

The Spirit of Wood

January-February 2007
Newsletter

New England Woodcarvers, Inc.

NEWC Meeting Sunday February 4th, 2007

Middlesex Community College
Bldg. 8, park in Lot D, Bedford, MA

Carvers arriving after 9 a.m. will be able to enter the hall. Workshops will include any carver who wishes to set one up as well as the following sessions by the carvers who notified us of their intentions to lead a group:

Chet Blay will lead a group to carve a thumb designed thumb tack. An easy project for any carver.

Ed Johnson and Gary Filiault will do a Valentine holiday spoon, and Bob Landry to do a Lilly Pin ... original projects for willing participants.

Kris Gillis has planned a project to introduce carvers to the world of carving with a gouge. Those willing to participate should bring their own vise and gouges. Subject will be a fish similar to the one pictured. (...continued page 3)

Intro. to gouges
workshop
with Kris Gillis
See Pg. 3



Father of the Bride Pattern

By
Rip
Stangroom
See page 9



Whimmey Diddle
by M. Paul Ward page 5



Gary Filiault
and
Edsel Johnson's
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Upcoming
NEWC Meetings 2007
Middlesex Community College
Springs Road, Bedford, MA

Executive Board Meetings
(Trustee's House, Bldg. #4)
Sat., March 24th, 9:00am

General Meeting
(Campus Center, Building # 8)
Sunday, April 1st, 9:00am
Sunday, June 3rd, 9:00am

Spirit of Wood SHOW
Planning Committee
(Trustee's House, Bldg. #4)
Saturday, March 3rd, 9:00am

President's Message

First of all, the Executive Board would like to wish you a happy new year! We have come a long ways in the past nearly two years but there's so much more to do. So hang on, because we will do our best to make 2007 an exciting year.

Many of our goals have been realized. Some wait on the sidelines. While others plod along at a snails pace because the present group of officers are overloaded with work. The New England Woodcarvers Association is a great organization with a tremendous potential to make it so much

better for all of its members. We can raise the bar another notch providing a few volunteers come forward to fill the several important vacancies that have existed for too long. Our ranks are graying, but I believe there are enough energetic members who can make a positive difference in the quality and range of service that we offer. Filling one of the open positions is not just putting in time to do a task. It is an approach to honing your present skills or building new ones. It is a way to enhance your social

(... continued page 2)

(President's Message continued) skills by interacting with a wider intellectual group of wood carvers. It is a pathway to testing your key concepts in accomplishing strategic goals for the organization. And most importantly, it is another way of enjoying woodcarving to its fullest by helping, teaching, and grooming carvers to reach their potential. Give it a try! You may rediscover yourself in ways that will make your 2007-year happier.

Roger Melanson

NEWC Notables

NEWC past president, and current member, **Robin Trudel** is featured in **Carving Magazine** with his article on **Carving a Rose from a Golf Ball**. *Very Nice Robin!*

Phyllis Miele was congratulated by the Waltham Garden club in the Dec./Jan. Newsletter edition for her 2006 Carver of the Year award.

I just noticed in the British Wood Carving Magazine that **Pete LeClair** will be in England holding seminars around the country in August. For details contact Peter Benson. Pete will probably be staying with Benson like he did a couple of years ago. *Rip*

Vice President **Paul Ward** continues to submit information about our club in each edition of Chip Chats Magazine. *Check it out!*

Richard Grenier displayed his work for members of the Red Hat Society.

Keep up the good work, members!

Previous newsletter corrections:
Last newsletter: Tuck-A-Way Timber is now 3-B enterprises (pg 2) President's message included a duplicated paragraph. Back cover should be Fiscal year 2006 - 2007, and Dec 3st just is not right! Bob Buyer sold his woodcarving studio and moved to the cape. Should have been removed from the businesses that support NEWC ad! Sorry for the gaffes! *Yvette*

Our **Special Guest Speaker** for February will be Mike McCarthy. Mike, from Mattapoisett, MA, has been featured carver at past shows for NEWC and the Maine Woodcarvers club. His expertise is in carving shore birds. For his presentation, he will take us through the steps in creating a yellow-legs shore bird.



**February Guest Speaker
Mike McCarthy**

Future Meeting Guest Speakers to look forward to...

April 1, 2007 - Guest speaker will be Jim Sheehan, Celtic carver. Jim is an expert in carving Celtic and Claddagh designs. He is a member of the Mystic Carvers Club and has been guest speaker at various organizations.

June 3, 2007 - Pete LeClair, caricature carving. Pete will give a presentation on making one of his signature carvings. Pete has taught his technique to carver across the country. He is one of our own, having started his career of instructing here in New England.

