



## August 2024 Newsletter

By: Ron O’Kray – Secretary / Treasurer

**President Greg Wirtz** called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM August 14, 2024,

**Minutes from June 2024 Meeting:** Motion made by Marion O’Kray and seconded by Tom Kissner to accept as sent. All in attendance approved.

**Sunshine Report:** Marion O’Kray reported that she sent a “Sympathy” card with \$50.00 check to Alice Meid on the loss of her husband Jerry Meid. Jerry was an extraordinary bird carver having studied with Floyd Scholtz for many years. 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 (75) memberships paid for in 2024. William Kubisiak joined the club as a youth member. His interest is pyrography. He is the grandson of club member Sophie Kubisiak.

### INCOME AND EXPENSES SINCE LAST NEWLETTER

EXPENSES	INCOME	DESCRIPTION
\$45.00		Rent of Lincoln Center June & July 2024
\$331.38		Craftsmen cabinet for storage at church
\$13.79		Printing of June Newsletter
\$38.13		Picnic supplies
\$164.97		Chicken for club picnic
\$3.39		Keys for cabinets at church
\$12.92		Add Terry King’s name to Memorial Plaque
\$12.93		Add Jerry Meid’s name to Memorial Plaque
\$50.00		David King – Loss of spouse - Terry
\$50.00		Alice Meid – Loss of spouse – Jerry
\$16.03		Stan Carlson – reimbursement for pictures of club picnic
\$11.07		Broom
\$10.02		Cookies for club meeting
\$9.32		Pegboard hooks for display @ Central Wisconsin State Fair
<b>\$768.95</b>		

	\$12.00	Youth membership – William Kubisiak
	\$150.00	Floyd Rhadigan Seminar
	\$80.00	John Engler Seminar
	<b>\$242.00</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>

- A motion was made by Mahala Earnhart and seconded by Dick Fleisner to approve the treasurer’s report. All in attendance agreed.

**Old Business:**

- If you have pictures of recent seminars or carvings that you have completed, contact Ashten Brown to get them on Facebook, Kyle Mallek to get them on the Webpage, or Stan Carlson to get them in the Club Scrapbook. Their contact information is listed below with all the club officials.
- The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers has teamed up with the Central Wisconsin State Fair in Marshfield, WI to help increase the number of pieces in competition at the fair. Ron Peters (Wisconsin River Woodcarver member) (715-435-3462) is the Superintendent of Department 22 (Open Class Woodworking) & Department 29 (Senior Woodworking). There are (32) lots in each Department. (23) of them are related to Woodcarving while the other (9) are for toys, Birdhouses, Work, etc.

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 one lot, not limited to woodcarving, but woodworking, flowers, sewing, knitting, crocheting, vegetables, etc., The rules for the Central Wisconsin Fair have no timeline on when the carving was completed but only that the carving was never entered into competition at the fair previously. The woodcarvings will be displayed in the Hockey Rink building. Ribbons are given for “Best of Show and 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up. Ribbons and nominal prize money are paid for, 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 Tuesday August 20 thru Sunday August 25, 2024. Pickup of carvings can be on Sunday after the Fair closes or on Monday August 26, 2024. Carvings can be delivered to the Fairgrounds from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Monday August 19<sup>th</sup> with judging on Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup>. The address of the Fairgrounds is 513 East 17<sup>th</sup> Street; Marshfield, WI. Wednesday August 21<sup>st</sup> will be Senior Day with only \$5.00 admission for non-exhibitors. The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers will provide demonstrations at times to be determined. The Wisconsin River Woodcarvers will have an area in the same building that we can display other carvings, show and club information, carve and meet with friends and prospective new members. Electricity will be provided for power carving, pyrography, and additional lighting if needed.

**The last day to register for the Fair was August 15<sup>th</sup>.**

- 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 meet with Gregg Hansel on April 16<sup>th</sup> for more information. Greg Wirtz, Ron O'Kray, Katharine Wechorek, Tom Kissner, and Ken Brzezinski volunteered to donate a bowl. If you are interested in donating a bowl, contact Ron O'Kray for more information. Ken Brzezinski has already donated a bowl.*

- **No Other Old Business**

### Upcoming Seminars

- **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. We have **(13)** carvers already paid. The class is full with one carver on the waiting list.
- **The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Floyd Rhadigan Seminar** will be held at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI on **Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, April 28, 29, & 30, 2025**. Cost is \$150.00 plus roughout(s) for Wisconsin River Woodcarvers members and \$160.00 plus roughouts(s) for Non-Members. The cost for the seminar has stayed the same from 2022 to 2025. Cost of roughouts is between \$15.00 and \$40.00. Pay Floyd for roughouts at start of class. **Registration form is available or on the club website [www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org](http://www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org)**. We have **(9)** carvers already paid.

