



## March 2024 Newsletter

By: Ron O’Kray - Secretary / Treasurer

**President Greg Wirtz** called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM March 13, 2024.

**Minutes from February 2023 Meeting:** Motion made by Ron Peters and seconded by Marion O’Kray to accept as sent. All in attendance approved.

**Sunshine Report:** Marion O’Kray reported that she sent “Get Well” cards to Mina Willis who broke her elbow and Kathy Krueger who had knee replacement surgery. We hope they are both feeling better. She sent a thinking of you card to Terri King who is in a nursing home. She also sent a sympathy card to Sophie Kubisiak on the loss of her sister. If you know of a club member that is sick, contact Marion at 715-341-2214 or [ron.marion@charter.net](mailto:ron.marion@charter.net).

**Membership:** We have (68) memberships paid for in 2024. Kiel Ludke of Auburndale, WI joined the club. Welcome Kiel.

### INCOME AND EXPENSES SINCE LAST NEWLETTER

EXPENSES	INCOME	DESCRIPTION
	\$192.00	Dues 2024
	\$760.00	John Engler Seminar August 2024
	\$130.00	Floyd Rhadigan Seminar April 2024
\$43.71		Printing of February 2024 newsletter
\$11.96		Stamps for mailing o February newsletter
\$500.00		Donation to 1 <sup>st</sup> United Church of Christ (Rent of Facility)
\$30.00		Portage County Treasurer (Rent of Lincoln Center February 2024)
<b>\$585.67</b>	<b>\$1082.00</b>	

- A motion was made by Marion O’Kray 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 says there are many carving pictures on Facebook.
- 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, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner up, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Place in all categories. The fair will run from August 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:gswirtz@outlook.com) or Ron Peters @ 715-435-3162. **Ron Peters reported that Dale Christianson is his contact at the Fair. Ron Peters is also checking into information he heard about the club being able to sponsor a cart at the Fair. Ron Peters will also schedule a meeting after Easter with the Fair board. Greg Wirtz, Ron Peters, Randy Hartjes, Diane Swiggum, Tom Kissner, and Ron & Marion O’Kray volunteered to attend that meeting.**

- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers has (3) tables at **Karve In-8** at Westby, WI on Saturday April 20, 2024. **Ron & Marion O’Kray and Tom & Lynne Kissner have volunteered to man the club tables.** If you want to be part of the club tables, contact Ron O’Kray @ 715-341-2214 or [ron.marion@charter.net](mailto:ron.marion@charter.net). If you want your own table, contact Steve Michaels, 608-634-0107, [steve.michaels@westbynorse.org](mailto: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. **Marion O’Kray, Bonnie James, and Delores Zakoski volunteered to be in charge of the picnic.** 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. **Ron and Greg talked with Fred Stenman about doing a drawing class, but he declined. Ron talked with Kate Giblin of the ADRC about a drawing class at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point. She has an instructor who is interested in teaching. Ron and Greg need to setup a meeting with Kate and the possible instructor. Greg Wirtz, Ron O’Kray, Tom Kissner, and Jerry Trzebiatowski showed interest in attending a drawing class. If you are interested in a drawing class, contact Greg Wirtz.**
- **No other old Business**

### Upcoming Seminars

- **3<sup>rd</sup> 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. **Forms are available from Ron O’Kray or on the club website.** We have **(13)** carvers already paid. There are only **(2)** openings available.

- **The 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.johnenglerwoodcarving.com). John needs minimum of (9) students and maximum of (13) students for carving and (10) students' maximum for painting. **Forms are available from Ron O'Kray or on the club website.** We have (9) carvers already paid. I have (2) additional carvers that have told me "The check is in the mail".

