



**\*CLUB NEWS \* MWCA PROJECTS \*2014 CALENDARS**

**NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS CARVING BENCH**

Last News for 2013.

2013 is coming to an end next week. 2014 will be in next week. It has been a great year for MWCA carving association. The members of the clubs have really out done themselves in their efforts of their club programs. The Lean on Me cane program continues to present canes to worthy Vets throughout the state in very large numbers. Congratulations to the committee who decorates and finishes the canes, and the membership who keep carving Eagle Heads. I am proud of all those who take part in this project. In a small way we thank all Vets for what they have done for our country.

I wish to inform you all we have Bob Thurston as a caricature instructor for the 2014 Learning Seminar in Midland. He is a member of the Tri City Woodcarvers. He has taught classes for several years and is highly recommend by members of the Tri City Club. He has 6 or seven caricature roughouts to present and some more are in the works. He will also be teaching at a seminar with Steve Brown and Gary Falin and 2 others in Tennessee. He will use only hand tools.

Then the Festival of Trees came along and we were asked to carve ornaments for the Children's Hospital and Research Foundation. Everybody pitched in and carved ornaments. We thought we may get 4 or 5 hundred ornaments but we received well over 1700 ornaments that we presented to the Festival of Trees for the Children. They were sold to the public in the gift shop for several weeks of the festival to sell and any left were given to the children in the hospitals at Christmas time. It was my pleasure to be invited to be part of the delegation to attend the opening of the FOT at the Dearborn Arts & Performing Arts Building in Dearborn. It was 2 days of very rewarding events to be able to help the children of the State. Thanks to Frank and Phyllis Burghy for donating 150 small

As a member and District Rep for the Michigan Wood Carvers Association, I'd like to say that our woodcarving club members joined in from all over the state of Michigan to support this worthy fund raiser for the children. I'm so proud that we were able to donate over 1700 hand-carved ornaments for the children. It's truly remarkable what a group like this can do when called upon. It's an entire story within itself ...Proud to be part of the team. Bill Phillips

Dear Mr. Phillips,

On behalf of Festival of Trees we wish to extend our warmest thank you for all the wonderful items that were donated to our 2013 event. They were a great addition to our gift shop, and the balance was donated to Children's Hospital of Michigan foundation, per your request. I spoke with the coordinator at the hospital, and the items that had a Santa were donated to Adopt a Family, as they are not allowed to take any religious themed items as a donation. Also, the trees that were donated for the Holiday Hearts was a wonderful project for the kids to do.

I personally want to also thank you for the time both you and your wife, along with other members of your association who took time to volunteer at our event. It was very much appreciated. As always, we are in need of great people donating their time for Festival of Trees. Please extend our thank you to everyone involved with making our 2013 event a wonderful success.

I hope we will be able to have the Michigan Woodcarvers Association a part of the Festival of Trees family for a long time to come.

Wishing you all the best for this holiday season, and a prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,

Theresa Diefenbach

Director, Festival of Trees

wooden turned Christmas Trees that we helped children decorate with scripto markers. We spent a little over half a day with children showing them how to decorate the small trees. The 150 trees were all gone that afternoon. The large hall was filled with hundreds of decorated Christmas trees of all sizes up to about 7 or 8 feet. The large trees were all decorated by individuals, businesses and organizations all with their own theme. Besides that the food provided was excellent. It was billed as a black tie banquet and I had to relearn how to tie a tie which I had not worn in years. The Banquet was served in the hall with all of the trees. You walked around through the trees and served yourself from tables with food here and there throughout the hall. I kept looking for the desert table and found out it was across the hall in a large room filled with about 15 tables all filled with deserts. There went my diet! Special thanks to Bill and Ruth Phillips for heading the project and thanks to all the others on the committee and all those who carved ornaments. Everyone did an excellent job THANK YOU!

Since I moved to Brooklyn, MI I have really enjoyed doing a lot of carving and wood burning. I joined the South Central Carving Club; and carve Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at their different locations around Jackson. I have really enjoyed myself this year. I could go on and on , but this is getting too long. I have searched every place I could think of to check to certify my age and I did pass the milestone in my life (90) on Dec, 7<sup>th</sup>. So I guess you are stuck with me for a while yet. I had a physical 2 weeks ago and the results were the best I have had in many, many years. I really have enjoyed all the years I have spent with the MWCA and would do it all over again. Hope you had a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Your President, Andrew Luckhardt.

