



“CHATTER”
NEWSLETTER OF THE
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION
www.miwoodcarvers.com
MAY 2015 **VOLUME 20 ISSUE 3**

***CLUB NEWS *CARVING EVENTS *ELECTION *SEMINAR UPDATE**

The bi-annual election of officers was held this year as in all odd numbered years. Out of 38 paid clubs we had only 10 ballots mailed in. Your new president is Liduina Fedewa from the Grand Valley Carvers. Your Vice President is Garry Mulick from Grand Valley Carvers and the Mary Lou Mulick was re-elected treasurer. There were no nominations or write-in candidates for Secretary, so we do not have a secretary at this time. The opportunity is open for someone to volunteer for the Secretary position, please think about stepping up to help. Congratulations to the new officers.

The fall meeting will be held October 3rd again at the Ponderosa in Owosso.

The membership of the MWCA would like to thank Bill and Ruth Phillips for taking over the presidents duties after Andy Luckhardt's surprising death last fall. Many times you said you didn't want that job, but that didn't stop you from doing your best at it. We truly appreciate the time and effort you give to this organization. We welcome your continued involvement in both the veterans cane project and the learning seminar. Neither would be the same without you and we know that both are dear to your heart. You will continue to be on speed dial as we move forward. We value your help and insight and we all thank you and Ruth for all you have done and I know will still be doing for the good of the MWCA.

A plaque was presented to David and Sally Nye for their tenure as coordinator for District Representatives. We welcome our new District Representative coordinator Bud Ross of the Grand Valley Carvers. David and Sally have outdone themselves and spent countless hours keeping the Representative list updated. They also were the originators of our carving exchange which was so much fun to participate in. Thank you David and Sally for your dedication to MWCA.

A plaque was presented to Rizal Baysa for his years of being our Insurance representative. We welcome our new Insurance Representative Sharon Seitz of the Saline Carvers. Rizal has done a super job making sure we all had our insurance certificates for our carving events in a timely manner. Thank you Rizal for keeping us insured.



David Nye Sally Nye Bill Phillips



Bill Mary Lou Garry Liduina
Secretary V President President



Rizal Baysa Bill Phillips

Hello Michigan Wood Carvers

Liduina Fedewa from Pewamo, Michigan, your newly elected president introducing myself. Sounds and looks like a strange name and place from a faraway land. But no, Pewamo is a delightful village off 21 about 18 miles west of St Johns. And I live four miles north of Pewamo with my husband Gerard, dog Maude, horse Simon, mule Tori and four barn cats, Tessa, George, Evan and Tiger. The kids are grown and caring for families of their own.

How did I get interested in wood carving you ask? Seven years ago our youngest son's 4-H leader suggested everyone try carving a simple snowman. What was meant to be simple turned into a lady snow person with hat and basket. I was hooked. Evert Roundup was my next stop. With the help of a good friend (4-H leader) I started my knife collection. Then came the wood collection. Wood has taken over our basement, bass, and butternut for starters. Next came exploring other fibrous material for carving. I discovered gourds. Now I have piles of gourds as well as carving wood. Then I discovered scroll saw fret work and added walnut, cherry and oak to my wood pile. And my husband still loves me. Life is good.

I am so looking forward to the Learning Seminar in Midland this year. I have carved with some amazing instructors Dylan Goodson, Steve Brown, Gary Falin, Gary Bityk and Bob Thurston to name a few. Most of these carvers come to the learning Seminar and at such a reasonable price! I have gone south for carving classes and loved them but the Learning Seminar is by far the 'best buy'. Do come to the Learning Seminar and take a class. There are still openings with many great instructors. Go out of your comfort carving zone and try a new instructor. I don't think you'll be disappointed.

I myself will be learning chip carving with Wayne Barton as my instructor. Stop by and introduce yourself and show me what you're working on. I will also be doing my 'walk about' meeting old carving friends and checking out next years carving project.