## New Business

- Just a reminder. The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers is sponsoring a "**Cash Class Award**" with \$50.00 to 1<sup>st</sup> Place, \$30.00 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, and \$20.00 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in **Group C Class 309** (Treenware) at the **AWC** in Maquoketa, IA. Treenware is defined as wooden kitchenware. This is a new class for 2024. For more information check out the website or talk to Greg or Ron.
- Received an E-mail from Gregg Hansel who is on the steering committee of **Empty Bowls of Portage County**. The following information is from their website. *Empty Bowls is a community project to raise money for local hunger prevention efforts. For \$11.00 (payable at the door) you get to choose a bowl created by local potters, community members, and students. These bowls are unique and a great keepsake. After choosing your bowl, you get to choose from a variety of soups donated by 40 local restaurants, served in disposable bowls. The meal includes bread, beverage, and dessert. The event features a raffle, marketplace, and entertainment. Funds raised at this event go to support the Hunger and Poverty Prevention Partnership, Giving Gardens, Mobile Pantry, and Rent Ready programs as well as education and advocacy initiatives. This is their 24<sup>th</sup> year. The event will be in late October. Last year's event was held at SPASH in Stevens Point. Gregg is asking if any of our members would be interested in making and donating bowls. He would be glad to come and meet with us or send any additional information. Ron O'Kray will check with Gregg Hansel for more information. Greg Wirtz, Ron O'Kray, Katharine Wechorek, and Tom Kissner volunteered to donate a bowl. If you are interested in donating a bowl, contact Ron O'Kray for more information.*
- Received an E-mail from Harold Mohr of the **Waupaca Area Woodcarvers**. They made a mistake on their show registration form with the date for the show. The correct date is Sunday November 3, 2024.
- **No Other New Business**

## Club Meeting Dates:

- **March 19, 2024** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **March 20, 2024** 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **March 27, 2024** 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **April 2, 2024** Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **April 3, 2024** 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **April 10, 2024** 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

## SHOW AND TELL



Pilot by Tom Kissner



Necklaces by Ron O’Kray

- There being no other business President Greg Wirtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Marion O’Kray made the motion seconded by Dick Fleisner All approved. Meeting adjourned 7:10 PM.

## CLUB OFFICIERS:

• President	Greg Wirtz	715-423-0471	<a href="mailto:gswirtz@outlook.com">gswirtz@outlook.com</a>
• Vice President	Diane Swiggum	715-459-3221	<a href="mailto:mrschips48@gmail.com">mrschips48@gmail.com</a>
• Secretary	Ron O’Kray	715-341-2214	<a href="mailto:ron.marion@charter.net">ron.marion@charter.net</a>
• Treasurer	Ron O’Kray	715-341-2214	<a href="mailto:ron.marion@charter.net">ron.marion@charter.net</a>
• Webmaster	Kyle Mallek	715-323-6390	<a href="mailto:kyle.mallek@gmail.com">kyle.mallek@gmail.com</a>
• Seminar Chairman	Chet James	715-347-0234	<a href="mailto:chtbon@solarus.net">chtbon@solarus.net</a>
• Historian	Stan Carlson	715-341-3695	<a href="mailto:scarlson@uwsp.edu">scarlson@uwsp.edu</a>
• Sunshine Person	Marion O’Kray	715-341-2214	<a href="mailto:ron.marion@charter.net">ron.marion@charter.net</a>
• Librarian	Bill Jacobs	715-421-4962	<a href="mailto:williamjacobs@charter.net">williamjacobs@charter.net</a>
• Hostess	Marion O’Kray	715-341-2214	<a href="mailto:ron.marion@charter.net">ron.marion@charter.net</a>
• Facebook Administrator	Ashten Brown	715-697-6010	<a href="mailto:orders@badgerstateblades.com">orders@badgerstateblades.com</a>

## Future Carving Shows

Westby — Saturday, April 20, 2024

Karve In-8, Steve Michaels, 608-634-0107, [steve.michaels@westbynorse.org](mailto:steve.michaels@westbynorse.org)

Sheboygan — Sunday, April 28, 2024

Kettle Karvers 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Show, Bob Lawrence, 920-458-49471 [www.kettlekarvers.org](http://www.kettlekarvers.org)

North Arkansas Woodcarver's 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Woodcarving show will be Saturday & Sunday May 4 & 5, 2024. Contact Sandy Smith @ 870-431-8070 or [webmaster@northarkansaswoodcarvers.org](mailto: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](http://www.midwisconsinchippers.weebly.com)

Maquoketa, Iowa — June 10 thru June 15, 2024

International Woodcarvers Congress, Diane Coley 630-335-4852 [dragonness77@comcast.net](mailto:dragonness77@comcast.net)

Janesville — Saturday, September 14, 2024

Rock River Valley Carvers of Wis 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Show & Sale

Brad Crandall, 608-931-0188, [bwkicrandall@gmail.com](mailto:bwkicrandall@gmail.com)

Waupaca – Sunday November 3, 2024

Waupaca Area Woodcarvers

Harold Mohr 715-281-4923 or Kathy Brehm 920-740-1986

More information and forms for registration for upcoming shows are on the club website [www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org](http://www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org).