

Welcome
Spring



“CHATTER”
NEWSLETTER OF THE
MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION
www.miwoodcarvers.com
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MARCH 2019 VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2



MWCA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING APRIL 6, 2019 at PONDEROSA in OWOSSO 11am

FROM YOUR PREZ:

Cane program going well here, getting the changeover bugs worked out, I have 5 really good, dedicated people helping with it now. We still need good heads turned in at every show, we will still give the best head carver at each show a \$25.00 cash award.

Notice: A lot of good information was lost when the old web site crashed last July. Now it is up and running, new look and even better. Thanks to Justin Swanson who is the new webmaster, what we need is each CLUB to update their information, let him know where and when you meet, who your contact person is with a phone number so when someone is surfing the web they can see who they may call in their area for information. I need to do it myself for our club. See Justin's information in the board and committees chart below.

From Promotions: I'm sad to say that I have 150 calendars remaining, that is the most we have ever taken into the new year. Remember our shows are starting, Metro Mar 16, see me there, and the Greater Lansing Show on April 13. I will also be at the MWCA Annual meeting on April 6th.

Hope to see you all at our Spring Annual Membership Meeting, 11 a.m. on April 6, at the Ponderosa in Owosso. Our Learning Seminar is May 13 thru the 17, we need more CARVERS, we have thought long and hard on this to keep it going, we need your ideas and input.



FROM the MULICKS:

As your treasurer, it is very apparent that MWCA is losing members and I think that is mostly due to the age of our membership. This is not at all surprising to me. Across the board, organizations are becoming very gray (or bald). From the VFW to the American Legion to the Knights of Columbus, to the Dayton Artistry in wood, to whatever group you may be part of, they seem to have a universal problem and that is; how to attract and keep younger members.

In addition to my treasurer duties, I assist Garry with his job of learning seminar chairman. Yesterday, an emergency meeting of MWCA was held in Corunna. Denny and I made lots of phone calls and the meeting was announced on facebook. Fourteen MWCA members were able to attend and three others sent their thoughts by email. The reason for the meeting was to get help answering a vital question. With only 54 students currently signed up for the learning seminar, do we go forward with it or cancel it? I'll cut to the chase for you and give you the answer before the explanation. Nine of the fourteen present voted to go forward with the 2019 Learning seminar. There **WILL** be a seminar this year.

I read the three emails to open the meeting since they provided lots of food for discussion and between the three of them they covered most of what Garry and I had been thinking about. I had explained to these people that seminar was not going to be self supporting this year at this point and what should we do about it for this year and going forward. What are the problems and do you have ideas for solutions? I think that most of you that attend carving meetings and especially those of you who plan carving shows know exactly what was said in the two hour discussion period. We have been saying the same things for a number of years now. I presented several excel charts full of numbers that showed projected cost per student along with projected income and the subsequent amount of shortfall based on the number of students attending. Our break even student number has been 125 students for many years, but the previous shortfall has been taken care of by the generous donation most made to the seminar raffle. We have taken in enough money to pay the bills and set aside the little amount leftover for just such an emergency.

This will likely be the last of seminar in its *current form* and this is where all of you come in. A survey is being developed that will be distributed to the membership and the public via as many methods as we can come up with. There might even be a mass mailing since this is so important. When you see the survey, please be as honest and as specific as you can be. Answering this survey this will not put you on a committee! (unless you want to be.) After the results are in and compiled we should have a better handle on what kind of seminar to plan or even **if** we offer a learning seminar going forward. We especially want to hear from those members that haven't attended seminar. It is important to know why you do not come. What might encourage you to participate?

As in previous years, you will have most of March to decide if you are going to attend seminar this



CARVING CLUB NEWS

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on March 10th

WOODWACKERS: Woodwackers of Big Rapids donates a 16-piece carving to Art Works. "North Woods Nativity by Cyndi Joslyn" was the chosen task at hand. Sixteen various pieces Mary, Joseph, baby, trees animals, kings were selected by each carver the deadline date was November 1st, 2018.

Art Works chose to do a raffle for the "Nativity Scene". Woodwackers has since been informed that the Raffle did do very well! We are now looking into 2019 and a new carving piece. THANKS to Jan Campbell, Joyce Capen, Paul Drigger, Doug Fonner, Steve George, Virginia Harthan, Bob Hatfield, George Melby, Beth & Brian Pacholka, Bob Palmer, Darryl Pyles, Margo SanCartier, Lee & Louann Stearns and Becky Goettl. Bette Hartig

TRI CITY CARVERS: We just concluded a soap carving class in Pinconning with their Cub Scout Pack.



