

Metro Carvers of Michigan

Volume 31 Number 07

John Sabina, President

September, 2009



NEXT MEETING

Club meeting Tuesday Sept 15th 2009:

Next meetings are: Oct 13th, Nov 10th, Dec 8th
Jan 12th, Feb 9th, Mar 9th, Apr 13th, May 11th, Jun 1st
The doors open at 6:30 p.m. for social time, libraries and supply purchases. The Business meeting starts at 7:15 p.m. *If you don't have a nametag please pick up a sticker at the door and put your name on it.*

Note: New web page for Metrocarvers, (see last page)

ELECTION RESULTS: By John Sabina

New Officers and Directors:
President - John Sabina
Vice-president - Paul Blanchard
Secretary - Harold Green
Treasurer - Rizal Baysa
Director - Gary Bityk
Director - Pat Murphy
Director - Arleen Murphy

TREASURERS REPORT: By Rizal Baysa

Remember that your club dues (\$15.00 in U.S. Currency) are due at the September Meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting please send a check (no credit cards, postage stamps or PayPal) for \$15.00 payable to your woodcarving club, "Metro Carvers of Michigan".

Send the check to; Metro Carvers of Michigan, %Rizal Baysa, 5605 Lockwood Drive, Washington, MI. 48094
Rizal Baysa (Treasurer):

PRESIDENT'S CORNER: By John Sabina

Throughout my adult life, I have been associated with a variety of organizations and groups. These groups have ranged from church groups to hobby clubs to sports teams to groups at work and covered a variety of different subjects. While the focus of each group was often quite different, certain elements and needs were very common. The most prominent common need was and is the importance of communication.



The meaning of the word communication in this context means simply the transfer of information and understanding from one club member to the rest of the club. Communication can and must occur from the top down (officials to members), from peer to peer within the group (between the members), and from the bottom up (members to officers.) Communication can be either formal or informal. Formal would include written documents and informal would be mostly conversations.

While communication is very important, it can also be very ineffective. Let's use a conversation as an example. Each conversation actually occurs on four different levels! These levels are: 1) What the speaker meant to say, 2) what the speaker actually said, 3) what the listener actually heard, and 4) what the listener thought that he heard. Each of these four levels could be different than the previous one.

Who hasn't seen the example where one person quietly tells a joke to the next person in a line? That person then quietly tells the joke he/she heard to the next person in line, and so on until the joke has been repeated some six to eight times. The last person in line is then asked to tell the joke to the entire group. This last telling usually bears almost no resemblance to the original and usually makes no sense.

Since verbal or even written communication is an imperfect process at best, expect to see some distortion of the story through the process. The best way to improve communication effectiveness is to simply communicate more.

Our Metro Carvers of Michigan club produces a printed newsletter each month that is intended to be an important source of club communication. For those who are unable to attend the meetings, our newsletter is about the only source of information. This newsletter takes a great deal of effort to produce, from the people who write the articles, to our editor who collects the information and then formats it to fit the available space to the people who generate the mailing labels to the person who collates, folds, and mails each issue. Then the club spends a big chunk of its budget to mail the newsletter to each member. Some members agreeing to receive their newsletter via e-mail helps contain the cost, but does nothing to improve the effectiveness of the information transfer. It is most important that each member read each issue and read it carefully. Skimming the issue when it

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arrives and throwing it on a desk or table will not achieve the needed understanding. Please take the time to read each issue thoroughly. Underline portions, make notes in the margins, do whatever it takes to understand what is being said. And then talk about what you read with other club members that you see. Communicating more can really help!

As we start a new carving year, I want to welcome everyone back. Let's decide to improve our abilities to communicate this year. Our club will be even stronger as we do improve. Have a great carving year.

