



**“CHATTER”**  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION  
[www.miwoodcarvers.com](http://www.miwoodcarvers.com)  
JULY 2012 VOLUME 17 ISSUE 4

### NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS CARIVING BENCH

It is almost July and summer has come. The big and most successful Roundup is a thing of the past and Floyd's seminar is over so maybe things will settle down a bit. Hartwick Pines is coming up July 21 & 22 and MWCA will be there represented by the Mulicks and the Murphys, and other wood carvers demonstrating the art of woodcarving. Take a trip to the Hartwick Pines State Park for sawdust days while gas is cheap.

Please find my notice of my retirement from the Board of MWCA. I am very reluctant to have to present my retirement but age has a way of creeping up on a person. It is getting more and more difficult to do things and going to

meetings and representing the MWCA as its President. I am sure there are many members that are capable of doing the job better than I have done. I will however do everything I can, health permitting, to help to keep the MWCA the most successful carving organization in the country. You all can be very proud of what the association has accomplished, the work for the Veterans, the cane project, the seminar, Round Up, and many many more things to advance the art of wood carving in the art world. I will not be retiring from the association or woodcarving so I will be around doing what ever I can for the association. Andy

#### The 2013 Learning Seminar Tri-fold brochure is available on the MWCA website "[miwoodcarvers.com](http://miwoodcarvers.com)"

Hartwick Pines Wood Shaving Days is July 20th through the 22nd, and we will have a carving display and demonstrations there for anyone who may wish to stop by and help or just see us. Pat and Arlene Murphy will be there with us Saturday and Sunday. Come on up to Hartwick Pines State Park near Grayling and carve with us for the weekend, we always have a great time.

### CLUB NEWS

**METRO CARVERS:** The May, 2012 election results were: President, Curt Chastain; Vice President, Bob Gallanek; Secretary, Harold Green; Treasurer, Rizal Baysa; and three Directors to the Board of Directors; Doug Evans, Dave Copeman, and Marcy Larson. I would like to thank all those who ran for offices and those that have served during this past year for their interest and commitment. I would also like to thank Paul Blanchard for his leadership the past two years (added to his previous five years). Curt Chastain Our condolences go out to the family of Jack Comben a metro member since 2004 (Arlene Murphy's father).

**TRI-CITY: Garage Sale** The 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!

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.

Gene Gubbins, assisted by Dave Arndt, gave an airbrush class in April. Everyone carved a pumpkin to paint, the class went very well. Gene Gubbins presented Bob Gubbins with his veterans eagle head cane.

Dave Arndt always has some great websites to check into. You may like these too.

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|--|---|
| 1. <a href="http://www.painting.about.com">www.painting.about.com</a> – Painting Info  | 4. <a href="http://www.carouselbyfrederick.com">www.carouselbyfrederick.com</a> |
| 2. <a href="http://www.whisperingeagle.com">www.whisperingeagle.com</a> – Lori Corbett | 5. <a href="http://www.owlman.com">www.owlman.com</a> - soapstone carvings      |
| 3. <a href="http://www.burgettart.com">www.burgettart.com</a> – Bird Carver            | 6. <a href="http://www.davemaggard.com">www.davemaggard.com</a> - wood spirits  |



**WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS: Tip for sharpening "V" tools:** Of all the tools in our arsenal, V tools seems to be the hardest to sharpen. The tool really consists of two flat chisels joined at the center by a small gouge. If your tool is not cutting right and before you start sharpening, take a close look at the tool. Run it thru a piece of wood across the grain. You are trying to find out where it is dragging or not cutting. Are the sides square? Are they even or rounded? If the tool is not the right shape to begin with, sharpening will be impossible.

Get the tool to the proper shape. You might have to use a grinder here. Go slow! A little grinding will go a long way. After the tool is the proper shape, look it over carefully. Are the sides the same thickness? If they are not, you will have to angle the tool on the stone to get them even. This is the hardest part of sharpening a V tool. Go slow and look at the edge a lot. Be patient, you can do it. After the sides are square, even, and sharp, it is time to do the little gouge shape that connects the sides. Rotate the gouge portion as you move it across the stone and go slow and look at the shape often. After sharpening, strop the wire edge and you are done. I have found that it takes at least an hour to properly sharpen a V tool. Be patient and take the time. It will happen. John Crawford

**SUNRISE CARVERS:** Gene Cotter held a workshop to make little gift boxes for a little gift to be carved in July. Howard Lahti had a full class for Kolrosing. 11 of our members attended the Wood Carvers Roundup in Evart. Our carver of the month is Janet Barr. She and her husband Leonard met in grade school when she was 6 and he was 8 and they have been married 64 years.

## CHIPS AND CHATTER



**Jim Cloum Terry Zobl Harold Joseph  
2012 Roundup - Cane Competition winners**

**THE THIRD EAGLE CANE HANDLE COMPETITION** was held at the 2012 Woodcarvers Roundup. The first was at the Metro Carvers Show with 42 entries and the second was at the Greater Lansing Carvers Show with 40 entries into competition. The competition at the Roundup had 26 entries. The table display at the Roundup drew a lot of favorable attention as visitors checked out each carving to cast their Peoples Choice vote. There were about 180 votes cast with each selecting their favorite 2 carvings. Most of the carvings received some votes but there was a 3 way tie for the most: Harold Joseph (Metro Carvers), Jim Cloum (River Raisin), and Terry Zobl (Metro Carvers). Since there were over 20 entries into competition the Cane Committee awarded Two \$25 gift certificates to Harold Joseph and Jim Cloum. All of the 26 carvers received a Carving Competition patch.

