

Mid-America Woodcarvers Association

NEWSLETTER

May 2014



Meetings and Open Carving - First and Third Saturdays 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Augustana Lutheran Church 38th and Lafayette St



FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Where has the time gone? April already! February and March were busy months for the club and April is no exception.

Things are gearing up for the Doane Committee as classes fill and we prepare for July. We are very grateful to our sponsors who have been donating items for the raffle and auction; they help us continue to make Doane a great experience for our participants. We still have openings in several classes and will accept registrations as late as July 10th, however classes are filling up fast, and I encourage those wanting to attend Doane to submit their registrations as soon as possible.

Thank you to everyone volunteering to help clean, put up shelves, catalog and color code the club library books on March 29th! We are hoping to make it easier for club members to find the books they want as well as making sure we do not double up on books we already have in the library. Please remember to turn your library books in on time so we can continue to update our catalog and re-label books. If this newsletter finds you prior to March 29th feel free to join us!

I hope everyone is looking forward to the Annual Spring Picnic; we will be hosting the event again at Camp Brewster, 1313 N. Bellevue Blvd., Bellevue, NE. Thanks to Denny Rourke and his committee for organizing what looks to be a great picnic. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

We will be taking MAWA 40th Anniversary t-shirt orders up until May 19th, t-shirts will be made to order, so please get your orders in. I will try to have order forms available again at club meetings. You will also find an order form in the March newsletter, which is available on our website.

Rich Wagner and his committee are already hard at work on the Fall Show. We hope to have the new registration form on the website soon. New this year, will be a banquet at the German American Society Saturday evening. Please be sure to include your banquet registration with your table registrations. This year's proceeds from our wreath raffle will go to benefit cancer research. We will begin adding ornaments to wreaths at the next meeting and appreciate all donations of hand carved ornaments.

On behalf of MAWA, I would like to recognize and thank Denny and Judy Nygard for the display stand for club show-n-tell photos, Bob Driml for the amazing pattern collection we are adding to the club library, and Mike Klemmensen for teaching the veneer class as well as donating veneer pieces to club members at the last meeting. Thank you also to those who have volunteered as instructors so far this year; Thad Tinder, Ken Armsbury, John Camenzind, Mike Hawley, and Jason Armsbury. Every volunteer, and those with a helpful hand when needed, is greatly appreciated.

I look forward to seeing everyone in April!

Maria

UPCOMING EVENTS

Woodcarvers Show & Sale
 April 26th and 27th
 Exhibit Building, Buffalo County Fairgrounds, Kearney, NE

Burke's Western & Wildlife Art Workshop
 July 19-25-2014
 Crete, Nebraska
www.westernwoodcarvers.com
 402-623-4383
 Nancy Burke

Doane Experience
 Doane College Campus Crete Nebraska
 July 27-Aug 2 2014
<http://www.thedoaneexperience.com/>

Mid-America Woodcarvers Association



The shirts are red!!!!

40th Anniversary T-shirt Order Form

Short Sleeve Shirt \$12.00 Long Sleeve Shirt \$ 15.00
 Sizes available: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, 2X, 3X, 4X



Name _____ Phone _____

(Please print)

Quantity	Size	Sleeve Length	Cost

Orders Due by: April 15, 2014

Grand Total

*Make all checks payable to The Mid-America Woodcarvers Association

*Mail orders to Mid-America Woodcarvers Association, P.O. Box 521, Gretna, Ne 68028

MAWA Club Calendar

- March 29 Club Library Clean-up, Re-labeling and Cataloging - 8:00 am start.
- April 5 MAWA Club Meeting - Part 1. Carving Faces Workshop - Ken Armsbury, Thad Tinder
- April 19 MAWA Club Meeting - Part 2. Carving Faces Workshop - Ken Armsbury, Thad Tinder
- May 3 MAWA Annual Picnic, Camp Brewster, 1313 N. Bellevue Blvd., Bellevue, NE
- May 17 MAWA Club Meeting - Intro to Relief Carving - Wayne Gildseth



Jan Gram



Jan Gram

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John Camenzind



John Camenzind

Thank you The 2014 Doane Experience Sponsors!



My Chip Carving
<http://www.mychipcarving.com>



<http://www.proxxontools.com>

New Members.....

