

*The*  
**NEMES**  
NEW ENGLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY INC.

# Gazette

No 345

March 2025

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### **NEMES officers**

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

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

### **Contact Addresses**

Treasurer  
[treasurer@neme-s.org](mailto:treasurer@neme-s.org)  
Publisher  
[Publisher@neme-s.org](mailto:Publisher@neme-s.org)  
Bob Timmerman: Editor  
[editor@neme-s.org](mailto:editor@neme-s.org)

President  
Robert Timmerman  
[RWTimmerman@gmail.com](mailto:RWTimmerman@gmail.com)

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### **March Meeting**

We will have a Zoom meeting in March at 7 PM on March 6, 2025.

An invite is attached to this Gazette.



## **Club Business**

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 may be some startup problems for a while.

I would like to propose some in- person meetings.

First topic: a group lunch at a different type of restaurant in the late Spring or very early Summer. We could meet at the Chateau in Waltham for traditional food, or, there is a pretty good Chinese restaurant in Waltham that could handle a group of up to about 20 people in mid-afternoon. At that time of year, the days are long enough that a 3 PM meal would still have people home before dark.

Second Topic: One of our museum volunteers, Roger Wiegand, is a very skilled woodworker. Some people may be aware that he has restored an antique Fairgrounds Organ, and displays it at the

Steampunk Festival, among other places. Now he and some other friends are building a group of pipe organs. Pipe organ building is *precision* woodworking. I was surprised to learn that he is doing all the cutting, even of small parts, with a 10 inch table saw. He has offered to give a talk on this, but wants to give the talk in his shop in the barn behind his house in Wayland. With our low turnout at meetings, I do not want to schedule a talk and only have 4 people show up. So, people who are interested in this topic, please contact me, at my email address. If we get more than about 6 or 8 people interested, I will approach Roger. We need interested attendees for this meeting to happen. Doesn't Nemes have more than half a dozen members who would be interested in precision woodworking?

Third Topic: Howard Gorin has negotiated a donation of my 1903 Universal Milling Machine to the Charles River Museum. I was over there two weeks ago, and found a space for it. It will take about a month to figure out how to move it, and another month or so to get it installed, and some minor repairs made. After then, I will give a talk on "What you can do on a Universal Milling Machine that you can't do on a Bridgeport. That talk will be at the Museum, probably in late April or early May, and will feature a live demonstration of a 1903 machine tool in action.

Members are invited to make suggestions for in-person meetings. Help with the meetings would always be appreciated.



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.]

We do have a new Model Engineering Correspondent, John O'Brien, who runs the Revolution Makerspace in Waltham. His second column, on uncrating the new lathe for the shop, runs this month.

We also have one article from Steve Earle.

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 2025 NEMES Model Engineering Show**

The 2025 NEMES Model Engineering Show will be on March 15, 2025. This is later than we wanted, but the first two weekends in March were taken.

## **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.

## Upcoming Events

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

## Equipment Free/for Sale

Nothing this month

## John O'Brien's Column on modelmaking

It turns out there was a lathe inside the box. What a relief!

The next problem is how to move the lathe into position. It turns out this is not so easy.

The manual indicates that you will need the following to move the G0824 lathe into position:

- A forklift or other power lifting device rated for at least 2,000 lbs.
- Two lifting straps rated for at least 2,000 lbs each.
- 2 pieces of 1 1/4" D x 44" L steel bar stock
- Two people to guide the machine

I asked my colleague Tania to help me guide the machine to get the two people. I got the bar stock from Metals Supermarket out in Woburn and I bought the lifting straps off Amazon. As for the lifting machine, my neighbor in the warehouse was kind enough to let me borrow there "walkie" electric stacker, so I was good to go.

The instructions indicate that you must insert the each piece of steel bar stock through two holes that are located in on either side of the base, stick each end through the ends of the lifting straps, and then position the lifting straps in the center of the lifting machine forks (see Figure 1 below:

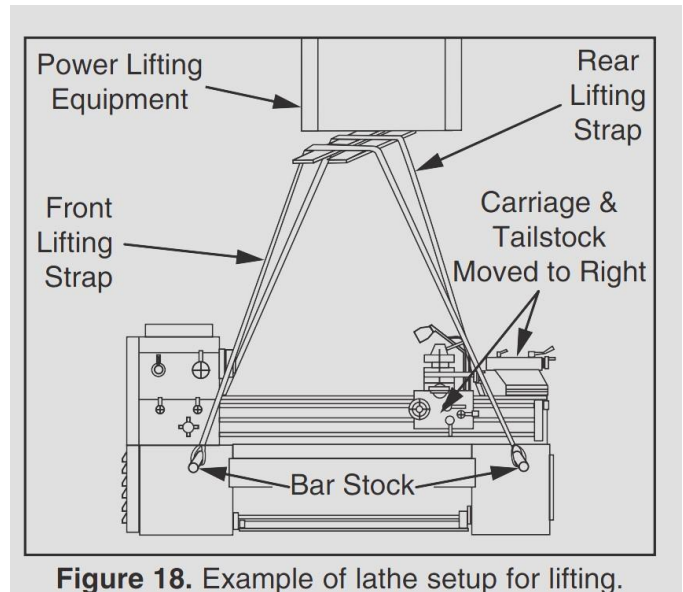


Figure 18. Example of lathe setup for lifting.