October 7, 2007 - Claire Ruch - songbirds and feather carving. Claire has been in demand with carving groups to instruct the creating of songbirds and various carvings that are enhanced by the use of the burning tool for detailing feathers etc.

St. Gobain Sharpening Seminar Update ...

For those inquiring about the St. Gobain sharpening seminar previously scheduled... We need to wait a few more months before they will be ready to make their presentation on sharpening. Stay tuned. We'll pass along more details as they come in.



**NEWC President Roger Melanson
with Treasurer, Leo Lambert**

(...continued from cover)

Introduction to...

GOUGES, GOUGES, GOUGES!!!!

This workshop is for anyone willing to bring their own vice and gouges. We will be carving 'A Fish With A Twist'.

*The fish is 4" long 2.5" wide and 2" thick and blanks will be available for participants.

Recommended tools include:

- #9 deep gouge
- V-tool
- fish-tail, if possible
- detail-knife

If there's time, participants could paint the carvings - so brushes are welcome.

If anyone won't be able to stand and work on their piece for the duration of the workshop, please, bring a high stool if you wish!

The subject to be carved are these delightful fish (seen below).



Left, Kris Gillis instructing workshop participant. Below left, a sampling of fish that Kris will be carving, using gouges, at her Feb. meeting workshop.

At the February meeting, Warren Blessing will have vices available for sale, ranging from \$40 - \$60. These can be clamped to the table, and the \$60 one is the one that Warren uses, and he's able to use a mallet on it

(pretty strong!). The vice that I use is available at Woodcraft for \$23, and it uses a suction cup. This vice is perfect for the workshop plus every carver should have one. This type of vice will not mar the surface of a table, which is important for the carver to know. Should the carver bring a clamped style vice to the workshop he/she must have the appropriate blocking to avoid damaging the table in the Campus Center. Warren Blessing and Lorne LaGoy will also have other tools and items for sale at the meeting.



Feb. meeting Thumbnail Tack workshop by Chet Blay

WINTER WEATHER WATCH Although we have had a mild winter so far weather conditions could cancel the Membership meeting scheduled for February 4, 2007. Should this occur there will be NO makeup for this meeting. The College calendar has many other events that would conflict with finding a suitable replacement date.

❄️ A specific cancellation for NEWC will not be broadcast over the radio or television. Therefore, please make a judgment to attend based on what TV stations in Boston and local radio sources give you for weather.

Channels 5 and 7 will make announcements of closings for the College but may not be reliable on a Sunday, a day in which the campus is normally closed.

Weather conditions in many parts of Massachusetts and in New England can widely differ. If there is 3-4 inches of snow on the ground, and it will continue to snow for several more hours, the Membership Meeting will be cancelled. Or, if we have an ice storm that makes the roads treacherous to drive there will be no meeting. Otherwise the meeting will be held as scheduled.



APRIL WORKSHOP
**POLYMER
CLAY
SCULPTING**
BY: PETER
WEBSTER

A WONDERFUL
FORM OF
ARTISTIC
EXPRESSION



Peter Webster

Dequossette Ponderings

A Perfect Finish *by Phyllis Miele, Watertown, MA*

The challenges of applying a perfect finish have endless possibilities... meeting them could reap rewards years later.

A viewing of two small relief carvings created by Marge Benard drew interest at a recent gathering of wood carvers. Visitors inquired about the artist, her work and the finish used in 1975. One carved relief was that of a pirate, the other, a cavalier... early on the artist loved carving faces. Her carvings were original in design, drawn free-hand by Marge herself. She drew from memory and imagination. Marge's love of the movies, a treat granted us on occasion in childhood, appears in her artwork. Prior to the meet the two carvings received a bit of T.L.C., a quick wash & dry, polish and lots of buffing. Several visitors commented, "They look new"!

Her carvings (pictured right) have weathered the passing of time.

In carving class back then walnut oil stain was popular... however other finishes were discussed. My color choices leaned toward honey maple, colonial pine or fruitwood. Most oil stains come complete with directions. Wise to read and follow instructions. In class the medium demonstrated was oil stain... quickly applied and immediately wiped off using a lint free cloth. When stain was thoroughly dry, lights and darks were achieved by using fine sand paper - a gentle touch - in selected areas. All dust from sanding needed to be removed before applying several coats of a clear spray finish.

Careful drying between coats was paramount. Scraps of "matching wood" were and still are an asset in testing color. Boiled Linseed oil was often used to complete a piece. Back in the 70's pine/sugar pine woods were favored. Some cabinet making shops had a barrel of scraps. A piece of wood could be picked up for a couple of dollars... or less.

