



October 2023 Newsletter

By: Ron O’Kray – Secretary / Treasurer

President Greg Wirtz called the meeting to order at 6:20PM Wednesday October 11, 2023.

Minutes from September 2023 Meeting: Motion made by Ron Peters and seconded by Dick Fleisner to accept as sent. All in attendance approved.

Sunshine Report: Marion O’Kray sent a Get-Well card to Bill Jacobs. We hope Bill is feeling better. If you know of a club member that is sick, contact Marion at 715-341-2214 or ron.marion@charter.net.

Membership: We have (76) memberships paid for in 2023. Warren & Barb Clauss of Waukegan, IL and Libby Wirtz of Auburndale, WI rejoined the club. Welcome back to all.

Treasurer’s Report:

INCOME AND EXPENSES SINCE LAST NEWLETTER

EXPENSES	INCOME	DESCRIPTION
\$100.00		AWC 2024 Cash Class 308 Award (Treenware)
\$41.39		Printing of September newsletter
\$26.40		Stamps
\$15.00		Rent of Lincoln Center September 2023
	\$48.00	Dues 2023 / 2024
	\$280.00	John Engler Seminar August 2024
\$182.79	\$328.00	
EXPENSES	INCOME	DESCRIPTION

- A motion was made by Ashten Brown and seconded by Dick Fleisner to approve the treasurer's report. All in attendance agreed.

Old Business:

- Ashten Brown of **Badger State Blades** was at the June meeting with some of her patriotic knives. The knives sell for \$40.00 each and will be made until Veteran's Day November 11, 2023. \$5.00 will be donated to the VFW for every knife sold. If interested contact her @ orders@badgerstateblades.com or 715-697-6010.
- Ashten Brown brought up the idea of chartering a Lamers bus to go to **AWC 2024**. The cost would be \$1900.00 for a (36) passenger bus. Cost per person would be about \$53.00 per person. If you wish to discuss pro or con of this idea, contact Ashten @ 715-697-6010.
- Ashten Brown informed us that **Woodcarving Illustrated** will start their "Great Santa Carve-Off" in October. Badger State Blades will be donating some carving knives as prizes. See the upcoming issue of Woodcarving Illustrated for details.
- Ashten Brown informed us that on October 28, 2023 at 3:00 PM EST, she will be featured on YouTube with the International Association of Woodcarvers. Check them out, they have all their back videos available.
- No other old Business

Upcoming Seminars

- **3rd Annual Floyd Rhadigan Seminar** will be held at the Lincoln Center in 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 **(9)** carvers already paid.

New Business

- Those carvers that attended the John Engler Seminar in August of 2023 had so much fun, they decided that we should have John Engler back in 2024. **John Engler** of Battlefield, MO will be conducting a (3) day woodcarving class (**Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, August 26, 27, & 28, 2024**) and a (1) day painting class (**Thursday August 29, 2024**). He specializes in medium relief woodcarving finishing them off with watercolors. Cost of the seminar, Carving only - \$210.00 members and \$225.00 non-members. Cost of Carving & Painting - \$280.00 for members and \$300.00 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 **(1)** carver already paid.
- If you have pictures of recent seminars or carvings that you have completed, contact Ashten Brown or Kyle Mallek to get them on Facebook or the Webpage. Their contact information is listed below with all the club officials.

- **Christmas Party:** Bobbi O'Shasky volunteered to be in charge. Tom Kissner made a motion, seconded by Libby Wirtz to have a Christmas party. The party will again be held at Smiley's in Plover, WI. More information next month.
- Greg Wirtz, and Ron Peters talked to fair officials at the **Central Wisconsin Fair** about making the carving portion of the fair much larger in 2024. The Fair Board is eager to have the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers and other carving clubs be a part of the fair. Basically, they will allow us to do what we think is best. The entry fee is \$25.00 per person. This would allow free admission for the length of the fair. This would allow you to enter one piece in any category, not limited to woodcarving, but woodworking, flowers, sewing, knitting, crocheting, vegetables etc. Wisconsin River Woodcarvers would provide the judges for Department 25 which includes woodcarving. Ribbons and nominal prize money are paid for Best of Show, 1st Runner up, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Place in all categories. Proposed carving competition categories are:

Caricature Human	Caricature Animal
Realistic Human	Realistic Animal
Game Birds	Waterfowl
Song Birds	Birds of Prey
Religious	Chip Carving
Pyrography – Natural Finish	Pyrography – Colored Finish
Fish – Fresh Water	Fish – Salt Water

Holiday (to include but not limited to: Santas, Snowmen, Easter Bunny, Halloween, Leprechauns, New Year's, and Valentines)

Treenware (to include but not limited to: Utilitarian Spoon, bowls carved by not turned)

Spoons – Decorative	Ornaments
Relief	Stylized
Decoys	Bark Carving
Miniature	Miscellaneous

If you have any comments, questions, or ideas about the **Central Wisconsin Fair**, contact Greg Wirtz @ 715-423-0471 gswirtz@outlook.com or Ron Peters @ 715-435-3162.

Club Meeting Dates:

- **October 17, 2023** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **October 18 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **October 25, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **November 1, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **November 7, 2023** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **November 8, 2023** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

- Received an E-mail from Connie Henke at the **Alexander House**:

This is the timeline for your show opening Friday, January 5, 2024 – February 20, 2024.

