



Southwest Woodcarvers

"BRINGING CARVERS TOGETHER TO BRING CARVING TO YOU"



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2009

GENERAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2009

Submitted by Bob Sorensen, Secretary

Meeting called to order by Jack Yancick at 12:45 pm.

Visitor Bonnie Gibson, noted gourd carver.

No **new members** were in attendance.

Announcements:

- Chuck Trinko will host an open shop on the third Thursday of every month. See him, or call, for directions to his casa.
- Foothills Mall Halloween Carving Show is October 23 & 24, 2009. The club will carve Halloween pumpkins and auction them off, donating the proceeds to a charity. We need carvers to come and volunteer their time.
- Foothills Mall *People's Choice Carving Show*, is held annually by the club to showcase club carvers and give Mall visitors and carvers alike the opportunity to vote for their favorites in a variety of carving style classifications. Show dates are November 7 & 8, 2009. Jack Erickson is show chairman and can answer questions, but would refer carvers to these key facts for participating carvers:

1. Rules are on the club website. Please refer to them if you plan an entry! Ignorance is no excuse. Review the rules, categories and how the votes are scored before you check in at the show. (**Editor's Note:** See rules in Newsletter.)

2. Chuck Trinko is in charge of table rentals at \$10 per table for the weekend. There is a limited supply of tables so see Chuck to reserve your table needs. Payment for the tables is due before or on the first day of the show. Sharing tables is an option to consider. If you are not showing anything you are still invited to carve with the group and interact with the public while not occupying a table.

3. The raffle has always been a huge success and money earner for the club. Carvers at the show are encouraged to donate something for the raffle. Doris Trinko is in charge of this activity.

- Christmas Party plans are coming along. The luncheon will be held December 12, 2009. Meals to be either chicken cordon bleu or prime rib. Costs are being negotiated, but should come in around \$17/person. Those coming to the party ought to start planning for the gift exchange that is held, exchanging carved gifts among attendees. Entertainment is already lined up.

- Lefty Snyder was assigned the word of the month for next month. Jim Thompson recited the Word of This Month as "Factor", defined a meaning a "doer, maker, performer".

- An exhibit at Green Valley featuring Bill Milligan and Christel Busby will grace the halls of the Green Valley Community Center located off Continental Drive for the next several months.

- Christel Busby provided the class for this month in relief carving and a big thanks from the club was offered to her.

Show and Tell:

Rob Arnberger : “Bucked – Off Ranger” caricature from basswood and acrylics.
 Vern Preator: Sunflowers Relief from basswood and polyurethane .
 Phyllis Sickles: Raspberries & Finch gourd carving using acrylics
 Lefty Snyder: Drunken cowboy from basswood and acrylics.
 Bonnie Gibson: three carved gourds with acrylics.
 Bonnie Gibson: Mallard Duck miniature from basswood and acrylics.
 George Korytko: religious mixed media plate to be donated to his church.
 Dave Myers: two black ash carved and sanded bowls using maple stain and Krylon.
 Doug Raine: Two cowboy caricatures from basswood and acrylics.

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**FOOTHILLS MALL
 PEOPLE’S CHOICE RULES
 approved August**

1. Carvers must be a member of the SWA for at least 3 months before the show.
2. Carving must have been completed within the last 2 years from the date of the show and can only be entered once in that 2 year period.
3. Only 1 carving per category may be entered. Carving entry deadline is 10:00 a.m. of the first day of the show and is a firm deadline. Entries may be submitted even if the carver has not purchased a show table. Carvers need not be present to enter a carving.
4. Each category and subcategory must have at least two entries submitted in order for the category to be judged. If there is only one entry in a category or subcategory, then the carving will be placed in the Open Category.
5. Any carver who points out their carving or solicits votes from the public will be disqualified.

6. Carvings must remain on the People’s Choice Table until the second day. The ballots will be tabulated and a list of the winners will be determined at the end of the first day. Carvings that are receiving awards MUST be on display until 4:00 PM on the second day. Carvings that are not receiving awards may be picked up any time during the second day.

