

The Curling Chip

January-February, 2016



FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS
PO BOX 7473
BISMARCK ND 585007-7473

We have several new members for 2016 and also guests to our meetings this past two months. The Flickertails held the yearly election in February. In addition, two annual events: Love Spoons and Snow Snakes took place. Be sure to read Frank's discussion of the traditional basis for Love Spoons. Also check out the article by Doug Emerson on why we carve Snow Snakes and their use by students in a combined hands-on class of cultural history,

physical education and art. Our club still needs more zoo animals for the Flickertail Woodcarving display at the Bismarck Veterans Library in early August. Diane Lehman Turck wrote most of the Whittle In articles and Doug Emerson, Dale Heglund, Diane Lehman Turck and Tom Turck contributed photographs for this newsletter.

Send your info to Tom Turck . Good Carving!

Newsletter Editor: Tom Turck



DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL

Leads, advocates, and advances the arts and culture in North Dakota's Capital City.

Flickertail Woodcarver projects are supported in part by grants from the North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. They are also supported by grants from Dakota West Arts Council and Montana Dakota Resources Group.



Event Calendar

Meetings and Whittle-Ins are held at Trinity Lutheran Church in
Bismarck 03/12/2016

Late January	Guy Paulson's woodcarving exhibit entitled <i>Yggdrasil</i>, North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, ND
February 4, 2016	Edgewood Vista Carving – 2-4 PM, 1 st and 3 rd Thursday of each month – contact Ron Holtz
February 6, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project snow snakes – Doug Emerson
February 16, 2016	Whittle-in, 7-9 PM Project by Eric Gaasland, Turtle on a Log
February 18, 2016	Edgewood Vista Carving – 2-4 PM, 1 st and 3 rd Thursday of each month – contact Ron Holtz
March 3, 2016	Edgewood Vista Carving – 2-4 PM, 1 st and 3 rd Thursday of each month – contact Ron Holtz
March 5, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Perry Cook, night light & Boy Scout woodcarving merit badge - (Eric, Frank and Doug Emerson)
March 12, 2016	Boy Scout woodcarving merit badge (Eric, Frank and Doug Emerson), 9-11 AM, Trinity Lutheran Church
March 15, 2016	Whittle-in, 7-9 PM - Project by Troy Friez, chipped carved candle stick holder

March 17, 2016	Edgewood Vista Carving – 2-4 PM, 1 st and 3 rd Thursday of each month – contact Ron Holtz
April 2, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Larry Graf, bear
April 19, 2016	Whittle-in, 7-9 PM Project by Dale Heglund, Dala Roster
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June 3-5, 2016	Carving class by Janet Denton Cordell Trinity Lutheran Church Project = girl jumping rope
June 24-26, 2016	Wahpeton Woodcarving School 22 nd Annual Show – over 200 carvers!!!!
July 22-24, 2016	Saskatchewan Woodturning Symposium Woodcarving champ Cam Merkle Regina, Sask.
August ???, 2016	Capital A'Fair
August 21, 2016	Buckstop Junction – CornFeed
September 24-25, 2016	Buckstop Junction – Apple Fest
Sept 27- Oct 1, 2016	Hostfest in Minot
October 8-9, 2016	Flickertail Woodcarving Show 47 th Annual Show Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy Feature Carver , Oct 6-9, 2016 will be Rick Jensen Project = a whimsical cottonwood bark mushroom Non-Carving Class – Pine needle basket Weekend Carver – Possibly Bob Pedigo – fish spearing decoy
October ???, 2016	Saskatoon

Flickertails' Officers and Staff as of the February 16th 2016 Election

Past President – Doug Emerson	Annual Show – Bob Pedigo/Doug Emerson
President – Dale Heglund	Librarian – Eric Gaasland
Treasurer – Warren Schlecht	Property – Vince Bitz
Secretary – Diane Lehman Turck	Publicity – Diane Lehman Turck/Dale Heglund
Membership – Doug Smith	Historian – Clara Yonkers
Programs – Doug Emerson/Frank Koch	Newsletter – Tom Turck

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

January 2, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

December meeting minutes taken by Diane, subbing for Jim L, were reviewed. Perry moved, Eric seconded and they were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: We had approximately \$4,497 in our account and collected about \$60. Presently we have \$4,555.90 with known bills paid. The Treasurer's Report was accepted. Troy added that the finished bookcase cost \$733.37.

Committee Reports: Although most people have paid their membership dues, a reminder for any stragglers that dues are \$15, and should be paid soon.

Our Spring Carving Class will be the first weekend in June, from Friday the 3rd – Sunday the 5th at the church. Janet Cordell will teach a little girl jumping rope. Please remember that on Jan 19th Frank's love spoon class will take more than normal time so arrive early. The class on Feb 6th will be Doug E. and snow snakes.

Tom should have the Nov-Dec newsletter out this week. It will probably be shorter than some have been.

The property/library committees have a newly constructed, quite beautiful book cabinet. Troy put a lot of time and an obvious amount of talent into the completed project. It will be a joy to have and use for many years.

We were reminded to be thinking of, or starting to carve, animals for the exhibit of zoo animals we are displaying in the cases at the entrance to the library mid-Aug thru mid-Oct 2016. The carvings should be ready by the beginning of August. Frank is keeping a list of carvers and their animals so that we don't have too many

of one and none of another. This is an opportunity to show our abilities and talents, and comes adjacent to the Fall Woodcarving Show.

The upcoming election was mentioned. There is a minimal slate of candidates. Anyone wishing to run, though, or anyone wishing to nominate someone should contact Ed, Eileen or Diane.

Unfinished Business: The new library book cabinet needs wheels, which will be attached courtesy of Bob Pedigo.

New Business: Donna has begun working on the Raffle for the Oct 2016 Woodcarving Show. She welcomes any raffle items. Plans are to have the raffle tickets printed and ready for sale at the “Capital A’fair” Saturday Aug 6th & Sunday Aug 7th. More information will be in the newsletters.

Jim Lindseth has died from his cancer. He was a kind, helpful and a warm friend. He will be greatly missed. Discussion on how to memorialize him and his contribution to the club led to a more general talk on implementing a policy that will make sure to remember anyone who dies. The decision was made to display a memorial list at the Show of the members who had died during the year from the last Show.

Other Business: Every other Thursday at Edgewood Vista from 2-4 in the afternoon, there is a whittle-in in the Activity Center. Three of the residents are carvers. Coffee is provided and it is a pleasant atmosphere. Coming dates are Jan. 7th & 21st.

Ron Torgeson is recovering from his car accident at Samaritan for Rehabilitation. If you have time, he can now have visitors. A card will again be available for everyone’s signature at the Feb 6th meeting.

Guests, and Show and Tell: Guests at the meeting were Daniel Schumacher and his father, Brian. Daniel is 12 and brought us some of his carvings. He had a duck made from a cottonwood stump, a bear and a bison. All had been painted, too.

Frank had a fish and a bowl. The fish was carved using American Folk Art style. The fins were made of aluminum. The bowl was created from a gourd

incorporating its flaws into the final design. Perry moved the meeting be adjourned and Vince seconded it.

January 2nd, 2016 Whittle-In



Vince Bitz gave us an elegant carving project. He had created a mobile of three stylized angel fish dangling from thread attached to a thin dowel. The dowel was suspended from a green wire curved to resemble the outside of a fish bowl. At the base, which held the wire, were several small geometric shaped pieces of wood representing rocks glinting from the sunshine.

The rocks and base were meant to show how the project could be completed, but Vince provided the group with everything else. He used thread rather than fish line or some other line because the fish behave more freely, like they are swimming, on it.

Besides working on the mobile, we had a number of Show and Tell items. Daniel Schumacher came to the meeting with his father, Brian, to show us some of his carvings. Daniel is 12 years old and already quite accomplished. He brought a duck fashioned from a cottonwood stump, a standing bear and a bison. In addition to carving, Daniel paints his work himself. Very nice work!





Frank had a couple of items to show us. First a fish with aluminum fins and muted coloring, carved in an American Folk Art style. You could almost picture it in a New England tourist establishment. He also had a decorative bowl made from a gourd that incorporated the plant's flaws into the final design.

Here is a photo of Troy with his newly made book cabinet



And by the January 19th meeting, the new bookcase has wheels, books, and is ready to use

January 19th, 2016 Whittle-In

Frank Koch gave us a new design for the love spoons we usually carve around Valentine's Day. Because it is a little more intricate than some spoons from previous years, the group met about ½ hour earlier than usual. Some of the regulars sat at the round tables since they knew the basic spoon design, but many participants sat along the long tables that been placed at the front of the room to hear Frank better and get more personal instruction.



Love Spoon Examples with Prairie Rose Illustrations

This session we again had several guests. Eric brought two archaeologists, one who works in his office, and the other who works for the US Forest Service. Their names are Val and Liv and although neither had experience in carving, between Eric and Frank, they did well. Becky, another new person, and several of Frank's students also attended. Having people along the tables instead of spread out made for a livelier or maybe just noisier session than usual. It was fun either way.

Frank's spoon incorporated the Prairie Rose into the handle with the petals slightly overlapping as in real life. A heart shaped leaf is at the base of the stem. He had several template spoons and photos of the flower to illustrate how the finished product should look.

Frank told how in Scandinavian countries young men gave these spoons to the young ladies they wanted to court. The spoons were carved to reflect the skills the young man had and his capability to provide a suitable living for the young woman, so the spoon was to please her father as well. Frank supposed that, like engagement rings, some women received more than their share. While love spoons are known in Scandinavian countries, a number of other countries had similar traditions and the earliest occurring love spoons date to the middle 1600s. Later sailors spent long hours carving love spoons. Over time the spoons became so ornate and carved with hearts and other symbols, they became solely a pledge of love and not used as spoons.



