



May 2023 Newsletter

By: Ron O’Kray – Secretary / Treasurer

President Greg Wirtz called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM Wednesday May 10th.

Minutes from April 2023 Meeting: Motion made by Ken Brzezinski and seconded by Ron Peters to accept as sent. All in attendance approved.

Sunshine Report: Marion O’Kray sent Get Well cards to Bonnie James and Chuck Petrie. We hope that both are feeling better. If you know of a club member that is sick, contact her at 715-341-2214 or ron.marion@charter.net.

Membership: We have (69) memberships paid for in 2023. Father Steve Brice (Pastor of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Stevens Point joined the club). He is getting ready for retirement, starting with building a woodworking shop two years ago. First love is turning bowls on a lathe. He would like to combine turning and carving for something unique. Welcome Father Steve.

Treasurer’s Report:

We **anticipate** the following expenses for the remainder of 2023.

John Overby Seminar	\$1,260.00
John Engler seminar	\$3,300.00
Rental of Lincoln Center	\$240.00
Donation to 1 st United Church of Christ	\$500.00
Insurance	\$502.00
Mailing of Newsletters	\$420.00
Printing of Newsletter	\$350.00
TOTAL	\$6,572.00

INCOME AND EXPENSES SINCE LAST NEWLETTER

EXPENSES	INCOME	DESCRIPTION
\$47.00		Printing of April newsletter
\$12.60		Stamps for mailing of April newsletter
\$9.27		Cookies for club meeting
\$13.99		Coffee for club meeting
\$25.00		Annual Non-Stock Corporation Report
\$1.89		Paper Napkins
\$16.87		Filter for Shop Vac
\$126.62		
	\$150.00	Floyd Rhadigan Class; April 2024
	\$48.00	Dues 2023
	\$10.00	Sale of (2) Club Patches
	\$300.00	John Overby Seminar
\$236.37	\$508.00	
EXPENSES	INCOME	DESCRIPTION

- A motion was made by Ken Brzezinski and seconded by Ron Fisher to approve the treasurer’s report. All in attendance agreed.

Old Business:

- **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. Start thinking about you have (Carving related) that you could sell to a fellow carver or give away. More information on hours of the sale in June Newsletter.
- **Summer Picnic:** Marion O’Kray & Delores Zakoski volunteered to be in charge of Summer Picnic. The club will provide the meat. Bring a dish to pass and beverage of your choice. Contact either Marion O’Kray or Diane Swiggum about what you are bringing. The picnic is for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers **members, spouses, or significant others** only. We need an accurate count of those attending in order to have the proper amount of meat.
- No other Old Business

Upcoming Seminars

- **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. Cost of the seminar, Carving only - \$200.00 members and \$215.00 non-members. Cost of Carving & Painting - \$270.00 for members and \$290.00 for non-members. 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 **(10)** carvers already paid.
- **3rd Annual Floyd Rhadigan Seminar** will be held at the Lincoln Center is Stevens Point, WI on **Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday April 3, 4, & 5, 2024**. 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.

Club Meeting Dates:

- **May 16, 2023** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **May 17, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **May 24, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **May 31, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **June 6, 2023** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **June 7, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **June 14, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

New Business

- I was contacted by Bob Stadtlander of Stadtlander Woodcarvings. He will be a new vendor at the Affiliated Woodcarvers Congress in Maquoketa, IA this year. If there is something that you especially interested in, contact him @ 330-931-7847 or bobstadtlander@roadrunner.com so he can sure to have what you desire. *Greg mentioned Basswood rolling pins and to check Bob's website for possible carving projects.*
- No other new business.
- There being no other business President Greg Wirtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Ken Brzezinski made the motion seconded by Diane Swiggum All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

**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 54482-9431

WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS
3rd ANNUAL SPRING FLOYD RHADIGAN SEMINAR

CARVING: Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, April 3, 4, 5, 2024
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 Briemueller. 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.

If there is anything in particular throughout you would like to see Floyd bring to the seminar, contact him @ 734-649-3259.

The cost of the seminar is same as in 2022 and 2023.

For additional information or questions 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 54482**