



CWCA NEWSLETTER

January, 2026

Connecticut Wood Carvers Association

Upcoming Events

Jan. 4 - * **CWCA Club Meeting & Holiday Party** 10am-2pm at Carousel Museum in Bristol.

Note that this is not the usual location! See below for info on Holiday Party.

Jan. 15 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - at Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.)

Feb. 4 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10am-2pm Back at CFPA! (usually 1st Sun.).

Feb. 19 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.).

Novice projects - C page 2.

Letter from 'The Prez'

Looking ahead, we have club elections coming up and with the past performances of some in the executive branch of leadership, attendance is less than stellar. Out of that branch, two leaders have shown the ability to attend ALL meetings. If you want to serve, part of your responsibility is to attend all meetings. If you cannot, then let someone who is willing to. Emergencies may occur and will be understood. However if you are looking for glory without responsibility, look someplace else. Again ALL positions are open. If you can't attend all meetings, let someone who can. Electronic/Skype does not qualify as attending, you physically are not in attendance. It is important for you to be present as part of the leadership responsibility.

Again, all positions are open, and should be filled by a person that will focus on taking responsibility, leadership and integrity and looking out for fellow carvers in all aspects.

On another note, while using the meeting room at CFPA, we have been complimented with the Best overall record for leaving it cleaner than all of the groups that meet there! CWCA can be proud of that and it is part of the role of leadership that should not be taken lightly..

As always,.....safety first, sharp tools, clean cuts and let the chips pile up!!!

Your Pres

PS: Due to bad weather in December we postponed our holiday party. Now, we are rescheduling it to the January meeting. This will be a family event, so bring someone who is special to you,

Please feel free to bring a dish/dessert to share or maybe a drink or paper supplies if food is not your thing!

We have a gift exchange too! Please bring a wrapped item as a grab bag gift. There is a steal part to the fun! A piece of your making is always the highest sought item. You do not need to buy. Handmade is better! If your family member wishes to participate, please have them bring a grab bag gift. Bring one, get one!

We are watching the weather. Please watch Facebook, our website, and your email for updates. **Remember: Dues are due!!**

President	Leo Hein	860-675-5473	Secretary	Kristian Wake	860-328-2412
VP	Rick Johnson	860-798-9104	Newsletter	Mike Schulde	Mikeschu62@gmail.com
Treas. & Membership	Mark Austin	860-283-2177	Web Liaison	Lynda Zibbideo	203-686-1207



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Member Projects

Earlier this year we expanded our novice project offerings to provide more opportunities to learn and try new things. We are continuing to offer our novice projects concurrently from January until May. This way, if you have not finished a project or would like to make another, you are welcome to continue! We will also be providing another multi month project so you can challenge yourself on another project. We are looking forward to spring with various projects. Some of new projects are:

- Quick Carve Snowman
- Hummingbird and Crane ornaments
- Stylized Shorebird and chickadee
- Wonky Whittled Ladybugs
- Flag Pin
- Shelf sitting cat

For December, we are continuing the fall **Novice projects**. If you would like us to keep these available for a couple of months, let us know and we will bring the blanks and instructions.

- Folk Art style Bird – simple bird pattern similar to a comfort bird
- Pumpkins – this is a fun 3d carving that can be very simple or complex
- 5 minute Owl – simple carving to illustrate carving techniques
- Retro Christmas lights – old fashioned incandescent Christmas lights can be very simple or complex if you choose to add a face
- Wood burned tags or ornaments
- Name Tags – we encourage all of you to create your own nametag (or more than one)

Multi-Month Projects

Non-traditional Gnome – we have all seen the basic pattern for a gnome, which we will have from a pattern put out by Wood Carving Illustrated (book too). There will be step by step directions. We will also have examples where the carver has gotten tired of the traditional and has gone off on a tangent. This includes changing (the carving) from male to female, then going crazy with skeleton themes, wizard themes (with a dragon and eye on his hat)

Blank costs will vary based on the size of the wood (eagle project blanks are \$25, \$35, and \$45) and typically run from two for a dollar (wood disks), to around \$5 each if the blanks have extra scrolling to remove extra wood. Most of these projects come from Wood Carving Illustrated and there are basic copy costs for directions which will vary depending on how many pages.

Each month, we will continue to have knife making classes with Chuck and Mike Salvatore each month. If you want to make your own knife, the cost is around \$3 to \$5 each (at cost for the blade, handle material, and the epoxy) or they might have a few finished ones for between \$10 to \$15 each.

We are looking for a large project for the spring. Any suggestions?

New England Wood Carvers – club challenge!

NEWC has issued a challenge to the carving clubs of New England.

New England Woodcarvers is proud to support veterans through our Tree of Hope program. Members and non-members have donated countless ornaments and other small wood carvings to the Tree over the years. The Tree of Hope travels to various craft fairs and carving shows, selling the donated carvings to raise money for programs that support veterans. ALL of the funds raised by the Tree of Hope go directly to the benefit of the veterans.

As of mid-November, Connecticut has created 23 carvings so far with Maine very close with 20 carvings. We have been doing great and can do better! If you can create a small carving for them to sell for the Tree of Hope, please use the above website for where to submit the carvings.



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TIME TO 'RE-UP'! Please send \$25.00 to Mark Austin to renew your membership For 2026.

Checks should be made to 'CWCA' and mailed with following form to: **CWCA Membership,**
258 Campville Road, Northfield, CT 06778

Name _____ New Member? ☐ Yes

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____