Some Experienced Carvers Working At Round Tables



One End of the Long Table

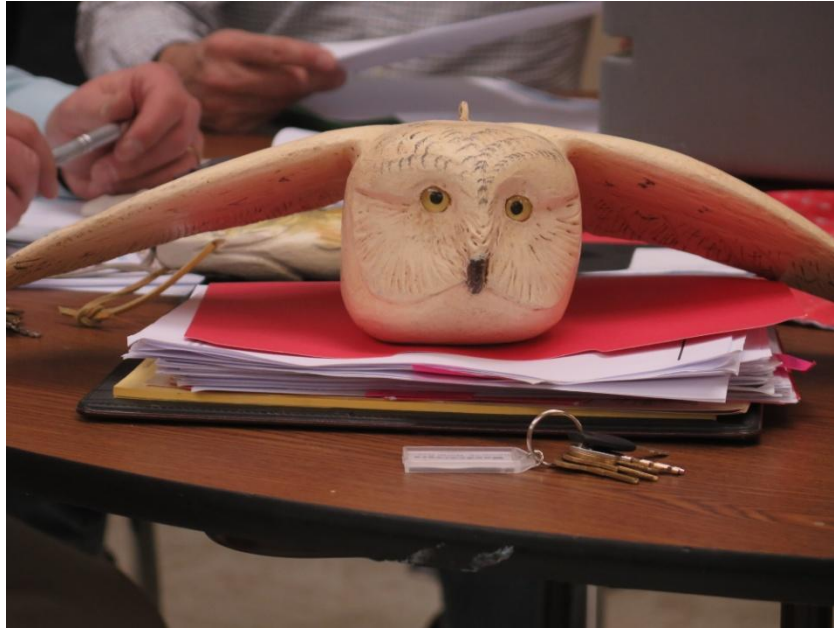


Other End of the Long Table



With Frank seated toward the middle, Available to help Everyone

Over Christmas Dale visited George Klein to get an idea of the kinds of projects he would be willing to teach our group. Dale borrowed an owl and a blue gill as representative of what we could do. During the class he got input from most everyone on which they preferred for discussion at the Feb 6th meeting.



George Klein's Owl seen Above and Bluegill Below



Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

February 6, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

Dale opened the meeting with about 17 people in attendance.

Guests: Mike, Dale's son-in-law; Val, Eric's guest at the last meeting as well; Becky Weisgerber, who was also at the last meeting and has joined the club; and Marvin Olson who has also joined.

Secretary's Report: Diane summarized the January meeting minutes. Perry moved, Eric seconded and they were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Warren reported we have \$4,719.90 in our account without the DWAC Grant money. Perry moved, Vince seconded and the report was accepted.

We need to have someone audit our books for 2015. Warren said that it should not be too time consuming. Becky kindly agreed to do it.

Show and Tell: Doug finished his lynx from Desiree's Class. He incorporated some stylizing techniques she suggested quite effectively.

Ron brought in several items. Using the idea of a bark house from a project a couple of months ago, he fashioned several bird houses out of bark, complete with birds. He also brought along a caricature pilot he carved at Wahpeton in a class of Lloyd Ming's. The poor pilot's propeller had broken and his face was so expressive. Ron wanted to remind us of the great classes and fun we can have going to the Wahpeton Show the weekend of June 24-26 this year. Lastly, he brought a carving done by Barry Bell of a man staring out from behind a headstone, which he will put in the Oct Show's Raffle.

Eric brought in a jackalope that his father had carved and ½ of a ship's hull replica that he had made. Ship builders used to keep a variety of half hull replicas to help customers decide what type of ship they wanted constructed.

Committee Reports: The list of current membership is approximately 60-65 persons.

Our Spring Carving Class will be the first weekend in June, from Friday the 3rd – Sunday the 5th at the church. Janet Cordell will create a little girl jumping rope. There are a couple of slots still open, but signup soon. The limit on the class is twelve. This week the project is snow snakes with Doug E. See the newsletter for the story behind our snake carvings. Some snakes were taken home to finish in time for the next meeting. Our next project on Feb. 16th will be Eric showing us how to carve a turtle on a log. Discussion was held regarding the 2017 Spring Carving Class. Dale talked with George Klein over Christmas and brought carvings of an owl and a brightly colored pan fish to a previous Whittle-in as examples of the types of work Mr. Klein does. Mr. Klein is willing to teach a class, but would instruct it where his studio is, in Bayfield, Wis. Mr. Klein can provide the dust masks, ear protection etc. that would be needed. In addition, his set-up is more conducive to teaching the class there than it would be elsewhere.

Bayfield is a lovely tourist town on the shore of Lake Superior, and Dale has a cabin fairly close that can be used. There are also a number of camping areas, Bed-and-Breakfasts, and hotels in the more immediate vicinity. With the information given, and the general approval of the project, we decided to proceed further. Warren questioned what the cost of the class would be, and when the group thought it should be held. Dale will talk to Mr. Klein about cost. Doug led the part of the conversation about when, and the consensus was probably the first part of June would be best.

Michelle has arranged for a banquet location for the Annual Show at the Raddison. The initial meeting on the Raffle held in conjunction with the Show has taken place. Rick Jenson will be teaching the main class on bark carving, and Ron will teach the short class with a spear fish.

There is nothing new to report for the property committee.

Ed would like to step down as the library committee lead and Eric has agreed to run for the position.

Clara Yonkers, our historian, is still enjoying the winter sun in the south lands.

The Events Calendar in the Tribune has the notice of our meeting today and will do that monthly until June.

Remember that we are in charge of the display cases at the entrance to the library from mid-Aug thru mid-Oct 2016. Please be thinking of, or starting to carve, animals for our exhibit of zoo animals. The carvings should be ready by the beginning of August. Check through your past carvings as well for animals you may have forgotten that live in the zoo. There is a lot of shelving and we want to show off what we can do. Frank is keeping a list of carvers and their animals so that we don't have too many of one and none of another. This is an opportunity to demonstrate our abilities and talents, and comes adjacent to the Fall Woodcarving Show.

Today is Election Day. There is a minimal slate of candidates who were nominated. Therefore election was held by a voice vote. Ron moved that the unanimous vote be accepted and Perry seconded. Everyone on the ballot was elected without dissent. See newsletter (above) for results.

Unfinished Business: The Wood Carving Museum possibility was discussed. And the main topic was what other clubs are around the state. Several were mentioned (Barnes County, Valley City connected with Jamestown, Fargo, other maybes in Fort Ransom and Devils Lake), but no one seemed sure of the viability of most of them.

New Business: For Social Media, Eric and Dale are working on a Facebook account for the club and Cindy will handle Pinterest. Steve Durow is handling the web information.

And Ed is working on a new membership book.

Annual dues are \$15 a year. A Family discount would be appropriate since we have couples and parents and children in the club. We also have to think about operating costs. Starting on January 1st, 2017 a Family Membership will be \$20.

Anyone with ideas for future Whittle-In projects please talk with Dale.

Dale also brought up the idea that if we could find someone who could sharpen our tools the way Bob sometimes did, on a paying basis, he or she would have a good if not thriving business. The idea was met with unanimous approval. Now we just need to find a sharpener who agrees to do it.

Other Business: Every other Thursday at Edgewood Vista from 2-4 in the afternoon, there is a whittle-in in the Activity Center. Three of the residents are carvers. Coffee is provided and it is a pleasant atmosphere. Coming dates are Feb. 18th and March 3rd & 17th.

Ron Torgeson is recovering from his car accident at Samaritan for Rehabilitation. If you have time, he can now have visitors. A card passed for everyone's signature will be sent.

Perry moved the meeting be adjourned and Vince seconded it.

February 6, 2016 Whittle-In
(Feb 16th, completion date)

Doug Emerson presented us with our yearly snow snake carving project. The “snakes” are about two or three feet in length, and an inch or two square or rectangular. While the project starts at one meeting, a lot of people take one or two “snakes” home and return them finished at the next meeting. This is so that Doug will have enough for the class of 4th graders that receive them. Not too much needs to be done to shape the snake. At the meeting, before starting to carve many people use a rasp on the wood while standing over a trash can to make the body more circular or at least more ovoid.

Some snakes at the meeting and some taken home are shaped with curves to look more snakelike. Vince made a snake that actually looks like it could slither off the table. Bodies are incised with simple to complex lines and shapes, often triangles or diamonds. Gouges are sometimes used for wider designs including girding the body at intervals. Many tails appear to have segments like a rattlesnake. Because the sticks are blocky, the heads of the snakes are usually carved to be looking up. Then, when the snake is thrown into the snow, the neck hits parallel to the surface. Otherwise, the squarish face hits the snow head on and the snake may not travel as far.

Several people besides club regulars attended including new members Becky and Marvin, and guests Mike (Dale's son-in-law) and Val (Eric's friend). Everyone

was intent on fashioning their snakes to give them some personality. Dale brought a bag of Clementines which was a treat.



People Taking Turns Rasping Wood over the Trash Cans



Carvers Giving Their Snakes Undivided Attention

Why We Carve Snow Snakes

Flickertail Woodcarvers have been carving Snow Snakes for a long time. Doug Emerson is in charge of the yearly project and shared an article from the 2012 newsletter describing how Flickertails got involved:

During the summer of 1994, Kurt Weinberg, physical education teacher at Bismarck's Highland Acres Elementary School, was camping with his family at Itasca State Park in Minnesota. One of the activities that the park's Interpretive Center had for the kids was to race snow snakes. The Park Rapid's woodcarving club came and carved snow snakes for the kids. Then the kids took their snakes back to their camp to decorate them. The camp rangers and woodcarvers filled an 80 foot rain gutter with ice. The kids would see whose snake would slide the farthest down the gutter. Although they say that they are racing snow snakes, actually, they are seeing whose snake goes the farthest.

This campout lead Kurt to contact the Flickertail Woodcarvers and ask if the club would carve snow snakes for Beth Patzman's fourth grade class. The class has a culture lesson related to games that the Indian children played; an art lesson on painting them; and last, racing the snakes during their physical education session.

For the last 20 winters during one of the woodcarver's whittle-ins, the Flickertail Woodcarvers have been carving snow snakes for the Highland Acres Elementary School 4th grade class. On March 5, 2012, the 4th grade class raced their snakes (figure 1). They had 3 heats with each student taking two turns to slide their snake in each heat. The winners of each heat receive a prize (figure 2). The winners of the best decorated/painted snake also received a prize. The students (figure 3) look forward to this event each year.

The winter 2012 was a one of the mildest on record with very little snow. The farthest the snakes slid that year was about 15 feet. Kurt Weinberg said that with good snow, the kid's snakes slide about 60 feet. It's great that the Flickertail Woodcarvers are involved with an exciting program that teaches the kids several lessons and they have fun doing it.



Fourth Grade Students Racing Their Snow Snakes



Fastest Snow Snake in Heat 2



Beth Patzman's 4th grade Class with Physical Education Instructor Kurt Weinberg

What a fun thing to do! Combining several lessons around the snakes including culture, art, and phy-ed means the kids will remember what they learned longer, especially because they will have ownership of the snake. Look at all the patterns and colors in their decorations! Kurt will have a new 4th grade teacher as a partner this year with Beth Patzman no longer there. A challenge will be the lack of snow unless we get a distinct change in our weather. Maybe Kurt can fill a make-shift rain gutter with ice as they did in the campground. That might be exciting for the kids to use. Doug said he will get us photos of this year's competition, so look for them in next month's newsletter.

