



The CNEW Skew

© 2025, Central New England Woodturners

Established 1987

First Woodturning Club in New England, AAW #26

**Next Meeting
1870 Town Hall
June 5, 2024**

**5:30—6:30
Learn N Turn**

**6:30
Business Meeting**

**6:50
Show N Tell**

**7:30
Demo
Sharpening**

President's Message June 2025

Greg Carell



In my last President's Message, I reflected on how encompassing tools and shops can become. It was logical that as I progressed in the craft, I was enticed to acquire an overabundance of wonderful stuff. Concurrent with this journey, another unanticipated collection was growing: Turned projects. It didn't take long for my shop and much of our house to become filled with all manner of turned objects.

The collection started with my first almost-bowl. It was a badly chewed up piece of cherry, half the size it started out to be, with an interior that I annihilated with an uphill-presented scraper. It was nevertheless, the first one, and earned a spot on a shelf in the shop (still there.) More bowls followed, bigger, fancier, better designed and executed, and they began to accumulate. The collection grew exponentially as I saved both my successes and the failures. I kept the mishaps and otherwise ruined pieces as practical references and nostalgic connections to an often-challenging process.

As time went on, I started experimenting with unfamiliar projects. I tried ornaments, goblets, inside-out and multi axis turning, and hollowing, to name just a few. The resulting pieces, both successes and failures continued to piled up.

Turning for me was a solitary activity. I would get lost in the Zen of emersion in the process, and the Zen of being surrounded by pieces I had imprinted with something intensely personal. And again, the result was that I threw nothing away, and the stacks grew.

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CNEW STORE PRICE LIST

CA Glue (all thicknesses) \$8.00

Anchor Seal \$10.00/gallon

Accelerator

Sanding supplies

Small 2 oz. pump \$5.00

Sanding Disc

Medium 8 oz. pump \$9.00

All grits, 2 and 3 inches 10 for \$2.00

Large 16 oz. Pump \$15.00

Sanding Pad Holder

6 oz Aerosol \$9.00

2 inch \$5.00

10 oz. Aerosol \$12.00

3 inch \$6.00

Pen supplies

Sanding Repair Kit

Pen Kits \$6.00

2 & 3 Inch \$1.00

Bushings \$5.00

Sanding Pad Cushions

Replacement Brass Tubes \$1.00

2 & 3 INCH \$3.00

Abrasive Pastes 2 oz. \$2

Walnut oil (food safe) 16 oz. \$9

Sanding Butter (food safe) 2 oz. \$2

Glue Shop Brushes 8 for \$1.00

Shop Push Sticks \$2.00

Nitrile disposable gloves 50 count \$13

CNEW Club Store Message

Kits for making your own sanding butter and abrasive pastes will be available for purchase at the April meeting. I will be demonstrating the process for making these useful woodturning shop products.

The kits will include the following items:

Small slow cooker

Measuring cup

Mixing spatula

Bees wax

Mineral oil

Diatomaceous earth (abrasive)

Three different size kits will be available!

I wish to thank all the CNEW members for supporting the club store! I would appreciate any suggestions from club members for new items you would like to see for sale at the store.

Thanks Steve

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — (cont'd)

Throughout all this I was starting to discover there were wonderful things I could do with this ever-growing inventory. As we all know, perhaps the best thing a turner can do with his or her pieces is to gift them away. Christmas and birthday presents, as a “thank you,” or just for no reason, the excitement over a turned gift is magical. Such a piece is an expression of the love that goes into making it. I have spent weeks crafting a keepsake box for my wife, hoping it will be living room worthy...and have given a quickly turned pen to the guy that fixed our boiler.

Of course, the next progression of gift giving is charity. I would like this to play a more major role in my turning. Programs like Beads of Courage, Empty Bowls, and wig stand charities speak to the best of what we do, actually helping to make someone's life better through our craft.

Having an inventory of turned pieces also suggests sales. I must admit that I have had little success selling my stuff. The few sales I have made were gratifying because it meant that someone thought enough of my work to actually spend money on it. However, for me the monetary reward never seemed equal to my effort. Some of our members have been quite successful in selling their work. I believe that this involves (1) creating skillfully made and beautiful pieces, (2) developing an efficient process to expedite their production, and (3) a personal ability to sell. (It is impressive to watch Mark Durrenberger, Steve Ball, Reid Gilmore, and others when they engage with customers at fairs and events.

