



“CHATTER”
NEWSLETTER OF THE
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION
www.mwca.110mb.com
JULY 2010 VOLUME 15 ISSUE 4

• **CLUB NEWS**

• **MIDLAND MUSEUM**

• **SEMINAR**

• **SHOW REPORTS**

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS CARVING BENCH

Its been a very busy 2 month since the last Chatter was sent out. A lot has been going on in both the MWCA and its clubs. The Kalamazoo Show was the first on the list for May 1st & 2nd. It was the first show they had ever put on and I congratulate them on a very good Show. Then on May 8th & 9th the Sunrise Side Club put on the Sunrise Side Show. Another great show. Then on the 17th thru 21st the MWCA Learning Seminar at the Midland Fairgrounds was held which was a great success. We had 139 students and 14 instructors at our seminar this year. Cheryl Dow, Pyrographic Artist had retired as one of our instructors and was honored at the seminar for her many years of service. We wish Cheryl the very best in the coming years. Sharon Bechtold from Bartlett, IL replaced her and she did an excellent job teaching the Wood Burning class. I want to personally thank all those who helped put on the 2010 Seminar, because without these members there would not be a Seminar. I was very busy all week long registering students and keeping their records straight. On Wednesday morning we started registering students for the 2011 Seminar and we registered 93 students by the end of the week for the 2011 Seminar. We have 5 new instructors listed for the 2011 Seminar, Tom Dewitt-Decoy Carving, Bill & Isa Hasting- Residential & Commercial Sign Carving, Linda Sales- pyrography, John Williams- Animal Power Carving, and Ben Donaghy is returning as Song Bird Carver. The 2011 Seminar is well under way and looks like another good one so pick your class and sign up soon and we will hold your class for you.

During the first few days of the Seminar the final projects were brought to the seminar for the Exhibition at the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art. We had 45 entered in competition and about 100 in the open class. During the roundup we went over to Midland to judge the juried class. The judges were, Armin Mersmann-Assistant Director Midland Art Museum, Jack Miller- Professional Carving Instructor from Penn., and I filled in for one who could not make it. The winners of the juried competition are found later in the newsletter.

The week after the roundup Floyd Rhadigan put on his Creative Carving Seminar at Evart.. After about 10 years I decided to take a seminar class again, I needed more instruction in Woodburning. I guess Linda Sales (woodburner) didn't believe it when I told her I was taking her class because she asked me later "Are you *really* taking my class?" Anyway I *really* had a great time and learned many new things. It was great to woodburn with 10 wonderful ladies for 5 days. Linda is a very good instructor and we are lucky to have her join our Seminar in Midland in 2011.

Then the end of June on the 26th my grandson Jonathan Luckhardt got married in Petoskey, Mi. My whole family rented a cottage on Pickerel Lake near Petoskey for the week before the wedding. What a great week we had, fishing, shopping, site seeing, wine tasting tours, receptions, and of course the wedding on Saturday. Will take 3 or 4 days to get caught up on all MWCA business, but I will get there.

Andrew Luckhardt, President of MWCA

CLUB SHOWS and HAPPENINGS

KALAMAZOO VALLEY CARVERS SHOW: This was the first show that the group has put on and it really turned out well. 73 tables were reserved for the show. Judges for the carving competition were Howard Lahti, Mike LePage and Charley Flanders. Results are: Best of Show was Orlando Villarreal with a fish carving, Donna Stressman won 2nd Best of Show for a moose antler carving, 3rd Best of Show went to Tom Grile with a duck carving, and Jeff Peden won 4th Best of Show with his natural finish "fish-in-hand" carving. There were over 500 people who visited the show. We are still working on a date and room for next year's show.

LIVONIA CARVERS:*****Please also note that we have a changed in our show date in October. Due to double booking, Livonia carving show date has changed from October 2 to October 30th. It will be held at the U.A.W. hall at 601 Woodland Drive in Saline. For more information contact Lou Fox 248-474-2609 or email Lou at craftyfox6811@sbcglobal.net

BLUE WATER CARVERS - Wayne Seaford and Orrin Paul Shoemaker gave a carving demonstration for an elementary school in the Yale school district. This is the third year that the

Blue Water Carvers have been involved with this elementary school and their "end of the year" activities. Ron Gaskill was responsible for setting up this relationship originally. At the opening ceremonies this year they observed a minute of silence in memory of Ron. Orrin Paul Shoemaker

HAPPY CHIPPERS - We would like to remind everyone about our 3rd Annual "Whittlin' at the Woodlands" event--- September 17--19, 2010. Come join us for a fun weekend of carving and fun and food. The Woodlands campground is about 5 miles west of Hale. Last year we had about 40 people attend and we had a great time! There are campsites available with water and electric at \$15 per night and also indoor sleeping accommodations at their Program Center for \$11 a night, bring your own bedding. Daily access is also available. Open carving will go on daily with various classes available on Saturday. You may teach a class if you would like. Quilters may bring projects to work on---space available.

