



# Spirit of Wood

<http://www.newc.org/>

[New England Woodcarvers, Inc|Facebook](#)



The next Member's Meeting will be held at Middlesex  
Community College, Bedford, MA  
date to be determined after emergency shutdown

## Spirit of Wood

New England Woodcarvers, Inc.

P.O. Box 561

Lexington, MA 02420-0005

The Mission of the New England Woodcarvers, a cultural and educational organization, is to promote woodcarving, wood sculpting, pyrography, whittling and other forms of wood art to all its members and to the greater community.

## Newsletter

March-April

Volume 5-Issue 4

# Alert!

Due to the recent state of Emergency in MA, Middlesex Community College has canceled ALL public gatherings at the school for April and possibly longer. We are hopeful that the annual meeting will still take place as scheduled.

Respectfully, Laurie Farrell

## President's Message

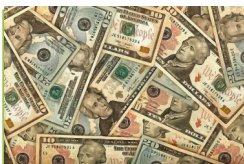
Happy Spring everyone! I hope that you enjoyed our mild winter.

Sadly, we will not see you all on April 18th due to new school restrictions. Our speaker on Japanese wood block art will be postponed to a later date.. We look forward to our next meeting, hopefully in June, where we will continue to have all of the usual suspects (yes, that is you Gary and Edsel) leading our carve alongs and hopefully, our annual meeting.

Congratulations to Melissa, for winning the 50/50. We made \$45 for the club too. The 50/50 will return in April, so bring some cash!

We will be voting on the Standing Rules at our next meeting. For those of you who get email newsletters, the Rules will be here and on the website. For those who get paper newsletters, Mary will snail mail the Rules to you!

*Continued on page 2*



## NEWC

### Treasurer's Report

#### Opening Balances

**Checking** Last Balance 1/11/2020 \$ 14,248.82

#### Income

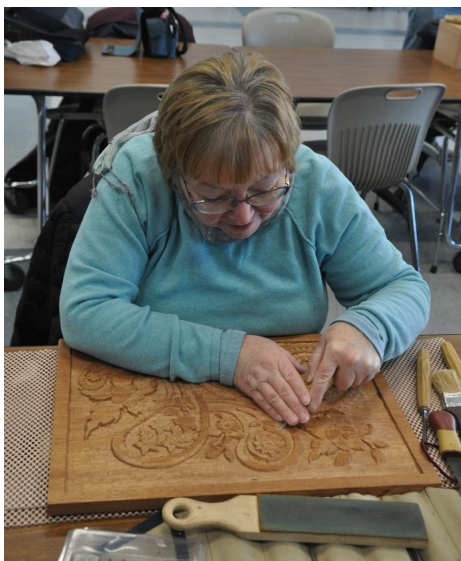
Member Meeting	Refreshments	\$18.00
	Auction	\$26.00
	50/50 Raffle	\$45.00
Membership Income		\$261.50
Tree of Hope		\$546.00
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>\$896.00</u></b>

#### Expenses

Banking Fee	Paper Statement Dec.-Feb.	\$9.00
Storage	#1028 (Feb.-Mar.) 1/15/2020	\$202.00
Member Mtg.	#1031 Speaker 2/8/2020	\$150.00
	Refreshments	\$24.43
Newsletter	#1032 2/11/2020	\$363.29
MA Tax Statement	#1025 1/9/2020	\$15.00
Tree of Hope		.00
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>\$763.72</u></b>

**Ending Balances** \$14,381.60

Tree of Hope Available Funds	\$ 4,848.81
NEWC Available Funds	\$9,532.79



Gay Gawron  
working on a  
relief carving at  
the February  
Members meet-  
ing.

Bob Schmeichel  
Photo

### President's Message continued from page 1

We have compiled the list of nominees for Member of the Year Award. You will find the ballots and a brief bio in this newsletter (thank you, Mary). I will also have some ballots at the April 18th meeting. Please take the time to vote for the nominee whom you feel has made a contribution not only to NEWC, but to someone who has helped keep the Art of carving alive into the future. The ballots have to be in to Gary Filiault by May 1, 2020, and the award will be presented at the Annual Meeting on Saturday June 13th.

Speaking of our Annual Meeting, we will be holding elections at the business portion of the meeting. Number of openings on the Board and would LOVE folks to step forward and take a position! Gary wishes to step down Treasurer. Additionally, we need a Secretary, Director of Public Marketing and Director of Education Programming. This is NOT a life sentence! Join the Board for one year; then, if you like what you are doing, stay. If you do not, you do not have to continue. The survival of OUR club depends on US.

Finally, we are progressing well on organizing the Spirit of Wood Show, scheduled for the weekend of October 24/25th. The Peabody Senior Center is a wonderful venue. Jan is coordinating all efforts, but still needs lots of help. Being a newer member, like me, she does not have the contacts that many have who have been in the Club for many years. See her section ahead on the Spirit of Wood Show!