### 2025 Show

- We have a signed contract with the **Holiday Inn of Stevens Point** for setup on Friday September 19, 2025 starting at 8:00 AM. The show will be held on Saturday September 20, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Sunday September 21, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Room rates will be \$119.00 per night (same as in 2021).
- **Moore Wood & Roughouts, The Whittling Shack, and Badger State Knives** have agreed to be vendors at our show.
- The **Show Flyers** are in the process of being printed. We plan to have them in time for the Central Wisconsin State Fair.
- Marion O'Kray will be in charge of **Admissions** at the show.

- Mahala Earnhart will be in charge of the **Raffle** at the show.
- Greg Wirtz will be in charge of **Judging** at the show. In 2025 we will use (6) judges. (2) each Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced. Whoever gets done first, will judge Youth. We will **not** use the “Point System” in any category.
- The cost of **Tables** in 2025 will be \$30.00 for members of the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers, \$35.00 for Vendors, and \$40.00 for non members.
- We have (3) quotes for 25,000 **Placemats** to be used in the Stevens Point area.
- **Show Committee** consists of Jerry Trzebiatowski, Greg Wirtz, Ashten Brown, Libby Wirtz, Ron O’Kray, Marion O’Kray, and Mahala Earnhart. Jerry Uher is an advisor to the show committee.
- Jerry Uher is working on pricing of **Car Magnets**. The show committee will discuss this at the next Show Committee meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **New Business**

- The club wants to thank Marion O’Kray, Delores Zakoski, and Bonnie James for their work of putting the picnic together.
- The **ADRC of Portage County** will be starting their fall semester of Woodcarving on September 10, 2024 at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point. Greg Wirtz, Stan Carlson, and Ron O’Kray will be the instructors. Contact the ADRC at (715-346-1401) for cost and form to register.
- The club will **not** meet on Tuesday August 20, 2024 at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point because of the Central Wisconsin State Fair.
- The club will **not** meet on Wednesday August 21, 2024 at the 1<sup>st</sup> United Church of Christ in Wisconsin Rapids because of the Central Wisconsin State Fair.

### **Club Meeting Dates:**

- **August 20, 2024**      **Cancelled**
- **August 21, 2024**      **Cancelled**
- **August 28, 2024**      1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **September 3, 2024**      Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **September 4, 2024**      1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **September 11, 2024**      1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **September 17, 2024**      Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
- **September 18, 2024**      1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30

- **SHOW AND TELL:**

Tom Kissner showed a Relief Carving he made from a pattern in the last issue of Woodcarving Illustrated. He also showed a Relief Carving of Christmas "JOY" that he completed. Ron O'Kray showed (3) spoons in a "Cala Lily" pattern that he made out of Apricot, Choke Cheery, and Pear wood.





- *Father Steve Brice (Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Stevens Point and Wisconsin River Woodcarver member) posts a Pastoral Ponderings every week. Usually, it contains items related to the Parish and UWSP. Two weeks ago, he posted the following on his woodcarving hobby. The teacher he referred to is Ron O’Kray, the carver who helped him with the broken arm is Greg Wirtz.*

And lest you think it has been all work and no play, I announce my passage from Kindergarten to First Grade at my carving classes.



The first man carving (on the left) is the teacher’s “go by.” That is, it is a model he carved and loaned to me to go by. The second figure I started, then got in trouble with (broke an arm off) and another carver helped me finish. The third figure is all me... but incomplete! Yes the wiener dog was one of the projects we did in class.

- There being no other business President Greg Wirtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Dick Fleisner made the motion seconded by David King. All approved. Meeting adjourned 7:25 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>
• Show Chairman	Jerry Trzebiatowski	715-310-9900	<a href="mailto:Jerald6@gmail.com">Jerald6@gmail.com</a>

**Future Carving Shows in 2024**

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)

Eau Claire, WI—Saturday, September 28, 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Carve-In on the Chippewa hosted by West Wisconsin Wood Carvers Guild  
Charlene Lynum 715-497-6296 or [thelynums@gmail.com](mailto:thelynums@gmail.com)

DeForest – Sunday October 27, 2024  
Capitol Area Carvers of Wisconsin & Badger Woodturners – 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Show and Sale  
Cindy Potthast, 608-712-2989, [cynthia.potthast@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.potthast@gmail.com)

Waupaca – Sunday November 3, 2024  
Waupaca Area Woodcarvers  
Harold Mohr 715-281-4923 or Kathy Brehm 920-740-1986

Denmark, WI Saturday and Sunday November 9 & 10, 2024  
Northeast Wisconsin Woodworker’s Guild 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Artistry in Wood” Show  
Randy Hendricks 920-676-6466 or [show@newwg.org](mailto:show@newwg.org)

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