



CWCA NEWSLETTER

April, 2025

Connecticut Wood Carvers Association

Upcoming Events

Mar.20 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.)

Mar. 22 - **New England Air Museum** makers event with woodturners, scrollers. 9 - 3.

Apr. 5 - **Berlin Peck Library** makers show with woodturners 9:30 - 5.

Apr. 6 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10 - 2 at CFPA. Novice proj. - continue Bellamy Eagle.

Apr. 17 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.)

Week of April 21—Harvest walking sticks. Contact Leo.

April 26 - **Meriden Library** 105 Miller St. 9:30 - 2 PM Makers event with Central CT Woodturners.

April 27 - * **Barkhamsted Day & May CWCA Club Meeting**, People's Forest State Park. May CWCA meeting WILL NOT be in May. It will be held April 27th at Barkhamsted Day (CFPA not available for original May meeting time). Novice project will be walking sticks. 10 - 5 (meeting will be at 10:00). Tents. Help with harvesting sticks.

May 9 &10 - **Fine Woodworking Open House@** Woodcraft, Manchester. 9 –3.

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

May 17 - **Westbrook Decoy & Carving Show** at Elk's Club. Show & demo. 10-3.

May 31 - **Multi-Club event** at Beckish Sr.Center 188 Rte 66, Columbia, CT. RSVP
Dennis Tormey @ dtormey5519@earthlink.net or Mary Brown @ mbrown06239@gmail.com

June 1 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** at CFPA

July 26 - **Portland Library** with Woodturners, 10am-2pm , 20 Freestone Ave., Portland, CT
Club picnic—to be announced.

Sept. 27 - **White Memorial Nature Day** More info later.

Sept. 27-30 - **Woodcarving Retreat of New England.** More info later.

Oct. 17,18 & 19 - **Spirit of Wood** Willmington, MA. More info later.

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

letter from 'The Prez'

Greetings fellow carvers,

With warmer weather, heat waves, cold snaps, who knows what else, we need sticks for Barkhamstead Day, 4/27/25! Remember, we have been bumped from the CFPA location for our May meeting. It was decided at our last meeting that the May meeting would be combined with the Barkhamsted event. We need 50 sticks, so please volunteer to help collect sticks!!

Side note, Bears are out and about!! So you need to be alert and safety in numbers! The woods are suppose to be the bears' home. They would rather prefer our yard than their woods which is suppose to be their's!! And remember, with your help, many hands make light work!!

So please volunteer to help collect sticks!!

Lastly, a last minute call from DEEP for an event at Sessions Woods on 3/15/25 was a success. We were able to pull a small group together, with Jen, Andre, Gary, Renee and myself and presented a good showing for our club! We were furnished food, coffee and juice. DEEP were very thankful that we were able to attend on short notice and we got to show CWCA skills!!

As always,.....Safety first, sharp tools, clean cuts and ...Happy Carving!!

Your Pres

Gourd Carving



Gourd carving is a captivating and ancient craft that transforms dried carving gourds into a variety of things. This artistic practice has been around for thousands of years and is found in cultures worldwide, including Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

You start with the right type of gourd, which can be hard-shell (*Lagenaria*) or soft-shell (*Cucurbita*). The gourd is then dried and cured to prepare it for carving.

Alternatively, you can buy the dried and cleaned gourd from a variety of on-line sources and even at craft stores (including Walmart). Gourds come in a variety of sizes and shapes to accommodate your vision.

(Continued on next page.)





Gourd Carving *(Continued)*

You can also **carve** into or through the gourd's surface with knives, chip carving tools, chisels, and gouges.

After it is cleaned, there are a variety of ways to enhance it to realize your artistic vision.

You can **draw** a design directly onto the gourd. Or onto transfer paper, and then to the gourd. There are books with ready-to-copy designs.

The carving of gourds can easily accommodate power carving tools. Techniques can vary from shallow engraving to deep relief carving, creating intricate and textured design.

Gourds can be further embellished with painting, burning (pyrography), staining, or adding beads and other materials. These enhancements bring color and depth to the final piece.



TIME TO 'RE-UP'! Please send \$25.00 to Mark Austin to renew your membership For 2024.

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 _____

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