Theme carving for this season:

Sept	Class Project	Oct	Wild life
Nov	Wood burning	Dec	Christmas
Jan	Bark Carving	Feb	Chip carving
Mar	Block passed out	Apr	Flowers
May	Caricatures	June	Patriotism

MWCA Update: By Bill Phillips

Hello. Earlier this year the Michigan Wood Carvers Association asked all of their clubs to carve Christmas tree decorations (anything carved) for our friends in Canada. I'm sure most of you have heard of the carving tools supplier named Chipping Away which is owned by Dennis "Pop" Moor. Well, Dennis asked us to help him decorate a tree with wood carvings. He will hang them on a 6 foot high Christmas tree & donate it to the Ontario Children's Wish Foundation. The foundation will then auction the decorated tree off. Last year the foundation received 19 trees from various organizations. They all had a different theme, and the Foundation was able to receive about \$24,000 in donations. . The funds were used to purchase Christmas gifts for needy children, which helped them have a Merry Christmas. The MWCA decided to try to collect the 300-400 carvings which it takes to decorate a 6 foot tree and send them to Dennis. I have talked to Dennis and he agreed to mount all of our carvings on one tree. The tree will have a note stating that it contains only carvings from the USA, Michigan Wood Carvers Association members and friends. We plan on working on the project at the Evert Spit & Whittle this month (Sept 11th-13th). I also know that Don Schneider and Paul Blanchard both Metro members who attend the Washington Senior Center carving group on Tuesday & Thursday each week are supplying plans & cut outs. Don also said he will assist anyone who needs help carving or painting the ornaments during the Carve Fest. If you would like to help Don and Paul in their efforts to make sure we reach our goal of 400 carvings I'm sure they would appreciate all the help they can get. I appreciate Don, Paul and your help with this program and hope you will turn in one or more carvings. Please remember to turn in your finished carving at our Metro September meeting or at the Washington Carve Fest which is the last day we can wait for your carvings. We have to box them up and send them to Dennis "Pop's" at Chipping Away allowing him time to mount them on a tree and deliver the decorated tree to the Wish Foundation.



MWCA club shows & events for Sept. & Oct. 2009 are:

Metro meeting Sept 15th
Evert Spit & Whittle – Sept. 11th-13th
Hale Chippers Club - Whittlin at Woodland Sept. 18-20.
Tri-City Club show – Sept.19th

Metro's Carve Fest Sept.
Saline Club show Oct 10th
Metro Meeting Oct 13th
Frankenmuth Club show Oct 18th
Livonia club show Oct 31st

If you would like more info about these activities please contact me 810-798-3491, or check your MWCA calendar or the Association web site www.miwca.com

SPECIAL ANOUNCEMENT

The Michigan Wood Carvers Association has been invited to display carvings at the Dow Art & Science Museum in Midland, MI. starting June 7th thru Aug 28, 2010.

They will be inviting all blue ribbon winners from any MWCA club show for the past two years to join in a juried (judged) competition. Anyone wishing to enter the competition must have won a blue ribbon to qualify to join in the competition.

They will also be inviting all MWCA members to show one carving in an open (display only) category. Participants will only be able to enter one carving in either category.

We will have more info in our Oct. Metro & MWCA Chatter news letters along with up-dates on the MWCA web site at www.miwca.com as soon as the final details are available. May I suggest that you start carving something special for our 2010 Metro Club show. I wish you luck in winning a blue ribbon which will qualify you to enter into the State wide MWCA juried competition in Midland. There is no carving size limit so let's see what you can come up with.

Guest Speaker – Linda Bianco - By Paul Blanchard

Our September guest speaker will be Linda Bianco. Linda is a licensed Michigan Department of Natural Resources raptor rehabilitator and is also licensed by the Federal Government. Linda founded "Spirit Filled Wings" in order to help with the non surgical care of injured and orphaned raptors. The birds are fed a natural diet and young raptors are taught to hunt live prey prior to their eventual release back to nature. She has been a rehabilitator since 1989 and has been working solely with raptors since 1999. Linda intends to bring some live species to our meeting for a very interesting and informative presentation.

Around and About: By Rizal Baysa

After attending the Midland Learning Seminar in May and the Evert Round-up in June, I thought the mid and late summer would be a time to complete some of those unfinished carvings. No Way! What comes along? Request for carvings! You show your friends and relatives what you learned and carved at your classes and suddenly you're very popular. Dad, can you make me one of those? Honey that wouldn't that be a nice Christmas gift for my Aunt Marge? My sister really likes your bird, can you make one for her? In the words of Jimmy Durante; "Everybody wants to get into the act". But isn't it fun! What did we do before we started woodcarving? Watched TV. Worked around the house. Sat for Grandkids. How boring was that previous life.