Although the 4th graders' information is probably more complete, this is a bit about what the internet says regarding snow snakes. They were used in one of the games of skill played by the Upper Midwest, Northeastern United States and Southeastern Canadian Native American tribes. The Oneida, who were members of the Iroquois Confederacy, the Ojibwe, Wyandotte, and some Siouan tribes were among the people who enjoyed the game. It probably originated at least 500 years ago, before the arrival of Europeans. The game usually consists of four teams called corners. Two players work together. One is the Thrower and the other is the Shiner. The Shiner selects the wood, shapes it and adds decoration. He also chooses which snake the Thrower should throw. As with the kids' throws, the snake that travels the furthest wins.

Besides the carving project, the monthly meeting was scheduled. Several people brought interesting Show and Tell items to share. Doug, who had been part of Desiree's class on lynx carving last October, wanted to learn her techniques and ideas for achieving a stylized figure. He brought his finished lynx for us to see. His artistic treatment of the cat's body took a lot of planning and thought.



**Doug with His Finished Lynx
from Desiree Harjny's Class**

Ron's Pilot with Broken Propeller

Ron brought several things to share. To highlight the types of classes that are taught at the Wahpeton Show, which will be the weekend of June 24-26 of this year, he brought a caricature of a pilot with a broken propeller blade. Lloyd Ming was the instructor. You can almost feel the poor man's dismay.





Several months ago one of our projects was creating houses carved in bark. Ron used the basic theme and made three bark birdhouses complete with birds. He used the shape of the wood and his imagination to make them unique and enjoyable.

Ron's Birdhouses

The last thing Ron had to show was a man staring out from behind a graveyard headstone. He is a solemn figure wrapped in cloak or Western greatcoat. It was carved and is being donated to the October Show Raffle by Barry Bell.



Ominous Figure in a Graveyard by Barry Bell

The final Show and Tell items were from Eric. He brought a jackalope his father had carved and ½ of a ship's hull replica that he made. He told us that ship builders had walls or drawers of these replicas to help customers decide what type of ship they wanted constructed.



Eric with Jackalope above and Ship's Hull below



February 16, 2016 Whittle-In



One Version of the Turtle on the Log

Eric Gaasland, who has been excited about teaching us to carve a turtle on a log, finally had his turn. He came prepared with several carved turtles and copies of the article that he used originally to make his first carving. He had blocks of basswood with the blueprint of the turtle drawn on the top for all of us to try our hand. At least one of his carved turtles had an extra branch sticking up from the log as a variation.

Marlene had already carved one turtle and was going to work on a second. She had embellished the edges of her turtle's shell, which was a nice touch. Eric had a larger blank from which he intends to carve a turtle for the library exhibit in August with animals from the zoo. People were going through the articles and checking the lines drawn on the wood to make sure they understood where they should cut. Because there was a top, the turtle, and a bottom, the log, it took more thinking or planning than some of the more recent projects.



Several Turtles including the one with the extra Branch



Eric Discussing how to Carve the Turtle and Vince Reading the Instructions

Doug and Shelly were discussing preparations for the Flickertail Fall Show at the beginning of the evening. They have been working on logistics for the banquet, but then they were able to carve as well. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. Shelly was working on a tree that Frank had assigned for his class rather than the turtle. Eric had recently finished his. He had taken “liberties” with its form and it was interesting, although quite a bit thinner.



Settling down to Carve with Shelly working on her Tree



Enjoying the Project



Marlene brought some finished angel-wing hearts for the cancer patients that she had taught us how to complete late last year. They will be much appreciated. Troy brought some examples of his chip carved candle holders. Many of us thought he would be teaching the next project, but his project will be later in March. Instead of a holder for candle light, it will be Perry teaching us how to fashion a night light.

The Curling Chip

March-April, 2016



FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

PO BOX 7473

BISMARCK ND 585007-7473

Check out the updated calendar and more information (p.16) on Janet Cordell's Carving Class which is coming up shortly. March 5th features

Perry Cook's whimsical night light project along with Frank Koch and Eric Gaasland's Boy Scout Wood Carving Merit Badge (see Eric's article). For March 15th Troy Frieze brought candle holder blanks to chip carve. Also see the Wedding Plaque he carved for his wife on their wedding day. On April 2nd Larry

Graf brought basswood branches that the group carved into bears. In addition Cindy Roth created a Pinterest page for the Flickertail Woodcarvers. Here we can both research and post our conceptualized and carving pictures. Finally, Ron Holtz sent in pictures of Artist Zheng Chunhui creation called *Along the River During the Quinming Festival*.

Diane Lehman Turck wrote most of the Whittle In articles and Doug Emerson, Dale Heglund and Diane Lehman Turck contributed photographs for this newsletter. Send your info to Tom Turck. Good Carving!

Newsletter Editor: Tom Turck



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS



DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL

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June 21, 2016	Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, Shelter 4 (5-8 PM) Grill and Potluck – Public is invited
June 24-26, 2016	Wahpeton Woodcarving School 22 nd Annual Show – over 200 carvers!!!!

July 9-10, 2016	Cross Ranch State Park, carving demo Doug Emerson Coordinator
July 19, 2016	Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, Shelter 4 (5-8 PM) Grill and Potluck – Public is invited
July 22-24, 2016	Saskatchewan Woodturning Symposium Woodcarving champ Cam Merkle Regina, Sask.
July ??, 2016	Lewis and Clark Museum, Washburn, carving demo _____ Coordinator
August 6 & 7, 2016	Capital Art 'Fair, carving demo Bob Pedigo, Coordinator
August 16, 2016	Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, Shelter 4 (5-8 PM) Grill and Potluck – Public is invited
August 21, 2016	Corn Feed at Buckstop Junction, carving demo _____, Coordinator
September 24-25, 2016	Buckstop Junction – Apple Fest, carving demo Dale Heglund coordinator
Sept 27- Oct 1, 2016	Hostfest in Minot – Carving classes
October 1, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by _____
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October ???, 2016	Saskatoon
November 5, 2016	Monthly Project Meeting, 7-9 PM Project by _____
November 15, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by _____

Early March 2016 Notes

The Flickertails did not have a March meeting, but Dale did send out various e-mails with information that should be noted. I realize some is repetitive, but hearing something nice twice doesn't hurt.

Thanks and Congratulations:

Trinity Lutheran Church has been wonderful about letting us use their downstairs (and occasionally other) room for our Whittle-Ins and Carving Classes. In turn, our attention at the end of our sessions to making the room as clean or cleaner than when we started, should make us feel pretty good about ourselves. Thanks.

Frank was recently recognized by the Dakota West Arts Council (DWAC) for his chip carving representation as part of the art-box project in downtown Bismarck. While photos were included in a past newsletter, if you have not yet seen the box, it is on the NE corner of 3rd and Broadway. Only 12 submissions were chosen to be displayed on the utility boxes in the downtown area, and we are fortunate that Frank's box is so centrally located. The depth and breadth of talent on all the boxes is awesome. Walk or drive around and take a look. Doug E did a lot of work to help Frank and the club to get the honor.

We received a Grant of \$1,740.00 from the DWAC to help pay for bringing two noted carvers to Bismarck to teach classes for us. Doug E did the majority of the work and should be congratulated. Grant writing is an onerous task, but the rewards make the process worthwhile.

June Carving Class:

The first guest carver is Janet Denton Cordell who will show us how to carve a little girl (complete with braids) jumping rope. Her class will be Friday June 3rd through Sunday June 5th from 8:30am – 5pm at Doug Emerson's house. There are still a couple of openings. With money from the grant, the cost is only \$100.00 and includes the blank for the carving. Janet has been carving since she was a small girl, and is known for the grace and fluidity of her subjects.

October Woodcarving Show:

The second guest carver is Rick Jensen who specializes in bark carvings and will be the featured carver at our Woodcarving Show in October. He will teach a three day class creating a whimsical cottonwood bark mushroom.

Besides Rick Jensen's class, the Woodcarving Show in October will also include a weekend class with Bob Pedigo teaching the carving of a fish spearing decoy, and our non-carving class will be teaching the art of pine needle basketry.

Community Action Items and Carving Opportunities:

On the first and third Thursdays Of the month at Edgewood Vista from 2-4 in the afternoon, there is a whittle-in in the Activity Center. Three of the residents are carvers. Coffee is provided and it is a pleasant atmosphere. Coming dates are March 3rd & 17th, April 7th & 21st, and May 5th and 19th.

On March 5th and 12th Frank and Eric worked with Boy Scouts to help them earn the Woodcarving Merit Badge. Boy and Girl Scouting along with similar organizations can provide fun and education for children and teenagers on their way to being independent and responsible adults. They introduce youth to activities, like woodcarving, that the kids might not otherwise try. Who knows, we might encounter a budding wood carver.

One of the things the Flickertail members do that is important is provide carved hearts for cancer patients. There is a recurrent need for hearts and carvers fashion everything from simple to creative styles. People wanting one can find pretty much exactly what they want. Recently, Marlene introduced hearts with angel wings incorporated as part of the design.

There is an annual woodcarving seminar or show in Wahpeton in June. They have a wide variety of classes and teachers to choose from for carvers and quilters besides. Those who have attended in the past have enjoyed it, so it is something to think about doing.

Zoo Animals at the library will be a visible expression of the Flickertail Woodcarving Club from mid-Aug thru mid-Oct 2016. If you have the time, members are asked to create carved representations of animals seen at the zoo for

the display cases at the library entrance. The animal doesn't need to be finished until the first part of August. Frank has the sign-up list to make sure we don't have too much of one animal and none of another. The latest version of the list is in the Newsletter.

History Past and Present

The North Dakota Council of the Arts worked with the Heritage Center to establish a permanent small art gallery in one of the hallways at the Heritage Center to highlight North Dakota artists and their art. Each exhibit will last a year. This is the second year, and the exhibit for 2016-17 contains some of the carvings of Gaylord "Guy" Paulson. Titled Yggdrasil, which is the immense Tree of Life in Norse Mythology, it features many traditional carvings such as tankards and boxes. There is even a "kubbestol" or stump chair. One of the projects Paulson is most famous for completing is a full size replica of the Hopperstad Stave Church in Vik, Norway. This type of church was built in the 1100-1200s late in the Viking Age. The church can be visited in Moorhead, MN and there is a documentary about its construction available at the Heritage Center throughout the exhibit.

