



May 2022 Newsletter

By Greg Wirtz - President

President Greg Wirtz called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Minutes from April 2022 Meeting: Motion by Jerry Meid and seconded by David King to accept as sent. All in attendance approved.

Sunshine Report: Marion O’Kray reported that she sent a sympathy card to Joe Longo on the loss of his wife Nannette and a sympathy card to Bobbi O’Shasky on the loss of her husband Larry.

Membership: We have (81) memberships paid for in 2022. Ron & Barb Fischer of Wisconsin Rapids, WI rejoined the club. Cheryl & Paul Wachowiak rejoined the club. Welcome back.

Treasurer’s Report:

- **Income** came from: Dues 2022, & Debbe Edwards seminar.
- **Expenses** were for: Printing of April newsletter, stamps for mailing of April newsletter, Joe Longo on the loss of his wife Nannette, Annual No-Stock Corporation Report to the State of Wisconsin, Bobbi O’Shasky on the loss of her husband Larry, Decaf coffee & cookies for club meeting, add Nannette Longo & Larry O’Shasky names to memorial plaque, and computer paper and ink for club treasurer.
- A motion was made by Karen Barten and seconded by David King to approve the treasurer’s report. All in attendance agreed.

Old Business:

- A good time was had by all members who attended the **Carve-In 6** at Westby, WI on April 23rd.
- David King has completed his “Kid’s Carving” at the Port Edwards elementary school. 200 kids, 400 carvings, and smiles on all kid’s faces. Dave did a tremendous job organizing. Kids and teachers liked the presentation. According to Art teacher, maybe again next year.
- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers had been invited to exhibit at **the “Portage County June Dairy Breakfast”** on June 4, 2022. Location is 7741 Dairy Lane, Custer, WI. Hours would be from 7:30 AM to Noon. **No one came forward to volunteer, so we informed June Dairy Days that the club was not interested at this time.**

- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers have been invited to exhibit at “**Heritage Days**” in Plover, WI On Saturday & Sunday June 18 & 19, 2022. Location would be Heritage Park. Saturday hours would be from 9:00 AM to Noon. Sunday hours would be 1:00 to 4:00 PM. **David King volunteered to do the carving demonstration on Saturday.** Thanks David.
- President Greg Wirtz has asked if there would be any interest in doing something like “**Carve in at the Bekkum** in the Wisconsin Rapids area?
- Jim Balzer informed us that he is getting rid of his (55) year collection of decoys and related books & supplies. If interested contact Jim @ (715-421-4277).
- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members that attended the Mid-Wisconsin Chippers show in Oshkosh, WI had a great time.
- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members that attended the North Arkansas Woodcarvers show in Mountain Home, AR had a great time.

Upcoming Seminars:

- The club will be holding a seminar with **Debbe Edwards** on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, September 12, 13, & 14, 2022 at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI. The cost of the seminar is \$175.00 plus roughout(s) for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members, and \$185.00 plus roughout(s) for non-members. Debbe will take a maximum of (12) students. (11) carvers have already paid for the seminar. Since Debbe will be flying, you **must** have your choice of roughouts(s) determined prior to the seminar as they will be shipped. Forms are on the website: www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org. Debbe is looking to stay with a club member for the duration of the seminar and needs someone to pick her up and give her a ride back to the airport. If interested, that member would have their seminar costs paid for by the club. If interested, contact Greg Wirtz.47
- The students that were in the Floyd Rhadigan seminar had such a good time that it was agreed to have him back in 2023. The seminar will be held at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI on Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday April 5, 6, & 7, 2023. Price is same as in 2022. Forms are on the website: www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org.

Upcoming Shows in 2022:

- The **International Woodcarvers Congress** will be held from June 11 thru June 19, 2022 at the Jackson County Fairgrounds, 1212 East Quarry Street, Maquoketa, IA. This will be their 54th annual event, the oldest competitively judged woodcarving art show in the USA. More information @ <http://woodcarverscongress.org>. They will have (17) instructors in 2022.
- The **2022 Evart Woodcarvers Roundup** will be held at the Osceola Fair Grounds in Evart, MI from June 15 to 18, 2022. Contact Floyd Rhadigan @ rhads134@comcast.net or 734-649-3259 for more information.