I fear my shop will remain an archaeological dig with layers of work extending back over the years. New work will come and go but the residue will remain my historic record.

Greg Carell

CNEW Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2025

1. President's Report – Greg Carell

- **Meeting Venue Update:** The club will not have access to the 1870's House until at least August due to the filming of a series by Apple TV.
- **Plans for Upcoming Meetings:**
 - o **June:** Meeting will be held at the meeting facility at Dave Smith's wood mill in Sterling.
 - o **July:** Likely to be a club picnic instead of a regular meeting.
 - o **August:** We will hopefully be back at the 1870's house. If it is not available, we will explore other options.
 - o In addition, a field trip to see Dave Smith's saw mill in action is also being planned.
- **Equipment Storage:** Club lathes have been moved from the closet and are currently stored at Mike Smith's residence. Ralph Viscomi will hold the club banner and brochures.
- **Signage:** Beth recommended placing a sign on the 1870's House door for May's canceled meeting in case any new members or visitors try to attend.
- **Richard Hunt Memorial Learn & Turn:** AJ can no longer be the coordinator. Seeking a volunteer to coordinate starting in August. It was emphasized it can each Learn & Turn session can be delegated monthly and all projects should be beginner-friendly. Members should consider volunteering for this position.
- **Safety Minute (by Tony Blanco):** PPE maintenance is critical. You need protection from the harmful particles that are less than 10 microns. Tested various masks (N95, RZ, etc.) You should periodically clean filters and the mask exterior. Always use a face shield when turning and replace it when needed. "Take care of the things that take care of you."
- **Charity:** Sophia was not present at this meeting. Greg stressed that there is a continued need for participation; further status updates are pending.
- **CNEW Photo Contest:** This will be managed by Doug Hancock. Contest details to be announced at the June meeting.
- **Resources & Suppliers List:** This is being compiled for, and will be posted on, the club website. Members should send recommendations to Ed Russell.
- **President's Challenge for May:** Snap Lid Boxes (as per Mike Suter's demo)
- **Snacks for May Meeting:** Volunteers – Paul & Beth
- **Safety Minute Assignments:** June – Rick Angus

2. Officer Reports

External VP – Mark Holden

- **Schwamb Mill Trip:** CNEW exploring alternative dates due to ART scheduling conflict.
- **Matt Monaco Demo (April 30):**
 - o Location: 41 Wyman St, Woburn Time: 5:30–9:30 PM
 - o \$475 fee split with ART Topic: Tool use for spindle and face turning. Bring your own chair
- **Logo Redesign:** Several submissions received; These will be reviewed at upcoming meetings.

Meeting Minutes (continued)

Arboretum Gala Donations:

- o Seeking vases and bowls.
- o Vase spec: 1¾" dia. x 6" deep insert, the diameter of the base should be at least ½ the total height of the vase for stability.
- o Bowl size: should be 3 to 4" high x 6 to 8" wide.
- Deadline: Should be delivered ideally at the August meeting.

Internal VP – Michael Peters

WEPT (Woodturners Estate Planning Team):

- Encouraged members to communicate their wishes about the handling of their shop equipment with their family. It was suggested that members think about getting a (possibly a club member) to help their family handle disposition of equipment. The team is working on guidelines, information about help, and inventory tracking tools.

Club Store Manager – Steve Ball

- **Store Sales:** \$150 revenue last month. **Note:** Store will have reduced inventory during the period we are moving meeting locations.

Treasurer – Carolyn MacDonald

- **Annual Zoom Fee:** \$169.89 for subscription to be used for Executive Committee's monthly meetings, as well as other sub-committee meetings. Motion was made to approve expenditure, & seconded – passed unanimously.

Special Projects – Mark Durrenberger

HudsonFest (June 7, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM):

- o Volunteers needed. A show of hands indicated that 8 – 12 members would be available to do demos. are at Mike's house and transportation for the lathes to Hudson is needed Mark has a generator available for power.

