

New England Wood Carvers June Meeting

Hi-lights: **Changing of the Presidents, Awards and Buffet Lunch**

Sunday, June 5th, 2005

Time: 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Held at the Middlesex Community College, off Rt. 3 in Concord, MA

General Attendance: at its max, about 65 people

Workshops included:

Ken Campbell: On hand, with samples of his fish carvings, offering instruction, ideas and knowledge of fish carving techniques

Edsel Johnson & Gary Filiault: Caricature carving on the corner of wood train whistle. Examples and ideas on carving other comical caricature face(s) were available for reference and study. Examples provided included solid blocks with faces carved on them, as well as a few train whistles with caricature faces carved into them.

Raffle Table:

Handled by: Ken Brannock

Money raised: \$???.00

Donated Items: Books, cutout shapes and miscellaneous wood pieces.

Show and Tell Table:

Ken Campbell: Bass Fish Carving

Larry (Lawrence Louis) Simes: Free-form Sculptures, and exotic wood pieces

Refreshments Table:

Joe Olson: Fresh coffee and donuts and other items were available, with a donations collection on an honor system, and was available throughout the meeting.

Vendors:

Carvers Plus: Lorne and Maria LaGoy were on hand selling many items from their catalog, including tools, wood cut-outs, knives and much more.

Connecticut Valley Woodcarving: Warren Blessing Jr. displayed dozens of excellent books for sale, and also some wood-working tools and supplies as well.

Morning Minutes:

9:00a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Room: Roger Melansen oversaw the set up of the lunch room, including a large buffet, awards ceremony and guest speaker. Tables were neatly arranged, with tablecloths, fresh cut flowers, and a special meeting program distributed to each place setting. The lunch room was set up by Roger Melansen, Bill Gray, Yvette Holladay and others on hand. Paul Ward made a special token for each buffet attendee. He crafted a small wooden mailbox with a special note he wrote about NEWC that he tucked inside. A special Buffet table was catered, with lunch items and beverages, for the 1:00 sit down meeting. This was all set up during the 9-12 morning carving and raffle session.

Carving/Raffle Room: A good crowd showed up for this memorable day. Most of the morning was sit-down carving groups. Coffee, donuts and goodies were available for those interested. Ken Brannock sold raffle tickets for the late morning raffle. The raffle fun began at 11:40, with all who purchased tickets checking their number to see if they could select an item from the raffle table. A special Guest Book was passed around for present at this meeting to sign. Rip Stangroom had a membership table for people to join or renew dues, and he was selling NEWC mugs at a discounted price.

Meeting and Speaker:

At noon, a large catered buffet table was available to all, with some free time to sit and enjoy the food and chat with members. At about 1:00, Joe Olsen took the podium and discussed the current Board members who will be leaving, and our appreciation to them, and the new members coming onto the board. A vote was passed, all in favor, of the new President: Roger Melansen, Vice President: M. Paul Ward, Secretary: Yvette Holladay, Treasurer: Leo Lambert, and Membership Secretary: Rip Stangroom.

Joe Olsen presents to Roger Melansen the gavel and expresses his appreciation for his position as president. Roger thanks Maria and Lorne LaGoy, M. Paul Ward, Rip Stangroom and others for helping him understand the NEWC organization.

1:00 Roger started the Awards Ceremony. He presented a bouquet of fresh flowers to Ruth Olsen, our past NEWC President's wife. Rip Stangroom stepped up to speak of the NEWC 40th year anniversary this year, about membership, and detailed some history of the membership, noting the earliest records of NEWC which date back to 1969.

Joe Olsen continued the awards with a recognition certificate for Rip Stangroom, for his 31 exemplary years as editor and publisher of the NEWC newsletter. Then he presented to Phyllis Miele a certificate of appreciation and fresh flowers for her 11 years of 'Chips of History' and 'Pequossette Ponderings' which she wrote.

Norma Raymond was presented with a special turned vase with silk flowers, and a plaque for her 30 years of outstanding service as Treasurer for NEWC.

Paul Ward presented to the 'Current Ex-President' Joe Olsen, a plaque stating our appreciation for his outstanding commitment as longest serving president 1998-2005.

Rip Stangroom presented certificates for 25 and 30 year members.

Carver of the year, presented by M. Paul Ward, was awarded to Joe Olsen, for countless reasons, and he gave special thanks to his wife, Ruth, for being understanding to his position as President of NEWC for so many years.

Paul Ward took a few moments to read his special message that he wrote for each attending member.

Guest Speaker:

Ingrid Brown

Ingrid prepared a special slide show about the **Birds of Vermont Museum** in Huntington, VT. This is a unique natural history museum of bird carvings. On display are more than 450 carvings completed by Bob Spear, one of Vermont's leading naturalists and woodcarvers. During the slide show, Ingrid explained the materials and techniques in which Bob Spear would use to create his life-like sculptures. She brought a few examples of his work, including a Cardinal, and some butterflies on a Lilac bush. Brochures were available, and the presentation ended with some questions and answers. The Birds of Vermont Museum website is www.birdsofvermont.org

2:15 The meeting was adjourned, and the remaining members packed up their belongings and went about their day.

These NEWC Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Yvette Holladay - Secretary
06/10/05