

#### "CHATTER"

# NEWSLETTER OF THE MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION

www.miwoodcarvers.com
MAY 2012 VOLUME 17 ISSUE 3

### NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS CARIVNG BENCH

Hi you all. This has been a very busy few weeks preparing for our big Seminar on May 21st thru the 24th. Registrations have already reached130 and still climbing. We have only a few more to beat last years total. There still are some very good classes open so get your applications in now. Both Garry and I are waiting at the phone and checking the mail box often for your application. Gary Falin has one more opening and the following each have several openings. Beirman, Bityk, Goddard, Howard, Harmon, Rhadigan, Salvador, Williams. The Raffle should be very good again thanks to Mary Lou and Garry Mulick for doing a wonderful job. The rest of the events are all set, with one major change that the Banquet will be held on Thursday evening instead of Friday evening which will give all students and instructors the opportunity to attend, and not interfere with the closing of the seminar on Friday evening. If anyone wishes or can help to run the seminar there are always ways you can help and we would appreciate it very much. Let Garry, Mary Lou or myself know and we will find something for you to do to make this one of the best ever.

The Greater Lansing Area show is now past. I am sure those who attended were very pleased with the show. They had increased their table number by a very good percentage. Due to my move and a chance for a good ride to the show with Bill Jaquays the Greater Lansing Area got a new member, good or bad ha ha! I also joined another great club, the South Central group. So I can go carving almost every day of the week. This keeps me very very busy and getting to be very stressful on my old age and health. I don't know how long I will be able to keep it up. The association and it's clubs are increasing in numbers all the time and we should be very proud of our success.

Approximately 60 people attended the annual meeting in Midland. It was a good meeting, we got caught up on what has been happening, what is going on at the seminar, which shows are coming up and learned more about the Eagle Head cane competition. There will be a competition at the Greater Lansing show and the Roundup. You can go to the MWCA website to get information on the competition. Mary Lou Mulick won the free 50/50 raffle with \$67 the rest going for the good of the association. Pat Murphy won the free lunch. We hope to see all of you at the winter meeting December 8th, we are still looking for a location, the Country Buffet in Flint is now closed.

Andy your President

#### MWCA new web site: WWW.MIWOODCARVERS.COM is now up and running smoothly

Terry now has our new website up and running. It is great, much better than our old host and Terry has wonderful job getting everything moved over to this new address. If you haven't checked it out, please do so. Check your club web page to make sure your club information is correct. Each club has a spot on the domain with information about where your club meets, dues and who to contact. This needs to be accurate so please check it out. If your club would instead like to have their actual website see next paragraph.

If your club would like their "OWN WEB SITE", working through our host/domain contract it will only cost you \$15/yr. Terry has been asked several times to help clubs start up a club web site allowing them to communicate with their members. Terry does not have time to be a webmaster for each club so if you have someone who would like to take this on for you, email Terry and he'll tell you how to get started. You'll find a link on our new web site to contact him. For those who do not have someone to act as club webmaster, we have an agreement with Tammie Jarvis to work with our clubs. She will help you by either TRAINING a club member

or will act as a club webmaster for a fee of \$50/yr paid directly to her plus the \$15 paid to MWCA. Once your site is up and running it will only cost you \$15/yr which is paid to the MWCA Treasurer. You can contact Terry for more information at miwoodcarvers@yahoo.com

If you have any questions pertaining to the web site please contact any of the committee and we will do all we can to get you the help you need.

During the meeting the MWCA presented Terry Zobl a much-deserved award for all his hard work and dedication to the betterment of MWCA. Terry put us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by developing our first website back in the late 1990's. He has been very active in the Patriot Cane project and has carved countless eagle heads and does much of the wood burning art on the shafts. The chat list on the Internet was started by Terry and is a means to keep the many clubs and wood carvers updated on the most recent activity in the association. Anyone can join in, check it out on the MWCA website. Thank you Terry for your dedication to MWCA, we really appreciate you.

