

# WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS

## NEWSLETTER –AUGUST 2018

On August 8, 2018 at 6:40 PM, club President Greg Wirtz called the meeting to order at the 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational United Church of Christ in Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

- **MINUTES:** Ron O’Kray read the June newsletter. There was one correction. Ken Brzezinski made a motion and Ron Peters seconded to accept the minutes as corrected. All members approved.
- **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Ron O’Kray reported income came from Wisconsin Rapids placemat advertising, Tables @ 2018 show, Banquet meals @ 2018 show, Dues 2019, Rich Wetherbee woodcarving seminar, Youth membership, Sale of “Make Woodcarving Great Again” hats, 9/5/18 City Times 2018 Show sponsor add, & Sale of Issue # 163 of “Woodcarving”. Expenses were for (4) Prototype Helvie knives for 2019 show, Gift bags for 2018 show, Printing of June Newsletter, Mailing of June newsletter, Cookies for club meeting, (3) Plastic totes for storage of banquet prizes, Copy of Holiday Inn layout, Plastic trays for club picnic, Finial for lamp for 2018 show, Laminating of sign for lamp, Lampshade for lamp, Copies of “Cows” for 2019 June Dairy Days, Ink for computer printer for club treasurer, Reimbursement to Bill Day for “Wordfence”, Roast beef and buns for club picnic, Address labels, (8) “Make Woodcarving Great Again” hats, Laminating of sign for Nativity set, 25,000 copies each of Stevens Point & Wisconsin Rapids placemats, Postcard stamps for club mailing, Printing of 2019 “Early Bird Registration” forms, Printing of 2018 Judging Registration forms, Printing of Thank You cards, & Printing of signs advertising demonstration at 2018 show. Clark Snyder made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report, Ken Brzezinski seconded. All present, approved.
- **WORDFENCE:** A question was asked, what exactly is “Wordfence”. Bill Day explained it is software that keeps hackers out of our website. Bill says it works well. Joann Jepson asked Bill Day about access to 2017 show pictures, he explained sub-menus.
- **SUNSHINE REPORT:** Marion O’Kray reported that she sent a “Get Well” to Jane Zunker and Bob Corriveau. We hope they are both doing better. She also sent a sympathy card to the Jack Larson family. Jack passed away in June. He was a past member of the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers.

- **OLD BUSINESS:** Sophie Kubisiak thanked Marion O’Kray and Delores Zakoski for a fine job on the club picnic. We had a beautiful day for the picnic which was well attended. Both Marion and Delores said this was their last year doing the picnic.
- **MEMBERSHIP:** At the present time we have (112) Memberships paid for in 2018. We had (114) memberships in 2017. Clare Viau rejoined the club, William & Gail Ferg rejoined the club, and Dennis & Linda Nash rejoined the club. Welcome back. Al & Nancy Grosz joined the club. Al heard about the club from Randy Hartjes and Ken Brzezinski. Al is retired. He enjoys hunting, fishing, golf, and stamp collecting. Welcome Al & Nancy.
- **SEMINAR:** 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”.
- **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 (8) carvers paid for this seminar. Check out his website [www.weatherbeecollectionllc.com](http://www.weatherbeecollectionllc.com). A registration form is attached.
- **2018 SHOW:** The dates for the 2018 Show are September 15 & 16, 2018. We have (144) tables and (1) outside chainsaw carver paid for already. **We are sold out.** We will be starting a waiting list. Show flyers are available. If you cannot pick them at the meetings, contact Ron. The Nativity set and lamp are complete. Thanks to all those carvers who help make those projects a success. Postcards have been set to those spectators that wanted to be on our mailing list. **(73)** People have already paid for the 2018 Show Banquet. We need to let the Holiday Inn know one week in advance of the show the number of banquet attendees. Show registration forms and Banquet forms are available either on the website or from Ron. **We need donations for the raffle. The raffle is a big money maker for the club. We are (37) days from the show.** Sophie is looking for volunteers to either take admission or sell raffle tickets. Contact Sophie if you can help in important positions.