There were 21 scouts and a bunch of helping parents. Thanks to Dick Bishop, Ken Hite, Dick Henning, Frank and Phyllis Burghy, Christie and Wayne DeHate for their help with the soap carving. We have another soap carving class next month with the elementary students at Nouvel Elementary School in Saginaw Township.

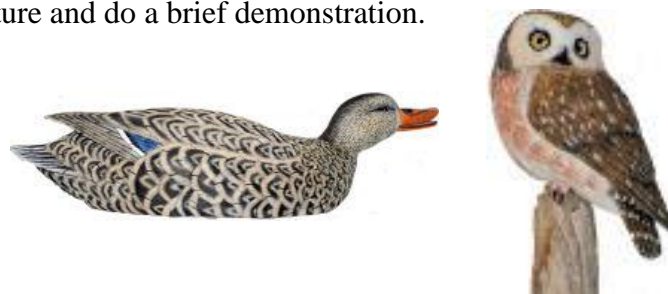
We currently have a carving display at the Wirt Library in downtown Bay City with lots of nice carvings. On February 28 we presented a demo carving from 9-5. After the Wirt Display we'll have the opportunity to move some of the carvings to the Antique Warehouse for display for the month of March and we have scheduled a carving demo at the Antique Warehouse on March 30-31.

SALINE CARVERS: Election results President, Nancy Popp; Vice President, Caryn Howell; Treasurer, John Pappas and Secretary, Connie Salenbien. We are sorry to report that our member Don Makielski has passed away.

Bob Russell has most graciously agreed to share his knowledge of painting wood carvings at our March meeting at the Saline Senior Center. He will give a short lecture and do a brief demonstration.

FRANKENMUTH WOOD CARVERS SHOW:

David Stirling won Best of Show for his life like Saw-wet Owl at our October 2018 show. Don Miller won Best of Professional with his hen mallard.



METRO CARVERS: The Metro Carvers newsletters now have a new name, “Wood Shavers” We are getting ready for our show on March 16-17, 2019. You can download a show application from the website or call Fred Azelio at 586-994-1146 fazelio1942@yahoo.com or Pat murphy 810-392-3642 patarmurp@yahoo.com

At our January meeting Curt Chastain presented information on how to determine if a money is counterfeit. Curt said that those involved with money exchange at our show will be shown instructions on how to use the iodine pens and ultraviolet lighting of the bills. Gary Bityk also gave us a demonstration on bark carving. Many of his points of how to carve bark are also helpful to many other carving challenges.

The picture at right was in Metro newsletter, it is a picture from the web. Really “COOL”!



FRUITBELT CARVERS SHOW on November 3-4 BOS Prof: Gary Dentino from the Fruitbelt Woodcarver Eagle Head

The Fruitbelt Woodcarvers 38th Annual Woodcarving Show was held on November 3 & 4, 2018. The show was held at the Cass County Fairgrounds, Cassopolis, MI. Tom Grile was show chairperson and Gary Gracey was Co-Chairperson.

We had 20 exhibitors’ tables and 10 vendors this year: The cedar Bird Shoppe and Mike LePage.

There were 19 show exhibitors with a total of 31 items put into competition. We had 25 1st place carvings!!

The “Best of Show” Intermediate winner went to Sheila Mansfield for her Halloween Witch hanging from the moon.

The “Best of Show” Professional winner went to Maynard Mitchell for his hand carved walking stick.

The “People’s Choice” winner was Rod Beamish for his carved Santa Claus Face.

Our 2018 “Eagle Head Cane” winner was Gary Dentino

We had a super Saturday for people attending the show. Sunday was down due to the weather. We had about 220 people attend the 2-day show.

Our club puts on a Banquet Saturday evening with 47 people attending. Cranky Hanks from Twin Lakes provided the food.

Deb’s Café from Dowagiac, MI had food available for lunchtime during

the show. Terry Gracey



CHIPS & CHATTER



MWCA ANNUAL MEETING ON APRIL 6TH AT THE OWOSSO PONDEROSA RESTAURANT

11am. All carvers are always welcome, you don’t have to be a delegate to attend, although delegates are the only ones who are able to cast a vote for your club. Our only other yearly meeting is in October. Your presence and input is important, especially if you have ideas, comments or suggestions about your MWCA organization.

