



CWCA NEWSLETTER

Sept. 2024

Connecticut Wood Carvers Association

Upcoming Events

Sept 8 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10 - 2 at CFPA (usually 1st Sunday)

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

Sept 21 - “**Carve-In**” 9 - 3 Beckish Sr Cntr, Columbia, CT. Carvers from New England Woodcarving Clubs. RSVP: Dennis dtormey5519@earthlink.net more info at: [Wood Carvers Carve - In.pdf](#)

Sept. 27-30 - **Woodcarving Retreat of New England**. More info at: [2024 Retreat application 0520.pdf](#) .

Sept. 28 - **White Memorial Nature Day** More info later. (Volunteers needed)

Oct. 6 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10 - 2 at CFPA (usually 1st Sunday)

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

Oct. 19-20 - **Spirit of Wood**. Carousel Museum. 19th Set-up & early entry, 20th 9:00. Register to compete.

Nov. 3 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10 - 2 at CFPA (first Sun is on Thanksgiving weekend)

Nov. 21 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.)

Dec. 8 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10 - 2 at CFPA

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

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

* This event is CWCA sponsored and run .

Letter from 'The Prez'

Greetings Fellow Carvers,

This Fall is shaping up to be a very busy start!! In September, we need sticks for **White Memorial Nature Day** and **Goodwin Park Nature Day** and the **Sky's The Limit** (DEEP). Then there is the **Woodcarving Retreat** sponsored and presented by New England Woodcarvers and Linda Z.!! In October, after our regular meeting, the weekend of October 20th, there will be the **Spirit Of Wood Show** at the New England Carousel Museum. Our club will be working with the New England Wood Carvers to set up, demonstrate and tear down. And let's not forget we need to enter those carvings that you have been working on!! If you have never entered a piece into this show, now is the time to do that. We need your creations to show other carvers and would-be carvers what can be done with a piece of wood!!

Another bit of information, for those of you that do not get **Chip Chat** (National Wood Carvers's magazine), there is a two page article on one of our own, long time member, Ted Dubay!! This is an excellent read!!

Our annual CWCA picnic was spared rain and we had a gorgeous day. There was some carving, more eating, great conversation with many laughs, that made for a good time by all that were able to attend. A big THANK YOU to all involved in organizing and setting up the day and to those contributing over 20 different delicious foods to make the day a complete success!! And of course, a sincere Thank You to our hosts, Gary and Bonnie Gemino for the use of their park-like home with a view of the pond and the lilies in bloom on that sunny day!!

As a club, we are looking for your input. Please bring your thoughts and ideas forward. This is your club! Without your support and involvement it would not be or even exist. So please come forward with your thoughts and your help in running this club. We need you!!!

Note: Calendar of events listing. Club sponsored events will have an asterisk *in front of the listed event, ex. *CWCA Club Meeting". Other events that may be listed will not have an asterisk, and are events sponsored and run by another group/s.

As Always.....Safety first, keep your tools sharp and your cuts clean!!

Your pres, Leo

Non-Traditional Carving

There is a nostalgia associated with carving wood using traditional tools and making traditional articles that are functional or purely aesthetic. But I would bet there are very few members of CWCA who don't have and use modern tools in their shops to make waste-wood removal easier, or to enhance their creations in other ways. A light coat of paint can hide a variety of stealthily deployed non-traditional methods and materials.



Putting aside the veneer of traditionalism for a bit, let's just look at how technology has crept into our craft; and in many cases changed it forever. After all, who among us isn't likely to buy a 'traditional' tool made from a modern metal alloy and sharpen it with something other than a soft stone or bare leather strop?

At the most recent wood show at Saratoga Springs, I was noticing how categories in that show have changed. Certainly there are still the usual: 'chip', 'relief', 'sculpted', 'functional items', etc. But the number of items using hybrid techniques and materials have increased radically – they may already out-numbering traditional entries.

When you stroll thru vendor exhibits you get a sense of what's driving the change in shops across the landscape: mechanized carvers, chainsaws, specialized cutters/shapers, 3D printing, programmable CNC, sophisticated scroll machines, lasers, composite materials, etc.

There has been a progression of discoveries in materials and techniques since our distant ancestors have sat around fires in animal skins crafting arrows and spears. Incorporating metal, leather, gemstones, bone, clay, ivory, glass - the list goes on from pre-history to present time. It's fine to demonstrate traditional work, but lets also celebrate and enjoy the way we have integrated new tech into our 'traditional' work!

Currently Serving CWCA Officers:

President	Leo Hein	860-675-5473	Secretary	Dan Holiday	860-620-2255
VP & Treas.	Mark Austin	860-388-7874	Newsletter	Mike Schulde	Mikeschu62@gmail.com
Membership	Mark Austin	860-283-2177	Web Liaison	Lynda Zibbideo	203-686-1207



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TIME TO 'RE-UP'! Please send \$25.00 to Mark Austin to renew your membership For 2021. 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 _____