



“CHATTER”
NEWSLETTER OF THE
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION
www.miwca.com
JULY 2009 **VOLUME 14 ISSUE 4**

☺ **CLUB NEWS**

☺ **SEMINAR**

☺ **EVENTS**

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

First of all I want to congratulate Virginia Huffman, Bob and Sandy Holder and the West Michigan Carvers and their hard working committee for the greatest Round Up ever. Everything went very smoothly and I am sure that all attending had the best time ever. Thank you for a job well done. The Spit & Whittle carving weekend is coming on Sept 11th thru the 13th so are looking forward to another fun filled weekend at the Osceola Fairgrounds.

The Club shows are over till Sept when the Tri City Show opens on Sept 19, 2010. The Hartwick Pines Festival will be held on July 17th & 18th. This has always been a fun time for carvers to get together and carve and demonstrate at the State Park. Then the following shows will be held during Oct, and November. Woodbee Carvers, Oct. 3 which is a members only show, Saline Carvers Show Oct 10. Livonia show Oct 31., Fruitbelt Show Nov 7th & 8th. The other shows of interest are the Sauder Village Show Oct 24th & 25th and the Dayton Artistry in Wood Show on Nov 14th & 15th in Dayton Ohio.

The 2009 Learning Seminar of MWCA was very successful. We had 142 students registered for the Seminar. We had 18 excellent instructors teaching throughout the week. We had around 97 sign up for the 2010 Seminar before the 2009 Seminar was over. I want to express my sincere thanks for all the excellent helpers that made this excellent Seminar possible, especially Bill & Ruth Phillips, the co-chairpersons. Bill & Ruth worked all year long to make this seminar possible. Thank you very much.

Now 2010 Seminar is coming on May 17th thru 21st, 2010. This is one week later due to scheduling at the Midland Fairgrounds. Hopefully we will have warmer and better weather. At this time we have 99 registrations for the 2010 Seminar, very good at this time, we must have done something good this year. We are still working on the list of instructors for 2010. The new ones so far are Rollie Bliensener hollow walking sticks, Richard Davis carving Hibiscus Flowers, Larry Echker doing Deep Relief, Jack Miller carving Shore Birds and John Williams hand carving large animals using many of Debbe Edwards roughouts. Also Dave Copeman hand carving Woody Bears and Karen Hundt Brown doing Gourd Art. Stan Cordts will also be back with his Habitat carvings. The brochure for the 2010 seminar is being worked on and should be out later this summer. It will include the listing of instructors and their bios, applications, and the other information for the seminar.

CLUB SHOWS AND HAPPENINGS

WOODBEE CARVERS – Four members will demonstrate carving at the Friends of the Bergland Cultural/Heritage Center “Garden Party” on August 1, 2009. They will be having their show on October 3 at the Mid Town Mall but it is for Woodbee members only and there will be no vendors. June 20th three members will demonstrate carving at the Bewabic State Park in Crystal Falls.

METRO CARVERS – May carver of the month is Larry Lloyd who got the bug from going to a tool show 15 years ago. He started with Barney Pelletier by carving a wooden egg. That led to cowboy caricatures from the Frank Claeys carvers. From there he made Christmas Angels for family, then for their friends and their friends and then neighbors, etc. He's in the angel business now.

HAPPY CHIPPERS - 2nd Annual Whittlin' at the Woodlands event September 18-20, 2009. Come join us for a fun weed-end of carving and fun. For more information call Mary Lou Sheppard 989-473-3160 or Mary Ann Stephens 989-387-1170 or 989-728-4022.

FRANKENUMTH CARVERS GUILD – Nine carvers attended the Stu Martin Seminar in May. They all enjoyed the session and gave it high marks. Jim LaPan and Bill Schultz donated carvings for the Frankenmuth Art Council Auction held in April. Our club displayed carvings and demonstrated carving at the Eagles Nest for early visitors of the Bavarian Festival.

Pictures of the Guild's chainsaw carving of a Gnome were printed in the Frankenmuth News with Dick Hanson shaping the Gnome with his chainsaw. A second article described the work of man of the Guild members making the period wood toys for the Frankenmuth Historical Museum, which are used in their educational program for children.

