



**“CHATTER”**  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION

[www.miwca.com](http://www.miwca.com)

JANUARY 2009

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 1

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☺ MEETINGS

☺ SHOW REPORTS

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\*\*\*\*\*MWCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING\*\*\*\*\*

The 32nd annual MWCA meeting will be April 4 at the Old Country Buffet in Flint, time 11:00 am. All members are encouraged to attend, as election of officers and decisions for the future of your association will be voted on at this meeting.

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Our December membership meeting was well represented with 19 clubs and over 40 members despite the snow. It was a very good Christmas oriented meeting. Myrna Miller won the free lunch, and Margaret Maybee won the 50-50 drawing. A generous non-perishable food donation from our members was accepted and delivered to the Ewart area food bank. They were very appreciative of our generosity. We accomplished a lot for the good of the Association. There were several suggestions (including myself) regarding the timing of the meeting. It is a long time from when the members have to start to come to meeting in the morning and lunch break around 2:30 or 3:00 in the afternoon. It was suggested we break for lunch around 12:00 noon, which can be a good time for conversation among members.

The May 11-15, 2009 seminar is fast filling up with anxious carvers ready for more carving. We now have over 130 carvers registered. Don't wait too long to register if you plan on attending, as some of the classes are full and others close to filling up. For more information call Andy at (734) 323-4685 or Bill at (810) 798-3401. Application is available at <http://www.miwca.com>

2008 has been a very hectic year. However MWCA has had a very good year. We have lost a few club members but gained a few. We now have 42 active clubs in the Association. I have enjoyed going to the many club shows representing MWCA. A few club shows have been cancelled however we hope they will be back this coming year.

The 2010 Learning Seminar will be one week later in May due to scheduling at the Midland Fair Grounds. Maybe the weather will be settled and a little warmer.

The 2009 Learning Seminar is going exceptionally well with the committee working hard on making it another great one. We have 136 Students signed up to date. The 2008 Seminar was a great success with 160 students attending. The following classes are full: Wayne Barton Chip Carving, Jim Wilsford Power Animal, Gary Falin Caricature, Fred & Elaine Stenman Relief and Mike Ford Birds of Prey. The following classes: Ben Donaghy, Song Birds-2 students; Cheryl Dow, Pyrography-8; Stu Martin, Human Figures-9; Floyd Rhadigan, Caricature & Canes-10; Bill Heether, Basics-1; Rod Walker, Fish Power-5; Wayne Shinlever, caricature-10; Chris Howard, Faces & Busts-6; Gary Bityk, Bark Carving-3; Sandy Holder, Carousel Horses-2; Leah Goddard, Animal Hand-7; Silvano Salvador, Deep Relief-10; Stan Cordts, Habitat-3; Jack Miller, Shore Birds and Dave Sanderson, Pyrography have none to date. If you wish a certain class get your applications in as soon as possible.

I wish at this time to express my sincere thanks to all for the cooperation and hard work that has been done during 2008 for the good of the Association. I wish everyone a Happy New Year and a belated Merry Christmas.

Andrew Luckhardt, President

**ELECTIONS FOR 2009-2011 YEARS is April 4, 2009:**

It is time again for the nomination of officers for the MWCA fiscal year April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2011. At the end of the newsletter you will find a nomination form for nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you would like to nominate someone for office, both parties must please fill out the form and mail it by March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to one of the nominations committee members printed on the form. Already received nominations are for Andy Luckhardt for President, Bill Phillips for Vice President, Pat Murphy for Secretary and Mary Lou Mulick for Treasurer, all are the incumbent officers.

**MWCA MEMBERSHIP DUES FORMS** will be mailed to all current MWCA club presidents sometime in January. To renew your MWCA club's membership please fill out the form and send it to the treasurer before March 31, 2009. This will pay your club dues from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2011. These must be paid for your club to be able to vote at the Annual Meeting on April 4, 2009.

**Please check the addresses of your members** to be sure they are correct. We received over 50 returned Seminar applications, sent to all members in September, with "not able to forward", "insufficient address", "not deliverable as addressed", "no such number", etc. Your attention to members addresses will be appreciated. Please have someone also check your web page on [www.miwca.com](http://www.miwca.com) and be sure your current information is correct. A lot of people check those pages for information about carvers in their area.

**CLUB INFORMATION, SHOWS and HAPPENINGS**

**INSURANCE CERTIFICATE** - If your club needs an insurance certificate for your show or event, please send a request at least 30 days in advance if possible to give us time to process your request. All requests are to be emailed to Rizal Baysa at [rbaysa1@comcast.net](mailto:rbaysa1@comcast.net) or call him at 586-781-3921. Also for your convenience there is a downloadable MWCA Club Insurance Request form posted on the [www.miwca.com](http://www.miwca.com) web page available in MS Word or .pdf.

