



**“CHATTER”**  
**NEWSLETTER OF THE**  
**MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION**  
**www.miwoodcarvers.com**  
**NOV 2014                      VOLUME 19 ISSUE 6**

**\*CLUB NEWS                      \*MWCA PROJECTS                      \*CARVING EVENTS**



*Most everyone knows by now that Andy Luckhardt, MWCA President, passed away in September. We were all saddened by the loss. Bill Phillips, Vice President, has now taken over the president position in Andy's absence. As an MWCA founding member, Andy has held all leadership offices since the organization was established in 1993 and was President since 2002. Andy also helped organize the first Learning Seminar and served as director for many years. He was very dedicated to the MWCA attending most of the shows and events throughout the years, either driving to or camping at many of them. We will all miss you Andy.*

**From Bill Phillips, acting President**

Hello carvers.

I'm sure everyone has heard about the loss of our President Andrew J. Luckhardt on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Andy was 90 years young and loved the MWCA. Andy was a graduate of Saline High School and was a dairy farmer. He was a longtime member of the Manchester Board of Education, was involved with Farm Bureau, a wood working leader for Townline Workers 4-H club for over 25 years and was an advocate for and taught gun safety. He was a founding member of both of the Saline Carving Club and the Michigan Wood Carvers Association.

We have dedicated our 2015 MWCA calendar in memory of Andy showing a few photos of him and his carvings. We will also have a brick installed in his name on the Evert Fairgrounds memory walkway leading into the main carving building.

**MWCA FALL MEETING** – October 4<sup>th</sup>: We remind you that during the last MWCA board meeting the board approved putting the "DRAFT" board meeting minutes on the MWCA web site ASAP after each meeting. Our secretary (Pat Murphy) and our web master (Terry Zobl) are working on this so check out web site <http://www.miwoodcarvers.com/contacts.html> link under Secretary and you will be able to read the minutes in PDF form which are "not approved" until the following board meeting. If you have any comments please let us or your club leadership know so we can keep the membership up to date with what the association is doing.

Because of the passing of President Andy Luckhardt, Vice President Bill Phillips is now our acting president and Garry Mulick volunteered to be interim vice president. It was voted and passed that Garry take that position. Sharon Sykes volunteered to be insurance representative since Rizal Baysa was unable to continue because of other commitments.

**SEMINAR:** We have about 75 registered students for May 2015 and we need 130 students to break even for seminar expenses. We encourage everyone to do what they can to increase attendance at the seminar so we may continue offering this fine venue in the future. Jim Finney is a new instructor for 2015 and will be teaching relief carving of hand guns in a plaque. Lunches will be catered in the main carving building this next year because of the increased cost of using the 4H building.

**CARVING CLUB NEWS**

**WOODWACKERS:** October 24th and 25th found seven Happy, Hearty Woodwackers better known as Big Rapids Carvers, in attendance at a Caricature workshop. The renowned instructor was none other than the famous Floyd Rhadigan CCA. The chosen carvings consisted of cowboys, Santas, a lady and a soldier. Several of the carvings were completed to the point of painting. There was a lot of great food, laughter, conversation and a FUN filled work-shop. Thanks to Floyd. Woodwackers hope to have him back soon.

**TRI CITY CARVERS:** Our September show was a great one with 221 visitors, exhibitors and vendors.. Best of Show was won by Cliff Lindahl for his Bear; 2<sup>nd</sup> Best of Show was a large Viking carved by Trig Neprud; 3<sup>rd</sup> Best of Show went to Ben Donaghy for his Tufted Titmouse bird. Best of Novice was a creel carved by Greg Nye.

Ed Sowulewski brought several of his winners for display and he also won Best of Masters with an original carving of a carver at his knife sharpening desk. Bob Thurston also had a neat display of his original carvings and a lot of Halloween figures. Tom Gilman wowed the visitors with his unique and well done chain saw carvings.

Ken Klender and Ken Hite handled the soap carving for the kids, all had a great time and went home with a soap carving.

