



### NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS CARIVING BENCH

Time has come for another news article for the September chatter. It was great to hear that Bob Holder is making a complete recovery from recent surgery. A very active member of the Saline Club by the name Lou Thayer passed away recently.

September will be here with a very full schedule of events for the association. First I will be going to Mass. for a wedding from the 3rd to the 11th. I will not be at the Spit & Whittle which I will really miss. Then after I get home I will be packing up and getting ready for the Michigan Gourd Festival on the 14 to 16 in Imlay City which the MWCA is taken an active role. Tables are available for anyone who wants to display and sell their projects. You can also give demonstrations on the various aspects of wood carving, you can contact Bill Phillips who is coordinating the event. This is a good time to advertise and further of the art of woodcarving in the art world. Plus it will be a grand weekend to have a great time carving and meeting new friends from the Michigan Gourd Association, see you there. Then Floyd Rhadigan is having a carve-in at his studio in Clinton, Mi. on the 14th, 15th & 16th. Floyd is an excellent caricature carver. He is member of the Caricature Carvers of America. You can contact him at

734-640-3259 cell. Then the Club shows are starting in with the Tri City Show on 22nd. The Whittling in the Woodlands has been cancelled which was on the 21st-23rd. Then the Washington Carvefest on the 28 & 29. So have a very good carving month. Then in Oct & Nov the following shows will be held, Saline Show on Oct 13th, the Frankenmuth Show on Oct 21, and the Fruitbelt Show in Cassopolis on Nov 3. On Nov 10 & 11 the granddaddy of them all the Dayton Artistry In Wood Show in Dayton Ohio at the Exhibition Hall near the Dayton Airport. it is he largest woodcarving show in this part of the country. So have fun going to the shows and all become experts in woodcarving.

I am looking forward to retiring from the Position of President in April at the annual meeting of the MWCA. I am already wondering what it will be like but I am sure I will keep busy carving and going to different clubs in my area. After the announcement went out It was very heart warming to receive so many e-mails praising the work I have done for the MWCA . I did not realize I was such an important member. It has been a wonderful 19 years and I would do it all over again.

Andrew Luckhardt, your retiring President

### CLUB NEWS

**BLUE WATER CARVERS:** We will be doing the Hands On Art again on September 29th -30th in Port Huron. This is coordinated through Studio 1219 in Port Huron and they have given the club a free space since they first started. Our club finds this to be a great venue to demonstrate the many facets of woodcarving. We have even picked up a couple of new members from this activity. Wayne and I recently represented the club in the Art Hop in Port Huron. Again, the group that organized this offered us free space to demonstrate/sell. We will be doing it again the first Friday in November.    Orrin Paul Shoemaker

**COASTAL CARVERS:** The Coastal Carvers will meet at Fan Carver's World studio, 2160 66th St., Fennville, MI 49408 from 4:00-7:00 on the first Wed. of each month.

**GRAND VALLEY CARVERS** The Grand Valley Carvers are moving their meeting place back to the Ionia Middle School Wood Shop. If anyone would like to pay us a visit, don't look for us at the Commission on Aging. We're still meeting at the same time though, 6:30 P.M. on the First & Third Mondays, barring school closings.

**MID-MICHIGAN CARVERS:** We meet Tues. & Thurs. 5 to 9 pm. At 1120 Legion Rd. in Corunna. Call Dennis at 989-277-5739 for information. Come for an hour or as much as all 4. We share patterns, wood, and have a good carving time.

**TRI CITY CARVERS** carved all day at the Children's Zoo in Saginaw on August. 7th. The club picnic was well attended with over 50 young and old alike enjoying the carousel rides and enjoying the zoo. We also presented soap carving and was busy all day with 37 kids finishing their carvings. Last month had some of our members involved with the Waterfowl Festival at the Bay City State Park and some placed in the competition.

There are still a few tables available for their show on September 22nd.

Here are some more carving websites to wander through.