**FRANENMUTH WOOD CARVERS GUILD** – The cane carving class by Silvano Salvador held on Oct. 6 - 8 was very successful and given high marks by all the members who took the class. Chuck Buchanan has passed away and joined the Guild in 1997 and worked on several projects, upgrading the Eagles Nest, maintaining the Library and many other activities of the Guild. His fellow carvers will miss Chuck. The Guild collected food items for the Bethesda Home in Frankenmuth for Christmas. Wooden Toys were collected for the Frankenmuth Historical Museum in cooperation with the Bavarian Arbor Gleaners. Jim LaPan, Kurt Sherwood, Ron Brown and Jim Grohoski carved six pumpkins for display by the Chamber of Commerce. Floyd Rhadigan caricature-carving class is scheduled for April 20 & 21<sup>st</sup>.

**SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS** – Members are busy bringing us many carving projects. Gene Cotter did a 'wooden soldier' class for us and it was fun to do. Howard and Jodie Lahti acquired carving pumpkins for us in October and the Jack-o-Lanterns were on display and raffle at the Senior Center, they received the proceeds from the raffle. Trudy Bohlinger brought lots of rocks for a painting a deer on a rock. Carl Zajac brought us a class for an easy tree ornament, which we carved and painted in one evening.

In January we will again be doing a one-day carving class at the University of Scouting in Standish.

**METRO CARVERS** – Our CarveFest held in September was a complete success. Attendance was an impressive 106 attendees for the two days. Thanks to all the Metro members who offered the 13 classes for the weekend. Thanks to those who also donated to or supported our raffle, we were able to help the senior center upgrade their sound system and put a little into the club treasure. Thank you to all who helped to make this a success

November speaker, Jim Strode, explained how pewter is incorporated into carving. In December we had an expert on local Indian lore, Lloyd Gower, to show how wood carving skills for bows and arrows were necessary for survival among the natives of this area.

December Carver of the Month is Arlene Murphy. Accompanying her husband Pat to a carving seminar, she took classes from Linda Sales. Then she took classes from Cheryl Dow, as well as Floyd Rhadigan. She also does chip carving and shallow relief work.

In the Dec newsletter it shows pictures of the monthly carving competition. Winners of best Theme, Arlene Murphy; Best of Master, Don Schneider; Advanced, Doug Evans; and Beginner Bob Lalanek. Doug carved a Santa using Mike Bloomquist's DVD on carving a Santa. This DVD is available through the MWCA video library.

**GREATER LANSING SHOW** on April 18, 2009 will be held at the Haslett High School again.

**SALINE CARVERS NEW SHOW DATE** - Saline Carvers would like to let everyone know the date of their 2009 woodcarving show has been moved up a week due to scheduling conflicts to a new date of ... insert drum roll here please ... October 10, 2009. So mark the calendars! They also

had club elections and all officers stay the same with President Floyd Rhadigan, V. President Tom Tobias, Secretary Helen Snuverink and Treasurer Howard Pulchalsky. They would also like you to know they still meet each Wednesday at the Saline Sr. Center at 6 pm and everyone is welcome.

**TRI-CITY CARVERS NEW SHOW DATE** – **The 2009 Carving Show is moving to Saturday September 19, 2009** at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church located on Midland Road (M-47) in Saginaw. They have a 3000 sq. ft. room with another 1500 and 2000 available. The church has Scouts and others who can provide lunch. We will make a donation for their services.

Congratulations to the folks elected to office in the club. Officers for 2009 are: President Gerald Willis, Vice-President Dave Arndt, Secretary Ed Hak, and Treasurer Jean Barber

The Guge seminar is scheduled March 26 – 29. Gene Gubbins spoke to Bob Guge about the birds that can be carved in three days. They are, barn owl, woodcock and yellow finch.

**KALAMAZOO WOODCARVERS GUILD** - The Kalamazoo Woodcarver's Guild had a special guest to demonstrate painting techniques. Her name was Carol Kuiper and she spent two carving sessions with all who were interested. We had a good turn out for this.

If there is anyone interested in learning to carve or to just see what goes on in our meetings near the Kalamazoo area, please feel free to come by. We meet every Tuesday from 1 PM to 3:30 PM at the Portage Senior Center. We also meet on the first and third Wednesday from 7 PM to 9 PM. Our business meeting is the third Wednesday evening.

We would love to have you join us.

