



## Editorial

### New Year's Resolutions

Last month I offered some suggestions for Christmas stocking stuffers. This month, it's time for New Year's Resolutions! Just three of them, not too much to ask.

First, you will notice on page 2 that Mr. Norman Oswald Boddy is our President this year. That's right – **NOBODY!** Ray is not going to take the job again this year and so far no-one has stepped forward to replace him. So there's the first resolution: volunteer to serve as President for a year. This is not a terribly demanding position, as the President's duties consist mostly of arriving on time for the monthly meetings and trying to keep some kind of order through the business portion of the meeting.

Your second resolution is even less onerous: consider writing an article for the newsletter. Then stop thinking about it and just *do* it! Even if you think you can't write no good, put something down on paper anyway. I'll fix the grammar and spelling, or take the blame for the mistakes. Over the course of the last year I have received very few items for publication. If it were not for Emilio's photographs and the write-ups I wheedled and cajoled out of our demonstrators, there would have been some very thin newsletters. And there will be this year unless I get some contributions. If you look back over the last year, there is not a single letter to the editor. Did nothing I published elicit any reaction, or make you think "I know a better way of doing that"? So why didn't you write?

And the third resolution? There really isn't a third resolution – just resolve to keep at least one of the first two resolutions!

## President's Message

I hope everyone had happy holidays, and a great new year. As my presidency comes to a close, I would like to thank all the officers and other members that put in a lot of hard work this year to make it another successful year for CNEW. I would also like to thank the membership, without you we wouldn't have a club either. I hope everyone has enjoyed this year as I have and I look forward to another great year for CNEW. I would also like to thank all the new officers for volunteering to help run CNEW next year.

If anyone wants some popular or oak, I have lots of turning blanks from some trees I just cut down. Give me a call and come on down and grab some. Most are around 12", but I have some blanks that are 20" big as well. Or if you want some firewood, just let me know, I don't need any of this stuff, and need to get rid of it.

I hope everyone can make it to the January meeting, should be a good demo, integrating carving with your turnings, something I have wanted to do, and try. I unfortunately won't be able to attend.

## Contents

President's Message	1
Editorial	1
Club Officers	2
Minutes of Last Meeting	2
Next Month's Program	2
Sharpening	3
Holiday Party	4

## Club Officers and Contact Info for 2006

President, <b>N. O. Body</b>	president@cnew.org
VP, Internal, Frank White	internal_vp@cnew.org
VP, External, Reid Gilmore	external_vp@cnew.org
Secretary, Tim Elliott Charlie Croteau	secretary@cnew.org
Treasurer, Mickey Goodman	treasurer@cnew.org
Newsletter, Graeme Young	newsletter_editor@cnew.org
Video Librarian, Al Faul	video_librarian@cnew.org
Book Librarian, Charlie Croteau	librarian@cnew.org
Webmaster, Dave Eaton	webmaster@cnew.org
Photography, Emilio & Vicky Iannuccillo Henry Fairlie	photography@cnew.org

## Minutes of December Meeting

### Tim Elliott

There were no visitors, but several member spouses attended for our annual holiday meeting.

The kaleidoscope that we trade annually as part of the gift exchange finally has a label identifying the maker as Bob Howland. Thanks go to Charles Turnage for engraving the stand.

The treasurer was not present, and we had no report.

Clive Hamilton will demonstrate at our January meeting on the subject of combining carving and turning.

Reid Gilmore reported on the annual Thanksgiving-weekend fair at the Worcester Craft Center. Eleven members participated. Total sales were in the vicinity of \$4700, but Reid is still sorting out the credit charges. Attendance was down slightly from last year, but spending was comparable or maybe slightly up.

Reid also mentioned the Big E show in Mid January (weekend of the 14th?). He has no formal notification from them yet, but thinks the organizers may have contacted the Central Connecticut chapter. He will get details before our January meeting.

Locally notable: Angelo Iafrate will be the AAW president in 2006.

The New Hampshire chapter is planning a regional symposium in May 2006, again at Pinkerton Academy.

Elections.....

Combining my notes from last month with positions filled at the December meeting we have:

External VP	Reid Gilmore
Internal VP	Frank White
Treasurer	Mickey Goodman
Secretary	Tim Elliott/Charlie Croteau
Webmaster	Dave Eaton
Video Librarian	Al Faul
Book Librarian	Charlie Croteau
Supplies	Ken Brannock
Photography	Henry Fairlie, Emilio Iannuccillo
Newsletter	Graeme Young

Thanks to all 2005 officers for a job well done!

## January Program

The first meeting of the new year will be on Thursday January 5th beginning at 6:30pm, at the usual place. For the demonstration, Clive Hamilton will add carving to turning. Show & Tell will be back after the regular business meeting so bring some of your recent work. Finally there will be a Wood Swap.

## Sharpening Jigs: Come See the Light!

By Peter Teubel

Sharpening is probably one of the least favorite things a woodturner has to do. But it is a necessary evil because without sharp tools, you are just butchering the wood. I am a staunch supporter of sharpening jigs....somewhat of an evangelist some might say.

Yes, one can learn to freehand sharpen their turning tools satisfactorily. But why bother? Why not leverage the knowledge and experience of other turners who have come before you and made their own self-discovery? If you actually like the tranquil act of sharpening, that's fine. Some people find supreme satisfaction in an absolutely perfect mirror edge and the time it takes to achieve it. More power to 'em! Personally, I find supreme satisfaction in turning, not sharpening.

