



February 2024 Newsletter

By: Ron O’Kray - Secretary / Treasurer

President Greg Wirtz called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM February 14, 2024.

Minutes from December 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 reported that she sent “Get Well” cards to Art Uher, Greg Wirtz, and Al Pils. We hope they are all feeling better. She also sent a sympathy card to Sue Brzezinski on the loss of her sister. She also presented a “Friendship Cup” to Greg for all he does for the club. If you know of a club member that is sick, contact Marion at 715-341-2214 or ron.marion@charter.net.

Membership: We have (61) memberships paid for in 2024. We have (19) carvers who were members in 2023, but have not paid for 2024.

Allen & Suzanne Bostwick
Ron & Barb Fischer
John Overby
Fred & Elaine Stenman
Gregg & Becky Thompson
Cheryl & Paul Wachowiak
Klauss & Jane Zunker

Kay & Lloyd Durrant
Bob & Ginger Kosmoski
Chuck Petrie
Dr. Tom & Ruth Stram
Clarence & Julie Thurber
Missy Wachuta

Eric & Susan Eckland
Kyle & Kayla Mallek
Mary & Butch Staeben
Bob & Mary Jo Strzelczyk
Jim & Thelma Van Norman
Adam Wechorek

This will be your last newsletter unless dues are paid. Dues are \$24.00 and are due on January 1, 2024. Check for dues should be made out to Wisconsin River Woodcarvers. Dues can be mailed to Ronald O’Kray, Secretary / Treasurer, Wisconsin River Woodcarvers, 1449 Sunny Crest Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54482.

INCOME AND EXPENSES SINCE LAST NEWLETTER

EXPENSES	INCOME	DESCRIPTION
	\$882.00	Dues 2024
	\$840.00	John Engler Seminar August 2024
	\$676.00	Christmas Party 2023
	\$680.00	Floyd Rhadigan Seminar April 2024
\$42.83		Printing of December 2023 newsletter
\$48.66		Stamps
\$60.00		Rent of Lincoln Center
\$571.90		2 Year Website Renewal
\$1,558.18		Christmas Party 2023
\$502.00		Insurance
\$2,783.57	\$3,078.00	

- A motion was made by Mahala Earnhart and seconded by Tom Kissner to approve the treasurer's report. All in attendance agreed.

Old Business:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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. The fair will run from August 20th thru August 25, 2024. Pickup of carvings will be on Monday August 26, 2024. A Golf Cart may be used on the Fair property if the cart is insured.

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 but 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.

- **Christmas Party** All that attended the Christmas party had a great time. We wish to thank Bobbi O'Shasky and Becky & Harry Engstrand for being the hosts.

Alexander House:

The following Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members have been exhibiting:

Stan Carlson	Becky Engstrand	Dick Fleisner
Chet James	Echo Keller	Tom Kissner
Gerald Lesch	Ron O'Kray	Bobbi O'Shasky
Ron Peters	Diane Swiggum	Katharine Wechorek
Greg Wirtz		

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

- 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 **(13)** carvers already paid. There are only **(2)** openings available.
- **The 2nd Annual John Engler Seminar** will be held at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI. There will be 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 **(7)** carvers already paid.

