



August 2026 Newsletter

By: Ron O'Kray Secretary / Treasurer

President Diane Swiggum called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM on August 12, 2026.

Minutes from June 2026 Meeting: Motion made by Mahala Earnhart and seconded by Tom Kissner to accept as sent. All in attendance approved.

- Treasurer's Report**

INCOME & EXPENSES SINCE JUNE 11, 2026

Income	Description	Expenses	Description
\$24.00	Dues 2027	\$301.00	Insurance for 2026 Show
\$560.00	John Engler Seminar 2026	\$84.39	Ink for Computer Printer
\$25.00	Refund Raffle license	\$22.20	Printing small 2026 Show Flyers
\$100.00	Jan Jenson Seminar 2027	\$500.31	Printing for 2027 Show
\$160.00	Floyd Rhadigan Seminar 2027	\$49.83	Printing Business Cards ; Club Information
\$200.00	2026 Club Shirts	\$210.00	Refund 2026 John Engler Seminar
\$900.00	Banquet Meals	\$1,770.29	Printing of 2026 Placemats
\$500.00	Placemat Adds	\$85.50	June Newsletter
\$102.00	donation to 2026 Show	\$208.89	2027 Show Magnets
		\$106.18	Club Picnic
		\$73.84	Office Expenses 2026 Show
		\$44.95	Lamp Parts 2026 Show
		\$500.00	Donation to 1st United Church of Christ
		\$30.00	Rent of Lincoln Center July 2026
		\$451.54	2026 Raffle Tickets

\$2,571.00

\$4,438.92

A motion was made by Clarence Thurber and seconded by Mahala Earnhart to approve the Treasurer's Report. All in attendance agreed

Membership: We have **(103)** memberships paid for in 2026. We have **(1)** paid for in 2027.

Sunshine Report Sophie reported she sent 'Get Well' cards to Glen Auer, Bonnie James, Jan Lesch, Michael Hay, Nancy Olson, Tom & Joyce Klement, and Randy Hartjes. She sent "Sympathy" cards to Ron O'Kray on the loss of his sister-in-law, and Mary Ann Charneck on the loss of her husband Ken. Sophie Kubisiak is presently in the hospital. We wish all our members a speedy recovery. If you know of a club member that is sick, contact Sophie Kubisiak at 715-340-4045.

Old Business:

- **30th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE KNIVES:** We have a few knives available. Cost is \$60.00. Contact Ron if you are interested.
- We wish to thank Diane Swiggum and Bonnie James for hosting the club picnic. A good time was held by all who attended.
- We wish to thank club members Diane Swiggum, Greg Wirtz, Clarence Thurber, Gary Kaltenbach, Tom & Lynne Kissner, Hope Bemowski, and Ron O'Kray for manning the club tent at the "Rudolph Old Tractor Show & Cruise In" on Saturday August 8th.
- **No Other Old Business**

Upcoming Seminars in 2026

We will be having the **4th Annual John Engler Seminar** to be held at the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point, WI. There will be a (3) day woodcarving class (**Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, September 14, 15, & 16, 2026**) and a (1) day painting class (**Thursday September 17, 2026**). 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. **(13)** carvers have paid for the seminar and **(4)** are on the waiting list. **THE CLASS IS FULL**

- **2027 Seminars**
 1. **Jan Jenson** will conduct a (3) day "Old World Chip Carving" Seminar in Stevens Point, WI on April 12, 13, & 14, **2027**. Registration forms are available from Ron O'Kray or on the website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org. We have **(2)** carvers signed up the class at this time.

2. **Floyd Rhadigan** will conduct a (3) day “Caricature Carving” Seminar in Stevens Point, WI on April 28, 29, & 30, **2027**. Registration forms are available from Ron O’Kray or on the website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org. We have **(2)** carvers signed up the class at this time.

3. **John Engler** will conduct a (3) day carving and (1) day Painting Seminar in Stevens Point, WI on September 13, 14, 15, & 16, **2027**. Registration forms are available from Ron O’Kray or on the website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org. We have **(1)** carvers signed up the class at this time.

2026 Show

- **Show Committee** consists of Jerry Trzebiatowski, Ron O’Kray, Mahala Earnhart, Tom Kissner, Chet James, Phillip Chatman, and Diane Swiggum. Jerry Uher, Lynne Kissner and Hope Bemowski are advisors to the show committee.

- We will have **(151)** Exhibitor tables at the 2026 show. **We are completely sold out.** We have a waiting list.

- We have a number of prizes donated already for the 2026 Show. We need more.

- Competition Categories have been increased from **(36)** in 2025 to **(41)** in 2026. Information can be found on website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org.

