

The
NEMES
NEW ENGLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY INC.

Gazette

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June Meeting

We will have a Zoom meeting in June at 7 PM on June 6, 2024. An invite will be sent attached to this Gazette.



Club Business

Victor Kozakevich

NEMES Dues are now due for the year. Dues are \$25.00. Make checks payable to NEMES, and send them to our treasurer, Rob Goeller
34 Middlebury Lane
Beverly, MA 01915

[Note from the President] NEMES is now billing members, you can pay with a credit card, as I did.

From the Treasurer:

To members who have tried to e-mail me using our published treasurer's e-mail address: Our e-mail address has been the target of an exorbitant number of spam e-mails from all sorts of people and organizations marketing their products and services. The number of these e-mails is so large (hundreds in the course of only a week) that it is almost impossible for me to find e-mails from members. I apologize to those who have tried to contact me without response, I did not see your e-mail. [President's note: mine too!]

Unfortunately, our current e-mail server does not provide a function to block these unwanted e-mails. We are working to alleviate this problem. However, in the mean time, it is unlikely I will be able to respond to member's e-mails. You can write to me as needed, if I see your e-mail I will respond but the current reality is that it is unlikely that I will see said e-mail. If you need to contact me, best to use the US Postal Service at the address in the introductory column.

On another subject, many members have mailed their dues checks to the Charles River Museum, rather than directly to me. Unfortunately, these checks, many from early 2023, were only recently forwarded to me and many are too old to be deposited. Any checks that I cannot deposit, I will return to the member. If you have recently sent a check to the Museum, please let me know via

standard US Postal Service (not e-mail) and we will watch the Museum's mail for these checks.

When we have alleviated the e-mail problem, I will let you know in a future Gazette.

APPAREL: Please check out the NEMES Aprons, T-Shirts, Denim Shirts and Sweat Shirts. We are happy to ship any of this clothing directly to your home.



President's Corner Bob Timmerman

Our lunch at Woodman's went well. We had some good suggestions for in-person meetings. Members are invited to make suggestions for in-person meetings. Help with the meetings would always be appreciated.

Note the notice for the NEMES elections, and the question on when to have the 2025 Model Engineering Show.



From the Editor's Desk Bob Timmerman

We sometime get complaints from members that a NEMES event conflicts with some other event. Usually, we do not even know about the other event. Please let me know of other events, and I will publish such details as I have in the Gazette.

Vendor Notes (from last month):
[Repeat of last month, as it is still relevant]: Lyle Peterson (You Tube Mr. Pete222) gives us the sad news that Starrett has been sold to a private equity company. It seems that Starrett was closely held, and the president's sons were not interested in

carrying on the business. We will see how it fares under new owners.

The same thing has happened to the Perkins Foundry in Bridgewater. The Owner's sons do not want to continue the business, and the business for a jobbing iron foundry is weak. They went from 60 employees down to 11 employees. Ultimately, the land was worth more than the business. [Editor's note: mass production foundries are doing well. Charlotte Pipe, who makes cast iron drainage pipe, just invested over \$400 million in a totally new foundry for cast iron pipe and fittings].

[Editor's note, continued: The Armstrong Brothers Tool company of Chicago, who invented the iconic Armstrong lathe tool holder, and who made a good line of mechanics tools, was sold to Danaher, the conglomerate some years ago. Within about 3 years, they were closed.

Good news: The Yuengling brewery is still family owned. Dick Yuengling runs the place, and 4 of his daughters work for the company. Regrettably, they do not distribute their dark beer in Massachusetts.

Better news: Mathias Klein and Sons (the firm whose famous trademark is the lineman working from a pole) is still family owned, with the son of the present chairman as the president. They are alive and well, and innovating in tools. I do not know how many 10 in one and 11 in one screwdrivers I have.

End of rant about family owned companies

Last month, Dick Boucher mentioned the high cost of shipping small lots of metal. I replied that Grainger has reasonable prices on small pieces of metal, even materials such as stainless. To purchase, you have to have an account, which is not hard to establish—Grainger is rather lax on the definition of "Business-to-Business". To save on shipping, you have to have to pick your order up at one of their branches. They have branches in Norwood, Watertown, Woburn, and several other locations in the Boston area.

Many of you know that there is a bricks-and-mortar metals store in Woburn, Metals Supermarket. The one time I used them, I found their service poor.

There is some good news on the metals front. Metals Online is now offering a flat rate of \$11.99 to ship all orders of less than: 3 feet long, or 24" x 36",

or 25 pounds. The last one should help, you can put a lot of small orders together to get just under the 25 pound limit. They say shipping rates for larger orders have also been reduced. They have a warehouse in Wallingford, Connecticut, which is about a 2 hour drive from Boston. So, if you have a really big order, it might be worth driving your truck down.

