



December 2022 Newsletter

By: Ron O’Kray – Secretary / Treasurer

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

Minutes from November 2022 Meeting: Motion by Marion O’Kray and seconded by Dick Fleisner to accept as sent. All in attendance approved.

Sunshine Report: Marion O’Kray reported that she sent Get-Well cards to Sophie Kubisiak and Tom Klement. We hope that they both are doing better.

Membership: We have (90) memberships paid for in 2022. Charlie & Lynn Dutter of Cameron, WI rejoined the club and Jim Strebe of Stevens Point, WI joined the club. Welcome to all new and returning members. (24) members have paid dues for 2023. 2023 Dues are \$24.00 and due January 1, 2023.

Treasurer’s Report:

- **Income:** Christmas Party 2022, Floyd Rhadigan Seminar in April 2023, Dues 2022 & 2023, Additional Debbe Edwards roughouts, Shipping costs for additional Debbe Edwards roughouts, and John Engler Carving & Painting Seminar in August 2023,
- **Expenses:** Keys for cabinets for club Librarian, Printing of November newsletter, Rent of Lincoln Center November 2022, Additional Debbe Edwards roughouts & shipping costs, Cookies & paper napkins for club meeting, and envelopes for club secretary.
- A motion was made by Marion O’Kray and seconded by Dick Fleisner to approve the treasurer’s report. All in attendance agreed.

Old Business:

- **Christmas Party:** Ken Brzezinski report that (40) people have signed up. A form for the Christmas party is included in with the newsletter. **January 3, 2023** is the last date to sign up.

**WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS 2022
CHRISTMAS DINNER**

DATE: January 11, 2023

Time: 5:00 pm Social - 6:00 pm Dinner

**Place: Smileys Bar & Grill
4020 County Rd. R
Plover Wisconsin 54467**

Menu: Delicious "Polish Buffet"

**Cost: \$22.50 per person
(Includes: Dessert, Tax and Gratuity)**

**Ornament exchange: if you bring an ornament you get
to choose an ornament as in the past.**

Make checks payable to WRWC (Wisconsin River Wood Carvers).

Send or call in your reservation to Ken Brzezinski.

**Send your checks no later than January 3, 2023 to the
Treasurer.**

Christmas Party Chairman
Ken Brzezinski
8311 State Hwy. 13S Unit #3
Wisconsin Rapids, WI. 54494
920-622-5958

- Have you ever wondered what it would be like make your own knife? Now you can! Experience a mini version of “Forged in Fire”. We will make knives out of Allen wrenches, drill bits, garage door springs, car coil springs, etc. Contact Denny at **Forest City Forging** neubauer.dennis@yahoo.com to make arrangements. This is a one-day experience for the low cost of \$55, plus a propane and materials fee of \$10. Class size from 1 to 6 persons at the same low price per person.
- **John Overby** of Fifield, WI (Wisconsin River Woodcarvers member) was at the Waupaca Area Woodcarvers show. John Teaches “Flat Plane carving”. Definition: *The **Scandinavian flat-plane style of woodcarving** is a style of figure carving. The figures are carved in large flat planes, created primarily using a carving knife. Tool marks are left in the carving and very little (if any) rounding or sanding is done.* John would do either a one-day or two-day class. Cost for a one-day class would be \$75.00 per student. Cost for a two-day class would be \$100.00 per student. Class size minimum of (8) with a maximum of (12). The projects are band sawed and cost between \$10.00 and \$15.00. Tools needed are a 1 ½” to 2” sharp knife. John is still working 4 days a week so class would be better on a Friday / Saturday. If you interested contact Greg Wirtz. Ron O’Kray checked with the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point and we can do either a Friday or Friday / Saturday class. See some attached pictures of John Overby’s carvings. More pictures of Website and Facebook page. It was decided to proceed with a two day seminar. Ron will check with John Overby and the ADRC to determine the dates.
- **Rummage Sale:** An idea was brought up about having a “Carving related rummage sale”. The thought was to have the sale in conjunction with Summer Picnic. It was agreed to proceed with rummage sale.
- **Floyd Rhadigan Seminar** The seminar will be held at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI on **Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday April 5, 6, & 7, 2023**. Cost is \$150.00 plus roughout(s) for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members and \$160.00 plus roughouts(s) for Non-Members. Cost of roughouts is between \$15.00 and \$40.00. Pay Floyd for roughouts at start of class. A form for the Floyd Rhadigan seminar is attached. We have (4) carvers already paid.
- **John Engler** of Battlefield, MO will be conducting a (3) day woodcarving class (**Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday August 22, 23, & 24, 2023**) and a (1) day painting class (**Friday August 25, 2023**). John has been carving full time since 1983 when he graduated from Southwest Missouri State University with a BFA degree. He is very active in teaching relief carving and watercolor painting throughout the U.S., as well as operating the John Lee Engler and Associate design studio. He specializes in medium relief woodcarving finishing them off with watercolors. Blanks would cost between \$40.00 and \$45.00. Pay John for blanks at start of class. Check out his website www.johnenglerwoodcarving.com. John needs minimum of (9) students and maximum of (13) students for carving and (10) students’ maximum for painting. A form for the John Engler class is attached. We have (9) carvers already paid.
- President Greg Wirtz said that he appointed Ron O’Kray to be the club treasurer for 2023.

