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**MWCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING - December 3, 2011 - Midland Ponderosa - 11 am**  
*Annual collection for the Evert Food Pantry and the ornament carving exchange*

**NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENTS MOBILE CARVING BENCH**

November is here with the cold, rainy, frosty weather. The shows are coming to an end. Left are Fruitbelt, Sauder Village, and Dayton Ohio Show, Artistry in Wood. It is with great pleasure that I could attend all of the MWCA shows. I really enjoyed representing the MWCA at these shows.

My move to Brooklyn is complete, as a matter of fact my sale is going on this weekend at the old house. It will take some time to unpack and arrange things in the new smaller home. The South Central Club meets a few miles from Brooklyn and a group of carvers carve with John William, our animal instructor at our Seminar, just 4 miles in Napoleon. Then Bill Jaquays asked me to ride to the Greater Lansing area club a few times a month. I could go carving almost every day of the week, wishful thinking.

The Learning Seminar is moving along good. We still have to finalize all the Seminar committees. If any member wishes to serve on a special committee please call and we will see what we can do. I will bring a committee list to the December meeting. For sure we do need help with the kitchen, potluck picnic and banquet and help running the raffle. Perhaps some of the non-carvers accompanying the students would like to help.

Our registrations are starting to come in after our mailing to all members. We have 93 student registered so far. Jim Wilsford class is full, all the rest of the classes have room for

more students. Many classes are nearing the top of 12 students so register as soon as possible to get the class you prefer.

For the Seminar in May of 2012, Midland Sleep Inn is again our hotel of choice. We have secured the same types of rooms for next year that we had this year. The price next year is \$63.00/night, for either a single, double or handicapped room. Reservations must be secured by Friday April 20th in order to have a room held. Rooms not booked by then will go back into the hotel's inventory. Contact - Sleep Inn, 2100 W. Wackerly St., Midland, Mi 48640 989-837-1010

The 4-H will again be providing lunches at the seminar, and Rachel's Catering will again be doing the Banquet which will be Thursday evening May 24th in hopes of having more people attend.

The membership meeting in December will be held at the Ponderosa Restaurant in Midland. The date is Saturday Dec. 3, 2011, 10:00 to 2 O'clock. We are going to accept donations to Sears/Evert food pantry as before. We are going to do the Christmas ornament exchange also. Hope to see many members at the meeting, come to make your suggestions and recommendations known to make the MWCA association better.

Your President, Andrew Luckhardt

**>>>> MWCA 2012 CALENDARS <<<<<**

2012 MWCA calendars were available at the Frankenmuth carving show. Many clubs picked up their orders and after the show was over we only have about 100 calendars left for sale. If you haven't gotten yours yet for only \$4.00, contact Andy Luckhardt. We hope that everyone supports the MWCA by purchasing a calendar, as that is why our dues are still \$1.00 per member. This is the only fund raising activity that we have at this time. Remember that Frank and Phyllis Burghy of the Cedar Bird Shoppe have included in the calendar a \$5.00 gift certificate to toward your carving supply purchase of \$10 or more from their business. We appreciate their generous support of the Michigan Wood Carvers Association. **NOTICE:** if you have or purchased a calendar please make one correction. The Sunrise side carving show in May will be held at the Oscoda High School, NOT the Oscoda Community Center.

**CLUB NEWS**

**WEST MICHIGAN CARVERS:** The Hart Heritage days was Labor Day weekend and we brought some carvings for show and tell and were allowed to sell them if we wanted to. We had a swap meet in October and everyone seemed to have a good time. We got rid of some of our old stuff and traded for some new old stuff!!

**METRO CARVERS:** Election results are: Paul Blanchard, President; Bob Galanek, Vice-President, Harold Green, Secretary and Rizal Baysa, Treasurer. We are now entering our 32nd year as a wood carving organization. We worked hard and we now have a procedures book for all the many essential and important details associated in the operation of our club. It lists the responsibilities of all the club officers and

board members and the details of running of our monthly competition.