Then we started Woodcarving. We had to buy tools, (got to have the right tools). Had to go to carve with our new found friends (can't stay home and carve alone). Had to leave the house for a



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while. (wow, did that make our spouses happy). Friends and family, oohh'ed and aahh'ed at our artistic and creative talents. Many times we even surprised ourselves. Woodcarving, a new lease on life!

Yes, everybody wants a piece of the action. And, were glad to give them a part of it. Woodcarving, is by its essence, a hobby of sharing with one another. We share wood, tools, patterns, and most of all our time and talents. Most of us like to help new carvers and share our woodcarving experiences with them; it seems to be in our woodcarving nature. So, back to the "unfinished carvings"? No not quite yet. There are more pressing things in the works. The Veterans Cane Project, Should I do another cane head? The "Make A Wish" Christmas tree ornament project. Our goal is 400 throughout the state. We can use more ornaments. We at Metro should be able to do, at least, half of that number.

CarvFest V; (Yes, this is our fifth year) Can the club use your teaching talents, or maybe your time to help out?

Yes, sometimes it would be nice just to sit back and "do our own thing", but lets face it, people love us. Lets lov'em back.

Keep it Sharp! A dull tool gets you a dull carving.

Ornament Carving Day: By Don Schneider

Washington Carvers had an Ornament Carving Day on August 11th. A flyer was passed around a few weeks earlier letting everyone know in advance. I had cut out 21 simple 1/2 inch relief carving blanks in case anyone did not have anything to carve. A few Washington carvers donated the wood. Most of the carvers brought their own blanks and some brought a finished ornament which help stimulate the atmosphere for carving in the room. To my surprise, a few carvers took additional blanks before the 3 hours were up. Everyone continued on Thursday and following Tuesday working on their ornaments projects.



I'll be bringing paints to the next few meetings so any one needing paints can finish. I know we have at least 25 ornaments to donate. We have a variety of Santa's, fishing lure, fan bird, egg carvings, penguin, horse saddle, bird, snowman, chip carving, stars.

How is your Carving Location doing?

If you have a small carving that is laying around in a box. Put an eye hook on top and you have an ornament to donate.

All finished ornament can be handed in at the Spit n' Whittle in Evert or at the Carve Fest in Washington. There are more details in Bill Phillips article. Keep sharp, Don Schneider

Carve Fest 5 Update: By John Sabina

Please mark the dates, Friday **September 25 and September 26, 2009** on your personal calendar. These are the dates of Carve Fest 5, the very casual, hands-on carving event held in Washington Township at the Senior Center. The Washington Senior Center is part of the Washington Township Offices, which are located at 57900 Van Dyke Road. This is north of 26 Mile Road on the east or right hand side of the street. The Senior Center is located at the southeast corner of the Township building. (The good news is that the intersection of 26 Mile Road and M-53 freeway that has been under construction all summer is redesigned and is again open to traffic!)

It is hard for me to believe that 2009 is the fifth consecutive year for this event. Our concept is modeled after the very successful Woodcarvers Roundup in Evert and will remain unchanged. Carve Fest is an opportunity to learn new carving skills very

inexpensively in a low pressure and fun environment. Volunteer Metro Carvers of Michigan members will serve as project leaders to help people complete a variety of carving projects. None of the instructors are compensated and there is no admission or registration fee. The only cost will be a nominal charge for any blanks that each instructor will provide. A delicious lunch will be available for purchase at the Senior Center on both days.

The timetable and format will be the same for both days. The doors will open at 8:30 AM. You are asked to sign-in at the rear door. Coffee and donuts will be available for a free will donation. Each day is divided into two carving sessions. The morning session will run from 9:00 AM until Noon. We will break for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. (A strong rumor persists that we could have some musical entertainment just after lunch.) The afternoon carving session will then run from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM. Each of these carving sessions will feature nine simultaneous project groups, each working on a particular item. Some projects will be held both morning and afternoon on both Friday and Saturday. Others will be held only at specific times. Due to a very busy summer, the complete project schedule is not finished as of our newsletter deadline. However, I can tell you that the following projects are some that will be included:

