



### NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS BENCH

Here it is time again to tell our membership what is going on in our organization. We have a full and exciting schedule for the summer. First I would like to send my hopes and prayers to all those who are ill and wish them a complete recover.

Roundup was a lot of fun as always. I had a great time and it was as good as ever. Saw lots of friends and helped a lot of people with carving.

Now the next event is the Wood Shaving Days at Hartwick Pines State Park on July 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. This is always a fun time to promote the MWCA and demonstrate the art of woodcarving. A most enjoyable week end at the wonderful Hartwick Pines State Park, 4216 Ranger Rd., Grayling, MI 49738. Come and spend time out of doors under the wonderful trees and have a great time with other carvers.

**Festival of Trees.** While you are enjoying the summer keep busy by helping in the fundraiser for medical research at the Children’s Hospital of Michigan. The MWCA is joining the Festival of Trees fundraiser by carving ornaments for the trees. The ornaments will be displayed on trees that will be raffled off. Any too large for the trees will be sold at the gift shop and proceeds go to the children. Any left-over ornaments will be given to children at the hospital at Christmas time. Let’s see if we can beat the record number that we carved for the Canadian Children a few years back. Let’s help the kids at the Children’s Hospital of Michigan by carving all we can. Info at ([miwoodcarvers.com](http://miwoodcarvers.com) link, Ornaments-FOT) on our web site.

**Michigan Festival of Gourds & Wood Carving.** This will be held at the Eastern Michigan State Fair Grounds at Imlay City, Michigan, on Sept 13,14 & 15, 2013. We have been again asked to join the Festival of Gourds as part of their annual festival. We have a complete building where we can set

up our displays, demonstrate and sell like we do at a regular show. We can also have individuals offer paid classes in wood burning and carving. We are also looking for carvers who would like to teach soup carving to kids during the festival. There is camping on the grounds, where we form a large circle with RVS and have a camp-fire every night and just have a great time. Come and join us. More information, applications and space info on our web site ([miwoodcarvers.com](http://miwoodcarvers.com). Link, Gourd-Festival) .

**Spit & Whittle Weekend.** On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> of September in Ewart at the fairgrounds is our annual Spit & Whittle Weekend. Some carvers bring projects to share with or you can bring your own project to work on. Another enjoyable weekend so come one and all and have a great time. We may possibly have some carvers there who can help you with carving the eagle heads.

**Local Events.** I am sure in most local areas there many events that members can take part in. Just to mention, the South Central Club of the Jackson area is displaying and demonstrating at the Career Days at the Jackson Community College on July 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. They will be demonstrating the different types of burning and carving that are available, a very rewarding experience. Then we have also been invited to the Jackson County Fair to set up a display, demonstrate, and sell during the week of the Fair, August 5<sup>th</sup> thru the 10<sup>th</sup>. Also we are going to be very very busy carving ornaments all summer as the South Central Club is decorating 4 grape vine wreaths with ornaments that will be presented to the four different places where the small branch clubs meet. This is in appreciation for them providing space to hold meetings, like the Spring Arbor Senior Center, Crouch Center in Jackson, Ackerson Lake School and the country Church near Mason. We are very appreciative of the use of these different places. We thank them very much for the use of their facilities.

### CLUB NEWS

**SUNRISE CARVERS:** The Sunrise Show on May was a week earlier this year, in the hopes that Mother’s Day could be observed by all! Alec LeCasse, bark carver, was our featured carver and followed up with a two-day class which was well attended and the carvings coming out of that class were amazing!! Our major club project for auction/raffle was a friendship cane, theme of cartoon characters – under the direction of Greg Wilkinson – it turned out to be a real hit. Member Gene Cotter carved Mickey and Minnie Mouse, about 10” tall and we did a Friendship quilt. All well done and well received – happy recipients! Our ‘Best of Show’ went to Mike LePage from Metro carvers for his Indigo Bunting carving. Best Table award went to Dick Jenkins, whose displays of his carousel horses and pig banks always draws attention. Thanks to everyone who came to our show and supported the Sunrise carvers.

**WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS:** April 25<sup>th</sup> was the 4H Festival at Hart and we set up a few tables. 6 of our members attended and set up. We managed to see a fairly large number of kids come through the displays and gave away a lot of carved flowers. I think we decided that this was our 15<sup>th</sup> year that our club has attended.

Roundup is over and many of our members were able to attend either for a day or more. Everyone had a good time and the Roundup was a great success. Our thanks go out to Floyd Rhadigan for stepping up and supervising the Roundup. He did a fine job. The weather was nice and the crowd was good.

**THE SALINE CARVING CLUB** is doing a lot to get ready for our show in October....carving door prizes and making a friendship cane...so everyone please don’t forget to come to the show. If things work out like planned we are going to have a wonderfully gifted carver by the name of Mart Lind here. AND...Mart is going to do a seminar at Floyd Rhadigan’s Store in Clinton, Michigan on October 14-17....Contact Floyd at 1-734-649-3259

**GRAND VALLEY CARVERS** of Ionia will be demonstrating carving a couple days during the Ionia Free Fair at the antique village. This spring we worked on a large wood burned project as a club for the antique village and it will be raffled off during the fair. We had a lot of fun creating an old farm scene and hope they sell lots of tickets. For more info contact Bud Ross.