New Business

- Received some information from Karen Brinkman. Her husband Fred (deceased) had carved decoys made of wire and canvas. She has for sale (1) decoy ready for painting, (3) decoys ready for fabric, (3) sets of wood parts (2 ruddy & 1 Woody), misc. supplies, and a book "10 Wire and Canvas Decoy Patterns for Carvers" by Al Streetman. She also has other assorted wood. Contact her @ 715-423-4822.
- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers has (3) tables at **Karve In-8** at Westby, WI on Saturday April 20, 2024. If you want to be part of the club tables, contact Ron O'Kray @ 715-341-2214 or ron.marion@charter.net. If you want your own table, contact Steve Michaels, 608-634-0107, steve.michaels@westbynorse.org
- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers has reserved the shelter at South Wood County Park in Kellner for the **Club Picnic** on Wednesday July 10, 2024. We have the shelter for the entire day. We need a volunteer(s) to be in charge. If you would like to be in charge of the picnic or be an assistant, contact Greg Wirtz. Last year we had a rummage sale that started at 2:00 PM. It was agreed to have a Rummage Sale again this year but start at 3:00 PM. Last year's hours were Happy Hour at 5:00 PM with meal at 6:00 PM. The club will provide the meat, paper plates, plastic flatware, and coffee. Bring a dish to pass and beverage of your choice. 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. The location of the picnic is in the shelter at South Wood County Park, 6411 South Park Road, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.
- Jerry Trzebiatowski stated that he would like to have a drawing class (preferably caricature). Ashten Brown said that along those lines, she had an idea. Ashten said she wanted to know if the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers would be interested in doing a five-day program where we would bring in five instructors. She said that the 1st United Church of Christ (where we have our Wednesday night meetings) has the room. After much discussion, it was decided that Ashten will be in contact with the Church to see if they will allow and the cost to rent for the time period. We already have the Church listed on our insurance liability policy. We talked abouts timing, if we do this it would be in 2025. The Church is close to hotels and eating establishments.

Club Meeting Dates:

- **February 20, 2024** Pickup carvings at Alexander House after 4:00 PM
- **February 20, 2024** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **February 21, 2024** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **February 28, 2024** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **March 5, 2024** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **March 6, 2024** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **March 13, 2024** 1st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

Show and Tell



Leprechaun by Bobbi O'Shasky



Cowboy with Rubber Ducky by Greg Wirtz



Old Couple by Tom Kissner

- There being no other business President Greg Wirtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Ken Brzezinski made the motion seconded by Ashten Brown. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Future Carving Shows

Westby — Saturday, April 20, 2024

Karve In-8, 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

North Arkansas Woodcarver's 44th Annual Woodcarving show will be Saturday & Sunday May 4 & 5, 2024. Contact Sandy Smith @ 870-431-8070 or webmaster@northarkansaswoodcarvers.org for more information.

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@qmail.com

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

CLUB OFFICIERS:

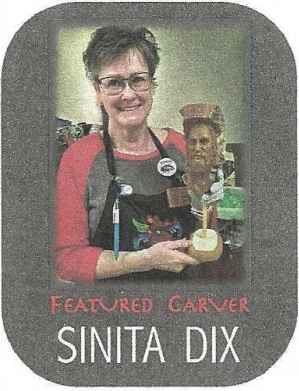
• President	Greg Wirtz	715-423-0471	gswirtz@outlook.com
• Vice President	Diane Swiggum	715-459-3221	mrschips48@gmail.com
• Secretary	Ron O'Kray	715-341-2214	ron.marion@charter.net
• Treasurer	Ron O'Kray	715-341-2214	ron.marion@charter.net
• Webmaster	Kyle Mallek	715-323-6390	kyle.mallek@gmail.com
• Seminar 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	williamjacobs@charter.net
• Hostess	Marion O'Kray	715-341-2214	ron.marion@charter.net
• Facebook Administrator	Ashten Brown	715-697-6010	orders@badgerstateblades.com

KARVE IN 8

#LIKEANORSE

Westby High School • 205 West Avenue S • Westby, WI 54687

HELP US CELEBRATE!
 This annual event is quite an accomplishment and you have made this possible! Thank you to our volunteers, sponsors and carvers who make Karve In Great! Come see us in 2024 as we continue to grow and improve!



FEATURED CARVER
SINITA DIX

SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY
APRIL 20, 2024
 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

CARVE. LEARN. BUY. SELL.
 ENJOY THE ART, CRAFT AND HOBBY OF WOODCARVING
 Come to Westby to connect, show, trade and enjoy time with woodcarvers. Share your skills. Learn new ones. See the beauty brought to life by these craftsmen.
 MULTIPLE DRAWINGS FOR CARVERS!
 FREE ADMISSION DONATIONS ACCEPTED
 For more info, contact: John Sutton at lbarnfarms@gmail.com or Steve Michaels at 608.769.8498 and steve.michaels@westby-norse.org