## CLUB NEWS

### Stirling Heights City Council Diversity Distinction Award presented to

The Sixth Annual Sterling Heights Diversity Distinction Awards were presented at the December 3, 2013 City Council Meeting. A reception was held in the lobby prior to the meeting. The goal of these awards is to honor those who have championed diversity in the city of Sterling Heights.

Mayor Richard Notte, the City Council and the Sterling Heights Ethnic Community Committee presented the award to the Michigan Wood Carvers Association – Sterling Heights Chapter.

Bill and Ruth Phillips, Larry and Norma Bauman and Dave and Pat Copeman received the award on behalf of the Michigan Wood Carvers. This award would not have been possible without the support of all the carvers throughout the state of Michigan. Thank you, Michigan Wood Carvers Association for allowing me to be involved in the “Lean on Me” cane program. This program has now provided more than 2300 canes to our Michigan veterans.

Dave Copeman



What an honor for the MWCA. This is a result of the efforts of Dave Copeman, Terry Zobl and the rest of the carvers at the Sterling Heights Senior Center. Dave and the crew have presented many, many Lean on Me canes during the Monday carving meetings.

**WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS “Chip of the Month”:** One of our members sent me an email the other day asking me about the use of types of gouges instead of using knives. He noticed when he was at Ewart watching the pro’s work, they use gouges and V tools whenever they can instead of a knife. Their carvings always seem to be cleaner and with less fuzziness and “overshoots” or knife marks. He is correct.

All of us tend to use a knife a lot more than we should. A stop cut is the most obvious place where we notice an overshoot. It is extremely difficult to control a knife when doing a stop cut. We just cannot see where the tip of the knife is and it is hard to control the depth of the cut. A V-tool is the best choice for a stop cut if the V-tool has a sharp corner where the sides meet. It leaves a good stop cut and no knife marks.

Not all V-tools are created equally however. Denny V-tools have a large radius on the intersection of the two sides and are not the best for a stop cut where the edges of the cut should be sharp and square.

Harold Enlow doesn’t use a knife very much. Instead, he uses a #3 gouge for a lot of his work where most of us would use a knife. I have mentioned his work before and have been using the #3 a lot lately. Enlow has it right.

We tend to use a knife for a “scoop” cut. A lot of carving books teach this technique. Actually a gouge works a lot better and then you can finish with a #3 to smooth out the work.

I have a couple of books written by European carvers and they rarely use a knife for anything. All of this comes down to the fact that the more tools you use and the less you use a knife, the cleaner your carving will turn out. These are my thoughts only, others may have additional ideas. John Crawford. Carve often and may your blood letting be minimal!

**MID-MICHIGAN CARVERS:** I “wood” wish everyone a Happy New Year, and safe Carving. I have 24, 2014 calendars if anyone needs one. Only \$ 4.00 each, but you also get the coupon good towards a \$5 off when you make a \$10 purchase at Ceded Bird Shop.

See everyone in the spring, when it gets warmer, Keep Carving. I tell members here to work on your Christmas gifts early, so you have them done for next year. Well I did not get enough done myself. Guess I better practice more.

Remember Communicate, Educate, Carve, Practice, doesn't have to in that order, just whatever works best for the good of all Carvers. Denny Sekerenes

**SUNRISE CARVERS:** In December Kathy Moffit did a “Santa” class for us before leaving for Florida and Gene Cotter relief carving class. We had a cane presentation on December 10<sup>th</sup> and we are now working on a 14 foot totem pole for our next show.

Elections were held in October and our new president is Greg Wilkinson, Vice President is Kathi Olah, Secretary is Karen Kotyk and Treasurer is Harriet Flanders. Our show chair is Greg Wilkinson, and the show contact is Charlie and Harriet Flanders at 989-736-3678. Our 2014 show will be held on **May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at the Oscoda Community Center on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base.**

**TRI-CITY CARVERS:** We have again been asked to place our carvings in the display case at the Antique Warehouse during the month of January, were we are also able to sell them.

We have also been asked to demo and carve there on the 25 and 26 of January.

