will be on view for all to see during the meeting and the draw for it will take place just after the 50/50 draw so be sure to stay.

Cheers,
Bob



50/50 winner Roy Budd



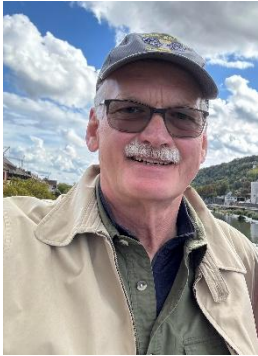
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We are thrilled to welcome Dave Richardson as guest speaker at our May Invitational. Dave will be presenting a very educational guided tour of techniques and approaches to the restoration of French clock movements. These are regarded as some of the best made pieces and Dave brings us an amazing wealth of knowledge gleaned over many years of hands-on experience. His presentation will include discussions on many aspects of movement restoration that will be of interest to both seasoned repair people and those with little or no experience. This is an opportunity to learn that is not readily available outside of NAWCC and we encourage all to attend.

A bit about Dave: Dave has a long-time interest in antique clocks of all kinds. He is an NAWCC Fellow and a 50-year member of the NAWCC. He wears several horology hats including the General Chair for the NAWCC Eastern States Regional (ESR) and the curator at the Hoffman Clock Museum in Newark, NY. He is a member of NAWCC Chapter 13 - Western NY, Chapter 78 - Electrical Horology Society, Chapter 168 - International 400-Day Clock Chapter, Chapter 178 - Horological Tools and Chapter 194 - COG Counters. Dave has an MPH in Toxicology from the University of Michigan and worked at Eastman Kodak Company for over 30 years as a toxicologist.

FOR OUR MARCH MEMBER DISPLAY PLEASE BRING YOUR FRENCH CLOCK OR TIMEPIECE OR CONTACT RUSS SMITH WITH A PHOTO

Meeting Agenda Sunday May 3

- 11:30 Dealer setup
- 12:00 NOON Mart and Silent Auction opens
- 1:15 Silent Auction closes
- 1:20 50/50 Draw / Member Display
- 1:30 French Clock Movement Restoration by Dave Richardson
- 4:00 Meeting closes

Upcoming

Chapter 33 Meeting Dates

- Sunday May 3, 2026
- Sunday September 20, 2026
- Sunday November 15, 2026



A message from Bob Pritzker

Many of our guests have mentioned that they are enjoying the mart and the ability to interact with so many vendors and enthusiasts. What you may not realize is that the National organization, of which we are a chapter, holds many much larger events called Regional meetings. Our Chapter is a co-host of the Eastern States Regional that is being held in August this year in Cortland, N.Y. The mart at this Regional is much larger than our mart as the picture clearly shows. There are many more vendors and enthusiasts.

You can learn more about the Regional by visiting the website: [NAWCC Eastern States Regional](#)



Similarly, once a year the National Association holds an Annual Convention. This year, it is in Lexington Kentucky in June. Please visit the website at: [2026 National Convention](#). This event is typically attended by close to 1000 people and consequently the mart, lectures, Chapter meetings and all round good times are much greater than those offered by just local chapters like ours. Please plan on attending one or more of these large meetings. You won't be disappointed.

AND... make sure you come out to our Invitational meeting on May 3.

It is going to be fantastic.



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TORONTO CHAPTER #33 INVITATIONAL REGISTRATION FORM

Sunday May 3rd 2026

2026 Toronto Chapter #33 May Invitational
Neilson Park Creative Centre
56 Neilson Drive in Etobicoke Ontario, M9C 1V7
Registration Form

Name: _____ NAWCC #: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Spouse/Guest Names:

Mart Admission	Quantity	Price
Registration		\$25.00
Mart Table		\$30.00
	GRAND TOTAL	

Make Cheque Payable to: NAWCC Chapter 33

Mail to: Ben Orszulak 88 Dorchester Dr. Grimsby, ON L3M 1A8

Phone: 905-309-3255 Cell: 647-381-2246 email: ben.orszulak@gmail.com

Mart tables are available through pre-registration at \$30 per table. Please send your form with payment before the cut-off date of April 20 to Ben Orzulak

You can also contact Ben directly, contact details on the registration form.

If you have any questions, please contact us at Chapter33toronto@gmail.com



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A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM OTTAWA CHAPTER 111

The Ottawa Valley Watch and Clock Collectors Club, Chapter 111 cordially invites you to attend.

"Coffee Clutch " with some of the Ottawa chapter folks. This is a meeting by Zoom with members from other clubs chatting, discussing, and sharing ideas and your success or frustration with work on clocks or watches. It's conducted in a friendly format and people find it very satisfying and helpful. It was initiated by Ottawa executives a while back and it's showing to be very popular.