- Guests can book their reservations online 24 hours a day by using the following link:

Woodcarvers Assn

Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center

Rate: \$124.00 Standard Rate

If your guests decide to make reservations over the phone, please call 715-344-0200 and press #1. When making reservations, we ask that you please reference the group name for Woodcarvers Assn or the Group Block Code: **CRV.**

Your group rate will be available until **August 18, 2026** or until the block is full. On this date, any remaining rooms in your block will be released for general reservations at the hotel's prevailing daily rate, which may be higher than your group rate. So please encourage your guests to book by **8/18/2026.** If you trouble making a reservation at the Holiday Inn, contact Ron O’Kray @ 715-570-2534.

- The CCA has reserved the Woodland/Trillium rooms to hold a carving class on September 21, 22, & 23, 2026. The instructors will be Jim Hiser, Terry Moss, and Rich Wetherbee. Class cost will be \$250.00 per person. If you want to sign up, use the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cca-caricature-carving-school-tickets-1981018360243?aff=oddtcreator>

- The CCA will be holding a “Silent Auction”.
- The CCA will release their new book “Splitting Hairs” at our show.
- Wisconsin River Woodcarvers will **not** have a “Carving Contest” in 2026 but the Caricature Carvers of America will. The “CCA Themed Category” for 2026 will be “Cheeseheads and Characters”. For more information on the CCA Carving Contest <https://cca-carvers.org>.
- We will have Wisconsin River Woodcarvers / CCA Polo shirts and Sweatshirts for sale. Form attached. See website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org for color chart and samples.
- **Interesting Facts about 2026 Show**
 - a. We have (106) carvers exhibiting from (20) States with Wisconsin having (68) and Minnesota having (6).
 - b. There will be more exhibitors after we get the list of who will be on the club tables.
 - c. (7) carving clubs from Wisconsin will have tables at the show.
- **Items of concern:**
 - a. We have a Christmas tree but need more ornaments. Contact Jerry Trzebiatowski or Ron O’Kray if you have ornament(s) to donate.
 - b. Commemorative shirt sales are down. Forms on the website.
 - c. Lamp blocks are slowly coming in. We have four lamps completed.
 - d. We need to have more carvers attend the banquet. We have a \$2,200.00 minimum food bill at the Holiday Inn.

New Business

- The business cards that we discussed with the club meeting information are available. Contact Ron O’Kray for yours.
- Lynne Kissner is looking for volunteers to help with admission on Saturday & Sunday September 19 & 20, 2026 at our Annual show. Shifts are 1 ½ hours. Please help her out by calling 715-341-7613 or E-mail takissner91@gmail.com.

No Other New Business

- There being no other business President Diane Swiggum asked for a motion to adjourn. Mahala Earnhart made the motion and seconded by Clarence Thurber. All in attendance approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM

CLUB OFFICIERS:

• President	Diane Swiggum	715-459-3221	mrschips48@gmail.com
• Immediate Past President	Greg Wirtz	715-424-0471	gswirtz@outlook.com
• Vice President			
• 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	Sophie Kubisiak	715-340-4045	ckuby@charter.net
• Librarian	Sarajane Snyder	715-325-3489	ironcreekschool@yahoo.com
• Hostess	Echo Keller	715-421-5597	erkeller@wctc.net
• Hostess	Becky Engstrand	715-435-3766	engst@wctc.net
• Hostess	Bobbi O'Shasky	715-457-5887	bobbioshasky@gmail.com
• Facebook Administrator	Jerry Trzebiatowski	715-310-9900	Jerald6@gmail.com Show
• Show Chairman	Jerry Trzebiatowski	715-310-9900	Jerald6@gmail.com

• Club Meeting Dates:

• August 18, 2026	Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• August 19, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• August 26, 2026	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM; Wisconsin Rapids Zoo
• August 26, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• September 1, 2026	Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• September 2 2026	Show Committee Meeting 3:00 PM @ 1st United Church of Christ
• September 2, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• September 9 2026	Show Committee Meeting 3:00 PM @ 1st United Church of Christ
• September 9, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• September 15, 2026	Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• September 16 2026	Show Committee Meeting 5:00 PM @ Lincoln Center
• September 16, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• September 18, 2026	9:00 AM Show Setup @ Holiday Inn; Stevens Point, WI
• September 19, 2026	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Show @ holiday Inn; Stevens Point, WI
• September 20, 2026	9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Show @ holiday Inn; Stevens Point, WI
• September 23, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• September 30, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• October 6, 2026	Lincoln Center, Stevens Point, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• October 7, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM
• October 14, 2026	1 st Congregational Church, Wisconsin Rapids, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