2006

The grain of choice wood comes alive when just a clear finish is applied.

The Carver of the Year Award 2006 was expertly designed and carved by Floyd Truitt in Butternut. Several coats of carefully applied clear Acrylic spray brought his artwork center stage. Just beautiful... Thank you.

2007

In Tyngsborough, Rip Stangroom tells us he uses a bit of burnt umber in a little boiled linseed oil to prepare a carving for painting. Carefully applied and quickly wiped off. When completely dry - he follows up with his water base paints... he may also use a bit of boiled linseed oil when his carving is completed. Nice antique touch.

Phyllis Miele



New England Woodcarvers New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined NEWC since our last newsletter:

From Massachusetts, we welcome Joe Judge, and Thomas & Josephine Holubiak from Waltham, Dennis Willey from Fitchburg, Joan Price from Marblehead, Joan Adams from Wakefield, and Mary Dygert and Donna Adams from Somerville. Additionally, we welcome Arthur & Donna Beuparlant from Manchester, New Hampshire.

A warm WELCOME one and all to NEWC!

WANTED.... CARVING INSTRUCTOR

**Class meets from 9:15 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.
Each Wednesday – October to early May**

**There is space to grow the class of 6/ 8
students, mostly retired.**

**Well lighted and members are very
teachable and enjoy carving.**

**If you would like to visit the class at Grace
Chapel, 2 Militia Drive, Lexington, MA.
Contact Bill Lund at 781-862-8351 x 146.**

**THESE BUSINESSES
SUPPORT NEWC**

with their
membership
and other
club activities.

**PLEASE
SUPPORT THEM**

**GREGORY D.
DORRANCE CO**
1063 Oak Hill Avenue
Attleboro, MA 02703
(508) 222-6255
gregdorrance.com

CAPE FORGE
120 Clark Mills Road
Dayton, ME 04005
1-888-310-3343
karyn@capeforge.com

CARVERS PLUS
141 West Street
Leominster, MA 01453
(978) 537-1805
Carversplus@aol.com

**CT VALLEY
WOODCARVING**
309 Woodbridge Road
Coventry, CT 06238
(860) 742-3253
ctvalleywc@yahoo.com

**IVAN WHILLOCK
STUDIO**
122 NE First Avenue
Faribault, MN 55021
1-800-882-9379
carve@whillock.com

**MDI WOODCARVERS
SUPPLY**
PO Box 4
Pittsfield, ME 04967
1-800-866-5728
mdiwoodcarvers.com

3-B Enterprises
124 Pinnacle Road
Lyme, NH 03768
(603)795-9329
tuckaway@sover.net

Helpful Hint from

Carver/Sculptor
Justin Gordon

Hair.... How do you carve hair? I'll tell you right off, it's not a bunch of straight and parallel lines cut with a V tool unless you're carving the hillbilly. If you look at anyone around you or next to you you'll see that hair is, wait; there are too many old and balding wood carvers. That's a bad example. If you check out someone that has a good head of hair, you'll see that hair has many shapes and depths to even the simplest of hair styles. To carve hair, first you carve the overall profile, front view, side view, etc. You then take a big V tool and carve in some deep grooves representing the large sections of hair. These grooves should have S shapes to them for some flow and dynamic, NOT STRAIGHT LINES. These grooves also differentiate between the fine hair lines and the deep shadows in a hair style. Next, use a viner, small V tool or a fine line grinding tool when power carving, and put in the fine hair lines for the swirl and flow of the actual hair for the hair style. And always remember (Bill), go with the grain. Good luck.

Justin



This Centaur sculpture Justin's currently working on displays his expertise in the area of hair carving.

St. Augustine Workshop

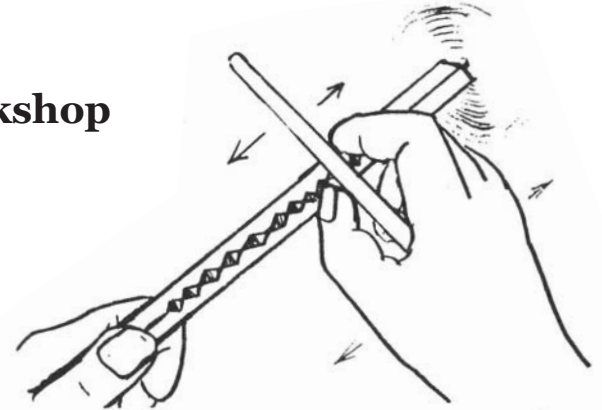
NEWC is committed to providing instruction to young people who wish to learn the technique of carving. Members who are willing to instruct novice carvers, whether they be youth or adult, should make themselves known to a NEWC officer. Carving sessions could be arranged at our bimonthly meetings and/or alternative facility.