## **CLUB NEWS**

**METRO CARVERS**:. The Madison Heights Library has an empty Glass Locked display case and has offered us to fill it with some of our carvings. Carvings could stay in it for a Month. Our Show March 17/18 was a complete success. Thank you to everyone who helped make it possible.

There were seventy carvers that entered 158 carvings and the judges were Gerald Grusendorf, Tom Grile, and John Barany. **Best of Show winners**: 1st Best of Show was a brown trout by Ron Copes; 2nd Best of Show was a card playing caricature by John Karalunas and 3rd Best of Show was a Western Mountain Bluebird by Bernie Wozniak

Carver's Choice winners: 1st place – Gerald Grusendorf (big hawk), 2nd.place - Harold Joseph (saw whit owls), 3rd place - Bill Phillips (civil war cannon)

**People's Choice winner:** 1st place - Harold Joseph (saw whit owls), 2nd place - Gerald Grusendorf (big hawk), 3rd place - Clifford Lendhal (bark carved turtle)

**Eagle Head Competition:** Forty-two eagle heads were entered into competition with an additional seventeen for display only. Four winners were selected by "People's Choice" voting. Gary Eldred, Richard Hanson, Bill Przybylski and Joe Randazzo were the winners of the competition and each received a \$25.00 gift certificate, redeemable for tools or other item, from the Cedar Bird Shoppe. Photos of this competition are posted on the new Metro Carvers web site: <a href="https://www.metrocarvers.com/show">www.metrocarvers.com/show</a>.

We would also like to report on the number of youths who took advantage of the Metro's soap carving classes. As you know the soap carving kits were supplied free by the Michigan Wood Carvers Association.

The theme for our next show is Easter! Anything Easter! The dates are March 16 and 17, 2013.

**GREATER LANSING CARVERS - Greater Lansing Show April 28th:** A great day was enjoyed by all who attended the show. Weather wasn't too bad and lots of people came through to see the carvings. Show winners were Dave Arndt with a fish for Best of Show, 1st runner up was Dave Harmon with an owl and 2nd runner up was Cliff Lindahl with a tree carving. Judges were Pete DeDecker, Bob Thurston and Richard Torrey. MWCA had their 2nd Eagle Head carving competition with 40 heads turned in and displayed. The people voted and the winners were Gene Gubbins, Chris Floyd, Wendell Smith and Terry Zobl, they each received a \$25 gift certificate to the Cedar Bird Shoppe carving supplier.

**TRI-CITY:** The Bob Guge Cedar Wax Wing class this year is undoubtedly one of the best classes Bob has done yet. It was a long four days but enjoyed by all! Our April garage sale was a success again this year. We had lots of habitat materials from two of our deceased members along with tools, craft materials, and some wood. Frank Burghy came and set up and we were able to replace some of our worn bits and other carving supplies. The club made a couple of bucks too!

There was an air brush demo on the third Tuesday in April by Gene Gubbins. The Saginaw Bay Waterfowl festival is going on this year August 11, 12. Bob Gubbins will be the featured carver. There will be soap carving at the 1st United Methodist Church with Boy Scout Pack 3434 conducted by Gary Klender.

Ed Hak suggests these websites to visit: websites www.owlman.com – soapstone carvings; www.whisperingeagle.com – Bird carver Lori Corbett; www.charlessmalligan.com who is going to be the featured carver for our 2012 Tri City Carvers Show

Frank Burghy and his wife are working on a set of competition rules that can be used so there is some unity across the state at our shows and competitions. As a club these rules are there for us, but no one had to use them . These rules and a list of possible judgers are available from Frank upon request. Another pattern for rules has come from the California Carving Guild which is that states main organization. As I said, these rules are there to help. Depending on the size of the club and its show, they may be helpful or can be used as a pattern.

WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS: 8 members attended the 4-H festival to teach carving and they had a great turnout. A tip for the knife stroppers out there. After lots of stropping we tend to round the edge over time. This makes the knife work like a wedge and they don't cut well, and then we need to put the knife on a stone to bring it back flat. When using a stone, keep the knife flat on the stone and work away from the edge. You need to keep it up until you get a feather edge on the knife. No feather edge means no new metal to work with. Once you get the edge, stropping will work to remove the feather and you will have a really sharp tool. I still like a 400 grit paper on my strop. Does not seem to round the edge as much as leather and less time on the stone. (now if I could just remember to practice what I preach.)

**SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS:** Pelicans were the featured carving during March. The class taught by Dick Torrey. Some were finished – others will be, someday! Person of the month for March is Gary Malone, joining us after retirement from General Motors. Shirley Torrey is our person of the month for May. May brings a Richard Torrey workshop of carving workable pliers from one piece of wood. Kathy Moffit will have a carving session to make a Jam knife/cheese spreader.

We are in the last stages of preparation for our show on May12-13 at the Oscoda High School. This will be the second year at this location and we hope everyone will be able to visit our show. Theme for this year is "Home of the Brave". See you there!!!

**WOODBEE CARVERS: Show at Bay College-West in Iron Mountain on April 28th.** We had a good time putting together 10 tables. It was good to get carvers back together letting the public know we are still alive and well. Carving and quilting went well together, and we can only hope we can work this again. He said he had been in contact with Terry Zobl and that they had made some arrangement for pictures.

Jim says that from the perspective of a carving exhibitor who is married to a quilting exhibitor, I declare unequivocally and without pretense to objectivity that the Spinning Spools Quilt Club and Woodbee Carvers show was a great success this past weekend. We had comments from many attendees that bringing the two interests together was a great idea, a fresh idea. It was especially refreshing for the carvers to introduce carving to so many people for whom this was their first carving show. If you are looking for an idea to give your club show a different look and to attract a difference audience, consider quilting and carving together. If you are looking for an idea to give your club show a different look and to attract a difference audience, consider quilting and carving together.

A link to show pictures are available at the bottom of their web page at: **www.clubs.miwoodcarvers.com/WBE.html** Ted Rogers and Jim Byrne

#### CHIPS AND CHATTER

WINTER CARVING (WOOD ART) EXCHANGE- Notices and information for the exchange was sent to all club presidents and representatives to pass on to their club members. The send time is here and your carvings should have been sent to your recipient. We thank you and hope everyone has enjoyed this third carving exchange and has gotten to know another fellow carver. 5 districts participated with 8 participating clubs. 16 carvers joined the exchange. This is less than the 33 carvers in 2011 and 35 carvers in 2010. Thanks to everyone who joined in.

# WE WELCOME A NEW CLUB TO THE

ASSOCIATION: Mid-Michigan Wood carvers in the Corunna-Owosso area of the state. Denny Sekerens is their president and they meet each Thursday at 2nd Chance Wood. 503 Shiawassee Street in Corunna.

Denny Sekerenes, Mid-Michigan Woodcarvers Club. Contact Denny at 989-277-5739 for more information.

Denny also has an informal carving get together from 5-9 pm at 1120 Legion Rd. in Corunna, come for an hour or more, whenever you can, they share patterns, wood, and ideas and have a good carving time. You can check out pictures of their carving group by going to the MWCA web page, go to clubs, and to the Mid-Michigan Club page.

WOOD CARVERS ROUNDUP JUNE 6-9 in Evart: Dave DeGraff is returning to present his workshop on chip carving. Dave is a very accomplished chip carver and has some really different projects for you. Carol Kent is also going to do a workshop on making your own diamonds, and how to handle unworked diamond willow sticks. If you would like to carve some little Gnomes, Jim Edwards will be giving a workshop.

Something different for camping this year is you can now use a credit card to pay for your camping. You can also call before you come to pay for a campsite, but will need to pay from the day you call. Fairgrounds phone is 231-734-5481 on Mon-Wed-Fri 10am-2pm right now.

