



**“CHATTER”**  
 NEWSLETTER OF THE  
 MICHIGAN WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION  
[www.miwoodcarvers.com](http://www.miwoodcarvers.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/MIWoodCarvers>  
 MARCH 2020    VOLUME 26    ISSUE 1



**\*\*ANNUAL MEETING**

**\*\*CARVING WITH KIDS PART 3**

**\*\*CLUB NEWS**

From your President:

Hope everyone had a wonderful winter. It's almost over. See me at the Metro show and the Lansing show and then remember the **MWCA semi-annual meeting at 11:00 AM, April 25th at 1120 Legion Rd., Corunna 48817.** This is an important meeting. We will be counting ballots for election of Vice President and Treasurer. **Nominee for Vice President is Dave Sanderson from Harrison Wood Carvers and Treasurer is Christie Garant from Oakland Livingston Wood Carvers. Club ballots must be in by April 1<sup>st</sup>.** Pizza will be served when we have finished. All members are welcome.

Cane News

I want to thank everyone that has been carving eagle heads. We still need more heads. There will be an eagle head competition at each show providing I get heads from at least 5 different carvers.

Message to all Clubs

Please send your club information to [vetcane@charter.com](mailto:vetcane@charter.com) . We need the day(s) you meet, time, location and contact person for your club so that we can update the website: [miwoodcarvers.com](http://miwoodcarvers.com) . Hope you have all returned your ballots to Willie Stuart. They must be in by March 31st in order to be counted at the April meeting.

**CARVING CLUB NEWS**

**TRI-CITY CARVERS:** We had successful displays at the Antique Warehouse on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and at the Wirt Library in Bay City on January 6. We will have our annual swap and garage sale at our April meeting. Mike Ford and Dave Arndt will be competing at the Ward World Competition this spring and we wish them good luck.

Several of our members were featured in the current Chip Chats Magazine in the articles from the Tri-City Wood Carvers Show and the Frankenmuth Wood Carver's Guild show.

**WoodCarving Illustrated tips for carvers.**

**Stropping** No matter how you strop, whether by hand or with power, the surface you are working is always face down and out of sight. This makes it difficult to see if you are holding the tool at the correct angle. I use a Sharpie® marker to draw a broad mark on the side of the blade to be stropped. Stropping removes the ink only from the parts of the blade in contact with the strop. If the ink is removed from the heel of the blade and not the whole bevel, you are holding the tool at too low an angle. If you hold the tool at too high an angle, the ink is removed only from the tip of the edge, which can produce a double bevel. Slightly adjust the way you hold the tool until the ink is removed evenly from the blade; a few additional strokes will polish the tool and remove any remaining ink.



**SALINE CARVERS:** Helen Snuverink taught a **woodburning class** for our club members on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Many of our members participated, and a few newcomers came in as well. **THANK YOU** Helen for sharing your experience with others! Helen is an amazing wood burning artist.

Our 2020 Blog visitors: 851 from United States, 9 from India, 8 from Canada, 6 from Nigeria, 5 from Philippines, 5 from Australia, 5 from Italy, 4 from United Kingdom, 4 from Hong Kong, 2 from Netherlands  
<https://salinecarversblog.wordpress.com/>

I went down to the paint store to get thinner. "IT DIDN'T WORK"

**GREATER LANSING WOOD CARVERS:** April 18<sup>th</sup> will be the Greater Lansing Carvers Club and the Red Cedar River Carvers Guild show and competition held at the Liberty Church at 12745 Georgia Ave. in Grand Ledge, 10 am to 4 pm. Check us out on **Facebook: Greater Lansing Woodcarvers and Red Cedar River Carvers Guild.** For more information about the show or to secure a table call Fred Erbsich 517-316-5730

**METRO CARVERS:** 40<sup>th</sup> show is coming up on March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Royal Oak Public Library display in November (see picture at right). Jim Strohmeier is now our new treasurer with Sandy Huffman as an alternate.



## CHIPS & CHATTER

**REMINDER-CALENDAR CHANGES after publishing:** Tri City show was tentatively Aug 23, but please change your calendars to **Saturday-August 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Also the Saline Carving Show was re-scheduled for **Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> not Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>**. Please correct your calendar.

### CARVING WITH KIDS---PART 3 OF 3---THIS WORKS FOR ME---WHAT WORKS FOR YOU?

Fred Erbsich is a member of the Greater Lansing Wood Carving Club. He has been teaching beginning carving for over 6 years. For most of his classes he provides all the carving tools and wood (projects) at no cost. Also, he does not have a participation fee for class participants.

**PART 3:** I have learned that projects do not have to be so simple as I originally thought. I have gone from candy canes to birds, butterflies, turtles, haunted stumps



and many more. I have approximately 40 different projects available for kids. One thing that I have done recently is to have new carvers, kids and adults, carve a balloon. It is easy to carve and illustrates what I mean when I say the carving needs to be rounded. This really works. It is also good way to point out the importance of shaving cuts because if one digs in the balloon could explode.