For those not taking a class at the Learning Seminar, take a day trip and visit us. It's a great way to check out your future instructor. And you should take a look at the door prizes and drawings! This event is the best carving has to offer. Hope to meet many of you there and remember, I do not mind being asked how to say or spell my name.

Happy carving everyone. liduinamaf@gmail.com

SEMINAR LAST MINUTE UPDATE

The seminar committee is still hard at work on the final details for this year's learning seminar. Many classes still have openings. Call the Garry or Mary Lou Mulick for the most up to date info on the status of each class. We carry our cells and the class availability with us most of the time. 616-340-6114 & 616-902-3888.

If you have ever thought about making a beautiful duck, We hope you seriously consider trying Don Miller's blue winged teal this year. He really needs at least one more student to have a good class. You will start with a rough out so there is more time to learn how to "feather".

All of our other instructors deserve a special mention, but there just isn't space.

The survey sheets from past years have had some complaints about the quality of the available lunches so we have decided to

try something different this year. The committee has been working with a caterer and she will present a different catered lunch each day of the seminar and it will be served right in the carving building. The actual menu will be in each student's welcome packet and lunch tickets will be available to purchase Sunday afternoon and Monday morning. If you purchase 5 days you will only pay \$30.00. If you buy a one day ticket it will cost you \$7.00 for one lunch. Since this is not just soup and sandwiches, we need an accurate count the prior day. There will be very few lunches available without pre-paying.

We have also decided to eliminate the banquet this year. Therefore the Grand Prize winning tickets from our wonderful raffle will be drawn from the drum after the potluck on Thursday evening.

Please remember that even if you are not able to fully participate in the learning seminar, we welcome visitors to drop in and look around. Mary Lou and Garry

CARVING CLUB NEWS

SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS: Another year has flown by and approaching our 24th Annual Sunrise Side Woodcarvers Show is this weekend - May 2 & 3, at the Community Building on the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Oscoda, MI. - hours are 10-5 Saturday, 10-4 Sunday. We hope to see all of our old friends there, and perhaps make some new ones! Looks like a good show with lots of activity - soap carving for the kids, carver's challenge for the registered carvers and another super raffle item! Come see us! Harriet Flanders

GREATER LANSING SHOW The Greater Lansing show on April 25 was another great show as always. The weather was sort of average, no rain, no snow, no sun but lots of folks came out and visited the show. Superb carvings were everywhere and lots of different types of carvings were on display throughout the many tables. Judging the show this year was Fenny Sekerenes, Floyd Rhadigan and Duane Guenther. Their choices were Best of Show, Ed Sowulewski with a caricature of B.O.'s Fish Wagon; 1st Runner up with a beautiful duck was Don Miller; 2nd Runner up Sandy Holder with a wood burning of a horse pulling team at the fair.

FRANKENMUTH CARVERS GUILD is going over the rules for the competition at the Frankenmuth show. Some categories may be changed or eliminated and some wording will be made less confusing.

MID MICHIGAN CARVERS: Everything carving is well here, we have changed our hours, noon till 8:00 pm every Tues and Thurs, if you are ever in the area, stop in and see our facility. Call Denny 989-277-5739 for directions. You can call any day Mon. Thru. Fri. I would be glad to open the door. We now have bathroom at ground level working!

TRI CITY CARVERS: In April we had our annual garage sale where everyone brings some carving stuff that they no longer need or use for someone else to purchase as "new to them". June 20th and July 25th we will display carvings and demonstrate carving at the Wirt Library in Bay City where we will have our carvings displayed for June and July in the 2nd floor showcase with emphasis on the "Lean on Me" program. May 16-17th (honoring hero's) we will be displaying carvings and Veteran canes and carving at Cabela's along with promoting our August show. Bob Thurston will be doing a caricature seminar August 17-19 before our show on August 22nd.

