FROM THE PRESIDENT’S CARVING BENCH:

Hello and welcome to Spring!

Have you been carving and completing your show projects? I encourage you to make room for a class or two this year to add something new or perfect your style of carving. There is so much talent in Michigan and it needs to be shown off.

MWCA elections are underway. Please vote at your club meetings and have your representative carry your club vote to the April 8, in Owasso at the Ponderosa Restaurant. Your vote DOES count, please use it. MWCA is your association and you are the reason it works. As I travel the US states I have come across other carvers and many wish their state had what we have. I have met many carvers but non more active and interesting than Michigan carvers. We are a strong, active group. Keep up the good work.

MWCA wishes to send out a fond farewell to our friend, Learning Seminar instructor and fellow carver John Williams has passed away this winter. He will be greatly missed.

NEWS FROM THE MULICKS

A warm hello to all of our carving friends. We are busy working on the 2017 seminar. It is rapidly approaching and there is a lot to be done. Our student number is drastically down this year and it is MWCA members that we are missing. Almost half of our 77 students are not members of a Michigan carving club. If your club has members that haven't attended the past two years, they are eligible to get a 25 dollar discount on attending from MWCA if your club will sponsor them with a matching 25 dollars. The club sponsorship form is on our web site. Many classes have room, with only Gary Falin and Mike Ford with full classes. We will be contacting each instructor by the end of March and let them know how many students they have signed up. At that time they tell us if they are willing to come teach for that many. I hope we get the numbers high enough so that all will come.

Mary Lou is looking for some help at seminar this year. She needs someone or several someones, to help in the coffee shop as Betty has so graciously done for us for so many years. She also frequently needs someone to sit at the front desk to answer simple questions such as (where is Mary Lou?). As always, we will need help with room set up on late Sunday afternoon. Many hands make that job much easier. If you are able to help with coffee, give us a call and we can give you more details.

We have a tentative date for the 2018 seminar penciled in with the fair. Thanks to the way that both Mother’s day and Memorial Day land, we will be between them and not on top of one or the other. It should make planning easier for everyone.

Clubs have started mailing in their dues for this year. Remember this is an election year and only clubs that have paid their dues will be able to vote at the April 8th meeting. Hope to see many of you in Owasso.

The Mulicks

MWCA BI-ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Every two years MWCA has election for the officers of the organization. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer 2-year terms are up and nominations are closed. A ballot was sent by US mail in February to each club and must be received by Myrna Miller prior to or brought to the April 8th Annual Meeting. Each club may cast only one vote for each office if their MWCA dues are paid by the meeting date. Your club may vote at the meeting instead if their MWCA dues are paid by or at the meeting. A dues renewal form was also sent to each club at the time the ballots were mailed. MWCA Annual meeting will be April 8th, 2017 starting at 11:00 am at the Ponderosa in Owosso. Votes won’t be tabulated until the meeting and if your dues are not paid by the meeting your vote will not be counted.

Nominations for offices are: President - Denny Sekrenes of Mid-Michigan Carvers; Vice-President – Larry Hower of Trial and Error Carvers; Secretary – Willy Stewart (incumbent) of the Midland Carvers; Treasurer – Mary Lou Mulick (incumbent) of the Grand Valley Carvers.
FRANKENMUTH WOOD CARVERS GUILD - Hope everyone is enjoying this peculiar winter - one day rain, one day snow, one day 48 degrees. The Wood Carving Guild of Frankenmuth would like to let everyone know that our 30th Show will be held the fourth Sunday in October, 10/22/17. Since the Dayton show is the third Sunday (this year only) we decided to pick another weekend.  

Please mark your calendars. We hope all our friends will join us!

We just completed a Painting Class taught by Linda Brooks the wife of one of our members. We learned about how to thin acrylics, shading, blending and mixing paints and are hoping that our new skills will provide us with more beautiful projects. It was fun and we all learned something new. One of her tips was to write out recipes when you mix paint so you can reproduce the color in the future, it also saves on the paint you need to buy if you can mix a color you want. Thanks Linda.