- **Floyd Fest** will be held June 20 – 24, 2022 in Ewart, MI. There will be (9) instructors. Contact Floyd Rhadigan @ rhads134@comcast.net or 734-649-3259 for more information.
- The **Creede Woodcarving Rendezvous** will be held from July 9 thru July 15, 2022 in Creede, CO. More information @ www.creedewoodcarvers.com.
- The Mid-America Woodcarvers will hold **Doane Experience 2022** at Doane College in Crete, NE from July 24 to July 30, 2022. More information on website midamericawoodcarvers.com/Doane_Experience.html.
- The **Rock River Valley Woodcarvers of Wisconsin** will be having their annual show on Saturday September 10, 2022 at the Rock County Fairgrounds “Craig Center” 131 Craig Ave. Janesville, WI. Hours are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. More information on club website.
- **Carve-In on the Chippewa** (Sponsored by the West Wisconsin Wood Carvers Guild) will be held on September 10, 2022 from 10:00 Am to 4:00 PM at Post 305 VFW, 1300 Starr Ave, Eau Claire, WI. Free Admission. Contact Rich Thelen @ 715-456-8253 or rlthelen@charter.net for more information.
- “**Carvin The Rockies CCA**” will be held September 24 & 25, 2022 in Colorado Springs, CO. More information @ www.cca-carvers.org.
- The **Northeast Wisconsin Woodworkers Guild** will be having a woodcarving show in Denmark, WI on Saturday & Sunday October 8 & 9, 2022. Show time Saturday 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM and Sunday 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. More information on website or from Pat Williams 920-883-6089.
- The **Waupaca Area Woodcarvers** will be having their first woodcarving show on Sunday November 6, 2022 @ 407 School Street, Waupaca, WI. More information available from Harold Mohr (715-281-4923) or Kathy Brehm (920-740-1986) & website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org. The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers will have (2) club tables at this show.
- The **Piedmont Wood Carvers Club** invites you to “The best and upcoming woodcarving show in the Southeast” in conjunction with an elite artist fair. The 33rd Annual Woodcarving Competition and Show will be held on November 11 – 13, 2022 at the Simpsonville Activity & Senior Center in Simpsonville, SC. Free Admission and free parking. More information @ www.piedmontwoodcarvers.com.
- **Karve In 7** will be held on April 22, 2023 at Westby Elementary, 122 Nelson Street, Westby, WI. This is a new location. Free admission. Contact Steve Michaels @ stevemicheals@westby-norse.org or John Sutton @ 608-634-4396 or lbarnfarms@gmail.com.

New Business:

- **Walter Grittner** was a Chip carver that had attended our show for many years until he reached the age of 95 as it became too far for him to drive.
- Walter C. Grittner Age 103, Chip Carver, passed away peacefully on April 20, 2022 at age 103. Walter was born in St. Paul on October 4, 1918, the fourth of eight children of Joseph and Eva Grittner. He was preceded in death by his wife Arline (Diehl) and son Alan. Survived by sons James and Edward (Barb) and daughter Elaine, daughter-in-law Margaret, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Walter served in the US Army Air Force during World War II and retired in 1983 from St. Paul Book & Stationery. Following

retirement, he embarked on a second career with his talent for Chip Carving, traveling throughout the country participating in woodcarving shows, ethnic festivals, and history events, teaching his craft to hundreds of students, and proudly boasting of having his work in over 18 countries and all 50 states. He was a member of several local woodcarving clubs, a lover of the great outdoors, and he could talk to anyone about anything. There will be a private memorial service for the family and internment at Fort Snelling. Memorials can be directed to Gammelgarden Museum in Scandia, MN or to the Milan Village Arts School in Milan, MN.