Nancy Gravelot	Prescott, AZ	Judy Kavathas	Chicago, IL
Julius Allmann	Liverpool, NY	Pam Hight	Santa Rosa, CA
Don Sullivan	Omaha, NE	Edgar/Diane Wolff-Klammer	Skokie, IL
Bill Buskevicius	LaVista, NE	Rich Gurica	Britton, MI
Neal Ator	McKinney, TX	Gerald Chatfield	Tecumseh, MI
John Mitchell	Fremont, NE	Larry Stickland	Almonte, Onatrio

Welcome to the club everyone !!!

Spring Picnic

Date: May 3, 2014
Time: 11:30 to 3:00
Location: Camp Brewster
 1313 N Bellevue Blvd
 Bellevue, Nebraska.

Entertainment: Magician, face painter, balloons for the kids.

Food: Chicken, hot dogs and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

The picnic is open to members and spouses, kids and grandkids. There will be entertainers and activities for the kids and for the adults so be sure to bring the kids. And of course bring a carving to show.

There is an indoor pavilion so the event will be held rain or shine. Let us know if you plan to come. Please contact Denny Rourke at dennisrourke@cox.net.

This months quiz.....

I think I will stay on the Doane theme What is the item that is needed in one class, that you might need if you were a government accountant in Washington DC.....

First correct email to me at loesshillssawmill@hotmail.com get the prize.

Spotlight on Doane Instructors

Kirt and Linda Curtis

Kirt and Linda (Langenberg) Curtis are a husband and wife woodcarving team from Marion, Iowa, each with over 20 years experience. They specialize in carving North American mammals in-the-round, in either basswood or butternut. Each fall, leading up to the holiday season they also carve Santa Claus and snowmen figures in cottonwood bark. Kirt earned his degree in fine arts at Rochester, New York, and became a full time woodcarver and carving instructor in the late 80's. He has traveled the United States and Canada teaching woodcarving seminars. Linda began teaching in 1999, and now retired, she has joined Kirt to team-teach as well as teaching individual classes. Kirt and Linda welcome new carvers and are known for their step-by-step easy instruction in both carving and painting the finished carving during the seminars. They also judge woodcarving competitions and create commission pieces.

<https://sites.google.com/site/ings/home>

[curtiscarv-](https://sites.google.com/site/curtiscarv-)



P.J. Driscoll

P.J.'s love for carving began in 1992. He also joined the Mid-America Woodcarvers at that time. Becoming an active member and holding numerous positions on the board including the current position of 2nd vice president. P.J. is also a member of the Affiliated Wood Carvers and Eastern Woodland Carvers Club. P.J. enjoys a variety of carving: chainsaw, relief, animals-but always seems to go back to caricatures. He enjoys and remains dedicated to caricature carving. Since retirement from the Omaha Fire Department in 2007, he can now devote his time to carving along with spending time with his family. P.J enjoys teaching classes as well as taking classes. He has taught at the "Doane Experience" in Crete, NE, International Woodcarvers Congress, CCA Converse Competition and numerous seminars across the country. He enjoys learning new techniques to better himself at his favorite hobby, so you will often find him as a student in many carving classes. P.J. has been honored with numerous awards. He considers some of his greatest carving achievements to be: Best of Show CCA 2007, second Best of Show; People's Choice CCA, 2004 and having a style of his own. He has been a consistent blue ribbon winner in Mid-America Woodcarving shows. P.J. has judged numerous woodcarving shows throughout Nebraska and Iowa. In 2008, he was inducted into the CCA. Next to his family, he considers his induction to be his greatest achievement and feels honored to be a member. P.J. is proud to have been involved in the CCA Caricatures in Motion book and is currently working on the new project.

<http://www.cca-carvers.org/bio-pages/driscoll.html>



BREAKING NEWS.....

This month you find out something really important, not what your refund from the IRS is going to be, not if you will qualify for an Obama care subsidy. No this month you get to find out who the lucky winner of last months mega quiz was

So imagine a drum roll in your mind.....The anticipation builds, the moment draws near, the suspense is overwhelming !!!

Last Months winner was.....wait for it..... Merle Krug

What's going on at the mill



I have been cleaning up some butternut cants that I sawed out last summer and dried in my kiln. I cut them in half after they were dry as they are heavy to maneuver around by myself. I love sawing butternut because the wood is pretty decay resistant. You get logs that look like junk and yet they yield beautiful lumber. I finished this pile up and another smaller pile that I processed into carving blocks. I think butternut is my favorite wood. I hopefully have some more logs bought so more pictures to come.....

