

JULY 2019 NEWSLETTER



On July 3, 2019 at 6:50 PM, club President Greg Wirtz called the meeting to order at the 1st Congregational United Church of Christ in Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

MINUTES: No corrections were made to the June Newsletter. Clark Snyder made a motion to accept, seconded by Bill Jacobs. All in attendance approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Ron O’Kray gave the financial report. **Income** came from: Rich Wetherbee seminar, Stevens Point & Wisconsin Rapids placemat advertisers, Dues 2019, Tables & Electricity at 2019 Show, Denny Neubauer Sharpening class, Show Banquet 2019, WRW / CCA Polo Shirts, and Bob Travis seminar. **Expenses** were for: Rich Wetherbee class, Rent of Lincoln Center for Rich Wetherbee class, Printing of June newsletter, Stamps for mailing of June newsletter, AWC Cash Class Award 2020, Book for club library, Cord protectors & carpet tape for electrical cords at 2019 show, Cellophane wrap & Striped safety tape for 2019 show, (4) medium size gift bags for club picnic, Cookies for club meeting, Refund for Table at 2019 show, and Basket for donation to American Family’s “Fill the Bus” school supply program. Motion by Clark Snyder to accept the Treasurer’s report, seconded by Ken Brzezinski. All in attendance approved.

SUNSHINE REPORT: Marion O’Kray reported she sent a “Get Well” card to Gene Tubbs. We hope that Gene is feeling better.

OLD BUSINESS

- Our club secretary (Sue Brzezinski) has resigned due to personal reasons. We thank her for her service. If you are interested in filling the remainder of Sue’s term as secretary, contact club President Greg Wirtz. Greg said if no one comes forward to fill this position, he will appointment someone.
- **WEBSITE** Bill Day (webmaster) said that he will be retiring from the position of webmaster spring of 2020 when our website licenses come due. We are in need of a person who would like to apprentice with Bill on this position and then take over webmaster in spring of 2020. Kyle Mallek volunteered for this position.

- Jerry Uher volunteered to be in charge of demonstrating carving at June Dairy Days (June 15, 2019). We thank all those club members that carved woodburned or painted a piece for this showing. There was a lot of interest in pieces on display and club members gave out a lot of 2019 Show flyers. Stu & Bernice Kepler Randy Hartjes, and Ron Peters volunteered to help Jerry.
- Greg Wirtz will be continuing a class on Wednesday nights on carving the "Pig in a Pail" roughout by Leah Goddard that the club purchased from Stadtlander Woodcarvings. The club purchased additional roughouts and they have shipped.

SUMMER PICNIC After discussion, it was decided to have a club picnic on Tuesday July 9, 2019 at the South Wood County Park in Kellner, WI. The picnic is for all members and spouses. The club will again provide the meat. Happy hour is at 5:00 PM with supper at 6:00 PM. The club will provide Styrofoam plates, plastic dinnerware, and coffee. If your beverage of choice is something other than coffee, you have to provide your own. We ask all members to bring a dish to pass. Bobbi O'Shasky has volunteered to be in charge of the picnic. Sandy Hartjes, Becky Engstrand, Joann Jepson, Sarjane Snyder, and Sue Brzezinski have volunteered to help Bobbi. Contact Bobbi O'Shasky @ 715-457-5387 or E-mail bobbioshasky@gmail.com to let her know you will attend and what you will be bringing as your dish to pass.

- Carley Lee, the Dementia Care Specialist at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, would like the club to participate in one of her monthly Memory Cafes, which is for people suffering from dementia and their caregivers. Participants have shown they love learning new things and Carley thinks their being able to admire the trade of woodcarving would go over well. The idea would be to have probably 3 people working on their project, whatever they do is fine, and able to answer questions and perhaps tell some about their particular craft if no questions are forthcoming. Of course the people attending would not be using or even touching tools. These cafes are from 10:30 Am – noon on the second Wednesday of the month. The club decided to do the Memory Café on Wednesday July 10, 2019. Karen Barten, Diane Swiggum, and Bill Day volunteered. Bill Day will get in touch with Carley.

MEMBERSHIP: We have (128) memberships paid for in 2019. Chris & Kari Forsythe joined the club. Chris is a machinist by trade and he loves working with his hands, woodcarving, and is a family man. Chris joined the club after being in a Vic Hood class at AWC with Greg Wirtz and Ron O'Kray.

2019 SHOW

1. We have (159) tables for the 2019 show sold already. We have (3) Tables left. Ron redesigned the Holiday Inn layout to get a better traffic flow and additional tables. That drawing was available for all to review at the July 3rd meeting.