The Frankenmuth Guild has found a supplier to make our traditional blue & white vest patch. We will be selling them again this year if you want one. Look for our table at the Metro Show and at other Shows this year to get your patch. Our carving tip this month comes from Kurt Sherwood, he says you can mix a small amount of linseed oil and a bit of sienna or brown umber oil paint to make a nice stain. Apply a wash over your project and wipe off, it will nicely fill in small spots your paintbrush missed. Remember you are always welcome to visit and carve at the Eagle Nest near the Festival grounds in Frankenmuth on Wed. 9am to 12n or 4pm to 6pm or visit Thurs from 9am to 12n.

SALINE CARVERS: Peggy Lubahn: I've just looked at the numbers for 2016, and our club's blog continues to get LOTS of visits from our members and folks around the globe. I never thought statistics could be so much fun! We had 805 individual views from Canada, Denmark, Germany, India, Ireland, Philippines, Poland and United Kingdom as well as from the United States. We can now legitimately boast that our little club is known around the world, so congratulations to us all!

MIO WOOD SHAVERS: Due to the loss of many of our members, we will no longer meet as an MWCA club. The few of us who carve are sorry to have to leave the association as a club but still plan to keep carving and participate when we can by attending the shows and hopefully some of the activities.

GREATER LANSING WOOD CARVERS: The Greater Lansing Wood Carvers will have a show this year. It is scheduled for April 22nd at the DeWitt high school, in DeWitt of course. In the meantime if you need additional information please contact Milton Schoup at 989 227-8893 or jmshoup@casair.net.

Member Fred Erbisch has been promoting wood carving for many years. In 2016 more than 100 people have participated in his beginning carving classes. Classes have been held in Charlotte, Dansville and East Lansing. The Bath Senior Center and will start having monthly beginning classes as well as the other three sites. The unique point with the classes is that they are free (except East Lansing) and Fred furnishes everything - gloves, thumb guards, carving tools (knives and gouges), and project materials which is a lot of work, but very enjoyable for him.

The fee-based classes in East Lansing are $24 each (that's $24 for the month). Most of that money goes to the Prime Time Program. Some is used to buy materials and equipment for all the classes.

TRI CITY CARVERS: Recently Dick Henning conducted a carving information class, a noon “Lunch and Learn” at the Saginaw County Historical Museum. He displayed his carvings and provided a brief history of the Tri-City Wood Carvers. Thanks Dick.

Our March 7th meeting will be our annual Garage Sale to sell and swap any tools you may need or want to sell. Frank and Phyllis Burghy will be here with their tools, supplies, books and other carving related goods for sale.

Mike Ford’s formal carving seminar of a White Throated Sparrow is in March and we have openings available. This is a great opportunity to improve your carving skills. It consists of two days of carving and two days of painting. The sessions are separated by a week so those who do not complete the carving in the class can finish it before the painting classes begin. So if you are interested please contact me or call Mike direct and send in your $ 25 deposit (to: Tri-City Wood Carvers, P.O. Box 6553, Saginaw, MI 48608) to guarantee a seat in the seminar. Mike can be contacted at 989 430-8808. This class is open to all carvers not just Tri-City members.

Carving and painting a white-throated sparrow:
* Class 4 days (2 for carving and 2 for painting).
* Would like 10 students minimum and 15 - 16 students max (depends on room). The class is open to other clubs.
* Fee would be $125 per student and would include blank, eyes, feet, etc. Payment in advance.
* Call if you have any questions. Mike Ford 989-430-8808

METRO CARVERS The next event is our 37th Annual Woodcarving Show on March 18th & 19th, 2017. Fred Azelio and Pat Murphy will be the co-chairpersons. Artistic Creations in Wood ‒ presently has 20 applications for tables in. I know that more are coming, and, “first come, first served”. Get those applications in. I have asked to get those applications in by the 3rd of March so that I can make the table layout for the show.

There will be an article insert in the March 9th Macomb Daily and the Oakland Press as they came out to take some pictures and get information about our show. Our club was also given the opportunity to have a free booth at the “The Woodworking show” March 4-6 in Novi. Our plan is to have plenty of show flyers, “Come Join Us” folders and applications available in addition to have carving displays and demonstrations on the “Basics of Wood Carving” using the Flexcut brochures “Would you like to be a woodcarver?” as a reference.
MID MICHIGAN CARVERS: From Mid-Michigan Woodcarvers Club, we are still open every Tues & Thurs, Noon till 8:00 pm. if you are ever nearby, stop and see or carving place. We will be open April 8th following the MWCA meeting.

