

Metro Carvers of Michigan

Volume 31 Number 08

John Sabina, President

October, 2009



PRESIDENT'S CORNER: By John Sabina

I am writing this shortly after the completion of Carve Fest 5 in Washington Township. I was reflecting on the successful event last evening when a phone call from Bill Phillips informed me of a crushing reality. Ron Gaskill, a member of the Blue Water Carvers and great guy, was killed early Saturday morning in an auto accident near the intersection of 26 Mile and Hayes. Ron had participated in a trout power carving and painting project with project leader Jim Shannon on Friday at Carve Fest and apparently was tragically killed on route to the second day of the seminar on Saturday morning.



Ron was a fun-loving guy, an excellent carver, and a tireless worker for carving. He was very computer savvy and created or assisted on a number of carving websites throughout our state. He also issued a weekly, often-humorous electronic newsletter to many carvers. Ron created the CD of reference material for the Eagle Head Cane project and was a very important part of the team to produce both decorated shafts and finished canes for the Lean-On-Me Veterans Cane Project. A quick estimate indicates that Ron completed over 100 canes for veterans.

Terry Zobl's pictures taken at Carve Fest 5 are likely the last pictures taken of Ron. His passing is a tremendous loss to our carving community. Please pray for Ron, his family, and his friends. He certainly will be missed.

I will have a wrap-up report on Carve Fest 5 next month. Instead, I will mention a couple of other issues this month.



NEXT MEETING

Club meeting Tuesday Oct 13th 2009:

Next meetings are: 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.*

TREASURERS REPORT: By Rizal Baysa

At the September meeting we had a total of 62 members pay their 2010 dues. If you did not pay your club dues (\$15.00) please do so at the October meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting please send a check 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

Remember when you become a member of the Metro Carver of Michigan; you automatically become a Michigan Wood Carvers Association member. Please bring your Metro club card and your MWCA card, to the meeting to have them updated.

New Club Members (Pictures on page 4)

Mike Kennedy – 48820 Celeste, Chesterfield, Mi. 48051
Kevin Kennedy – 13943 Amanda, Sterling Hgts., Mi. 48313
Crystal Owens – 23376 Vassar Ave. Hazel Park, MI 48030 (no pic)

Reinstated

Brodus Meek – 8429 Bellerine Dr., Shelby Twp., Mi. 48316

Carver's Choice

The first is our announced carving theme for our March Metro meeting. The title is "carver's choice." The intent is twofold: 1) to encourage more entries into our monthly carving competition, and 2) to increase the number of small carvings to be given away as door prizes at our annual Metro Show later in March. At the January meeting, Pat Murphy will have a number of nearly identical small blocks of basswood (similar in size to a friendship cane blank) free to interested club members. The idea is that individuals will take a block and carve and/or finish it in any manor of their choosing. The finished blocks will be returned and entered in the theme competition at the March 9 Metro meeting. After the judging and presentation, all finished items will then be donated to the club as door prizes for the show.

Backup Help

Our club meetings run smoothly because of a number of people who quietly serve in the background at each meeting. Sandy Huffman sets up the competition table each month and enlists three volunteers as judges. Robaleen Bodgen operates the video library and Joe Miller serves as the librarian for the club carving books. Terry Zobl takes digital photos of new members and competition

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winners. Each of these volunteers does a fine job. However, life being what it is, these individuals will occasionally miss a club meeting. Our problem is simply that our smooth operation stumbles because each of these functions simply stops. Thus, members can't return materials; we have no competition that night, or no pictures for the next newsletter. In a club of our size, it is not unreasonable to have a back-up person named for each of these persons. The back up would simply work with the individual enough to understand what is required and be ready to step in for one meeting if the need arises. This is not a large time commitment. So, please think about it and then let me know where you might be willing to help.

Beginner Carving Classes

Dan Oprita commented to me after our September meeting that the club does not have the senior members offering carving instruction to beginners the way Barney Pelletier and numerous others used to do. Recent experience in Washington Township confirms the need.

The Washington Senior Center asked the Washington Carvers if we would be willing to set up a simple class to teach wood carving that could be listed in the senior events catalogue. After some brief discussion, Dick Mann, Rizal Baysa, and I agreed to a two class series. The first held on September 10 was a lecture on carving that included showing many different types of carvings and the kinds of tools and supplies one would need to get started. Five people showed lively participation for 2 ½ hours. Then on September 17 we put gloves, thumb guards, and carving knives in the hands of 8 people and started them on two very simple projects. Paul Blanchard joined us on the 17th so our format was one "instructor" for each two students. Emphasis was placed on learning to carve wood. We limited the participants to eight for this session, but thirteen wanted to sign up. (We are currently making arrangements to include the remaining five in a second session.) Bill Jaquays has handled our introductory carving instruction at Carve Fest since the beginning. In 2008 we added a second beginner station but had only two people attend these sessions. In 2009, Bill had two tables (14 feet total length) that were full of beginners on both days of Carve Fest.

