



Spirit of Wood

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

New England Woodcarvers, Inc| Facebook



Happy
Valentine's
Day

Featured Carver is Linda Parviainen

Member Meetings have been suspended until further notice.

Spirit of Wood

New England Woodcarvers, Inc.
P.O. Box 538
New Boston, NH 03070-538

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

January-February 2021
Volume 6 Issue 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, WINTER 2021

I hope this message finds everyone healthy –AND carving! The Board continues to meet every other month (sometimes), to work on keeping NEWC as active as possible in these interesting times. It has truly been a unique presidency.

We have several items on our agenda that I would love you to be a part of. We are working on having a one hour tutorial seminar on April 10, the date of our General Membership Meeting. It will be via Zoom, as “in person” meetings are still not possible. You would need to sign up for this. As soon as we have secured a speaker, we will have Kim send out an email blast to everyone.

It is that time of year again to nominate a fellow carver for Member of the Year! Who has helped you get through 2020? Is there a special mentor, or someone who has gone the extra distance to help you in your carving or on the Club?



Moving forward with in person meetings...everything remains in limbo. MCC will not likely be open, even in June, the time of our annual meeting. I am looking into the idea of trying to find another venue, but it is not looking great at this time. We have to be able to gather –continued page 2

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Safely. So much depends on what happens over the next few months, so stay tuned! We always have the virtual option.

The same is true of our Spirit of Wood Show. No venue will commit to allowing us to use their facility at this time. The Board is meeting on Saturday February 20 at 5pm to discuss options regarding both the Annual Meeting and the Spirit of Wood Show. You are welcome to join us. You would need to contact Kim at kkgrimy@yahoo.com to register for Zoom. Regardless if the show is live or virtual, we need your help to make this a success.

We WILL have some type of show in October, so
keep carving!

Thank you for continuing to support NEWC and for
keeping the spirit of carving alive!

Sincerely,

Laurie Farrell, President NEWC

Middlesex Community College Scholarships

In November, the Middlesex Community College awarded three scholarships in the name of the New England Wood Carvers. The Executive Board received thank you letters in January from Michelle Shipka, Sha Lui, and Odette Pinales. All three recipients expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to pursue further studies in the coming semester at MCC. Michelle is studying Graphic Arts and Sha is "restarting" her studies "after many years". Odette states that this scholarship "is truly a blessing by God" and that "He may give you the desires of your heart for being so generous".

NEWC has an ongoing scholarship fund at MCC. Last year, NEWC donated \$2000 to that fund as a way to give to the college for the free use of the facility for meetings and the Spirit of Wood Show. Although the college is closed and we cannot hold meetings this year, due to Covid-19, the Executive Board has decided to support the college with a \$500 donation to the hopes of continuing active meetings in the future.

Congratulations to this year's recipients!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Opening Balances

Checking	Total	\$11,773.50
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Income

Regular Meeting		
Membership Income		\$2,076.96
Tree of Hope		\$665.00
Web and Internet		
SOW Virtual Show		
	Total	\$2,741.96

Expenses

Regular Meeting		
Membership Expenses		
Tree of Hope		\$700.00
Web and Internet		
SOW Virtual Show		
Storage		\$303.00
Banking Fee		\$6.00
Newsletter		\$142.53
	Total	\$1,151.53

Ending Balance		\$13,363.93
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Tree of Hope	\$4,773.81
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NEWC	\$8,590.12
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MEETING DATES 2021

All meetings are to be on Saturdays
Presently meetings are ZOOM

Members are invited to join the February 20, 2021
Board Meeting. It interested contact Kim Rhault
kkgrimy@yahoo.com for a link to the meeting

Board Meetings	Membership Meetings
5-7 p.m.	9 a. m.
January 23	April 10
February 20	June 19 Annual
March 13	September 18
May 8	December 11
August 28	
November 13	
SOW 2021 Saturday, October 23rd and Sunday, October 24th optimistically at Peabody Senior Center (Council on Aging) 79 Central Street, Peabody, MA	

Members of the Board of Directors

Executive Board

President- Laurie Farrell

Past (acting) President- Martin Truitt

Vice President- Jan LeClair

Secretary-Linda Parviainen

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 and Scotty Arsenault

Membership News

Obituary

Norman Devonshire

Raymond, ME

Notification was received of the passing in August 2020 of Norman Devonshire of Raymond, ME. Norman was a master wood carver and received many ribbons for his carvings. Norman was a member of “the Gang” who met on Monday evenings to carve. He was a meticulous gentleman who will be missed.