We found that it was more fun to have meals together so we will have potlucks and cider making and wagon rides. Friday hot dog roast (dogs provided) for supper. There will be a chili dump one night. The T-Shirt Depot will be there to make various shirts, etc. If you would like, please bring a

carving to donate to their Operation Homefront Auction in November. Thanks.

For more information, Call Mary Lou Sheppard 989-473-3160 or Mary Ann Stephens 989-387-1170 or 989-728-4022. See you there!!

METRO: The annual June elections for the Metro club were held and their officers will be: New President Paul Blanchard who replaces John Sabina, new Vice-President Bob Galanek replaces Paul Blanchard, Secretary Harold Green was re-elected and Treasurer Rizal Baysa was re-elected. Their new terms begin September 1, 2010.

Dick Mann is their carver of the month for June. He started carving 11 years ago while in Arizona at an RV park. Dick does pretty much every type of carving but loves doing caricatures, which he paints using washes to allow the grain to show. He does a lot of teaching while spending winter in a warmer climate and is very active in setting up the Carve Fest in Washington in September.

WOODBEE CARVERS: Wonders in Wood show will be Oct 1st and 2nd. Show will be held in the Midtown Mall in Iron Mountain, across from the previous show location (Premiere Center, now site of the Walgreens Pharmacy). 10am to 4pm each day. We chose to do a Friday because we felt that day would provide more traffic in the mall than on Sunday. We only have 40 six-foot tables available and will be reserved on a first come, first-served basis. It would help a great deal if you are able to use your own table. We do not have access to chairs so you will need to bring them. For answers to questions please call Ted Rogers, Show Chairman 715-696-6008.

TRI-CITY: Members are working on small toys to donate to Toys for Tots. Their show will be coming up on September 18th, contact 989-793-3520. Members will also be carving at the Saginaw Farmers Market on July 30th and September 10th. Their club picnic will be at the Saginaw Zoo on July 13th.

For the June meeting, Gordie Jamison of The Air Brush Shop in Saginaw was the guest speaker. He discussed the art and techniques of airbrushing.

SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS: Their show on May 8-9 was another big success. Several people indicated that this year's

show was way beyond their expectations in that the creativity they saw was amazing and imaginative. We had 47 carvers and 6 registered vendors and over 600 visitors attended the show. Soap carving was held on Saturday and the Whittling Contest was on Sunday.

Belcher Carving Supply donated gift certificates at the Sunday Breakfast.

Judges were Rod Walker, Mike LePage and Joe Dubey. The winners were: Best of Show: Donna Stressman with a likeness of Chief Joseph of Nez Perce on a moose antler. Bob Schroeder won people's Choice with an eagle and flag. Ernie Burns with a carved Uncle Sam won the Whittling Contest. Gene Cotter displayed Abraham Lincoln which he had carved and also a carved likeness of President Barack Obama. Chainsaw carver Mark Easterly from Frederic Michigan was featured outside and really had an assortment of chainsaw carved items. Best Table Award was won by Richard Jenkins.

Best of Advanced was won by Bill Phillips who carved a basswood rhinoceros. Bill McReynolds won Best of Intermediate carving a strolling Goofy. Best of Novice was Darryl Nieman with a howling wolf and Best of Woodburning was Kathi Olah for a detailed picture of an old barn and pump.

Now that the show is over they are getting back to carving. During the spring classes given by Howard Lahti, Dick Torrey and Harriet Flanders included Mr Happy Tooth, mushrooms, toadstools, birds and fireworks. Next comes Eagle heads with Bill Hastings and "The Old Buzzard" with Charlie Flanders. Shirley Torrey-Show co-chairman

WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS: Many of the members attended the Oceana County Folk Festival and they gave away lots and lots of twig flowers and everyone enjoyed the day. They also have two new members, Jon Hemingsen and Bill Fenton. Their new club treasurer is Jim Aebig, wonder how he "volunteered" for that position? We thank Clair Purdy for a job well done.

Paul Duff has been "helping" most of us carve a duck over the past few months. He is so patient as our remember(er) is broke and our forgetter works just fine, we need all the help we can get!! Lots of duck pictures have been taken and printed from the computer because we tend to forget what the carving should look like a few days later when we start carving.

CHIPS AND CHATTER

2011 CALENDAR INFORMATION NEEDED: For any club that had a show from September 2009 to June 2010, I will need pictures of the winning carvings from your show. Best of Show and runners up and People's/Carver's Choice winners, will be needed if you would like your show pictures to be included on a calendar page for the 2011 calendar. TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2011 CALENDAR I WILL NEED THESE BY AUGUST 1ST, I already have some. I will also need your 2011 SHOW DATES. You can mail them to Sandy Holder, 7093 14 Mile Rd, Evart MI 49631 or you can email them to me at civildee@netonecom.net. The calendar will be printed and available at the Tri City Show Sept 18th. If you know how many calendars your club will want, please let Bill Phillips or me know by September 1st. That will help us to know how many calendars we should print. You don't want to miss out on your calendar.

THREE NEW MWCA CLUBS :

Mio Woodcarvers (MIO) – meet each Thursday afternoon at the Mio Senior Center in Mio. President is Harry Virga.

St Helen Carvers (SHC) – meet each Monday morning at Bob Snyder's home in St. Helen. President is Chet Schneider.

Woodland Carvers (WDL) – meet the last Tuesday of the month at Wyoming TV in Wyoming. President is Orlando Villarreal.

We welcome these new clubs to our association; it is always good to grow. We now have 43 active clubs in MWCA. We invite them to also join our Internet chat group by E-mailing Terry Zobl miwoodcarvers@yahoo.com and ask about joining.

MIDLAND DOW MUSEUM DISPLAY: MWCA members came through again and brought over 150 carvings to the museum. Over 100 are in the display section and over 40 were entered into the juried judging.

Our judges for the competition were Armin Mersmann, Assistant Director, Midland Art Museum; Jack Miller, Professional Carving instructor from Pennsylvania; and Andrew Luckhardt, President of the Michigan Wood Carvers Association. They used a points system for the judging and the results are as follows:

1st Place

113 points: Gary Arens (Greater Lansing Carvers) with his Golden retriever dog

2nd Place tie:

110 points: Rodney Walker (Chief Osceola Carvers) with a carved Buffalo.

110 points: Floyd Rhadigan (Saline Carvers Club) A Slice caricature carving.

3rd Place tie:

108 points: Mike Ford (Tri City Carvers) with a Songbird.

108 points: Joe Moran (Happy Chippers Club) Whimsical house bark carving.

4th Place Honorable Mention:

107 points: David Harman (Gladwin Carvers) Owl carving.

5th Place Honorable Mention tie:

106 points: Silvano Salvador (South Lions Carvers) with a religious Forgiven carving.

106 points: Gary Wernette (Chips a Flying Club) a Frosty Morning carving.

A big “thank you” to all of the MWCA members who entered the juried competition along with those who sent in carvings for the display. Our judges had a really tough time scoring the competition and we thank them for their service. Everyone who brought in a carving for the display is a winner!! by Barb and Willy Stewart and Bill Phillips

Editor’s note: Bob and I went to the museum Sat June 26 and below are some photos of the exhibit. We were really impressed. We hope everyone gets a chance to stop and see the display. The other exhibits are also exceptional.



PATRIOT HEAD CANE HANDLE COMPETITION AT THE ROUNDUP by Terry Zobl:

During this past year the MWCA Patriot Cane Team has kicked around an idea to have some kind of a contest to recognize the carvers who turn in the best quality eagle cane handles and to encourage others to strive for continuous improvement in their carving skills. However the logistics of holding a Statewide contest is difficult, but after the MWCA Board meeting in April, the idea of holding the contest at the Evart Roundup in June sounded like a perfect solution. There were only 2 months before the Roundup so getting the word out to the MWCA Clubs was a task accomplished with the help of the MWCA Regional Representatives.

The contest objectives were to collect needed cane handles, encourage a continuing supply, improve the overall carving quality, and to make visible all aspects of the Patriot Cane Program. To meet these objectives classes were held on carving a handle, demonstrations on decorating the shaft, over 100 cutouts and glass eyes were also distributed, and a cane presentation was made to a Veteran. Best of all was the large turnout of carved handles submitted by MWCA membership given the short time. The final count was 150 eagle handles submitted by 86 carvers from 18 clubs and all 9 regions of the LP.

The 3 judges Howard Lahti, Rod Walker and Mary Lou Mulick, representing 3 regions, commented that the judging of high quality carvings was very difficult. Results are as follows:

Best Natural Finish: 1-Terry Zobl, 2- Bill Phillips, 3-Don Schneider.

Best Painted Finish: 1-Dave Copeman, 2-Gene Gubbins, 3-Jim Cloum.

Best Artistic Head: 1-Jim Cloum, 2-Howard Lahti, 3-Dave Copeman.

Best Open Mouth: 1-Terry Zobl, 2-Dave Copeman, 3-Paul Blanchard.

Best of Competition: 1-Dave Copeman, 2-Terry Zobl, 3-Terry Zobl.

Best Club: Metro Carvers, also with the best 4 carvings with 4 different carvers.

Most carvings entered: Region 4 with 50.

The carved handles filled up 3 tables and were grouped by Region and labeled to show the carver’s name and Club with cards making it visible how Clubs are grouped by Region and located around Michigan. Pictures of the winning carvings and the table display can be viewed on the LINKS page of our web site www.mwca.110mb.com. The Cane Team wants to thank the Roundup Committee and the MWCA membership for making the success of this contest better than hoped for. Our Patriot Cane program is becoming very popular so a continuing supply of carved handles is needed. The level of enthusiasm from the many woodcarvers

viewing the display also indicates that the MWCA membership want to see this program continue and thrive. Thanks to everyone for all the efforts to be a part of this event.

WASHINGTON SR. CENTER CARVE-FEST: Will take place Friday and Saturday September 24th and 25th. This is on the format of the Evert Roundup and has been very successful the past 5 years. They are looking for project leaders to teach classes. For more information please contact Dick Mann at 586-752-6167

WOOD CARVERS ROUNDUP: Another record year for the Roundup. We had over 630 people attend this year and around 170 campers, which is pretty even with last year. The weather turned out great all week, no record heat or cold. Four building were totally full with workshops and we believe that everyone had a great time. We look forward to next year already. The workshop leaders and the Cedar Bird Shoppe were very generous with donation of items for the door prizes, everyone is always anxious to see if their name was on the list.

The welcome reception on Tuesday morning was well attended, the ice cream social on Wed evening consumed over 12 gallons of ice cream, and Floyd Rhadigan's blanket trade following the social was a blast. Lots of music on Tues and Fri evening as well as the annual free concert downtown at the Depot were welcome events.

We also wanted to let you know that Jack and Winnie Miller arrived home in Pennsylvania safe and sound. For those who don't know, they were actually in that tornado that hit Cabela's in Dundee MI on Saturday night before the Roundup. They were both battered and bruised but still attended the Roundup as Jack always teaches a class on shore birds. That goes to show you that "carving comes first". They were presented with a token gift of the game "Twister"! Thanks also to Andy Luckhardt and his family and the members of the Saline carving club for coming to their rescue and helping them gather up all their belongings. Carvers are the best. They were in the parking lot and were actually sleeping in their travel trailer when it hit when it was demolished. They have since ordered another trailer. We still send them our prayers for a complete recovery back to good health and "real" flesh colored skin!!!

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>
5/29-8/28	Dow Arts & Science Museum MWCA Carving display & competition	Midland	810-798-3401
9/10-12	Spit and Whittle Weekend	Osceola Fairgrounds – Evert	231-734-5125 or 231-734-9131
9/17-19	Rhadigan Caricature Seminar	Osceola Fairgrounds – Evert	734-649-3259
9/17-19	Whittlin' at the Woodlands	Woodlands Retreat – Hale	989-728-4022
9/18	Tri City Carving Show	2 nd Presbyterian Church – Saginaw	989-793-3520
9/24-25	Washington Center Carve Fest 6	Washington Senior Center	586-786-1967
10/1-2	Wonders in Wood Show	Midtown Mall, Iron Mountain	715-696-6008
10/9	Saline Carving Show	UAW Hall in Saline	734-599-8784
10/17	Frankenmuth Carving Show	Frankenmuth High School Frankenmuth	810-653-1706 989-835-8919
10/30	Livonia Carving Show	Monaghan Knights of Columbus Livonia	248-474-2609
11/6-7	Fruitbelt Woodcarvers Show	Cass County Fairgrounds – Cassopolis	269-663-6096
12/??	MWCA Winter Meeting	To be determined	734-323-4685-810 or 798-3401

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 mmaybee2@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 hpolks@iserv.net	Promotional (Calendars, etc.) Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@yahoo.com