



Spirit of Wood

<http://www.newc.org/> **New England Woodcarvers Inc.** | Facebook

Next meeting will be held at Middlesex Community College, Bedford, MA
on February 4, 2018 from 9:00am to 3pm
The guest speaker will be Thomas Matsuda

Spirit of Wood

Newsletter

New England Woodcarvers,
Inc.
P.O. Box 561

January—February 2018

Newsletter

Vol 3 - Issue 3

The mission of the New England Woodcarvers is to educate and promote woodcarving, wood sculpturing and whittling as an art form to all its members and to the greater community



President's Message



Hi All I hope everybody had a great Holiday season it is hard to believe 2017 is over. I think Joe Marshall and Ken Wagner did a spectacular job on the Spirit of the Wood show. We will keep working on making it better if we can. We should all thank Keith Oldfield on all his work as the President I don't think I could ever fill his shoes, because he hides his shoes on me. We will carry on and see if we can improve NEWC. If anybody is looking for a chance to be president I need a President Elect I am still the president for another year and a half so I can show them what their responsibilities are. We also have another position open our longtime Seminar secretary Louis Dennis is stepping down due to health reasons. Also, Ken Wagner has given notice that he will be stepping down from the Treasurer's job in June.

Also we have to vote for member of the year we need some nominations if you know anybody that you feel deserves to be member of the year let us know.

We have a busy year coming up if you have any suggestions for the SOW Show let us know join the SOW committee. Help us make NEWC better!

2017/2018 Meeting Dates for NEWC, Inc. Middlesex Community College, Bedford Campus

General Membership Meetings

Held in the Campus Center, Building #8 on Sundays from
9 AM – 3 PM

February 4, 2018
April 1, 2018
June 3, 2018 (Annual Meeting)
September 23, 2018
December 2, 2018

Board of Directors Meetings

Held in the **Henderson Hall, Room 308, Building #3,**
Saturdays from 9 AM – 12 Noon

March 3, 2018
May 5, 2018
September 8, 2018
November 3, 2018

Spirit of Wood Show

Held in the Campus Center, Building #8
October 13, 2018 (Saturday Set Up)
October 14, 2018 (Sunday Show)

New England Wood Carvers Highest Award

The NEWC MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD is given to an active dues-paying member who has made an outstanding contribution to the organization during the current year and past year. Accomplishments made beyond the club's usual meeting place are acceptable providing they satisfy the intent of the guidelines. The award has been presented since 1976 to individuals who have exemplified club services and leadership, NEWC members of record shall cast their vote in the month of April for one of the nominees eligible to receive this award.

NEWC MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD GUIDELINES for NOMINATION

To be considered for this prestigious award the nominee will have made contributions like the examples given in these guidelines. The nominee's contributions should be substantial and recognized by several people. The examples do not necessarily include everything that a member could have done. They serve as a pathway in helping the nominator to consider carefully all the possible accomplishments this nominee has made that makes him or her worthy of this award. Moreover, it is advisable to speak with people who are closest to the nominee. This step will ensure that all the known credit has been gathered in preparation to completing the nomination form.

1. Inspired people to take up wood carving, helped people to improve their woodcarving skills, recruited people to become members of NEWC, or reached out to the community in a manner that promoted the art of carving.
2. Taught woodcarving in different settings, tutored one or more individuals, demonstrated carving methods in use today, or made presentations of carvings in a variety of settings before an audience.
3. Exhibited personal works of accomplishments, entered carvings in competition, contributed to various publications. Or was/is an active carving instructor.
4. Is now or may have been an officer of the club, directed a club project, worked in some capacity in the Spirit of Wood Show, or took charge of one or more membership meeting activities.

NEW ENGLAND WOODCARVERS MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

To nominate a NEWC member, please complete this form and mail or email it to: Scott Arsenault, 59 St. Joseph Ave., Fitchburg, MA 01420, scott_arsenault@msn.com. Please type or print all information. Additional or supporting information on the nominee should be attached to the nomination form. A form is also available on the NEWC website at www.newc.org >Home>Awards. Nomination forms are due no later than March 10 , 2017

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Membership No. (if known) _____

Nominator Name: _____

Nominator Membership No. _____

Why do you believe this nominee should receive this award? Refer to guidelines for nomination at www.newc.org >Home>Awards: _____

Special Guest Speaker

Thomas Matsuda

Thomas is a contemporary artist who's work has been exhibited world wide. He has done many wood and stone carvings some of which are on permanent display in Japan as well as in the United States. It has taken him many years to develop his skills and philosophy. I think we will all find his talk informative and enlightening.

January/February 2018

New Member:

Steve Procissi Concord, MA

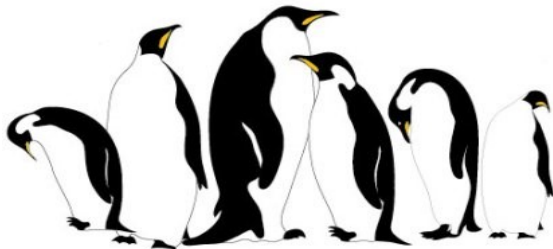
Membership News

Become a New Member or Renew Your Current Membership

Send a check: **New England Woodcarvers, Inc.**, for \$20/year,
to 4 Cross Street, Medfield, MA 02052

Include your name, address, phone number and e-mail address and choice of e-mail, US mail or both for newsletter. Your NEWC membership card will be sent to you, when you enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope or include an additional \$.50 for postage.

