

No 352 October 2025 ©2025 NEMES

NEMES officers

President Bob *Timmerman*Vice President Dick Koolish
Treasurer Robert Goeller
Secretary
Victor
...Kozakevich

Board Member David Lefkowitz

NEMES web site http://www.neme-s.org

NEMES Staff

Gazette Editor Bob Timmerman

Webmaster Pro Tem Dick Koolish

Model Making Correspondent: John O'Brien

Production Machining
Correspondent
Steve Earle

Contact Addresses

Treasurer
treasurer@neme-s.org
Publisher
Publisher@neme-s.org
Bob Timmerman: Editor
editor@neme-s.org

President Robert Timmerman

RWTimmerman@gmail.com

October Meeting

We will have a Zoom meeting in October at 7 PM on October 2, 2025.

An invite is attached to this Gazette.

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We are now collecting dues for next year.

From the Treasurer

Members, as was mentioned in the President's Column last month, we are changing our management service provider from Capital Hill Management to Club Express. This process is moving forward but more slowly than anticipated. Because of this, invoices for membership renewal will be late this year and will have a new look as they will come directly from Club Express rather than Square.

Our relationship with Cap Hill was somewhat awkward although they did reliably distribute the Gazette and track membership and dues payments. We do expect a significant reduction in our annual expenses since Club Express will sponsor our host our web site, replacing Dream Host. Other changes for services for our club will be coming as well. We will try and keep the membership informed through the Gazette.

In the mean time, if you wish, feel free to send a check to:

Robert Goeller – for NEMES 34 Middlebury Lane Beverly, MA 01915-1300 They will be recorded as received.

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.

Orders should go to our Treasurer, Rob Goeller. His address is in the opposite column.



President's Corner Bob Timmerman

We are in the process of switching to Club Express. There are some startup problems for a while.

This is the same announcement you have received for several months.

We need to have election of officers. The by-laws say that we had to have nominations at the May meeting. That did not happen, nobody showed up at the meeting. Elections are supposed to happen at the June meeting, but the Gazette is not going out on a consistent schedule, so I believe we should postpone the nominations and elections. I suggest we postpone the nominations until the July meeting, and the elections until the August meeting.

I am willing to run for another term as President. We will have to poll the other officers to see who will run for another term.

Rob Goeller has had to resign as Treasurer, due to health issues, so the post of Treasurer is open. This is a post we *must* fill. No treasurer, no NEMES. Dick Koolish has been webmaster *pro tem*. He does not want to be webmaster any more: we ought to have a webmaster, so that is another post to be filled. If we do not have a Treasurer, we will not have a NEMES. No meetings, no Gazette. The Model Engineering Show will likely revert to the Charles River Museum, who will pick a date convenient to them, which might not be convenient to some of our members, who want to see another show at the same time.

Some of you people are in makerspaces, such as Lowell Makes (who got some maple for building the Framingham workbenches from me). Makerspace, the Revolution Makerspace right here in Waltham, or perhaps Artisans Asylum in Boston. Consider getting active with NEMES. What we can offer is an organization that represents all of your interests, a place to gather and exchange ideas, and a forum to buy and sell equipment (I have received two pieces of equipment via NEMES, and several makers have received pieces of old bowling alley that makes excellent workbenches from me.)

This *Gazette* is late because your President/Editor is putting in his mandatory continuing education to renew his Professional Engineering license in Pennsylvania, which is the first state he was Registered in. Engineering licenses vary state by state, but by now, all states have the same exam requirements, and use an exam made up by a national body. Back when I was first licensed, each state had widely different requirements, and made up their own exam. As I recall, Massachusetts had an 8-hour exam, and placed a lot of emphasis on experience, while Pennsylvania had a 16 hour exam, and placed somewhat less emphasis on years of experience.

My employer, Stone & Webster, wanted me to take the longer Pennsylvania exam, as they assumed more states would recognize it, and there would getting licensed in another state. This has proven to be the case.

The firs 8-hour exam was on the principles of engineering, and you could take it right out of school.

You took the second 8-hour exam after 4 years of experience.

Pennsylvania made up their own exam in those days, the uniform national exam was several years off. I could tell I was taking an exam made up in Pennsylvania from one of the questions: "a 50 ton railroad coal car was going around a curve at 50 mph, how much should the curve be banked to have the forces be perpendicular to the track (no side forces)." Which state has a lot of railroads with curves that haul coal? Pennsylvania and West Virginia come to mind. New York has some railroads with curves, but few haul coal, ditto for Massachusetts. Some western states have railroads that haul a lot of coal, but they run straight.

Proposed NEMES Luncheon

We have not gotten together in a while. Sometimes we get together at Woodman's, but soon the weather will be colder, and Woodman's is far away. Let's try to get together for lunch at the Chateau, in Waltham, on Saturday, November 1. If John O'Brien is willing, I would invite him to offer us a tour of the Revolution Makerspace after the luncheon. I will give a short (20 minutes or so), talk on standards, the glue that hold manufacturing together. Please get back to me if you are interested (and John, could you give a tour of your maker space after you join us for lunch).