MWCA ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The By-laws revision was adopted at the April 2018 meeting. Starting with the 2019 Annual Meeting the election of officers will be on alternate years as adopted; beginning with the President and Secretary in 2019; then V-President and Treasurer in 2020. and so on.

At the April 6, 2019 Annual Meeting held at the Ponderosa Restaurant in Owosso it will be time for MWCA to elect President and Secretary for a 2-year term. As of this newsletter Denny Sekrenes has agreed to run again as our President, and Larry Hower has agreed to run again as Vice President, they both run uncontested.

ALL CLUBS HAVE BEEN SENT THEIR 2020 RENEWAL INFO. DUES ARE DUE BY APRIL 1, 2019

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE LEARNING SEMINAR PLEASE LET US KNOW BEFORE THE END OF MARCH!!

Contact Garry at 616-340-6114 or Denny at 989-277-5739 soon!

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 download or read a PDF 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



2019 MWCA COMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
March 16-17	METRO CARVING SHOW	United Food & Commercial Workers Hall 876 Horace Brown Dr. Madison Hgts	586-994-1146 810-392-3642
APRIL 6th	MWCA ANNUAL MEETING/Election	Ponderosa in Owosso 11 am.	989-277-5739
4/13	GREATER LANSING CARVING SHOW	Liberty church in Grand Ledge	517-285-5914

MWCA BOARD AND COMMITTEES

President Denny Sekrenes 989-277-5739 vetcane@charter.net	Vice President Larry Hower 231-388-3933 Howerlarryl@gmail.com	Secretary Willy Stewart (989) 687-2536 stewartwilly@yahoo.com	Treasurer Mary Lou Mulick (616) 902-3888 mulickg@gmail.com
“Chatter” Editor Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 horsecarver@gmail.com	MWCA Chaplain Milan Maybee (517) 787-1272	Judging Phyllis Burghy (989) 928-4242 cedarbirdshoppe@charter.net	Promotional (Calendars, etc.) Denny Sekrenes (989) 277-5739 vetcane@charter.net
Patriot Cane Project Mid-Michigan Carvers Denny Sekrenes 989-277-5739 vetcane@charter.net	Webmaster Justin Swanson 616-446-0120 Justin.john.swanson@gmail.com	Insurance Sharon Seitz 734-645-9214 MWCAinsur@yahoo.com	MWCA Representative Russell Ross 616-213-1613 russell42@gmail.com

MWCA “Patriot Cane Program” Completed 19 canes for January & February 2019

From June 2007 thru February 2019, 4509 canes have been completed.

Thanks to everyone for your help and support for the “Patriot Cane Program”

RECIPIENT

CARVER

PFC	Joseph Pletz	Army	WWII-PTO Pfenning, Ray	OWL
T/Sgt	Hilbert "Bert" Boersma	Army	WWII-PTO Hanson, Richard	WGF
RM3c	William H. Aldrich	Navy	WWII-PTO Dubey, Joe	SBCS
Cpl	Claude Ward	USMC	WWII-PTO Pfenning, Ray	OWL
SPC5 (E5)	John R., Jr. Mester	Army	Vietnam Walker, Rod	COC
PFC	Roy K. Scites	Army	Korea Unknown	HAP
Sgt (E5)	Carmon L. Draine	Army	Korea Osterhouse, Marilyn	KAL
Sgt (E5)	Mark W. Murphy	Army	SWA Dentino, Gary	FRT
Corporal	Francis A. Williams	Army	Korea Olander, Nathanael	

StaffSgt(E6)	Charles B. Schwartz	AAF	WWII-PTO	Floyd, Chris	HAW
Corporal	Richard D. Randles	Army	Korea	Quinn, Gerald	OWL
PFC	Leo L. Bordeaux	Army	Korea	Derdowski, Ron	SBCS
PFC	Richard P. Dell'Eva	Army	Korea	Vogel, Daniel	SCC
SPC5 (E5)	Lawrence E., Jr. Schema	Army	Vietnam	Hanson, Richard	WGF
StaffSgt(E6)	Richard S. Best	Army	Vietnam	Dubey, Joe	SBCS
SPC4	Gene J. Goerge	Army	Korea	Pfenning, Ray	OWL
SgtSG E6)	Ivan Kline	Army	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
PFC	Merle Bonter	Army	Korea	Shaft only	MID
SPC4	Richard W. Gerhard	USMC	Vietnam	Gracey, Gary	WGF