



The NEMES

NEW ENGLAND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY INC.

Gazette

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Gazette Staff

Editor Bob Timmerman

Publisher Jeff Del Papa

NEMES officers

President Dan Eyring

Vice President Victor
...Kozakevich

Treasurer Richard Baker

Secretary Todd Cahill

Webmaster James
Scheffler III

NEMES web site

<http://www.neme-s.org>

Contact Addresses

Dan Eyring Presidet
deyring2017@outlook.com

Richard Baker: Treasurer
treasurer@neme-s.org

Jeff DelPapa: Publisher
Publisher@neme-s.org

Bob Timmerman: Editor
editor@neme-s.org

Dan Eyring::Program

deyring2017@outlook.com

January Meeting

The January Meeting will be held at 7 PM in the conference room of the Charles River Museum, on Thursday evening, January 3, 2019..

The meeting will be a poster session, along with a discussion on how to bring new and younger members into NEMES.

Table of Contents

January Program	1
Club Business	2
President's Corner	2
Used machinery for Sale / Wanted	2
From the Editor's Desk	2
Summary of December Meeting	3
Future NEMES Programs	3
Shop hints and kinks	3
Future Events	4



Club Business



Editor's Desk

Bob

Timmerman

There is not much of a Gazette this month. Most people seem to be doing other things during the holiday season. We have few notices of meetings to publish, nobody has contributed articles, and NEMES is, as usual, in search of program topics. If members want more out of NEMES, they have to put more into it.

The Museum confirms that work is underway for the handicap ramp into the Jackson room, but progress is slow. So far, the contractor has set the first piece of steel for the ramp. Hopefully it will be ready in time for the Engine Show.

Several months ago, I ran an article about doing something that is supposed to be impossible. I want to make this a regular feature. Additional contributions are welcome.

Our list of future events seems to be petering out. Get your listings of future events to our Webmaster, James Scheffler III.

Articles for the Gazette are always welcome. Even if you just have an outline of an article, e-mail me, and I will help you put it together.

This issue is a few days late due to computer problems. December 19, Microsoft sent out a critical update. The update was supposed to load and then shut down my computer. The next day, my computer would not boot up. After several failed tries, I used an option from the computer manufacturer that kept my files, but deleted all applications that did not come with the computer. Apparently, it did complete the Windows update, but left me with no software. After restoring Google via my password, I had to restore Microsoft Office, and thereby hangs a cautionary tale.

When I signed into Windows and put in the serial number of my software, I got an error message on my screen, saying that the software did not load due to an error, and required telephone assistance. Even though there was no Microsoft logo on the message, I fell for it and called the help number,

Dues. We are now collecting 2019 dues. Please bring your \$25 check to the November meeting, or you can try out our credit card system. Or mail me a check to Rich Baker, NEMES, 288 Middle Street, West Newbury, MA 01985.

See Rich Baker for the NEMES merchandise.

President's Corner Dan Eyring



[Editor's note: As Dan is taking over responsibility for programs, he will not be writing a monthly column. I am keeping this space open, in case he wants to do a column in the future.]

Machinery for Sale / Wanted

As a service to members, we continue to put listings of machinery for sale or wanted by members in this space from time to time. The notices of machinery for sale are not restricted to NEMES members, as members will benefit from the widest possible exposure to information on used machinery. Requests for machinery wanted are restricted to members. Send any information to me at RWTimmerman@gmail.com

No new listings at this time

From the

even though it took a while to get through. The person answering the call said the firm was a third party charged with solving problems with loading Microsoft software. After some discussion, he told me he did not know what the problem was from the error code, and asked permission to connect to my computer. He did a scan, and reported that the computer's IP address was corrupted. I had been through something like this before; my suspicions were aroused. The person at the other end of the call said they could fix the problem for \$99. This is a scam I thought, and told the person that if the problem was that serious, I would take the computer to the place where I bought it to get it fixed. I asked the person to disconnect the remote access, and thanked him. He did so, and seemed to have left my computer unharmed. Now, what to do about Microsoft Office?. I went to the software menu, and much to my surprise, Word and Excel *had* loaded after all. That full screen message was a hoax. I wasted probably 6 hours, but no money. My security software has not detected anything added to my computer.

Moral: If you try to load legitimate software, and get a big, scary error message, it is probably a hoax. Next time I will shrink the message, and see if the software actually did load. If it did, I will delete the message.

Summary of December Meeting

The speaker was Rolland Fischer, speaking about the Waltham Manufacturing Company thread milling machine. When Waltham manufacturing stopped making thread milling machines, their foreman bought the business and ran it for a number of years. Mr. Fischer worked for the company for a number of years, and described his experience working there, as well as the machines. After the meeting, he examined the Charles River Museum's Waltham Thread Milling Machine.

Future NEMES Meetings

At the December meeting, Dan Eyring took over responsibility for programs, and begun the effort to

recruit a program committee, so that no one person would have to do all the work of programs. Anybody who wants to serve on the program committee, or has ideas for programs, please talk to Dan

Shop Hints and Kinks

Last month I ran a short piece about getting broken off bolts out of holes. At the NEMES meeting, some members had additional comments.

First, when using a left hand drill, try drilling a very small pilot hole first, using a right hand drill. This will give the left hand drill something to grab.

The best screw extractor seems to be the straight ones sold by Ridgid. There are some opinions that the tapered ones tend to enlarge the stuck bolt, jamming it worse in the hole. Tom Lipton did very convincing demonstration of the Ridgid ones on his YouTube channel (OxtoolCo). However, some viewers challenged his observations, saying that just breaking off a bolt in a blind hole is not a good test. Tom was a good sport and did a second video using an engine head with a stuck stud. (Of course, as we all know, when iron or steel oxidizes or rusts, it expands, locking things together.) Tom tried the Ridgid extractor with the stuck stud, and broke the screw extractor, twice.

The lesson here is you have something *really* stuck, you need impact. While hitting the end of the wrench can be moderately effective, the most popular way to apply impact is with an impact wrench ("rattle gun"). They are effective, even on badly rusted bolts. My son used my 1/2" drive air wrench to loosen some frame bolts on his 18 year old Jeep Cherokee, to install a trailer hitch. In one case, he had to keep the wrench going for 5 minutes, but the bolt came off.

If I had a stuck stud, I think I would weld a heavy series nut to it, and just whale away with the impact wrench until the stud comes loose.

There was also some discussion about stuck pipes. Large pipe wrenches with bent handles are legends in the pipefitting industry. Ridgid even makes several sizes of compound leverage pipe wrenches with a wrench working against a chain vise.

If the pipe is frozen in the fitting, and you want to keep the fitting, cut the pipe fairly close to the fitting, and use a reciprocating saw to slit the inside of the pipe in several places, but only as deep as the start of the threads. (If you cut into the threads, the joint will not seal). With a hammer and punch, it is possible to collapse the piece of pipe so that it can be removed. I have done this, and have seen professional pipefitters do it.

If you need to keep the pipe, or want to replace a lot of piping, it is sometimes possible to break the fittings. Threaded pipe fittings come in two types: malleable iron and cast iron. Malleable iron is cast iron that had been heat treated so that the carbon is in graphite nodules, and is fairly shock resistant. Malleable iron fittings have small bands around the threaded areas, and are fairly compact. Malleable iron fittings are impact resistant and cannot be broken with hammer blows. Cast iron fittings are made of gray cast iron, and will break under shock. Cast iron fittings have larger bands around the threaded area, are generally bulkier, and may have a rougher finish. They are commonly used for steam and condensate lines. Up to about 1 1/2" pipe size, it is possible to break a cast iron fitting with sharp blows from a ball pein hammer, or use of hammer and cold chisel. You have to hit the chisel hard with the hammer, or hit the pipe hard with the small end of the hammer. I have done it to make some alterations in the steam heating systems in my house, and believe that pipefitters use it as well.

Bob Timmerman

Future Events

[Editor's note: Our new webmaster has done a great job of formatting this section for the NEMES website. This section of the Gazette is a copy of that section of the website, and will keep the website format]

Our list of future events is running short. Please keep our Webmaster informed of any future events.

January, 2019

- **January 18-20** Cabin Fever
Lebanon, PA

February, 2019

- **February 16** 2019 NEMES Model
Engineering show
Waltham, MA Charles River Museum
of industry and Innovation