

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2022

The next meeting of the NEWC Board of Directors will be held via Zoom on November 20, 2022 from 5-7 P.M. Do you have a concern? Email Jan@newc.org.

President's Message

Greetings and salutations!

Whew! SOW 2022 is in our rear view mirror and we are driving forward to a year of building our membership for an even more successful SOW 2023. Congratulations to this year's competitors. It was a tough year to judge as there were so many incredible works of art on display. Below you will find a few words from NEWC VP and Show Chairman, Darren Boehm.

Also, be sure to read the announcement about our December member meeting. It is the holiday meeting and should be fun. In lieu of a gift exchange I'm suggesting that we all bring a holiday ornament for the Tree of Hope. Thirty attendees, each with one ornament, would be a great benefit for the Tree. Fifty attendees would be even more fabulous. So put the date on your calendar and meet me and our speaker, Mike McCarthy, in Franklin!

The NEWC Marketing Team, an ad hoc committee to create some new marketing activities to reach out to carvers of all ages, will be meeting in November via Zoom. If you want to be part of this effort to make NEWC stronger for its members, contact me at Jan@newc.org. Know a young adult who might want to share some thoughts in a focus group? Give them my contact information.

It's going to be an exciting year ahead!

Jan LeClair, President
New England Woodcarvers



Richard Chalpin, North Billerica MA, stands proudly with his **Best of Show** winning entry in the 2022 Spirit of Wood Show and Competition.

Darren on Spirit of Wood 2022

Now that the Spirit of Wood Show is behind us, I cannot help but to reflect on all the good things that came about because of it. It is by far the greatest gathering of woodcarvers that I've seen in New England. It was a pleasure to see many familiar faces and meet several new members. Upon listening to all the people and sharing their excitement for wood carving, I am convinced the Spirit of Wood is alive and well in New England. It was awesome to see all the wonderful woodcarvings that people produced throughout the year. It was NEWC's great honor to award all those woodcarvers, who entered into competition, for their fine work and artistry. We thank all the people who participated in the auction and raffles as well as congratulate all those who won. The raffles were by far our biggest money maker. Although, we did not make a lot of money from the event, we were able to cover all the cost of putting on the event and for that we are grateful. Making money was never the objective of Spirit of Wood. It was all about making new friends, sharing our excitement about woodcarving and just plain having fun. I know I had fun coordinating the Spirit of Wood Show and I hope everyone had fun participating in it.

At this point, I would like to thank the Spirit of Wood team that made it all possible. They include Jan LeClair, Laurie Farrell, Robin Patten, Steve Berard, Linda Parviainen, Mary Chouinard, Rick Boyer, Kim Rhault and Ed Ertel. All these people volunteered their time without even me asking them to do so. I could not have assembled a better team if I had to do it myself. They all worked well together and knew exactly what needed to be done to make this event a success. I also want to thank all the clubs and vendors that purchased a table or two and participated in the event. Special thanks goes to the New Hampshire Guild of Woodworkers who volunteered their time to sharpen tools and demonstrate wood turning. Last, I want to thank all the members who came to the Spirit of Wood Show and made it an astounding success just by their participation.

I now look forward to next year to see how much the Spirit of Wood has grown and all the wonderful carvings that members are about to produce. So I wish everyone a fun filled year of woodcarving.

Spirit of Wood Coordinator,

Darren Boehm

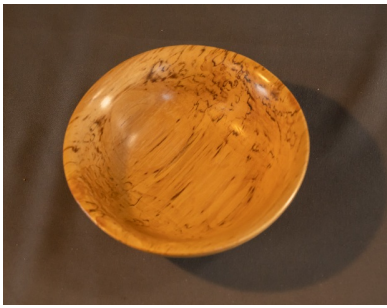


Peoples' Choice winner, George Ford of Marston Mills MA mentioned that he was surprised by the selection of his pheasant on a post (sans "No Hunting sign) by the folks who attended the Show.