- **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](mailto:uherja@charter.net).
- **SHARPENING SERVICE:** Denny Neubauer will again be at our show offering his sharpening services. If you have a tool that you can’t get sharpened just right, or you want your whole roil of tools touched up, Denny can do it for a nominal fee.
- **CLUB PROJECT:** Greg showed a relief carving of a Bear that he got when he was in Crete, NE. Greg asked how many carvers would be interested in doing this project on Wednesday nights in Wisconsin Rapids. (14) Carvers were interested. Greg will start teaching this project after the 2018 show.
- **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 did an article on our club and show. The article is on pages 32 to 35 in issue # 163 July / August 2018. Also in the same issue on page 13, they advertise (8) woodcarving shows; (7) are in the United Kingdom and the 8<sup>th</sup> one is ours in Stevens Point, WI. Greg Wirtz was in Crete, NE for the Doane experience. Many carvers there questioned him on how the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers could get our show article in an international magazine. Greg explained to them about the great group of volunteers that this club has. If you do not subscribe to the magazine, you can obtain it from Barnes and Noble Booksellers. The club has purchased all the magazine copies that The Woodcraft Shop had left.
- **HOLIDAY INN:** We now have signed contracts with the Holiday Inn and Convention Center for our show thru 2024.
- **NEXT MEETING:** The club will **not** be meeting on Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup> because a number of carvers will be at Boulder Junction, WI for a carving seminar and we do not have anyone else familiar with the security system at the church. We will resume carving in Wisconsin Rapids on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- **SEPTEMBER MEETING:** Bill Day made a motion, seconded by Bill Jacobs to move the September business meeting to September 5<sup>th</sup>. The reason was to have a little extra time before the show to discuss last minute items. All present approved.

- **OPPORTUNITY:** Bill Day received an email from a daughter of an older woman who must stop carving. She is looking for a fair price for her mom's supplies. Here is the craigslist post:

MUST GO! Former woodcarver eliminating inventory due to shaky hands, and moving. Everything & anything you could need or want: at least 50 blank forms for fish and birds - small tropical fish to rainbow trout and finches to large ducks (blanks cost anywhere from \$10 - \$30 new); feet & eyes for songbirds (cost \$10 new each); mounting boards and wood pieces, some new in wrappers; vintage vice for carving; rare and full photo instructional manuals, blueprints, reference photos and magazines galore; glues, varnishes and putties; additional small crafting pieces for earring and pen making; topped off with 1 or 2 desks of workspace, one desk with vacuum system installed for collecting sawdust as you carve. SELLING AS A BULK SALE, so please no partial requests. SERIOUS OFFERS ONLY. Thank you.

See Pix at <https://milwaukee.craigslist.org/art/6662917829.html?lang=en&cc=us>

If interested, please respond to Kina Stringfellow, at [kinalady@gmail.com](mailto:kinalady@gmail.com)

- **ALEXANDER HOUSE:** Diane Swiggum asked if we should be contacting the Alexander House about the club having a show again. Chet James said he had already been in contact with them and would find about available times.
- 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](mailto:gswirtz@outlook.com).
- The planning for the **2019 SHOW** has started. We have (9) 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.

- **SHOW & TELL:** Richard Zakoski showed a spoon that he had made from Birch & Pakkawood. Gorgeous.
- There being no other business, Greg asked for a motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Clark Snyder made a motion with Ken Bzezinski 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

**UPCOMING CARVING EVENTS:**

- August 14 - 17: Musky Area Wood Carvers 22d Annual Workshop, Boulder Junction Community Center, Hwy M, Boulder Junction, W
- September 8 – Rock River Valley Carver of Wisconsin 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Show and Sale, Janesville, WI Rock County Fairgrounds – Craig Center 1301 Craig Ave. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM