



“CHATTER”

NEWSLETTER OF THE
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION

www.miwca.com

JULY 2008

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 4

☺ NEW CLUB

☺ CLUB NEWS

☺ EVENT REPORTS

MIDLAND MWCA LEARNING SEMINAR

This year we totaled 163 students, which surpassed every other year the seminar has been in existence. Everything went smoothly, and everyone had a super time. Already there are 112 students signed on for the 2009 seminar. The new instructors for next year are Gary Bityk, Metro member, who will be teaching bark carving. Wayne Barton will be teaching chip carving. Sheila Hunter won the free 2009 carving seminar, we look forward to having her as a student and thank her for the many years she has been the chip carving instructor. More information on the classes will be forthcoming.

CANE PROJECT NOTE: Due to time restraints, Bill Phillips will no longer be able to continue as the MWCA Veterans Cane Chairman. Harold Joseph has accepted the appointment as the new chairman of the MWCA "Lean on Me" Veterans Cane Program. Please send all cane communication, carved cane heads and request for canes to Harold Joseph. Harold's phone is 1-248-681-4076, email address ojiji@sbcglobal.net, home address is 599 Lochaven Rd. Waterford, Mi 48327. We thank Bill for all his unending dedicated time and expertise that he has put into this project over the past year. He really worked overtime to promote and introduce this project to the Michigan wood carvers. This has been the first project that has involved almost every club in the association. Thank you Bill for all your service to the program.

Andrew Luckhardt

CLUB HAPPENINGS

METRO CARVERS – Joe Savino is their May carver of the month. Joe has a variety of interests that range from songbirds to religious relief carvings. He is so busy that he is able to display a different carving at every meeting.

Carver for the month of June is Don Tenniswood a Metro member for the past three years; he has been carving for close to 12. Primarily self-taught, he has a large personal library of Indian history, art, design and mythology which helps in his carving interests.

Annual elections were held and new officers will start presiding over the club in September. John Sabina – President; Paul Blanchard – Vice President; Ina Jacobs – Treasurer and Dick Jacobs – Secretary. Congratulations to John for accepting the position of President, and Paul as Vice President, both are newly elected. Thanks to Doug Evans for the 3 years he has served as president, it was great.

GREATER LANSING CARVERS: The Greater Lansing Woodcarvers held their June 16th meeting as a picnic at the Park near downtown DeWitt, MI. A June picnic in the past was a tradition to acknowledge the end of the Club's carving year. We used to meet in a school and match the school year with no meetings in the summer months. It was a great idea to renew the picnic even though now, we do not stop meeting when school is out for the summer. The weather was a tad cool. Jackets were part of our wardrobe.

As an enticement to encourage as many to attend as possible it was indicated we would also take a club picture of the members present. Hopefully, we will do similar in Sept when maybe we can get an even bigger turnout for the club picture. As far as I know this is the first club picture taken since I joined the group in 1994. Bob Strobel



TRI-CITY CARVERS – Tri City members will be carving at the Saginaw Farmers Market on July 18th, and September 19th. On August 21 they will also be carving at the Saginaw Children's Zoo.

Mike Ford will be conducting a bird carving class September 25-27. Bob Thurston is donating a carving to be raffled off as a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity.

We have begun to carve the door prizes for our show in September.

Bob Thurston's character carving class was a great success. Everyone went home with a nice carving and we all learned a lot about carving techniques. We carved an elf, Santa, or choice of two different Indians. In addition Bob demonstrated his tool sharpening techniques. What a great class!

Our club picnic is on July 15th. The picnic will be catered by the Gubbins. This is the 10th Anniversary of the completion of the carving of the Carousel.

SOUTH LYON CARVERS The South Lyon carvers meet each Monday from 12 noon-3 pm at the South Lyon High School. Stop by when you are in the area. For more information on their club you may call President Bill Peedle at 248-437-1632 or you can also email Bill at wdpeedle@comcast.net.

SUNRISE CARVERS – Our show went well this year and we thank all those who helped make it a success. Carol Hidges won Best of Intermediate with her carved flowers. Mary Hilderbrand won Best of Novice with her wood burning of a white tail deer. Best of Show went to Sunrise member Joe Moran and David Sterling on Hale Happy chippers won the Carver's Choice Award with his pair of Goldfinch. Joe Moran took the People's Choice Award for a carving of a mama wildcat and cub.