[www.hawkescarvings.com](http://www.hawkescarvings.com) – Bird Carvings by Ed Hawkes

[www.stetsoncarving.com](http://www.stetsoncarving.com) – caricature carvers

[www.gnbearswoodcarving.com](http://www.gnbearswoodcarving.com) – Caricature Carvers

**HAPPY CHIPPERS WHITTLIN at the WOODLANDS Sept 21-23:** We are sorry but because of various circumstances we are unable to have the event and it has been cancelled.

**WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS TIP:** Was sitting at a table before roundup doing a little whittling and saw a buffer that someone made. Not sure who the fellow was but he deserves a lot of credit for ingenuity. He made this one out of a ceiling fan that he found in a pile of junk. Took off the blades, glued and screwed a square shaped "U" out of 3 pieces of 2 x 4 to mount it, glued leather on the rotating part of the fan and was good to go. This thing had three speeds and an on/off switch. What a clever idea.

**SUNRISE CARVERS:** Charlie Flanders held a class on figure eight pendants. These were a perfect fit for the boxes we make last time with Gene cotter. Carol Hodges had a full class teaching the use of oil pencils for carved pieces as well as for wood burned art. Christmas ornaments were taught in July by Harriet Flanders. We have been busy this summer attending and carving at the Fine Arts Festival in Tawas and the Relay for Life in Lincoln.

On July 24th the Sunrise club hosted veterans, their families and guests for the presentation of about 15 Eagle Head Canes. Howard and Jodie Lahti and Bill and Isa Hastings made a trip to Hartwick Pines Wood Shaving Days and had a good time.

## CHIPS AND CHATTER

### HARTWICK PINES WOOD SHAVING DAYS in July



Pat and Arlene Murphy and the Mulicks have returned from our weekend at Wood shaving days at Hartwick Pines. The weather was warm and dry and the crowds were large and friendly. We filled a couple of card tables with carving projects that were examples of items that have been made at the MWCA seminar in the past. We had the new 2013 brochure out on display along with the giant tri fold that has photos and info on the seminar. Garry spent most of his time explaining MWCA and the seminar and gave out lots information on how and where to get started in carving. This year Arlene brought along about 45 wooden blanks to wood burn feathers on. She set up 4 burners on a picnic table and was busy both days. After she ran out of blanks, the kids burned their names on the yo-yos



that they had made at the tent next door. Mary Lou had soap carving in full swing on another picnic table. She started with 30 kits and ended up buying more soap for Sunday to use with the extra patterns that had come along "just in case". Many of the kids did both projects and were very happy. While the kids were occupied, Pat encouraged the adults to give his wooden icicle a try and many did.



He helped them set it up and they carved enough that they could finish the project at home.

Sunday morning was quiet, but we used the time to wander around and chat with the other woodcarvers that had set up tables. MWCA was very well represented both with quantity as well as quality items on display and for sale. The Friends of Hartwick Pines organization knows how to make their attendees feel welcome. The park is beautiful and shows how the lumbermen lived and worked when Michigan was mostly forest. Mary Lou



### THE EAGLE CANE HANDLE COMPETITION

As of July 2012 MWCA has delivered a total of 1718 canes with 195 so far this year. We have 237 cane applications in backlog meaning that carved eagle handles are still needed. The 3 cane handle competitions held so far this year have helped to keep the supply coming with an impressive quality of carvings. There are 5 more venues this year for cane handle competitions and you can see them on the Events page. <http://www.miwoodcarvers.com/events.html> We have received many touching and appreciative "thank you" notes from grateful recipients.

The Veterans cane program is up and running strong. We have a list of about 200 vets waiting for a cane so PLEASE send or bring in your eagle heads ASAP. Don't forget we will have a Finished Eagle Head Competition during the upcoming events: Tri-City show Sept. 22nd, Metro Club CARVEFEST on Sept 28-29, Saline show October 13th, Frankenmuth show Oct. 21st, and Fruitbelt show Nov 5-6.

