



**“CHATTER”**  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION  
[www.mwca.110mb.com](http://www.mwca.110mb.com)  
MARCH 2010 VOLUME 15 ISSUE 2

**• CLUB NEWS • WOOD ART EXCHANGE • ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING • SEMINAR**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

*Saturday - April 10 - Midland MI*

**PONDEROSA STEAKHOUSE**

*Meeting will start at 11:00 am with lunch following the meeting.*

*For the lunch price the early birds can also have breakfast if you arrive before they change to the lunch buffet.*

*This is a great time to get to know other MWCA carvers and participate in the direction of the organization.*

**WOOD ART EXCHANGE - DEADLINE will be the end of Monday March 8<sup>th</sup>.**

There are still a few days left to become a part of the first exchange of wood art (including wood burning, intarsia, carving, power carving, scroll saw, etc). This is a great opportunity to meet another member of the MWCA in a different part of the state. Details were in the January newsletter. Carvings will be sent (by the artist) to another member whose name will be sent by Dave to the artist. They will be sent out on a pre-determined date the first part of April (there is still time to carve something). If you would like to be part of this group, please let David Nye know by this date in March. During the Roundup last summer a paper was put out for people who would be interested in the exchange. Those carvers are not automatically on the list as being part of the exchange. If you wrote your name on the list, please contact Dave if you want to be included. Be sure to include your Name, address, phone and club. Dave's phone is 269-543-4755 or e-mail: [Columbus@accn.org](mailto:Columbus@accn.org) More information about the exchange can be found on the MWCA website [http://www.mwca.110mb.com/index.php?p=1\\_11\\_Exchange](http://www.mwca.110mb.com/index.php?p=1_11_Exchange)

(Don't forget to set your clocks back on March 13<sup>th</sup> before you retire for the night)

**PRESIDENTS CARVING BENCH NOTES**

It is that time again to let you know what is happening in your MWCA carving club. It all starts out with the Annual Metro Carving Show March 20 & 21, 2010, one of the best shows in the state. Then the Lansing Show will be held April 17 at the Haslett high school and on April 10, our Annual Membership Meeting in Midland at the Ponderosa. Then on May 1st & 2<sup>nd</sup> Kalamazoo Carving Club is putting on their first carving show at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, lets give them all the support we can. The following Saturday & Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> is the Sunrise Side Carving Show held in Oscoda. After that, the week of May 17<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup> our annual seminar takes place in Midland.

The time is running short to sign up for the best seminar in the country. To date we have 111 students signed up. The following classes need more students. Gary Bityk, bark carving; Cheryl Dow, Wood Burning; Leah Goddard, animal hand carving. Sandy Holder, carousel horses; Stu Martin, Human figures; Floyd Rhadigan, Caricatures and canes; Silvano Salvador, Deep Relief; and Rod Walker, Fish carving Power. Larry Eichler, Deep Relief has 1 student, all the rest have no students and will probably cancel. The first weeks in March I will be calling the instructors to see if they will come for the number of students they have and guaranteeing them the number they have. Everything else for the seminar is going as scheduled. It looks like it will be another great seminar. The date is one week later and will be one week after the Sunrise Show, May 17<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup>.

Following the seminar the Midland Dow Arts and Science Museum will sponsor a Wood Carving exhibit. All Carvers in the State are eligible to take part. Details are in this Chatter. This is a good place to show off your skills in the Art of Woodcarving and let the public know what the MWCA is all about. Sincerely Andrew Luckhardt, President

**CLUB SHOWS and HAPPENINGS**

**WOODBEE CARVERS:** Our Tom Hower Scholarship is \$500 with the majority of the money coming from the 2009 Carving Show held at the Mall last October. The scholarship will be given to one student from the Association of Student Artists represented by the local school districts. The recipient will be chosen from 6 finalists chosen by the local art teachers. Verna and Ted Rogers will present the scholarship at the annual ASA banquet on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Plans for a carving show in October are still in the planning stages.

**COASTAL CARVERS:** The Coastal Carvers had 9 participants in the January Industrial Arts Festival. The community turned out in the spirit of the day. We talked to a few folks that might join us for carving sometime. There were several displays and demonstrations on all sorts of arts. It was a very impressive program and great fun for the community. We'll do it again! It would be good for people around the state to visit the next time to see what can be done in their community.

**KALAMAZOO CARVERS GUILD:** The election of officers was held in January. Results are, President: Jerry Burnham, V.P.-open, Secretary: Marilyn Osterhouse and Treasurer: Vern Hoag

We want to congratulate and thank Wes Merriman for serving as President for 18 years. He was awarded a plaque for his years of service to our club. We thank him sincerely.

We also want to remind everyone of our first annual Woodcarving Show on May 1 & 2 at the Kalamazoo County fairgrounds. We would love to have all of you participate. If you have any questions, e-mail contact [Marilyn.Osterhouse@comcast.net](mailto:Marilyn.Osterhouse@comcast.net) or Jerry Burnham at [bitonostalgia99@msn.com](mailto:bitonostalgia99@msn.com)

**SOUTH CENTRAL CARVERS:** In November Tiger Scout Den Leader, Michelle Young, brought Den 12 - Pack 637 Scouts of Onstead, MI to our show and tell wood carving demonstration during a Wednesday night South Central Wood Carvers meeting. Several Scouts and their parents enjoyed seeing the many displays and demonstrations that the carvers showed them. The Scouts each took Christmas tree ornament home with them that they were able to decorate themselves. It was a fun filled evening for all.

**METRO:** January carver of the month is Gary Eldred. Starting out just whittling a stick, he had other plans and decided to take a few classes. He joined Metro just this year, and loves carving. He has carved raptors and birds.

February carver of the month is Charlie Kreger who started carving in 1990 at the Sterling Heights Senior Center/ His carving interests are many but is now carving bark. His Gnome homes are beautiful and very complex.

A new category has been added to our March 20-21 show, class #55. Youth Carving for ages 16 and under. They may enter one carving if they are a metro member and volunteer to help at the show and also if they are assigned to a table. The featured carver this year is Dick Jacobs. There are still tables available. For more information about the show call 586-791-7728 or 248-547-1539.

**TRI-CITY:** In January Dr Thomas Mudd was a guest speaker at one of our meetings. He asked if some of the club members would consider carving wall sign plaques for seven of the rooms at the Cushway House, (their project) to which we had seven members volunteer for, our thanks to them.

Carving at the Antique Warehouse in January went very well Saturday. Lots of folks stopped by. Sunday the weather kept people home. Thanks to the guys who came out.

In March members will present soap carving at Resurrection Lutheran March 30. There will be about 12 Boy Scouts. The Carving exhibition at Hemmeter School was the most successful we have done yet. We had guests in our room at the school consistently all day long including several children who couldn't get enough of the toys we brought along. It reminds us how simple things can bring so much pleasure to children.

**GREATER LANSING CARVERS:** The Greater Lansing is getting ready for their show on Saturday April 17. Theme for this show is "Maritime" which includes any thing, any flora and/or any fauna relating to the lakes, rivers or oceans and featuring sea carvings depicting fresh water and marine life, the two-masted clipper ship display, and other wood sculptures. For more information about the show and how to obtain a table for your carvings erbish@juno.com

Greater Lansing Carvers now have a wonderful website <http://www.glwoodcarvers.com> stop by and enjoy the site.

**SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS:** In January Leonard Barr taught us a class on carving a star, although some ended up with some stubby points, we all had a great time. Art Talbot taught a fun class carving an apple core, and we didn't peel our fingers!!

Our show on May 8-9 will have a "Patriotism" theme this year. We are well under way with the planning. If you your club didn't receive a show application, contact Shirley Torrey at 989-362-7982 or e-mail Shirley at [tigertwo@charter.net](mailto:tigertwo@charter.net)

## CHIPS AND CHATTER

**NOTE to CLUBS:** All clubs have received their 2010-2011 membership dues renewal forms and we have received quite a few renewals already. It would be a first ever if all clubs paid their dues before the April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Remember they have to be paid before your club can have a vote at the meeting. **They are actually due by March 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**JOHN BURKE:** This was posted from another woodcarving list --- Jan 29: The carving world lost another important member of the carving community. John Burke lost his battle with cancer. Most carvers are familiar with his Burke sharpening system. We send condolences to his family.

**ROD WALKER** of the Chief Osceola Carvers gave an airbrush demonstration in February at a meeting of the Wood Whackers Carvers in Big Rapids. They had a great time and Rod answered a lot of questions about airbrushing. Rod will also be a judge and the featured carver at the Sunrise Side carving show May 8-9 in Oscoda.

**EAGLE HEAD CANE HANDLE BLANKS:** If anyone needs more cutouts of the eagle heads for the Patriot canes, please let Pat Murphy know. They will be brought to the April meeting for pickup. If you let him know they will know how many to bring. You can call Pat at 810-392-3642 or e-mail him: [patarmurp@aol.com](mailto:patarmurp@aol.com)

**EVART SUPER 8 NAME CHANGE:** For those planning to stay at the Evert Super 8 we are excited to tell you it now has a new name. It is now "THE OSCEOLA GRAND HOTEL". New phone number is 1-877-382-7864 (1-877-EVARTMI ) you can also visit their website <http://osceolagrandhotel.com> If you plan to attend the Roundup or the Spit & Whittle they have a special rate of \$67.00 per night if you tell them you are attending those events.

The Roundup is on track as usual. We have a few workshop leaders unable to attend this year and they will be missed. John Williams, Tony Erickson and Chris Howard all have other commitments at this time.

**EVART AREA FOOD PANTRY** would like you to know that they served over 400 people last year, which included 147 families in our coverage area. Thank you to MWCA for contributing to our mission of helping families in need.