From the Editor's Desk Bob Timmerman

Dick Boucher has retired as modelmaking correspondent. Here is his retirement email:

"Bob, I am sorry but I am not going to be able to be contributing to the Gazette any longer. Age and some non life-threatening health problems like my knees being full of arthritis have kept me from spending a lot of time in the shop (and just spending the day on U-Tube in a chair) as in I haven't done any serious machine work in the last two months and

am seriously thinking about starting to move some of the machines like the Hardinge chucker and the 10 EE on to new owners. Sorry. Dick B."

[Editor note: If Dick is willing to send his Hardinge Chucker and Monarch 10EE to new owners, he must be thinking seriously about retiring.]

Dick's place has been taken by John O'Brien, who runs the Revolution Makerspace here in Waltham. It will be a different column, but I am glad to have him.

Steve Earle contributes an occasional column on production machining. He runs a small production shop in Maine, where he turns out a line of parts for sporting rifles. He contributes regularly enough that I have promoted to a regular correspondent.

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.

Date of 2026 NEMES Model Engineering Show

We have reserved the first weekend in March, 2026 for the NEMES Model Engineering Show. This puts the show out of the way of big snowstorms, which usually come in February. I have also reserved the traditional last Saturday in February for the show. We will decide which day to have it at some later date.

Upcoming Events

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

South Bend Lathe For Sale

I am helping my neighbor sell a South Bend 9A lathe and I thought I would offer it to your group first before putting it on Craig's list. I believe it is in really good shape but I am not an expert.

Model 9A Cat# 644Z Quick Change Gear Box 3-1/2' Bed

Cabinet Base Horizontal Mounted Drive Manufactured 1951(?)

Includes:

3 & 4 Jaw Chucks (3-Jaw missing the key)
Drive Plate with 2 Dogs
Jacobs Chuck for Tail Stock
Lantern Post Tool Holder
Misc. Tool Holders, Centers, Cutters (not a lot)
Motor currently installed does not reverse

Buyer would have to remove it from basement. There is a bulkhead so it should not be to much trouble.

Currently asking \$1500 Negotiable if it is not in as good a shape as I believe.

Thank you,

[Editor's Note: I own a South Bend 9a, although t may have a shorter bed. Without the cabinet base, my son and I moved it with little trouble. I would suggest taking the tailstock off, and taking the lathe off the cabinet., then bolt the bed to a plank to protect the bed.]

Al Freimont

a.freimont@verizon.net 978-443-6899

Model Engineering Report

John O'Brien

The automatic oiler went fine, which is good news. Now it just seems like everything else in the shop is breaking.

The brand-new lathe's longitudinal leadscrew wasn't turning. Turns out that one of the gears on the back had slide out of alignment.

The dust collector isn't sucking as much as it should, which sucks. The CNC router is busted. Sometimes everything seems to break at the same time.

I took a break from fixing everything to put together a new machine: a 20-ton press from Harbor Freight, which has gotten to be a very common machine which I'm sure a few readers have.

The process went pretty smoothly until I had to mount the bottle jack. There are these springs which hold up the bottle jack and jack plate. The instructions tell you to put everything in place, and then "hook the springs into the eye bolts on the jack plate to secure the bottle jack [and] jack plate in place." This is nearly impossible. Sure, you can use some wood to hold the jack plate and bottle jack in place, but the tension the springs is tremendous. They are holding up like 30 or 60 pounds or something. You can't easily just "hook them in place".

The work around I came up with was to loosen the eyelets, hook them through the springs, and then turn the nuts that secure the eyelets in place to pull the springs taut, which works fine. But it just makes you wonder. According to Google, the hydraulic press was invented in 1795 by Joseph Bramah. While I have no proof, I suspect the 20 ton h-frame hydraulic press is a very old design and probably has been sold by Harbor Freight since at least 1980. Surely a jig to spread the springs, or a even plans to make a jig, are something that someone could have thrown into the instructions at some point in that history? Or am I just a weakling who can't stretch springs?

In other news, I was thinking of hosting Richard King for a hand scraping class. It turns out he is not feeling well, so Craig Laurich would be teaching the class in his stead. If anyone has any interest in such a class, if they can let me know at

john.obrien@revolutionmakerspace.com, that would be great.

Zoom Meeting Link

The meeting link is in the blue box. You can just barely see Zoom meetings. You have to push both "control", and click your mouse to follow the link.

Meeting ID: 620 919 9191 **Passcode**: 4F5F4b

One tap mobile +13052241968,,6209199191#,,,,*676622# US +13092053325,,6209199191#,,,,*676622#

US

ZOOM MEETINGS

Push control key and click mouse to follow link in blue box.

Proposed NEMES Luncheon

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