4. New Business

- **Reid Gilmore** No new updates on the Worcester Center for Crafts Thanksgiving show. Shared the request from the Andover Historical Society seeking members to make a nine-pin set (specs and payment details were emailed to the club).
- **Doug Hancock:** Encouraged members to submit photos for the contest. Proposed using an online survey tool; will coordinate with Ed on website and newsletter integration. A Motion was made for the club to obtain an annual subscription to the online survey tool for our use; & seconded – passed unanimously.
- **July Cookout:** A Host is needed; the club reimburses host expenses. Tentative date: Saturday, July 19.
- **Ross Farugia:** The annual New London SailFest has been renamed to "Celebrate New London" and is now a one-day event, rather than two. It is scheduled for July 12th and runs from 10:00am until 5:00pm
- **Robert Peppler:** Raised concerns about the quality of our current PA system. Doug Hancock's personal system that he is letting us borrow is better than what we have A discussion on possibly acquiring a new one ensued and it was agreed that Robert would investigate and recommend a new one.
- **Joe McGill:** Reminded everyone that the our Learn & Turn is officially called "The Richard Hunt Memorial Learn N' Turn" and should be reflected as such.
- **Clem Lanza:** Announced he's clearing out his shop and has a large surplus of wood; He will email details to the club in the near future.
- **Bruce Mellor:** Reminded members that when sending out club-wide emails via the website that they should include their name and email address so everyone knows who sent it out.

5. Demonstration Mike Suter

Topic: Small Snap-Lid Boxes Key focus: Proper lid fit – tight enough to stay in place but loose enough to "pop."

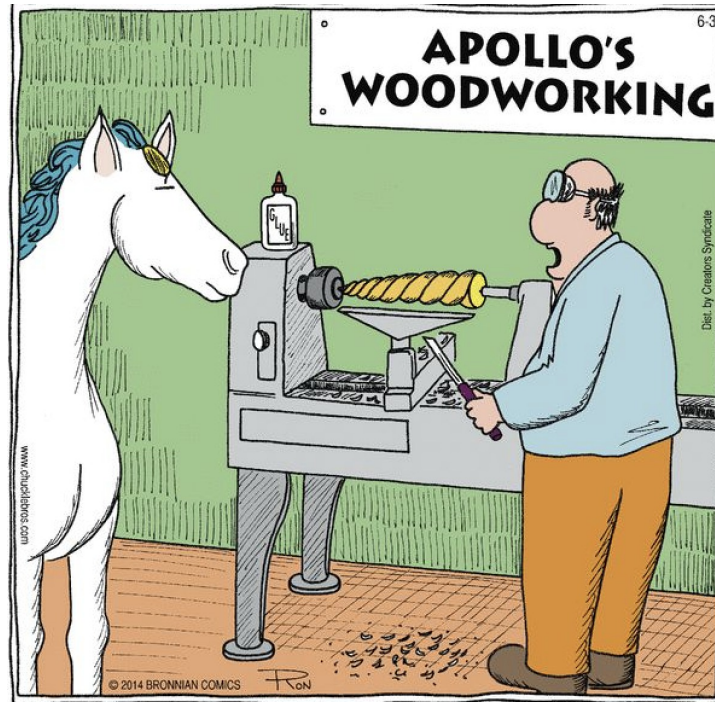
Meeting Adjourned: 8:40 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Viscomi

Club Secretary

Woodshop Whimsy



**"Remember, this is only a temporary fix
until the new one grows back."**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Travelling Club Meeting. Our next club meeting will be Thursday, June 5, 5:30pm at Dave Smith's Sawmill, 34 Ford Road , Sterling. Follow the road past the mill and Dave's house to the rustic barn building. AJ will put up signs. You can park on the grass.

July 19 Meeting is a Cookout: In lieu of our July meeting, Greg Carell would like to invite you all to his house at 188 West Main Street, Westborough, on Saturday, July 19. Please let him know if you can attend and what potluck dish you plan to bring. The rain date will be Sunday. More info to follow. Greg Carell gregcarell@carellgroup.com

Hudson Fest is coming up the Saturday after next week's meeting. Mark Durrenberger will be reaching out. Members are encouraged to attend...a great time!

