



“CHATTER”
NEWSLETTER OF THE
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION
www.mwca.110mb.com
NOVEMBER 2010 VOLUME 15 ISSUE 6

• **CLUB NEWS**

• **MWCA MEETING**

• **SHOW NEWS**

• **CARVING TIPS**

MWCA WINTER MEETING will be held December 4th at the Midland Ponderosa at 11am. We will again be collecting non-perishable foods items for the Evert area Food Pantry, and cash is also accepted.

There will be a drawing for a free lunch from those attending.

All members are encouraged to attend, you help make the decisions pertaining to your organization.

For more information call Andy at 734-323-4685. Ponderosa phone is: 989-631-6420.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS CARVING BENCH

Here it is November already and the time is coming fast when we have to put on heavy clothes whenever we go out and to shovel snow. But first lets enjoy this wonderful fall we are having. The colors have been beautiful traveling around to all the different shows put on by the carving clubs around the state. Only two club shows left, Livonia Oct 31st, which is over by now, and the Fruitbelt Show in Cassopolis on Nov. 6th and 7th. The Fruitbelt Club puts on a very good and fun show, which is a medium sized show full of activities. On Nov 7th our carving friends south of the border in Toledo, Ohio put on the Black Swamp Carving Show located at the St. Clement Community Center, 2990 Tremainsville Rd. Then there was the Sauder Village carving show put on by the Sauder Village on Oct 30th and 31st, which is a very good show and draws very good artist and suppliers from this part of the nation. Of course don't forget to dine at the Barn Restaurant where the Buffet is excellent. Sauder Village is just south of the MI border west of Wauseon, Ohio. Then to top it all off you cannot miss the Artistry in Wood Show in Dayton, Ohio, on November 13th and 14th and is held at the Expo Center on the North Side of the Dayton Airport, just off of I75. This Show is like putting all of the shows of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana all together in one place and then some. Some Clubs in Michigan are chartering buses and making it a good time going south to the show. I will be there with the MWCA table exhibit making sure that Ohio knows there is an MWCA carving organization in Michigan. Michigan is always well represented by our individual carvers and venders.

Then the next meeting will be the MWCA membership meeting on Dec 4th at the Ponderosa in Midland. Come and help make the MWCA the best carving club in the nation. At our annual meeting in April 2011 the election of officers will take place. A nomination committee will be selected at the December 4th MWCA meeting. All nominations for all offices will be accepted. Find more information about the annual meeting in this Chatter. Nomination form is found at the end of this newsletter.

The cane program is in need of more eagle heads, so lets continue to carve heads for this well worthwhile program for our veterans who are putting their lives on line everyday to preserve our freedom. We owe them much, much more.

The 2011 calendars are sold out and we will not be reprinting because we do not want so many calendars left over. We need a definite paid list up front to make this come out exact, and so we can set the price to come out more even. Sorry if you missed out.

I have the best executive committee and the heads of the other committees and workers that ever could be assembled. I owe them all the success for the MWCA, and I appreciate it very, very much. Thank you.

Andrew Luckhardt, President of MWCA.

CLUB SHOWS and HAPPENINGS

WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS: We carved at the Hart Heritage festival in September. We have been attending this event for several years and we always have a great time demonstrating carving and promoting carving and our club.

SALINE CARVERS: The Saline show on October 9th was great success. Over 290 attended the show to view all the unique carvings. Best of show was: 1st place-Carol Bender with a bark carving; 2nd place-was Andy Luckhardt with a really excellent relief carving; 3rd place went to bob Humble with one of his canes. Floyd Rhadigan presented Ward Makieski the Caricature Carvers of America special award for the best caricature carving.