Club Meeting Dates:

- **December 28, 2022** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **January 3, 2023** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **January 4, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **January 11, 2023** Christmas Party @ Smiley's in Plover, WI
- **January 17, 2023** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **January 18, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **January 25, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **February 1, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **February 7, 2023** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **February 8, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

New Business:

- There will not be a business meeting in January because of the Christmas party. Next business meeting will be on February 8, 2023.
- The **ADRC** of Portage County will have a woodcarving class starting Tuesday January 10, 2023 at the Lincoln Center, 1519 Water Street, Stevens Point, WI. Hours are 8:30 to 11:30 AM. Stan Carlson will be in charge of "Open" carving, Greg Wirtz will teach "Relief" carving, and Ron O'Kray will teach "Beginning / Novice" carving. If interested, contact the ADRC at 715-346-1401.
- A discussion was held on a request for donation to **AWC**. Ron O'Kray made a motion, seconded by Ron Peters to donate \$100.00 to Affiliated Woodcarvers Congress with President Greg Wirtz to determine the category for the donation. All in attendance approved.
- **Update on the Facebook Page:** Missy Wachuta
 1. Log into Facebook
 2. Click on the Search Bar in the top left corner of the webpage. Type in Wisconsin River Woodcarvers. It should pop up in the list that shows up.
 3. Click the correct link or press "Enter" after spelling it all out.
 4. Our club should be at the top of the page that is then shown with a list of relevant searches.
 5. Click on the bolded name of our group and it will bring you to our page. Once you are there, you can send the club a message, read a post, or reply to a post.

Upcoming Shows in 2023:

- **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 @ stevemichels@westby-norse.org or John Sutton @ 608-634-4396 or lbarnfarms@gmail.com.
- The **Kettle Karvers Klub** is again Holding its' "Artistry in Wood" carving show on Sunday April 23, 2023 at the Emil Mazey Hall, 5425 Superior Ave. Sheboygan, WI from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For more information contact Bob Lawrence at 920-458-4947 or Email Bob at bob.kettlekarvers@att.net. You may also visit the club website at www.kettlekarvers.org. Information also available at www.wisconsinriverwoodcarver.org.

- **The Mid-Wisconsin Chippers** will be holding their 47th Annual Show, Competition, and Sale on Sunday May 7, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the "Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main Street, Oshkosh, WI. Admission in \$5.00, Ages 12 & under are free. More show information is available @ www.midwisconsinchippers.weebly.com or from Paul Wolters (920-727-2139). If you plan on exhibiting, the cost of renting a table will increase by \$5.00 January 1, 2023. Ron O'Kray has forms if you are interested.
- The **North Arkansas Woodcarvers** will be holding their 43rd Annual Woodcarving Show on Saturday & Sunday May 6 & 7, 2023 at the Baxter County Fairgrounds in Mountain Home Arkansas. Saturday hours are 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Sunday hours are 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For information Call Sandy Smith @ 870-431-8070 or Email her @ typesmith@suddenlink.net. Website www.northarkansaswoodcarvers.org or webmaster@northarkansaswoodcarvers.org. Informatin also available @ www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org.
- **AWC Congress** will be held in Maquoketa, IA from June 10 to 17, 2023. Competition, Seminars, and Show. More information from Ron O'Kray, the website www.woodcarverscongress.org, or Facebook: Affiliated Wood Carvers
- The **Rock River Woodcarvers** will be holding their show on September 9, 2023.
- The first **Carve in On the Chippewa** was a success. They are planning next year's show for September 16, 2023

Show and Tell:

- Ron O'Kray showed a spoon he carved out of white birch with an eighth note in the bowl and the end of spoon carved as a drumstick. He also showed a Poinsettia ornament he carved.
- David King showed two drinking cups he carved for Christmas presents. He tried a new method for sealing the inside, so the cup could be used for hot liquids.
- Tom Kissner showed a cowboy he carved.
- There being no other business President Greg Wirtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Ken Brzezinski made the motion seconded by David King. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

CLUB OFFICIERS:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| • President | Greg Wirtz | 715-423-0471 | gswirtz@outlook.com |
| • Vice President | Diane Swiggum | 715-459-3221 | mrschips48@gmail.com |
| • Secretary | Ron O'Kray | 715-341-2214 | ron.marion@charter.net |
| • 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 |

**WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS
FLOYD RHADIGAN SEMINAR**

- CARVING:** Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, April 6, 7, & 8, 2022
TIME: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
WHERE: Lincoln Center (Rooms A & B)
1519 Water Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481
- COST:** **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Members: \$150.00** plus roughout(s). Pay Floyd for roughout. Cost of roughout between \$15.00 and \$40.00
Non-Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Members s: \$160.00 plus roughout(s). Pay Floyd for roughout. Cost of roughout between \$15.00 and \$40.00
Meals are **not** included.
- WHAT TO BRING:** Quality and sharp hand tools and knives

BIOGRAPHY: I entered the world of woodcarving in 1970, with the help of a family friend, Smokey Joe Briemuiller. He was one of those characters who fascinated me as a child. He carved small animals, Indians and Hill People. He had the aroma of wood and cigar smoke about him.

