



“CHATTER”
NEWSLETTER OF THE
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION
www.miwoodcarvers.com
MARCH 2014 VOLUME 19 ISSUE 2

***CLUB NEWS *ANNUAL MEETING *NEW CLUB *MWCA PROJECTS *UPCOMING SHOWS**

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS CARVING BENCH

News from the president March 1st, 2014

Hi you all, here it is March 1st the start of many events of the MWCA year. The shows are starting to come with the metro show on March 22 -23. Attend the Metro show, one of the best in the State. On March 15th I start to contact the Seminar Instructors regarding their student status. For those members that have not signed up for a class at the 2014 seminar, now is the time to choose a class and send in your application. There are still openings in many of the classes. 3 classes are full, Debbie Edwards, Gary Falin and Fred & Elain Stenman are full. Three classes are at 7 each, Beirman, Goddard and Goodson. The rest fall under 7 students. They are Linda Sales, Gary Bityk, Ben Donaghy, Dave Harmon, Gloria Irla-Marlow-Gourds. Dick Lamphier, Don Miller. John Williams, Chris Howard and the Chris Howard/Leah Goddard double class have 3 students. Now is the time to make your pick and come to the great Seminar on May 19th thru the 23rd, 2014. It is turning out to be a great one again.

The Lean on me cane program is doing great with around 2,075 canes presented. Of course the Festival of Trees was excellent, the turnout of ornaments was unbelievable, Thank You. The Clinging Crosses program is well under way, for the Hospice of Michigan organization.

http://www.miwoodcarvers.com/cross_bird.html

The Gourd Festival has been cancelled due to certain

circumstances unknown, so come to the seminar and carve, and decorate gourds in Marlow's class.

Our **Annual Membership Meeting** is April 12, 2014, at the Fire Mountain Restaurant in Lansing. Among other things we will be taking up is the By-Laws revision of the MWCA Club. Sandy and MWCA have been working hard on revising the By-Laws and we really appreciate the hard work. Clubs will receive the proposed bylaws revisions in the mail before the meeting. If you need a copy of the current bylaws, go to miwoodcarvers.com

I just got an e-mail about the Greater Lansing Show; due to lack of space at Williamston Center they have changed the show back to Haslett High School where it has been for quite a while. Regardless of where, it is always a great show. Then the Sunrise Side Show on May 3rd, 2014, and do not forget the seminar on the 19th thru the 23rd.

We want to welcome the Red Cedar Carving club (formally John Barany's club) as they have contacted Sandy for papers to join the MWCA. We are glad to have you all aboard.

In closing I again want to express my appreciation for all the help I am receiving in my old age in running the MWCA. It is getting harder every day it seems. I can certify that I am Ninety+ Your President - Andrew Luckhardt.

METRO CARVERS: The Metro show "Artistic Creations in Wood" is coming up really quickly on March 21st and 22nd.

On March 24th-26th, Floyd Rhadigan will hold a seminar at the Shadbrush Nature Center in Shelby Township. Cost is \$120 for Metro members and \$140 for non-members. Contact 248-609-5341 if you would like to attend. Hope to see you all there!

Bird Carvers, there will be a power carving bird class with Josh Guge at the Troy Nature Center. They are carving a Carolina Wren. Cost will be \$160.00. The class will be held May 12th-14th. There are openings at this time. Call 248-879-1994 for information and to register.

MID-MICHIGAN CARVERS: Everything is going great with our club. We are beginning our 3rd year and now have 32 members and visitors from time to time. We are getting ready for the metro show, MWCA spring meeting and the Greater Lansing show. If you are ever in the area, Carving World is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 2 – 9 pm. Call 989-277-5739 for directions.

You can see me (Denny) at any or all events for promotional items, I have a very few MWCA calendars left.

Remember COMMUNICATE, EDUCATE, CARVE and PRACTICE. Not necessarily in that order, just whatever works best for you but keep carving.

TRI CITY CARVERS: Hugh Clark, one of our members had a really nice article about his wood carving hobby in the Midland Daily News in January. Congratulations to Hugh.

Carving exchange: We will have a carving exchange within our club and all who wish to participate will put their names in a hat. Then each will draw a name back out and do a carving for that person. The carvings will be displayed at our show and given to the recipients after the show to take home with them. The show will be September 27th at the 2nd Presbyterian Church

Many of our members carved at the Antique Warehouse on the 25th and 26th of January.

GREATER LANSING CARVING SHOW: Due to size restraints we will now hold our annual show back at the Haslett High School. With experiences from past shows will have something different at our show this year. We have noticed that some of the visitors to our shows are visually impaired are accompanied by another person who tries to explain what the carvings look like. We are going to have a well supervised table with carvings that people can actually pick up and feel. "Feeling is Believing" will include some before and after carvings, i.e., carving blank and finished carving. We also welcome any carvings you may choose to include. We may even have some braille signs to go along with them. These tables will also be good for children to be able to actually "touch" a carving with parents' consent as there are a lot of carvings at the show that are not feasible to be handled by children. The contact

for Feeling is Believing is Fred Erbsch who will welcome calls regarding the concept of this event. Fred can be reached at 517.337.0778 Show applications and information will be sent out next week.