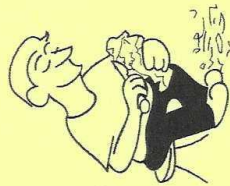
KETTLE KARVERS

31st Annual
Wood Carving Show
Sunday April 28, 2024
10 am to 4 pm

Emil Mazey Hall 5425 Superior Ave.
Sheboygan, WI

Free Admission - Donations Appreciated

New carvers welcome. Tables \$25.00
 See original wood carvings and visit with carvers.
 Wood Carving Tool Vendor
 Chain Saw Carver
 Featured Carver: Stuart Thiel
 Food and Beverage Sale on-site



MID-WIS. CHIPPERS Presents

Artistry In Wood

48th
 Annual

Sunday, May 5, 2024
 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Wood Sculptures for Sale!
Blue Ribbon Competition
70+ Woodcarvers & Pyrographers

Basswood, Bark, Tupelo,
Tools, Books, Supplies & more

Wisconsin Carving Clubs
Carving Demos & More!
Chainsaw Carver!

Bucket Raffle! Food Concession! Free Parking!
Everything you need to get started in Woodcarving!
 Open to Public Admission: \$5 Ages 12 & Under free

The Oshkosh Convention Center
 2 North Main Street, Oshkosh, WI

For more show info: www.midwisconsinchippers.weebly.com
 or contact Paul Wolters (920) 727-2139



WAUPACA AREA WOODCARVERS
2024 ARTISTRY IN WOOD
SHOW, COMPETITION AND SALE
Sunday, November 3, 2024
 9 am – 4 pm

WAUPACA RECREATION CENTER
407 SCHOOL STREET
WAUPACA, WI

Demonstrations throughout the day!
Admission is \$4.00 Adults
Ages 6-16 \$2.00
(5 and under are free)

For more information contact:
HAROLD MOHR 715-281-4923
KATHY BREHM 920-740-1986
 OR VISIT THE WAUPACA AREA WOODCARVERS FACEBOOK PAGE

**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**

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



Carving Magazines can inspire & teach. Here are the leading woodcarving magazines.

Chip Chats is a quarterly publication of the National Wood Carvers Association. For over 70 years this is the granddaddy carving organization in America. The prolific carving author E.J. Tangerman was associated with this magazine for many years. The magazine has come out of the pandemic revitalized. Famous for its show pictures, the Issues include book reviews, patterns, carving tips, how-to's, upcoming classes and events as well as great articles from carvers. Try it; you'll like it. Membership in NWCA is a great bargain at \$29 per year and includes a subscription to Chip Chats.

Wildfowl Carving Magazine in its 40th year is dedicated to decoy and decorative bird carving from songbirds to waterfowl to birds of prey, all sorts of birds are nestled within its pages. A one year subscription to this quarterly publication is \$41.95. Single issue price s \$12.95. Woodcraft of Appleton carries this. Wildlife Carving Magazine also publishes reference books on birds and step by step detailed carving books. If you are a bird carver, this will send your art soaring.

Woodcarving is a British magazine. Recent issue is about 82 pages and available from the Barnes and Noble bookstore in Appleton. A British take on woodcarving with how-tos, patterns, and articles.

Woodcarving Illustrated is a popular quarterly carving magazine (\$24.99 per year). and recent issue was 98 pages. Published since 1997 by Fox Chapel Publishing each issue has lots of patterns, techniques, and projects. Every year or two, Fox Chapel also publishes special issues on Whittling & Pyrography. All these are excellent. Fox Chapel also publishes many great specialized carving books by well-known artists..

Breakthrough Magazine bills itself as "The Magazine Devoted to the Serious Wildlife Artist." Breakthrough sponsors the biennial World Taxidermy and Fish Carving Championships. The strength of this magazine for carvers is habitat, which is important for both taxidermists and carvers. It is also very good on fish carving. They have published instructional books on Fish Painting, Waterfowl and Bird Finishing and a Habitat and Exhibit Manual. Check them out at: www.breakthroughmagazine.com. A four-issue subscription is \$36.