Isa Hastings led a club workshop on a carved and painted feather. Bill Hastings will present a club workshop on sign carving in July.

SALINE CARVERS now have their own website. With the help of friend Ron (who belongs to the Blue Water Carvers) I'm trying to make a web page about are club and this is what we come up with. So we would like everyone to please check this site out, and see how we are doing. <http://www.geocities.com/rongee12/clubs/saline/saline.html>
Thanks all, Howard Puchalsky (Mr. Pooch)

HAPPY CHIPPERS FALL EVENT – “Whittlin’ at the Woodlands” Sept 19-21, 2008. The Woodlands Retreat is a Community of Christ 400 acre campground in Hale where members of our club are the caretakers.

This will be the second year we have done this. Last year we did it as a club event and we had such a great time that this year we invite everyone else to come and play--and carve.

Friday – Come in all day. In the afternoon we will make cider and have a hot dog roast and potluck dinner with a campfire with continuous carving.

Saturday—Breakfast will be make your own omelet's in a baggie—bring your own eggs--other ingredients provided. Lunch will be on your own and for dinner, bring a container of chili to add to the pot!! Of course there will be carving all day too. Classes given by Dave Stirling and also Carl Zajak and Bob DeCaluwe which will be various small projects and walking sticks.

There will also be crafts—cards, quilting or bring a craft to share. We will also have wagon ride—campfire—and continuous carving, laughs and fun.

Sunday—Meals on your own. Finish up projects. Stay as long as you want. We hope you can join us as this will be a relaxing weekend, and lots of fun too.

Camping with electricity and water is \$15 per night. There is also a Program Center to sleep in...\$11 a night and bring your own bedding. For more information and reservations please call Mary Lou Sheppard at 989-473-3160.

WOOD CARVERS ROUNDUP – The Wood Carver's Roundup is now past history, which was bigger than any of the past Roundups. The fairgrounds were all A BUZZ!! We had more carvers this year than we ever had. With 40 different carving and non-carving workshops we filled the three main buildings at the fairgrounds. The new community hall worked great as well as the Exhibit and Vendor buildings. The Wednesday evening 10th Roundup anniversary cake and ice cream celebration was attended by thousands (seemed like) and it was a great time. The Evert Chamber of Commerce also joined us for the festivities. During that evening the Michigan Wood Carvers Association president Andy Luckhardt presented the Fairgrounds with an American Flag for the new building. A chain saw carving of a bear was also presented from the chainsaw carving workshop leader.

Speaking of BUZZ, the Roundup was also attended by two swarms of honeybees. Our resident beekeeper Bob Holder and visiting beekeeper Pat Murphy bravely managed to escort the visitors safely away!!

Overall the entire Roundup was perfect. Thank you to all the workshop leaders who make this event so successful, you are the ones who make it possible. We missed a number of regular workshop leaders this year due to various circumstances but hope they will be with us again next year.

Two days following the Roundup Floyd Rhadigan put on the Creative Carving Seminar which in the past has been held in Cadillac. Many of the carvers from the Roundup stayed on to complete the seminar. That event was also very successful.

Due to fairgrounds scheduling and availability the Roundup dates for next year will be June 10-13, 2009. We have moved away from Father's Day weekend. The Creative Carving Seminar will still follow the Roundup on June 15-19.

FRANENMUTH WOOD CARVERS GUILD – We are working on a fall class with Salvano Salvador, “The Cane Man” if there is enough interest by members. The Don Mertz 3-day carving seminar was well attended and enjoyed by all who too the class.

KALAMAZOO VALLEY CARVERS: One of the members of the Kalamazoo Valley Woodcarvers Guild, Jerry Burnham informed me that the White Fish Point Ship Museum in Paradise, MI has accepted one of his carved, full size Common Loons for display.
Marilyn Osterhouse



CHIPS and CHATTER

NEW MWCA INSURANCE REP – Thanks to Rizal Baysa for taking over the insurance representative for MWCA. All clubs sponsoring a show or event needs to have a copy of their event insurance. 30 days before your event please check with Rizal to be sure your activity is covered by insurance. Only events sponsored by a club is eligible, individuals giving a class or carving demonstrations is not covered. You may call Rizal at 586-781-3921.