CHIPS & CHATTER

PAITRIOT CANE PROGRAM by Dave Copeman: The MWCA 2016 Patriot Cane program finished the year with a net gain of one. Not good? Well look at the stats – The Patriot Cane program began the year with 109 outstanding applications. 450 new applications were received in 2016. The MWCA Teams completed 451 canes for the 2016 year leaving 108 outstanding applications. On behalf of the MWCA and the Veterans that received a cane I take this opportunity to thank everyone that has been a part of the MWCA Patriot Cane program. 3610 canes have been completed from 2007 to the end of 2016.

11 carvers have received one or more “50 Cane Carver Patch”. The combined total carved by this group is 868 Eagle Cane Heads.

Again this year as last year the Patriot Cane program will be holding Eagle Cane Head competitions at the Wood Carving shows in Michigan. The winning carver will receive a Certificate and a $25.00 cash prize. The rules are the same as last year. The carving must be finished, natural or painter, and properly drilled. Only one carving can be entered per event.

At this time the following competitions are scheduled: Metro Carving Show, Greater Lansing Show, Learning Seminar, Evart Round Up, Tri- City Carving Show, Frankenmuth Carving Show and the Fruitbelt Carving Show.

Richard Hanson from the Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth has received his second “50 Cane Head Carver” patch. Richard has carved over 100 Eagle Cane Heads for the ‘Lean On Me’ Patriot cane program.

Paul LePage from Warren, MI, a member of the Sterling Height Senior Center Wood Artists was awarded an MWCA “Lean On Me” Patriot Cane Carvers 50 Patch Feb 13, 2017 at the Sterling Heights Senior Center.

SAD NEWS: John Williams of the South Central Wood Carvers passed away while in Florida this winter. Condolences go out to his wife Barbara and their family. John was well known and loved for his teaching abilities at the MWCA Seminar and at the Wood Carvers Roundup and will truly be missed.

ATTENTION SHOW PLANNERS: Submit your insurance requests early. The insurance rep (Sharon Seitz) will be out of state May and June! Send your info to MWCAinsur@yahoo.com. Include Name & location of events, dates, address & times, person responsible, sponsoring club, and email where certificate can be sent or address if a hard copy is necessary. Thank you!

Sharon Seitz mwcainsur@yahoo.com

FROM PROMOTIONS: The new 2017 MWCA Calendars are here, they are again only $4.00 each. We have new window stickers, so you can promote MWCA will your traveling, I also have a new supply of tote bags. See me at the upcoming Metro show, for all promotion stuff, or you can call for mail order 989-277-5739 Denny, Happy New Year of carving to all.

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 your club members who have email. Thank you.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>INFORMATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/12</td>
<td>Turn clocks ahead today at 2:00 am</td>
<td>Spring ahead – Yeah! Spring is here</td>
<td>269-663-6096 574-825-2450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>MWCA Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Ponderosa – Owosso 11:00 am</td>
<td>269-663-6096 574-825-2450</td>
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<td>5/6-7</td>
<td>Sunrise Side Carving Show</td>
<td>Oscoda Community Center at the former Wurtsmith Airforce Base</td>
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<td>6/7-10</td>
<td>Evart Roundup</td>
<td>Osceola County Fairgrounds, Evart</td>
<td>734-649-3259</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/12-16</td>
<td>Floydfest Carving Seminar</td>
<td>Osceola County Fairgrounds, Evart</td>
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MWCA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Vice President</th>
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<th>Treasurer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Liduina Fedewa</td>
<td>Willy Stewart</td>
<td>Mary Lou Mulick</td>
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<td>(989) 640-3551</td>
<td>(989) 687-2536</td>
<td>(616) 902-3888</td>
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<tr>
<th>&quot;Chatter&quot; Editor</th>
<th>MWCA Chaplains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Holder</td>
<td>Milan Maybee (517) 787-1272</td>
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<tr>
<td>(231) 734-5125</td>
<td>John Williams (517) 536-8389</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:civildee@netonecom.net">civildee@netonecom.net</a></td>
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<th>Patriot Cane Project</th>
<th>Webmaster</th>
<th>Insurance</th>
<th>MWCA Representative</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Copeman</td>
<td>Terry Zobl</td>
<td>Sharon Seitiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>586-979-4852</td>
<td>(586) 739-7234</td>
<td>734-995-6838</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:dcopeman@sbcglobal.net">dcopeman@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:miwoodcarvers@yahoo.com">miwoodcarvers@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:MWCAinsur@yahoo.com">MWCAinsur@yahoo.com</a></td>
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MWCA “Patriot Cane Program” Completed 76 canes for January & February 2017

From June 2007 thru February 2017 3686 canes have been completed.