**PEOPLE’S CHOICE
 CARVING CATEGORIES AND
 DEFINITIONS**

1. *Realistic Carvings In-The-Round Category:* Any full or partial figured realistic carving, all finishes.
 - 1.A . Human Figure
 - 1.B. Mammals, Fish, Insects, Reptiles or Amphibians
 - 1.C. Birds
2. *Caricature Carvings In-The-Round Category:* Any full or partial figured caricature carving, all finishes.
 - 2.A. Human only; Human groups; Human/animal groups.
 - 2.B. Animal only; Animal groups only.
3. *Relief Carving Category:* Shallow or deep relief on flat surface; all finishes.
4. *Decorative Carving Category:* Chip Carving; Decorative Inlayed or Ornamental Plaques; Ornamental Frames; Gunstocks; Bowls; Friendship Spoons; Wood-burning; Constructed Canes; All finishes and styles.
5. *Found Wood Category:* Driftwood; Bark; Tree knots, Cypress Knees, or Boles; Natural Wood Carved Walking Sticks; Chainsaw carving; all finishes.
6. *Open Category:* Jewelry; Pins/Earrings; Musical Instruments; Floral In-The-Round; Kachina; Abstract (no readily identifiable object); Furniture.
7. *Holiday Season Category:* Any carving limited in subject matter to the appropriate Holiday Season (for a November show the designated holiday season will be Christmas); all finishes and all styles.

Just One Thing More to Dust

In his shop he did immure
Himself to carve a caricature.

“Just one knife I’ll need”, he thought
But now three dozen more he’s bought.
At every carving show he’ll find
Another book to stir the mind.

Fishers, cowboys, bears, a gnome
Now fill every shelf at home.
Though this, in fact, may be my fault
As each carving makes me halt.
And chuckling in delight, I say
Oh, this one you can’t give away.”

So as around my home I go
These figures make me smile so.
Until it’s time for me to dust
For then I’m very, very fussed.
For even though I do love heart
To have to wipe each little part,

So many hours, such loving care,
Went into every strand of hair,
So fragile is each leg and arm
That I’m afraid to do them harm.
Thus each creation has its’ place
Where I can see it’s funny face.

Still Mikey sits and whittles more
And soon they’ll cover all the floor.
But wait! This story doesn’t end
For now my mind and hands intend
To try this hobby for myself –
Perhaps I’ll try to carve an elf.

So as we sit, the two of us
And carve away from dawn to dusk.
I have to think that now there’s just
Another cutesy guy to dust.

Cathy Clark
Fanny Bay, BC, Canada

*Voted “Funniest Carvers Poem” in a recent
Woodcarvers Poetry Competition*

CARVING CLASS SCHEDULE

October: “I learned to carve in Japan”
A no-hands-on demonstration
Peggy Taylor

November: Facial features [male]
Bob Sorensen

December: Christmas Party



January: Bolos
Lefty Snyder

February: To be announced
Jack Yancick

March: Gourds
Our Gourd Ladies

ASK DR. ART

Dear Dr. Art.

Since your credentials include two law degrees, perhaps you can explain something I recently saw while visiting an old cemetery.

Under the name on one headstone is the phrase “A fine Attorney and an Honest Man.” What do you make of that?

D.R., Yutan, Nebraska

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Doctor Art:

Clearly this was an instance of two guys being buried in the same grave.

BADUMP-BUMP



What is the difference between Bird Flu and Swine Flu?

For bird flu you need tweetment and for swine flu you need oinkment.

DID YOU KNOW

The Myth: Abraham Lincoln hurriedly composed his most famous speech -- the Gettysburg Address -- on the back of an envelope while riding on a train from Washington, D.C. to the site of the speech in Gettysburg.

Background: The story apparently originated with Lincoln's son, Robert, who first created it in a letter he wrote after his father was assassinated.

The Truth: Lincoln actually started writing the speech two weeks before the event, and wrote at least five drafts before even leaving Washington for Gettysburg. He wasn't particularly keen on speaking spontaneously. In fact, he even refused to say anything to the crowd that met him at the Gettysburg train station because he was afraid he might say something foolish.

FOR SALE

10" *Powermatic Table Saw* with mobil machine base, 52" rip fence, 1 ½ horsepower motor. \$700 or best

offer. Contact Max Witkind 520
749-8612

SWWC – WHO'S WHO

Our carver this month is 81 years young and resides in Tucson, Arizona.