The Christmas party was held on December 3. Once again Gene and Marilyn Gubbins organized and planned the party. About 20 carvers and their wives attended for a total of 36 people.

Our elections were also held and Mike Basner is our new President. Dick Bishop is the Vice President, Mike Ford is the Treasurer and Ed Hak is our Secretary.

**METRO CARVERS:** Washington Carve Fest IX is now history and was, by all reports, another successful event. The 104 people who attended appeared to enjoy the event. We had nothing but positive comments from the participants. However we did conclude that the attendance has been down the last couple of years. Our conclusion is that new instructors and new projects are the key to keeping Carve Fest fresh and appealing. Thus, our committee has decided that if we do not have four new volunteer instructors by the Metro Show in March of 2014, then we will NOT stage Carve Fest X. If anyone is interested in joining us and offering to be an instructor, please let us know. Call John Sabina at **586-786-1967**. We are happy to listen to any proposals.

The Metro Carvers plan to sponsor a carving class by Floyd Radigan on Monday (3/24/2014), Tuesday (3/25/2014), and Wednesday 3/26/2014). These are three days after the Metro Show. The cost will be \$120 for Metro members and \$140 for non-members. The class will be held at the Shadbrush Nature Center which is located at John R & Hamlin Roads in Shelby Township. All signups need to be completed by the February 11, 2014

At our December club meeting MWCA Vice President Bill Phillips presented a Plaque of Appreciation to Larry Bauman and a Blanket gift to David Copeman to thank them for their years of dedication and work on the Patriot Cane Program.

**FRANKENMUTH CARVERS:** We will be having Debbe Edwards teach a three day class on realistic animals May 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

### CHIPS and CHATTER

**MWCA MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE BY MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2014.** The MWCA membership dues renewal forms will be sent to all MWCA Clubs in late January or early February. Watch for the envelope, it will be sent to club presidents or to the mailing address on file for receiving MWCA information. Remember, the 2014-2015 dues are due by the end of March. Our MWCA fiscal year is April through March. We have NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS and your club will receive them after your dues are paid. Getting your dues paid by March 31<sup>st</sup> really helps us a lot, so please try to do so if you can. Thank you.

**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 and **forward the newsletter by email** to those that do. Thank you.

CHATTER NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED THE FIRST OF:

JANUARY                      MARCH                      MAY  
JULY                              SEPTEMBER                      NOVEMBER

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
3/22-23	METRO CARVERS SHOW	Madison Heights	586-791-7728
APRIL	MWCA Membership Meeting	Date/Place to be announced	734-323-4685 810-798-3401
4/19	GREATER LANSING CARVING SHOW	Williamston Community Center	989-655-6632
5/3-4	SUNRISE SIDE CARVING SHOW	Oscoda Community Center on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base	989-736-3678
5/19-23	MWCA SEMINAR	Midland Fairgrounds	734-323-4685 810-798-3401
6/4-7	EVART ROUNDUP	Osceola County Fairgrounds – Evert	734-649-3259
6/9-13	CREATIVE WOODCARVING SEMINAR	Osceola County Fairgrounds-Evert	734-649-3259

### MWCA CONTACTS

<b>President</b> Andrew Luckhardt (734) 323-4685 salinecarver@gmail.com	<b>Vice President</b> Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@yahoo.com	<b>Secretary</b> Pat Murphy (810) 392-3642 patarmurp@yahoo.com	<b>Treasurer</b> Mary Lou Mulick (616) 902-3888 mulickg@gmail.com
<b>“Chatter” Editor</b> Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net	<b>MWCA Chaplain</b> Milan Maybee (517) 787-1272	<b>Judging</b> Phyllis Burghy (989) 879-2600 cedarbirdshoppe@chartermi.net	<b>Promotional (Calendars, etc.)</b> Denny Sekerenes (989) 277-5739 patden@chartermi.net
<b>Patriot Cane Project</b> Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@yahoo.com	<b>Webmaster</b> Terry Zobl (586) 739-7234 miwoodcarvers@yahoo.com	<b>Insurance</b> Rizal Baysa (586) 781-3921 rbaysa1@comcast.net	<b>Wood Art Exchange</b> Sally & David Nye (269) 543-4755 Mr.Columbus1492@gmail.com