SOUTH CENTRAL CARVERS: South Central carvers will continue to meet as follows:

- *Monday at Spring Arbor Senior Center, 122 Star Rd, Spring Arbor from 10 am to noon weather permitting and schools are open
- *Monday evening at Eden United Brethren Church 1938 Eden Rd, Mason from 6-8 pm.
- *Tuesday at the Crouch Senior Center on Lansing Ave, in Jackson from 1-3 pm.
- *Wednesday at the Ackerson Lake School, 4206 Brooklyn Rd (M-50) in Jackson from 5:30 – 8 pm.
- *2nd Monday of the month the Jackson Board of directors and open business meeting meets at the Spring Arbor Senior Center.

On February 24th (moved from January 27th because of the weather) the South Central Wood Carvers presented 3 memorial canes to veterans as part of the Lean on Me program. On March 4th at 11 am we have been asked to do a Bring & Brag at the Crouch Center, we will also wear our club vests. This gives us an opportunity to show our carvings to the public. We did this last year and had a great time. See you at the next meeting, Bill Jaquays.

WOODWACKERS: Woodwackers have been carving right along throughout these cool?? days. However, on Saturday March 1st, we have a wood-burner, Robert Routley of Big Rapids, putting on a demo and giving tips. Hopefully, six hardy carvers will be in attendance as of this writing. Also of interest, Robert is a veteran with a Purple Heart and the proud recipient of a MWCA Eagle Cane.

WOODLAND CARVERS: will displaying their carvings at the Ultimate Sport Show, held at DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Ave NW, Grand Rapids from March 20th -24th, admission is \$10. They will host the 4th Annual Fish Carving Competition. If you would like to enter the competition contact Orlando Villarreal at 616-892-7202

Woodland member Molly Hanna will be doing a daytime class on bark carving, March 25th at WKTV, at 5261 Clyde Park, Wyoming MI 49509. The class fee is \$40 and she supplies the bark and everything else. Class time is 9:30-4:30 (open at 9 am). Bring a lunch or there are many restaurants close by. We need at least 5 students to hold the class. Contact Karen Brown at 616-706-9685 or email KAHB69@chartermi.net

WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS have not had very many carving sessions because of something called winter. Too much snow, wind and cold, which is now the cause for many of their members coming down with “Cabin Fever”! That must be what the rest of us are suffering from.

SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS: In December the Sunrise Club presented 12 veteran canes. There were 12 recipients, many families and guests, as well as the color Guard from the Oscoda American Legion. Isa and Bill Hastings put together a presentation folder which everyone appreciated.

We renewed our membership in the Oscoda/AuSable chamber of Commerce.

We participated in the Lost Lake Woods Craft show in February.

Our May 3rd and 4th show will be held at the Community Center on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base. Entries in the competition accepted on Friday May 2nd. This year’s theme is “A Celebration of the Native American” and each registered carver may show one there related item. Our club project totem pole for display at the show is well underway. Our featured artist this year will be Dave Sanderson, pyrographer extraordinaire, who will also offer a class following the show on May 5th and 6th. If you have any show questions please call Show Chair Greg Wilkinson at 989-305-6780 or Harriet or Charlie Flanders at 989-736-3678 or email them at haskellflanders@yahoo.com

CHIPS and CHATTER

MEMBERSHIP DUES: A reminder to everyone that MWCA MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE BY MARCH 31ST, 2014. Every club should have already received their renewal information envelope. If not please call Sandy Holder for your information as some addresses were not current. We have new membership cards and your club will receive them after your dues are paid. Getting your dues paid by March 31st REALLY HELPS us a lot, so please try to do so if you can. We have 7 clubs paid clubs already. Thank you. Remember, your club dues have to be paid before you are able to vote at the Annual meeting on April 12th.

MWCA SEMINAR SPECIAL OFFER: If you have never attended, or if 2011 was the last time you took advantage of the MWCA Learning Seminar, you qualify for \$25 off your class IF your personal club is willing to match it with a \$25 sponsorship.

The Learning Seminar Committee is willing to match a \$25 donation from your club if you would like to attend in 2014. Have your club write a check to the MWCA and include it with your check for \$125. Mail it to either our Treasurer Mary Lou Mulick or President Andy Luckhardt at the addresses on the seminar application and they will take care of the other \$25. Here is an opportunity for your club to use your possible surplus funds. If your club does not have a checking account we will accept a personal check with a signed note from your president, listing your club and who your club is sponsoring. A club may sponsor more than one member.

