

The NEMES Gazette

NEW ENGLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY INC.

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November 2006

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Editor's Desk

Victor Kozakevich

Read an article about the history of oil, and learned that it once used as a weapon, centuries before we learned to fight over it.

Greek and Roman tourists marveled over the black pools of it bubbling to the surface in the place now called Iraq. The locals thought it was a smelly nuisance, though they would sometimes use it as skin medicine for their animals.

Over time, its ability to keep burning prompted some brave soul to mix it with saltpeter, the oxidant in black powder. The resulting compound called "Greek Fire" could spontaneously combust, and was used in grenades hurled by catapults at enemy ships. The liquid could be pumped through tubes like a primitive flamethrower.

North America also had some oil springs in Western Pennsylvania. In the early 1800's, some enterprising folks discovered the Seneca Indians using it as medicine, then bottled it and sold it in stores as "Seneca oil".

Refining was developed in the mid 1800's and gave us the modern world.

Next Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2006

7:00 PM. Meetings held at:
 Charles River Museum of Industry
 154 Moody Street
 Waltham, Massachusetts

Membership Info

Annual dues of \$25 (via checks made payable to "NEMES" and mailed to our membership secretary) for the calendar year are due by December 31st of the prior year.

Missing a Gazette? Send mail or email to our publisher.

Addresses are in the left column.

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President's Corner

Dick Boucher

The Meeting

The guest speaker for the November meeting will be Leonard Solomon. Leonard designs and builds what can only be described as very unusual musical instruments with equally unusual names such as "The Majestic Bellowphone", a cross between a pipe organ a French horn and a drum kit. Norm Jones and I met Leonard at Dave Dearborn's engine /steam show this spring and after a few minutes discussion with him about his instrument and it's construction we both immediately said "Guest Speaker". Items of interest that he will discuss are the valving mechanism for the pipe organ portion of the instrument and the unique method he uses to fabricate the bellows that drives the instrument. I am sure he will also play a couple selections in a classical motif for our enjoyment.

Miscellaneous Ramblings



For those of you who haven't seen the Yahoo® NEMES group or website Bea and I visited the Yankee Farmer farm stand in Greenfield NH to witness what can only be described a very unusual and interesting event. The group up there has built a Trebuchet called Yankee Siege that stands 56 feet high weighs in at 52,000 pounds and can hurl an 8-10 pound pumpkin, with enough velocity to make it whistle as it flies, 2000 feet. The machine is the record holder two years in a row at the Punkin Chunkin competition in Delaware. The latest record is 1702 feet. The demonstrations in October were fine-tuning the machine for the completion. Many thanks to Bill Brackett and his wife for supplying Errol with the pictures for the web site.

More at: <http://www.yankeesiege.com/faq.html>



Also of interest to some of you will be an open house on November 4, 2006 at the Noack Organ Company., Inc. Main and School Streets in Georgetown, Mass. The organ on display is a 14 stop two manual organ for the grove City College Grove City Pennsylvania. The instruments built at Noack are tracker action and the various shops where parts are built are open for inspection. Quite often there is a recital demonstrating the instrument during the open house. The open house is from 1 to 4 PM.

Dick B.



The Meeting

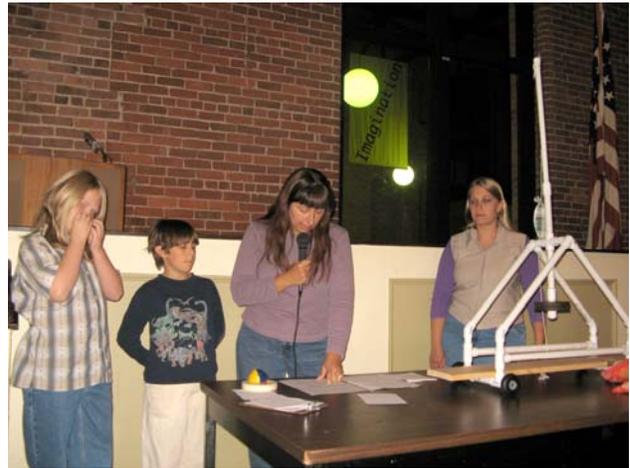
Todd Cahill

The October meeting was brought to order by venerable president Dick Boucher at precisely 7PM. Director of the Charles River Museum of Industry, Dan Yeager thanked NEMES for its \$1000 contribution to the museum. With Al Goldberg standing by, Dan also announced the potential partnership of the museum with the Chestnut Hill Waterworks site. The museum would act as overseer of this historic civil engineering site. The site is expected to be open to the public in one year. Hopefully those in charge and the community at large will be convinced of the importance of these pump engines (think Kew Bridge in London).