Wood Carving Museum at Buckstop Junction is still in the planning stage. Such a venture will involve other clubs and learning about past and present woodcarvers and groups. It may also involve an amount of fundraising. Lots to think about!

The original Flickertail Woodcarving Book is available for all to use. Sixty seven pages outline terminology, tools to use, some basic carving tips, types of wood to use, some simple projects and additional patterns. Quite impressive!

March 5th, 2016 Meeting

Perry Cook's project for this Saturday was to carve a night light structure. He set up on the far side of the room because Frank and Eric were teaching the Boy Scout merit badge to a small group of boys near the side of the room we usually use. Perry brought several carved templates for us to see. Most were little painted

houses with windows on three of the building's sides and a window in the door. A few were tiny outhouses again with windows and a half moon carved into the door.



Perry's examples of houses including an A-Frame chalet style



The snowman has tiny lights for his eyes, nose, scarf and buttons.



Perry carved each building with some variation or a bit of whimsy. Roofs were double pitched or single pitched. One looked like three old-time women's night

caps or shower caps one on top of another. Windows were horizontal or vertical. Sometimes the house was carved to look like it was crooked. The windows in the buildings would shine out the light. He brought small house and smaller outhouse size blanks, window cut-outs to draw on the blank's sides, night lights and a power drill to help start the windows. Besides the type of structures for the group to carve, he also brought a longer house that could hold more than one light and a snowman with little Christmas lights as a sort of Show and Tell.

There were about 12 people present for the Whittle-In including a couple of men that haven't attended much of the winter. Donna brought sweet rolls to go with the coffee and the tables still had live carnations from Thursday's supper. Dale had e-mailed earlier in the week to say there wasn't really enough business to hold a meeting, so we had the entire time to carve.

Wood Carving Merit Badge

Wood Carving Merit Badge

The Flickertail Wood Carving Club will conduct a two-day Wood Carving Merit Badge class Saturday March 5 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM and Saturday March 12 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at the Trinity Lutheran Church. The class is limited to the first 15 Boy Scouts that sign up. You will need to bring: (1) Merit Badge Blue card signed by your Scoutmaster, (2) Completed Totin' Chip card, and (3) a pocketknife to sharpen. All materials to complete the carving projects will be provided including wood and carving knives.

To register, submit your name, telephone number, and email address to the Bismarck Scout Office by February 26, 2016. If you have any questions, please call the Scout Office (223-7204) or Doug Emerson (425-8226).

On March 5th, Frank Koch and Eric Gaasland began teaching three Boy Scouts from two Bismarck-Mandan Scout Troops the Wood Carving Merit Badge. Prior to beginning the merit badge, each scout needed to have demonstrated knowledge of basic first aid to treat injuries common in wood carving and received his “Tottin’ Chip Card.” The card indicates the scout has earned the rights and responsibilities associated with sharpened tools and the immediate environment wherein they are used. The boys had to show their cards before starting the course.

During the first class, the scouts learned about the varieties of wood used in carving and what kind of carving is best done with each wood species. The instructors had tables set up with examples of different wood carvings and projects they had done as well as projects the boys would be doing once they had learned



the basics of carving. Scouts were shown several styles of carving including; chip carving, relief carving, and figure carving. They also learned the difference between pocket knives, types of carving knives, types of gouges, and “V” tools including the variation in sizes.

Eric helping instruct Boy Scouts

Scouts were shown the four types of cuts; the push cut, stop cut, paring cut, and the “v” cut. Before actually giving each boy the first project, a demonstration was held showing how to sharpen pocket and carving knives. Each scout practiced by sharpening his own pocket knife.

For safety the students were given a glove and thumb guard before being provided a carving knife. The first project was a rectangular piece of wood, ½ inch square at the top, from which they carved a ball on the end (½ inch being the diameter).

To help conceptualize the ball, the scouts drew lines approximately a ½ from the end of each side of the wood. On that line, their first practice cuts were stop cuts and push cuts to start to separate the future ball from the rectangular piece. After the carving away enough material, they made stop cuts and paring cuts to thin out the area underneath the ball. Next the scouts drew lines at approximately the half way point of each side of the project to the top of the wood and connected them, making a diamond at the top. They then began to round the top end of the block by removing the corners and then continued to work on the roughed out ball until it was separate from the original block, and was round.

After the scouts had completed the practice piece, the scouts' first part of their final project was to carve a letter opener using a blank. First, the boys drew a line down the center of the blank. Then, using a knife, they created separate cutting edges along either side of the blank, while at the same time shaping the whole piece into a letter opener. They were working on their letter openers when the class ended.

A week later, on March 12th, the class met for the second time. The boys began by picking up where they ended on the previous Saturday with the letter opener. Once these were well shaped, the scouts sanded them to make them smooth and remove any divots or imperfections.

As the last part of their project, the scouts were given a chip carving blank and shown the cuts used for chip carving, two stop cuts and the slice to remove the chip. They practiced making both positive and negative chip carving diamonds. When each scout was comfortable making diamonds, he began practicing on one of the two star patterns.

After working with both of the star patterns, the scouts each chose one to carve on the handle of the letter opener. When finished, the scouts had completed the steps required for the carving portion of the merit badge. Frank initialed those sections of their blue progress card and the scouts returned to explain what they had learned to the scout master.

March 15th, 2016 Whittle-In



Troy's candle holder



Candle holder pattern in butternut

Troy Frieze's project for this Tuesday was to create a chip carved candle holder. He came very well prepared and had about 17 people for the class. Besides having several examples of candle holders he had previously carved, Troy had blocks stamped with a design so we could practice before starting on the candleholder.

After everyone had settled down to chip carve, Troy came around and encouraged those of us struggling. He was quite busy and very helpful. Troy also showed us a beautiful, simple but impressive carving he made for his wife for their wedding day.



Settling into work



Troy showing carving details to Donna and Marlene



The Wedding Plaque that Troy made for his wife, Sheri, for their wedding day.

Dale is working on grants for the up-coming year and getting some assistance from Doug E., who has done a great job in obtaining grant money for us in the past. Part of our grant money is based on the amount of community outreach we do. One of them brought thank-you letters from school children who received our snakes. They were fun to read.

Vince even got a personal letter because he remembered to put his name on the snake. We have done that in other years but most of us forgot this year. Some of the extra snakes people took home to shape are trickling in for next year. Becky brought one in on Perry's March 5th whittle-in and Dale brought his son-in-laws tonight.



Ron and Vince reading the children's thank-you letters

Larry brought in a night light for show and tell that he had finished after Perry's class. Ron contributed a large quantity of hearts to replenish the supply that we have for cancer survivors. He added little details to make them each special. And Marlene displayed a little toy plane and two toy helicopters, complete with personalities, for the kids in her family.

Larry and his night light; the askew red door and crooked chimney make it fun to see.





Ron's hearts for the Cancer Center will bring much needed smiles



Animated toy planes created by Marlene for the children in her family

Janet Cordell's Carving Class

The class will be held June 3, 4, & 5 at Doug Emerson's garage located at 217 Toronto Loop.

To get to the house, from the intersection of Century Ave/Washington St drive north on Washington St and then turn left onto Brandon. Turn left onto Toronto Drive and then left onto Toronto Loop.

The class will start at 8:30 AM on June 3rd and plan to go to 5:00 PM. The tools needed are those used normally to carve a hand held project i.e. your favorite carving knife, various gouges and "v" tools.

We will break for lunch. Please bring your lunch or plan to go home or to a restaurant.

If you have any questions, contact Doug

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

April 2nd, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

Dale opened the meeting with about 19 people in attendance.

Guests:

Secretary's Report: February 6th minutes were read by Diane, approved by Perry and seconded by Eric. They were passed. There was no March meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Warren not present. A grant proposal was submitted to the ND Council of the Arts for \$3,000.00. Becky has completed the audit.

Show and Tell: Bob brought his lynx from a course Desiree taught some time ago. He said he learns something new with each class he attends. He hadn't known about the muzzle structure above the eyebrows in some animals before her class. He has just started a fox from a blank which he purchased from Desiree. Her

animals are so expressive. Marlene brought in a number of lovely angel-wing hearts for the cancer center, each slightly different. Doug shared his thumb guard shaped and colored exactly like a thumb.

Committee Reports: Our Spring Carving Class will be the first weekend in June, from Friday the 3rd – Sunday the 5th. Janet Cordell will teach a little girl jumping rope at the church. There were a couple of slots open. UPDATE the class is full; there may be a waiting list. See above for more information and directions to Doug's house.

Dale talked about gourd carving, how fragile gourds are, and thin walled. Power tools are used to carve them. Vince it turns out has a King Art tool set that can be used.

Barb Knudson and her son were mentioned as people who might be approached for teaching the group a class in the future.

Clara has suggested that it might be a nice interlude to go to Cross Ranch for a day or two of camping and whittling – perhaps a weekend. In loose conjunction with that idea, Mark Zimmerman was wondering if we could come up to Fort Mandan at Washburn and spend time whittling there. He thought we might be able to do it when an event, such as a Fur Rendezvous was occurring. After some discussion, we will revisit both proposals next meeting.

Please keep in mind our library exhibit of zoo animal carvings in August. A list of participants and their animals is elsewhere in the newsletter. Frank has talked with the zoo regarding what to do with the animal exhibit after it has been in the library. He thinks that the zoo may want to retain the exhibit to display at the zoo, and is wondering if the carvers of the animals would want to donate them to the zoo.

Donna has 13 raffle items so far for our October Woodcarving Show. The raffle tickets will be available to sell soon.

Unfinished Business: It was noted that the Western Town is being stored in boxes.

General discussion regarding the museum idea turned into needing display cases for carvings and exhibits. Tom has e-mailed Mike the information the Historic

Society sent him about cases. We talked about building a case ourselves. Bob and Larry offered to help with the building, and Bob said we could use his garage. Cost was an unknown, although to complete a case with good museum quality glass could be as high as \$15-1700.00. On spec, approval of \$500.00 was authorized to see what could be done.

New Business: Becky brought up a new donation of wooden villages.

Flickertails received a Dakota West Arts Council (DWAC) Grant of \$1,740 and as previously mentioned, Dale has recently applied for a \$3,000 North Dakota Council on the Arts Grant. These grants help us pay to bring in instructors for classes and cover other expenses besides. We are pleased to note that Eileen Walsh, the Executive Director of DWAC, liked our last newsletter.