Something a little different about the seminar this year is free soap carving for kids. Parents will need to register their children ahead of time so we may have control of the number of students in each class and will know what supplies to purchase. They will be held Tuesday evening from 6-7 pm and 7-8 pm.

The carving public or visiting MWCA members will also be able to sign up in the afternoon for evening mini classes offered by the instructors after seminar students have had a first chance to sign up before noon. This is only if there are still openings in the classes. Evening classes are \$10 each to the seminar and the cost of class materials to the instructor.

Eagle Head Cane carving classes will also be offered to seminar students and the carving public, walk-ins and MWCA members Mon. and Tues. evening from 6-9 pm and Wed. evening 7-9 pm. These classes are free, and tools will be provided for those who do not have tools to use.

We don't ask our membership for much, however, now is the time we need your HELP as an MWCA member. In order to offer the classes above, we need someone willing to be the contact person for the Soap Carving and Eagle Head Cane classes. Their only job is to keep track of the number of people signing up for each class so we can keep the classes to the number they will hold. Your phone number is all that will be needed so people can contact you for that class. You can then let us know the class numbers when the seminar starts. The contact numbers will be published in the Midland area paper for a month prior to the seminar. So we are asking for 2 people willing to help with these classes. Please call Bill Phillips at 810-798-3401 or email br2phillips@yahoo.com

These classes are offered to let the public know about the MWCA, and possibly spur their interest in carving and maybe even join a carving club. We will be promoting carving and the Michigan Wood Carvers Association.

EVART ROUNDUP: The 2014 Evert Woodcarvers Roundup is coming together by leaps and bounds; we will have about 8 new workshops, an additional tool sharpener and more attendees. I have been advertising from one side of the country to the other so put June 4th - 8th on your calendar, be there or be square!

Floyd Fest 2014, June 10-14, held after the Roundup at the same fairgrounds is also coming together, with new classes. Realistic Human w/MART LIND. Realistic Animal w/CHARLEY SMALLIGAN, a new Caricature w/PAT MOORE and Gourd Carving w/KAREN BROWN. There is still room to sign up.

Contact Floyd Rhadigan 734-659-3259 or email rhads134@comcast.net

VETERANS BELL MEMORIAL: This summer a memorial will be constructed by the Veterans Bell Organization in Barber Memorial Park in Montrose Twp. near Flint to honor all US Military Veterans. <http://www.vetsbell.org>. MWCA has been asked if we would consider donating a finished eagle head cane for display at the memorial. It would represent veterans from all branches of service. We have accepted and will furnish them a cane when their memorial is completed. If any MWCA veteran would like to have a display of their service in the building you can click on the website for more information.

CLINGING CROSSES and COMFORT BIRDS.

The Woodwackers Carving Club from Big Rapids suggested the possibility of the MWCA clubs carving Clinging Crosses and Comfort Birds to be donated to Hospice of Michigan.

Their club has already carved over 120 clinging crosses and presented them to the MI Hospice of Big Rapids. The

MWCA executive board agreed it would be a wonderful project for our Association. All clubs

should have received information explaining how this project will work along with patterns. If not please let us know so we can get the information to you. Each individual club will have the opportunity to participate on their own and donate the items to the Hospice group in their district which keeps the carvings in their own area. We hope that all clubs will participate in some way to let folks know that MWCA is proud to be able to offer special comfort in the form of our favorite art form. Patterns and information is available on our website at www.miwoodcarvers.com Let us know if your club will or has participated so we may know what areas of Michigan will benefit our project.



The envelope or PDF that your club received about the Clinging Crosses and Comfort Birds contained an inspirational poem by Jane Davis, the creator of the Clinging Cross. The poem was intended to be included with your cross when completed. Since the poem is copyrighted, Bill Phillips contacted the company that handles Jane Davis's work to ask if they would consider approving us permission to use it with the crosses we made. After hearing back from them, they said that we would not be permitted to use it. So, in accordance with copyright laws, we ask that you comply and please NO NOT use it with your crosses or birds to Hospice. We are in the process of changing the name of the cross so as not to infringe on the copyright and creating a different card to go with them.

RED CEDAR CARVING CLUB is a new wood carving club joining the MWCA. They are located in the Okemos area and at this time have 15 active members. We welcome the new club to our wonderful organization. They are excited to become part of our carving group. We now are 46 Michigan clubs strong.

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 ON OR AROUND 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
4/12	MWCA Membership Meeting 10:30	Fire Mountain Restaurant - Lansing	734-323-4685 810-798-3401
4/19	GREATER LANSING CARVING SHOW	Haslett High School	989-655-6632
5/3-4	SUNRISE SIDE CARVING SHOW	Oscoda Community Center on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base	989-305-6780 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	FLOYD FEST CARVING SEMINAR	Osceola County Fairgrounds-Evert	734-649-3259

MWCA CONTACTS

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