How long does it take to make a project? I estimate that with the design, testing the carvability of a project and then making ten project pieces is about 25 -30 minutes for each piece. Of course, after that it takes only 10 -15 minutes to make each piece. To make a



project piece one first gets a base and cuts it to size, then draw on the pattern, drills a small hole to put the scroll saw blade through, cut out the project, glue the back on the base, and sand the edges of the base and back. Since most of the wood I use is free I only charge \$2.00 each if one wants to purchase a project. The project is free for my classes.

Overall, I have been very happy and surprised at the success of the Kids carving classes. Kids seem to love it. Many kids want to do it again. This is done at least 4 times a year at Johnson's Workbench. Kid classes have been held elsewhere and some have joined beginning adult classes. Best of all, there's no soap shaving mess to clean up! Anyone interested in learning more about Kids carving classes can contact me at [erbsich@juno.com](mailto:erbsich@juno.com) or 517 316-5730.



### From Billie Jo Day, Office Manager for L.L. Johnson Lumber.

I have been lucky enough to work with Fred and watch his carving classes grow. Fred does free carving classes at our store in Charlotte, Michigan 4 times a year. He provides all the lumber, tools, gloves, etc. Fred's creativity in designing new carvings is what keeps people coming back. It is amazing watching kids' reactions to learning how to carve. We have regulars that come back for every class we offer, and we always have new faces at each class. Parents bring them in or grandparents. Many make the comment that it's great getting the kids out doing something other than playing video games. Over the years I have seen several kids ask their parents for

carving tools of their own before they leave. The interest in the classes have even grown to 4-H Groups and Girl Scout's asking for private classes.

Fred builds a bond with these kids and teaches them something very unique. We are lucky to have Fred as a member of our work "family". A little girl cut herself the first time carving and said she would never do it again...that little girl happened to be my daughter. She was roughly 6 years old at the time...she is now 11 and actually likes to help Fred with his classes. Her little brother carved for first time last winter (he's 7) and is now a regular for Fred's kid classes as well. I love watching them learn how to carve and watch the fun they have with it. They are always creating something new.

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW WEB ASSISTANT and IT Tech for the cane project.** Harry Dryer, he is helping Justin with the management of the MWCA website. Thanks, Harry, for your help and assistance it is greatly appreciated.

**REMINDER:: MWCA CLUB DUES ARE DUE BY APRIL 1<sup>st</sup> for the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year.**

**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

**2020 MWCA COMING EVENTS**

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
3/19-22	WOODLAND CARVERS EXPO	DeVos Place in downtown Grand Rapids	616-706-9685
3/21-22	METRO CARVERS SHOW	United Food & Commercial Workers Hall 876 Horace Brown Dr. - Madison Hgts.	586-994-1146 810-392-3642
4/18	GREATER LANSING/RED CEDAR RIVER CARVING SHOW	Liberty Church 12745 Georgia Ave - Grand Ledge	517-285-5914 517-316-5730
4/25	MWCA ANNUAL MEETING	First Baptist Church 1120 Legion Rd - Corunna	517-277-5739
6/3-6	EVART ROUNDUP	Osceola Co Fairgrounds - Evart	734-649-3259 231-250-3855
6/8-12	FLOYDFEST CARVING SEMINAR	Osceola Co Fairgrounds ó Evart	734-649-3259

**MWCA BOARD AND COMMITTIES**

<b>President</b> Denny Sekrenes 989-277-5739 vetcane@charter.net	<b>Vice President and Learning Seminar</b> Dave Sanderson 989-339-6444 sandersonwoodart@yahoo.com	<b>Secretary</b> Willy Stewart 989-687-2536 stewartwilly@yahoo.com	<b>Treasurer</b> Mary Lou Mulick (616) 902-3888 mulickg@gmail.com
<b>"Chatter" Editor</b> Sandy Holder (231) 734-5125 mwcanews@gmail.com	<b>MWCA Chaplain</b> Arnold Tew 269-781-7852 arnval177@gmail.com	<b>Judging</b> Phyllis Burghy (989) 928-4242 cedarbirdshoppe@charter.net	<b>Promotional (Calendars, etc.)</b> Denny Sekrenes (989) 277-5739 vetcane@charter.net
<b>Patriot Cane Project</b> Mid-Michigan Carvers Denny Sekrenes 989-277-5739 vetcane@charter.net	<b>Webmaster</b> Justin Swanson 616-446-0120 Justin.john.swanson@gmail.com <b>Administrative Tech: (web &amp; IT for cane project)</b> Harry Dryer Harry.mwca@gmail.com 989-292-0460	<b>Insurance</b> Sharon Seitz 734-645-9214 MWC.Ainsur@yahoo.com	<b>MWCA Representative</b> Russell Ross 616-213-1613 russell42@gmail.com

MWCA "Patriot Cane Program" completed 61 canes for January and February 2020. From June 2007 thru February 2020, **4807** canes have been delivered. Thanks to everyone for your help and support for the program.