Kyle Bagnall, Manager of Historical Programs at the Chippewa Nature Center in Midland, was the guest speaker at our October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and brought a carved and painted replica of a passenger pigeon, they have been extinct for 100 years. He shared pigeon stories of early explorers, missionaries and traders, and uncovered tales of the last "grand nesting" in Petoskey in 1878.

**SALINE CARVERS and SHOW:** The attendance was just under 200. It was a successful show with many wonderful carvings. I'm looking forward to next year already!

The 2014 People's Choice Carving Contest had 11 participants. The first place winner was Don Miller with a beautifully carved and painted duck decoy. Second place winner was Floyd Rhadigan with his extraordinary chess set. Third place winner was Tom Jacobson with his caricature prospector and pack mule. The entry pieces were nicely done and the voting was rather close this year. Keep up the good work, carvers!

Thank you to Tom Jacobson, Connie Salabien, Dick Ender, and Carole Lewis for their yummy donated baked goods. Your extra efforts greatly support our club.

There was a good crowd for our annual swap meet on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Lots of good stuff was available for sale and trade and it was a nice evening with plenty of coffee and good conversation.

Our Comfort carvings for Hospice of Michigan has been completed with 54 birds and crosses carved. Thank you to all who participated in this project.

Be sure to check out our BLOG at [salinecarversblog.wordpress.com](http://salinecarversblog.wordpress.com) for club history, newsletters and show pictures.

**FRANKENUMTH WOOD CARVERS and SHOW:** We had an advanced wood burning class with Joy Sansburn. We had a great time and learned a lot about the tips and heats to get the desired results from our wood burners. Most important was to SAND YOUR BOARD FIRST!

Our annual Christmas party will be a Splash Village on December 1<sup>st</sup>. We will exchange carvings. Bring one, get one. Frankenmuth Show a Success

I would like to thank the Clubs who participated in the 2014 Frankenmuth Wood Carvers Show. I asked many people how they found out about our Show and found many were woodcarvers from around the state. Thanks to everyone for making our show a success.

The Frankenmuth Show had about 71 exhibitors and vendors this year. Special thanks to those who gave demonstrations – Alec LaCasse who talked about how to carve an eye, Joy Sansburn discussed wood burning, and Cynthia Walker shared her love of toys. We had about 450 visitors throughout the day. The winners of our Carving competition were: Best of Show – Charles Lindahl of Hartland Carvers (Bear bust), Second Runner up – Bob Snyder of St. Helen Carvers (Woodcock in flight), Third Runner up – Diane Reed of Frankenmuth Carvers (Imitation Walrus Tusk in butternut), Best of show Professional – Don Miller (Female Black Duck in feeder pose), People’s Choice Winner – Don Miller (Female Mallard) and People’s Choice Second Place – Ed Sowulewski of Tri City Carvers & Frankenmuth (Hunter in Outhouse Caricature)

This year the Frankenmuth Club worked hard putting together the Show and everyone did a great job. Thank you all. Submitted by Anita Harrand, Show Chair.



**Best of Show Tri City and Frankenmuth  
Cliff Lindahl**



**Tri City Best of Masters  
Ed Sowulewski**



**People’s Choice Saline  
Don Miller**

**WOODBEE CARVERS:** We once again have partnered with another small group to bring the hobby we love out of the shop and into the public eye. Best of all, we had some fun and did not burn anybody out.

In September the Woodbee Carvers traveled 50 miles south of the border to host a show with the Woodland Carvers in Crivitz, WI. The service regions of the two clubs overlap, and both groups have members in common. It was the first woodcarving show to be held in that part of Wisconsin and offered free of charge to the community. What a delight to have parents and children attending together and sharing the joy of learning about something which was new to both age groups! Together the Woodbees and the Woodlanders again demonstrated what can be done when small groups join together for a common cause. Neither club could have done the show alone, but together they provided an appreciated service for the regional community in the borderlands of the Upper Peninsula and Wisconsin.

**METRO CARVERS:** We are on track starting to get ready for our March 2015 “Artistic Creations in Wood” show. We have turned in over 100 Comfort carvings for Hospice of Michigan.

We displayed carvings at the Orion Township library during the month of September where we also offered information about our March show. We have now been asked by the Rochester Hills Library to display our carving there during the month of January.