METRO CARVERS: At our March "Artistic Creations in Wood" show we had a total of 103 tables this year. The 2015 Metro Woodcarvers Show included another "MWCA Eagle Head carving competition". This year (17) eagle head carvings were entered into competition with an additional (20) for display. Carvers entering the competition receive an "Eagle Head Cane Competition patch". The winner was selected by 137 Judges (People's Choice) voting during the Saturday/Sunday show and Joe Randazzo from the Metro Carvers came out on top.

Show winners were: Best of Show Alec La Casse, 2nd Cliff Lindahl, 3rd Alec La Casse. People's Choice was 1st Gary Bityk, 2nd Ed Sowulewski, 3rd Edgar Potestades. The Carver's Choice was 1st Edgar Potestades, 2nd Gary Bityk, and 3rd had 3-way tie with Don Shook, Pat Murphy and Ed Sowulewski.

May is our election month for the President, V. President, Secretary and Treasurer.

We are sorry to hear that the Metro Carvers have lost two of their members, Norm Kandow and Cheryl Dow. They were both very well known in the carving community and both will be missed greatly. The MWCA sends condolences to the families.

WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS signed up for the Folk Festival in Hart at the fairgrounds. It was Thursday, April 30. We always have a great time with the public.

CHIPS & CHATTER

MWCA PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

From promotions, If you are a member or friend of 1 of these clubs, see me at any venue or call me Denny 989-277-5739, as I have Rulers and pens for each of your members. Kalamazoo Valley, Kalkaska, Lake Shore Woodcarvers, Mio Wood Shavers, Muskegon River, Northwoods W C, Trial and Error, West Michigan, Wyandotte W C,

Remember you can see me at all MWCA functions, for all promotional items, contact me at patden@chartermi.net or call 989-277-5739 Be sure to bring those Eagle Cane heads in at any of the shows or meetings.
Denny Promotions Stuff

If anyone needs a calendar, I have 6 left. You can see me at all shows, Seminar, and Roundup, Spit & Whittle

THANK YOU TO ALL THE CLUBS from Mary Lou and Sandy for everyone paying their dues on time this year. We are really proud of you, thank you very much you have no idea how much we appreciate it.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTES: I would like to make note of the officers swearing in ceremony at our Annual Meeting. Bill and our Chaplin, Milan Maybee put their heads together and ended the meeting on a fun note. We put our hands on Bill's three inch President's notebook (see picture above) and much like a marriage ceremony we repeated whatever Milan said and promised with the help of the membership to do our best to fulfill our duties as officers. Joe Dubey made a gavel and Bill passed it on to Liduina as our new president. Thanks everyone. Mary Lou

A STICKY SITUATION: From the West Michigan Carver John Crawford. Had an opportunity to cut some poplar walking sticks awhile back. Peeled the bark and scraped all the gunk off them and when they dried, they still had brown streaks on them. Looks like the scraping could go on forever. I remembered that Jim Graham suggested a long time ago that we should bleach them. Took a large PVC pipe, put the sticks in it, filled it with bleach and let it set. Worked like a charm.

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

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.

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JANUARY MARCH MAY JULY SEPTEMBER NOVEMBER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
5/2-3	Sunrise Side Carving Show	Oscoda, Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base	989-679-0037 989-739-1157
6/3-6	Ewart Roundup	Osceola County Fairgrounds – Ewart	734-649-3259
6/8-12	Floydfest Carving Seminar	Osceola County Fairgrounds – Ewart	734-649-3259
8-22	Tri-City Carving Show	2 nd Presbyterian Church – Saginaw (M-47)	989-789-3846

President Liduina Fedewa (989) 640-3551 liduinamaf@gmail.com	Vice President Garry Mulick (616) 340-6114 mulickg@gmail.com	Secretary Position is open	Treasurer Mary Lou Mulick (616) 902-3888 mulickg@gmail.com
"Chatter" Editor Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 civildee@netonecom.net	MWCA Chaplains Milan Maybee (517) 787-1272 John Williams (517) 536-8389	Judging Phyllis Burghy (989) 879-2600 cedarbirdshoppe@charter.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 Sharon Seitz 734-995-6838 sseitz59@yahoo.com	