



Club Information

### Meetings/Workshops

First & Third Saturdays

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Augustana Lutheran Church

38th and Lafayette Street

Parking on East Side

### Mailing Address

Mid-America Woodcarvers

P.O. Box 521

Gretna, NE 68028-0521

### Club Officers

President - Rohn Collins

1st VP - Mary Ann Klinger

2nd VP - PJ Driscoll

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Recording Secretary

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Marty Dolphens

George Bledsoe

Cathy Cuka

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Library -

Sherry LaTendresse

Barb Steiner

Website - Rohn Collins

Hospitality - Sandy Foral

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### Doane Experience Chairs

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Mary Ann Klinger

Sherry LaTendresse

Len Stenneche

Mid-America Woodcarvers Association, Inc

# NEWSLETTER

*Message from the President:*

May 2012

Well April came and went faster than I could blink an eye. It seems like just yesterday George was asking for the April letter and now he is calling about the May one. Is it just me, or does time go faster as I get older. We had a fantastic meeting April 7 and I have got to meet several members that do not normally get to attend. It was nice to see the friendly faces again, and I really do appreciate all of you that come up and give us ideas and suggestions. We honestly try to use these ideas. I think the best idea was to do the face carving again. Ken Armsbury, PJ Driscoll, Mike Hawley, and Dean Paulsen did a great job of keeping all the students learning and carving. I look forward to seeing how far the students take what they have learned.

Speaking of learning, can you believe only 90 days until the Doane Experience? Yes! 90 short days. There is still time to attend if you have not already signed up. We are listing all the classes that still have some availability inside the newsletter. If you are still not decided now is the time to decide. You will see only the classes on the list that have space available. Some are listed as "Limited Availability Remaining" and we are not kidding. If you now want to come, and need a registration form, either send us an email, or give us a call and we will get one out to you as fast as possible. If you can't attend, perhaps you can share the information with a fellow woodcarver.

Also, remember the club picnic is May 6, 2012 at the beautiful Camp Brewster near Bellevue, NE. We are providing Fried and Baked Chicken; all you need to do is bring a covered dish or dessert. Let us know by email if you are attending, or stop by the club meeting on May 5 to let us know. I would love to see you there.

Watch your mailboxes in mid-May for your Doane experience class confirmation sheets, Sherry has been working very hard to get those done.

Happy Carving

Rohn

## *Registered for the Doane Experience Yet?*

*The Doane experience is a great chance to enjoy a week of fun and friendship. It is getting closer and you don't want to miss out on a great opportunity to improve your carving skills and have a great time too. Register now you won't regret it.....*

Limited Availability remaining in the following classes. Note: Some classes are full and are not listed on this sheet.