### John O'Brien's Figure 1

On the first try, the lathe began to rise at an angle. We quickly lowered the machine to try to figure out what was wrong. We needed to position the forklift just in the right point between the bar stock, and have the lifting straps at the precisely correct distance from each end in order to lift the lathe properly. It took a few tries and a few hours but we eventually figured it out. We successfully lifted the lathe off of its crate bottom and lowered the lathe onto two furniture dollies, then wheeled it into place and used the stacker again to lift it off the furniture movers. When then carefully attached six leveling feet to the lathe before lowering it into its final location.

I say final location because I don't think I'll ever be able to move it again, at least not easily. I had hoped that having the leveling feet on the lathe would allow me to use the pallet jack I have to move it around. That is how I move the Minimax CU300 combination saw/jointer/planer machine, and it works well. But the distance between the left stand column and the right stand column is too great for me to get both tongs of the pallet jack beneath each one at the same time. And, the lathe is not wide enough for me to approach it from the side and get both tongs underneath it either. So, at least until I figure out another approach, I think the lathe is stuck where we've put it. Perhaps if I ever need to move it someday I could use a farmers jack or a Johnson bar to lift it back onto furniture dollies. I hope I don't have to figure out it for quite a while. I am really tempted to run it and do some cuts, but unfortunately that is going to have to wait awhile. I need to remove the cosmoline, apply rust

protectant, apply lubricant to all the points, test run the machine, break in the spindle, and then flush and replace all the oil. So, it will be awhile before I can do the first cuts. But it's exciting to finally have the machine in place!

## Shop Tips Steve Earle

Another little shop annoyance solved...maybe...TBD...

Like most lazy people, I tend to leave the milling vise handle on the vise during machining operations. Generally I just put it in a convenient and hopefully safe position, somewhere around 3 o'clock when the vise is tightened. But usually shy of 3 o'clock, like maybe 2 o'clock-ish, so that it will stay somewhat weighted over-center and not wiggle-waggle when the CNC mill does a rapid move.

Right at 3 o'clock could be bad or maybe even dangerous. It could slowly swing its way outward, until it's right in line with the vise screw, then the machine moves the Y axis outward enough to pound that sticking-out handle into the inside of the guard or something. At best, a loud noise you didn't expect – at worst, the vise gets kicked out of square or even machine damage.

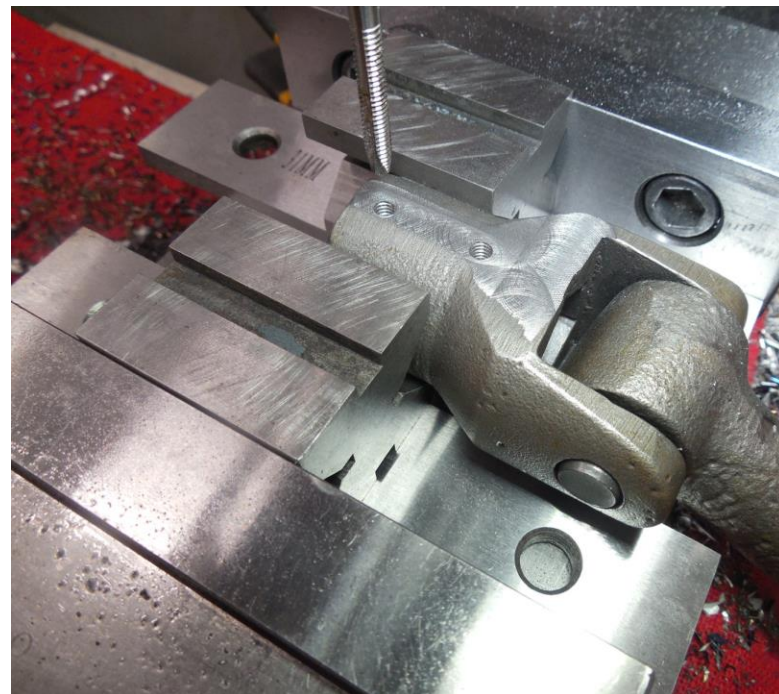
There's a second less important but highly annoying problem. You're inside the machine, maybe blowing off chips, and the air hose (or your arm) catches the vise handle. It swings around (or falls downward) with just the right sort of magical inertia to pop right off the hex end of the lead screw and then it bangs its way down into the sump. You've probably guessed why I know this. Yeah, multiple times...