NEMES Elections

Your officers, and particularly your President goofed, and did not call for nominations for officers at the May meeting. Nonetheless, our bylaws say we have to elect officers at the June meeting.

So, here is what we will do. We have both nominations for officers, and elections at the June meeting. All of the existing officers are willing to remain in their posts for another year. Anybody who thinks they can do a better job is free to nominate themselves. If nobody nominates themselves, we will have a very short election.

Vote on Date of 2025 Model Engineering Show

We find out that the Museum is not available for the first two Saturdays in March. This leaves February 22, 2025, which is close to our traditional date of the third Saturday in February. The first Saturday in March that is open is March 15. Besides the Shakespearian connotation (Beware the Ides [15th] of March, from *Julius Caesar*) it is 4 weeks from our traditional day. It has been noted that the Florida Flywheelers show is February 22.

To protect NEMES, I have reserved both February 22, 2025, and March 15, 2025.

We will have to choose between the two dates. I propose we choose at the June meeting. Since we are a fairly small, resource poor organization, I suggest a novel way to advocate: People wanting February 22 can make their case, and also, more constructively, tell what they will do to make that date a success. People advocating for March 15 will do the same, making their case, and telling what they

will do to make the show a success on March 15, 2025.

We will then have a discussion, and take a vote. I expect the whole process should take about a half hour.

If you have a strong opinion when the show should happen, be sure to attend the meeting.

Dick Koolish asked if we should start planning for the 2026 and 2027 shows. Bob Perry replied that yes, at least reserve the dates. Here I will state an opinion. Historically, the Model Engineering Show has been the third weekend in February. I believe this is tempting the New England weather. Many of our big snow storms hit in the middle of February. While the climate models say the world is getting warmer, as I understand them, they are on a statistical basis only, and cannot predict individual major weather events. Better to stay out of the way of major snow storms, and the Florida Flywheelers show, and pick the first weekend in March for the Model Engineering Show. We will discuss that during the June meeting as well.

Upcoming Events

I have been receiving notices from the Owls Head Museum up in Maine. Keep an eye on their website as well.

Any news on events in July or August?

Please send them to me, Bob Timmerman, editor of the Gazette.

Reports from the Sandy Hill Locomotive Works

This is Dick Boucher's original introduction, and I am reprinting it here, as I think it is still relevant.

June 7, 2020

Hello fellow live steam model hobbyist and principals of the New England Model Engineering Society,

James (grandson), Norm, Jay and John. This is my usual Sunday afternoon progress report on work here in the Sandy Hill Locomotive works. Dan, Rich, Bob and James Scheffler I am sending this along to you thinking it might be a way to get some interest back in the club if the fellows who have given up traveling to Waltham had a place to post pictures of their work and view other builder's projects. To the new fellows on the list I am working on Cole's Models 2"scale Case steam tractor. For some time now I have been sending out pictures and a short description of the progress on the project to the first three listed having added John lately. Back in the early days of the Live Steam railroad hobby there were only a couple "meets" a year some as far away as Montreal Canada and Carl Purington started the "Traveling Locomotive Books" in which a hobbyist would attach a couple pictures of his work and forward the book to the next person on the list. Fortunately these books still exist and are repositored at John K's museum in Beverly. At any rate my thought is we set up a formal place in our web site or someplace to create the "Traveling Hobby Machining Books" Your thoughts.

Richard L. Boucher
Chief Engineer/Master Mechanic/ Lead Machinist
Sandy Hill Locomotive Works

Current Work

Well Hello Folks,

I can't believe I am writing the June article for the Gazette already. It is a cold rain falling outside my shop door this morning (May 30) so I don't feel like I am cheating on time for outside work like Bea and I moving 2-1/2 cords of fire wood to our porches. Just remember the old saying " Firewood warms you twice. once when you cut it and then again when you burn it". Which wood is the same before you burn it and after? Ash, it is still ash after you burn it.

OK, enough for my stand up comedy act time to get serious. The usual suspects were present at the Dunstable Engine Shoe last month. The show was not as well attended as years past probably because the weather guessers were predicting rain for that day. Photo 1



Photo 1

is my current project on the tailgate of my truck along with some of the surplus material from my shop that was moving on to new homes, some of it anyways.

Photo 2



Photo 2

is our Jim Pauquette with his wares he sells. If you are in need of measuring tools and miscellaneous items for the shop like parallels and drill chucks contact Jim. I got a pair of anvil mikes from him at a very reasonable price at the show.

Photo 3 is Rollie Gaucher setting up his table.



Photo 3

Photo 4 is the model workbench with the model tooling he has made along with the operating quick change tool post and tool holders. It must be an AAAAXAAAA size.



