



### NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS MOBILE CARVING BENCH

Here it is July and another issue of the Chatter is due. A lot has been happening in the MWCA. First of all I had the privilege to nominate a new Vice President at the Friday night Banquet at the Seminar. Please welcome Garry Mulick who is now our new Vice President until the next election of officers. Garry is a member of the Grand Valley Carvers and husband of our treasurer, Mary Lou Mulick. He is already working hard and is doing a great job. The Seminar was a great success with only one slight problem but I think we solved it in good fashion. We had 137 Students attending with 15 Instructors. We had Sunny the canine visit with us during the seminar. Sunny is in training for the visually handicapped. We congratulate Mary Meyers for doing this for the visually handicapped. The Trifold is about ready to go to press. It is the Brochure for the Seminar that we send to all members with a Chatter once a year. We have 83 students already signed up for the 2012 Seminar to date. We have moved the Banquet to Thursday night which will enable all students and instructors to attend. Other things will be adjusted to accommodate this change. One addition to the 2012 instructors is Dick Lamphier who teaches caricature, faces, and expressions. He is an excellent carver and has won top honors for some wonderful horse carvings. He also is a tool supplier at different shows. Next year the seminar will be May 21-25<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and we have an excellent line-up of current and new instructors.

We are in the process of changing the committees of the MWCA and the Seminar, redoing the duties of each committee. If anyone has the time and is willing to do some work for MWCA we would like to hear from you. I always knew that somehow Bill Phillips could not retire completely from MWCA; he still is chairman of the Cane for Veterans Program. Welcome back Bill. I cannot keep up with the Cane program, it keeps changing too fast.

The Roundup was great in spite of the weather. I stayed on and took another burning class from Linda Sales in Floyds Creative Carving Seminar. I did another winter night scene; I believe it was one of Terry Redlin's pictures. People tell me it looks great. I had a lot of fun taken a burning class for a change. The Spit & Whittle is coming up Sept 9-11, 2011 at the Evert Fairgrounds so you all come and relax and carve for a while before the shows start this fall.

There probably is a lot more things I could include here but it just does not come to me now. I wish to thank all those who have helped me get through another great 2 months of MWCA and for all the help through the Seminar, Thank you!  
Andy Luckhardt ---- President of MWCA

PS -- The MWCA office is going to move in a month or so and I will go along with it. Gary, my son has bought a home near Brooklyn, Mi., and we will be moving in a month or 2. I will inform you all later of the address change. Andy

### EVENTS

**WOOD CARVERS ROUNDUP** was again a very successful carving event. Mother Nature decided to give us a good variety of weather this year, so if you didn't like it one day, try the next. We had heat, sun, clouds, rain, wind, hail and cold, proving that wood carvers are tough and can carve through anything! It was only 95 degrees the evening we had our music jam, but all had fun. Over 40

workshops kept everyone busy with various projects so the 500+ people didn't get bored. The ice cream social was wonderful and so much fun. That same evening Floyd's trade blanket was another great time, thanks Floyd. We are proud to announce that two new club plaques were brought to the Roundup to be placed in the Exhibit building to join the 10 others. Frankenmuth Carvers Guild and Sunrise Side added their two signs to the wall. We really appreciate the hard work to make them. The Evert Lions club kept us in food and pie! Dates for next year are June 6-9th and we hope to see you all there. We also thank all the folks who helped us make the Roundup so successful. Many attendees of the Roundup stayed on to attend the Creative Carving Seminar.



Ernie Burns and Kurt Sherwood



Richard and Shirley Torrey

**THE 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CREATIVE CARVING SEMINAR** by Floyd Rhadigan that was held June 12<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> at the Osceola Fairgrounds in Evert was a huge success with 107 carvers in 11 different classes. The Talent that was on hand by students and instructors was outstanding, and it gets better every year. The winner of a free Seminar for 2012 was Harold Gould. Thank you to all that attended, without you there would be no seminar. Plans are in motion for 2012; applications are available from Floyd Rhadigan, phone 734-649-3259 or email [rhads134@comcast.net](mailto:rhads134@comcast.net)

## SUNRISE SIDE CARVING SHOW REPORT May 7-8: May 7-8 2011

Best of Show Martin Schnur-  
Best of Intermediate- Don Zwiesler  
Best of Novice- Richard Torrey  
Best of Advanced- Dave Sanderson  
Best of Insarsai- Theresa Ekdorn

Best Table- Martin Schnur  
Best of Novice Woodburning- Shirley Torrey  
50/50 Winner- Karen Kovick- Whittemore MI - \$34.00  
Whittling Contest - Howard Lahti  
Approximately 500 people came to the show.