President Emeritus Norm Jones promoted the show at the Precision Museum in Windsor, Vermont as well as recapping the show held at the Wireless and Steam Museum in East Greenwich, RI. President Dick Boucher asked for a preliminary show of hands from those who would like to go on the annual bus trip to the Cabin Fever Show in York, PA.

With that Dick introduced the guest speakers for the evening, Lorene Lamb, with her son Jacob and Christina Anderson Hoke with her son, Chivon. They all belong to a home school cooperative, once a week they meet with other home schooled groups to share lesson plans, resources, etc. After reading *The Lord of The Rings* (and perhaps seeing the movies?) the children became interested in medieval catapults and trebuchets. Their parents saw an opportunity for a lesson. Christina did some historical research and they found plans for a trebuchet online at RLT.com. The plans they found called for the use of common materials

found at hardware stores such as PVC and plywood. They augmented these materials with some wheels used on remote controlled cars. After assembling the pieces they had cut at the hardware store, adjustments needed to be made in order to get the trebuchet to throw properly. After throwing a golf ball straight up and even backwards, they were able to improve their accuracy and eventually were able to throw the ball 35'. A demo was given using a soft juggling ball with the result being 2 ground ball outs to second base. The group was invited back to the museum by the oil can gang on Thursdays, perhaps to show them how things should get put together.



Rounding off the evening was NEMES member and renowned chucker of large squashes, Jeff de Palpa. Jeff recently led a group of home- schooled kids in building various "weapons of vegetable destruction." The lessons began with participants discovering things by disassembling them. The knowledge gained doing this was used to make a bocci playing machine using various pieces of junk. The machine was used in a competition with other groups' contraptions in a bocci game. Interestingly enough, Jeff claimed the most successful bocci playing machine was a result of knowledge of the game, not just mechanical aptitude. The second project tackled by the group was a traction trebuchet, of course. Jeff had a time- lapse video of the process of building the trebuchet with many amusing scenarios of kids repeatedly putting things together taking them apart and putting them together again. Jeff also showed footage of his participation in the British television show "Junkyard Wars." The episode he participated in was in celebration of famed British engineer, Isembard Kingdom Brunel's 200th birthday. Jeff's group built a paddle wheel boat using an old cement-mixing tank. Could it make it from England

to Australia and back again without refueling like Brunel's SS *Great Britain*? I think not, however it did come in first in a race with the other "boats" built for the show.

Todd



Web Sites of Interest



Cabin Fever

Show dates: January 20th & 21st, 2007

We are starting a sign up list for the bus trip to Cabin Fever. I will have the list at the November Meeting or folks can e-mail or phone me to sign up.

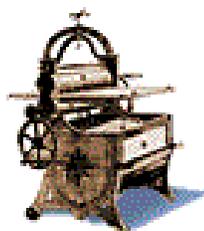
Dick B.



Treasurer's Report

Richard Koolish

Balance as of September 19, 2006	6590.63
October Gazette printing	-154.58
Balance as of October 19, 2006	6436.05



NEMES Gazette Editorial Schedule 2006

Here are the closing dates for Gazette written contributions in the coming months:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>closing date for contributions</u>
December	November 24, 2006

Sign up for the NEMES mailing list at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nemes>

A model museum to visit when in London. Note the Gellerat steam road roller, 1881, by Mrs. Cherry Hill
<http://www.imeche.org.uk/gallery/choosecard.asp?picSubject=MO>



For Sale

Shaper Work CD

Put out in 1944 by the New York State education Department this 326 page manual is chock full of valuable tips and information on using the King of Machine tools....The Shaper. Covered is everything you need to know about the care and feeding of the shaper, use of the shaper, even how to sharpen tools for the shaper. Scanned and saved in Adobe Acrobat format. The CD now has a lot more info on it, and the price has increased accordingly. \$10.00, shipping included.

Errol Groff
 180 Middle Road
 Preston, CT 06365 8206
errol.groff@snet.net

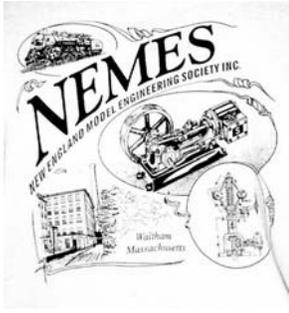
Power hacksaw, surface grinder

Heavy duty Racine power hacksaw on roll around base, has coolant tank built in. 220 VAC, 14" blade. Footprint 48"X16". \$200 or best offer.