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**METRO CARVERS:** The name chosen for their March 2014 show, "Artistic Creations in Wood", was entered by Rizal Baysa, which was submitted with 34 other name entries. Rizal won a gift card to Woodcraft.

The May voting re-elected President Curt Chastain, Secretary Harold Green and Treasurer Rizal Baysa, with Mike Murdock for Vice-President taking over from Bob Galanek. Metro carvers take the summer off and do not meet again till September.

**TRI-CITY CARVERS:** Frank and Phyllis Burghy were presented with a plaque commemorating all they have done for the Tri-City Carving Club. We wanted them to know we appreciate them and look forward to working with them for many more years.

President Gubbins will teach a carving class at Rogers Hobby shop July 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, and also August 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm to community people who express an interest in wood carving. They will be required to join the club. The class will have a value of \$85.00.

Soap carving in May was at the Merrill 4H Club where 16 children and 4 adults attended. Then they went to Crista McAulliffe Middle School where 40 sixth grade students participated.

A bit of humor from Tri-City. A carver signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing. The carver said that if they HAD any loose fitting clothing, they wouldn't have signed up in the first place!!

**CHIEF OSCEOLA CARVERS** all participated in the Roundup, either by carving or heading up a workshop. It seemed really nice to be able to actually do some carving this year. We would like to thank Floyd for overseeing the Roundup and keeping it going for everyone. With health reasons for some of us and the unexpected loss of founder Virginia Huffman, we are very thankful for Floyd stepping up and handling everything. It all turned out just as good as ever and of course next year will be even better. Thank you everyone for all your assistance over the past 14 years, please continue your support to Floyd and offer to help if needed.

**SOUTH CENTRAL WOODCARVERS** of Jackson had a busy week starting Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of June. On that day at the Spring Arbor Senior Center we had the pleasure of presenting a cane to a B29 pilot who flew almost 30 missions and also to the widow of a WWII veteran's wife who several years ago had carved a cane head for her husband. He has since passed away and she has gotten a lot use out of that cane. In need of restoration, the cane was re-painted, eyes reset and the beak repaired. On the 18<sup>th</sup> we presented a cane to a WWII veteran at the Vista Grand Senior Living Center and before lunch a presentation was made to a Korean War Veteran. On the 19<sup>th</sup> at the Atkinson Lake School we were again pleased to make presentations to a WWII veteran that operated landing craft on one of the Pacific Island beaches and Korea. We likewise presented a cane to a marine who was also involved with some of those landings. It was a busy week. One of our South Central members is now carving his own cane.

Bill Jaquays

**FLAT RIVER CARVERS of Lowell** now have a great patch.

For information contact Gerry Francis

616-897-9763



## CHIPS and CHATTER

**MWCA PROMOTION ITEMS:** From Denny Mid-Michigan Woodcarvers Club, and Promotions. We now have a new supply of MWCA patches, and don't forget the 20 year patch to add to your large patch. We still have a few nice tote bags and also now have mechanical pencils. If you need anything and can't make a show to see me, call 989-277-5739 or email [patden@chartermi.net](mailto:patden@chartermi.net)

Roundup was GREAT and we received about 22 finished Eagle Cane Heads. We also gave out a bunch of blanks ready to carve. Remember, MWCA has 4 more Cane Head Competitions this year. You can also turn them in any time you see any officer.

Now I must add Festival of Trees. We took in about 20 ornaments at Roundup, today I got to see a sample of the patch you can get for turning in 1 or more ornaments. The patch really looks good and will look good with your other patches. This is really a good project and all the proceeds will go to benefit children all over Michigan.

Thanks to Denny Sekerenes we had a new soft goods vendor at the Seminar and Roundup. They did a great job and they are already looking forward to next year and also attending the Spit and Whittle. We welcome "Kay's Screen Printing & Embroidery" from Midland. Phone 989-837-1036, email [info@ksenow.com](mailto:info@ksenow.com) We thank them for coming to our events.



### **SEMINAR ATTENDEE, Our Production Line Worker**

We had with us this year at the seminar a fellow carver, Hugh Clark, who acts like he is on a production line! He sits very quietly, minding his own business, bothering no one, and turns out one caricature carving after another. One year he turned out about 12 caricatures during the week while others hardly got one or two done. He even signed up TWICW one year to make sure he was on the list. We are very proud to have had him as a member our MWCA Learning Seminar again this year.

Andrew Luchkardt, President – Michigan Woodcarvers Association.

**EVART ROUNDUP** went great this year with Floyd Rhadigan in charge. It was a bit of a challenge but it went off without a hitch. Bigger and better is planned for next year, plan your vacation around it for June 4 -7, 2014.