See you all as soon as the school allows us to assemble once again! Stay well and continue your love of carving!

Namaste,

Laurie Farrell, President New England Woodcarvers



I hope I find everyone doing well as winter comes to an end. With spring in the air it's time for the tree to make some money for our great cause. We will be starting our year off in Townsend, MA at their annual Earth Day Celebration on Sat. April 25th on the town common. Hope to see some of our fellow carvers stopping in to say "Hi". We are also looking in to doing a Farmers Market weekly in the Town of Barre, MA this summer. I should have more info on that one in our next news letter as we are still looking in to it. I'd like to Thank Scott Arsenault and the Central MA Caricature Carvers for all the scheduling and financing of all the shows and craft fair we go to and a Big Thank You to Gary Filiault's wife Jackie for the two invites she gives us each year for two functions she chairs at no cost. Also a big Thank You to everyone who donates carvings and the ones that purchase from the Tree both ways it's a win for our veterans! Remember "Some Gave Some, Some Gave All and Some Are Still Giving"

Rick Boyer

## Membership News

New Member

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Martha Pirone of Wrentham, MA



There will be a 50/50 raffle at the members meeting April, 18, 2020. Bring lots of cash.

**You could be the winner!** 50% goes to NEWC-50% to you.

### Editor in Chief Gay Gawron

glgawron@gmail.com

Editors Coordinators

Mary Chouinard

Jan LeClair

Laurie Farrell

## SOW

**The 2020 Spirit of Wood Show and Competition will be held on October 24th and 25th at the Peter Torigian Senior Center, 75 Central Street, Peabody, MA 01960**



## Members of the Board of Directors

### Executive Board:

President-Laurie Farrell

Past (acting) President-Martin Truitt

Vice President-Jan LeClair

Secretary-Open

Membership Secretary-Mary Chouinard

Treasurer-Gary Filiault

### Directors at Large:

Newsletter-Gay Gawron

Webmaster-Kim Rhault

Tree of Hope-Rick Boyer

Hospitality-Open

Workshop Coordinator-Open

### Historian

Paul Ward

### Tree of Hope

Rick Boyer

Scotty Arsenault

## Meeting Dates 2020

General Meetings are held in campus center, Building 8, Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

April 18, 2020 **CANCELLED**

June 13, 2020 Annual Meeting

September 26, 2020

**You will be notified of any further cancellations.**

Board of Directors Meetings are held in the Henderson Hall, room 308, Saturdays from 9am to 12pm.

May 2, 2020

September 12, 2020

November 14, 2020

Board meetings are open to the General Membership. If you are considering joining the board please feel free to observe the Board to see how things work. It is a friendly group.

# 2020 Spirit of Wood Show!

Progress is being made rapidly on the next Show and Competition. Keep an eye on the NEWC website for details about signing up to be a vendor or a competitor. The forms will be posted as soon as they are ready in a few weeks. Make sure your membership is up to date. The fee to compete will be increasing slightly this year as the costs for putting on the Show have increased this year. The fees will still be affordable so get those carving projects ready! Meanwhile, you're probably wondering where will it be? Here's some information to post to your Save the Date file: October 24-25, 2020 Peter Torigian Senior Center 75 Central Street Peabody, MA 01960

The facility is a beautiful location with lots of space for classes, demonstrations, clubs and, of course, the competition. It's also easily accessible via major highways. There's plenty of parking in the lots all around the building. A separate competitor's entrance will be open on Saturday (hours to be announced) and briefly on Sunday morning. Hotel information will be available on the NEWC website in plenty of time to make reservations for the event.

Now here's the good news. To make this all happen is going to take a lot of volunteers. The list of jobs will be posted on the website and updated as jobs are filled. Sign up early to get the volunteer job you prefer. For now, help (no experience necessary for most volunteer jobs) is needed for the following activities:

**Judging:** one experienced judge/administrator to oversee judging on the day of competition; judges willing to spend approximately an hour and a half Sunday morning judging entries; recorders to assist judges by recording their critique of each entry; "ribbon carriers", although they probably will not carry the ribbons, to assist the judges in placing ribbons with appropriate winning entries.

**Registration of competitors:** two individuals to conduct intake of entries; two or more individuals to place entries on the competition tables; one assistant to the membership secretary to check entrants' membership qualifications.

**Event Admission:** two or more volunteers to assist at the ticket table during the public portion of the event on Sunday; one or more assistant to work with the membership secretary to promote the enrollment of new members and to encourage re-enrollment of previous members.

**Bucket Drawing:** four to six volunteers willing to assist for an hour or two in the sale of tickets for the Bucket Drawing (time slots to be posted on the website).