Thanks to everyone that has contributed to the “Patriot Cane Program” program.
Without your help and support this program would not continue.

We need more Eagle Heads.

SP/5 Kenneth L. Stites – Army Vietnam – Carver Jim Miller – Mid-Michigan Wood Carvers
Sgt Herbert E. Bennis – Army Vietnam – Carver Dean Bennis – Flushing MI
SP/4 Lawrence E. Lilly – Army Vietnam – Carver – Edward Reynolds - Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth
SP/5 Arthur S. Avila – Army Vietnam – Carver Dave Hollenbeck - Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth
SP/5 Gary W. Taylor – Army Vietnam - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
BTCM John A. Brusseau – Navy Vietnam - Carver Ray Pfenning - OWL Wood Carvers
Cpl Joshua C. Clark – USMC WWII – Carver Sharon Gardner – North West Carvers
Tec/5 Henry M. Eberhart – Army WWII – Carver Dave Hollenbeck - Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth
CMSGT Kenneth G. Light – USAF Vietnam – Carver Dick Bailey - Sunrise Side Wood Carvers
SP/4 Winfred D. Harless – Army Vietnam - Bill Hastings - Sunrise Side Wood Carvers
SP/3 Louis D. Bunker – Army Korea – Carver Roger St Andre – L’Anse, MI
Cpl Donald E. Keglovitz – Army Korea – Carver Roberta Reed – Fruitbelt Wood Carvers
CPT Thomas A. Mengesha – Army Kuwait - Carver Ray Pfenning - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/4 Myron J. Freiburger – Army Vietnam - Carver Ron Nielson - Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth
UT2c Ronald T. Samuel – Navy Vietnam - Carver Richard Dunham - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/5 Richard J. Taft – Army Vietnam - Carver Bob Dixon - OWL Wood Carvers
Sgt Horisce Young Jr. – Army Vietnam - Carver Bob Dixon - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/4 James F. Haarman – Army Vietnam – Carver Bill Hastings - Sunrise Side Wood Carvers
SP/4 Jeffery E. Joseph – Army SWA-Kuwait – Carver Dave Copeman - Metro Carvers of Michigan
Sgt Ulyse W. Goode – Army Vietnam – Carver Kenneth Barker – Chesterfield, MI
SP/4 Robert J. Dreyer – Army Vietnam – Carver Clay Berry - River Raisin Carver
Pfc John E. Corcoran – Army Vietnam – Carver Mason Mooney - MID Michigan Wood Carvers
SP/5 John R. Nievierowski – Army Vietnam – Carver Art Tomes - Metro Carvers of Michigan
SP/4 Ralph G. Rhodes – Army Vietnam – Carver John Hagemann – Kalamazoo Valley Wood Carvers
Sgt Stanley Asphy – Army Vietnam – Carver Dave Hollenbeck - Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth
Tec/5 Eldon L. Powell – Army WWII – Carver Richard Lampthier – Elk Rapids, MI
Pvt Leithl Cunningham – Army Korea - Carver Robert Lamphier – Elk Rapids, MI
SP/4 John M. France – Army Vietnam – Carver Art Tomes - Metro Carvers of Michigan
S/Sgt Anthony S. Barta – USMC Afgh – Carver Sam Blaga - Sterling Heights Senior Center Wood Artists
EM3c Axel P. Nequist – Navy Vietnam- Carver Mason Mooney - MID Michigan Wood Carvers
SP/4 Gary C. Semke – Army Vietnam - Carver Mason Mooney - MID Michigan Wood Carvers
Pvt Lawrence T. Normand – Army Vietnam - Carver Richard Dunham - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/5 Alan J. Pretty – Army Vietnam – Carver Edward Reynolds - Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth
Sgt William A. Schaard – USMC Vietnam - Carver Bob Dixon - OWL Wood Carvers
1st LT Elwin J. Spindler- Army Korea – Carver Bill Kilburn - MID Michigan Wood Carvers