Nova Tools Technatool Sale The next page is an invitation received by Greg Carell on behalf of CNEW from Technatool to participate in a discount program for Nova tools. Technatool is in Chapter 11 and undergoing financial problems. This sales offer may be related to this. At the next meeting, members can decide if this is something CNEW should be involved with.

Invite to NOVA's new Club Program

Comment or Message

Hi all at Central New England Woodturners,

I'm Sabrina, and I'm reaching out from Teknatool USA—the team behind NOVA woodworking equipment.

We've just launched something new that I think your club will appreciate: a Woodturning Club Program that gives your members 20% off all NOVA tools. It's not a public promotion—it's something we've created specifically for woodturning clubs like yours as a way to give back and help more people get their hands on great gear.

At NOVA, we've always believed the heart of woodturning lives in clubs—where people teach, learn, and connect. The Florida West Coast Woodturners, whom we host at our premises, have already tested the Discount Program—and now we'd love to extend the invitation to your club to take advantage of it as well.

Here's how it works:

1. Sign up your club on our landing page.
2. Have the club president (or a designated member) email me a current member list of just the members names.

(This is just to confirm eligibility—we won't use it for anything else.)

3. I'll send the club president a current in-stock/price list.
4. Each member who would like to order something completes an order form (downloadable from the same webpage) and sends it to the club president.
5. The club president sends all forms back to me.
6. Once the order is received, I'll follow up directly with each member with an order summary and a secure payment link. *Regular shipping cost applies.

You can find all the details here:



<https://www.teknatool.com/turning-club/>

I hope this helps your club make the most of your turning time. If you have any questions or want to talk through the details, just reply to this email.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

SHOW N' TELL



If you rub it three times it turns into a vase!

SHOW N' TELL



SHOW N' TELL



CNEW Mentors

Below is a list of members willing to spend their valuable free time with other members in hope of helping to promote education and skill building by sharing of their knowledge. Anyone interested in being "Mentored" by a more advanced or seasoned turner please contact one of the members below. Their contact information can be found on the Members section of our website.

Rick Angus	Moosup CT	Peter Wilcox	Boylston MA
Joe McGill	Sudbury MA	Reid Gilmore	Upton MA
Steven Mittleman	Framingham MA	Mark Holden	Tewksbury MA
Mark Durrenberger	Hudson MA	Ralph Viscomi	Boylston MA

Central New England Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

**Membership**

To join or renew membership, please complete the form below and a check made payable to CNEW and bring it to a CNEW meeting, or pay online at

the CNEW website under "join/renew" or mail to: Treasurer, Central New England Woodturners

c/o Carolyn MacDonald 108 Gates Pond Rd. Berlin, MA 01503

Officers for 2025

President: Greg Carell,
Westborough, MA 508-208-6323, gregcarell@carellgroup.com
External VP: Mark Holden,
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Learn 'N Turn Coord: AJ Moses,
Berlin MA 651-249-3147, ajfleet@yahoo.com
Videographer: Robert Peppler,
Leominster, MA 978-751-1853 rpeppler81@gmail.com
Club Store Manager: Steve Ball,
Worcester MA 508-494-9147, steven.ball59@gmail.com
Big Name Demo Coord: Rick Angus,
Moosup, CT 860-564-3660, rick.angus@gmail.com
Membership: Ross Farrugia,
Sterling, CT rosski@verizon.net
Webmaster: Phil Grove,
Franklin, MA phil.grove@comcast.net
Special Projects Coordinator: Mark Durrenberger,
Hudson, MA 617-480-4426, M.durrenberger@gmail.com

Membership Application

To join or renew membership, register at <https://cnew.org/wp/register> or email this form and a check made payable to CNEW and bring it to a CNEW meeting or mail it to:

Treasurer, Central New England Woodturners

c/o Carolyn MacDonald

108 Gates Pond Rd.

Berlin, MA 01503

Annual dues: \$40 including e-mail delivery of newsletter

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ & Zip: _____

e-Mail: _____

Telephone number _____

Please let us know of your interests:

How long have you been turning? _____

What programs would you like to see at meetings?

Please check appropriately below

☐ New Member

☐ Returning Member

☐ e-Mail Newsletter (\$40.00)

OR SCAN THIS QR CODE