2. We have determined the menu for the Show banquet. The banquet meal is the same price as in 2018. Forms are available on the website. **(70)** Guests have paid for the banquet already.
3. The club is carving a Nativity set for the 2019 Show Raffle. We had asked for all Nativity pieces to be turned in by June 1st. We are waiting for (1) piece. The last piece is promised to be delivered to Ron at the club picnic.
4. We have had an artificial Christmas tree donated and the club is going to raffle it off at the 2019 show with ornaments. We have (128) members in the club at this time, it would be nice if every member donated an ornament for the tree. Ornaments for the tree can be given to Ron O'Kray. Harold Mohr and the Waupaca Area Woodcarvers have promised to donate (25) ornaments. **PLEASE HELP US OUT WITH THIS PROJECT.**
5. Show flyers are available from Ron O'Kray
6. We have all ads paid for the Stevens Point and Wisconsin Rapids placemats. Jason Alderman has completed the placemat design. Thanks Jason. We also thank Jerry Uher and Karen Barten for their work in securing the placemat ads.
7. It is not too early to start thinking about a donation for the show raffle. We have had some donations already but need many more. Donations for the raffle can be given to Ron O'Kray.
8. **CCA / Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Tee-shirts and Sweatshirts:** If you have not purchased a tee shirt or sweatshirt to commemorate the CCA being at our show in 2019, you must do so before July 10th. Ron has order forms. Sample shirts are at tonight's show.

RICH WETHERBEE SEMINAR: The seminar was held on June 10 & 11, 2019. Clark and Sarajane Snyder showed the pieces they had completed in the class. They talked about how excellent Rich was as an instructor. They said that no one not even a beginner should be afraid of taking a Rich Wetherbee class. Also they talked about how Rich does his pieces in clay before carving. He makes working in clay very easy. Rich also donated a carving to The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers to be used in our 2019 Show Raffle.

SANDY SMITH SEMINAR: Sandy Smith of Lakeview, AR will be doing two (1) day classes "Carving a Critter". Sandy's critters are fun, easy, and relatively quick to carve. They are created from a 2" X 2" X 3" piece of basswood and carved from solid blocks, or blocks drilled either to be bottle toppers or toothpick holders. All Critters are sitting with their back feet forward and their front paws in front of them (except for the birds). This is a class that lets students create their own Critter or carve one from Sandy's menagerie of go-bys. Reference materials (mostly dogs) will be available, however students can bring photos of critters they wish to carve, keeping in mind that "all views" (including the bottoms of the back of feet) will be needed and that some animals many better critters than others. Hand tools used for roughing out and carving fine details will be needed. These little guys make excellent gifts that people treasure – especially "Critter" people. Her seminars will be Wednesday September 18, 2019 and Thursday September 19, 2019. The costs of her seminars are \$75.00 per day and the price of blanks are \$5.00. The seminars will be at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI. We have **(7)** carvers paid for the Wednesday seminar and **(9)** paid for the Thursday class. She will take maximum of **(12)** students in each class.

BOB TRAVIS SEMINAR: Bob Travis of Davis, CA will do a (3) day seminar prior to the show on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday September 16, 17, & 18, 2019 using a machined blank. The cost of the seminar will be \$225.00 including (1) blank. Additional blanks will be available for sale. He will have examples of what you can do with that blank. Seminar will be held at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI. He will take maximum of (12) students. We have **(7)** already paid.

DENNY NEUBAUER SHARPENING SEMINAR Denny will be holding a one day Sharpening seminar on Wednesday July 10, 2019 at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point from 8:30AM to 4:30 PM. Cost of the seminar will be \$55.00. The maximum number of students for the class is (12). **THE CLASS IS FULL.**

ALEXANDER HOUSE: Chet James reported that the Wisconsin River woodcarvers are scheduled to display at the Alexander house from August 30 to October 15, 2019. By **July 22nd** the Alexander House will need some images for the cover of the invitation. By **July 29th** they will need any information that the club would like share in a press release. Also by **July 29th**, they will need an inventory of works for the exhibit. This should be a sequentially numbered list with title and price or value if NFS. The Alexander House can light up to 60 pieces individually. The Alexander House does not take a commission on sales. Delivery day is **August 28th** at a time that works for the club. Usually a 2 hour block of time works for the group. Opening night will be on Friday **August 30th** from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. They would like all artists to be there by 4:30 PM just to walk thru and check that everything is correct. Pick up will be on Tuesday **October 15th** at 4:00 PM. Greg Wirtz will talk to Chet James about being the coordinator of this project.