KALAMAZOO VALLEY WOODCARVERS GUILD: As was mentioned in the September newsletter the Kalamazoo Valley Woodcarvers Guild had a carving contest that was displayed at the Portage Sr. Center. All members of the Senior Center voted on these carvings. Each entrant was given a certain piece of wood and a choice of a pattern, which was to be finished by September 28th. All carvings were about 3 inches high or long. The winners were: 1st place, Jerry Burnham

(hummingbird); 2nd place, Gene Albert (armadillo) and 3rd place, Josephine Elliott (an eagle head). The winners each received a gift certificate to culvers Restaurant.

GREATER LANSING CARVERS: The Greater Lansing Woodcarving Club will hold its' annual Wood Carving Show, Competition and Sale on Saturday April 9, 2011 in the Haslett High School Gymnasium in Haslett, Michigan. Hours for this event are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The theme for the show is "All Star Review - Things related to stars". For additional



information call Teresa Erskine, show chairman at 517-321-6630 or e-mail lilrainylynn@yahoo.com or go to www.glwoodcarvers.com.

Members of the club started a totem pole project for a friend on August 2nd and finished on Sept 8th. From left to right are Larry Cummins, Bill Lixie, John Barany, Totem Pole, Bill Peterson and Bob Hanna. Totem is 10' 2" tall, 13" wide with a wingspan of 66".

The pole is a Red Cedar utility pole from the Board of Water and Light and the wings are made from an old church pew.

METRO: Carver of the month of October is Joe Beaudette. In 1995 he attended the North American Wildlife Carving exhibition in Livonia and instantly became interested in carving. Being an excellent bird carver he still does a little of everything. Joe believes in researching and planning his projects before he starts them, but leaves room for change once he has started. His philosophy towards carving and life is that you can do anything you want if you put your heart, mind, and soul into it. At the Metro show this year he placed 2nd in Best in Show and first for peoples and carvers choice with his owl attacking a mouse.

Carver of the month for November is member Pat Murphy, one of the earliest members of the club back in the early 80's. Over 30 years ago he got his start at carving when he took a class from Joy Yax. Pat is now the Region 4 MWCA representative. Pat believes that the learning seminar at Midland is the best place for a beginner carver to learn the basics of carving, and for the seasoned carver to hone his/her skills. He firmly believes that taking classes from qualified instructors is the best way to become a good carver. He does about every type of carving but is partial to carving wildlife and songbirds. Pat's wife Arlene is an accomplished wood burner and accompanies him to many of the carving events and shows. He believes in researching

Metro member Ron Schmidt will be our November guest speaker. Ron will display and discuss some very interesting stories on his long time passion of researching and collecting of antique bird decoys.

The Metro carvers want to thank Bill Philips for his many years of dedicated service as our club representative to the Michigan Wood Carvers Association. Bill and his wife Ruth have worked tirelessly for the benefit of Metro and the MWCA and his service is greatly appreciated. We want to acknowledge Pat Murphy who has graciously accepted the position as Region 4 representative to the MWCA. Pat is very enthusiastic in promoting the art of wood carving, and will do an outstanding job in representing Metro. Thank you Pat.

LIVONIA CARVERS: On November 13th they are sponsoring a round trip chartered bus trip to the Dayton, Ohio Artistry in Wood show and invited the Metro and Saline carvers to join. They did this last year and had a super good time.

TRI-CITY: The Tri-City carving show on September 18th was also another success this year. The featured carver was Ben Donaghy, who brought along a huge awesome carving of a caricature ice fisherman sitting on a bucket with ice cycles hanging from his hat. Best of Show was awarded to Ron Derdowski with his Black Capped Chickadee, which also won the Porter Partridge award for the best bird carving. Martin Schnur won 2nd Best of Show for a stunning Rainbow Trout. 3rd Best of Show went to Harvey Post for a beautiful unpainted stylized turtle. Masters winner was John Karalunas for his caricature carving of the Fish Whisperer. Best of Novice winner was Jill Harmon with a wolf pup and Best of Youth winner was Ben Donaghy II for a very pretty Hummingbird in habitat. Judges for the show were Mike LePage, Bill Wolfe and Pete Clouse, professor from Delta College.