President's Choice winner, Gary Arnold of Charlton MA, made this fine steed for his grandchildren. It was one of the most photographed entries in the competition. Unfortunately, It was hard to tie Gary down long enough to get his photo with his horse.

Photos of all winners can be found on the website newc.org as well as on Gail Hansche Godin's website, featherfotos.com. All photos are the property of NEWC and cannot be used outside of the organization without express permission of NEWC.



First Place Youth Level:
Dimitri Smith of Merrimack
NH



First Place Novice Level:
Jacques Belanger of NH



First Place Intermediate
Level: Rita Tulloh of Epping
NH



First Place Open Level: Gordon Thomas of
Taunton MA



First Place Masters Level: Richard Chalpin of
North Billerica MA

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Preview and Bid On The Hand Tool Collection of Fred H. West Jr.

Alderfer Auctions welcomes the Hand Tool Collection of Fred West, Jr. for a two-day sale that will offer a wide array of handcrafted woodworking tools. Fred West, Jr. was a patron of the hand tool world. Fred made it his life's work to focus on promoting tool makers and their wares. It was Fred's wish that his collection be used daily by a wide variety of people, especially aspiring woodworkers. Bid online through November 8 at 10:00 A.M. The auction is in Pennsylvania and you must pick up your items there, at least that's what the website says. Lots of woodworking tools; some carving tools from Europe and Japan.

<https://www.alderferauction.com>

Pictured below are some of the New England Clubs that were able to attend the 2022 SOW. They include, from left to right and top to bottom, Mystic (CT) Woodcarvers, Central MA Caricature Carvers, Groveland (MA) Woodcarvers, Connecticut Woodcarvers and Granite State (NH) Carvers. Checking out some of Mytics work is Joe Marshall.



December Member Meeting

December 10, 2022
9 A.M. to 1 P.M.
Franklin Senior Center
10 Daniel McCahill Street
Franklin, MA 02038

This is our annual holiday meeting which will be mostly fun and food. If you plan to attend, and we hope you do, bring along a finger food to share. It could be cookies, veggies, hors d'oeuvres or something surprising.

Speaker for the day will be Mike McCarthy, well-known bird carver from Mattapoisett, Massachusetts (see excerpts from an article about him further on). His topic will be creating better bird legs. While of great interest to other carvers of the avian aspect, the techniques he uses may also lend some surprises for those of us who carve other beasts and beings of all sorts. It's turkey carving time and whether you do lifelike birds or caricatures, they all need legs! Stop in for this fun and informative session. A short biography is found further on this page.

California Woodcarver

NEWC was recently contacted by the young man below to see if we had an interest in viewing his film about a California carver by the name of Greg Marquez. While the video does not deal very much with wood carving, Mr. Marquez does show some of his many pieces of very organic work. He's a real renaissance man and worth a look.

Hello!

My name is Brett Nicoletti and I'm a Documentary Filmmaker from Pasadena, CA. I wanted to let you know about a Documentary Short that I recently produced about 84 year old Wood Sculptor, Greg Marquez. I spent approximately 18 months with Greg as he created his latest piece, "Gaia," and learned much about Wood Carving in the process. Greg's philosophy about the craft is to let the piece tell him how it wants to be carved, something that I believe all Artists need to understand, regardless of their discipline.

I would love for you to take a look at the film if you have some time (approx. 14 minutes).

<https://youtu.be/2dve3Ut9liE>

Brett Nicoletti

<http://brettnicoletti.com/>

323 899 7733

Great News!

The monthly report from our Membership Secretary, Mary Chouinard, noted eleven new NEWC members signed up during Sept./Oct. and seven members were re-instated. Amazing!

Sad News

Obituary: Francis "Frank" Senkel of Braintree, MA passed away earlier this year. He was a former member of New England Woodcarvers. Belated condolences to his family.

Mike McCarthy - Featured Speaker at NEWC December Members Meeting!