Be sure to check your card to see if it is time to renew.



South Shore Carvers

For any carvers looking for a little help or some carving comradery, the South Shore Carvers still meets every Wednesday at the First Congregational Church in Randolph, MA, center. The hours are from 6:00 to 9 in the church basement. The group instructor is professional Sculptor Justin Gordon as well as the experienced carvers in the group who have done very well at the Spirit of Wood shows every year. The weekly group size ranges from 10 to 15 people but we can easily handle 25 people. You bring your own materials, tools, and reference pictures. We also have coffee and many members bring munchies to maintain our superior masculine physiques. It's a really fun and learned group of mixed company who enjoys lots of laughs every week. Contact Justin or Bruce to let us know you're coming.



EDITOR IN CHIEF:

Gay Gawron

glgawron@gmail.com

Editors Coordinators: Joe Marshall

Mary Chouinard

Gail Hensche

Louis Dennis

M. Paul Ward

Gerald & Cheryl Kottmann

Ken Wagner

FY 2016-2017 Income and Expenses

Tree7/1/2016 through 12/31/2016

<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Opening Balances</u>	
Checking and Saving	15,707.29
Tree of Hope	2,542.81
Seminar Deposit - Al Jordan	<u>1,800.00</u>
Total Savings	18,250.10
<u>Income</u>	
Book Sales	285.00
SOW Income -	
Auction /50/50/Raffle/	
Registration/Admissions	4,302.00
Membership Dues	1,938.00
Tree of Hope	3,214.00
Merchandise Income	114.00
Meeting Auction Income	177.00
Misc. Income	<u>133.24</u> <u>11,963.24</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	
SOW Expenses	2,678.03
Storage	526.00
Newsletter Expense	1,356.46
Tree of Hope	1,550.00
Seminar Expense - Al Jordan	2,800.00
Meeting Speaker Expense	150.00
Web Expense	287.00
Insurance	0.00
Misc. Expense	<u>424.34</u> <u>9,771.83</u>
<u>Adjusted Savings Balances</u>	
Checking & Savings	16,234.70
Tree of Hope	<u>4,206.81</u>
Total Adjusted Net Savings	<u>20,441.51</u>



Members of the Board of Directors

Scott Arsenault, President

M. Paul Ward, Past President

Ken Wagner, Treasurer

Martin Truitt, Secretary

Mary Chouinard, Membership

Gail Hensche Godin, Tree of Hope

Charles Le Blanc, Tree of Hope

Gay Gawron, Newsletter Editor

Gerald & Cheryl Kottman, Merchandise



Carving Club List Update

I am in the process of updating the carving list on the NEWC web page. If your club is listed on the web page you should have received an email from me, or will very soon, to confirm your club still meets and update your information as required. If I do not receive replies to my emails your club will be removed from the list. Also, anyone who has a group not currently on the list please send me; your name, telephone number, email, meeting address and hours. If your group has a name include that also.

joseph.f.marshall@comcast.net

Joe Marshall
NEWC Web Master,



Featured Carver

Joe Marshall



I started carving in 1986, that is so long ago I don't remember what motivated me to try carving. Ever since I was a kid I always liked working with wood. Eventually I was able to have a wood working shop in our home where I built furniture for the house, my daughters and grand kids. So I guess interest in wood working led me to carving.

My wife Elaine is an accomplishment tole and decorative artist. Elaine wanted to attend a Rosemaling class at Vesterheim in Decorah Iowa and of course wanted to be driven out by her live in chauffeur – me. She learned Harley Rafsal was teaching a caricature carving class at Vesterheim at the same time, as the saying goes the rest is history. I carved the gnome shown here at that class - my first carving.

When I returned home I found Russ Coburn's bird carving in Lunenburg, MA so I became a bird carver. The nuthatch shown was my first bird. As I was getting ready for class one night I told Elaine I was going to burn my bird at class. Her response was "oh don't do that it's not that bad"! My last bird was a full size loon with two babies made for my daughter, the babies represent her two children. The loon took me about three years to complete, although I was happy with it, I was burnt out on birds. I entered the loon in the last Wild Life Carving competition in Connecticut and to my great delight won best of life size waterfowl.

I carve a Santa every year for my wife and daughters, my first one shown here was carved in 1987. The other Santa shown was donated to The PLUS Co., a nonprofit I work with. The PLUS Co. has a silent auction dinner dance each year, my Santa is sold in a live auction. The one shown

went for \$800, they have gone for as much as \$1500. I am delighted The PLUS Co. receives such high donations which support their good work.

I have a small carving group that meets at my house Friday mornings from 9 till noon. In 2017 we asked Edsel Johnson if he would conduct a class with us to carve Floyd Rhadian's Dog Face soldier, my version is shown here.

I enjoy knife and gouge carving but do use power a little as needed to clean up some difficult spots. I paint my pieces in acrylics and seal the final piece with Krylon 1311 which protects the finish for many years.

I like to challenge myself in doing more complicated pieces, I think that has helped improve my carvings over the years, it also increases my frustration level some time. I have taken classes from many instructors over the years, I particularly enjoyed attending CCA Carve Along events and was sad to see them discontinued in the northeast. I have also enjoyed the Rhode Island Carve Along events for several years and look forward to the revised event in 2018.

My advice to new carvers is to keep challenging yourself and finish each piece you start, don't throw something away because you are not pleased with it. Every piece is part of your carving journey and will serve to show you how you are progressing in your carving adventure.

Happy carving,

Joe Marshall