So I've been trying to think up an easy and cheap way to allow my vise-handle laziness to be retained, but not have any of those unexpected loud noises. Magnet? No, it would get covered in pointy chips. Springs and an over-center something? Well maybe, but seems complicated. Then I started thinking about cabinet latches, then hey! What about those springy cheap tool or broom holder clips that most everyone hates?

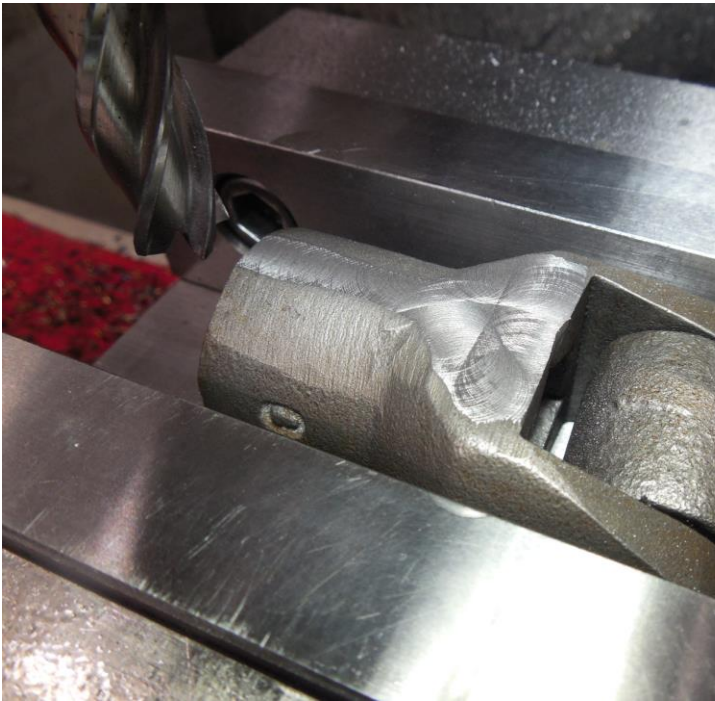


The final picture is pretty much self-explanatory. A couple of those spring clip things, some aluminum angle, a few 8-32 screws, and suitable holes here and there. And it works!

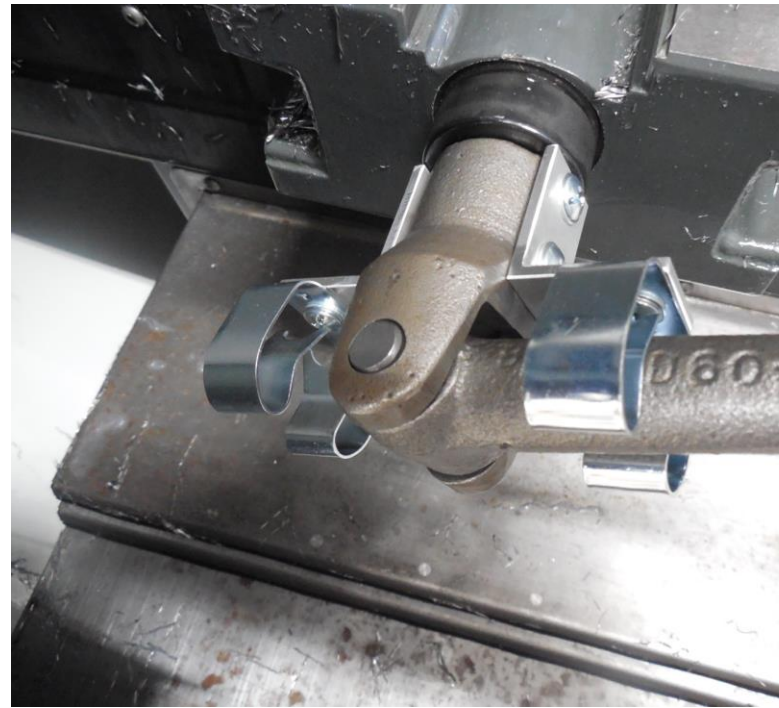
I did have to machine flat areas on each side of the vise handle, so that the aluminum angles would sit flat. That was the hardest part of the job. For this first side, the handle was just eyeball-squared up between two V-blocks.



Second side was easier. By a fortunate quirk of inanimate objects, the slightly protruding pivot pin of the vise handle lined right up with the vise (being used) jaw screws, and the little bit of recess there. So I didn't need to pad the part itself to get past that protrusion. It's sitting on a 1/4" thick plate underneath so the two sides end up essentially parallel. But really, nothing here is terribly critical.



Here's the final result. I'm excited to see how I like it (or don't) in the long-term. I'm not going to do every handle in the shop until I've gotten some use out of this first one. But it seems to work pretty well, and maybe it's the answer I've been looking for.



## 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#  
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