Project	Instructor(s)	Comments
Woodburning	Barb Harris Arlene Murphy	Your equipment or theirs, beginner or advanced.
Bark Carving	Charlie Kreger Keith Harris	Gnome houses or Spirit Faces Bark available
Basic Carving Instruction	Bill Jaquays	Get started right on various small projects.
Wood Spirit Hiking Sticks	Dick Mann	Make a staff that is the envy of your friends!
Power Carving Project (Subject to be announced.)	Jim Shannon	Limited seats for experienced power carvers. Bring your own tools.
Simple Christmas Ornaments	Don Schneider	Suitable for donation to MWCA for the Children's Wish Christmas Tree.
Chip-Carved Cane Shafts	John Sabina	Start a distinctive cane Blanks limited to participants.
Santa Faces	Paul Blanchard	Basic steps to improve your carved faces.
Sharpening Theory and Practice	John Sabina	This lecture and demonstration will Enable you to get your tools sharp and keep them that way.

Additional projects and the specific schedule will be announced. Vendors selling carving tools and supplies will be on-hand. We typically see between 90 and 110 carvers at this event. You may come for part of a day, one full day, or both days. Don't miss out on the fun. Plan on being there.

Notice: Metro member Dick Agusti recently cut down a large, health cherry tree at his home in Romeo. He now has about a dozen large logs, 6 to 14 inches in diameter, about 2 feet long that are free for the taking. Since the tree was felled in August, this wood is ideal for carving or turning. The logs are free to those who pick them up in Romeo. Call Dick at 586-242-3556 if interested.

Monthly Carving Competition

Coordinated by Sandra Huffman - Judges were
unknown

Master

First: Bruce Olsen, Leaping Deer
Second: George Eldridge, Carosel horse
Third: Tony Stangis, Relief bridge
Honorable: Dwain Lusk, Intarsia owl

Advanced

First:
Second:
Third:

Intermediate

First:
Second:
Third:

Beginner

First:
Second:

Theme – Patriotism

First: Rizal Baysa, Uncle Sam
Second: Elaine Bogden, Relief freedom
Third: Bob Galanek, Birch bark
Honorable: Archie Huggins, Relief M Mouse

Metro Carvers of Michigan

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1597
Royal Oak, MI 48068

WWW Homepage
[w www.metrocarvers.110mb.com/](http://www.metrocarvers.110mb.com/)

E-Mail Address: metrocarvers@yahoo.com

Meeting Location: Helen Keller School
near 12 mile & I-75
1505 N. Campbell Rd.
Royal Oak, MI

Meeting Day: Second Tuesday of each month.
(No Meetings July & August)

Meeting Time: 7:15pm (doors open at 6:30)

President: John Sabina
Vice Pres.: Paul Blanchard
Treasurer: Rizal Baysa
Secretary: Harold Green
Directors: Larry Lloyd Pat Murphy
Directors: Arlene Murphy Gerry Galanek
Directors: Gary Bityk
Newsletter: Terry Zobl
Show CoChair: Mike LePage & Mary Jo LePage
MWCA rep: Bill Phillips
Carving Events: Rizal Baysa & Dick Mann

Carving Groups Location and Times

Mon. 8:30am-11:30 __ Troy Sen.Ctr.
Mon. Noon-3pm __ Sterling Heights Sen.Ctr.
Mon. 9am-Noon __ Warren Stillwell Manor
Mon. 5pm-7pm __ Woodcraft Store Van Dyke
Tue. 9am-Noon __ Washington Twp. Sen.Ctr.
Tue. 9am-Noon __ Woodcraft Store Van Dyke
Tue. Noon-3pm __ St. Clair Shrs. Sen. Ctr.
Tue. 1pm-4pm __ Chesterfield. Sen. Ctr.
Thur. 9am-Noon __ Warren Stillwell Manor
Thur. 9am-Noon __ Washington Twp. Sen.Ctr.
Thur. 6pm-9pm __ St. Clair Shrs. Sen. Ctr.
Thur. 6pm-9pm __ Shelby Shadbush Nature Ctr.
1st Sat. 9am-Noon __ Woodcraft Store Van Dyke

Meeting date is **Tuesday September 15th**



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P.O. Box 1597
Royal Oak, Michigan 48068