Photo 4

Also on Rollie's Table is the steam engine in Photo 5.



Photo 5

I am afraid my photography does it no justice at all. if you look carefully the bronze parts behind the flywheel are the connecting rods and crosshead moving the motion from the pistons to the crankshaft. Photo 6 is Dana Hill's fine toy steamboat and his P.M. Research steam plant with the # 5 engine and the # 1 boiler with all the needed accessories to run same.



Photo 6

Now on to my shop time. It was a long month of just machining with only a few unique setups. Photo 7 is the month's work laid out on the drawing.

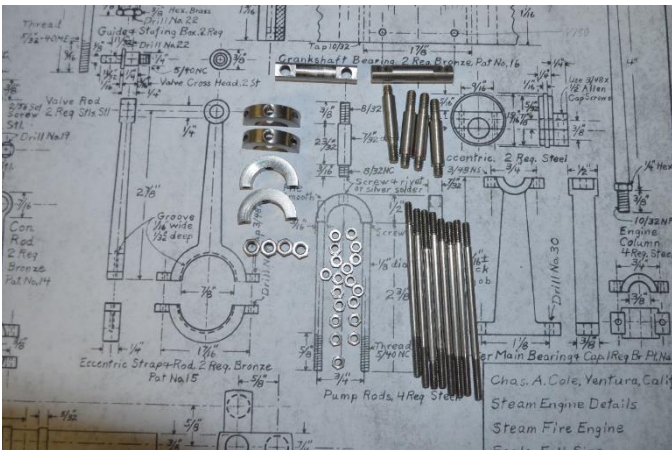


Photo 7

Again, I say it was not particularly skillful work but there were a couple different setups involved.

Photo 8 shows the decking off of the half moon pieces. there were longer than a halfway cut.

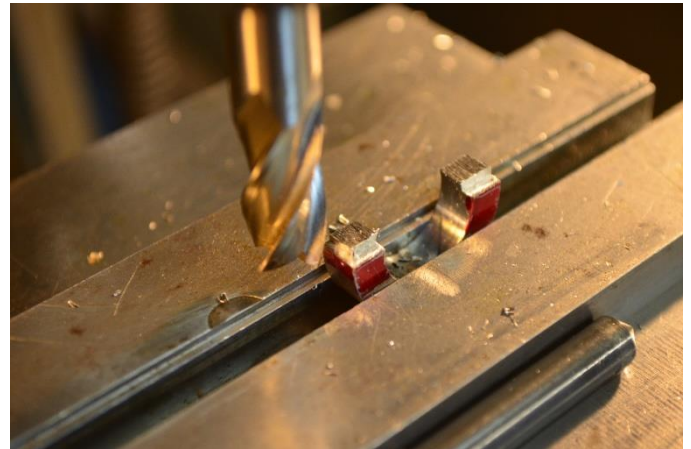


Photo 8

I put a gauge block on the parallel in the vise then set the endmill to that height then placed the part on the parallel and decked it off to required height. At this time the switch broke on my Rusnok head and when moving from that machine to the Bridgeport the part was lost, and I mean lost I remade the blank and finished the 4 parts and the lost part still hasn't shown up.

Photo 9 is the other setup worth mentioning. It is the fixture to bring all 16 of the 5-40 nuts to the sane length.



Photo 9

Photo 10 is all these parts assembled on the piston rod and connecting rod.

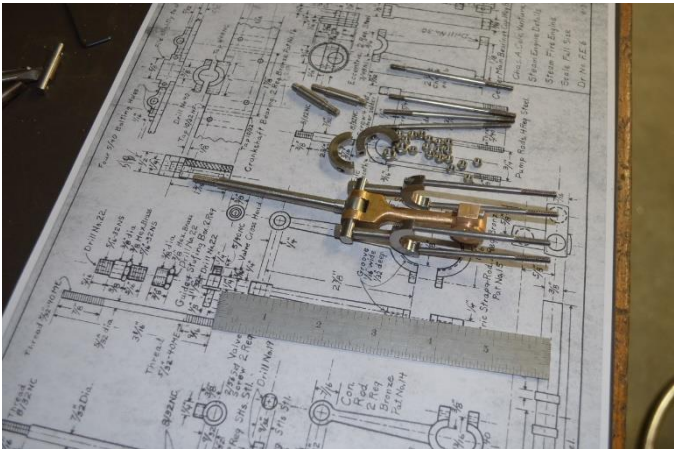


Photo 10

There is no crosshead on this engine: the long rods go down to the pump pistons which act as the crosshead.

Well that should cover things for The June Gazette
I guess I should wish all of you a Happy 4th of July
since it will have passed when you read my next
message
Dick B.