



# CWCA NEWSLETTER

March 2023

Connecticut WoodCarvers Association

**It's looking like it's going to be a busy year!**

## Upcoming Events

**CWCA Club Meeting** – Mar. 5, 10 am to 2 pm. (usually 1st Sunday of month). Novice project is lepracaun, knife making & sharpening.

**Open Carving Night** – Mar. 16, 5-8 pm at Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs.)

**Barkhamsted Nature Day** - April 30 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. at Peoples State Forest Pavillion. Demo & sell. Some walking sticks. BYO table, tent, & chair.

**Flanders Annual Festival** – May 20, 10:00 - 4:00 p.m. Demo & sell. Some walking sticks. BYO table & chair. Under tent.

**Five Points** - Torrington campus 6/3 & 4. Demo & sell. More info to come.

**Wood Carvers New England Retreat** – Sept. 15-18 at Retreat Center, Litchfield, CT. This is new generation of the Mystic Carvers retreat. Mark your calendar. Details to follow.

**White Memorial Earth Day** - Sept 23. Hold the date. More info to follow.

**Bird Carving Event** - Sept 30 all day at CFPFA facility. 8am—8pm. Will make complete Sandpiper. \$50 all material & instruction with professional bird carver. Contact Paul Edwards @ (203) 578-0699.

**Wood Show** - 10/24 more details to follow.

**For additional info on a calendar events, check club web site.**

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Message from the Prez,

Greetings.

The third Thursday of each month, the New England Carousel Museum is open from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the CWCA to carve in their craft room !! The Springfield Woodworking Show brought a new face and a possible second face to join us to carve. Remember if you are interested in learning the many types of carving, there is no better place than this place of historic carvings on display for all to admire and learn. So .... Join Us if you can !!

Remember ... Safety first and if you are talking, PUT THE TOOL DOWN. The injury you prevent maybe your own !!

Sharp tools, clean cut and let the chips fall !

Happy Carving,

Your Pres



## Planning This Season's Events

Planning an event can be a complex process and requires time, but if we do it well the event itself is less stressful, more memorable.

The first steps are to identify our objectives for the event, taking into account who the target audience is. Then once we have a clear idea of what we want to achieve, it's time to decide what needs to be done by whom, when and where.

CWCA has collective knowledge and experience to make every event smooth and stressless. We want to be able to talk about an upcoming event at least one month in advance. That will give us the time to hash out a plan at a monthly meeting, and be able to complete that plan at a comfortable pace.

So when we start going over upcoming events at our next monthly meeting, make an effort to look up from your carving every so often and throw in your two cents. Could be in the form of a question, a suggestion, or some of that well-timed & delivered humor that has made it possible for you to survive life to this point.

Then again, there are times when it would be best for you to not say much of anything more than to just agree, and ask what you can do to help :-)





## The Consummate Wood Carving Coach



Coaching someone in handcrafts requires patience and the ability to be both encouraging and instructive. It's important to be able to break down complex techniques into manageable steps, stated simply, so that the person you're coaching can understand and master them. When demonstrating a new technique, it's important to take it slow and to explain each step clearly. Be sure to provide positive reinforcement when the person completes a task successfully. Additionally, provide helpful tips and advice on how to improve their skills.

If the person you're coaching is having difficulty, it's important to be patient and to offer assistance without being overly critical. Finally, it's important to give the person time to practice and to make mistakes so that they can learn from them and develop their handcrafting skills.