We have no written policy for borrowing tools. The Flickertails have some tools available for workshops and classes, but we should have a method of checking them out so people don't forget, and can be reminded to return them. Even though we have cards to check out books, there is a similar problem. People forget to return them, and we forget to ask for them to be returned. More attention needs to be paid to the library situation, and a system must be put in place for club tool use so that they are available or we know where they are when needed.

April 2nd, 2016 Meeting

After one of Bismarck's horrendous rain/wind storms, Larry Graf's neighbor had some basswood branches at his curbside for pick-up. Larry remembered the article about carving a bear in a small branch of basswood and an enjoyable project was born. Larry brought several finished bears, some with wood burned snouts, claws and/or ears. The wood burning adds more visual definition to the bear.



Two bears with a bunch of pieces of basswood. Note the difference in the wood burned bear.



Larry made a saw-toothed connection of the bear to the basswood bark so the bear appears to be emerging from a hollow log or his winter den. Branches Larry provided were an inch to not quite two inches in diameter, and there were many to choose from, which was good since about 19 people came.

Everyone intent on carving as Larry helps over at the far table.

Directions he provided were clear and concise, with measurements and photos of the various stages, and he was able to help when questions arose. Some of the members who attended aren't always here, so this was a good project for them, not too easy and not too difficult, like baby bear's porridge – just right. (Sorry).



Larry carving a bear, while his little man holds down a corner of his mat.

A number of Show and Tell items were presented. Larry had a little caricature. Doug E had a knife blade cover shaped and colored that was almost too convincingly a human finger. Marlene designed four regular hearts and five angel-wing hearts for the Cancer Center. Each was individualized. Bob displayed a lynx he had carved in a course Desiree taught several years ago. He also brought a fox blank that he bought from Desiree. Like the lynx, it has a lot of personality.



Doug's realistic knife blade protector



Marlene's expressive hearts



The lynx Bob carved looks like he could get up and walk away.



Bob with his fox blank

Pinterest

Cindy Roth created a Pinterest page for the Flickertail Woodcarvers. The web site is <https://www.pinterest.com/flickertailwood/>.

It is still a work in progress and will be ever changing as it is updated with pictures. For the people unfamiliar, Pinterest it is a photo sharing site which makes it a good place to research and save carving ideas. It is easy to use and free to register for a board. I use it all the time and it is addicting!

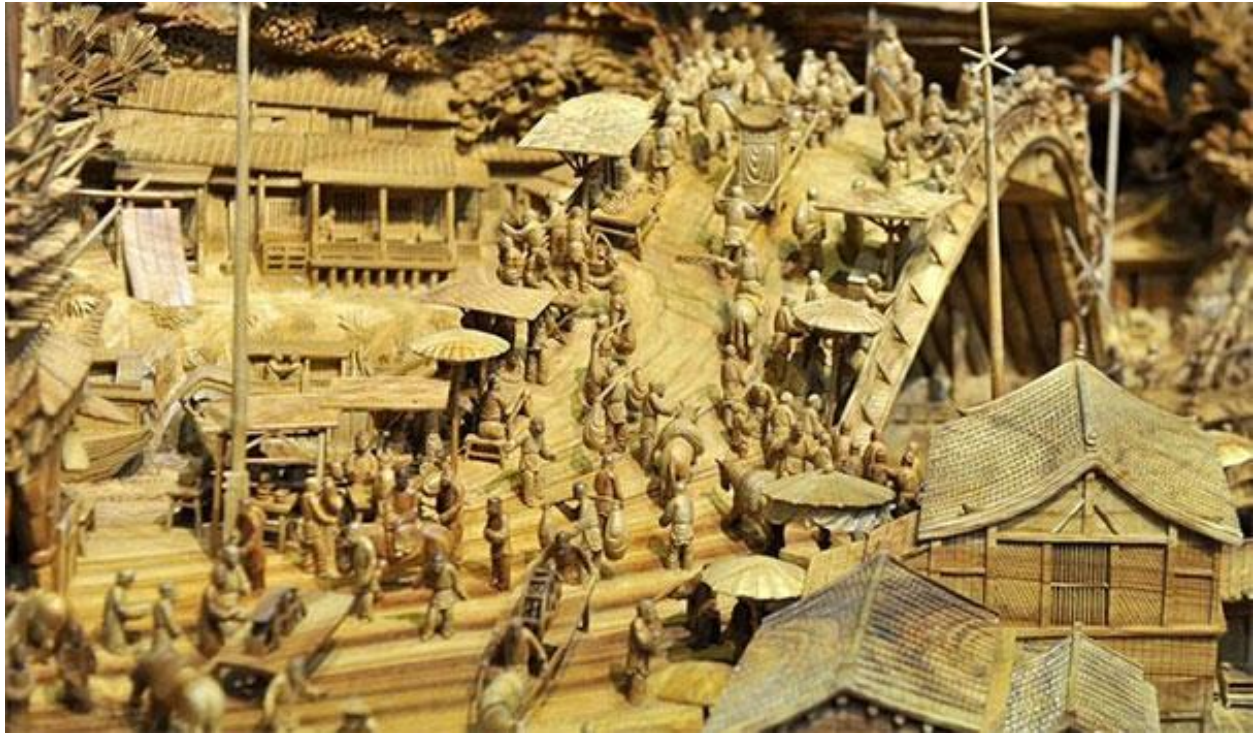
Here is a short description from Wikipedi:

Pinterest is a free website that requires registration to use. Users can upload, save, sort, and manage images—known as pins—and other media content (e.g., videos) through collections known as pinboards. Pinterest acts as a personalized media platform. Users can browse the content of others in their feed and save individual pins to one of their own boards using the "Pin It" button. Pinboards are typically organized by a central topic or theme. Users can personalize their experience with Pinterest by pinning items, creating boards, and interacting with other members. The end result is that the "pin feed" of each user displays unique, personalized results.

Along the River During the Quinming Festival

For those who have not seen it, Ron Holtz sent in pictures of Artist Zheng Chunhui creation called *Along the River During the Quinming Festival*. and it seems as though he was on a mission to blow everyone's mind. A 40-foot long carving made from a single tree trunk, it has been recognized as the world's longest wood carving by the Guinness Book of World Records. The sculpture contains over 550 individually carved people. Not to mention all the buildings and foliage.









**FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS
PO BOX 7473
BISMARCK ND 585007-7473**

In this issue is the application form for the 47th Annual Flickertails Woodcarving Show on October 8th & 9th, 2016. Rick Jensen will have a class on carving a whimsical cottonwood bark mushroom house; whereas Bob Petigo has a spear fishing lure carving class and Eileen McEnroe a class on weaving pine needle baskets. Woodcarvers. We still need more people for Cross Ranch, Lewis & Clark at Washburn (Doug Emerson) and the Capitol D' Affair event (Bob Pedigo).

Diane Lehman Turck wrote most of the Whittle In articles; Clara Yonker contributed an historical article and Diane Lehman Turck, Eric Gaasland and Dale Heglund contributed photographs for this newsletter. Send your info to Tom Turck. Good Carving!

Newsletter Editor: Tom Turck



DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL
Leads, advocates, and advances the arts and culture in North Dakota's Capital City.

Flickertail Woodcarver projects are supported in part by grants from the North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. They are also supported by grants from Dakota West Arts Council and Montana Dakota Resources Group.

Frank Koch



On June 10, 2016, Frank Koch died after a long, contentious battle with cancer. He lived life on his own terms. He was a thoughtful, genuine person who had an intense love of learning, and tried to pass that love onto those around him. Frank had certain passions. The woodcarving world, and in particular the Flickertail Woodcarving Club in Bismarck-Mandan, was fortunate that carving was one of his greatest passions.

Frank was the public face of the Flickertail Woodcarving Club. He taught newcomers, as well as classes for established carvers. He organized our yearly Woodcarving Show each October and arranged for instructors from the US, Canada and England to travel to Bismarck and offer classes in various carving aspects. He promoted community events and community involvement such as the coming exhibit of carved zoo animals in the glass cases at the library entrance. Always energetic, Frank was a prolific carver of beautiful, interesting and funny pieces, insightful caricatures and elegant chip carving.

More than that, though, you come back to the essentials: Frank was warm, sincere and occasionally irascible, but a good friend and always willing to go further than necessary to help, to teach and to make sure things were done well.



Event Calendar

Meetings and Whittle-Ins are held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismarck Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

Late January	Guy Paulson's woodcarving exhibit entitled <i>Yggdrasil</i> , North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, ND
May 7, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Avin Braunagel, TBD
May 17, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Warren Schlecht, Alligator
June 3-5, 2016	Carving class by Janet Denton Cordell Trinity Lutheran Church Project = girl jumping rope
June 21, 2016	Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5-8 PM Grill and Potluck – Public is invited
June 24-26, 2016	Wahpeton Woodcarving School 22 nd Annual Show – over 200 carvers!!!
July 9-10, 2016	Cross Ranch State Park, carving demo Doug Emerson Coordinator
July 19, 2016	Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5-8 PM Grill and Potluck – Public is invited

July 22-24, 2016	Saskatchewan Woodturning Symposium Woodcarving champ Cam Merkle Regina, Sask.
July ??, 2016	Lewis and Clark Museum, Washburn, carving demo _____ Coordinator
August 6 & 7, 2016	Capital Art Affair, carving demo, Bob Pedigo coordinator.
August 16, 2016	Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5-8 PM Grill and Potluck – Public is invited
August 21, 2016	Corn Feed at Buckstop, Junction, carving demo, _____ Coordinator
September 3, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Bob Fererer, TBD
September 20, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
September 24 and 25	Apple Fest at Buckstop Junction, carving demos, Dale Heglund coordinator
September 27 – Oct 1	Hostfest, Minot – Carving Classes
October 1, 2016	Monthly meeting 9–11 AM Project by
October 8-9, 2016	Flickertail Woodcarving Show 47 th Annual Show Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy Feature Carver , Oct 6-9, 2016 will be Rick Jensen Project = a whimsical cottonwood bark mushroom Non-Carving Class – Pine needle basket Weekend Carver – Bob Pedigo – fish spearing decoy
October 18, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
October ??, 2016	Saskatoon
November 5, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by
November 15, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by

December 3, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM
December??, 2016	Christmas Party – Diane Turck and Michelle Collins Coordinators
December 20, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
January 7, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Vince Bitz, TBD
January 17, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes
February 4, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by
February 21, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
March 4, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by
March 21, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
April 1, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by
April 18, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
April ??, 2017	Fargo Carving Show
May 6, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by
May 16, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Warren Schlecht, TBD

47th Annual Flickertail Woodcarvers Show

October 8 & 9, 2016, Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy, Bismarck, ND

The Flickertail Woodcarvers invite all woodcarvers to participate in a fun filled weekend consisting of learning, sharing, and camaraderie. We have put together a program consisting of workshops for carvers and non-carvers, woodcarving demonstrations, silent auction, wood and carving vendors, and exhibition of carvings by the show participants.

