



# CWCA NEWSLETTER

June, 2025

Connecticut Wood Carvers Association

## Upcoming Events

May 31 - **Mystic Carve-in Multi-Club event** at Beckish Sr.Center 188 Rte 66, Columbia, CT. RSVP  
Dennis Tormey @ [dtormey5519@earthlink.net](mailto:dtormey5519@earthlink.net) or Mary Brown @ [mbrown06239@gmail.com](mailto:mbrown06239@gmail.com)

June 1 - \* **CWCA Club Meeting** at CFPA. Novice proj. - continue Bellamy Eagle.

June 7 - **Eleanor Buck Wolf Nature Center** faerie wands & demo with turners 10 - 2,  
156 Prospect St., Wethersfield.

July 26 - **Portland Library** with Woodturners, 10am-2pm , 20 Freestone Ave., Portland, CT

Aug 2 - **Club picnic** (rain date Aug. 3).

Sept. 7 - \* **CWCA Club Meeting** at CFPA. Novice proj. - .

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

Sept. 27-30 - **Woodcarving Retreat of New England**. Info on web site: <https://ctwoodcarvers.org>  
or click this link: [Woodcarving Retreat of New England](https://ctwoodcarvers.org/retreat) .

Oct. 17,18 & 19 - **Spirit of Wood 126 Middlesex Ave.**, Willmington, MA.

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

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### Letter from 'The Prez'

Greetings fellow carvers,

At this point, I would like to thank the CWCA members who joined us and took part in the 10th Anniversary Barkhamstead Days! This year, weather wise, was a bit of past years. A little of everything that Mother Nature could send our way was experienced especially her strong bursts of wind! However the sticks were shaved despite the weather and Thanks to All that made shaving possible including gathering the sticks!

We were even included in a small part of the 100th Anniversary video of the Peoples State Forest with our shaving horse with sticks. (See article below on New England Society of American Foresters.)

Weather again was a factor on May 9th, Friday for the opening day of the Manchester Woodcraft (CSWW). The tent was barely able to keep the rain from our carving with water washing the chips out from under our feet! Almost a woodcarver's paradise. Cold, dark and damp like most old basements, the only difference was water running under our feet which we normally don't have in our basements! Note: In some cases, some do!!) So thank you to members who braved the weather for this event!!

For our June 1 regular CWCA meeting we will continue the eagle for those that are working on this. Blanks will be available of different styles for those who would like to carve on their own.

More info on the Decoy Show and how it went at our next meeting!

As always.....safety first, sharp tools, clean cuts and let the chips fall!!

Happy Carving!!

Your pres

And remember... Safety first, sharp tools, and clean cuts will keep the chips falling!!!

Your Pres



## Wood Carving Competitions

In case you are interested in entering your work into a contest—here's info on how they typically work:

Wood carving competitions typically rank entries based on multiple criteria:

1. **Originality & Design** – unique interpretations of the subject matter, proportions, anatomy, balance, perspective, and use of light and shadow. Also: proper medium, color, and texture.
2. **Skilled Execution** – This includes tight lamination, precise carving techniques, smoothness of cuts, and properly fitted add-ons. The difficulty of the carving is taken into account.
3. **Surface Finish** – Judges assess sanding quality, and surface should be free of unnecessary cuts, tool marks, chips, scratches, fuzzies, and dirty marks. The finish should enhance the wood grain and complement the overall piece.
4. **Final Representation** – The overall artistry, and decorative value.

The Rough-out Category is an exception because it acknowledges the work is the design of someone other than the entrant. Any use of computer assisted software or CNC machinery to create carving is not allowed.

Any animal category subject (living or dead), no matter how small, included with the single human figure will qualify that carving as Group Carving

Judges may disqualify any entry they recognize as derived from another person's idea.

Becoming a judge in a wood carving competition typically requires experience, training, and a deep understanding of carving techniques. Here are some common qualifications:

- **Expertise in Wood Carving.**
- **Competition Experience.**
- **Fairness & Consistency.**
- **Knowledge of Judging Standards.**

The California Carvers Guild provides a Judging Program, which emphasizes fairness and consistency in judging. In addition, there may be a requirement of years of apprenticeship to become a certified judge.



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Hello Carvers,

I am Leo's wife and the "Keeper of the Menu" for the Annual CWCA Picnic. I posted on the CWCA Facebook page a "Save the Date" for the CWCA Annual Picnic, **Saturday, August 2 (rain date August 3)**. It will again be held at **Gary Gemino's Home, 76 Central Ave, Wolcott, Ct 06116**

The club provides hotdogs, hamburgers and the fixings along with coffee, soda, and water. And the rest is a potluck of your choice to share. Picnic is from 11 am to ???????

I ask people to sign up with a specific food so we don't end up with five potato salads and no other choices.

With that in mind, we ask you to bring what you would like to share with the group. If you are the first to sign up, you have a clean choice of what you want to bring. I know I will be making some sauerkraut for the hot dogs as well as cream puffs. So whatever you would like to bring, store bought or homemade, is fine and you can also let me know how many people will attend. Some people will come by themselves but others bring their "significants". Most important is for you to come and enjoy each other's company as well as carving !!

\*\*If you have any food allergies I will note that as I take confirmations/reservations.

So please call me with your reply of attendance and food choice. Also if you have any questions, please call. You can leave a message and phone number and I will get back to you. I need to have your reservations by July 29th so I can shop for all we need!!

Thank you,

Kathy Hein

860-675-5473

or at: [kakh50@att.net](mailto:kakh50@att.net)

Ps..... Please remember to bring your folding chair too!!

## New England Society of American Foresters

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of Peoples State Forest-a public land that was made possible by the small contributions of many people.

According to the Friends of American Legion and Peoples State Forest (FALPS) website, Peoples State Forest is located primarily in the Town of Barkhamsted, CT and has 3,124 acres. The Forest was established in 1924 through the efforts of the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, which coordinated donations from citizen groups and may individuals who purchased land and gave it to the people of Connecticut for about \$8 an acre.

Attractions include towering white pines in the Matthies Grove and Whittemore Recreation Areas, a 14-mile network of hiking trails, the Barkhamsted Lighthouse Native American historic site, scenic vistas, the historic Squire's Tavern and the Nature Museum. The forest is managed for saw-timber, firewood production, wildlife habitat and recreation.

If you are interested for a 28 minute video of beautiful scenery and info on Peoples State Forest, paste the following, **100th Anniversary of Peoples State Forest Video** into your search bar and use the following password, **FALPS2025** to view the video! Might see a familiar face or even a shaving horse!!

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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