**SUNRISE CARVERS:** We have been working hard on comfort carvings for Hospice of Michigan and our second batch of carvings were delivered in August with a total of 59 items to date.

## CHIPS & CHATTER

**MWCA PROMOTIONAL ITEMS:** From Denny, Promotional Stuff. I now have the **2015 MWCA Calendars**, if your Club needs calendars let me know, they are going fast. Only \$4.00 and they have the \$5.00 off coupon for use at the Cedar Bird Shoppe. We also have **new rulers** and a nice **ink pen** for each and every club member, for those clubs I have not seen at a Show, to give you yours.

Let me know your contact address so I can get them in mail to your club, contact me at [patden@chartermi.net](mailto:patden@chartermi.net) or call 989-277-5739

**CEDAR BIRD SHOPPE** has a new and very good looking website – <http://cedarbirdshoppe.homestead.com>

**FESTIVAL OF TREES (FOT) UPDATE:** For those who donated carvings to the 2013 FOT (Festival of Trees) project supporting research of Child Hood Diseases' all over Michigan, we are asking for your support again for the 2014 FOT.

All though they sell the carving in the Dearborn, MI area the funds support child hood research all over Michigan. Any leftover carvings go to the Detroit Children's Hospital and given to the kids who are in the hospital at Christmas time.

During our 2013 FOT Project, we were very successful and donated over 1700 carvings to this project. They do not tell us how much money they received for the carvings but I know the Chairperson was very, very, very happy and delivered a lot of carving to the hospital for the kids.

Our goal this year is for 1000 carvings that will hang on a Christmas tree limb. Last year we asked for any carving regardless of size or date they were carved. This year we ask that you to only send in carvings or wood burnings that will hang on a tree branch regardless of when it was completed.

We only have a few days remaining until we will deliver carving to the FOT organizers' so if you haven't turned in your carving you will have to mail them TODAY to: Bill Phillips at 5035 Cochrane Rd, Almont, MI 48003. Bill MUST have them by November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**COMFORT CARVINGS TO HOSPICE:** We hope you are turning in your Comfort Carvings to support Hospice of Michigan for those in need of something to hold onto. Please don't send or turn them in to the State MWCA leadership. We ask that you have someone in your club act as a collector of carving and deliver them to Hospice of Michigan in your area. This will keep your carving in your home town area serving those in need.

We remind you that we have a transmittal card which can be sent with your carvings. If you're in need of some of these free cards please contact your club officers or any of the MWCA leadership.

**THE "CHATTER" NEWSLETTER GOES OUT BY E-MAIL ONLY** on or about the first of the months listed below. All news to be included needs to be to the editor, Sandy Holder by the 25th of the month prior to publication. E-Mail and phone listed below. You can always read the newsletter on the MWCA website at [www.miwoodcarvers.com](http://www.miwoodcarvers.com)

**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.

Please let Bette Hartig 231-796-0334 - [thedoglad@hotmail.com](mailto:thedoglad@hotmail.com) know how many carving you have sent to hospice so Bette can keep track of the total number of carving MWCA has given to Hospice or others in need of our carvings.

**TENTH CARVE FEST 2014** modeled after the Woodcarvers Roundup, was Held September 26-27<sup>th</sup> and was another successful event. We saw 105 attendees which is up from last year. We had 20 instructors leading 17 different projects of which 6 were new this year. Frank and Phyllis Burghy of the Cedar Bird Shoppe were there with all their woodcarving supplies. We thank everyone who was a part of this event, much hard work and effort is put in to make this Carve Fest successful.

**MWCA ELECTIONS WILL BE APRIL 2015 for a two year term.** President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer positions are all open for nominations. This is your organization and we need folks to step up and volunteer to run for an office. So think about it, and offer your help. With the passing of Andy, there is a vacancy in the president position. All offices are always open for nominations. You can find the forms at the end of this newsletter. They need to be sent to one of our nominations committee members by Valentines Day, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015. We are, Sandy Holder, Doug Evans and Myrna Miller.