The 47th Annual Flickertail Woodcarvers Show will be held at the Bismarck Public Schools' Career Academy, which is located on the east side of Bismarck State College campus. The Career Academy will provide tables and chairs. Bring your own tablecloth. A table will be available for selling carving related items.

The Flickertail Woodcarvers refund policy is:

- If you withdraw before August 6, you will receive 100% of your fees refunded.
- If you withdraw after August 6 and before September 21, you will receive 50% of your fees refunded.
- If you withdraw September 21 or later, you will not receive any refunds.

Early departures are discouraged unless prearranged. A block of rooms has been set-aside at Comfort Inn, 1030 E. Interstate Ave. (701-223-1911). Mention Flickertail Woodcarvers to receive the special rate of \$77.00 single and \$87.00 double, (both have queen size beds). The room includes breakfast and a free drink in the bar each day. You must book these rooms by September 20. For additional information contact Bob Pedigo.

AGENDA:

Saturday, October 8

Setup: 7:30 – 11:15 AM

Workshops: 8:00 – 11:15 AM

Lunch: 11:15 – 12:15 (cost included in registration fee)

Exhibits: 12:15-4:30 PM, open to the public

Social Hour: 5:30 – 6:00 PM (Radisson Hotel)

Dinner: 6:00 PM (Radisson Hotel, cost included in registration fee)

Rick Jensen will be the banquet guest speaker

Carving exchange

Sunday, October 9

Workshops: 8:00 – 11:15 AM

Lunch: 11:15 – 12:15 (cost included in registration fee)

Exhibits: 12:15-4:00 PM, open to the public

Raffle Drawing: 3:30 PM

Rick Jensen – Whimsical cottonwood bark mushroom house carving class information: The cost of Rick's class is \$125.00. The class will meet at Trinity Lutheran Church Thursday and Friday October 6 & 7 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.



As a youngster, when Rick's pocketknife wasn't being used for other things, he put it to good use whittling sticks, thus beginning his life-long love of woodcarving.

After seeing a cottonwood bark house carved by a friend, Rick's interest was sparked. He began developing his own techniques for carving "whimsical houses" out of cottonwood bark. Soon his style of woodcarving was in high demand.

He began teaching classes throughout the United States and Canada, won Best of Show and People's Choice Awards at numerous woodcarving competitions and was asked to be a part of the book, "*Carving Found Wood*" by Jack A. Williams and Vic Hood and co-authored the highly successful book:

"Illustrated Guide to Carving Tree Bark".

Rick Jensen is widely recognized by his peers as a master woodcarver whose influence, especially in the area of cottonwood barks carving, can be easily recognized throughout the world. Perhaps this is stated best by Carl Wiggins, the American representative for Geisler– Morder Woodcarving School in Austria, *“Rick’s work is the most innovative thing to come out of woodcarving in 100 years!”* Rick will teach his innovative style of carving whimsical cottonwood bark mushroom houses in the round.



Bob Pedigo—Spear Fishing Decoy carving class information: The cost of Bob’s class is \$15.00. The class will meet at the Career Academy Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 to 11:15 AM. Example of the project is shown in below.

The fish can be painted any color. Most of the spear fishermen use a basic red/white pattern because it seems most effective at attracting fish. The pictured decoy is similar to a perch. Fish decoys can be as plain or as realistic as anyone wants to make them. The fish decoys for the show class will be very basic. Bob will have a selection of paints, and people can paint their fish whatever color they want.



Non-Carving Project – Eileen McEnroe – Pine Needle Basket class information: The cost of the pine needle basket class is \$10. The class will meet at the Career Academy Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 to 11:15 AM. Example of the project is shown in below. The pictured pine needle basket is a basic basket. The cost of the kit is \$15 and is payable to Eileen at the class. Eileen will have supplies for sale if someone wants to do a fancier basket after the basic class. If the class is not filled by September 21, it will be open to local interested people.

Please complete the following by writing the amount for the events you plan to participate in. Note that the class size is limited to 12 and classes are filled in order of reception date. Flickertail Woodcarver members are given priority over nonmembers, and show participants are given priority over nonparticipants. Material fees are to be paid to the instructor. **NOTE: When you receive the newsletter, you may email or call Bob Pedigo with your intent to take the class. You then have seven days to remit the class fee and show registration.**

47th Annual Flickertail Woodcarvers Show

October 8 & 9, 2016, Career Academy, Bismarck, ND

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Rick Jensen, Cottonwood bark class, Oct. 8-11 \$125.00 _____

Bob Pedigo, Fish lure class, Oct 8-9..... \$15.00 _____

Non-carving class, pine needle basket, Oct 8-9..... \$10.00 _____

Carvers Registration fee: includes all meals and table \$41.00 _____

Carvers Registration fee: table only, no meals \$10.00 _____

Banquet Only: Saturday evening \$23.00 _____

Non-carving Registration fee: includes all meals \$41.00 _____

Total _____

- Electricity will be available. Please bring an extension cord. Please circle if you want electricity: YES NO
- Drop cloth is not needed for carving.
- You are allowed to sell your carvings at the show. If you sell a carving, we request that you replace it with another carving.
- There will be a carving exchange during the Saturday banquet.

Return the completed registration form to Bob Pedigo with a check made out to the Flickertail Woodcarvers by September 24, 2016.

Bob Pedigo

April 19th, 2016 Whittle-In

Dale Heglund continued teaching us about carving done for hundreds of years in the Dalarna (Dalecarlia) country in central Sweden. Last year he had horses, this



time he has roosters. Horses are clearly the most popular Dala animal represented, probably in part because of their great importance in the lives of the people. We know they were being carved as children's toys in four of the towns in the Mora area of Dalarna as early as 1623. Much later they became involved as trade items to assist in helping the economy.

Dale's Dala Tupp and blank enjoying the Caribbean

Not until the early 1800s was there much attention paid to painting the carvings. Then, the painting mimicked how furniture in the region was painted in a style called Curbits.

In the 1830s, a man named Stika-Erik Hansson developed a method of painting in that style with two colors on the same brush, which is still popular in Dala art today. It was the World Expo in Paris in 1937 and the World's Fair in New York in 1939, though, that cemented Dala art into a Swedish national symbol. The Dala Rooster or Tupp (rooster in Swedish) has not been around as long as the horse, but was known as early as 1760.



Dale's Scandinavian Tupp



Dale's Red Dala Tupp

There is general agreement that the horse was pagan, while the rooster was Christian in origin. It wasn't until the late 1800s that roosters were carved very often, but they have the same pedigree as the horse. In Sweden and many cultures, roosters have positive attributes. They represent virtues and purity, protection from evil, and can bring good luck and prosperity especially if their likeness is kept in the kitchen.

In France the 20-Franc gold piece had a rooster on the reverse side from 1899-1914. This information is from Veronica Johnson and several internet sites. Dale's original Dala Rooster has a white base and is imported from Denmark, and it sounds like he worked on a blank of it during Christmas vacation, Or maybe he just had it in his suitcase for most of the time...



Dala Tupp (Rooster) and blanks - Note the green hearts and rooster

Dale brought lots of blanks to the meeting, and they went quickly. There were about 18 people from the club and a couple of guests. We discussed chalk paint, which is a paint developed in the 1990s by a woman named Annie Sloan. Dale brought a few hearts and a small rooster painted with green chalk paint. It brings out the texture of the wood, and has a rustic feel to it. It is similar to a paint called milk paint. Chalk paint sounds like it has a few more positives than milk paint, which is a much older type of paint, but chalk paint is more expensive. Carvers made progress such as Roger Ferderer's blank began to look a lot like a rooster. We enjoyed the project.



Roger's rooster starting to acquire shape

Everyone Two visiting guests, who came together, and Troy and Eric showed them around and answered questions. Eileen and her husband are back, which is nice. Eileen brought a wonderful carved duck decoy for show and tell. Eric brought a night light he had finished carving. There were two pairs of carvings, each on a different table. One set was a little carved graduate and a caricature man, sort of cowboy or settler looking. The other was a cowboy bundled against the cold drinking a beer next to a Santa who should have quit drinking a few bottles back.



Eileen and her Show and Tell duck



Eric and his night light



Graduate and Western Settler



A couple of hard drinking individuals

While we were working a group of teenage girls came in to decorate the room for Confirmation which they will be celebrating in a few days. They were hanging balloons from the ceiling and encircling the pillars with red and yellow crepe paper. The girls were having a lot of fun, although some of their behavior, with standing on chairs on top of tables to reach the ceiling, was occasionally a little worrisome. At one point they were even playing the organ on the far side of the room. Interesting to watch to watch!

Spring 2016 Woodcarving Class



Janet Denton Cordell instructed our spring 2016 woodcarving class held at Doug Emerson's house. Everyone had a good time. The Emersons were excellent hosts providing all sorts of goodies and beverages.

The project was a girl jumping rope and participants learned many things; however for a few carvers, including me, retention may be somewhat of a problem.

Janet grew up in a rural area of the Ozarks of Arkansas in a family of carvers that made a living specializing in western art and animals. Growing up in this remote region provided little opportunity for part-time jobs, so Janet began carving at home and then selling the finished objects. As she grew older, the part time activity became a full time occupation as an artist. Janet cast bronzes using the lost wax method and also does sculpture.

"I cannot remember a time when woodcarving and art were not central factors in my life, ..." Woodcarving gives Janet an opportunity to teach, be creative, try something new and then work through the process of figuring out how to accomplish it. She believes that you can do something if you really want to. Western art and horses are some of her favorite subjects. *Cowboy by the Fire* is one of her favorite woodcarvings.



Cowboy by the Fire



Figure partially carved

Janet says when starting out don't get discouraged. Buy a few good tools and learn how to use them. At first, it can be difficult getting past preconceived notions of what an object actually looks like and to see what is in fact actually there. From her teaching experience, Janet determined that older students, just starting out, usually take longer to learn how to carve.

She continues to develop new methodologies about working with subject materials. Surprisingly Janet does not like using 'V' tools. And similar to sculpture, she tries to use the largest carving tool possible to get the job done.



Another view of the class



**Bob coming back from lunch
with an ice cream he didn't share**

Bismarck Zoo Animals

Bismarck Library Exhibit-Mid August –Mid October, 2016

NOTE: Carvings need to be ready by August 1, 2016

1. Bob Pedigo	Goat
2. Bob Pedigo	Buffalo
3. Frank Koch	Canada Goose
4. Frank Koch	Robin
5. Frank Koch	Stylized Eagle
6. Larry Brewster	Raccoon
7. Larry Brewster	American Goldfinch
8. Larry Brewster	Rabbit
9. Doug Emerson	Antelope
10. Doug Emerson	Fox
11. Ron Holtz	Chipmunk
12. Ron Holtz	Bear
13. Vince Bitz	Horse
14. Warren Schlecht	Duck Decoy (mallard)
15. Warren Schlecht	Wren
16. Dale Heglund	Moose
17. Ed Ryen	Mountain Lion
18. Bob Lawrence	Cougar
19. Bob Lawrence	Beaver
20. Tom Turck	Badger
21. Eileen Hahn	Red head duck
22. Frank Koch	Giraffe
23. Bob Pedigo	Camel
24. Larry Graf	Mallard (driftwood)
25. Roger Duchsherer	River Otter
26. Eric Gaasland	Turtles on a log
27. Mike Knudson	Aoudad - Barbary Sheep

Bismarck Art and Galleries Association Capitol Affair

August 6 & 7, 2016, Demonstration Schedule

Saturday, August 6

10:00 AM - Noon

Alvin Braunagel

Eric Gaasland

Noon - 2:00 PM

Alvin Braunagel

Diane Lehman Turck

Thomas Turck

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Sunday, August 7

10:00 AM - Noon

Noon - 2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Bob Pedigo

We need more people for the Capitol Affair.
Please contact Bob Pedigo.

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

May 6th, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

Dale opened the meeting with about 17 people in attendance.

Clara, Alvin and Warren are back from their snowbird adventures.

Guests: Troy's son was here for awhile helping Troy.

Secretary's Report: Diane did not bring the April minutes however, they are in the March/April Newsletter. Please let her know if any corrections need to be made.

Treasurer's Report: Warren reported we have \$5,039.00 in our account with all bills paid.

Show and Tell: Eileen had some cedar comfort crosses and hearts for the Cancer Center.

Along with the icicles that Al brought for his project this month, he showed us a chip carved jewelry box he made for his wife. It is so delightfully carved in the Old World style taught by Jan Jenson that he was explaining to us. With Al's skill and the beautiful pattern, it will be cherished for years to come.

Warren, too, came with items he's been carving. He is getting ready to retire from being a loan officer. For some of the people he has been assisting over the years, he has carved caricatures as a surprise gift and he brought a couple of them for us to see. The cattle brands on the saloon bars are the actual brands of his customers.

Warren also showed us a ship, a product of wood burning he made in Denver. The detail and shading he uses are incredible.

Committee Reports: Our Spring Carving Class on the first weekend in June, from Friday the 3rd – Sunday the 5th is now full. Janet is teaching a little girl jumping rope in Doug Emerson's garage. Call him if you want to be on a waiting list.

During the summer, the June, July and August Whittle-Ins will be out of doors at Sertoma Park. They will be one a month on the third Tuesday from 5-8pm. We will be encouraging people to come and try carving, so invite your friends, co-

workers and family. Invite your family in June at least since Dale is planning to cook out and we will have a pot luck picnic dinner.

The church has decided to provide a community lunch every Saturday to compliment their Thursday suppers. Because they will not begin serving until 11:30am, our meetings will not interfere with their preparations.

Discussion regarding the featured carver for the 2017 October Woodcarving Show centered on Josh Guge. Josh is the son of famed carver Bob Guge. Bob won many top awards for ducks, for instance. He and Josh worked together for a number of years before Bob died in 2013. One of the things they do is to teach how to work on setting or habitat – such as the berries, branches, leaves and rocks – surrounding the animal. It was decided to pursue seeing if we could get Josh to teach the 2017 October class.

For this October's Show, the raffle tickets will be ready for sale by Memorial Day. Rick Jenson will be teaching the main class on bark carving, and Ron will teach the short class with a spear fish, and the non-carving class will be on making pine needle baskets.

People are interested in registering for the classes locally and in Canada. We will have the newsletter out by July 1st.

There is nothing new to report for the property or library committees.

Clara Yonkers, our historian, has started to gather some articles from the Tribune that we will be able to publish in the newsletter.

Special Events: There are a couple of outings that members can be involved in this summer. Mark Zimmerman, the director at Cross Ranch has asked us to come out to Cross Ranch and demonstrate carving in the visitor center on July 9th from 1-4. Doug and he were thinking that we could make a weekend, and stay overnight in the campground. We could have a pot luck dinner, hang out that evening and leave sometime on the 10th.

The other venue is Lewis and Clark at Washburn on Saturday July, 30th from 10-4. There are a lot of tables for our use to set up and carve. We would be there in conjunction with the opening of an exhibit on wet plate photography. That kind of

photography was used in the 1800s. Recently, a man from Bismarck has been learning how it was done, and experimenting with it. There have been several news articles about it and the photos are quite interesting. At Lewis and Clark, there is a beverage machine available, but we would need to bring a lunch or eat nearby. There is a Cenex that serves food down the road.

Closer to home, the annual Capital D'Affair (or however it is being spelled this year) is August 6-7. Bob will be heading that, and is asking people to sign up for 2 hour shifts. Although it tends to be hot that weekend, our location is under the trees, and usually receives a bit of a breeze. I think it is the most comfortable on the grounds. And it is next to the pine needle baskets that will be the subject of the non-carving class in October.

As you know, we are in charge of the display cases at the entrance to the library from mid-Aug thru mid-Oct 2016. Please be thinking of, or starting to carve, animals for our exhibit of zoo animals. The carvings should be ready by the beginning of August. There are about 25 people on the list of carvers and their animals so that we don't have too many of one and none of another. We could use more carvings, although summer doesn't have enough time to do everything as it is. This is an opportunity to demonstrate our abilities and talents, and comes adjacent to the Fall Woodcarving Show. Frank and Zoo Personnel had been discussing keeping the display up in the zoo over the winter. They had also thought some or all of the animals could eventually be part of a silent auction or donated to the gift shop. Those were just suggestions to think about.

Don't forget that the Wahpeton show is at the end of June. The classes sound very interesting. You have to put down 3 choices, and even that can be difficult. Lots of fun and cheerful camaraderie! And Bob said the food is good, too.

Unfinished/New Business: For Social Media, Eric and Dale are working on a Facebook account for the club and Cindy will handle Pintress. The photos Cindy has on Pinterest highlight the club's carving.

Anyone with ideas for future Whittle-In projects please talk with Dale or Doug to sign-up.

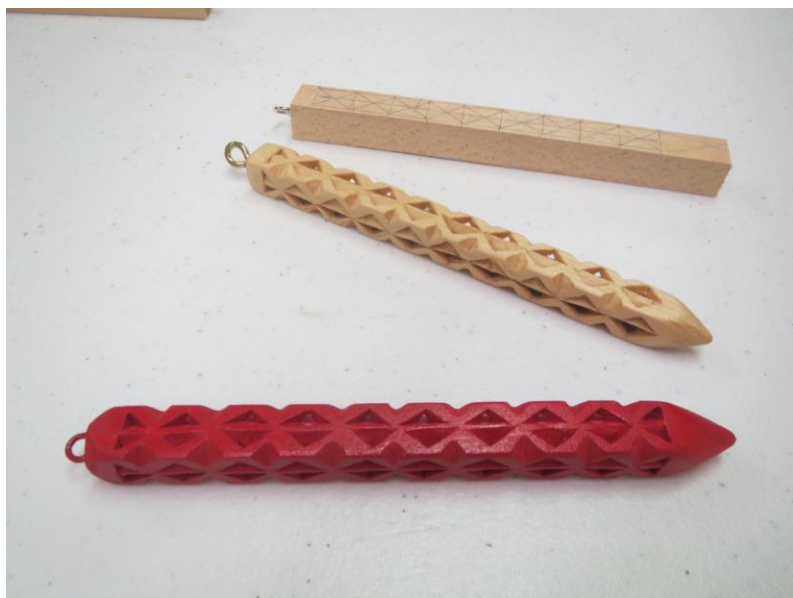
Doug brought up the idea of a sharpening stand and there was some discussion concerning how to catch the splatter it could create.

Other Business: Every other Thursday at Edgewood Vista from 2-4 in the afternoon, there is a whittle-in in the Activity Center. Several of the residents are carvers. Coffee is provided and it is a pleasant atmosphere. Coming dates through summer are May 12th & 26th, June 9th & 23rd, July 7th & 21st, August 4th & 18th, and September 1st & 15th. What a nice way to spend a summer afternoon.

Don't forget to attend Frank and Kay's 50th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, May 14th, at Gateway to Science from 7-9.

Dale brought a box of wood "stuff." We were heartily encouraged to take anything appeals to us. Dale may stain some of anything left.

May 7th, 2016 Whittle-In



Alvin Brunhagel spent part of the winter in Edinberg, Texas. While he was there he learned some wonderful techniques in Old World chip carving taught by Jan Jenson. The cuts are somewhat different than regular chip carving. Al says there are about 150 members in the Texas club, and they have a meeting every week over the winter season.

Finished icicles and a template lined on one side

The project he brought for us was an engaging chip carved icicle. The icicle isn't a delicate looking because it has a geometric pattern with parallel sides (one short taper and no curves), so it captures your interest instead with its peek-a-boo triangles and angular design. Al brought several finished icicles including ones painted red and green. They would look wonderful on any Christmas tree.



Carefully drawing lines on the blank

You could even try Frank's trick of painting the blank before it's carved to create a color contrast.



Alvin helping Tom and Mike

Al came around while we were working to check that everyone understood the way to cut into the wood. While we were working, Troy and his son came to visit with Warren for a short time, but couldn't stay. Al also brought along an elegant

Besides finished icicles and blanks, Al had templates that had lines drawn to indicate where you cut. There was even a small margin along the edge to help keep you from going too far with your cut. After settling down with our rectangular blanks, everyone took pencils and rulers to cover the four surfaces with matching squares and triangles.

jewelry box he had chip carved in Texas for his wife. It is perfect: the wood, the design, the cuts – everything. What a lovely place to put your treasures.



Alvin explaining his beautiful jewelry box

During the meeting we also got to see some of the caricatures Warren is carving for some of his customers before he retires. They definitely have personality and the cattle brands on the saloon bar is a thoughtful touch. While he was in Denver, Warren wood burned a picture of an old sailing vessel so well that you can make out the individual canons and the man in the crow's nest.