We welcomed two members to the Metro club, Patricia Oliver from Royal Oak and Gary Baker from Romeo.

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> there was a great article in the Macomb County Newspaper about Metro's Sterling Heights branch of the Michigan Wood Carvers Association highlighting the MWCA Patriot Cane project. It stated that they have presented over 1,300 canes since the MWCA project began in 2007. They have had a total of over 1,500 applications and there is now a waiting list with about an 8-9 month backlog. It was a well-written and informative article and included a great picture of Terry Zobl.

**SUNRISE SIDE CARVERS:** Elections were held and those re-elected are President Richard Torrey, shared secretarial positions are Kathy Moffit and Trudy Bohlinger and Treasurer Shirley Torrey. New to the Vice President position is Ray Matheson. We welcomed new members, Bill Kotyk, Greg Wilkinson, Walt Oldeck, Eric Wagner, June and Jessica Cummings.

This summer we have been really busy with club activities. From demos for fire departments, art fairs and most recently the Paul Bunyan Festival. Presentations of Eagle Head canes were many and very much appreciated. We look forward to our own soap carving class in the future. October had Halloween pins and pumpkin carving following the October meeting was great fun. Some were hollowed and carved, some were only carved on the outside and others were painted. All were wonderful and were raffled at the Sr. Center following dinner on Oct 25<sup>th</sup>. Our drag and brag that evening brought many interesting carvings and burnings. Jerry Brown brought the dulcimer he made, it was not only beautiful with the cherry top but he can really play, so some of us joined him for a sing-a-long!

Our November carving classes include Kathy Moffit with a bark carving class, Howard Lahti has a Christmas ornament selection, Dick Torrey with an ornament that can either be carved and/or woodburned and Charlie Flanders has a surprise for us when it is his turn. Our Christmas party is in the "works".

**BLUE WATER CARVERS:** In the calendar it says they meet in Marine City but they actually meet in Port Huron. Marine City is where the late Ron Gaskill lived.

**FRANKENMUTH CARVERS GUILD** - Election of officers will be in November. In October we carved at the Frankenmuth Farmers Market. Our Christmas party will be held at Splash Village near Bronners. As a result of the signs Dick Hanson puts out at the crossroads whenever he attends a meeting, we have had some interesting visitors from Canada, Florida New Englanders and of course local folks.

### SHOW RESULTS

**CHIEF OSCEOLA CARVERS:** Spit and Whittle weekend Sept 9-11 went just great. Everyone had a wonderful time and we had lots of laughs. The weather turned out perfect. We look forward to next year Sept 7-9. Our new soft goods vendor Flaunt-It Sportswear from Cedar Springs worked out great. We even learned how to carve cheese balls, thanks to our Canadian contingent. They said they would come in force next year and bring two carloads!! (of carvers that is).

**CARVEFEST:** The report is that the Carvefest went perfect, everyone had a great time and the workshops were many and all carvers learned something.

**TRI-CITY SHOW:** Best of Show went to Gene Gubbins for his group of Perch fish, 2nd Best of Show was Bob Snyder for a huge relief carving of a barn scene, Ron Derdowski won 3rd Best of Show for a Kingfisher bird, and Ed Sowulewski won Best of Masters for his caricature carving of a chainsaw carver/wood burner. Best of Intermediate was Don Hedrick's manger scene and Best of Novice was John Petito with wood ducks.

**FRANKENMUTH CARVING SHOW:** A great day greeted everyone at the Frankenmuth show this year. Many people came through to see all the carvings. Best of Show went to Dave Minton for a fish carving, 2nd Best of Show was won by Alec LeCasse for a bark carving of a village, and Bill Phillips won 3rd Best of Show with a very realistic carving of a canon. Ed Sowulewski for a caricature carving of a chainsaw carver using a blowtorch to woodburn his subject. The attendees placed their votes for their choice of best carving and they chose Cliff Lindahl's bark carving of a turtle. During the show Floyd Rhadigan presented Jason Haight with the CCA award for his outstanding work with bark carving. Congratulations Alec!