Floyd says: I would like to send a big THANK YOU to all those that helped me make the 2013 Evert Roundup a success, without the volunteers and the Workshop Leaders there would be no Roundup. I am already looking forward to 2014.  
Floyd Rhadigan

## PROJECTS and UPCOMING EVENTS

**FESTIVAL OF TREES:** The Festival of Trees is one of the largest annual special event fundraisers for medical research at Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation. You can learn more about this charity at their web site [www.fot.org](http://www.fot.org) or on our web site [www.miwoodcarvers.com/ornaments](http://www.miwoodcarvers.com/ornaments) The FOT organization said that any carvings not sold by Christmas will be handed out to children in the hospitals.

MWCA is asking our members to get involved and use your carving or wood-burning artistic talent to support this worthwhile endeavor. Make sure that you sign your art work and, if it is a tree ornament, include a means to hang it. When completed turn in your ornament to the club organizer or regional Co-Chairperson in your area or you can bring it to any MWCA club show or event where it will be collected. We will deliver it to the DMC (Detroit Medical Center). They are in charge of all the research for Children's Hospital in Michigan.

MWCA is also in need of individuals to step forward and volunteer to be club organizers or regional co-chairpersons for this MWCA Ornament Project. These are the people who will make this project successful by building enthusiasm among the membership. One person cannot do all the work so please consider helping with the administrative tasks. If you want to help please contact Bill Phillips by phone **810-798-3401** or e-mail [br2phillips@yahoo.com](mailto:br2phillips@yahoo.com).

**WOOD SHAVING DAYS** at Hartwick Pines State Park is July 20-21<sup>st</sup>. MWCA members are again participating in this annual event. We will be doing pyrography and soap carving with the kids as well as carving a couple simple projects, and promoting the seminar. The Murphy's and the Mulick's would love to meet some of our northern Michigan carvers. Bring your lawn chair and your carving knife and join us for a while. This is always a very enjoyable and rewarding weekend to promote our hobby and the seminar and educate the public what wood carving is all about.

**MICHIGAN FESTIVAL of GOURDS and WOODCARVING:** On September 13 - 15 the Michigan Wood Carvers Association is joining the Michigan Festival of Gourds. You can attend and set up your club or your personnel table(s) like we do for a carving show and demonstrate carving/sell your work. If you plan on attending please contact Bill Phillips at 810-798-3401, cell 810-798-0311, [br2phillips@yahoo.com](mailto:br2phillips@yahoo.com) or you can also contact Denny Sekerenes at 989-277-5739 or email [patden@chartermi.net](mailto:patden@chartermi.net) Check out the details at [www.miwoodcarvers.com/Gord-Festival.html](http://www.miwoodcarvers.com/Gord-Festival.html) See more about the festival at [www.michiganfestivalofgourds.com](http://www.michiganfestivalofgourds.com)

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

**Caricature Carve-In** September 13-15 at Floyd's Woodcarving Studio in Clinton MI. The cost is \$100 + rough-out.

**Realistic Human Seminar** October 14 – 16 with Mart Lind, also held at Floyd's Woodcarving Studio. The cost for this seminar is \$150 plus the cost of the rough-out. Mart carves great Native American Indian bust out of butternut and also has a variety of other subjects.

For more information about taking a seminar contact Floyd, 734-649-3259 or [rhads134@comcast.net](mailto:rhads134@comcast.net)

### CHIP OF THE MONTH from the West Michigan Carvers

John Crawford says at the Roundup he had a chance to use three sharpening set-ups. One was a vertical leather belt system. One was a paper wheel on a buffer, and the last one was a set-up of different formed wheels. On a personal note I have always wanted the leather belt system but zoomed in on the paper wheel. WOW!

Turns out I bought a paper wheel a couple of years ago and never used it. The directions said to use a 6 inch buffer of up to 3600 rpm's. Guess what? I already had one on my workbench (wah-hoo) with a felt wheel on one side and a rag wheel on the other. The paper system comes with two wheels. A fine grit which uses a buffing compound and the paper wheel uses what looks like beeswax. Changed the wheels on the buffer, charged both wheels with the proper compounds and grabbed a knife that had a miserable edge. This thing works great and does not heat the steel if you use it properly. I have found a great new friend!!!

**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
7/20-21	WOOD SHAVING DAYS	Hartwick Pines State Park - Gaylord	989-426-7068
8/9-11	GLADWIN CARRIAGE FESTIVAL	Gladwin County Fairgrounds	989-435-4758
9/6-8	SPIT and WHITTLE weekend	Evert Fairgrounds <a href="http://www.evertroundup.com">www.evertroundup.com</a>	231-250-3855 231-861-5547
9/13-15	FESTIVAL of GOURDS & WOODCARVING	Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds Imlay City	810-798-3401
9/13-15	RHADIGAN CARVE-IN	Floyd's Studio in Clinton	734-649-3259
9/21	TRI CITY CARVERS CARVING SHOW	2 <sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church – Saginaw	989-791-3511
9/27-28	WASHINGTON CARVEFEST	Washington Sr Center Washington Twp	586-786-1967

### MWCA CONTACTS

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