Recently we were contacted by St. Augustine middle school in Andover, MA with a request for a carver to work with a small group of boys who want to learn woodcarving. The sessions would be for twice a month in January and February.

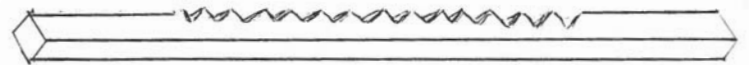
Paul Ward volunteered to cover the four 1 hour sessions. The first session took place on Friday January 5th from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. Ten eighth graders were introduced to the basic steps of whittling. The first work produced by each of these youngsters was a toy, a whimmy diddle. (Paul has been making these for several years)

Novice members (young or not so young) who wish to learn and make one of these toys can do so at the February meeting. Paul will have materials and instruction ready. You will have to be at the meeting to learn how to use it. Check out the design, right.

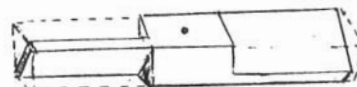
M. Paul Ward



THE WHIMMEY DIDDLE PARTS



THE NOTCHED STICK: ABOUT 7 INCHES LONG. 3/8 X 3/8 STOCK.



THE PROP: 2 3/4 OR 3 INCHES LONG. 1/2 INCH STOCK.

CUT A DOZEN OR SO NOTCHES ALONG A RIDGE OF THE STICK. DRILL A SMALL HOLE IN THE CENTER OF ONE SIDE OF THE PROP PIECE. WHITTLE AWAY THE ENDS TO FORM A PROPELLER-LIKE WHIRLIGIG. TACK THE PROP TO AN END OF THE NOTCHED STICK WITH A SMALL NAIL OR BRAD WITH A SHANK SMALLER THAN THE HOLE AND A HEAD LARGE ENOUGH TO ALLOW THE PROP TO SPIN YET NOT SLIP OFF. USE ANY DOWEL OR SMOOTH STICK TO RUB ALONG THE NOTCHES.

Last Meeting...

NEWC Membership Meeting - December 2006

Workshops

- Chet Blay The Christmas Story – relief carving
- Bob Landry small Glowing Pumpkin
- Len Hill Different head positions – tip, tilt, turn
- Maria Lagoy Cardinal pin (basswood)
- Tom Watts “eye’d” wood
- Edsel Johnson/Gary Filiault Elf – “Scandinavian flat plane carving”, precut blanks on a bandsaw; pattern is from Harley Refsal

Show & Tell

- Edsel Johnson “Carrying his own weight” – fat man with his stomach on a wheelbarrow; bear; elderly man gnome
- Nancy Swiniarski bark carving; Holiday father Christmas figure
- Lenny Chaisson shorebird
- Edward/Cheryl Souza small bear; large bear; spoon
- Bob Thoresen 2 elves; Indian head
- Chet Blay striped bass
- Chris Gillis (Dakota Ware)



Maria LaGoy teaching a seminar to carve a Cardinal Pin (pictured).



Chet Blay demonstrating carving techniques



Phyllis Miele helping at the greeting table, with her relief carving “Basket of Flowers” on display for people to see.

Show n’ Tell Pieces



Contributing Photographer
Bob Schmeichel



Bob Thoresen



Chet Blay

ANNOUNCEMENT NEWC Carve-A-Long

In addition to the exciting 5 months that NEWC members now meet, arrangements have been made to add 3 additional months to the schedule.

When (2007 dates):
March 4
May 6
November 4
(first Sunday of each month)

Where:
Same place - Campus Center Bldg # 8

Whom:
For all members of the organization

Time:
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Activities:
Carving, workshops, show & tell, morning coffee and food to share.

NOTE: There will be no raffle, guest speaker or vendor sales.

Next Meeting: Don't forget to bring your items to donate to the drawing. Support NEWC and make a drawing winner appreciate what you no longer need.

Thank you to all who generously donated in the past!



Left, members enjoying the tasty buffet before the guest speaker makes his presentation.



Right, NEWC Secretary Karen Seo viewing Hatem Gomaa's finished hawk, brought in for display by winner, Rip Stangroom... Thanks for sharing Rip!