THANK YOU: To My Fellow Carvers, I would like to take time to thank everyone that has participated in our "Lean On Me" Patriot Cane Program during the past year. For your information we have had the honor of presenting over 100 canes or memorials during the past year. We have a lot of people to thank for this. First of all thank you to the carvers that have sent us carved eagle heads. Then all the special people that have worked with me such as Bill Jaquays and Dave Copeman who made the drawings we use as patterns. To Brian Sanderson (Dave & Debbie Sanderson's son) who asked his company, Springs Window Fashion of Grayling, MI, to donate wood to our program which we used to carve several of our eagle heads. To the carvers who cut out eagle head blanks for us. To the Chief Osceola Carvers and the Fairgrounds Manager Mr. Herb Phelps for allowing us to use the new fairgrounds building to host our first eagle head carve-in and then allowing us to present our first veteran cane in that new building in June 2007. To Terry Zobl who made our cane project website, along with chip carving some of the cane sticks and for making the oval cane pins we used to raise funds for the purchase of cane materials. To Jim and Barb Graham who also made a batch of oval hatpins to help raise cane funds. To Keith Harris who helped make up our cane application and for sending them to the VA regional office. To Harold Green who has turned the tenons on all of our cane shafts. Harold also carved the special eagle heads and then mounted them on a bird's eye maple base that we use as KIA (killed in action) memorials. To the MWCA executive board, for approving the program during the 2007 Midland Seminar. To Jim Wilsford from Tennessee who introduced us to the cane program and Jack Nitz from Oklahoma who started the national veterans cane program. And last but not least the person that I have counted on for not only advice, but all the work he performed for us personalizing and decorating each and every one of our canes, my friend and fellow carver Harold Joseph. I send all of you a special "Thanks You" for your help and ask that you continue your support for this program. Respectively,
Bill Phillips

WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY: Please let the membership of the MWCA know that I am planning to retire after the 2008-2009 school year and after that will be actively looking for opportunities to teach at seminars and also to present seminars for individual clubs. As you know I specialize in shorebirds, but can also give instruction about carving fish decoys, Santa Clauses, and numerous other topics. My wife Winnie and I plan to travel during the winter in the south either in Florida or in the southwest and I'm looking to offer classes as part of our travels.

Jack Miller

Many of you know Jack and Winnie from the Roundup and the Michigan Wood Carvers Seminar and the Creative Carving Seminar. He has taught successful classes at all three events over the past 10 years. He is an excellent and patient teacher, so if you are looking for a great club workshop opportunity, please remember Jack starting next summer. For more information You can reach Jack at jackcarves@juno.com or call 717-637-6963.

THE NEXT "CHATTER" NEWSLETTER GOES OUT BY E-MAIL ONLY on or about the first of the months listed below. All news needs to be to the editor, Sandy Holder by the last day of the month prior to publication. E-Mail and phone listed below.

CHATTER NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF:

JANUARY MARCH MAY
JULY SEPTEMBER NOVEMBER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>INFORMATION</i>
8/16	LIVONIA CARVING SHOW	19801 Farmington Road in Livonia	248-474-2609
8/23	HAPPY CHIPPERS CARVING EXPO	Hale	989-473-3160
9/5-7	SPIT & WHITTLE WEEKEND	Evart Fairgrounds	231-734-5125 or 9131
9/19-21	WHITTLN' IN THE WOODS	Hale	989-473-3160
9/26-27	WASHINGTON CARVER FEST 3	Washington Sr Center	586-786-1967
9/28	TRI CITY SHOW	Bay Valley Resort – Troon Ballroom	989-781-3846

MWCA CONTACTS

President Andrew Luckhardt (734) 323-4685 salinecarver@hughes.net	Vice President Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@hotmail.com	Secretary Pat Murphy (810) 392-3642 patarmurp@aol.com	Treasurer Mary Lou Mulick (616) 642-6790 mulick@iserv.net
"Chatter" Editor Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net	MWCA Chaplain Milan Maybee (517) 783-2902 mmybee2@hotmail.com	Judging Phyllis Burghy (989) 879-2600 cedarbirdshoppe@chartermi.net	Competition This is open for anyone willing to help with the state events.
Insurance Rizal Baysa 586-781-3921 sorry, no e-mail	Webmaster Terry Zobl (586) 739-7234 metrocarvers@yahoo.com	State Show Chairman John Pierce (616) 527-2413 hpvolks@iserv.net	Promotional (Calendars, etc.) Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@hotmail.com