

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

Gazette

No 351

September 2025

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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>

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Machining

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August Meeting

We will have a Zoom meeting in
September at 7 PM on
September 4,, 2025.

An invite is attached to this
Gazette.

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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 are some startup problems for a while.

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 workbenches from me), the Framingham 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..



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.

Model Engineering Report

John O'Brien

I always get nervous working around electricity. I cracked open the control panel for on the back of the Tormach to install the electronic oiler I've mentioned previously. The back is a maze of wires. Tracing the wires through, I think I've identified where I can add a terminal block to the DIN rails and then split off one of the hot and neutral wires to power the automatic oiler. But am I 100% confident I'm correct? No, I'm not.

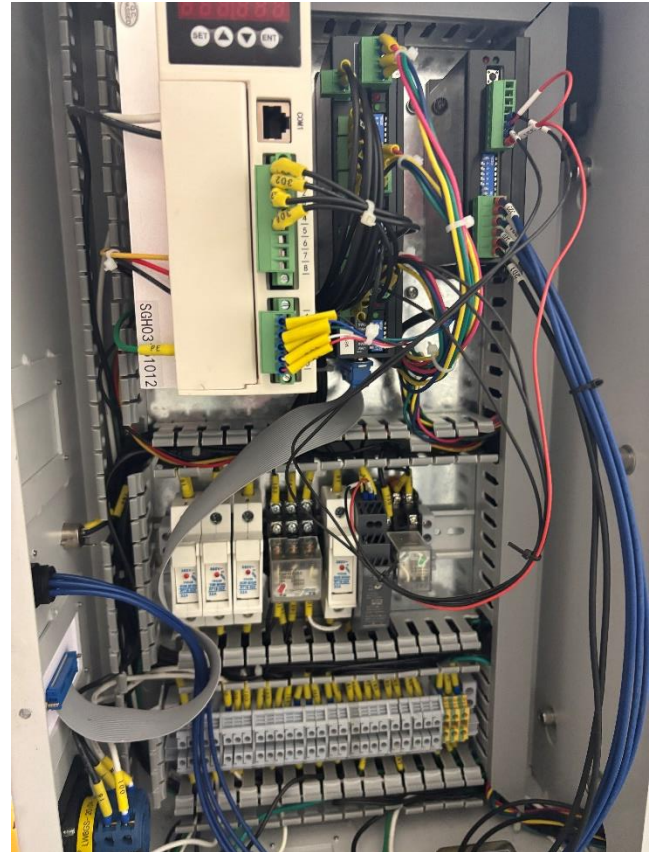
That is the thing about working with electronics.

Even when the power can't kill you (though in this case, maybe?), there are consequences to getting it wrong. I often think about wiring things as "programming with consequences". In programming, a lot of the time, you can test something out before you do it "for real", and if you do mess something up, you can correct it.

In electronics, you can check continuity and voltages, move slowly and carefully, and make sure you think you know what you are doing before you do it. But, sometimes, you get it wrong, and there is some blue smoke, [Editor's note: it is common folklore in electrical and electronic engineering that electronic and electrical equipment works its "magic" by means of the "magic smoke" it contains. Do something that lets the "magic smoke" out, and no more magic!] and that is it until you buy a new part.

I remember I was trying to tune a servo driver when, in the middle of testing a new value for the PID loop, the thing caught fire. I'm still not sure what I did wrong; maybe I power cycled it too frequently while I was testing? I cut the power and the fire went out, thankfully, without needing a fire extinguisher. The smoke from an electrical fire has a particular odor that isn't easily forgotten [that is the "magic" you are smelling].

So, take it slow. I have tremendous respect for electricity. The terminal blocks have arrived from Amazon, and this weekend I hope to install them. I'll report back next month on whether everything went well or I'm buying a new part. Or treating a chemical



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.