President (Roger Melanson)

- Welcomed folks, thanked people who'd set up the food, and welcomed new members (2) and guests.
- Special raffle -- a bird carved by Hatem Gomaa, the featured carver at the Spirit of Wood show. He then said the club was giving an "award of recognition" to Hatem, who unfortunately couldn't be at this meeting. The bird is a broadwing hawk that is lifelike, with a perfect pose, size and color. The raffle raised \$3465 for NEWC.
- Volunteers needed
- Accountant
- Publicity person
- Someone to handle NEWC merchandise
- Thanked the 22 NEWC members who donated carvings for fund raising at the Spirit of Wood show.
- Thanked the new NEWC secretary, Karen Seo.
- Helmut Mayr (Austria) – possible featured carver for 2007 Spirit of Wood show, contact person is Maria LaGoy.
- Robin Smith sent a letter mentioning Wayne Barton (chip carver) who'll be giving a 2-day workshop (Sat/Sun, February 17,18 2007) in Mystic Connecticut. (more details pg. 11)



Guest Speaker Frank Greenhalgh explains the story of Rimwalker, a masked used to teach a moral story to youngsters.

Below, pieces Frank created using natural materials.



Paul Ward introduced Frank "Sitting Bear" Greenhalgh (Lowell, MA), a native American carver. Items that he brought included:

- Birch bucket
- Birch basket
- Another waterproof container
- An older container
- Little heron
- Head/face – Native American, used as model for a mold for porcelain dolls
- Kachina dolls
- Bone knife
- Flute
- Wood/stone pipe

Frank told some of the legends and context associated with the above --Rimwalker, who challenged the creator. Carving from a live tree meant that one doesn't use things cavalierly. There is a focus on family, gift giving (give away), sharing. He also brought a carving of a Santa Claus -- he originally carved one for his daughter and later carved one with his pants dropped.



Buffet table organizer, Judy Melanson, in the middle Mary Durant, and on the right Pat Whittemore. Thank you, and to all, who so graciously help at our meetings.



CARVER OF THE YEAR AWARD

In considering a candidate for this distinguished award there are five requirements that must be carefully evaluated before you decide to submit the nomination form. Each nominee must have demonstrated his or her ability to:

- Be a woodcarver
- Attended at least three meetings a year.
- Been a NEWC member in good standing for a minimum of three consecutive years.
- Be recognized in the community for encouraging, promoting, and furthering woodcarving in one or more of the art forms.
- Have demonstrated to the membership their effort in advancing the legitimate ends and aims of the New England Woodcarvers organization.

The award is open to nominations from any member and will be judged by the New England Woodcarvers Executive Board. The person who is selected will be honored at the June 2007 Membership Meeting. The "Keeper" award and the "Permanent" trophy will be presented.

The nomination form is included with this newsletter. This will give the membership ample time to discuss potential nominees that should be considered for this award. **THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS APRIL 1, 2007**, which is the day of our Membership Meeting. Nominations may be hand delivered or mailed to any member of the Executive Board.

YOUR NOMINATIONS ARE WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED.

Seminar date change...

Austrian Carver Helli Mayr - Featured Carver and Oct. Seminar

Austrian carver Helli Mayr has agreed to be our feature carver at the 2007 Spirit of Wood Show, October 21st, 2007. In addition, he will conduct a three day seminar during the week just before the show - specific dates/times yet to be determined.

More details to follow in future newsletters.

If you are interested in attending this seminar please contact:

**Maria LaGoy at 978-537-1805
or e-mail carversplus@aol.com**



Helli Mayr carvings

A sincere Thank You

to **Bob Landry** for stepping up to take on the responsibility of Merchandise Coordinator for NEWC. Bob will not only be handling the usual items, cap, mug, patch and decal, but will also be handling the custom shirts and aprons now available. Change of address has been applied above for usual items and additional information will be posted in the next newsletter in regards to the clothing and apron orders.

The Planning Committee for the Spirit of Wood Show met on January 6 at Middlesex Community College to review the 2006 show and make plans for the 2007 show to be held on October 21. Members who volunteered to attend this meeting were: Al Vose, Maria and Lorne LaGoy, Bill Gray, Kris Gillis, Paul Durant, Floyd Truitt, John Yurka, Bob Schmeichel Jr., and Roger Melanson. We are grateful for their participation in this most important task to improve the next Spirit of Wood Show.

THANK YOU ALL!



