

Mid-America Woodcarvers Association

NEWSLETTER

May 2015



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

Augustana Lutheran Church 38th and Lafayette St, Omaha, NE

From the President:

It's hard to believe that it's May already; time has flown these last few weeks. I look forward to seeing everyone at club again next Saturday.

Spring Picnic and Garage Sale

This year we are trying something a little different, we are combining our Spring Picnic with a garage sale. Once again we will have our picnic at the lovely Camp Brewster near Bellevue, NE. All members are invited please let us know by email or at a club meeting if you are attending. We are providing fried chicken; all you need to do is bring a covered dish or dessert. Please note we will be having the Picnic on June 6th instead of our regularly scheduled meeting.

The MAWA Woodcarving Experience at Doane

Hard to believe but we are only a few months away from Doane. The committee has been hard at work making sure everything is organized and ready to go. Watch your email and mail boxes for class confirmations in Mid-May. We still have some class openings so if you have not yet decided what class you wish to take, now would be a good time. We have great instructors to choose from as well as a couple new instructors whose classes you might want to give a try. Be sure to look for articles in the up-coming issue of Carving Illustrated regarding Linda Curtis and also the Mawa Woodcarving Experience.

Fall Show

Plans for the Fall Show are underway as well. Time to start planning your table displays and finishing up your carvings for the show. Rich Wagner is doing an excellent job again planning the show and I look forward to attending. It's always inspiring to see everyone's new projects.

Happy carving and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Maria

Spring Picnic and Garage Sale

Will be held on Saturday, June 6th 2015

The gate opens at 10:00 AM, please feel free to come early and help set up! We will have our picnic lunch and then there will be plenty of time for everyone to look for bargains and finds at the garage sale. We will be providing fried chicken again this year. Spouses, children and grandchildren are welcome to attend, please include them in your R.S.V.P. by email or at a club meeting.

Camp Brewster, 1313 N. Bellevue Blvd., Bellevue, NE.

It's The Law

As Breta and I visit other carving clubs around the Midwest, I have come to the conclusion that the average age of wood carvers is about 150 years. I have also concluded that their reason for longevity is that they can't die until all of their projects are done. Have you counted all of your rough outs lately? Ha! I figure that I'm good til I'm 210 years old. The funny part is that I keep buying more. I just bought three more on our sojourn to Arizona.

Speaking of Arizona, Breta and I have become official snowbirds. Once you reach retirement age, you have to go South for the winter. It's the law. I discovered that there are a lot of elderly people in Arizona, and they are not all wood carvers, but most of them have projects to finish, and besides, it's the law.

I took an unofficial poll among some of the snow cappers and discovered that there are certain warning signs that you are about to make the trip South. You may becoming a snowbird if:

- You fall asleep in the middle of a nap.
- Your conversations are about drugs and joint replacements.
- You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
- Your secrets are safe with your friends, because they can't remember them either.
- There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
- Things you buy now won't wear out.
- Getting lucky means you found your car in the parking lot.
- You put popcorn in your pancakes so that they will flip themselves.
- You're going through your second childhood and you can't blame your parents.
- Your photographic memory has forgotten to take off its lens cap.

Breta and I, well, maybe not Breta, fell into several of the warning signs, and while we vacationed at a snowbird park this winter, we were introduced to some new games that are favorites of the residents. I'll give you a heads up on the games, so that you can practice up. The first game we learned was, "Sag, you're it." The second was, "Pin the toupee on the bald guy." Others were: "20 questions shouted in your good ear", "Simon says something incoherent", "Spin the bottle of Mylanta", "Musical recliners", "Red Rover, Red Rover, the nurse says bend over", "Doc Doc Goose", and "Kick the bucket".

I hope you know that I am just kidding. I really found that the snowbirds are some of the most energetic and active people that I have ever met. Heh! We're going back next winter.

We attended a carving show in Mesa, and enjoyed seeing the artwork of our Southern friends. Amazing!!

It's that time of year, when classes and shows are getting underway. We are excited to meander around our region to meet new carvers and keep abreast of what's new in our art field. It's your chance too, to learn new techniques and enter into competitions. Remember that anytime you are out supporting wood carving, you have the opportunity to introduce our art form to new people.

Have a great summer and hopefully we'll see you at Creede or Doane. Until then.

Keep Smiling,

Denny Jackson

Club Calendar & Upcoming Events

May 2—MAWA Club Meeting

May 16—MAWA Club Meeting

May 16-17 Great Plains Woodcarvers Show and Sale

Cesna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita, Kansas

June 6 - Annual Picnic and Garage Sale (No Club Meeting)

It's show time.....Time to show off all that hard work



Jay Macrander



Dean Paulsen



PJ Driscoll



Don Elsasser



Dean Paulsen

MaryAnne Klinger



Strange Wildlife spotting's continue to occur in Mills County Iowa

Southwest Iowa has again made the news. You may recall several months ago we had a large pack of Artic wolves move thru our area. The Iowa DNR was unable to explain the strange migration so far from their native area. The explanation was thought to be related to loss of habitat, but a recent sighting may be the reason. A large herd of elk were seen milling about in the Glenwood area recently. The prevailing thought is that the wolves may have been following this elk herd. These strange events have locals baffled, however one Cedar Rapids couple were quoted as saying "We were not surprised at all by this event, it happens to us all the time"

The Iowa DNR is currently tracking large herds of Moose and Buffalo and they are expecting one of the herds to move thru Glenwood sometime in early Fall 2015 so locals may want to check out this once in a lifetime opportunity.