The meetings are coordinated by Paul Sonnichsen who serves as Secretary of the Ottawa chapter.

It starts at noon every Tuesday and is only for one hour. Please give it a try. You may actually enjoy it and learn a thing or two.

If you would like to join the Zoom Meeting, here are the coordinates:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87474802762?pwd=Bfz56hUAGtJsVuqINs5XETisfaLYOZ.1>

CHAPTER 33 E-TRANSFER NOW AVAILABLE

Chapter 33 members are now able to pay membership dues through the convenience of e-transfer.

This is a payment method many members have asked for and we are happy to announce that you can now pay your membership dues by sending payment to chapter33.nawcc@gmail.com.

We want to thank Bill Keel for working to set this up and hope you can take advantage of this when renewing your membership.

CHAPTER 33 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you haven't done so, we encourage members to renew their membership by paying your 2026 dues.

Membership dues cover a full calendar year January to December.

Payment options are:

- e-transfer by sending to chapter33.nawcc@gmail.com .Please include your name, email address and phone number in the comments section of the e-transfer.
- In person at a Chapter 33 meeting
- Mail a cheque payable to Chapter 33 Toronto

For payment by mail,
please send your payment for \$35.00 (Canadian dollars) to:

EMIL COCIRLA
3253 FOLKWAY DR.
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO
L5L 2A1

Please make cheques payable to: NAWCC CHAPTER 33





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Our March Mart

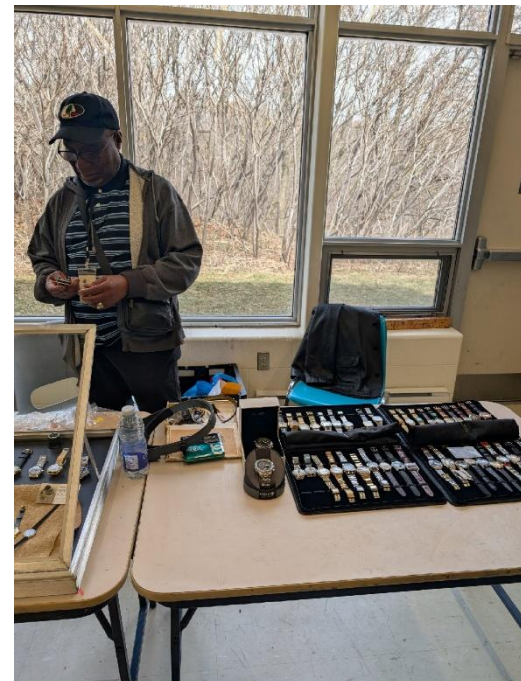




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Re-casing Pocket Watch Movements By Lothar Lauer

Our March meeting featured an amazing presentation by Lothar who spends much of his time these days breathing new life into time through the art of converting antique pocket watch movements into wristwatches

At this presentation, attendees were treated to a fascinating look into the meticulous craft of transforming antique pocket watch movements into fully functional wristwatches. Lothar, a skilled horology enthusiast and artisan, shared both the inspiration behind this unique practice and the technical precision required to execute it successfully. Blending history with innovation, this work preserves the legacy of vintage timepieces while adapting them for modern wear.

The Art of Conversion

Pocket watch conversion is more than a simple redesign—it is a careful balance between preservation and adaptation. Antique pocket watches often feature beautifully engineered mechanical movements that, despite their age, remain reliable and accurate. Rather than allowing these intricate mechanisms to sit unused, Lothar repurposes them into

wristwatches, giving them a new life on the wrist.

The process involves designing and fabricating custom cases that can house movements never originally intended for wrist use. This requires not only a deep understanding of watchmaking but also advanced machining skills. Each conversion must account for size, alignment, durability, and wearability. The result is a distinctive timepiece that carries both historical significance and contemporary appeal.

These conversions are especially valued for their uniqueness—no two watches are exactly alike. Each one tells a story, preserving the craftsmanship of a bygone era while showcasing the ingenuity of modern techniques.



Lothar explaining a conversion of a pocket watch movement into a desk clock

Notes from the Presentation

Lothar provided insight into the evolution of their methods and the technical challenges involved:

- Early cases were originally made from aluminum but have since been upgraded to stainless steel for improved durability and finish.