SP/4 Roger Rottman – Army Vietnam - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
SP/4 Calvin C. Murphy Jr. – Army Vietnam - Carver Bob Dixon - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/4 Mitchell L. Smith – Army Vietnam - Carver Mason Mooney - MID Michigan Wood Carvers
Cpl Marvin D. DeWitt - Army Vietnam - Carver Paul LePage - Sterling Heights Senior Center Wood Artists
Sgt Ronald K. Rittenberg – Army Vietnam - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
SP/5 George S. Clemmer Jr – Army Vietnam – Carver Milan Maybee – South Central Carvers
Cpl Joshua C. Clark – USMC WWII – Carver Sharon Gardner – North West Carvers
SP/4 Robert D. Phillips – Army Vietnam – Carver Sharon Gardner – North West Carvers
Sgt Frederick H. Wirth – AAF WWII - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
SP/4 Leonard A. Goheen – Army Vietnam - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
Sgt Jon R. Newbill – Army Vietnam - Carver Richard Hanson - Wood Carvers Guild of Frankenmuth
Cpl Ronald D. Burrill – Army Vietnam - Carver Bob Dixon - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/4 John C. Mitas – Army Vietnam - Carver Bob Dixon - OWL Wood Carvers
FT2c William J. Burke – Navy Korea – Carver Gary Dentino – Fruitbelt Wood Carvers
BM2c Walter Baggleman – Navy WWII - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
Tec/4 Donald W. Sprung – Army WWII – Carver Gary Dentino – Fruitbelt Wood Carvers
Pfc Robert J. Desandy – Army WWII - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
BT3c Michael A. Knight – Navy Vietnam – Carver Jerry Brown – South Central Wood Carvers
SP/5 Edward M. Lane – Army Vietnam – Carver Pat Cords – MID Michigan Wood Carvers
SP/5 Paul S. Koronka – Army Vietnam – Carver Wendell Smith – North Shore Carvers
Cpl Dennis P. Flanigan – USMC Vietnam – Carver Wendell Smith – North Shore Carvers
SP/4 Charles W. Thomas – Army Vietnam – Carver Berneda Plummer – Edwardsburg, MI
Cpl George F. Bray – Army Korea - Carver Mason Mooney - MID Michigan Wood Carvers
Sgt Joseph A. Briggs – USMC Vietnam – Carver Bruce Olsen - Metro Carvers of Michigan
FN Lloyd McKnight – Navy WWII – Carver Wesley Stewart – Midland Wood Carvers
HMC Charles R. Poole – Navy Vietnam – Carver Sue Ritsema – Kalamazoo Wood Carvers
Cpl Stephen R. Castellucci – USMC Vietnam - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
Sgt Mark D. Rosier – Army Vietnam - Carver Chuck Sandeen - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/4 Peter P. Lepech - Army Vietnam – Carver Ed Healy – Kalamazoo Wood Carvers
ADJJc Robert T. Williamsen – Navy Vietnam - Carver Fred Paupard – Blue Water Carvers
SP/5 Gerald B. Mills – Army Vietnam – Carver Dan Tandeski - Metro Carvers of Michigan
1st LT John D. Snyder – Army Vietnam – Carver Bill Strickrodt – South Central Carvers
SP/5 Gregory L. Kiekintveld – Army Vietnam - Carver Gary Gracey – Fruitbelt Wood Carvers
SP/4 Gary D. Wilhelm – Army Vietnam - Carver Bob Maresh - MID Michigan Wood Carvers
Sgt Brian J. Martin – Army Vietnam - Carver Don Wilcox – Fruitbelt Wood Carvers
Cpl John E. Connors – USMC Vietnam – Carver Bud Drake – Grand Ledge, MI
FN David W. Thompson – Navy Vietnam - Carver Bob Dixon - OWL Wood Carvers
SP/4 John G. Hanel – Army Vietnam – Carver Wendell Smith – North Shore Carvers
Sgt Harlow E. Elsholz – USMC Vietnam - Carver Allan Lake - OWL Wood Carvers