



CWCA NEWSLETTER

November, 2025

Connecticut Wood Carvers Association

Upcoming Events

Nov. 2 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10am-2pm at Carousel Museum in Bristol (usually 1st Sun.).

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

Dec. 14 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10am-2pm at Carousel Museum in Bristol (usually 1st Sun.).

Dec. 18 - * **Evening Carving Night** 5-8pm - at Bristol Carousel Museum (usually 3rd Thurs.).

Jan. 4 - * **CWCA Club Meeting** 10am-2pm location to be announced later (usually 1st Sun.).

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

For additional info on a calendar events, check club web site. **Novice proj. - C page 3.**

letter from 'The Prez'

Greetings Fellow Carvers,

With cooler weather upon us and Halloween in the near past, it's time to think about carving the first thing in my mind. And that is food and that smell from the oven when that special bird is finally ready to meet the carver! With the carving knife needing to be sharpened to perfection, this brings us to the point of how to put the best edge on the blade.

Honing and stropping a steel or stone such as used by or used for sharpening a scythe? Over time, I have tried all possible methods and have found that the stone works the best, although somewhat less refined than other methods, the end result is a heaping platter with neatly sliced and stacked bird that will be a memory in less time than it took to prepare and serve it!

Which brings us to the point of carving, whether it is wood, stone or food, a properly sharpened tool is the key to your success!!

Always remember...safety first, clean cuts and let the chips' pile grow with the proper wood so it can be the beginning of a pile of mulch.

Your pres

*NOTE. The November meeting of CWCA will meet at the New England Carousel Museum.

The December meeting location WILL ALSO BE AT THE CAROUSEL MUSEUM AND WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th and we will have our Holiday Party then.



Goodbye fuzzies

Sometimes cuts aren't precise, tools aren't sharp enough, or wood is uncooperative; and you have a piece with a poor surface. Regular sandpaper never really gets into all the spots that you want to repair, and you need to turn to better technology. Sanding sleeves and cones may help, but radial sanding discs seem to have been created especially for this application.



These little marvels have flexible plastic bristles embedded with abrasive grains (like aluminum oxide or ceramic), they are relatively inexpensive and last pretty well if used at slower speeds, and resist loading.

They range in diameters from 1", to 9/16" and grits from 36X to 400X available from *Treeline*, *Woodworkers Hardware*, *Amazon*, and others.

On an 1/8" or 1/4" arbor they fit a variety rotary tools like a *Dremel* or drill. They can be stacked on a mandrel for sanding a wider area. And they even come with quick change adapters for systems: like 3M Roloc for fast grit swaps.

Besides cleaning up fuzzies on your carvings, other common Uses include: sanding between coats of sealer or finish, and polishing wood, metal, or resin inlays.

Here are a few more reasons woodworkers love them: they are not aggressive - allowing fuzz removal without damaging detail. They are good at conforming to contours: The bristles flex into grooves, crevices, and veining, making them ideal for relief carving or scrollwork. They also generate less heat, reducing the risk of burning wood or softening finishes. The grits are different colors like *Scotch Cloth* - each color typically representing a different grit level.



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Images from recent events