PFC	John H.	McNeil	Army	WWII	Marsh, Bob	MID
Sgt	Lee H.	Bruner	Army	SWA	Bluga, John	MET
pvt	Horace C.	Williams	USMC	Other	Paupard, Fred	BWC
YN2	Arnold A.	Linke	Navy	WWII	Dunham, Richard	OWL
SPC3 (T)	Gordon V.	Parkinson	Army	Other	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Sgt	Herbert O.	Jenkins	Army	Other	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Sgt	John F., Jr.	Lotter	USMC	Vietnam	Shaft Only	
Cpl	Walter J. III	Mack	USMC	vietnam	Morris, Jeanne	N/A
SSgt	Thomas L.	George	USAF	Vietnam	Morris, Jeanne	N/A
Sgt	David	Herden	Army	Korea	Sanderson, David	HWC
Sgt	Alphonse B.	Wierzbicki	Army	Korea	Dentino, Gary	FRT
BT3	Michael J.	Sujkowski	Navy	Other	Smith, Charles	HAW
Sgt	Pasquale G. (PAT)	Mascio	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
A1C	Donald E.	Harris	USAF	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SSgt	Wallace K.	Miller	USAF	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Sgt	Roy E.	Klotz	Army	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Cpl(T)	Harvey	Hershey	Army	korea	Sandeen, Chuck	SLY
Cpl	Arthur L.	Stepanski	Army	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
PFC	Jack W.	Kappen	Army	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SPC4	Michael A.	Legato	Army	Vietnam	Wolak, Stan	SLY
SPC(T)	John C.	Cockerell	Army	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SPC4	Larry D.	Green	Army	Other	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Cpl	Robert L.	Bielenda	Army	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
EM2	Raymond E.	Daggett	Navy	WWII&Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
GM3	Claud E.	Maynard	Navy	Korea	Yost, Jim	0
YNT3	James H.	Felton	Navy	Korea	Miller, Jim	MID
LCpl	John P.	Jenkins	USMC	Vietnam	Wipp, Nancy	SLY
	Fredrick A.					
SPC4	(FRED)	Veenstra	Army	Vietnam	Smith, Carl	N/A
FN (E3)	Gordon R., Jr.	Kelly	Navy	Vietnam	Johnston, James	HAW
Sgt FC (Ret.)	Russell W.	Nehmer	Army	SWA	Hanson, Richard	WGF
SPC5	Richard D.	Rossell	Army	Vietnam	Pfenning, Ray	OLW
PFC(T)	John W.	Bowles	Army	Korea	Cords, Pat	MID
SPC4	Dale H.	Vanderlaan	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Cpl	Richard G.	Tabbert	USMC	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Cpl	Leonard H.	Golembiewski	USMC	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SPC4	Frederick L.	Warner	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
PFC	Fred W.	Mallard	Army	Korea	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Cpl	Richard R.	Baker	USMC	Vietnam	Marsh, Bob	MID
Cpl	Terry L.	Coomer	USMC	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Maj	John G.	Schleicher	Army	Other	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SPC4	Darrell A.	Hill	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC

Sgt	Steven L.	Geistel	USMC	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Sgt	Wayne P.	Messing	Army	Vietnam	Murdock, Mike	MET
PFC	James M.	DuBois	Army	WWII	Pfenning, Ray	OLW
Tec5	Elwin G.	Farr	Army	WWII	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SPC4	Monty L.	Mondeau	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Sgt	Arthur V.	Richmond	USAF	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SPC4	Darwin K.	Prevo	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
					Badertscher,	
SPC4	Roger L.	Keyes	Army	Vietnam	Robert	SCC
SPC5	Loren C.	Smith	Army	Vietnam	Pfenning, Ray	OLW
Cpl	David B.	Hagaman	USMC	Vietnam	Dunham, Richard	OWL
SPC5	Robert W.(BOB)	Hoon	Army	Vietnam	Gier, Dave	0
Sgt	James P.	Kotas	Army	Vietnam	Dunham, Richard	OWL
SPC5	John M.	Knasko	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
SPC4	Lovell	Sims	USMC	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Sgt	Kerry L.	Bentivolio	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
PFC(T)	Charles E.	McCloud	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Sgt	Richard T.	Dubay	USAF	Vietnam	Dunham, Richard	OWL
SPC4	Robert K.	Coppernoll	Army	Vietnam	Paupard, Fred	BWC
Cpl	Mark	Jarosz	Army	Vietnam	Walcutt, Wally	GCC
Sgt	John G. Jr.	Dohanyos	USMC	Other	Paupard, Fred	BWC

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