

Woodcarving annual show coming up in Bismarck

By JOSIE GERESZEK | Bismarck Tribune Oct 6, 2013



Frank Koch carved this totem pole.

Submitted photo

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The 44th annual Flickertail Woodcarving Show will be held from 12:15 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Oct. 13 at the Bismarck Career Academy.

The event is free and open to the public.

The show’s theme, totem poles, will be the basis for the work displayed. About 35 woodcarvers from the surrounding area and Canada will display their totem-themed pieces and demonstrate the carving techniques used. The show will feature a guest woodcarver, Ian Norbury of England.

“One of the reasons we sought him out is he’s ... one of the world’s best ... sculptors (of females),” said Frank Koch, chair of the Flickertail Woodcarving Show.

Norbury is the author of “Carving Facial Expressions,” “Fundamentals of Figure Carving” and “Techniques of Creative Woodcarving.” Norbury has taught sculpture in eight countries, including Iceland, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland and Germany. His sculptures are displayed at the White Knight Gallery in Cheltenham, England, and his work includes commissions for Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London. Bismarck is one of the three U.S. cities in which he will be conducting woodcarving courses.

Norbury will be instructing classes while in Bismarck, the focus being the carving of a female bust.

Other classes include a two-day course conducted by Larry Brewster of Hot Springs Village, Ark., on carving a stylized Christmas tree out of basswood 8-11:15 a.m. Saturday and Oct. 13. Two different basswood cutouts will be available, 5 and 7 inches tall. The class tasks will include placing a pattern, carving and painting. Students will be responsible for bringing their own carving tools, though paint will be supplied. The cost of each cutout will be \$1 for the 5-inch structure and \$2 for the 7-inch. Cost of the session is \$20.

A quilting class will be hosted by Bonnie Cook and Karen Pedigo at 8-11:15 a.m. Saturday and Oct. 13. Guests are required to bring a sewing machine, extension cord and basic sewing supplies. Non-club members may attend the event.

The Flickertail Woodcarvers Club meets at 7-9 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month and 9-11 a.m. the third Saturday of each month at Trinity Lutheran Church. The club also supports a senior carving group, which meets weekly from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursdays at the Burleigh County Senior Center.

Individuals interested in learning to carve may sign up for the club’s six week course, which will begin at 7 p.m. Oct. 21.

For more information about the Flickertail Woodcarving Show or club classes, contact Frank Koch at 701-255-0280 or 701-426-9922, via email at fkoch@bis.midco.net or visit Flickertail.org.