

# Metro Carvers of Michigan

Volume 34 Number 09

Curt Chastain, President

November 2012



## NEXT MEETING

### Club meeting Tuesday Nov 13th 2012:

Next meetings are: Dec. 11, 2012. Jan. 8, Feb.12, Mar.12, Apr.9, May 14, Jun.11, Jul.9, 2013.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. for social time, libraries and supply purchases. The Business meeting starts at 7:15 p.m.

## Treasurers Report: By Rizal Baysa

### Rejoined:

**Jim Bowsher** - 3606 Maddox Dr. Warren, Mi. 48092

### New Members:

**Pete Padden** - 46669 High Meadows Ct. Macomb, MI 48044

**Jack Belt** - 14430 Hough Rd. Allenton, MI 48002



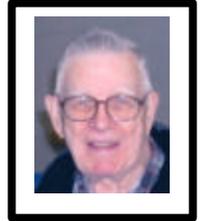
Jack Belt

Pete Padden

### Club dues:

If you did not pay your club dues (\$15.00), please do so at the next meeting. If you prefer to pay by mail please send a check for \$15.00 payable to your woodcarving club, "Metro Carvers of

Michigan". Send the check to; Metro Carvers of Michigan, c/o Rizal Baysa, 5605 Lockwood Drive, Washington, MI. 48094.



### In Our Memory:

Andrew Kominsky, a Metro member since 2004, passed away in October, 2012. Andy carved at the Sterling Heights Senior Center.

## President's Corner: By Curt Chastain

This year is progressing fast and planning for many of our activities must be done soon. The Metro Show is well on its way to be solidified in time and material preparation. However, the work input for raffle prizes and the need for volunteers to handle the jobs at the show still remains to be completed. I hope that everyone can be counted on to participate and help in this endeavor.

We have talked about the importance of this show on our financial needs to cover expenses not only for the show but for our ongoing projects and needs. As a result the coordination of this show by a person as show chairman (coordinator) is also very important. Therefore, even though it may seem distant, the club needs a person to step forward now to handle the 2014 Metro Show (March 22 & 23, 2014). The timeline for that show starts before the 2013 show happens. Mary Jo has done well in handling the last several years, but is not going to be available for the 2014 show. Please see me or any board member.

The Metro Carvers have a limited supply of the MWCA annual calendars for the nominal charge of \$4.00 each. The calendar includes a \$5.00 coupon from the Cedar Bird Shop, a woodcarving supply store in Pinconning, Mi. Frank & Phylis Burghy of the Cedar Bird Shop can be found at many of the Michigan Woodcarving Shows including our annual show in March. The 2013 calendar features the "Lean on Me" eagle heads on the cover and within, in addition to the winners of Michigan woodcarving shows in 2012. The Metro Carvers are well represented. The calendars will be available at the November 13, 2012 meeting.

In regards to the December 11, 2012 "Christmas" meeting, we are in need of a volunteer or volunteers to help coordinate a "pot luck" activity.

The Metro Carvers plan to sponsor a carving class by noted carver Debbe Edwards on March 22, 23, & 24, 2013. Debbe is an accomplished "Wildlife-in-Wood" carver and sought after instructor. She has a large selection of animal roughouts available, and will be selecting the project for this class soon. For more details, see Harold Green's article in this newsletter and there will be further discussion at the November 13, 2012 meeting

### Theme Carvings for this season:

Nov - Carver's Choice	Dec - Christmas
Jan - Bark Carving	Feb - Valentine's Day
Mar - St. Patrick's Day	Apr - Flowers
May - Chip Carving	Jun - Caricatures

# Metro Carvers of Michigan

## Debbe Edwards Seminar: By Harold Green

The Metrocarver's board has made a decision to tentatively schedule a carving seminar on March 22nd, 23rd, and 24th with Debbe Edwards. Debbe is one of the top wild life carvers in the United States; she has been an instructor at the Midland Learning Seminar in May and has done numerous classes elsewhere throughout the United States.

There will be 12 openings available to the Metrocarvers that will be decided by a drawing at the January meeting. The cost to members is \$150 and to non members \$175. In order to hold the spot for the class a check for the cost of the class must be made out to Metrocarvers and presented to the club treasurer at the meeting. The Metrocarver members will have the opportunity to draw for the class openings at the January meeting before people outside of the club can register for the class. The class will be held a Pat and Arlene Murphy's house.

## S.H.S.C. Event: By Dave Copeman

Sterling Heights Senior Center  
Model Builders and Wood Carvers Show  
February 11, 2012 - 10am to 3pm

Setup 9am to 10am

Cost is free except for the normal Senior Center Drop in fee for all visitors which is:

.25 for Sterling Heights residents - .50 for Non-residents.

Open to anyone eligible to use the Senior Center.

Possible prizes, limited number of tables.  
People choice awards.  
MWCA Eagle Head Competition.

This is a combined event between the Model Builders that meet from 9:30am until Noon and the Wood Carvers that meet from Noon until 3:00pm on Mondays at the Sterling Height Senior Center.

The Sterling Heights Senior Center is located at 40200 Utica Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48313

For additional information please contact  
Dave Copeman

586-979-4852 [dcopeman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dcopeman@sbcglobal.net)

## A Formula for Success: By John Sabina

On Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, a total of 29 woodcarvers signed-in at the Washington Senior Center, a new high! That number did not include myself as I was feeling poorly on that day. The Washington Carvers gather every Tuesday and Thursday morning. While Tuesdays are usually better attended than Thursdays, the previous high attendance was 24 people, with 20 on Tuesdays being more normal.

This surge bucks the general membership trend. A March 2008 Metro roster lists 202 members while the November 2012 Metro roster lists 162 members.