Western & Wildlife Art Workshop

July 18-24 2015

Doane College Crete, Nebraska

Contact Nancy at 402-6234383

Email: ww12618@windstream.net

www.westernwoodcarvers.com

Carving Demo Opportunity

Arbor Lodge in Nebraska City, NE is seeking woodcarvers to demonstrate carving especially canes, walking sticks, and Santa's during the holidays on the weekends.

If this is something that interest you please contact:

Laura Steinman 402-873-2061 or email at lsteinman@arbordayfarm.org

Club Officers - **Maria Mulherin** - President

Rich Wagner- 1st VP

PJ Driscoll - 2nd VP

Judy Nygard - Recording Secretary **Ken Kult** - Treasurer

Board Members: **Denny Rourke, Larry Putnam, Mike Hawkins, Tom Paskach, Jeff Westerfield**

Membership: **Ken Kult** Workshops: **Larry Putnam** Library: **Barb Steiner**

Tool Managers: **Ken Armsbury** History: **Sandy Floral** Hospitality: **Sandy Floral**

New Club Mailing Address & Snowbirds

P.O. Box 540314, Omaha, NE 68114

If you have a winter address, please be sure to let us know so we can mail you the February newsletter to your current address.

midamericawoodcarvers@midamericawoodcarvers.com

Hospitality

Just a reminder to our members to please contact Sandy Foral with information regarding club members who have passed, are ill and could need the support of the club, or have a happy event they would like to share. You may reach her at 402/553-3440.

The 2015 Doane Experience Sponsors!



<http://www.occtools.com>



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



The Woodcraft Shop

<http://www.thewoodcraftshop.com/>



<http://www.foredom.net/>



<http://woodcarvingbiz.com/>



<http://www.proxxontools.com>



<http://www.roughouts.com/>



<http://www.treelineusa.com/>



<http://www.mcstees.com/>



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MID-AMERICA WOODCARVERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 540314, Omaha, NE 68114

Complete this form and return with your payment to the address above.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE : _____

PHONE NUMBER: () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please include \$20.00 Annual Membership Dues. If you would like a membership card, please include a self addressed stamped envelope.

Make checks payable to Mid-America Woodcarvers Association, Inc. or MAWA



I have met many folks woodcarving, some of which have become good friends. One of these is my friend Kirt Curtis, I have become friends with Kirt and Linda over several years and they are not only great carvers but, also wonderful people. We have been lucky enough to have Kirt and Linda come to Glenwood to hold classes. I have also been a guest in their home several times and they have treated me like family and made me feel very comfortable. I just wanted to Thank them for that, and all the extra help (right PJ) that they have given me Here is a picture of my friend Kirt, he is saying that Kutzall bits are number one !!!!!

Random Thoughts.....

Well here it is again deadline time for the newsletter. I am sitting here trying to arrange my thoughts in some sort of understandable sequence. In the morning I am leaving for MN to pickup some more basswood, that should be my final trip for this year. I enjoy visiting logging and sawmill operations so whenever I see one if I have time I try and stop. On my last trip my wife and I stopped at several sawmills and checked out what was going on. The folks usually are very friendly, but I try and keep the visit shorts as they are busy trying to earn a living. Some of these operations go thru the wood so fast it is amazing and fun to watch. It isn't everyone's cup of tea but I really enjoy it. The wood I have cut is all stacked and air drying in my yard, on the bright side it is less yard to mow! I will be starting on walnut logs soon but, first I had to get the mower ready for mowing season (I am hoping the wife will mow great way to get tan) so maybe things are looking up. We had Kirt and Linda Curtis down to Glenwood to teach a class and a great time was had by all. Kirt was kind enough to show how aggressive Kutzall bits can be. It was nothing that a Longhorn Perfect Margarita couldn't fix. I am looking forward to Doane although still a few months away I am excited to see old friend and make some new ones. If you haven't signed up yet you really need to get it done today. If you have never gone at least try it once and you will end up hooked just like me. The continuing saga of the crib is ongoing, I have it all sanded. I was having trouble with my sand paper sticking to the sander, it kept getting worse. The end was near all I needed was 10 or 15 minutes of sanding time, I couldn't keep the paper on the sander. It would spin off like a flying saucer no matter how hard I stuck it on. The hook and loop system wasn't hooking or looping. I decided after careful analysis what it need was a jar onto concrete at about 4' of height. I was really quite surprised..... it didn't fix it and now I am in the market for a new sander. I ended up finishing it by hand just like 7th grade shop class UGH!!!!!! Oh well a least I wasn't graded on it..... George





MID-AMERICA WOODCARVERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 540314

Omaha, Nebraska 68154

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Omaha, NE



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Permit 1634

LoessHills Sawmill

Custom Sawmilling Lumber Sales

Custom Furniture

Northern Basswood and Butternut

Walnut, Cherry, Red and White Oak Lumber

Ph: 712-310-4154

www.loesshillssawmill.com

Email: loesshillssawmill@hotmail.com

Kreylings Creation

For all your pyrography needs

Complete line of Optima burners

Cheryl Dow books Italian Poplar Plywood

Ph: 314-954-4322

Email :kreylings_creations@yahoo.com

The Woodcraft Shop

The only name you need to know for all your
woodcarving supply needs

2724 State Street

Bettendorf, Iowa 52722

1-800-397-2278

www.thewoodcraftshop.com

Midwest Woodworkers

14605 Wright Street

Omaha, NE

Ph: 402-330-5444

www.midwestwoodworkers.com

Club members receive 10% discount on most

Woodcarvings by Klingers

Specializing in Fish Carvings

Sales and Instruction

Gary and Mary Ann Klinger

(402) 453-2393

www.woodcarvingsbyklingers.com

Moore Roughouts

For the Professional, amateur,
and everyone in between

P.O. Box 193 Kindred, ND 58051-9557

Ph: 1-800-8BLANKS

www.roughouts.com