**MWCA ANNUAL 2010 CALENDAR** was a big success. It would be a big help if all the clubs who have shows would furnish Sandy Holder with pictures of the best of show and runner up winners, people's choice, etc. to be included in the 2012 calendar. She does take pictures at shows she participates in or visits but other pictures are still welcome and needed. Pictures are especially need from shows she is unable to attend. E-mail: [civildee@netonecom.net](mailto:civildee@netonecom.net)

**ALDEN B. DOW MUSEUM:** Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art of the Midland Center of Arts, Midland, Michigan. As you know the MWCA members have been invited to display their art work at the Dow Museum starting May 29<sup>th</sup> thru Aug 29<sup>th</sup> 2010. Please check the museum web site and print out an application at [www.mcfta.org](http://www.mcfta.org). We would like to get an estimated number of people who are going to enter the displays so please drop Chairpersons Barb & Willy Stewart an email at [stewart.willy@bigfoot.com](mailto:stewart.willy@bigfoot.com) (989-687-2536) or Bill Phillips at [br2phillips@yahoo.com](mailto:br2phillips@yahoo.com) (810-798-3401). We think this is going to be a very successful undertaking so please let us know if you are interested.

Please note that we have two applications: one is for the competition (juried) for blue winning art work from the past 2 years. The second offers an OPEN category for those including NOVICE who do not want to participate in the juried category. This is open to all wood carvings, wood burning and intarsia (completed on your own or in classes) which will allow all us to display something. You can only submit one carving in either category and it must have been completed in the past 2 years.

The museum is accepting applications now thru May 1<sup>st</sup>. They ask that you send in your application along with a photo of the item noting on back of the photo the approximate size of the entry so they can make sure they have a pedestal display case for your carving. Starting May 17<sup>th</sup> thru May 22<sup>nd</sup> you can either deliver your artwork or send it in thru the postal system. If you would like to have the carving returned thru postal service you must have a pre-paid return slip enclosed. *They also request that all entries wrapped for shipping be protected by bubble wrap - not any other type of shipping material.*

You can also go to <http://www.mwca.110mb.com> go to Links, and download the applications and instructions there.

#### TIP TIME

**A SUGGESSTED TIP FOR NEW CARVERS:** I truly believe that a carver needs 3 good knives, one for roughing out, one for general carving and one for detailing. I suspect that you will buy a bunch of lemons before you settle on three good ones. Depending on the carving, a carver needs a good selection of gouges and Vee tools in various sizes. For the gouges, I use a lot of number 3's in various widths and number 9 in ¼ to ½ in widths. Don't forget the small veiners in number 9. Vee tools comes in sharp V and rounded V, I use the rounded V for stop cuts, they get rid of serious wood in a hurry. If a V is large enough, you can use the side of it for a great gouge. Don't forget at least one skew tool. It is not possible to buy all these tools at one time unless you have more money than you know what to do with.

I do know this, a great carving can be done with a very minimum amount of tools, but it is a heck of a lot easier if you have the tools to do the job. It all comes down to the type of carvings that you do. Some carvings require a lot less tools than others. You can probably over haul a car engine with a crescent wrench, but who would want to.

John Crawford of the West Michigan Carvers

**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

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
3/20-21	Metro Carvers Show	United Food & Commercial Workers Hall Madison Hgts	586-791-7728 248-547-1539
4/10	MWCA Annual membership meeting	Midland Ponderosa	734-323-4685 or 810-798-3401
4/17	Greater Lansing Carving Show	Haslett High School	517-337-0778
5/1-2	Kalamazoo Carving Show	Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds	269-649-1713 or 269-649-2483
5/8-9	Sunrise Side Carving Show	Oscoda Community Center – Oscoda	989-362-7982
5/17-21	MWCA Learning Seminar	Midland Fairgrounds – Midland	734-323-4685 or 810-798-3401
5/29-8/28	Dow Arts & Science Museum	Midland	810-798-3401
6/9-12	Wood Carvers Roundup	Osceola County Fairgrounds - Evart	231-734-5125 or 231-734-9131
6/14-18	Creative Woodcarving Seminar	Osceola County Fairgrounds – Evart	734-649-3259

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

## MWCA CONTACTS

<b><i>President</i></b> Andrew Luckhardt (734) 323-4685 salinecarver@hughes.net	<b><i>Vice President</i></b> Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@yahoo.com	<b><i>Secretary</i></b> Pat Murphy (810) 392-3642 patarmurp@aol.com	<b><i>Treasurer</i></b> Mary Lou Mulick (616) 642-6790 mulickg@gmail.com
<b><i>“Chatter” Editor</i></b> Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net	<b><i>MWCA Chaplain</i></b> Milan Maybee (517) 787-1272 mmmaybee2@hotmail.com	<b><i>Judging</i></b> Phyllis Burghy (989) 879-2600 cedarbirdshoppe@chartermi.net	<b><i>Competition</i></b> This is open for anyone willing to help with the state events.
<b><i>Insurance</i></b> Rizal Baysa 586-781-3921 rbaysa1@comcast.net	<b><i>Webmaster</i></b> Terry Zobl (586) 739-7234 metrocarvers@yahoo.com	<b><i>State Show Chairman</i></b> John Pierce (616) 527-2413 hpvolks@iserv.net	<b><i>Promotional (Calendars, etc.)</i></b> Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@yahoo.com