In analyzing what the Washington group as done to reverse the downward participation trend, we may have developed a formula that would allow both the Metro Carvers and other satellite carvings groups to grow their numbers. Our analysis points out three things have contributed to our growth.

### 1. Carve Fest

Washington has definitely gained participation through our Carve

Fests. Carve Fest VIII, held at the end of September saw 118 different people in attendance. That number included 91 people on Friday and 85 people on Saturday, with close to a 50-50 split in one-day verses two-day attendance. Carve Fest featured 16 instructors this year; 13 of whom are Metro members with 8 instructors who regularly carve at Washington. The feedback from those attending was extremely positive. We have definitely made friends with our Carve Fest efforts.

Special thanks to my organizing committee including Rizal Baysa, Paul Blanchard, and Dick Mann are very much in order. Further administrative help from Pat Baysa, Rich Dugger, Joanne Mann, John Saarinen, and Judy Sabina is also recognized. Of course, the staff at the Senior Center must be acknowledged as well for their extra efforts.

The real heroes of Carve Fest are the instructors. They have the most work in developing their projects and preparing materials before the event, as well as leading the projects. The instructors have the most direct contact with the attendees and are the individuals who most influence attendee impressions. This year's heroes were: Paul Balog, Rizal Baysa, Paul Blanchard, Gary Bytik, Doug Evans, Barb Harris, Keith Harris, Bill Jaquays, Alec LaCasse, Marcy Larson, Dick Mann, myself, Don Mitchell, Arleen Murphy, Pat Murphy, and Terry Zobl.

### 2. Beginner Carving Classes

Twice per year we offer an "Introduction to Woodcarving" class at the Washington Senior Center. This class is offered through the Washington-Romeo-Bruce (WRB) Parks and Recreation Department in September and again in February. These dates are chosen to be just before Carve Fest in September and the Metro Show in March. The events create a logical next step for any new carvers who develop an interest. The new carvers need a source for more information, tools, supplies, and new projects. The Intro class is listed in the Parks and Rec catalogue as an available class. The catalogue is mailed to every home in Romeo and Washington and Bruce Townships. The class features three two-hour sessions held on Thursday afternoons. Each student is loaned a suitable knife, strop and compound, a glove, and a thumb guard. The class makes three simple projects. The class cost is \$11.00 for all three sessions and is limited to eight participants. The instructors are usually the Carver Fest Committee, although other Washington carvers have graciously filled-in on occasion. Five dollars of the class fee is rebated to the Washington Carvers and used to purchase more tools. The class emphasizes the need for sharp tools and basic carving techniques. Many of our students return to carve in Washington regularly and several have joined the Metro Carvers.

### 3. Make Beginners Feel Welcome

A number of our newest participants have commented to us that they prefer our group to some of the other satellite carving groups because we are friendlier and more helpful. I mention this, not to blow our own horn or criticize anyone, but to report impressions stated to us. The social aspect of group carving is a major part of the fun. We must remember that new carvers have not been coming for ten plus years and do not know the colorful personalities involved. A few moments spent encouraging guests and showing them some of your little tricks can go a long way toward making them feel welcome.

Perhaps your group is not ready to tackle staging a second Carve Fest each year or maybe even holding beginner classes, but we can all strive to encourage new carvers. To not do so will continue our trend of decreasing members.

**Please feel free to contact me if you would like any more details about any of the above.** We could certainly use new instructors and new projects for future Carve Fests. Our experience suggests that projects that can be instructed in three hours or at least in two three-hour sessions work best. The project does not have to be completed in that time but the participant must have enough information to complete the project later.

# Metro Carvers of Michigan

## Monthly Carving Display



**Robert Galanek**



**Marcy Larson**



**Paul Blanchard**



**Dwain Lusk**



**Fred Zirotte**



**Rizal Baysa**



**George Miriani**



**Arlene Murphy**



**John Saarinen**

## Monthly Carving Competition

Coordinated by Sandra Huffman -  
Judges – Paul Blanchard, Crystal Galanek, Sandy Huffman

### Master

**First:**

### Advanced

**First:** Paul Blanchard, Bark carving

### Intermediate

**First:**

**Second:**

**Third:**

### Beginner

**First:** Fred Zerotte, Bark carving

**Second:** John Saarinen – Man & gun

**Third:** Roger Sonnenfeld, Bluebird

**Honorable:** Fred Zirotte, Cedar Trees

### Theme – wild life

**First:** Rizal Baysa - Fox

**Second:** Arlene Murphy - Woodburning

**Third:** Bob Galanek – Bear

**Honorable:** Gary Baker – Bear

**Honorable:** Dwain Lusk – Intarsia

## Metro Carvers of Michigan

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

**E-Mail Address:** [metrocarvers@yahoo.com](mailto:metrocarvers@yahoo.com)

**Web Site** [www.metrocarvers.com](http://www.metrocarvers.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:** Curt Chastain 248-609-5341

**Vice Pres.:** Bob Galanek

**Secretary:** Harold Green

**Treasurer:** Rizal Baysa

**Directors:** Dave Copeman Marcy Larson

**Directors:** Pat Murphy Arlene Murphy

**Directors:** Doug Evans

**Show Chair:** Mary Jo Brown 586-808-3835

**MWCA rep:** Pat Murphy

**Carving Events:** Robaleen Bogden

**Newsletter:** Terry Zobl

**Webmaster:** Terry Zobl, Marcy Larson

### 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

Tue. 9am-Noon \_\_Washington Twp. Sen.Ctr.

Tue. Noon-3pm \_\_St. Clair Shrs. Sen. Ctr.

Tue. 1pm-4pm \_\_Chesterfield. Sen. Ctr.

Wed. Noon-3pm \_\_Clinton Twp. 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.



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Royal Oak, Michigan 48068