UPCOMING CARVING EVENTS:

- The **Rock River Valley Carvers of Wisconsin Inc.** will be holding their 20th annual Show and Sale on Saturday, September 12, 2026 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Rock County Fair Grounds “Craig Center” 1301 Craig Ave. Janesville, WI. Feathered Carver is Brad Crandall. Free Admission, donations accepted. Contact Brad Crandall @ 608-931-0188 or bwkicrandall@gmail.com or John Raisbeck @jkraisbeck4@gmail.com. for more information.
- **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Show, Sale, & Competition September 19 & 20, 2026**
- The **Chippewa Valley Wood Carving Show and Sale** will be held on October 3, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Brickhouse Pub and Banquet Room, 2333 Birch Street, Eau Claire, WI. Free Admission- Open to the Public Used Tools / Books for Sale.
- The **Capitol Carvers of Wisconsin & Badger Wood Turners** will be holding their 35th Annual Show & Sale on Sunday October 25, 2026 at the DeForest Area High School, 815 Jefferson Street, DeForest, WI. Show hours are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Any questions call, April Bird, CACW President, 608-320-9217.
- The **Waupaca Area Woodcarvers Club** will be holding “Artistry in Wood” Show, Sale, & Competition on Sunday November 1, 2026 at the Waupaca Recreation Center, 407 School Street, Waupaca, WI. Show hours are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Admission for Adults is \$5.00, Children (Age 1 -16) free. For more information contact Harold Mohr 715-281-4923.
- The **Northeastern Wisconsin Woodworker’s Guild** will be having their 43rd “Artistry in wood” show at the Denmark high School, 450 Wall Street, Denmark, WI 54208 on November 14 & 15, 2026. Setup Friday November 13th from 5:00 – 9:00 PM & Saturday November 14th from 7:00 to 8:45 AM. Show Saturday November 14th from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM and Sunday November 15th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. **NO EARLY TAKESOWNS.**



Top left to Right: Diane Swiggum Chip Carving, Larry Hiadliek Wisconsin Cheesehead, Nancy Olson Blocks for Lamp @ 2026 Show, Phillip Charman Relief Carving, & Golf Club flower by Clarence Thurber.

WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS CARICATURE CARVERS OF AMERICA

2026 COMMERATIVE SHIRTS

To commemorate the Caricature Carvers of America returning to Stevens Point for our 22nd Annual Woodcarving, Show, Sale, & Competition, the show committee has decided to have special shirts made. The shirt will have a club patch sewed on the left side with “the CCA logo, Stevens Point, WI, and 2026 embroidered on the right side. You can see color pictures of the products on our website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org. All orders for shirts and sweatshirts **must be paid for by August 15, 2026**. The shirts can be picked up at the show on September 19 & 20, 2026. If you want your shirt prior to the show, we will ship it to you but we ask that you pay for shipping. (We will bill you for shipping). All prices include sales tax. The shirts are “Silk Touch” 3 button polo (5-ounce, 65/35 poly/cotton pique).

MEN’S POLO SHIRTS without pocket

Shirts are available in: Banana, **Black**, Bright Lavender, **Burgundy**, Charcoal Heather Grey, Clover Green, Coffee bean, **Cool Grey**, **Dark Green**, Deep Berry, Gold, Hibiscus, Kelly Green, **Light Blue**, Light Pink, Lime, Maroon, Maui Blue, Mediterranean Blue, **Navy**, Orange, Purple, **Red**, **Royal Blue**, **Steel Grey**, **Stone**, **Strong Blue**, Sunflower Yellow, Teal Green, Texas Orange, Tropical Pink, Turquoise, Ultramarine Blue, & **White**. **Tall Sizes are only available in “Bold”**.

SIZE	PRICE	COLOR	QUANTITY	COST
EXTRA SMALL	\$32.00			
SMALL	\$32.00			
MEDIUM	\$32.00			
LARGE	\$32.00			
XL	\$32.00			
2XL	\$32.00			
3XL	\$34.00			
4XL	\$34.00			
5XL	\$34.00			
6XL	\$34.00			
LARGE TALL	\$34.00			
XL TALL	\$34.00			
2XL TALL	\$34.00			
3XL TALL	\$34.00			
4XL TALL	\$34.00			

POLO SHIRTS with POCKET

Shirts are available in: Black, Burgundy, Cool Grey, Dark green, Navy, Red, Royal blue, Stone, & Ultramarine Blue.