Marilyn [Marilyn.Osterhouse@Comcast.net](mailto:Marilyn.Osterhouse@Comcast.net)

**COASTAL CARVERS** - We are working on how-to-do wooden pliers. If anyone has some pointers for us, we'd like to hear them. A couple of our club members (Glen and Barb) participated in Allegan's Art Walk that took place 12 Dec. 5-8:00pm. It was a Christmas event where the downtown shop owners invited a featured artist to display their handiwork. Another Christmas event that Glen participated in was the South Haven's art club's Christmas sale.

**EDITORS NOTE:** David and Sally spent a month in Austria/Germany doing more "fan" research. They attended a class at Austrian school of woodcarving Geisler-Moroder: Sally, woodcarving and David, painting. Of course they also taught fan-carving. They highly recommend Geisler-Moroder: excellent classes, food and lodging. Carving in the Alps is a great experience!

The Coastal Carvers would like folks to know that The Bavarian Chalet Woodcarving studio that has recently opened in South Bend, Indiana. They also include the Michigan border activities in their calendar and Bruce Downs (South Bend studio) studied with our own Georg Keilhoffer in Frankenmuth for nine years. The purpose of this studio is for Bruce's gratitude to Georg and to pay honor and tribute to him. He hopes to preserve Georg's style of traditional European woodcarving

## CHIPS and CHATTER

**The MWCA ANNUAL 2009 CALENDAR** is ready for your enjoyment and purchase. This is the only fundraiser for MWCA that we do that benefits both the carver and the organization, so be sure to support your association and purchase your copy as soon as you can. It's a great bargain for only \$4.00. It lists all the Michigan clubs and events for 2009. Plus the listing of the available DVD's and Video's from the MWCA library. As in the past, the carving show winners from the past year are the monthly pictures. **Please make note** that the 3<sup>rd</sup> best of show carver on the right on the March calendar picture is really Bob Thurston, his wife mentioned that Ed Sowuleski doesn't look anything like Bob.!!! My fingers typed the wrong name in there.

We have several calendars still available and would like each club to order a few. If your club would like to order some they can e-mail Bill Phillips or Andy Luckhardt (email and phone below) or call and we will send them postage paid. No need to send money, just let us know how many you would like and we will keep track. You can send the funds after you sell them.

**LEAN ON ME CANE PROJECT** – From Harold Joseph, cane committee chairman: We are soon going to be in need of more eagle heads for our 'lean on me cane project'. Any heads carved can be turned in to regional reps and/or brought to the April meeting in Flint. We are also in need of carvers to be presenters to recipients around the state. If you would like to be a presenter in your area, or would like to carve an Eagle head, please call Harold at 248-681-4076 or email [ojiji@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ojiji@sbcglobal.net) and let him know. He can send you the pre-cut blank and instructions.

The project has been changed to PATRIOT instead of the Wounded Warrior project, as all past members of the military, living or deceased who has been in combat are welcome to receive a memorial cane.

**CARPET SQUARES:** What you ask? Due to the damage of some of the tables at the Wood Carvers Roundup in June and the Spit & Whittle in September, we are asking that if you attend the Roundup or Spit & Whittle that you please bring your own durable table protector. We also ask that if someone knows where they can pick up carpet squares, please bring them to the fairgrounds so we can stockpile a good supply for folks who don't have protectors. You can usually find sample squares at carpet stores from stock they no longer have. Lots of times they will just donate them if you tell them what they will be used for. We have been using them at our Chief Osceola carving club for years. All donations will be appreciated. [www.evartroundup.com](http://www.evartroundup.com) has now been updated with 2009 workshops.

**RON'S RAMBLINGS:** Our roving reporter Ron Gaskill of the Blue Water Carvers spends a lot of time surfing the Internet. Here are some of the sites he would like to share with us:

1. Gary Bing has a 4 part video series up for viewing about how he does faces. He starts with triangulating out the stock and will take you through to cutting in the nose. His method is a little different than the mainstream method but he ends up at where you want to be. I would also point out his type of face lends itself well to cane or staff faces. My favorite part is where he almost takes his camera down. While your there check the many free tips/patterns too! Gary's videos can be viewed at

[http://darkwood-woodcarving.com/free\\_carving\\_Lessons.htm](http://darkwood-woodcarving.com/free_carving_Lessons.htm)

2. Next up is a great find for all carvers, free Lightbox Plans. This is a simple, easy to make lightbox for making patterns. It is available in three different formats. You can find on the Free Stuff page from Sue Walters Pyrography web site at

<http://www.suewalters.com/freestuff.html>

Look for more tips and information in the next newsletter. Thanks Ron for your very observant surfing.