*By **November 27, 2023** I will need some images that could be used on the cover of the invitation and also press release. Photos should be at least 300 dpi in resolution and also for typically the larger the file size, 1mgb or bigger the better. We send out 285 invites from the House. Ther will be 5 invites for each exhibiting artist that will be available for pick up at the house. In the past we have included the artists exhibiting on the inside cover of the invite if you could include a list with the photos that would be great. Please let me know if you have title/name for the show which can be included on the invite.*

*By **December 4, 2023** I will need any bio or information that you would like for me to share in a press release. If this can be written in the third person it makes it easier for me to cut and paste for the release.*

*Also, by **December 4, 2023** I will need an inventory of works for the exhibits. This should be sequentially numbered list with title and price or value if NFS. (An Inventory Sheet is attached that each artist should fill out) As far as how many works to bring, we can light up to 60 pieces individually. So, what we usually say is **30 two dimensional and 30 three dimensional pieces**. If pieces are small and can be grouped for lighting then take that into consideration. We do not take any commission on sales. We will use the inventory sheet when the work is dropped off, and I will use it to create labels to hang by the work. Please place a small tab of tape of a sticker with corresponding numbers on each work for identification purposes. Bottom right corner of frame works best, not on glass please. We take these sticker tags off after we hang the work and get our title/label card up. Having the stickers on the front of the work allows us to label after the work is hung without taking them down to look for a title. If you create a photo inventory as some artists do, then the stickers are really not needed. You can put stickers on the bottom of three dimensional pieces.*

*Delivery day will be Wednesday **January 3, 2024** at a time that works for the group. We usually schedule a two hour block of time for the group to deliver their works. **Artists will need to sign up for a time during the two hour window to deliver work so that social distancing can be accomplished.** We like to get the work in and place it that afternoon, then we hang it the following morning. All you need to do is drop it off. **We will require masks when delivering work.***

*The Opening will be on **Friday January 5, 2024 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM**. We like the artists to there by about 4:30 PM to just walk through and check to see if everything looks right. **At this time, we have not definitely decided how the reception will go forth. Artists and visitors will need to be masked. There will be a limit on the number of people allowed in the house at one time so that social distancing can be accomplished. There will not be refreshments served.***

*Pickup of the work will be **Tuesday February 20, 2024 at 4:00 PM**. The house is open that day for visitors from 1:00 – 4:00 PM.*

After much discussion, the club asked that Chet James contact Conne Henke. The consensus of members present were the restrictions about masks and social distancing were not reasonable considering that hospitals and doctor's offices do not even require masks at this time. The consensus of members present also was that if restrictions stay as they are in the E-mail, the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers is not interested in showing at this time. We ask that we be included on the list for future showings.

Future Carving Shows

Deforest — Sunday, October 29, 2023

Capital Area Carvers of Wisconsin & Badger Woodturners 32nd Annual Show, Cynthia Potthast, 608-712-2989, www.cacw.clubexpress.com

Waupaca — Sunday, November 5, 2023

Waupaca Area Wood Carvers 2nd Annual Show, Competition, & Sale, Harold Mohr, 715-281-1923 or Kathy Brehm, 920-740-1986

Denmark — Saturday & Sunday, November 11-12, 2023

Northeastern Wisconsin Woodcarvers Guild 40th Annual Show, Randy Hendricks 920-676-6466 or Jim Michels 920-863--8658. newwg.org/annual-show

Westby — Saturday, April 20, 2024

Karve In-7, Steve Michaels, 608-634-0107, steve.michaels@westbynorse.org

Sheboygan — Sunday, April 28, 2024

Kettle Karvers 31st Annual Show, Bob Lawrence, 920-458-49471 www.kettlekarvers.org

Oshkosh - Saturday, May 5, 2024

Mid-Wisconsin Chippers Artistry in Wood Show,
Paul Walters,
920-727-2139, www.midwisconsinchippers.weebly.com

Maquoketa, Iowa — June 10 thru June 15, 2024

International Woodcarvers Congress, Diane Coley 630-335-4852 dragonness77@comcast.net

Janesville — Saturday, September 14, 2024

Rock River Valley Carvers of Wis 18th Annual Show & Sale
Brad Crandall, 608-931-0188, bwkicrandall@gmail.com

More information and forms for registration for upcoming shows are on the club website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org.

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	Ashten Brown	715-697-6010	orders@badgerstateblades.com

Show and Tell



Richard Zakoski of Stevens Point, WI showed three carvings. The first carving will have a picture of his great grandchildren when completed. The second carving is a Gnome bringing home the Christmas tree. The 3rd carving is a religious spoon made of butternut.

- 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 7:20PM.

**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

If there is anything in particular roughout 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**

WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS
2nd ANNUAL JOHN ENGLER SEMINAR 2024

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: Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday August 26, 27, & 28, 2024

PAINTING: Thursday August 29, 2024

TIME: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

WHERE: Lincoln Center (Room A & B)

1519 Water Street

Stevens Point, WI 54481

COST: **CARVING ONLY** - \$210.00 for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members and \$225.00 for Non-Members (Plus roughout)

CARVING & PAINTING - \$280.00 for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members and \$300.00 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