The competition winners will win a \$25 certificate redeemable with the Cedar Bird Shoppe=Frank and Phyllis Burghey. Hope you can attend the events or have someone who is attending bring in your eagle head or just join us for the shows. Please don't forget each show has it's own carving competition so bring in the special carving/woodburning and compare yours to others.

**SPIT and WHITTLE is Sept 7-9 in Evart** at the Osceola County Fairgrounds. This is a very informal carving weekend with nothing really planned. It is open to anyone who loves to carve and visit and share with other carvers. Some carvers bring projects for others to do and are similar to the workshops at the Roundup. Others bring projects they are working on and just carve on those. Some of the ones who do the workshops also have some carving accessories for purchase. Frank and Phyllis Burghey from the Cedar Bird Shoppe will also be there with their full line of carving supplies. So come on over to the spit and Whittle for the whole weekend or just a day or two. Camping at the fairgrounds is available as well as the Osceola Grand Hotel next door. Let them know you are with the carvers for a special rate. This year, if you are going to do a workshop type project and need to use a table, we ask that you please do NOT set up till Thursday. We will be setting up and using the new hall. If you arrive before Thursday and want to carve, the old fair office will be available for anyone wanting to get together and carve inside before set-up on Thursday and does have a rest room. Thank you for your cooperation. We will also need extra help to pack and clean up on Sunday after the noon hot dog roast at noon. Thank you in advance.

**2013 MWCA CALENDAR:** Again this year we would like to know ahead of time how many calendars to set aside for each club. If your club would like to reserve a certain number of calendars please let Sandy Holder know before the end of September. They will be available at the Frankenmuth Show on October 21st for pickup. Again this year Frank and Phyllis Burghy will place a \$5.00 certificate in each calendar redeemable at the Cedar Bird Shoppe with a purchase of \$10 or more. This year the color cover will feature Eagle Heads from the Veterans canes. There may be room inside for another page of eagle heads but will not be in color. They will each display the name of the carver.

**FESTIVAL OF GOURDS AND WOODBURNING:** The MWCA is joining the Michigan Festival of Gourds on Sept 14, 15 and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 ---that's the week-end after the S & W in Evert. We hope you will be able to attend both. As of this date we have over 25 display tables & 8 vendor tables registered with us for the gourd festival. We would like to have you join us and display/sell your carvings or come on over and visit some of your fellow carvers. We are in need of your help working with the kids soap carving and wood burning. We would also invite you to put on a 1 hour demo in our building sometime during the event even if you can't stay all 3 days. Suggest you check out the Gourd classes being offered at: [www.michiganfestivalofgourds.com](http://www.michiganfestivalofgourds.com) and our MWCA web site at: [www.miwoodcarvers.com](http://www.miwoodcarvers.com) for info about having your own table & or camping/motel info. The festival is located in the Imlay City Fairgrounds which is north of I-69 about ½ mile on M-53 (Van Dyke Ave. exit # 168 off I-69). Contact Denny Sekerenes 989-277-5739 or Bill Phillips 810-798-3401

**MWCA ELECTIONS:** Next April the MWCA will be holding it's bi-annual elections. As you know Andy Luckhardt will not be looking for another term, and says it is time to retire and pass the baton to another carver. At the April election all offices will be up for election. They are President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Please keep in mind who would be good in those positions. In the November newsletter there will be a nominations form. We are looking for two MWCA members to be on the nominations committee. Sandy Holder is the chairperson and needs two others to help. Please let Sandy know if you would like to help on the nominations committee. It cannot be an officer. Contact info below under Chatter Editor.

**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
9/7-9	"SPIT and WHITTLE" carving weekend	Osceola Fairgrounds-Evert	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 <a href="http://michiganfestivalofgourds.com">michiganfestivalofgourds.com</a>	810-724-6135
9/21-23	WHITTLIN' AT THE WOODLANDS	Sorry it has been Cancelled	
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	Fire Mountain in Lansing 11 am. Food drive for the food pantry in Evert	734-323-3685 616-642-6790

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