Nyberg & Westering vertical spindle surface grinder \$500

Contact Gem Welding 978 640 0507

-Les



NEMES clothing

NEMES Tee Shirts

NEMES tee shirts and sweat shirts are available in sizes from S to XXXL. The tee shirts are gray, short sleeve shirt, Hanes 50-50. You won't shrink this shirt! The sweat shirts are the same color, but long sleeve and a crew neck. Also 50-50, but these are by Lee. The sweat shirts are very comfortable!

Artwork by Richard Sabol, printed on front and back:



Rear



Front

Prices:

	Tee Shirts	Sweat Shirts
S - L	\$12.00	\$22.00
XXL	\$14.00	\$24.00
XXXL	\$15.00	\$25.00

Add \$5 shipping and handling for the first tee shirt, \$1 for each additional shirt shipped to the same address. Sweat shirts are \$7 for shipping the first, and \$1.50 for each additional sweat shirt.

Profits go to the club treasury.

Mike Boucher
10 May's Field Rd
Lunenburg, MA 01462-1263
mdbouch@hotmail.com

NEMES Shop Apron



Look your best in the shop! The NEMES shop apron keeps clothes clean while holding essential measuring tools in the front pockets. The custom strap design keeps weight off your neck and easily ties at the side. The apron is washable blue denim with an embroidered NEMES logo on top pocket.

Contact Rollie Gaucher 508-885-2277



Upcoming Events

Bill Brackett

To add an event, please send a brief description, time, place and a contact person to call for further information to Bill Brackett at thebracketts@verizon.net or (508) 393-6290.

Bill

Nov 2nd Thursday 7PM
NEMES Monthly club meeting
Charles River Museum of Industry 781-893-5410
Waltham, MA

Nov 3-5 World Championship Punkin Chunk
<http://www.worldchampionshippunkinchunkin.com/>

Dec 7th Thursday 7PM
NEMES Monthly club meeting
Charles River Museum of Industry 781-893-5410
Waltham, MA



Letters

I just received this email from Andy Batory would like to include it in the Gazette. I will pick up a card and bring it to the Nov. meeting for members to sign.

Errol

Dear Errol and Kay,

I am writing to you about two different subjects. One is about a get well card for Dave Sobel and the other is about AMES milling machines.

I live in Canada. I've occasionally ordered machine parts from Dave Sobel in NJ. I am sure you know who he is. Today his son Peter phoned me about something I am purchasing and I found out that Dave has been in the hospital for some time. Dave Sobel is an icon for us home machinists.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a get well card signed by your club members at your next meet and sent to him? I am sure it would be something very special to him.

Peter, his son, can be reached at:
sobelmach@hotmail.com

The rather new address for Sobel Machinery is:
129 Deerhave Road
Mahwah, NH 07420
201-768-9645

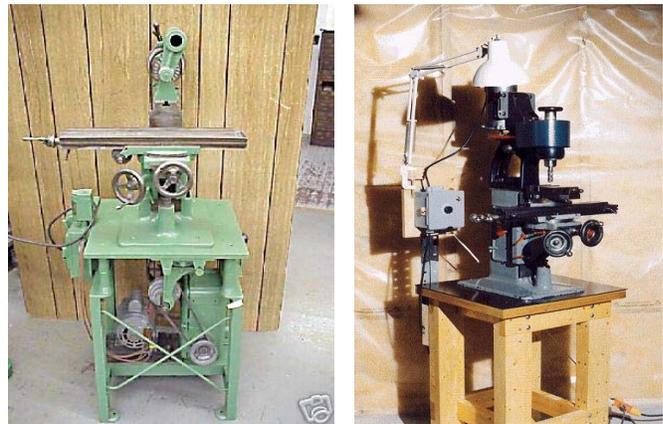
About AMES...

I own three (!!!!) AMES milling machines. I am sort of addicted to AMES. Two of the mills are horizontal and one is vertical. In 1998 I purchased my first AMES mill from one of your previous (?) club members - Geoffrey Brown.

I'd be very appreciatively if you could ask your club members for some information about these mills. I would like to correspond with anyone that has such a mill. I would love to get a

photocopy of an AMES milling machine manual or find out how I can purchase one. I'd also like to find out where I can get milling arbors to fit the 3AM collet dimensions (the smaller of the AMES collets sizes). By milling arbors I mean the arbors that are used to hold horizontal milling cutters. I am not sure of right term.

I am attaching two photos to this e-mail. The photo of the vertical AMES with the wooden bench is a photo I took. (I made the bench.) The other is a photo off of eBay. It is a horizontal AMES mill I won just a week ago. I bought it mainly because it has the amazing speed-clutch mechanism.



While any help with respect to AMES mills would be highly appreciated, the get-well card is far more important.

Regards,
Andy Batory
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