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- Pocket watch movements are self-sourced and prepared by Lothar, while some wristwatch components are externally acquired.
- Key components such as crowns, bezels, and winding stems are custom-made to ensure proper fit and functionality.
- All case backs feature exhibition glass, allowing the intricate movement to remain visible.
- Many movements come from Gold-cased pocket watches which are sometimes used primarily to recover the gold.
- Certain watches require specially designed crowns to properly integrate with lugs and straps.
- In some cases, aluminum spacer rings must be fabricated to securely fit the movement within the case.
- The work relies on high-quality tools and precision lathes.
- The process demands extremely tight tolerances, reflecting the precision nature of horology.
- Case backs are typically friction-fit rather than screwed.
- Many original dials cannot be rotated to reposition the crown at the standard 3 o'clock position, presenting additional design constraints resulting in the crown positioned between the lugs.

This presentation offered a compelling glimpse into a niche yet deeply rewarding craft. By merging antique movements with modern design, the presenter not only preserves history but also reimagines it—one watch at a time.

Below is a selection of Lothar's wonderful conversions





Classifieds

WANTED: Pequegnat 15-Day Double Spring Time Only movement with cast iron bracket, to fit Moncton or Regina wall clocks. Will buy with or without pendulum, hands, etc.

Contact: Jeff Crouch Text or call 705-888-5597 or email jcrouch@rogers.com

For Sale: Stark lathe made for Waltham clock and watch factory.

Included with the lathe are a three jaw chuck, ten collets, a drill chuck on the tall stock, and a dial inductor. The compound motor is variable speed with reverse speed. Mounted on a 2in hard wood table. (Photos below) Asking \$1400.00

For info, please call Joe Romano at 905 736 4525

Email trespade@hotmail.com

Buying: Watches and Clock Collections. Large electric master clocks and parts wanted. Watchmakers tools.

Contact: Harold Steurer 905 450 6211
haroldsteurer@rogers.com

WANTED: Watchmakers tools: lathes, watch cleaning machines, Jeweling sets, staking sets etc. Also looking for Clock repair tools

Contact: Rudy Bonilla 905-348-1621
rbonilla@sympatico.ca

Buying and Selling: Affordable vintage watches and pocket watches.

Ryan Lynds- Georgetown

littlekingwatches.com 905-515-8612

Something to add? Contact us at:
Chapter33toronto@gmail.com





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Member Services

We are often approached by folks looking for someone who can help them fix a watch or a clock they have. At Chapter 33, we have a lot of talented folks who may be able to help you out.

Do you provide a service? Buy or Sell? Drop us a note at Chapter33toronto@gmail.com and tell us about it. We'll feature your ad in the Newsletter as well as our club Internet site: www.TorontoChapter33.ca

Service Your Watch or Clock

John Rocha - Cambridge ON

joaorocha73@yahoo.com

519-620-3723

Rob Poolman – Hamilton/Grimsby

robsantiqueclocks@bell.net 905-407-0360

Clock repair instruction

Ron Metcalfe - Brampton ON

rmetcalfe1048@rogers.com

Halmo Jewelers

Mark & Cheryl Halmo –

Watchmakers/Gemologists

140 Queensway E. Simcoe ON N3Y 4Y7

PH: 519-426-3948 FAX: 519-426-2582

Mechanical and quartz watch repair with many vintage parts in stock. Clock parts including Hermle and some cuckoo clock parts.

www.halmojewellers.com

Glass Tablet Restoration/Reproduction

Dennis Burgin - Oakville ON

dennis.burgin@sympatico.ca

Glass Cutting/Bevelled Glass

Ben Orszulak - Grimsby ON

ben.orszulak@gmail.com

Roman Dial Restoration/Repainting

Dennis Burgin - Oakville ON

dennis.burgin@sympatico.ca

Gear Cutting and Precision Machining

Ben Orszulak - Grimsby ON

ben.orszulak@gmail.com



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Our meeting location is now at the Nelson Park Creative Centre.

The meetings will be held from 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM

The Centre is located at 56 Neilson Drive in Etobicoke close to HWY 427 & the Gardiner Expressway QEW





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NAWCC TORONTO CHAPTER 33
IS PLEASED TO BE AT THE SUNDAY
ANTIQUÉ MARKET
PLEASE LOOK FOR US

416 410-1310 | info@sundayantiquemarket.com

HOME ABOUT US NEW LOCATION WHAT YOU CAN FIND CONTACT & VENDOR INQUIRIES STAY IN TOUCH!

THE SUNDAY ANTIQUE MARKET

(Formerly at St. Lawrence Market)

Next Show: Sun. April 19, 2026

At the SMALL ARMS INSPECTION BUILDING
1352 Lakeshore Rd E, Mississauga, ON L5E 1E9
SHOW HOURS: 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.
FREE Admission and Parking!

UPCOMING SHOWS 2026
At the SMALL ARMS INSPECTION BUILDING:
9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m
November 1, 2026 | November 15, 2026 | November 29, 2026