- 1. Bark Whimsy Houses---Ken Armsbury** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving cottonwood bark whimsy houses. Students may carve houses in the round or as a wall hanging, creating their own designs. Any type of piece may be carved: house, castle, lighthouse, etc. Instructor will demonstrate carving designs, techniques, and methods. Equipment and supplies will be outlined in letter to students. Instructor will furnish bark, wood burners, grinders, dust collector and finishing materials. Materials price range \$15.00  
**Cost: \$20.00 + cost of Bark selected** **15 Students**
- 2. Acanthus Clock and Shelf --Izo Becic** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving 2 projects, Acanthus Clock 23"x 9"x 1", and a Acanthus or Grapes Shelf 24" x 8" x 8". Students need to bring 3 to 4 clamps, mallet, and large gouges. Instructor will call.  
**Cost: \$65.00- \$85.00 each \$150.00 total** **15 Students (Limited availability remaining)**
- 3. High Speed Power Carving--- Dale Boyer** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving decorative patterns on different surfaces, including eggs! Instructor will have patterns to choose from. Students should bring dust collector, Ultra High Speed power grinder [air driven] or 40,000 rpm high speed grinder, assorted burs, and ear protection. Instructor will send email.  
**Cost: \$10.00 to \$50.00** **10 Students**
- 4. Black Bear Fishing for Trout--Kirt Curtis** **Intermediate-Advanced**  
**5 days** of carving the Bear. The project will be carved from a basswood roughout using power and hand tools, and will be painted. The completed project will be approx. 10" x 7". Students should bring dust collector, power grinder [Foredom, Dremel] assorted burs, sanding rolls, hand tools, and paint brushes. Cost includes roughout and paint. Instructor will send email.  
**Cost: \$40.00** **12 Students (Limited availability remaining)**
- 6. Outlaws and Lawmen---Marty Dolphens** **Beginner-Advanced**  
**5 days** of carving 2 butternut busts. Projects will be 11" tall 5"1/2 wide x 4" deep. Attention to facial details will be explored. Students will need mallet tools, palm tools, lights, extension cord and carving screws. Instructor will provide finishing materials and will send email.  
**Cost: \$90.00- for both** **16 Students (Limited availability remaining)**
- 7. Chip Carving---Wayne Gildseth** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of chip carving designs of interest and experience. Students should bring any chip carving supplies they may have, including Deft or other Laquer spray, paints or special stains. Instructor will provide designs, spray adhesives, sandpaper, and stain. Instructor will send email.  
**Cost: \$10.00 - \$100.00 [Depending on materials]** **10 Students**
- 8. Fish Carving-- Choice of Five fresh water fish Gary/Mary Ann Klinger** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving your choice of Bass, Bluegill, Crappie, Northern, Trout, Bluegill or Walleye from a basswood cutout. The size will be 9" to 17" depending on variety of fish. The project will also be wood burned, hand painted, and or air brushed. Students should bring foredom, or dremel type equipment, dust collector, carving tools, woodburner, fish scale tips {Colwood or Detail Master} 3/8" - Crappie, 1/4" - Bass, Bluegill, Northern, Walleye, 1/8" for Trout, wood base and or driftwood for mounting. Instructor will provide paint, paint brushes, and air brush, and will send email.  
**Cost: \$60.00** **12 Students**
- 9. Pyrography-- Gen Kreyling** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of burning on practice board, basswood, boxes, or gourds as desired. Students should bring woodburner and pens, red ink pen, white eraser, clear ruler, and masking tape. Instructor will provide practice board, patterns, graphite paper and will send email.  
**Cost of class: \$10.00 + additional projects costs, ranging in price \$1.00-\$25.00** **15 Students**
- 10. Caricature Carving – Pete LeClair** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving 2 projects starting from cutouts. Projects will be a bust approx.. 7 inches and a bottle-stopper head. Students should bring gouges, knives, gloves, pencils, and Paint Brushes. Instructor will provide carving materials except tools.  
**Cost: \$45.00** **15 Students (Limited availability remaining)**
- 11. Antler Carving [Small]--Roger Lyon** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of power carving small antler pieces or small moose antlers. Instructor will provide introduction and assistance into making patterns, transferring carving scenes and figures in antlers. Power carving tools only, dust box, lighting, etc. Student must provide own moose antler. Instructor will provide small antler pieces and will send email.  
**Cost \$5.00 plus cost of antler** **10 Students**

- 12. Full bodied Buffalo--Jim McKenney** **Advanced**  
**5 days** of carving full bodied buffalo out of a butternut roughout. Total overall size of the piece is 10" tall, 10" wide, and 4" thick. There will be slight wood burning to accentuate eyes and nose, the rest of the finish will be natural. Both hand and power carving methods will be used to complete the piece. Students must bring Foreom type equipment, dust collector, hand carving tools, wood burner, [light and a high speed grinder would be helpful]. Instructor will provide finishing supplies for this project and will send email.  
**Cost: \$45.00** **12 Students (Limited Availability remaining)**
- 13. Caricature Animal or Human--LLoyd Meng** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving keepsake caricature animals mounted on wheel bases for pull toys. Or choice of 12 different human caricatures, policeman, teacher, doctor, nurse, golfer, or other of instructors designs. Projects will be carved from blanks or roughouts. Students need to bring sharp hand carving tools. Additional projects range \$7 - \$30.  
**Cost: \$30.00** **12 Students**
- 14. Full Bodied Farmer—Travis Mollenor** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving a standing farmer from Basswood. Project will be 12" tall. Attention to facial details will be explored. Students will need mallet tools, palm tools, carving screws, paint brushes and a stool if needed. Instructor will provide finishing materials and will send email.  
**Cost: \$45.00** **16 Students**
- 15. Wildlife Relief Scenes--Shirley Meng** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of deep relief carving a pair of wolves in a snow scene. Additional project will be a Mother bear and cubs. Size of project 9" x 12". Students should bring large V tool and large gouge #3 or #5 sweep, woodburner and tips, light optional. Instructor will provide water colored pencils and a woodburner if student doesn't have one.  
**Cost: \$25.00** **10 Students**
- 17. Shallow Relief—Wanda Reichert** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of shallow relief carving from various patterns. Students will carve, paint, and woodburn on a basswood board approx. 8" x 16" x 1" [with bark on both 16" sides]. Students should bring #3 - 1" bent gouge, #3 - 3/8" and #3 - 3/16" gouge, skew, thin or hook bladed knife, woodburner [controlled heat] with tips G, S, and C. A good work light is recommended. Instructor will provide board, paint and wax to finish.  
**Cost: \$60.00** **12 Students**
- 18. Basket Weaving-- Zac Reinecker** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of weaving from a variety of projects. Students need knife, pencil, scissors, sandpaper., and 5' cloth tape. Students may also need awl, spring hand clamps, block plane, pruning shears, sponge or spray bottle, and a 5 quart bucket.  
**Cost: \$5.00-\$35.00** **25 Students**
- 20. Songbird Carving – Eastern Bluebird --Steve Schumacher** **Intermediate - Advanced**  
**5 days** of carving an Eastern Bluebird. Students need to bring habitat for bird, power grinder, dust collector, woodburner, knife, sandpaper, paint and brushes, ruler, pencils, and light. Instructor will send email.  
**Cost: \$45.00** **12 Students**
- 21. Carvers Choice – Dave Stetson** **All Levels**  
**5 days** of carving one of Dave or Michele's roughouts, of your choice. Project will focus on construction and facial expression. Instructor will work with all students who want to learn regardless of experience. Students need to bring Sharp tools, carving glove, and notebook. If student wants to paint their project, they will need to bring brushes, paint, water basin, disposable pallet, boiled linseed oil and paper towels.  
**Cost: \$25.00-\$50.00** **15 Students (Limited availability remaining)**
- 22. High-Five Rodeo Cowboy – Bob Travis** **Intermediate - Advanced**  
**5 days** of carving a 10" rodeo cowboy from blank, with right hand giving high 5 to clown [cowboy figure only]. 4 days of carving / 1 day of painting. Students should bring hand tools, [no power] glove, notebook, and paint brushes. Instructor will furnish cutout, base, color photos, and acrylic paints. If you took the Rodeo Clown in 2011 this will be a project to complete the "high five" set. Instructor will send email.  
**Cost: \$20.00** **13 Students (Limited availability remaining)**
- 25. Decorative Gourds---Sara and Larry Cornwell** **All Levels**  
**5 Individual days** of carving and dyeing decorative gourds. Instructors will provide tools and supplies needed. Students should bring lighting.  
**Monday-** Native American Teepee **Tuesday-** Dream Catcher Gourd **Wednesday-** Native American Drum **Thursday** –Fall Leaves gourd **Friday-** Fall Leaves gourd. Instructor will send email.  
**Cost: \$20.00 - \$25.00 a Day** **12 Students (Limited availability remaining)**
- 26. Reed Baskets-- Sandy Wirtz** **All Levels**  
**5 individual days** of classes. Three days of classes featuring a large market basket, 16" x 9" x 9" high. Other projects to include a patriotic wall or door basket, and Santa's sleigh. Students need to bring pruning scissors, tape measure, pencil, awl, flat head screw driver, dishpan and spring clothes pins for basket class. Instructor will send email.  
**Cost: \$45.00 for Market Basket** **8 Students (Limited availability remaining)**

**New Members**

*We would like to welcome all our new members, if you are able, please come to a club meeting..*

*Jimmie Pinkham JR Omaha, Nebraska  
John Hart Omaha, Nebraska  
Samuel Boon Lincoln, Nebraska  
Alice Smisek Manley, Nebraska*

**Upcoming Carving Opportunities**

*Western & Wildlife Art Workshop  
July 14-20, 2012  
Doane College, Crete, NE  
For more information contact  
Nancy Burke 402-623-4292 or e-mail  
[ww12618@windstream.net](mailto:ww12618@windstream.net)*

*The Doane Experience  
July 22nd - 28th  
Doane College, Crete, NE  
For additional information  
contact  
Len Stenneche 402-332-3118  
[ldstenneche@cox.net](mailto:ldstenneche@cox.net)*

**Local Club member hits the Big Time**

*Marty Dolphens awesome bark carving was on the cover of Carving Magazine. The magazine is Issue #38 and is out in bookstores now. It is on the cover and inside is a step by step article written in Marty's easy to follow (Marty is a great teacher) style and is a must read if you like native American Indians. We are lucky to both have him as a member and a regular teacher at Doane. So again congrats to Marty ,I knew if I kept working with him it would payoff eventually ;)*

*Disclaimer: Although he is not happy about it , Marty is my Brother in law although he usually denies it. S  
So I sometimes do tease him just a little....*

## Upcoming Club Carving Events

*May 5th: Thad Tinder will be doing wildlife plaques.*

*May 6th: The second annual club picnic at Camp Brewster  
Bellevue, Nebraska*

*May 19th: Wood burning demo hosted by Roger Williams*

*Stop in and take in a class put on by one of our members and enjoy some  
Great fellowship and a donut and a cup of coffee*

*Worried about the Post Office stopping Saturday Delivery? Tired of running to the mailbox full of excitement only to be disappointed yet again when the newsletter isn't there. Want to be go green and be part of a paperless society? Well do I have a deal for you then!!!!!!*