SIZE	PRICE	COLOR	QUANTITY	COST
EXTRA SMALL	\$34.00			
SMALL	\$34.00			
MEDIUM	\$34.00			
LARGE	\$34.00			
XL	\$34.00			
2XL	\$34.00			
3XL	\$36.00			
4XL	\$36.00			
5XL	\$36.00			
6XL	\$36.00			

WOMEN'S POLO SHIRTS (No Pocket)

Shirts are available in: Banana, Black, Bright Lavender, Burgundy, Charcoal Heather Grey, Clover Green, Coffee bean, Cool Grey, Dark Green, Deep Berry, Gold, Hibiscus, Kelly Green, Light Blue, Light Pink, Lime, Maroon, Maui Blue, Mediterranean Blue, Navy, Orange, Purple, Red, Royal Blue, Steel Grey, Stone, Strong Blue, Sunflower Yellow, Teal Green, Texas Orange, Tropical Pink, Turquoise, Ultramarine Blue, & White.

SIZE	PRICE	COLOR	QUANTITY	COST
EXTRA SMALL	\$32.00			
SMALL	\$32.00			
MEDIUM	\$32.00			
LARGE	\$32.00			
XL	\$32.00			
2XL	\$32.00			
3XL	\$34.00			
4XL	\$34.00			
5XL	\$34.00			
6XL	\$34.00			

TOTAL ENCLOSED	
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NAME	
STREET	
CITY	
TELEPHONE	
E-MAIL	

Make check out to **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers.**

Circle one:

I will pick my shirt(s) up at the show.

Please ship my shirt(s) to me.

Mail check to: Ronald O'Kray

Secretary / Treasurer – Wisconsin River Woodcarvers

1449 Sunny Crest Drive

Stevens Point, WI 54482

WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS **CARICATURE CARVERS OF AMERICA**

2026 COMMERATIVE SWEATSHIRTS

To commemorate the Caricature Carvers of America returning to Stevens Point for our 22nd Annual Woodcarving, Show, Sale, & Competition, the show committee has decided to have special sweatshirts made. The sweatshirt will have a club patch sewed on the left side with "the CCA logo, Stevens Point, WI, and 2026 embroidered on the right side. You can see color pictures of the products on our website www.wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org. All orders for shirts and sweatshirts **must be paid for by August 15, 2026**. The shirts can be picked up at the show on September 19 & 20, 2026. If you want your shirt prior to the show, we will ship it to you but we ask that you pay for shipping. (We will bill you for shipping). All prices include sales tax. The shirts are 9-Ounce 50/50 cotton/poly fleece.

ADULT SWEATSHIRTS

Shirts are available in: Ash, Athletic Heather, Cardinal, Charcoal, Dark Green, Jet Black, Kelly, Maroon, Navy Orange, Purple, Red, Royal, Safety Green, Safety Orange, & White.

SIZE	PRICE	COLOR	QUANTITY	COST
SMALL	\$36.00			
MEDIUM	\$36.00			
LARGE	\$36.00			
XL	\$36.00			
2XL	\$38.00			
3XL	\$40.00			
4XL	\$42.00			

TOTAL ENCLOSED	
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NAME	
STREET	
CITY	
TELEPHONE	
E-MAIL	

Make check out to **Wisconsin River Woodcarvers**.

Circle one:

I will pick my shirt(s) up at the show.

Please ship my shirt(s) to me.

Mail check to: Ronald O'Kray
Secretary / Treasurer – Wisconsin River Woodcarvers
1449 Sunny Crest Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54482

BANQUET SIGN UP

WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS, INC. SHOW, SALE & COMPETITION
HOLIDAY INN; STEVENS POINT, WI

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 6:00 PM

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____

SPOUSE OR HELPER _____

COST

Number of people for Banquet dinner _____ @ \$45.00 each _____

I am enclosing: \$ _____

The banquet meal will be **CHICKEN SALTIMBOCCA** (*Chicken breast stuffed with slice prosciutto, sage, rosemary, garlic puree, & Swiss cheese*) and **BEEF SIRLOIN** (*Classic 4 oz. char-grilled beef sirloin steak*). Each dinner includes dinner salad, mashed potatoes with sauce, teriyaki green beans, and freshly brewed regular & decaf coffee. Dessert will be cake.

The show committee has worked hard to keep the price as low as possible. Price includes tax and gratuity.

There will be a "Cash Bar" that opens at 5:00 PM.

Make checks payable to: **WISCONSIN RIVER WOODCARVERS, INC**

Return this registration form with the proper fee to:

Wisconsin River Woodcarvers Inc.
Ronald O'Kray
Secretary / Treasurer
1449 Sunny Crest Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54482

Questions call: 715-341-2214
or **E-mail:** ron.marion@charter.net