**MWCA WEBPAGE:** Our web page is very popular to a lot of people. Each club has their own page for their club information, but it is up to each club to make sure that Terry has all your information correct and up to date. This is where people can find out about a possible club in their area and if the information is incorrect or not up to date, you may miss the opportunity to have interested new carvers come to your group. Be sure to check your page information and correct it if necessary. [www.miwoodcarvers.com](http://www.miwoodcarvers.com) and click on the "Clubs" link on the left to find yours. You can email Terry Zobl, our web editor, at [miwoodcarvers@yahoo.com](mailto:miwoodcarvers@yahoo.com) with your corrections.

**SPIT & WHITTLE:** Another great Spit & Whittle weekend was successful once again. We always have a wonderful time and lots of fellowship and good times. Sandy Holder won the watermelon seed spitting contest after a very exciting spit off with Frank Burghy. The Canadian contingent, as always, kept us all laughing. Nothing is planned during the weekend, except that Floyd has his Blanket Trade, which always proves electrifying.

CHATTER NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED ON OR AROUND THE FIRST OF:  
 JANUARY                      MARCH                      MAY  
 JULY                              SEPTEMBER                      NOVEMBER

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
Nov 1-2	Fruitbelt Carving Show	Cass County Fairgrounds - Cassopolis	269-435-7245`
Nov 8-9	Artistry in Wood Carving Show daytoncarvers.com/artistryinwood.html	Airport Expo Center – Dayton Ohio	

**MWCA CONTACTS**

<b>Acting President</b> Bill Phillips (810) 798-3401 br2phillips@yahoo.com	<b>Acting Vice President</b> Garry Mulick (616) 902-3888 mulickg@gmail.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 Chaplains</b> Milan Maybee (517) 787-1272 John Williams (517) 536-8389	<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> Sharon Seitz 734-995-6838 sseitz59@yahoo.com	

**2013 MWCA Elections** will be held in April and all offices are open for nominations. President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. To be considered for the ballot, nominations will be accepted till Valentine’s Day when they will be closed. Nominations must be sent to one of the nomination committee members. You may nominate a candidate as long as they accept the nomination by signing the form, or you may place yourself as a nominee to be considered for candidate. One ballot will be mailed to each club no later than 30 days before the Annual Meeting.

**M.W.C.A. 2015 NOMINATION FORM**

For offices of PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TRREASURER

Date\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be considered in nomination for the office position of\_\_\_\_\_ of the Michigan Wood Carvers Association for a 2-year term from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2016.

Member signature\_\_\_\_\_ Print name\_\_\_\_\_

I do hereby consent to let my name stand as Candidate for the above-specified position.

I am a currently paid member of \_\_\_\_\_ Club

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_

All forms must be received by a nominations committee member by Feb 14, 2015 to be considered for the ballot.

**Send to nominations to any of the following committee members:**

Sandy Holder, 7093 14 Mile Rd, Evart MI 49631, Ph. 231-734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net

Myrna Miller, 9630 Scio church Rd., Ann Arbor MI 48103 Ph. 734-668-8301 carvingnut@msn.com

Doug Evans, 722 Canterbury, Madison Hgts, MI 48071 Ph. 248-585-2417 dge1@comcast.net

## M.W.C.A.2015 NOMINATION FORM

For offices of PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I the undersigned, do hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
MWCA member, for the position of \_\_\_\_\_  
of the Michigan Wood Carvers Association for a 2-year term from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2016.  
Member signature \_\_\_\_\_

Consent of Nominee:

I do hereby consent to let my name stand as Candidate for the above-specified position.

I am a currently paid member of \_\_\_\_\_ Club

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

All forms must be received by a nominations committee member by Feb 14, 2015 to be considered for the ballot.

**Send to nominations to any of the following committee members:**

Myrna Miller, 9630 Scio church Rd., Ann Arbor MI 48103 Ph. 734-668-8301 carvingnut@msn.com

Sandy Holder, 7093 14 Mile Rd, Ewart MI 49631, Ph. 231-734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net

Doug Evans, 722 Canterbury, Madison Hgts, MI 48071 Ph. 248-585-2417 dge1@comcast.net