The next Carving Competition venues will be: Tri-City Carvers Show - Sept.22, Washington Carve Fest - Sept. 28-29, Saline Carvers Show - Oct. 13, and Frankenmuth Carving Show - Oct. 21. We are hoping that each of these venues will attract a lot of Eagle Cane Handles into competition for a good public showing. If you can't attend these shows in person you

can send your carving with a friend who is attending. Thank you to all who have participated in the competitions.  
Terry Zobl

**WOOD CARVERS ROUNDUP JUNE 6-9 in Evart** went very smoothly this year. Attendance was great and everyone had a wonderful time. The weather cooperated beyond our expectations. The quilters had a great time and the non-carver workshops went well. Altogether we had about 40 different workshops covering everything from chip carving to relief and in-the-round carving, wood burning was also well attended. There were over 60 new carvers who were here for the first time. Dates for next year are June 5-8, 2013.

The ice cream social and Floyd's Blanket Trade were both fun events. Then there was the hot dog roast and the potluck. Carvers have fun and eat too!!

**FOUND at ROUNDUP:** We have a nice collection of knives that were left behind in a container. If anyone is missing some knives that were in a container, please let us know and describe the container. We will see that they are returned to their rightful owner. Call 231-834-5125 or 231-734-9131

**WOOD BURNING/CARVING CLASSES:** Floyd Rhadigan is holding two classes for anyone interested in woodburning with Linda Sales and/or realistic human carving with Mart Lind. Mart will have butternut roughouts and full size tools and mallets. For information on attending either of these classes call Floyd at 734-649-3259.



**GRAND RAPIDS PRESS, April 6th.** Orlando Villarreal finished up a carved whale that the Grand Rapids Public Museum had commissioned 20 years ago but was never finished and was added to the carousel at the museum in May after it was sealed and painted. Orlando is a member and president of the Woodland Carvers near Grand Rapids.

**PICTURES OF WINNING SHOW CARVINGS for the 2013 MWCA calendar:** We have pictures from all the shows except for Livonia and Saline. If anyone has any pictures of these two shows winning carvings, please let me know. If we don't have any pictures, these shows will not be included in the 2013 calendar. Thanks to all who have made sure we have pictures.

**NEW WOOD CARVING STUDIO:** There is a new state-of-the-art woodcarving studio in Clare MI open for carving and airbrushing. Rod Walker has opened a studio for classes in wood carving and air brushing. He is looking to have classes available and to have open carving in hand or power carving. His studio is located in Clare at his residence. If you would like more information please call Rod at 989-386-3027.

**FESTIVAL OF GOURDS AND WOODBURNING:** The Michigan Wood Carvers Association is elated to join the Michigan Festival of Gourds this year. We will have several of our clubs and members participate in the 2012 Festival. Please stop by and view our displays of wood artistry and talk with some of our members. For your information most of our clubs meet at local senior centers, schools and fire halls. Our web site will give more info about meeting times and places. During this festival we will be displaying items such as carved animals, ducks, birds, tree bark carvings & wood burned items for your viewing enjoyment and will also have items to purchase.

We will be offering **FREE SOAP CARVING** and **WOOD BURNING** instruction to our youth. All youth/adults who join us in a soap carving or wood burning project will receive a FREE token of appreciation. Just think you will have a special 2" dia. wood burned pin noting you are a "successful student" just for joining us in this event.

The Festival will increase awareness of and raise funds for treatment at the Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Center at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

**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 by email.

CHATTER NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF:

JANUARY                      MARCH                      MAY  
JULY                              SEPTEMBER                      NOVEMBER

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
7/20-22	WOOD SHAVING DAYS	Hartwick Pines State Park - Grayling	989-348-7068
8/3-4	LINDA SALES woodburning class	Floyd's Woodcarving Studio - Clinton	734-649-3259
8/10-12	GLADWIN CARRIAGE FESTIVAL	Gladwin	989-426-4819
8/31-9/2	REALISTIC HUMAN CLASS w/Mart Lind	Floyd's Woodcarving Studio - Clinton	734-649-3259
9/7-9	"SPIT and WHITTLE" carving weekend	Osceola Fairgrounds-Evart	231-734-5125 or 734-9131
9/14-16	RHADIGAN CARVE-IN	Floyd's Studio - Clinton	734-649-3259
9/14-16	FESTIVAL OF GOURDS and WOOD CARVING	Imlay City michiganfestivalofgourds.com	810-724-6135
9/21-23	WHITTLIN' AT THE WOODLANDS	Woodlands Retreat - Hale	989-728-4022
9/22	TRI CITY CARVERS CARVING SHOW	2nd Presbyterian Church - Saginaw	989-845-6331
9/28-29	WASHINGTON CENTER CARVEFEST	Washington Sr Center	586-786-1967
TBD	LIVONIA CARVING SHOW	Monaghan Knights of Columbus/Livonia	248-474-2609
10/13	SALINE CARVING SHOW	UAW Hall in Saline	734-599-8784
10/21	FRANKENMUTH CARVING SHOW	Frankenmuth High School	810-653-1706 989-871-3922
11/5-6	FRUITBELT WOODCARVERS SHOW	Cass County Fairgrounds-Cassopolis	269-435-7245
12/8	MWCA WINTER MEETING	Watch for details	734-323-3685 616-642-6790

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

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