Dan was right. There is a pent up demand for introductory carving instruction. If classes are properly publicized, the participants will come. An announced class with a plan is preferred to an invitation to simply "drop in." Once the individual has some feel for carving, the drop in invitation is much more effective. Please give some thought to what you or your satellite carving group might be able to do for introductory instruction. Is there a better way to promote woodcarving and increase our membership?

Theme carving for this season:

Oct	Wild life		
Nov	Wood burning	Dec	Christmas
Jan	Bark Carving	Feb	Chip carving
Mar	Carver's Choice	Apr	Flowers
May	Caricatures	June	Patriotism

Carver of the Month – Norma Bauman : By Harold Green

Norma, a resident of Warren, first started her wood carving four years ago when she attended the Washington Carve Fest with her husband. She found she was interested and joined Metro Carvers three years ago. She likes carving bark the best because of its soft texture, but she has also carved eagle heads for the "Lean On Me" project. Carving is just one of her interests; she has been involved

in sewing, quilting, and embroidery. Norma has started wood burning with guidance from Barb Harris using oil pastel crayons to add color.

Norma, along with her husband Larry are both avid wood carvers. Their schedule on Monday goes like this- Monday morning carving at Stillwell Manor in Warren, Monday afternoon carving at Sterling Heights Senior Center, Monday night carving at Woodcraft Store. They also carve at Stillwell manor on Thursday. Norma believes that we need to keep busy, and proves it by her performance. The biggest thing that she likes about wood carving is the people that she meets. She likes people.



Guest Speaker – Fritz Langpeter - By Paul Blanchard

I am happy to report that we have some great speakers scheduled for our October, November and January meetings. Our guest speaker for October will be Fritz Langpeter from Harrow, Ontario Canada. Fritz will share his expertise on "wood" in general with emphasis on burls, bowls, and bows, as well as expertise on canoes and 17 and 18th century wood working. Please join us for this informative monthly meeting. Bring a friend.

Events Coordinator: Robaleen Bogden

The new Events Coordinator volunteer for Metro Carvers is Robaleen Bogden. In this role the events coordinator will be the recipient of requests for demonstrators from organizations needing woodcarvers and/or woodburners for their events. These requests are usually funneled to the president and passed on to the events coordinator. She would call the requesting party and find out how many people are needed and what is available to the demonstrators. She will then announce the requests at the monthly meeting and/or send out emails to try to gather carvers.



Robaleen said "I will need carvers that I can call on, so if they could please let me know, if I can call on them. Members can call me and leave a message at (586)979-7820, or they can e-mail me at <looking4carvers@aol.com> my new e-mail I set up just for them. But please I do ask that they let me know in the subject area who they are.

Metro Show Update: By Mike LePage

Hi everyone. Show time is just six months away. We are still looking for someone to chair the show. We have some volunteers for behind the scenes. Barb and Bill Wolfe will do the name tags, obtain different permits, etc., and Mary Jo and I will be the registrars. This will take a lot of work off the show chair so it will be a piece of cake to chair. I am hoping that someone or two will step forward and give it a try.

Let's put on our thinking caps and see what different activities we can do during the show. Hope we can have the soap carving again and also the crazy hat contest. The crazy hat contest brings back old memories. I ended up in seventh place out of five people. I wonder if Sandy Huffman had anything to do with that. We will leave it at that. See you at the October meeting.

Metro Carvers of Michigan Monthly Carving Competition



Theme: Keith Harris



Master: Joe Beaudette



Advanced: Arlene Murphy



Beginner: Norma Bauman

Monthly Carving Competition

Coordinated by Sandra Huffman - Judges were
Jay Crawford, Harold Green, Sandra Huffman

Master

First: Joe Beaudette, Red Tail hawk
Second: Dwain Lusk, Intarsia lion
Third: Bob Galanek, Dragon pipe

Advanced

First: Arlene Murphy, Pyro. flower
Second: Robaleen Bogden, Cross
Third:

Intermediate

Beginner

Theme – Class Projects

First: Keith Harris, Relief
Second: Dick Mann, Cowboy
Third: Rizal Baysa, Golfer ball in cage
Honorable: Patrick Murphy, Buffalo
Honorable: Barb Harris, Relief

New Member Pictures



Kevin Kennedy



Mike Kennedy

Metro Carvers of Michigan

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1597
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Web Site URL

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 Galanck
Directors: Gary Bityk
Newsletter: Terry Zobl
Show CoChair: Mike LePage & Mary Jo LePage
MWCA rep: Bill Phillips
Carving Events: Robaleen Bogden

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



METRO CARVERS OF MICHIGAN
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