SOUTH CENTAL CARVERS - The South Central Wood Carvers is sorry to announce that we will not be having a carving in August as proposed. We will be planning a show in 2010. Exhibitors interested in having a table at the show please contact Bill Jaquays, 3105 Dorothy Lane, Spring Arbor, MI. 49283 schnitzr@comcast.net to have your name put on the mailing list. Dates have not been set for the Show. Bill Jaquays

TRI-CITY CARVERS – The Tri City Carvers are working to make 100 wooden toys for Toys for Tots. Plans are being made for their show in September; it will be in a new location this year. (See calendar at end of newsletter) Member Mike Basner conducted a soap carving class for the Boy Scouts.

SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS – The Sunrise Carving Show was great again. Everyone enjoyed seeing old friends and make new ones. The quality of the carvings and burnings entered or displayed was above and beyond last year. Judges Mike LePage, Frank Burghy and Bill Wolfe did a fine job and were more than happy to critique. Our SPIRIT award went to Jodie Lahti at our May business meeting. She was honored as the "BAG LADY" of 2008 and 2009, as she has recruited the goodie bags for our show exhibitor and vendors from Dr. Currier in Alpena for 2008 and from Glen's Market in Oscoda for the 2009 show.

Some members gave us some great classes. John Milne gave us an Indian flute lesson; we aren't quite ready for a recital yet! Carol Hodges brought us little bird houses and trinket boxes to carve or burn with designs, they all turned out great. In June Kathy Moffit brought us the Shelf Elf class.

CHIPS AND CHATTER

CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS: The MWCA is going to carve Christmas tree decorations for our friends in Canada. Dennis "Pop" Moor, owner of Chipping Away in Canada as asked us to help him decorate a tree with wood carving related items. They will be put on a Christmas tree and donated to the Ontario Make a Wish Foundation where it will be auctioned off. Last year the foundation had 19 donated trees and were able to receive about \$24, 000 for the Make a Whish Foundation to help kids have a Merry Christmas.

We have decided to try to collect the 300-400 carvings which it takes to decorate a full tree and send the carvings to "Pop" Moor. We think we can count on you as members of the association so please carve a tree ornament for our Canadian neighbor. We had a great start by collecting some ornaments at the Evart Roundup. We also plan to receive ornaments at the Evart Spit & Whittle in September. We do need them by September 30, 2009. Please check the MWCA website www.miwca.com for more information and hopefully some ideas soon. Please remember "Pop" has asked us to make sure the carvings are not toooo big as they have to hang on a tree branch. If you can't bring them to Spit and Whittle please send them to:

Bill Phillips, 5035 Cochrane Rd, Almont MI 48003 or to
Bill Jaquays, 3105 Dorothy Lane, Spring Arbor MI 49283

A few suggestions would be:

Eight point star, wooden icicle, pine cone from an egg, a building block with a letter, symbol, number or design, a Santa face carved into an egg, Chip carve a simple design (many of the chip carving books have simple patterns, wood burn a design, carve a small animal or song bird inanimate object.

We will be looking forward to receiving your carved ornaments by Spit & Whittle in September. Ornaments do not have to have hooks for hanging, but must include and eye pin or screw for hanging. Ornaments should be finished and be lightweight so as to not bend tree branches.

We plan to box them up and send them to "Pop" by September 30, 2009. We hope every member can make an ornament. Together the MWCA can make a Merry Christmas for a lot of children. THANK YOU.

RAMBLING RON'S WEBBINESS

Tip time -The common business card can be used as a tool as a measuring device, straight edge, square angle and forty-five degree angle and even for pulling out a knife blade that sits too low in the body of a pocket knife. More details <http://woodbecarver.com/>

Bird Carvings: Here is a great web page loaded with bird carving tips from Lori Corbett. She has a great page up showing how she does bird feathers. She takes us from layout to finish. She also covers texturing long feathers, texturing contouring short feather, creating ripples in feathers and carving an overlay split. Be sure and scroll down the page and check out her painting demos and tips and the American Kestrel follow along as she does it. It's a Beautiful piece of work. Love the head positioning!