*Get it by email, you'll get the newsletter on the day it is released, and be able to see all the photos in full color. Send your name and address including email to:  
[midamericawoodcarvers@midamericawoodcarvers.com](mailto:midamericawoodcarvers@midamericawoodcarvers.com)*

### *Club Hospitality:*

*Gen Kreyling is at home recuperating after having a knee replacement. Both her and Tom have promised she will be up and running at Doane this year. You can send cards and well wishes to Gen at 1588 Kingsway Dr, Arnold MO 63010. Or drop them an email [Kreyling@swbell.net](mailto:Kreyling@swbell.net)*

I thought some of you might be interested in seeing the process continue from last month. I get winter cut logs from Minnesota and get them cut up in early spring. After they get cut up into the various sizes the lumber gets stacked on kiln dry stickers so that it can air dry. The stickers allow air to pass between the layers and speed the drying process. The key to basswood is good air flow, the more air the better. That holds true for many types of wood but can also cause a condition called honeycombing in red oak, and white oak lumber. The high air flow causes the outer layers to dry too quickly and it will try to stretch over the wet core and causes it to crack and check. That isn't a concern for basswood, butternut, cherry or walnut so not an issue for me right now. The ends of each board are also painted with a product called Anchorseal, a wax based paint that seals the ends of the board and forces the moisture to exit out the sides and top which helps reduce end checking. It usually will lose about half it's moisture content in about 2 months. It will reach a point of equilibrium with the outside air and will stop losing moisture. The next step is stacking the wood in the solar kiln, and using the power of the sun, and forced air to finish drying the lumber. This time varies according to the outside weather since it requires the sun, and so works best on bright sunny days. When the wood first goes in the vents are cracked open and that allows the moist air to exit and draw in dry air from outside. Once it reaches approx 12 % I close the vents and that increases the heat in the kiln, at night the fans are off which allows the wood to cool and settle and prevents case hardening. It will take about 45 days or so to dry the wood to 7 - 8 % moisture content and then it gets stacked inside and is ready to be carved, or in my case stacked in a shed and then moved, restacked, moved, restacked, moved, restacked.... according to my wife, I have a wood hoarding problem, I am planning to seek help..... after I restack some butternut!



This a stack of basswood and butternut that is air drying



Here is a stack of basswood and a little thick cherry



A load of butternut in my kiln, dry and ready to stack as soon as I can find a place to stack it. The inside of the kiln is painted black to increase the kiln temps.



Red oak that is in the process of drying it is currently about 16% so it still has a ways to go yet. The fans circulate the warm air and remove the moisture. The cement blocks help-keep the lumber pile from warping.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



MID-AMERICA WOODCARVERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
PO BOX 521  
GRETNA, NE 68028-0521

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(Check appropriate boxes)

Membership—\$20.00 per Family - Newsletter send by 3rd class mail (except) February -1st class mail

Membership Card - send SASE (Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope)

Detach and send applications, dues and SASE to Len Stenneche, PO Box 521, Gretna, NE 68028-0521

If you have any changes in your address, phone number or e-mail address contact:

LEN STENNECHE - 333 Paradise Drive - Gretna, NE 68028-7890 - (402) 332-3118 - ldstenneche@cox.net

*A Parting Shot*..... By George Bledsoe

*I am sitting here thinking about all the things I want to work on. I am in the process of building a federal card table complete with sand shaded ovals and fancy stringing on the legs. I have a bunch of walnut logs to cut up, I didn't have any, and now I have too many. I keep looking at the pile, it isn't getting any smaller. I have a carving I am working on with PJ, that is almost done, if I would just stick with it. I have a about 10 boxes that I built, that I need to finish. I was on a box kick for awhile there. I have several bark carvings started, and I still haven't tried to sharpen anything on my Burke sharpener yet. I have several rough outs, I got from Marty that I want to carve, I see them laying around from time to time. I have two walnut Pennsylvania spice boxes that I built several years ago all done except the dovetail drawers. I bought two kits to make dovetail saws, so I could use them to cut dovetails in curly maple for the spice cabinet drawers, still in the box, unopened. I am sure you all have a similar list of unfinished projects. I think that is the reason I enjoy woodworking so much, I have all these projects to finish and yet I am thinking of starting something else. It is a hobby that you can start, and stop, and change directions at anytime. I take long breaks sometimes, in fact I haven't turned my table saw on for months, but it is still there and when I feel like it I know it will be there waiting for me. I have boxes of tools, I have bought so many tools from Marty that sometimes when he demonstrates with a tool I will say "oh I better get one of those I don't think I have it" he usually says I sold you one of these already go home and look. (he really isn't cut out to be a very good salesman) and sure enough I did have it. That is what I like about working with wood, plus I have met so many wonderful people, with which I share this common bond, woodworkers truly are a great bunch of people.*

George



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