Here is also a pattern he found that you can make bigger and use. A neat little Christmas Elf from Will Hayden. [www.willhayden.com](http://www.willhayden.com)

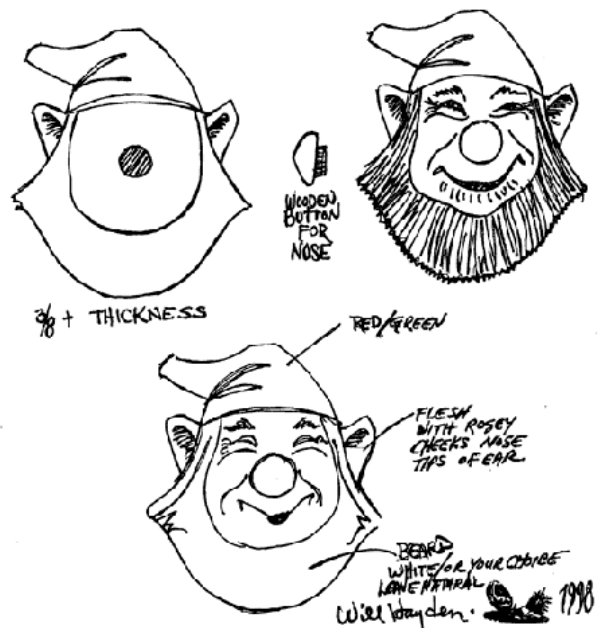
**BREAKING NEWS FLASH!!! ...TRUE:** Mr. Floyd Rhadigan will be opening a carving studio in Clinton MI..... sometime late December early January ..... teaching classes and selling supplies .... and much more. Hello to all, this is my new e-mail [rhads134@comcast.net](mailto:rhads134@comcast.net) My new store number is 517-456-5110, my cell is still 734-649-3259. Floyd Rhadigan, C.C.A.

**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

Will Hayden Original Elf



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
3/21-22/09	Metro Carvers Show	Madison Heights	586-791-7728
4/4/09	MWCA ANNUAL MEETING	Old Country Buffet – Miller Rd. - Flint	734-323-4685
4/18/09	Greater Lansing Show	Haslett High School	517-337-0778
5/9-10	Sunrise Side Carving Show	Oscoda Community Center – Oscoda	989-736-3678
5/11-15	MWCA Learning Seminar	Midland Fairgrounds – Midland	734-323-4685
6/10-13	Wood Carvers Roundup	Osceola Fairgrounds – Evart www.evartroundup.com (page has been updated for 2009)	231-734-5125 231-734-9131
6/15-19	Creative Carving Seminar	Osceola Fairgrounds – Evart www.fantasycarving.com	734-649-3259

Before attending you may want to call to see if there have been any changes or cancellations.

## MWCA CONTACTS

<b>President</b> Andrew Luckhardt (734) 323-4685 salinecarver@hughes.net	<b>Vice President</b> Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@hotmail.com	<b>Secretary</b> Pat Murphy (810) 392-3642 patarmurp@aol.com	<b>Treasurer</b> Mary Lou Mulick (616) 642-6790 mulick@iserv.net
<b>“Chatter” Editor</b> Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net	<b>MWCA Chaplain</b> Milan Maybee (517) 783-2902 mmymaybee2@hotmail.com	<b>Judging</b> Phyllis Burghy (989) 879-2600 cedarbirdshoppe@chartermi.net	<b>Competition</b> This is open for anyone willing to help with the state events.
<b>Insurance</b> Rizal Baysa 586-781-3921 rbaysa1@comcast.net	<b>Webmaster</b> Terry Zobl (586) 739-7234 metrocarvers@yahoo.com	<b>State Show Chairman</b> John Pierce (616) 527-2413 hpvolks@iserv.net	<b>Promotional (Calendars, etc.)</b> Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@hotmail.com

### M.W.C.A. 2009-2011 NOMINATION FORM

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I the undersigned, do hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
MWCA member, for the position of \_\_\_\_\_  
of the Michigan Wood Carvers Association for a 2-year term of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2011.  
Member signature \_\_\_\_\_

Consent of Nominee:

I do hereby consent to let my name stand as Candidate for the above-specified position. I have reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Board members and will be able to meet the time and travel commitments as needed.

I am a paid member of \_\_\_\_\_ Club.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

All forms must be received by a nominations committee member by March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to be included on the ballot.

Submit to one of the Nominations Committee Members:

Sandy Holder, 7093 14 Mile Rd, Evart MI 49631, Ph. 231-734-5125 – Chief Osceola Carvers

Harold and Setsuko Joseph, 599 Lochaven Rd, Waterford MI 48527, Ph. 248-681-4076 – Clinton Valley Carvers

Garry Mulick, 1829 Andres Rd, Belding MI 48809, Ph. 616-642-6790 – Grand Valley Carvers