We had several children on Sunday for Soap Carving. Steve Brown from Kentucky was our Featured Carver and also taught a 3-day class on carving after the show. The lighthouse carved by Richard Torrey was the main raffle was won by Judy Said of Oscoda Michigan and she was delighted to win the Lighthouse.

Several of our members received thank you's from those coming to the show that had won Door Prizes. This year there were two carved or wood burned items in each gift bag and the winners were really grateful and very gracious about receiving such nice prizes.

The Coast Guard in East Tawas loaned the club the Coast Guard Flag for the weekend to be displayed at the show. Also one of the Coast Guard Members had building the Amassa Ship that was based in Charlevoix and he let us borrow it for the weekend to display at the show.

We had to cane presentations that were done on Saturday afternoon. One was to Gene Cotter, one of our members and it was a surprise and he was very grateful to receive the cane. Gene's cane head was carved by his son Dan Cotter. Another presentation was done also and the gentleman Don Houseworth from Tawas City received a cane and that cane was carved by Richard Torrey.

It is and was the impression of several vendors and club members that the move to the Oscoda High School was for the best and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Shirley Torrey

### CLUB SHOWS and HAPPENINGS

**FRANKENMUTH CARVERS GUILD:** The carvers who took Stu Martin's workshop were treated to a first class instructor who showed and told how to carve realistic Santa's, Indians, Mountain men, Sea captains, confederate and Union Soldiers. The finished carvings were impressive. If you would like to have a look at the carving technique of Stu Martin and others check out the on line carving seminars on web page **CarvinOnline.com** Stu said he would come back next year. We are working on the door prizes for our October 16<sup>th</sup> show.

**WOODBEE CARVERS:** The club has decided not to pursue a show at this time but will be concentrating more on just meeting, carving, attracting new members and enjoying the fellowship of the club. This may lead to doing a show in the future.

**METRO CARVERS:** Mike LePage was the carver of the Month for May. Mike has been a Metro member for 12 years and was show chairman for 10 of those years. His favorite subjects are songbirds and ducks. His recommendation to carvers is patience, practice, classes and going to shows to see what other carvers are doing to improve their carving skills. Our 31<sup>st</sup> annual show held March 19-10 was a huge success. There were 167 entries in the competition from 69 carvers all were of very high quality. This resulted in a big job for the three judges (John Barany, Jerry Grusendorf, and Ed Reynolds) to decide the placement in each category and the best of show. The Best of Show winners were Mike Murdock with an open wing Sanderling shore bird (Best of Show), Cliff Lindhal with a bark carved turtle (2nd Best of Show), and Richard Lamphier with a realistic, small sized cowboy (3rd Best of Show). Start planning now for your entries for the 2012 Metro Woodcarvers Show, held March 17th and 18th, 2012.

People's choice winner was Larry Piotrowski with an open winged Owl, and Carvers Choice was Gary Eldred with an Owl. We had a good participation in the soap carving classes during the show.

**SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS:** The Sunrise had another successful show at their new location. Everyone had a great time and look forward to next years show. The members will be participating in the Paul Bunyah Festival on September 17-18 and will be doing soap carving with the kids.

Through the efforts of Chris Witulski and the coordinating talents of Howard Lahti, three northeast MI clubs were represented at "Log Cabin Days" at Besser Museum, Alpena. Demonstrating and displaying their woodcarving expertise were Thunder Bay members, Howard & Jodie Lahti, Terry Matzke, Randy Shultz, George Thompson, Jerry Gilmore and Don Cain. From the Hale Happy Chippers - Carl & Sandy Zajac, Joe Moran and Bob DeCaluwe, Carl & Bob demonstrated wood turning on a treadle lathe. Sunrise carvers were Isa Hastings, Art & Charlene Talbot and Charlie & Harriet Flanders. The whittling contest was won by Charlie Flanders, Carl Zajac & Harriet Flanders. The one day celebration was attended by approximately 200 visitors. The many things of interest included wonderful music in the Old Spratt Church by a group of 4 singers/musicians, demonstrations by local weavers, pioneer cooking, an operating black iron forge, and a Native American interpretive program. The Besser Planetarium was open as was the 'Avenue of Shops', the old school, log cabin and the old outhouse!! The LaFarge Quarry had a lot of visitors seeking fossils among the rocks. All in all, it was a fun day, and we look forward to being invited for their next festival!