- Jim Jochims was a member of the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers for a number of years. He had not been a member at the time of his death because of poor health.
- **James (Jim) E. Jochims**, age 85, of Friendship, Wisconsin passed away Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at his home. A memorial mass will be 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2022, at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Friendship. Father David Bruener will officiate. Full military honors will follow mass. Interment will be at the Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery in King, Wisconsin at a later date. James was born July 26, 1936, in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The son of Edward and Sophia Jochims. His sister was Marilyn Peterson. He graduated from Libertyville Freemont Consolidated High School; was on the football team, boxing team, and played some baseball. He joined the army in 1954. James married Dorothy Hinderyckx on April 18, 1955, in Libertyville, Illinois. They were blessed with 67 years of marriage. He served in the Army for 20 years, retiring as a Major in 1974. Some of the many exemplary accomplishments during his career include Green Beret, Ranger, Master Parachutist, Path Finder, and Jungle Expert training. He was the recipient of multiple awards which included: a Silver Star, a Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star(s) with valor, and Purple Heart(s). A veteran of both the Korean War and Vietnam War, he also served in Japan, Panama, and multiple stateside assignments, which led to each of his 5 kids being born in a different state. After retirement, he worked in a couple civilian jobs and then owned a bar called Mainstreet. James enjoyed fishing, wood working, wood carving, camping, hunting, fixing things, traveling, spending time with his family, and was a history buff. He did most of these with his wife along with playing cards and dancing in his early years. He enjoyed smoking meats for family gatherings. He was also known for his sense of humor and some of his practical jokes. He was an avid Packer fan. James was a member of the VFW, Knights of the Columbus, American Legion, and Airborne Association. James was preceded in death by his parents, sister, and in-laws Leslie and Dorothy Hinderyckx. Survivors include his wife Dorothy, their five children Victoria (James) Linstrom, Kevin (Jisuk) Jochims, Jennifer Jochims, Kelly (Paul) Malecki, and Colleen Kasten. 15 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He loved spending time with all the little ones
- **James "Jim" W. Kvatek** of Stevens Point (Wisconsin River Woodcarvers member) passed away early Wednesday morning, May 18, 2022 at Edenbrook Assisted Living Center in Wisconsin Rapids.

Age 79 Jim was born July 6, 1942 in Stevens Point. He was the son of the late William and Agnes (Flatoff) Kvatek. He attended local grade schools, graduating from P.J. Jacobs High School in 1960.

Jim entered the United States Army on October 9, 1964 in Stevens Point. He served as a Pvt. E – 2 with the Hdq. Co. 2D at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., as a supply specialist. Jim also served time with the Army National Guard, being honorably discharged on July 6, 1970.

His marriage to Carol Kaszubski took place on April 30, 1966 at St. Casimir Catholic Church. After their marriage the couple settled in Whiting. His wife Carol survives. Jim worked for many years at Neenah Papers, and was also a Greeter at St. Michaels Hospital. In his retirement Jim loved spending time with his family, enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting and the outdoors. He loved traveling with his wife Carol, a good card game, wood carving and also volunteered for the Special Olympics for many years. He also like Barbering and cutting hair.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus- St. Bronislava Council 13880, the Plover American Legion Post 543 and the Wood Carvers Association. In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in Jim's name at a later date.

Survivors include his wife Carol the love of his life and their children Deb (Tom) Peterson of Plover, Lori (John) Trzebiatowski of Amherst and Randy Kvatek of Plover. His 11 grandchildren; Mindy, Jon, Kassie, Kyle, Stacey, Miranda, Chelsey, Zach, Rachel, Shiann and Evan, and 13 great grandchildren; Steven, Lily, Aliyah, Hank, Lucy, Eastin, Mattie, Mataya, Paityn, Adrianna, Cason, Riley and Dorothea.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, May 23, 2022 at St. Bronislava Catholic Church. The Very Rev. Ed Shuttleworth officiating. Entombment will be in the Guardian Angel Cemetery. Full Military Honors will follow the mass at church. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until the time for mass. The Pisarski Community Funeral Home is honored to be serving the family. Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.pisarskifuneralhome.com

- **Picnic** The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers will be having our annual picnic at “South Wood County Park” 6411 South Park Road, Wisconsin Rapids, WI on Wednesday July 6, 2022. 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. We are looking for a member to be in charge of the picnic. If interested contact President Greg Wirtz @ 715-421-0471 or gswirtz@outlook.com.
- There being no other business President Greg Wirtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Ken Brzezinski made the motion seconded by Dick Fleisner. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

CLUB OFFICIERS:

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| • President | Greg Wirtz | 715-423-0471 | gswirtz@outlook.com |
| • Vice President | Diane Swiggum | 715-459-3221 | mrschips48@gmail.com |
| • Secretary | | | |
| • Treasurer | Ron O’Kray | 715-341-2214 | ron.marion@charter.net |
| • Webmaster | Kyle Mallek | 715-323-6390 | kyle.mallek@gmail.com |
| • Seminar Chairman | Chet James | 715-347-0234 | chtbon@solarus.net |
| • Historian | Stan Carlson | 715-341-3695 | scarlson@uwsp.edu |
| • Sunshine Person | Marion O’Kray | 715-341-2214 | ron.marion@charter.net |
| • Librarian | Bill Jacobs | 715-421-4962 | |
| • Hostess | Marion O’Kray | 715-341-2214 | ron.marion@charter.net |
| • Facebook Administrator | Missy Wachuta | 608-633-5648 | melissa.wach07@gmail.com |