

WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS

NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2018

On June 20, 2018 at 7:05 PM, club President Greg Wirtz called the meeting to order at the 1st Congregational United Church of Christ in Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

- Greg Wirtz asked if there were any additions or corrections to the May newsletter; there being none, Randy Hartjes made a motion and Ken Brzezinski seconded to accept the minutes as sent. All members approved.
- At the present time we have (108) **Memberships** paid for in 2018. We had (114) memberships in 2017. Rich Wetherbee of Colorado Springs, CO joined the club. Rich is a founding member of the CCA. Rich is the first CCA member to join the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers. Welcome Rich. Bob & Cheryl Marx rejoined the club. Welcome back Bob & Cheryl. James & Dorothy Jochims rejoined the club. Welcome back Jim & Dorothy. Bob & Joan Collins joined the club as new members. Joan started “Gourding” about five years ago in Sun City, AZ. She also likes to golf. Bob retired in 2008. Welcome Bob & Joan.
- **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Ron O’Kray reported income came from Dues 2018, Tables at 2018 & 2019 show, Banquet meals at 2018 show, and Rich Wetherbee seminar. Expenses were for Refund of table & banquet meal @ 2018 show, Mailing of May Newsletter, Rent of Lincoln Center for May 2018, Stamps for mailing of May newsletter, Bank stamp, Pine boards for raffle bucket display at 2018 show, Polo shirt & Sweatshirt to be used as samples for 2019 show, “Colored Dots’ for identifying carvings @ 2018 show, “Get Well” cards, Donation to AWC for 2019 “Cash Class Award, Books for club library, Tags for identifying who donated banquet & raffle prizes @ 2018 show, and June rent of Lincoln Center. Clark Snyder made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report, Ken Brzezinski seconded. All present, approved.
- **SUNSHINE REPORT:** Marion O’Kray reported that she sent a “Get Well” card to Jim Van Duser and Dan Petterson. We hope they are both doing better.
- **OLD BUSINESS:** The John Engler seminar is scheduled for September 10, 11, 12, & 13, 2018. The seminar will be held at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. The class is full. We have (2) carvers on the “waiting list”.

- **NEW BUSINESS:** Jerry Uher was contacted to see if the club was interested in having a booth at June Dairy Days in 2019. The event world is the 3rd Saturday of June on the “Owen’ farm off of Highway 10 East of Stevens Point. Hours would be 7:30 AM to Noon. They asked for carvings of cows and tractors. We would not be able to sell at the event but we could promote our 2019 show. Carl Weinfurter volunteered to bring his collection of carved tractors. There was enough interest in those members attending to agree that the club would do the event. If you have a pattern(s) of dairy cows (relief, realistic, or caricature), contact Greg Wirtz or Jerry Uher.
- **NEW BUSINESS:** Greg Wirtz & Ron O’Kray are working with the Holiday Inn & Convention Center on Show contracts for 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- **2018 SHOW PROMOTION:** Jerry Uher asked if we have members who would be interested in helping the club promote the 2018 Show by appearing on TV, or speaking on the radio. In the past Greg Wirtz, Jerry Uher, and Ron O’Kray have been doing those things. Jerry would like to see more club members get involved. If interested, contact Jerry Uher @ 715-592-4107 or uherja@charter.net.
- **2018 SHOW INFORMATION TABLE:** Ron asked for a volunteer to take care of the information table at the 2018 Show. Diane Swiggum said she could do that as well as the Memorial table. Thanks Dianne.
- **LIBRARY** - The club has purchased the following books for the club library:
 1. Creative Woodcarving for Beginners by Reinhold Budeker.
 2. Great Book of Woodcarving Patterns by Lora S. Irish.
 3. Carving Woodspirits Beyond the Basics by Susan Hendrix.
 4. Quick & Cute Carving projects by Lori Dickie

If you are interested in these books, contact Club Librarian Bill Jacobs @ 715-421-4692.

- Our **Club Secretary** Sophie Kubisiak has resigned. President Greg Wirtz needs to appoint a member to fill out the remaining portion of Sophie’s term. If you are interested in helping the club in this important position contact Greg @ 715-423-0471 or E-mail him @ gswirtz@outlook.com.