**TRI-CITY:** July 8<sup>th</sup> we will be carving and demonstrating at the Farmer's Market. Mike Basner taught soap carving to 12 boys of Scout Pack 3300, and also to 22 boys at Camp Kiwanis in Frankenmuth. Former member John Hess, who now does beautiful stone work (mallet and chisel), was a guest speaker and brought several examples of his work. Showed tools he used and explained how he used them.

Mike Ford will be doing a Saw-Whet Owl class Oct 6-8, then Oct 21-22 for painting.

## CHIPS AND CHATTER

Tri-Cities member Ed Hack's Favorite Websites from the Tri-City Newsletter

1. The Artistry [www.theartistry.com/wildfowl.htm](http://www.theartistry.com/wildfowl.htm)
2. Jerry Simchuk [www.simchuk.com](http://www.simchuk.com)
3. Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival [www.miwaterfowlfest.org](http://www.miwaterfowlfest.org)

**CARVE-IN with Floyd Rhadigan September 16-18th** at the Osceola County Fairgrounds in Evart, a three-day carving seminar. A little something different this year is the addition of a number of other carving instructors. Floyd Rhadigan-Caricature carving; Gary Bityk-Bark houses; Rod Walker-Fish carving; Dave Sanderson-Wood burning; Sandy Holder-Carousel horse; and Dave DeGraff-Chip carving. Classes are only \$120 for the three days. Accommodations are camping on the fairgrounds at \$17 per night and the Osceola Grand Hotel next to the fairgrounds, call 1-877-EVARTMI for hotel information. For more information and to sign up for a class call Floyd at 734-649-3259, email [rhads134@comcast.net](mailto:rhads134@comcast.net) or check [fantasycarving.com](http://fantasycarving.com)

### TIPS FOR CARVERS

I would like to share the tip I learned quite a few years ago but I don't remember who or where I heard this. A lot of you probably already do this, but the new carvers might not have learned this yet. Place a 50/50 solution of alcohol and water in a small spray bottle. The next time you have a hard time carving the end grain of something, just spray some of this on it, wait a couple of minutes and see how much easier the wood carves. This will not stain or mark the wood but will make carving those really hard spots much less challenging to work with. It may raise the grain somewhat on the sides. --- Sandy Holder

**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.

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

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>INFORMATION</i>
7/16-17	WOOD SHAVING DAYS	Hartwick Pines State Park	989-348-7068
9-9/11	SPIT & WHITTLE weekend	Osceola County Fairgrounds – Evart	231-734-5125 231-34-9131
9/16-18	CARVE-IN WITH Floyd Rhadigan	Osceola County Fairgrounds - Evart	734-649-3259
9/16-18	WHITTLIN at the WOODLANDS	Woodlands Retreat – Hale	989-728-4022
9-24	TRI CITY CARVERS CARVING SHOW	2 <sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church-Saginaw	989-793-3520
9/23-24	WASHINGTON CARVEFEST 6	Washington Sr Center	586-786-1967
10/1	LIVONIA CARVING SHOW in Livonia	Monaghan Knights of Columbus	248-474-2609
10/8	SALINE CARVING SHOW	UAW Hall in Saline	734-599-8784
10/16	FRANKENMUTH WOOD CARVING SHOW	Frankenmuth High School	810-653-1706 989-835-8919
11/5-6	FRUITBELT WOODCARVERS SHOW	Cass County Fairgrounds-Cassopolis	269-435-7245
11/12-13	DAYTON OHIO ARTISTRY IN WOOD	Dayton Expo Center –Dayton	837-339-2786

Before attending any event you may want to call to see if there have been any changes or cancellations.

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