In February 20012, Mike McCarthy was featured in SOCO Magazine in an article written by Jessica Zurell. She describes Mike



a "folk artist" whose "designs offer a nod to the honest tradition of duck hunters' decoys dating back several hundred years and garner praise all along the New England seacoast." He says he likes to work the "old fashioned way." Jessica continues, "The process is a long one, but the commute to

his shop, Mattapoisett Bird Works, is short. It's located behind his home in Mattapoisett, MA." Mike is no stranger to NEWC, having led seminars, as of the date of the article, in Bedford, MA and Stonington, CT. Mike relates that "In my early years, I learned you have to have patience, because if you don't, you're going to ruin almost every bird you do. You've got to take your time and know what places are delicate."

We look forward to seeing Mike again and to learn from his past experiences as we gather for our December holiday member meeting! The bird in the accompanying photo was his contribution to the SOW 2022 Silent Auction. The successful bid was submitted by Linda Parviainen; the gorgeous creature, Yellow Legs, will reside in Wells, ME.

Open Board Positions

The Board of Directors has positions open for members of NEWC who would enjoy being a part of a dynamic group that moves the organizations forward. Below are the position descriptions for those appointed positions. If you are interested in a greater level of participation in NEWC, please email the president at Jan@newc.org or call 978-549-2341.

Public Relations/Marketing Director

1. shall prepare an annual marketing plan to inform the public about NEWC and its purpose.
2. shall prepare and distribute marketing materials to various media outlets to encourage public participation in NEWC activities such as the Spirit of Wood Show.

Education Director

1. shall oversee all education/demonstration programs occurring at regular meetings and special events.
2. shall work closely with the chair of the Spirit of Wood Show to secure expert presenters for seminars/demonstrations.
3. shall work with the Technology Director to prepare member surveys to identify the most current interests of members and respond to those with educational programming.

Information Services Director

1. shall create or gather articles and information to be included in scheduled (five times a year) newsletters to be sent to all NEWC members. Articles may include information concerning activities of/for members, articles of interest to wood carvers, to promote wood arts displays not necessarily related to wood carving, to acknowledge new books of

interest to members and to feature member profiles. Members are encouraged to submit articles for consideration.

2. shall use the newsletter as a vehicle to announce upcoming Board and membership meetings or other educational events.

3. shall work with the Membership Secretary and the Technology Director to email and/or mail the newsletter to every member in good standing.

Wondering what these guys are doing with all this wood?

Well, they are carving wood! If you've never tried it, now is the time to find a club near you with some great guys and ladies who can teach you the step by step process. Pete LeClair is a world-renowned caricature carver who is helping Kevin, a locally known wood working instructor but a newbie when it comes to woodcarving. There is no better teacher to have than someone like Pete.

An experienced carver?

When you are through reading your newsletter, print it out (or take your printed copy) and leave it conveniently in a library, or at a senior center or town hall, for a scout troop, with a voke school woodworking instructor or a local men's or women's group meeting. Pass it on to a friend. (if you want your picture in the next edition so you can brag about it, send a photo of you carving with your name and where you live to Jan@newc.org. or mail to:

182 State Road West
Westminster, MA 01473.



[Learn More](#)

To become a member of NEWC, or to renew your membership, submit the application and your check for the appropriate dollar amount to the address on the form.

New England Woodcarvers, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member _____

Renewal _____

Since _____

Expires _____

(Please Print)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address (Street) _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail address _____

Tel (day) _____ (eve.) _____ Cell _____

All members will receive a NEWC e-mail newsletter. **For an additional \$5 per year, any member may request a written copy.**

Your e-mail address _____

Area carving group which you participate _____ Location _____

NEWC Membership dues is \$30. Membership Renewal is October 1st.

\$___ Dues \$30

\$___ Written copy of newsletter - \$5

\$___ \$.50 New Membership Card Note: An updated Membership Card is mailed automatically to those sending a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope.

\$___ NEWC Donation (Tax Deductible)

\$___ Total Enclosed

Make check payable to: **New England Woodcarvers, Inc.**

4 Cross Street

Medfield, MA 02052

We appreciate your continued interest and support of the New England Woodcarvers, Inc.