At the age of ten, he began carving with a pocketknife and a 2x4 piece of pine when not tending to chores on the family farm. At the age of 16 he shipped out on a Great Lakes freighter and filled any idle time with carving.

After graduating from college in Ohio, he joined the U.S. Air Force and became a jet fighter pilot flying 57 combat missions in the F-84 Thunderjet over North Korea and earned two combat decorations. Again, he found himself carving in his spare time.

After completing his air force duty, he entered the public sector, where he taught and became an administrator in public schools at the elementary and junior high level.

His talent for carving as an adult has proven to be outstanding. His specialty is carving caricatures. He is an elected member of the Caricature Carvers of America. He served as president of the Southwest Woodcarvers and is a member of the National Woodcarvers Association.

He and his wife Bobbie, have graciously welcomed carvers to their home workshop every Wednesday for many years. He continues to teach and inspire everyone who shows up each week. He definitely lives up to the Southwest Woodcarvers motto "Bringing carvers together to bring carving to you."



Younger, with no beard – Doug Raine

SHOW AND TELL
September 2009



Bucked Off Ranger
Rob Arnberger



Religious
Mixed Media Plate
George Korytko

Mallard Duck Miniature
From basswood and
acrylics
Bonnie Gibson



Two Black Ash Carved and
Sanded Bowls
using maple stain and
Krylon
Dave Myers



Doug Raine

**From basswood and
polyurethane**



**Two Cowboy Caricatures
from basswood and acrylics**



Sunflowers Relief

**SHOW AND TELL
September 2009**



**Three Carved Gourds
using acrylics
Bonnie Gibson**



**Raspberries
and Finch Gourd
using acrylics
Phyllis Sickles**



**Drunken Cowboy
from basswood
and acrylics
Lefty Snyder**

CARVING TIPS OF THE MONTH

While you can make a [wood](#) carving out of any type of wood, here are some of the more popular woods used for carving. Along with the name is a short description and of the traits of each wood.

Basswood (a.k.a. Lime) is by far the most popular wood used in carving. It is relatively soft. It is easy to work with [hand tools](#). It is white in color with fairly close grain pattern. It is hard to distinguish between the heartwood and the sap wood. The only problem with basswood is that there is no grain pattern in the wood making it look bland if you use a clear finish. Most wood carvers will paint their finished basswood carvings.

Butternut (a.k.a. white walnut) is also a popular wood for carving. It is soft and easy to work with hand [tools](#). It has dark brown heartwood and a beige sap wood. Butternut has a beautiful grain pattern, which looks good with a clear finish.

Cottonwood is a regional favorite wood for carving (in the Midwest). It is soft wood with a straight grain. Indians would use Cottonwood roots for carving dolls. It may be difficult to get in some areas.

Walnut (a.k.a. black walnut, American walnut) is almost exclusively used in gunstocks. Walnut has dark brown heartwood with tan sap wood. It is straight grained but can be very curly. Carving on walnut is usually done with a chisel and mallet.

Mahogany (a.k.a. Honduras Mahogany, American Mahogany) is a reddish colored wood. It has a relatively straight grain. It is a surprisingly strong for its light weight. It is well suited for carvings that have thin sections. It is easily worked with hand tools or [power tools](#). If it is finished clear, the wood will darken with age.

Jelutong is a soft wood that is imported from the Philippines. It is straight grained. Jelutong has “latex pockets” in the wood. However these “latex pockets” can be easily removed and filled with wood filler. Some people consider it easier to carve than Butternut or Basswood. The main disadvantage is the fuzzy fibers that lift up when [using power](#) tools on it.

Tupelo (a.k.a. water gum) is a soft wood grown in swampy areas of the United States. It has a good looking grain pattern, which looks good with a clear finish. It doesn't have the fuzzy fibers like Basswood or Julutong.

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Meetings are held on the second Saturday of
each month starting at 9:00 am
Voyager RV Resort Catalina Room
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Board meetings are held four times a year, in
February, May, August and November. The
Board members will determine the exact days
each month and they will be posted in the
Newsletter. Any member can attend a Board
meeting although they cannot vote.

Newsletter Editor

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