Smokey Joe showed me the basics- how to make a pattern, how to cut out a blank on a band saw, and how to make a knife from a straight razor, the most important how to was to keep that knife sharp. I used that knife and a box of patterns, and began to carve as much as I could. In those early days, there were very few tools on the market. A person could find full size mallet tools but little else. So I relied on my homemade carving knife.

In 1973, I bought my first carving book, "HOW TO CARVE CHARACTERS IN WOOD" by H.S. "Andy" Anderson. This really opened my eyes to the type of carver I wanted to become. I carved every project in the book. This made me thirst for more.

Then Harold Enlow came into my life, with his book "CARVING FIGURE CARICATURES in the OZARK STYLE." I thought I had died and gone to heaven. Harold not only carved the way I wanted to learn, but he also introduced me to palm tools. They were what was missing!

Harold came out with more books, each as exciting as the first. I carved every idea in his books. I started to develop my own style, a mix between Ozark and Flat Plane Scandinavian carving.

I began to teach my style of carving in 1976 for the city of Mt. Clemens, MI Adult Education Program. I moved to Warren, MI and started to teach for the Warren Parks & Rec. Dept. In 1991, I moved to Saline, MI where I started teaching a weekly class and began participating in wood carving shows around the state, As my work became known, my teaching increased. I started to teach at the two major woodcarving seminars in Michigan, "Creative Woodcarving Seminar" in Cadillac, MI (which I now run) and the MWCA (Michigan Wood Carvers Association) in Midland, MI. I now instruct annually at the Wood Carvers Round Up, in Evert, MI and the North East Carvers Round Up, in Honesdale, PA. I was honored to teach in Twin Falls, Idaho, with the CCA. I am excited about returning in May.

Wood Carving has opened many doors for me and I have met the greatest people in the world. I had the honor to win Best of Show in the 2005 CCA Carving Competition. The biggest honor in my career was to become a member of the club all my heroes belong to, the Caricature Carvers of America.

I have a lot more to learn on this journey. May we meet and carve together along the way.

For additional information or questions concerning the **Floyd Rhadigan Seminar** contact Greg Wirtz (715-423-0471) or Ron O’Kray (715-341-2214)

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City / State /Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

CANCELLATION POLICY: If you cancel the class more than (30) days prior to the class, your entire registration will be refunded. If you cancel (8) to (30) days from the start of the class, your registration fee minus \$20.00 will be refunded. If you cancel (7) or fewer days prior to the start of the class, no money will be refunded.

Payment due at time of registration.

Make checks payable to: **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Inc.**

Mail completed form to: **Ronald O’Kray - Treasurer
1449 Sunny Crest Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481**



Pictures are samples of John Overby’s carvings.

WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS JOHN ENGLER SEMINAR 2023

John Engler of Battlefield, MO will be conducting a (3) day woodcarving class and a (1) day painting class. John has been carving full time since 1983 when he graduated from Southwest Missouri State University with a BFA degree. He is very active in teaching relief carving and watercolor painting throughout the U.S., as well as operating the John Lee Engler and Associate design studio. He specializes in medium relief woodcarving finishing them off with watercolors. Blanks would cost between \$40.00 and \$45.00. Pay John for blanks at start of class. Check out his website www.johnenglerwoodcarving.com. John needs minimum of (9) students and maximum of (13) students for carving and (10) students' maximum for painting.

CARVING: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday August 22, 23, & 24, 2023

PAINTING: Friday, August 25, 2023

TIME: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

WHERE: Lincoln Center (Workshop)

1519 Water Street

Stevens Point, WI 54481

COST: **CARVING ONLY** - \$200.00 for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members and \$215.00 for Non-Members (Plus roughout)

CARVING & PAINTING - \$270.00 for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members and \$290.00 for Non-Members. (Plus roughout)

Meals are **not** included.

WHAT TO BRING: Hand Tools and Bench Knife. Paint brushes if painting. John will furnish paint. For additional information or questions contact "Seminar Chairman" Chet James 715-347-0234 or E-mail chtbon@solarus.net

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

CANCELLATION POLICY: If you cancel the class more than (30) days prior to the class, your entire registration will be refunded. If you cancel (8) to (30) days from the start of the class, your registration fee minus \$20.00 will be refunded. If you cancel (7) or fewer days prior to the start of the class, no money will be refunded.

Payment due at time of registration.

Make checks payable to: **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Inc.**

Mail completed form to: Wisconsin River Woodcarvers
Ronald O'Kray – Treasurer
1449 Sunny Crest Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54482-9432