Tri-City carvers displayed and carved at the Antique Warehouse Fall Festival on October 2nd. They will also be carving downtown at the Saginaw Farmers Market November 19th and 20th for their Holidays in the Heart of the City event. We will be in a heated tent. The club is also working on toys to donate to Toys for Tots, which they do every year.

Next year Bob Guge will be offering the club a 3-day class in March or April Jim Wilford is planning to also present a class on power carving and animal.

A bit of holiday humor from their newsletter: *A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked the stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?" The stock boy answered, "No ma'am, they're dead".*

SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS: Elections were held and the following folks are the officers for another year: President-Richard Torrey; Vice President-Art Talbot; Secretary-Trudy Bohlinger/Kathy Moffit; Treasurer-Shirley Torrey; and Newsletter Editor - Dave Shores.

NEW CARVING SHOW LOCATION: We are very excited that our show on May 7-8, 2011 (Mother's Day weekend) will now be held at the Oscoda High School gymnasium, 3550 East River Road in Oscoda. Mark this date on your calendar, or it is already on the new MWCA 2011 calendar.

The September project was carving Eagle Head cane handles with Bill Hastings, then a good lesson on sharpening carving tools. In September Bill and Isa Hastings presented a display of their artwork at the Harrisville Library, which included everything from Batik and oil paintings to wood carvings and wood burnings.

Our club members also demonstrated carving at the Sprinkler Lake Fall Fest, which we have attended forever. We had a great time but also had a great time trying to keep warm.

SPIT AND WHITTLE WEEKEND in Ewart was again another success. A little rain dampened the weekend but didn't dampen the spirits or the carving. There were about 12 carvers who offered mini workshops for all types of carving. We even had Ken, Ken and Ken (three brothers) from Canada offer a wonderful class on balancing birds. About 60 campers and over 150 carvers filled the main hall and the power carvers had their own area in the 4H exhibit hall. Many drive in each day. Frank and Phyllis Burghy's Cedar Bird Shoppe were there with their carving supplies and Bill Jaquays handled Denny knives and gouges. T-Shirt Depot provided printed sweatshirts and soft goods. The fairgrounds Blue Ribbon Café and the Ewart Lions club provided our food for the weekend. We are looking forward to next year already.

HAPPY CHIPPERS held their "Whittlin' in the Woodlands" the weekend after Spit and Whittle. The folks who didn't make it to the northern campground missed a great weekend. Dave Sanderson provided instruction on woodburning. Sittin' round the campfire provided a really relaxing time. The Woodland's gave us a wonderful tractor/wagon ride all around their 400 acres including the lake and the beaver dam. The freshly 'squeezed by all' apple cider was the best ever

(see picture) Once they figured out how to attach the motor so we didn't have to hand crank it, it worked super especially with Carl "Clutch" Zajac controlling the speed. Then there was the potluck, which was really good.



The T-Shirt Depot was also there with printed t-shirts. Thanks for a good time Happy Chippers. Hope everyone can make it there for next year. How many did they say it took to make apple cider??

LIVONIA CARVING SHOW: Livonia carvers had another super show on October 31st. The weather was great and they had another big turnout. They have a People's Choice competition where the visitors get to choose their favorite carving. First place winner was Bob Dixon with a beautiful carving of a grouse. Second place went to Jason Haight with a very complex bark carving and third place was awarded to Ron Nickolits for a wonderful relief carving of a barn by a river.

CHIPS AND CHATTER

2011 MWCA CALENDAR – Thank you to everyone and every club who purchased 2011 calendars. Because of your support we are able to keep our dues to \$1.00 per member. For the first time we were very successful in selling all of the 400 calendars this year. It has all of the carving events and dates for 2011, a list of all clubs in the Association and contact information, and a listing of members with carving supplies and members willing to give workshops, seminars or demonstrations. It is the only fund raising project we have and we appreciate your support. Thank you to all who helped to supply the information and dates. If you weren't able to obtain your calendar this year, be sure to let your club know next year that you would like one. We will again take orders from each club to make sure the clubs get what they need.

