



CWCA NEWSLETTER

February, 2026

Connecticut Wood Carvers Association

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 1- * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10am-2pm - Back at CFPA! (usually 1st Sun.).
- Feb. 7 - **Makers Event** - Ashford
- Feb. 19 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.).
- Mar. 1 - * **CWCA Club Meeting & Elections** 10am-2pm at CFPA. Back at our usual location!
- Mar. 21 - **Parkerville Maker Event** - 10 - 3 Tentative
- Mar. 19 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - at Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.).
- Apr. 26 - * **Barkhamsted Nature Day** more information later.
- May 1-2 - **Fine Woodworking Show** CT School of Woodworking more information later.
- May 3 - * **CWCA Club Meeting and Show** at Ripley Waterfowl more information later.
- Sept. 18 - 21 - **Woodcarving Retreat** at Wisdom Retreat House in Litchfield. More info later.

Novice projects - Snowman & Lady Bugs..

Letter from 'The Prez'

Greetings fellow carvers,

Just a reminder for the March Elections.....Through all that has happened in the past years in the CWCA executive branch, the past has been less than stellar. With that said, we need your help, BUT if you can't make the meetings that an officer should be responsible for attending, then think twice about taking a position. All positions in the elections need to be responsible people, not just feel good leaders and definitely not using the position to just add to your resume. Absences from the meetings is not fulfilling your post. So we need officers to come forward, but think twice before coming forward to be an officer. So thank you to those two officers who have met their responsibilities and commitments to the operations of CWCA and new officers to make CWCA successful for years to come!

The Art of sculpting and painting is human's oldest ventures so the next time you pick up a piece of wood and set your tools out to create an image that is in your mind's eye then remember that is how we have come to where we are today as an artist. For a wood carver, we start with the edge of a sharp tool. So.....

Remember, safety first, sharp tools and clean cuts,

Your Pres

P.S. 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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Are you 'picky' about your carving wood?

Mario Miralles had his cabin workshop two miles into a canyon northeast of Los Angeles. It was there that he hand crafted world-class violins for decades.

Miralles, 62, is a renowned luthier who has made cellos for Yo-Yo Ma, violins for decorated musicians, and countless string instruments for principal players and young students alike. String instruments that Mario Miralles makes can cost between \$50,000 and \$80,000, and it's not unusual to wait three-and-a-half years after your order is accepted.

Making a world-class string instrument requires world-class wood. And gathering that wood required



frequent trips to European vendors over a career of more than 40 years. Spruce from the Dolomites in Italy for the tops of the instruments. Maple from countries in and around Bosnia for the backs, sides and necks. Cello wood that was at least 150 years old. He might spend three days at a vendor and end up with five pieces, some of which cost as much as \$5,000 each.

He often became a "nightmare for wood dealers," he said. He would measure a plank's flexibility, its weight, its density. He would examine its figure and grain width.

Then the Eaton fire's destruction came to Altadena, CA - residents killed, thousands of buildings destroyed, and his shed was among the casualties.

After looking at the cinders that were once his workshop, he set out to begin purchasing replacement wood stock. His first was a piece of maple, cut more than 100 years ago, that could sing for centuries to come thanks to his skilled hands. Fortunately for Mario, his suppliers have already started setting aside wood for him which they have been collecting for years.

Holiday Party Pictures





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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 _____