<http://www.whisperingeagle.com/Demos.htm>

Christmas Ornaments: With so many folks getting onboard with Chipping Away's Xmas Tree project to help the Children's Wish Foundation I will try to keep a steady stream of online Xmas ornament how to's going to help folks participate. To start off with a great place to find tutorials for Xmas carving and MUCH, MUCH more is in the article link on the toolbar at

<http://www.woodcraft.com/> Many of these how to's are in "PDF" file form and can be downloaded and viewed and even printed out a distributed to friends or club members who want to do a ornament and are not online. A couple quick and easy ones can found on page 4 called Carving a Traditional Santa and Carving Father Christmas. Now the second one uses a cypress knee but any piece of wood will serve the purpose. You're going to paint over it anyways!

Patterns of shoes, boots, dogs and animals can be found at <http://www.blackhawkcarving.com/pattern.htm>

EVART ROUNDUP

The 11th Annual Wood Carvers Roundup held June 10-13 at the Osceola County 4H-FFA Fairgrounds was a notably big success. Almost 700 people attended this year, which is above what we have had previously. Although numbers aren't important, we just want people to have a great time no matter how many or how few come. About 190 campers filled the camping spots in the fairgrounds. A record number turned out for our ice cream social; we scooped out over 12 gallons of ice cream along with a table full of donated cakes, cookies and pies.

Over 40 different workshops on all aspects of woodcarving were held during the four-day event. The only cost to the carvers was the cost for the workshop materials. Workshop leaders and carvers came from CO, DE, FL, IL, IN, KY, LA, MO, NJ, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, WA, WI and Canada, and no doubt other states we didn't see.

The Evert Chamber of Commerce hosted a wood carver's reception on Tuesday morning for the early Roundup arrivals. The Evert DDA also presented a free Musicales concert on Thursday evening at the Depot, which many carvers attended.

There were four buildings full of carvers enjoying learning new things and getting tips from other people with knives. There were also some crafty type workshops for those who accompanied the carvers. We also have a very active quilters group, as many of the spouses are avid quilters. We noticed a lot of younger carvers this year who were escorted by their parents; it is a good thing to be passing on the hobby. We will return again next year, we promise. <http://evartroundup.com> Thank you to everyone who contributed carpet squares for table protectors, they worked great and the tables were safe.

Following the Roundup was another carving event, which was a 5-day seminar with 10 different instructors. Over 100 carvers attended this Creative Woodcarving Seminar by Floyd Rhadigan. Many of the attendees from the Roundup stayed over for the seminar, which makes it a very fruitful week and a half of carving. The seminar will also be following the Roundup in 2010.

INDIANA WOODCARVERS SUMMER CAMP – Another Wood Carvers Roundup Clone has surfaced! Held at the Pla-Mor campgrounds in Bremen IN August 20-23. Many of the Roundup instructors will be teaching there, everyone is welcome. For more information call Marcy at 574-204-2856 or visit their website at:

http://www.counciloakwoodcarvers.com/indiana_summer_camp_front_page.html

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 25th 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>
9/11-13	Spit & Whittle Weekend	Osceola Fairgrounds - Evert www.evartroundup.com	231-734-9131 or 231-734-5125
9/18-20	Rhadigan Caricature Carving Seminar	Osceola Fairgrounds – Evert	734-649-3259
9/18-20	Whittlin' at the Woodlands	Woodlands Retreat – Hale	989-782-4022
9/19	Tri-City Carvers Show	2 nd Presbyterian Church – Saginaw	989-793-3520 Darndt73@aol.com
9/25-26	Washing Center Carvefest 3	Washington Sr Center	586-786-1967
10/3	WBE Members Woodbee Carvers Show	Iron Mountain – Mid Town Mall	715-696-6008
10/10	Saline Carving Show	UAW Hall – Saline	734-599-8784
1/18	Frankenmuth Carving Show	Frankenmuth High School	989-892-4705 989-835-8919
11/7-8	Fruitbelt Woodcarving Show	Cass County Fairgrounds Cassopolis	269-663-6096 Toolmaker21144@comcast.net

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

MWCA CONTACTS

President Andrew Luckhardt (734) 323-4685 salinecarver@hughes.net	Vice President Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@yahoo.com	Secretary Pat Murphy (810) 392-3642 patarmurp@aol.com	Treasurer Mary Lou Mulick (616) 642-6790 mulickg@gmail.com
"Chatter" Editor Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net	MWCA Chaplain Milan Maybee (517) 787-1272 mmyaybee2@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 rbaysa1@comcast.net	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@yahoo.com