NEWC Catalog



A quality blue **Hat**, adjustable, with embroidered club logo and "New England Woodcarvers"
\$11.95



Quality China **Coffee Mug** with the NEWC logo on two sides.
\$5.00



NEW! The NEWC **Window Decal**, 3" diameter, blue lettering on white background.
\$1.25



The colorful NEWC **Patch** suitable for hat, jacket or apron.
\$5.00

These items are available at our regular meetings, or by mail from:

**NEWC Merchandise Coordinator
193 Beech St
Fitchburg, MA 01420-4118**

Mail Orders

Add shipping and handling:

Cap, add \$2.50

Mug, add \$7.00

Patch or Decal SASE

Member Bob Alekshun, owner/operator
Superior Engraving

**Engraved Pin-on NEWC
Name Badges \$5.00 each.**

(\$2.50 of this will be donated back to NEWC) **Price includes mailing back to you!** Two styles are available, both with the NEWC logo, your name and town/city. One style has the name "New England Woodcarvers" spelled out; the other does not. A smaller pin with just the logo is also available for \$3.50. See the samples at the meetings. Order with payment to:

**Bob Alekshun
77 Appleton Rd.
Auburn, MA 01501**

2007-2008 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A new Nominating Committee is being formed to compile a slate of candidates for the election of officers at the Annual Membership Meeting on June 3, 2007. The President has enlisted Lenny Chaisson of Bow, New Hampshire to be on the three-member committee. The Executive Board will select the second member, and the two chosen committee members shall take the third member from the general membership. The committee elects its own chairperson. The task for the committee is to establish a list of candidates for each office and obtain the consent of every person placed in nomination. The nominating committee, with consent of the nominees that have been placed in nomination, may name additional nominees from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

Each year voting is done by ballot at the Annual Meeting. A majority vote shall be required for election. Installation of officers shall take place immediately following the results of the voting process. The term of office shall be for one year starting on July 1, 2007. The person holding office may be re-elected to consecutive one-year terms.

ANY MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO SERVE AS AN OFFICER FOR THE COMING NEW YEAR SHOULD MAKE THEIR WISHES KNOWN TO THE COMMITTEE.

Balance Sheet As of 1/6/07

Acct	1/6/07 Balance
ASSETS	
Cash & Bank Accounts	
NEWC Checking	5,514.13
NEWC Savings	4,822.60
Total Cash & Bank Accounts	10,336.73
Other Assets	
CD1169679866	10,481.61
CD1169929099	5,240.80
CD1170349896	4,000.00
Total Other Assets	19,722.41
TOTAL ASSETS	30,059.14
LIABILITIES & EQUITIES	
LIABILITIES	0.00
EQUITY	30,059.14
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	30,059.14

Respectfully Submitted by,
Leo Lambert
Treasurer

Carving Pattern



Rip Stangroom, past Membership Secretary for NEWC, actively carving and teaching his regular class.

Thank you Rip for sharing this great pattern!



INSERT
RIFLE



FATHER OF THE BRIDE

© R. STANGROOM 1994

Letters...

December 14, 2006

Hatem Gomaa
Prince Street
Danvers, MA 01923



Dear Hatem:

In your absence at our December 3 Membership Meeting, we honored your exceptional carving contribution to the New England Woodcarvers Association. It was unfortunate that you and your wife could not attend, but we certainly understood that family matters come first. We sincerely hope your father-in-law is recovering nicely.

Rip Stangroom was kind enough to bring in the Broad Wing Hawk so everyone present had the opportunity to view the bird in its completed form. This display of your three-dimensional artwork certainly shows the outstanding carving skills you have developed over the years. In my book, you stand at the top with some of the best-known rapture carvers in the Northeast, if not the entire United States.

After telling my rendition to the Membership of how you agreed to help the organization, I proceeded to show and read the words on the Award of Recognition plaque that will be presented to you. There are two lines on the plaque that were chosen which I strongly feel represents what you have accomplished for NEWC. The first line "For Being An Extraordinary Individual" lets you and others know that your donation went far beyond the ordinary of what most, if not all, carvers would do. And the second line "Your Contribution Soared Above All Expectations" tells the reader of this plaque that you challenged yourself to rise above the usual carving bounds to create a masterful piece of wood-art. In the final outcome the word "ordinary" was not in your vocabulary. Your dream and creativity elevated you to new heights, and we are all richer for your hard work and determination to seek a new level of growth.

On behalf of the organization, it is my pleasure to honor you for what you have done for the New England Woodcarvers Association. My best wishes to you for a bright, prosperous, and happy future in the realm of woodcarving.