- The planning for the **2018 SHOW** is ongoing. The dates for the 2018 Show are September 15 & 16, 2018. We have (126) tables paid for already. Show flyers are available. If you cannot pick them at the meetings, contact Ron. The club is going to carve a lamp and Nativity set for the raffle in 2018. All but (1) of the pieces for the nativity have been returned. (54) People have already paid for the 2018 Show Banquet. Show registration forms and Banquet forms are available either on the website or from Ron. **It is not too early to start thinking about a donation for the raffle or the banquet.**
- The planning for the **2019 SHOW** has started. We have (8) tables for the 2019 show sold already. The Caricature Carvers of America will be our featured carvers. The CCA will be doing all the demonstrations at the show. Bob Travis of Davis, CA will do a (3) day seminar prior to the show using a machined blank. He will have examples of what you can do with that blank. Sandy Smith of Lakeview, AR will be doing two (1) days classes "Carving a Critter from a 2" X 2" X 3" basswood block. Jerry Uher is working with Helvie Knives to have a commemorative knife for the 2019 Show. Jerry showed the prototypes at the meeting. We will also be doing shirts and sweatshirts for 2019. Samples were available at the meeting. More information after the 2018 show is complete.
- **SEMINAR** Rich Weatherbee of Colorado Springs, CO will be an exhibitor at our 2018 show. He will be doing a (2) day seminar after the show on Tuesday and Wednesday September 18 & 19, 2018 at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point. Rich started carving at a very early age. His father, an excellent carver himself, let Rich carry a jackknife, and taught him the basics of grain direction and stop cuts. Rich started carving and sculpting the same time around 1982. He is a member of the Caricature Carvers of America and teaches wood carving and design throughout the United States. His hope is that his talent and experience will help wood carvers reach their potential and keep the excitement of this great art form alive. You can carve or sculpt in clay in the class. He would like a minimum of (8) and maximum of (12) students. We presently have (4) carvers paid for this seminar. Check out his website www.weatherbeecollectionllc.com. A registration form is attached.
- **SUMMER PICNIC:** The club picnic will be Wednesday July 11, 2018 at South Wood County Park in Kellner, WI. Marion O'Kray again volunteered to be in charge of the picnic. The picnic is for all members and spouses. The club will again provide the meat. We ask all members to bring a dish to pass. Contact Marion O'Kray @ 715-341-2214 or E-mail ron.marion@charter.net to let her know you will be attending and what you will be bringing as your dish to pass.

- **Woodcarving:** Ron & Greg having been working with Mark Baker of GMC publications. Mark is the editor of the magazine **Woodcarving** published in London, England. They will be doing an article on our club and show. The article will be on pages 32 to 35 in issue # 163 July / August 2018. The magazine should hit the newsstands on June 28, 2018. If you do not subscribe to the magazine, you can obtain it from: “The Woodcraft Shop” in Bettendorf, IA or from Barnes and Noble Booksellers.
- **AWC:** Greg Wirtz said the Pyrography at Congress this year was exceptional. Greg also said that his granddaughter Libby Wirtz was on TV in Iowa promoting Congress. Libby also spoke at the Saturday “Judge’s Critique” and the Sunday “Membership Meeting”. It is nice to see the younger generation getting involved. The following members of Wisconsin River Woodcarvers competed at Congress: Stan Carlson, Bill Day, Dylan Goodson, Echo Keller, Kathy Krueger, Clayton Kubisiak, Carol Leavy, Ron O’Kray, Tim Swiecki, Greg Wirtz, and Libby Wirtz.
- There being no other business, Greg asked for a motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Clark Snyder made a motion with Carl Weinfurter seconding.

Submitted by:

Ronald O’Kray – Treasurer / Show Chairman

CLUB OFFICIERS

President	Greg Wirtz	715-423-0471
Vice President	Clark Snyder	715-325-3489
Treasurer	Ronald O’Kray	715-341-2214
Librarian	Bill Jacobs	715-421-4962
Historian	Stan Carlson	715-341-3695
Sunshine Person	Marion O’Kray	715-341-2214
Seminar Coordinator	Chet James	715-347-0234
Hostess	Marion O’Kray	715-341-2214
Web Master	Bill Day	715-340-4056
Immediate Past President	Neil Rippey	715-340-7218