Help Wanted

The club is always looking for and appreciates your help when it comes to the many projects we have. Currently we are looking for help in the following areas:

Club Promotions – we are looking for help in club promotions for events such as the Fall Show and the carving club in general and would appreciate help from anyone with experience in this area.

Noah's Ark – It has been suggested that it would be fun to add to the animals in the Club's Noah's Ark. In order to do so we need patterns for animals. Please submit any patterns you may have, or have created to Judy Nygard.

Ornament Donations – Due to the popularity of the Christmas wreaths last year, we will once again be raffling Christmas wreaths filled with hand carved ornaments at the MAWA Fall Show. All donations of hand carved ornaments would be greatly appreciated. Help us fill the wreaths!

A Parting Shot..... By George Bledsoe

Well it is me for me to pontificate about something.....

First off a special thanks to all who entered the quiz, I got more responses this time than any other time. Congratulations to Merle Krug for being the first correct email. The answer was in fact garden shears so good job to everyone for participating. Next up is the club picnic, I hope everyone who can attend takes the time to make it, it will be a great time I am sure. This month Spring has sprung (well it hasn't as of this writing but I am sure it will) so I thought it would be an excellent time to clean up. You see I suffer from carvovous-sparadicis-extremous it is a rare syndrome that causes people to not carve very often but, when they do they go overboard. My wife lets me carve in our breakfast nook, as long as I clean up the mess. I like it because it has good light, and also because I get to talk to my wife while I carve. I also get to see my kids and talk to them if they happen to be home which is nice too. Around Christmas time I got the Santa fever and, I was knocking out Santa's left and right I bet I did 15 at least, not including Christmas ornaments. As long as I cleaned up my mess all was good. Once the carving was done it was painting time, I am friends with PJ Driscoll and if you have seen his work, you know the guy can paint. Well PJ was using at the time a water based poly stain for the flesh color on all his carvings. Since I wanted similar results I went to Menards, and bought a quart. PJ uses really water downed paints so a little goes a long ways. The amount of carving I do and the amount I use left the can for all practical purposes full. Once I had gotten done painting everything after Christmas I decided to remove the small pile of carving supplies I had left in the breakfast nook. That probably should have been two trips. I had some carving tools, my paint brushes, some acrylic paint bottles, a few unfinished carving, and a can of water based poly I also had my for practical purposes full can of flesh colored, PJ recommended, water based stain. I believe in being efficient so, I decided I could get all of these items in my arms and make one trip. No problem, load it all up, and head downstairs. So off I go happy as a lark thinking my wife will notice I cleaned up the rest of my stuff without being asked. I headed downstairs which is probably 10 or 12 steps I would guess to the basement. Well everything seemed fine, except I noticed in my haste I had stacked the two cans on top of each other. That should not have been an issue, as I had my bear like paw on the bottom can holding it securely to prevent dropping it. On about the 3rd step from the top I noticed a small tremor in my subconscious that was pointing out I was not holding on to the top can. In a matter of seconds, that small warning in the back of my brain became an alarm bell, as I saw in slow motion that the for all practical purposes full can of flesh colored stain had decided to take flight. It was like a major motion picture done in slow motion. I realized three things in that instant, 1st My hands were full of crap I couldn't drop, 2nd I should have made two trips, and 3rd how am I going to explain this to my wife. So being true to a Hollywood blockbuster I tried to reach out with my free hand and grab the falling can, it all seemed so surreal. My hand grasped at empty air as the can danced right beyond my out stretched finger tips. I prayed that the can would hit the bottom and possibly avoid opening. I am afraid this is a dark comedy and, the for all practical purposes full can of flesh colored stain hit the 4th step from the bottom perfectly on edge and exploded all over the drywall, and flooded the bottom 4 steps. I may have uttered a few choice words to describe the range of emotions I was feeling at that precise moment. I grabbed a towel and feverously starting trying to clean up this toxic sludge from my previously beautiful unfinished steps. The basement door at the top of the stairs opened and, my wonderful wife asked me twice what the heck happened. I resisted answering the first time hoping she would see my distress, and allow me time to process my idiocy. I guess she thought the question needed to be repeated, so I answered her. In the end it all worked out fine, stairs look great flesh colored at least the bottom four. The wall can be repainted, and our leather couch is a surprisingly comfortable bed.....George



MID-AMERICA WOODCARVERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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