**TRI-CITY:** Our past president Bob Gubbins did well at the Bay City State Park annual Saginaw Bay Waterfowl Festival in August. He won a blue for his fish and a second for his duck. Ed Sowulewski won a blue also. If you go to Woodcarvers On Line Magazine Matt Kelly has done a nice profile on Ed. Good Job Guys!! A bylaws change moves the date of our dues collection to no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>. This change will eliminate the conflict with reporting our membership numbers to the MWCA by March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

On Wednesday August 17, the Children's Zoo held a potluck dinner for its volunteers. During the festivities, The Tri City Carvers were lauded for all the work it has done for the zoo now and in the past. It was said that the club did a great job this year in taking all the horses off the carousel and refinishing them, reinstalling and finishing the deck. The work is greatly appreciated by the zoo and for the zoo and especially for all the folks who visit the zoo. Thank you !



**Steve Brown** conducted a class Sept 26,27, 28 immediately following our show. He had available several figures to carve, and tools to sell, and blanks to buy, and books to sell, and I over spent again!!! It was a great class and we all had fun and learned a lot from Steve.

The club Christmas potluck party will be December 6th at fire station 1 where they are also collecting for Toys for Tot's hosted by Gene and Marilyn Gubbins.



## CHIPS AND CHATTER

**FRUITBELT CARVING SHOW** is November 5th and 6th. It is the last Michigan show for this year, be sure to attend and support their annual show. It is held at the Cass County Fairgrounds.

**MWCA MEMBERSHIP DUES:** In January each club will receive their annual MWCA dues renewal. Due to the way MWCA membership is set up each person pays the \$1.00 dues. Even if your club has one membership that includes husband and wife, if each wants to be an MWCA member they each need to include the \$1.00. You still keep them in your membership as one (and collect only one membership dues), but to be an MWCA member (for seminar, etc. purposes) they each have to be named a member and have a separate MWCA number and pay the \$1.00 dues to MWCA.

Whenever anyone new joins your club, no matter what time of year it is, we would appreciate your sending their \$1.00 dues at that time to MWCA treasurer Mary Lou Mulick. We do not have a pro-rated amount. They will then be added to your clubs roster as an MWCA member. Each \$1.00 membership goes to support your organization.

**PICTURES FOR 2013 CALENDAR:** Remember that I do need show winners pictures to include in the 2013 calendar. Shows from September 2011 through May 2012 will be used. Each club has a calendar page with their show winners on it but I can't use them unless I have them. You can email them to me or some of the clubs just send me a CD with all the show pictures on it. That way I also have other carvings I can use throughout the calendar. Sandy Holder

**DAYTON ARTISTRY IN WOOD SHOW:** Coming up on November 12-13 is one of the biggest shows in the mid-west. Many clubs are forming one-day bus trips to the show. This has been a popular way to be able to attend the show in which many Michigan carvers participate.

**USEFUL CARVING KNIFE STROP:** By John Crawford, WMC. A strop I have has thin leather on one side and about 400 grit emery paper on the other. As I recall when I put it together, I used roll stuff that was sticky on one side, and used for pictures that can be stuck to the refrigerator. Glue it to the board with the sticky side out and put the fine grit emery paper on the sticky side. That emery paper is good stuff. When it wears out, just peel it off and replace it with new paper. I recommend you build one of these.

**WINTER CARVING (WOOD ART) EXCHANGE-**Registration in January. David and Sally Nye are again going to head up the carving exchange that has happened the past two winters. If you participate in the exchange, when time is up for carving (burning, etc.) the item, David and Sally will send you the name of someone you will send your carving to. It is that easy. More information coming in the January newsletter. You will not actually exchange a carving with someone, but you will be given a name to send your carving to. If you register, you will carve something for some else and you will also receive a carving from a different participant (not the one you send yours to). It was a lot of fun last year, and those who participated were all happy with what they received and also learned something about the carver they received their wood art from.

**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

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
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
12/3	MWCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING 11 am - 2 pm	Midland Ponderosa 989-631-6420	734-323-4685

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

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