Respectfully yours,

Roger R. Melanson
President

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Maine Woodcarvers Association

Dave Brown, President, 207-873-3370,
32 Burleigh Street, Waterville, ME 04901

Chapters within Maine Woodcarvers Association:

Capitol Carvers

Dave Ackerson, 207-622-5347,
Meet at; Legion Park Rd.,
Windsor, ME 04363
Every Thursday, 6:00-7:00PM

Carver St. Carvers

Bill Gordon, 207-873-1675,
Meet at; 1 Carver Street,
Waterville, ME 04901
Every Tuesday, 1:00-3:00PM

Central Maine Carvers

Jim Violette, 207-873-4155,
Meet at; 32 Burleigh St.,
Waterville, ME 04901
1st Wednesday ea. mo. 6-8PM

Coastal Carvers

Carol Durgin, 207-442-7005,
Meet at; D & L Printers, Rt. 1,
Newcastle, ME 04553
4th Saturday ea. mo. 1:00PM

South Coast Carvers

Robert Philippe, 207-490-1008,
11 Deborah Avenue,
Sanford, ME 04073
Meet at; Crossings at Fox Run Mall,
Goslin Rd., Newington, NH
4th Tuesday ea. Mo. 7-8:30PM

Streaked Mountain Carvers

Bob Perry, 207-388-2472,
Meet at; 80 Gammon Rd.,
Sumner, ME 04292
2nd Saturday ea. Mo. 1:00PM

MONSON WOODWACKERS

THIRD ANNUAL SHOW - COMPETITION - AND - SALE Sponsored by the Monson Parks and Recreation Department and Monson Savings Bank Saturday April 14, 2007 at the Monson Memorial Town Hall Rt. # 32 Main Street Monson Mass. Classes for Youth - Novice - Intermediate and Open Show will be open to the public at 10 a.m. Early entries - Friday from Noon to 5 p.m. Entries on the day of the show - from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Prize money paid to Best of Show in each category of Novice - Intermediate - Open \$25. each. Overall Best of Show \$100. Peoples choice award \$50. Judges - Larry Appleton, Ed Desrosiers, Jim White Paul Maccio and Ray Johnson For More information and class lists call Bob Anderson 1-413-247-5071



Mystic Carvers News, CT

This group has two big seminars planned for the year. One is with Jack Miller making shore birds, dates for this session are August 11-13th. They are nearing capacity for this session. Sign up immediately if you want to participate, cost is \$95. They also have Wayne Barton (www.chipcarving.com/about_wayne.htm) planned for February 17th and 18th. There are almost enough participating to commit. Cost will be \$125. If you want to attend this Chip Carving Session, please contact Bob Smith at 401-596-7927.

Calendar for Mystic -
Feb 3 (snow day Feb 10) Waylon Stetson -Relief
Feb 25 General Meeting North East Woodcarvers Roundup. Meetings are at the Quiambaug Fire House. For more information contact Warren Blessing (860) 742-3253 warren@ctvalleywc.com or Ray Johnson (860) 848-8194 or wcvray@myeastern.com

News & Notes

If you have a local carving story of interest, or photos you would like to share, please forward them to M. Paul Ward mpaulward@comcast.net or Yvette Holladay yvette@newc.org Or send your submission to: New England Woodcarvers Newsletter 886 Salem Rd. Dracut, MA 01826

Also, check out
NEWC.org for
additional Events,
Seminars, and links.

Connecticut Valley Woodcarvers

July 2007

July 7th - The 26th Annual Woodcarver's Day, Mystic, CT (Olde Mistick Village, Apple Orchard) Sat. 9:30am-5pm. Rain date July 8th. Free admission. Contact Warren J. Blessing Jr. 309 Woodbridge Rd., Coventry, CT 06238, 860-742-3253 or warren@ctvalleywc.com

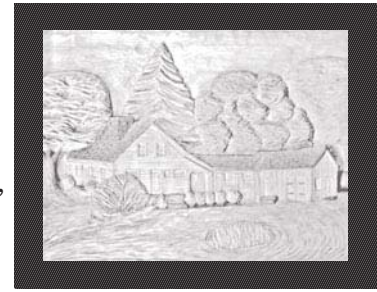
Notable...

Wayne Barton of the Alpine School of Woodcarving is scheduled to teach at the Quimbaug Firehouse, off Rte 1 in Mystic on Feb 17th & 18th.

Bob Smith is coordinating, for more information please contact Bob at -596-7927. Or if you prefer please send a check to Robert Smith, Babcock Road, Westerly RI, 20891.

We're currently half full, deposit will be required to hold your spot. This is time sensitive, we will need to fill up in the next few weeks in order to commit to Wayne. Please feel free to share this with your carving communities.

Cost of the Class is \$150



Warren J. Blessing Jr.
Connecticut Valley Woodcarving
Woodbridge Rd.
Coventry, CT 06238
860-742-3253
www.ctvalleywc.com

In Memoriam

Ronald Boone, 71, of 50 Ash Street Gardner, MA 01440 died Monday, December 18. His NEWC # is 1454. In addition to being a member of the New England Woodcarvers, he also was a member of the Central Massachusetts Caricature Group that meets in Fitchburg, MA. He was an accomplished caricature carver and won many ribbons both from NEWC and the Caricature Carvers of America contests.