Congratulations New Member

Mark Brown

Sutton, MA

Spirit of Wood 2021

Over the next few weeks, NEWC Board members will be placing calls to members throughout New England to get some feedback from you about a virtual vs in-person SOW. If you don't get a call and want to give feedback, please feel free to call VP Jan LeClair. Name and phone number are on the NEWC website.

While October seems a long way off, planning for an in-person show (if we have one) starts now. Think about giving some of your time back to NEWC by volunteering to help at the show. Some of the areas in which assistance is needed include setting up the competition space; helping to bring carvings to the competition area; getting donations for the basket drawing and selling tickets; finding presenters to offer instructional classes: introducing instructors; assisting at the registration and ticket sales tables; security. There are many opportunities to participate in meaningful ways so think about offering an hour or two of your time. Sign-up will be announced in February.

Editor in Chief - Gay Gawron

lgawron@gmail.com

Editor's Coordinators:

Mary Chouinard

Jan LeClair

Kim Rhault

Laurie Farrell

Linda Parviainen



FEATURED CARVER

Linda Parviainen

I'm a retired 35 year elementary educator. I've just moved back to Massachusetts after living full time in Arizona for 12 years. Now I'm a "snowbird" enjoying the southern warmth and having only sunshine to shovel! I enjoy sewing, basic knitting, puzzles, reading, card playing, line dancing and being retired.

I am fascinated by the artistry shown by carvers and what they create from the raw wood they choose for each project. My friend Janice introduced me to carving and the group she's a member of. Imagine the luck and what I consider a privilege to share carving time with incredible artists like Pete LeClair, Rick, Edsel and Gary. These gentlemen are so willing to share their knowledge and give time to answer questions and help a novice. My efforts are only beginning –mittens, a caricature tree, a chimney with Santa's Cap - and are pretty basic. I've not yet seen any ability in me to create human features on anything. I watch technique a lot and now hope to venture into creating my first character with a face. With their encouragement, maybe...

As a new member of NEWC, I am pleased to help out where I can. Volunteers are the life blood of groups like ours!



Ladies and Gentlemen of the Carving World!

The election of new Board members will be occurring soon. If you value the camaraderie of meeting other carvers at NEWC sponsored member meetings or the fun of sharing your artistry during our annual Spirit of Wood Show and Competition, then it's imperative that you share your skills as a member of the organization's administrative board.

Can't get to NEWC Board meetings? Yes, you can since meetings have gone virtual; you can even join in-person meetings via Zoom. You can be a part of the decision-making process because it doesn't matter where you live in New England! **Zoom into Board meetings!**

Currently, the Board has vacant positions for a Vice-President and Treasurer, Want to lead the effort to grow and move NEWC forward? Run for President! Good at keeping records? Run for Treasurer! Other voting positions for which you could offer your services include Director of Public Relations, Director of Education Programming, Director of Information Services, Director of Technology and Director of Special Projects. Now, we have some great folks in some of these positions now but that doesn't mean they will always be there, and we need to plan for the future. Know someone who might fit? Be ready to nominate them (with their approval, of course!) at our annual meeting in June!

Remember, this is your organization and it takes many NEWC members to make it work for you.

Thanks to Dick Shryock for volunteering as our Maine liaison! We are also looking for volunteers from Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, Are you enthusiastic about the art of carving as it happens in your state? Help us find others as well so they can be included in NEWC activities. We want to grow: we want to pass our art on to the next generations; we want to spread the word about the benefits of carving. Join your NEWC Board today!