**Set up and Take Down Crew:** one crew manager to organization volunteers; ten to fifteen able individuals to assist early Saturday morning to set up the competition and other tables used during the event; a similar number of volunteers are needed to take down the tables and other materials Sunday afternoon at the close of the Show.

**Education Class Instructors:** four individuals to conduct informative classes or demonstrations on Sunday.

Remember, this is the major activity of your NEWC year. Please plan to be there and also to donate a bit of your time to help make it a success. Contact Jan LeClair at [jmlsings@yahoo.com](mailto:jmlsings@yahoo.com) for information or to Volunteer now!



## NEWC MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2020

**IT'S TIME TO VOTE!**

### SCHEDULE:

#### March-April

The Ballot below is published in THIS March-April Newsletter. Unfortunately, **THE APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING IS CANCELLED!** so please submit your ballots by mail or email ~~BY MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>~~.

Mail:

(Deadline extended to June 30th!)

**Gary Filiault, Treasurer**

**New England Woodcarvers, Inc.**

**PO Box 538**

**New Boston, NH 03070-0538.**

Email: [whittlemath@aol.com](mailto:whittlemath@aol.com)

Please remember **only one vote per member**, and only NEWC members **in good standing** (meaning you paid your dues!) are eligible to vote.

#### May

June 30th

1. **Again, the deadline for voting is ~~May 1<sup>st</sup>~~. We must receive your ballot by then.**
2. Ballots will then be counted by a sub-committee of the Executive Board.

#### June

Postponed probably to September

Assuming our Annual ~~X~~ Meeting on June 13, 2020 takes place as planned, the award will be presented to the 2020 NEWC Member of the Year by the President at the meeting. Please pay attention to emails and the website for updates on the status of the June Annual Meeting!

If you are a nominee or if you nominated a member, you should receive a letter of acknowledgement and appreciation in the weeks following the presentation of the award.

## NEW ENGLAND WOODCARVERS MEMBER OF THE YEAR BALLOT 2020

This year we are fortunate to have SEVEN deserving nominees for Member of the Year!

Instructions: *Read the nominee descriptions carefully and check ONE box to vote for Member of the Year 2020. Then mail or email your ballot to Gary (see above for addresses) ~~BY MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>~~!*

extended to June 30th!

### ☐ **RICK BOYER (MEMBERSHIP # 3070)**

Rick has served on the Board for a number of years, attending all board and member meetings. He volunteers for special projects, i.e., SOW - security, set-up and break-down, etc. Rick promotes NEWC and CMCC at craft shows. He chairs the Tree of Hope project – collects, and sells ornaments then distributes funds to veteran groups. Rick is an active member of Central Mass Caricature Carvers. He was the recipient of the 2019 Member of the Year Award.

### ☐ **MARY CHOUINARD (MEMBERSHIP # 2940)**

Mary has served as Membership Secretary for a number of years and additionally is interim Secretary. Mary has been an active member of the Board as Membership Secretary and is an invaluable source of information regarding members and the history of the organization. Mary is active in the Franklin Senior Center Woodcarving class and Ridge Woodcarvers in Lakeland, FL (in February).

### ☐ **JOHN EARLEY (MEMBERSHIP # 3229)**

Last year John stepped up to organize the SOW, which was difficult given the failed attempt the previous year, the change of venue and usual struggle to find volunteers. John has received several awards throughout New England for his carvings.

### ☐ **LAURIE FARRELL (MEMBERSHIP # 3303)**

Laurie accepted the role as President and is a dynamic leader. Laurie is involved with the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers, brought Josh Gouge to NEWC to do a workshop in the fall of 2019, and carves birds for the Tree of Hope. Laurie holds membership in carving clubs in Florida.

### ☐ **JOE MARSHALL (MEMBERSHIP # 1141)**

Joe has served as Treasurer and webmaster to NEWC. He has enhanced the NEWC.org website. Joe has spearheaded the SOW for several years. Joe conducts woodcarving classes in his home.

### ☐ **ROBERT (BOB) SCHWINGER (MEMBERSHIP # 3039)**

Bob has carved for over twenty years. Bob's body of work includes boats, signs, fish, birds and marine animals. Bob has taught decoy carving. He rejuvenated the Granite State Woodworkers and conducts weekly carving sessions in his home. Bob has won numerous ribbons at SOW and Ward World Wildfowl Carving Championships in Ocean City, Maryland.

### ☐ **MARTIN TRUITT (MEMBERSHIP # 3222)**

Martin "stepped up to steer the ship" describes how our acting President took over through our crisis in 2019. Martin represents NEWC at numerous crafts shows. Martin presently is carving the Member of the Year trophy, a tradition which his father began.