Robert M. Luken, of Wakefield, MA, passed away September 4th, 2006. Robert held NEWC #2309 and was a member since 1997. Robert is survived by his wife Justine.

Real Noel Jr. of Sandown, NH, passed away on May 15, 2006. Real held membership #2902 and was a member since 2005. Real is survived by his wife, Betty who noted that they always enjoyed going to shows together and sends her "thanks for the good times". Betty will not be continuing as a member.

Robert W. Blymire, 82, passed away January 13, 2007, following a brief illness. Bob was owner of Bob Blymire Signs in New Hampshire, retiring in 1986. Bob's skills as a sign painter and woodcarver were exceptional and much sought after.



Our warmest regards and renewed sympathy to their family and friends.

If you should come across news of a NEWC member who has passed on, kindly send notice to the NEWC Membership Secretary.

Thank You

WITH A DEEP SENSE OF
GRATITUDE

NEWC THANKS YOU

DAN ELKINS

OF BARRINGTON,
RHODE ISLAND
FOR BEING THE AREA
REPRESENTATIVE

2001 - 2005

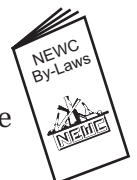
New England Woodcarvers Membership

Annual dues are **\$15**

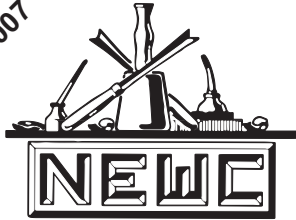
Checks payable to:
New England Woodcarvers

Send to (with SASE):
Membership Secretary
886 Salem Rd.
Dracut, MA 01826-1659

NEWC By-Laws are also available from the Membership Secretary. Inquiries can be made to the address above.



Jan./Feb. 2007



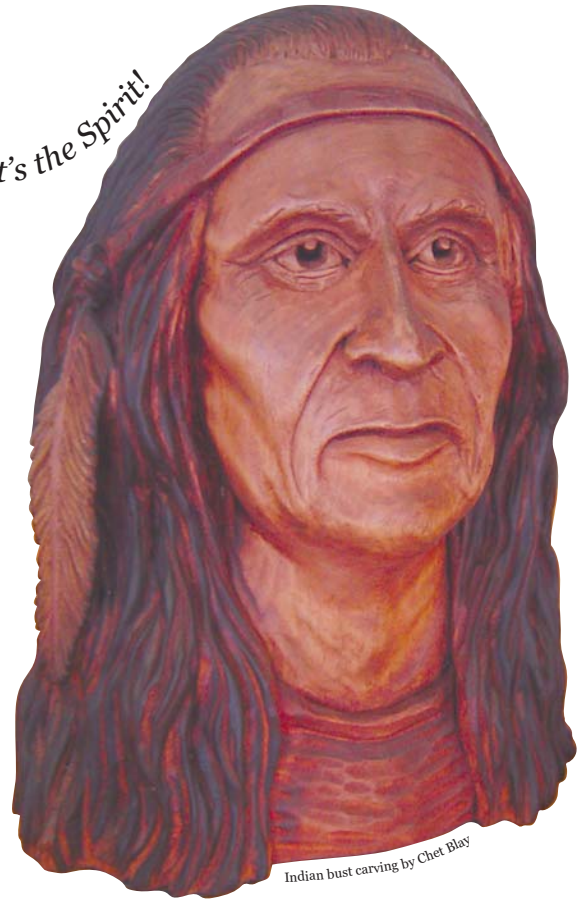
Carver of the Year
Nomination Form
Enclosed

That's the Spirit!

New England Woodcarvers, Inc.
P.O. Box 561
Lexington, MA 02420-0005

www.NEWC.org

Next meeting....
February 4th, MCC Bedford, MA



Officers of NEWC Fiscal year 2006-2007

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The Annual Spirit of Wood Show

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193 Beech St
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Connecticut - Warren Blessing (860) 742-3253
New Hampshire - Lenny Chaisson (603) 224-2607
Cape and Islands - Elsie Jacobson (508) 477-9333
Maine - Peter Barenco (207) 685-0928
Vermont - Floyd Truitt (978) 597-2868
Mid New York - Paul Stuewer (845) 242-3231

The mission of the New England Woodcarvers is to educate and promote woodcarving, wood sculpturing, and whittling as an art form to all its members and to the greater community.



**Feb 4th
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

There will not be an organized buffet at the Jan./Feb. meeting. Members are welcome to bring a desert or finger food to share with the group.

Thank you to those who make the effort to bring something to share!

And as usual... we'll bring the coffee!

Newsletter:

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