NEW BUSINESS

- Jerry Uher informed Ron O'Kray that he will not be the "**Show Promotion Chairman**" next year (2020) due to personal reasons. We thank Jerry for his years of service in this valuable position. We need someone to take over this position. If interested either contact Jerry Uher or Ron O'Kray.
- We received a "Thank You" card from AWC for our continued support of their show. The front of the card has a picture of the "Best of Show" winner.
- We received a "Thank You" card from Bob Hershey for our support of AWC.
- The following members of the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers were winners at **AWC**: Carol Leavy, Libby Wirtz, Clayton Kubisiak, Greg Wirtz, Dylan Goodson, Bob Corriveau, Jan Jenson, Bill Day, Stan Carlson, Echo Keller, and Ron O'Kray. These club members won a total of (33) ribbons. Congratulations' to all participants.
- Motion by Sarajane Snyder and seconded by Carl Weinfurter that there will be no carving at the church in Wisconsin Rapids on July 10th because of the club picnic of July 9th and the Denny Neubauer seminar on July 10th. All members in attendance approved.
- The club purchased a new Pyrography book for the club library titled "Yearn to Burn" by Simon Easton.

- Greg Wirtz stated that the number of entries at AWC 2019 was down slightly from 2018, but the quality was much higher.
- The Jim Check **American Family Insurance** Agency (one of our placemat advertisers) contacted us to see if we would be interested in their “**Stuff the Bus**” program. After discussion between Greg Wirtz and Ron O’Kray, it was decided to be a sponsor. The club name will be added to the raffle basket donors on the event flyer. They will be having recordings on the radio with NRG media on all 4 radio stations, as well as the two days of the event, they will have live broadcasts for 4 hours each day. The club had a number of items donated for Show Banquet prizes. Marion O’Kray used some of those items (with the anonymous donors consent) to create a gift basket. The club also donated some school supplies.

UPCOMING CARVING EVENTS

- The **Doane Experience** will be in Crete, NE from Sunday July 21 to Friday July 26, 2019. More information on website.
- **Lake County Carvers** will be holding their Woodcarving Show on Saturday August 2, 2019 at the “Life Enrichment Center” 1306 West Wisconsin Ave. Oconomowoc, WI from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. More information on the website.
- The **Musky Area Woodcarvers Workshop** will be held from August 13 to 16, 2019 at the Community Center in Boulder Junction, WI. More information on the website.
- **Rock River Woodcarvers of Wisconsin** in will be holding their 14th annual show on Saturday September 14, 2019 at the Rock County Fairgrounds; 1301 Craig Ave.; Janesville, WI. More information on the website.
- The **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers** will be holding their 19th annual show, sale, & competition at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point, WI on Saturday & Sunday September 21 & 22, 2019. More information on website or from Ron O’Kray or Greg Wirtz.
- **Artistry in Wood** will be holding their last show on Saturday and Sunday October 12 & 13, 2019 at the Roberts Centre; 123 Gano Road, Wilmington, OH. More information on website.
- The **Capitol Area Carvers of Wisconsin** will be holding their 31st Annual Show & Sale on Sunday October 20, 2019 at the Abundant Life Christian School, 4901 East Buckeye Road, Madison, WI from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. More information on website.

SHOW AND TELL

- Clark Snyder told the club of his experiences at Camp Awesome. If you remember about a year ago, the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers donated approximately (50) Comfort Birds that were carved but not sanded. The camp is for young people with autism and last five days. The (41) students were between the ages of ten and eighteen. The student's job was to sand and finish the Comfort Bird. Clark would have four students at a time for 45 minutes. All students got their Comfort Bird completed. Another of the projects for students was to create a tie dyed t-shirt. Clark said that when the parents came to pick up the students, they were all wearing their tie-dyed t-shirt and holding their Comfort Bird. Clark thanks for sharing this experience.
- David King showed (2) relief carvings that he is working on: one is of an Owl, and the other is of an Elk. Great job David.
- Cheryl Marx showed a Chip Carved plate she is working on. Good job Cheryl
- Vicki Brandt showed her version of the "Book" project that was in the past issue of Woodcarving Illustrated. Great job in using your imagination.
- JoAnn Jepson showed a "Candy Cane" ornament that she is planning on donating to the club Christmas tree project. Another great job of using your imagination,

There being no other business President Greg Wirtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Clark Snyder made a motion seconded by Sarjane Snyder. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Submitted by: Ronald O'Kray
Treasurer / Show Chairman

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