NOTICES

I received the following email from Tricia Sheets, Tom Schulte's daughter, who is now ready to let go of her father's material things, especially excited about how her dad's tools can be of great use to other carvers. Many of you knew Tom as he was a long-standing member of the Greater Lansing Carvers and passed away two years ago.

From Tricia Sheets:

Schulte woodworking estate sale: workbenches with hydraulic dental chair bases, pneumatic chisel system, assorted tools, wood burning supplies, sign paint, art supplies: acrylics, oil, stain, paint brushes, easels still in the box, carving and art books, modeling clay with bases and forms, LARGE assortment of carving wood: 4x8 cherry pieces, bass wood, logs for turning. Contact Tricia (517) 372-0347 or E-mail at tlsmom8@yahoo.com

NEW MWCA CLUBS: The MWCA would like to welcome the **WOODLAND CARVERS** of the Wyoming/Hudsonville area. They have been in existence for quite a few years and we are glad to have them aboard the MWCA. If you would like to join them they meet the last Tuesday of the month from September to May at Wyoming TV building on Clyde Park Rd. in Wyoming. For more information you can call President Orlando Villarreal at 616-892-7202 or email him at orlancov@altelco.net

We also welcome the **OAKLAND-LIVINGSTON CARVERS** from the Milford area. They are also a well-established carving group who has been in existence for a long time. The meet at the Milford High School on S. Milford Road in Milford each Thursday at 5 pm. You can find out more information from President Thom Lewis at 248-762-7053 or email him at lewis.thom@yahoo.com. They would love to have you stop by if you are in the area. We welcome you to MWCA.

MWCA is now 45 member clubs strong.

MWCA WEBSITE: www.mwca.110mb.com is trying to finish a web page for each of the clubs. Be sure to check out your club's page to make sure all the information is up to date and correct. You wouldn't want to miss out on potential members because the contact information is incorrect. Webmaster Terry Zobl does an outstanding job keeping everything updated and our website current but he needs your input with the correct information. Thanks Terry!

TIPS FOR CARVERS

A question was asked on the woodcarving list asking carvers what they do to recycle things in the shop. Here are a few ideas:

- * Help your dentist recycle by asking them for their worn bits and burrs. There is still lots of life in them for woodcarving.
- * Save all those wildlife calendars! Great reference photos and/or ideas for patterns.
- * Waste wood from cutouts makes good habitat such as rocks, etc. Good for practicing eyes, mouths, noses, etc.
- * Save your chips!! Makes good mulch in the garden or to line birdhouses or nest boxes with.

THE "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 to be included. 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>
11/6-7	Fruitbelt Woodcarvers Show	Cass County Fairgrounds – Cassopolis	269-663-6096
11/13-14	Artistry in Wood	Dayton, OH	
12/4	MWCA Winter Meeting	Ponderosa in Midland at 11 am	734-323-4685 or 810-798-3401

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

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 mmmaybee2@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

2011 ELECTION OF OFFICERS will be at the April Meeting. If you or someone you know would like to be placed in nomination for President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer please send in the nomination form below. A nominations committee will be selected at the December 4, 2010 MWCA meeting with no less than three members. Duties of the Elected Board are written in the By-Laws. If anyone needs a copy please let us know. Nominations will end on March 1st, 2011 and a ballot will be mailed to each MWCA club to be returned before the April Annual Meeting or brought to the meeting.

M.W.C.A. 2011-2013 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 from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2013.

Member signature _____ of MWCA _____ Club

Consent of Nominee:

I do hereby consent to let my name stand as a candidate for the above-specified position.

I am a currently paid member of _____ Club

Signature _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date _____

A nominations committee member must receive all forms by March 1st, 2011 to be placed on the ballot.

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

Mark on the envelope that it is a nomination form.

Nominations will be forwarded to the election committee to be appointed at the December 4, 2010 MWCA meeting.