The Evart Lions booth will be open again for meals. The kitchen in the community building will also have meals all day this year. It will be run by the owners of the Iron Skillet restaurant in Evart. The Roundup will still have our own area in the exhibit building where we will have pop and coffee for a bargain at only 50 cents. We ask that you PLEASE

purchase your pop and coffee from the Roundup committee whenever possible as this is the only means of revenue that keeps the Roundup going, without that the Roundup wouldn't happen. We thank you for all the support you have shown in the past.

Don't forget while you are at the Roundup to stop by the MWCA eagle head competition table and vote for your favorite eagle head. The attendees and carvers are all asked to vote once. 4 winners will each receive a \$25 gift certificate to the Cedar Bird Shoppe.

CANE HEAD CARVING COMPETITION: The next opportunity to enter your completed eagle head into this competition will be during the Evart Round-Up June 6<sup>th</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup>. 2012. We will have a table & display with all the heads entered. Roundup attendees will have the opportunity to look over the display and cast a vote for their choice of the best one. We will stop the voting at 3 PM ON FRIDAY, tabulate the votes and announce the competition winner(s) soon after. The competition winner(s) will receive a \$25 gift certificate redeemable at Cedar Bird Shoppe who will be the carving tool supplier attending the Roundup. We will keep the display up until the end of the Roundup or until our committee has to leave.

We suggest you check out the new MWCA web sitewww.miwoodcarvers.com for more information guidelines about the eagle head competition. Everyone who brings in or has someone bring in a head for competition will receive the new cane program competition patch.

If you could use some tips or help with the placement of the eyes, feathering or painting/staining stop in and check out the display. We should have someone around willing to assist you. We will have free cut outs and eagle eyes available. Please remember all the materials are free as long as you return the finished carvings to the cane committee so we can send them on to a vet.

The following clubs have agreed to having us host an eagle head competition during their show: Tri City show Sept 22, Saline show Oct 13, Frankenmuth show Oct 21 and the Fruitbelt show Nov 5th & 6<sup>th</sup>. We are fast approaching the presentation of our 1,700<sup>th</sup> "Lean On Me" cane with a waiting list of about 200. Remember this program is for our veterans.

WE NEED PICTURES OF THE SHOW WINNERS: Remember that if you have a show and would like your show pictures in the 2013 MWCA Calendar we need to have pictures of the winning carvings. They need to be sent to Sandy Holder, 7093 14 Mile Rd. Evart MI 49631. She can take them either by email (see below) or by regular mail. Sent by regular mail, if you wish they will be returned after scanning. She will need pictures from all the following shows by July 1st.:

2011: TRI-CITY - LIVONIA - SALINE - FRANKENMUTH - FRUITBELT

2012: METRO - GREATER LANSING - WOODBEE - SUNRISE

ITEMS FOR SALE: Judy Hull near Davison has items from her late husband Dillis that she would like to offer for sale. Dillis belonged to the Frankenmuth Carvers Guild. She has many Dremel tools and accessories and other hand carving tools, books and patterns. If you are interested you can call Judy at 810-653-6444 for more information.

**OLD MWCA 6" RULERS:** We have a number of rulers left with the old web site on them. They are still perfectly useful and are marked with a "0" center on one side which is as handy as a pocket in a shirt. They are .35 cents each or 3/1.00. Contact Sally Nye with how many you would like. See promotional items below.

**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. Please share this newsletter with the rest of your members who don't receive it.

# CHATTER NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF: JANUARY MARCH MAY JULY SEPTEMBER NOVEMBER

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
5/12-13	SUNRISE SIDE CARVING SHOW	Oscoda High School	989-362-7982
5/21-25	MWCA SEMINAR	Midland Fairgrounds	734-323-4685 or 616-642-6790
6/6-9	WOOD CARVERS ROUNDUP	Evart Fairgrounds - Evart	231-734-5125 or 231734-9131
6/11-15	CREATIVE CARVING SEMINAR	Evart Fairgrounds – Evart	734-649-3259
7/21-22	WOOD SHAVING DAYS	Hartwick Pines State Park - Grayling	989-348-7068
8/10-12	GLADWIN CARRIAGE FESTIVAL	Gladwin	989-426-4819

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

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