Even the "masters" who have been turning for decades have to make several passes freehand to get their tool sharp. Look at Richard Raffan, woodturner extraordinaire. He takes several passes over the grinding wheel to get the edge of his gouge to his satisfaction. Melvin Firmanger has a video on sharpening his specialty grinds (they are truly alien...this guy makes hollow forms with gouges!). He shows how to sharpen them freehand and then with his jig. Here's the master, who has been doing it countless years, the guy who *invented* those alien grinds, making 3 or 4 passes freehand to get the edge to his satisfaction, yet he does it with ONE pass using his sharpening jig. HELLO?! Think of the valuable tool steel savings there alone!

I know many turners, who have been freehand sharpening for years, switch (somewhat grudgingly) to sharpening jigs. They have come back to me so excited you'd think they just had a visit from the Almighty or

discovered the wonders of sliced bread and electricity. The only thing they lament is the fact they didn't do it sooner.

You see, sharp tools make for more efficient (and enjoyable) turning. And getting your tools sharp *faster* gives you that much more turning time. When sharpening becomes fast and easy, you'll go back to the grinder more often to get that "sharp tool" experience. This in turn will make turning far more enjoyable. It takes me 10 seconds to jig and sharpen my turning tools. One pass, perfect, every time. Yes, there is a learning curve (what task doesn't have one), but its more of a mathematical one...setting up the jig for your favorite grinds, angles, etc. Once setup and the settings recorded/marked, they are repeatable...every time.

Of course, there are many jigs currently in the marketplace and deciding on which one(s) to use can be somewhat daunting. Of all of them, the Oneway Wolverine system is the **de facto** standard of the industry. Combined with the Oneway VariGrind attachment, you have a system that can reproduce the grind on almost anything out there (Melvin Firmanger's alien grinds notwithstanding). This is a good starting point and a very prudent investment. You will save more valuable tool steel over the long run than the cost of the jig system, not to mention the extra *enjoyable* turning time you will experience.



Peter brought a load of bandsawed bowl blanks "that I can't use now I have a real job" to the Christmas party for an unscheduled wood swap.



Peter Teubel with his gift, a goblet with captive ring made by Reid Gilmore.



Spindly vase by Tim Elliott.



Lidded bowl by Phil Bowman.





Charlie Croteau with his gift, an oak platter by Norm Mancuso.



Lisa Boutotte wearing one of the hats Ray made earlier this year.

Above right: Segmented pot by John McAtee.

Right: Bowl by Beth Gilmore.



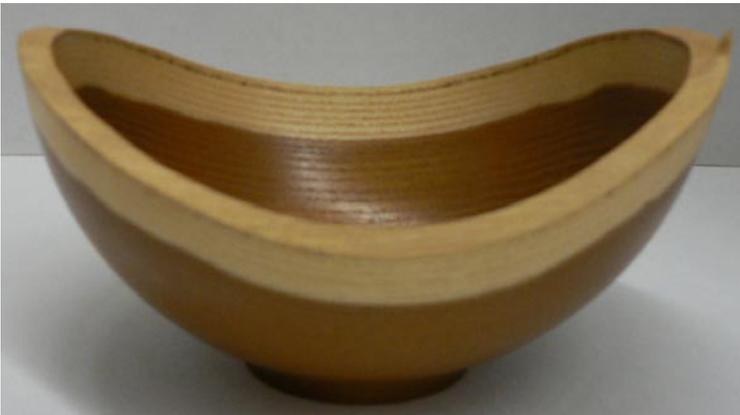


Graeme Young opening his gift, a set of Christmas light ornaments by Ken Brannock.



Vase by Frank White

Natural-edge bowl in mulberry by Peter Teubel.  
Icicle ornament by Al Faul.



Walnut bowl by Henry Fairlie.  
Laminated bowl by Charlie Croteau.





The Bob Howland Kaliedoscope, returned by Graeme Young. This year it will be in the custody of Henry Fairlie.



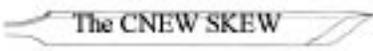
Birdhouse ornament by Mickey Goodman



Above left: Birdhouse ornament by Joe Harbey.

Above: Bowl with pyrography decoration on rim by Ray and Lisa Boutotte.

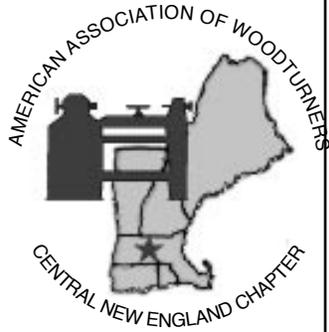
Left: the aforementioned Ray and Lisa.



**CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND  
WOODTURNERS**

Central New England  
Woodturners  
c/o Worcester Center for Crafts  
25 Sagamore Road  
Worcester, MA 01605

Phone: 508-753-8183  
Fax: 508-797-5626  
Email: treasurer@cnew.org



*Central New England Woodturners  
A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners*



*On the web: [www.cnew.org](http://www.cnew.org)*

To join or renew your membership, print this form and either bring it to the next meeting with cash or check for \$20 made payable to CNEW, or mail the form along with a check to:

Treasurer  
Central New England Woodturners  
c/o Worcester Center For Crafts  
25 Sagamore Road  
Worcester, MA 01650

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**If you wish, please let us know more about you and your interests.**

Old member   New member   Turning how many years? \_\_\_\_\_

Selling your work? Yes   No   Where? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
What programs would you like to see at our meetings?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Would you be interested in demonstrating at one of our meetings? Yes   No