Some of Warren's caricatures for customers and holding a wood-burned Spanish Galleon



Eileen with her comfort crosses and heart

Eileen has been busy carving for the Cancer Center and brought a couple of cedar comfort crosses and a heart. Finally Dale brought a box of wood “stuff.” Everything from wagon wheels an inch or two in diameter, to half started blanks of various projects, to wooden chains and trinkets. The stated hope was that everything would find an owner, and some things did. Dale thought he might stain some of the remaining items if he had a chance.

May 17th, 2016 Whittle-In



Little Alligator with Norwegian Flag in the background

Warren Schlecht's project was a cute alligator. The evening began with the church being locked, and no one having a key. Fortunately, it was a lovely evening without much wind, and the 15-16 of us moved to the lawn area on 4th Street near the old church entrance. There was a picnic table to the side

of a small cement pond with several benches surrounding the pond. The water hasn't been changed since last fall, but with that as a central feature, and the trees

providing shade, it would normally be a restful place, as well as a good location to have a family, or work lunch picnic.



Warren put his alligator blanks along with several finished products and a couple in different stages of completeness on the picnic table and we looked them over. All the blanks appeared the same, but you know how it is, you want the one that speaks to you. There were just enough blanks. Shelly's guest, Jerry, didn't want anyone to go without, but there was one for him as well.

Talking and laughing before getting started

Probably because we were outside and the weather was so pleasant, everyone seemed in a buoyant mood. Unlike many of the recent projects, which were fairly straight forward as far as what to carve and when, Warren's presented an added challenge. This was more of a step-by-step puzzle – with lots of steps. Warren's instructions were not only clear he had a series of visual aids to illustrate the steps to follow.



Warren explaining where to cut the blank

In addition after everyone was settled, he went around and helped people with their carving. Everyone arranged themselves to be comfortable. About half of the participants sat at the picnic table, several sat on benches around the pond and Becky and Mona relaxed on the grass. Mike placed a small Norwegian Flag and some Norwegian candy on the picnic table in honor of May 17th, Norwegian Constitution Day, the anniversary of Norway splitting from Sweden.

Mike brought a well-crafted piece of chip carving and Eric brought a cute yellow bird that he appropriated from a relative's house in Valley City. While not exactly a goldfinch, it appears to be a primitive member of the family. All in all it was a lovely whittle-in on a mild spring evening.



The top side of a marked alligator blank



A stylized goldfinch



Mike putting up a Norwegian flag and candy

June 21st, 2016 Summer Whittle-In

Several people arrived promptly at 5:00 PM or a little before. Dale started the grill right away. Although about 21 people attended over the course of the evening, the core number was probably about 18. Dale's wife came to help flip burgers and visit, and several other wives, Karen Pedigo, Bonnie Cook and Ruth Graf came with their husbands. Eric came with raffle tickets from Donna to pass out/sell. Doug Smith was there. John came in his wheelchair with Ron and they positioned themselves at the head of one of the picnic tables, so that John could get at his supper. The food spanned two picnic tables. The feast included brats, hot dogs and hamburgers with or without cheese. And three types of potato salad, an oriental salad, home grown radishes, bananas, blueberries, chips, bars, huge chocolate cookies, brownies, bread and more. No one went away hungry. The wind was a bit pesky, but it certainly kept away the mosquitoes.



Perry in line for supper



Eating supper

For the first part of the evening people were arriving, and chatting with each other, and eating. It was quite enjoyable. After supper, people settled themselves into carving, or talking, or other pastimes. Eric was joined by Jana, who he invited to come meet us and learn how to carve. He was soon teaching her some of the first steps with a small project. Michelle brought her friend, Jerry, who had started learning to carve during Warren's alligator project. Jerry's little alligator was emerging nicely from the wooden block, but he needed some further direction. Since Warren hadn't come to the picnic, Dale started to show him how to carve a heart. We showed Jerry a few finished angel-wing hearts that Marlene brought to

help him understand that each heart can be different. Dale can carve hearts quickly, and was able to get Jerry off to a productive start. Bob was instructing Tim how to sharpen gouges. Both their heads were bent over the task. Ruth had brought a book to color and Clara told me of some of historic articles she was finding that we could put in the newsletter. The folks at the back table brought out some carvings to work on while they conversed and Vince joined them for awhile before eventually leaving to play ping pong.



Starting after supper activities



Tim and Bob sharpening tools

About the time Vince had to leave, Doug stopped over. He came to remind us of the several opportunities we have to demonstrate carving. At Cross Ranch we are planning a camping weekend. On Saturday, July 9th, we would meet at the visitor's center to exhibit some of our finished items and carve from 1-4. Those of us who can, would then meet in the camping area, have a potluck and stay overnight, leaving at our leisure on Sunday. Please consider coming even if you can only stay on Saturday. Cross Ranch is always fun.

On Saturday, July 30th, we have been asked to demonstrate our carving from 10-4 at Lewis and Clark in Washburn in conjunction with the opening of a new exhibit of photography done using very old methods. There will be quite a few tables available to show our completed works while we carve. There are not many places to have lunch, (there is a Cenex Station down the road), so bringing a lunch should be strongly considered. However a beverage machine is present. If you want a chance to get away for part of a weekend and enjoy some outdoors not too far from

the Bismarck-Mandan area, this might fit your ideas. Doug has sign-up sheets, and a map of the camping area at Cross Ranch.

One other community centered event we had to discuss was our yearly booth at Capital D'Affair. Bob is heading that up this year. A sheet with 2 hour shifts listed for August 6th and 7th is available for sign-up. A couple of the shifts have already been filled in, but there is a lot of time available. The weekend on the Capital grounds features crafts and food for sale, sidewalk chalk painting, various local talent, games for kids and several groups like ours demonstrating what they do. We are situated in possibly the coolest spot, under trees and with a breeze. Lots of people from the area as well as tourists pass by. Almost every year one of the carvers sees someone from their hometown that they haven't heard from in "forever." If you have a couple of hours, the time goes quickly, and the general good feeling is infectious.

As the evening was winding down, Bob brought out his diamond willow hiking sticks and laid them on the ground near the cars. Personally, I think Bob should

pay Perry for being his shill. He was very effective in hawking Bob's willow sticks while Bob basically stood there and smiled. Diamond willow hiking sticks are attractive and useful, though, and the price was resonable as well. Quite a few were sold. By that time the sky had started looking angry and it was time to clean up the picnic area and leave. Next month the date is July 19th.



Bob's Diamond Willow Hiking Sticks for sale

Clara Sherman Yonker-Flickertail Historian

Clara has been doing research into the Flickertail Woodcarving Club's history, and the Curling Chip will print some of her findings. She writes:

Larry Brewster [Club President] wrote this article which was printed the 1989 Curling Chip with information from me. More have passed since this article was written.

Twenty Years and Counting

Who would have known in 1968 when the idea for a carving club was conceived and then brought to fruition in 1969, that it would last through its first five years, and to be now celebrating its twentieth anniversary?

The changes have been many. From starting out as a mutual admiration society to now, where the club has become a leader in training new carvers and in presenting their Art Work to the general public to admire.

The sixteen carvers who are formally known as Charter Members do have many memories. Of those original sixteen, six are still active in the club, five have died and the rest have lost interest or have moved away from Bismarck.

<i>Charter Members</i>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>2016 (added)</u>
Telle Rudser	Deceased	
Dave Jordan *	Deerfield MN (had Recently retired)	
Art & Mickey Tokach *	Mandan	Art is deceased Mickey Mandan
Clara Sherman * *	Bismarck	Bismarck
Harold Boint	Bismarck	Deceased
Carl Davick	Unknown	
Burl Dutt *	Bismarck	Bismarck
Berit Eggers	Bismarck	Deceased
Ruth Hargrave	Hamilton, MT	Deceased
Calvin Henry	??Nebraska	
Cleo Koch *	Mandan	Deceased

Helen Rickretts	Deceased	
Robert Ritterbush	Deceased	
Martin Schroedie	Deceased	
Orma & Jim Swanick *	Mandan	Both Deceased

* Active in 1989 ** Active in 2016

The Curling Chip

September - October, 2016

FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

PO BOX 7473

BISMARCK ND 585007-7473



Flickertails please take note and respond to the Christmas Party information, found on the following page, to be held at Dale Helgund's house this year. Woodcarvers were again very busy in September and October. We again had a booth for Apple Fest at Buckstop Junction, four Whittle-Ins featuring carved golf balls, a wizard's head, a fish with wood burned gills and scales and a snowflake project. Also we had our annual Flickertail Woodcarving Show with three classes: a cottonwood bark carving project

with Rick Jenson, a fresh water spear fishing lure taught by Bob Pedigo and a pine needle basketry class with Eileen McEnroe. As well as wood and tool venders, displays, raffle items and a dinner. And later members teaching the beginning woodcarving class is featured. Finally check out the cottonwood bark gathering project (p. 3) on November 19th. It's free wood.

Diane Lehman Turck wrote most of the Whittle In articles; Diane Lehman Turck, Tom Turck and Dale Heglund contributed photographs for this newsletter.

Send your info to Tom Turck. Good Carving!

Newsletter Team: Tom Turck and Diane Lehman Turck



Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/flickertailwoodcarversnd/>
Pinterest - <https://www.pinterest.com/flickertailwood/>



DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL

Leads, advocates, and advances the arts and culture in North Dakota's Capital City.

Flickertail Woodcarver projects are supported in part by grants from the North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. They are also supported by grants from Dakota West Arts Council and Montana Dakota Resources Group.

Flickertail Christmas Party

Merry Christmas!

Come to the Flickertail Woodcarvers' Christmas party on Monday, December 5th at Dale and Jennifer Heglund's house. Directions to follow:

The social will begin at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. The Heglunds are providing the entrée. Everyone will have a choice of beef, pork and chicken along with baked potatoes. We're asking you to bring a dish (vegetable, salad, dessert, condiments, relishes, silverware, cups, other) to share and your own beverage.

Please contact Michelle Collins to RSVP and let her know the dish you plan on bringing so we have a variety. We would like to have your RSVP by the meeting on Saturday, December 3rd in order to better prepare. If you have any dietary restrictions please let Michelle know when you call.

Of course there will be a carving exchange and a non-carving exchange. Each of these is optional.

We look forward to seeing you at the Flickertail Woodcarvers' Christmas party. While there will be no swinging from the chandelier, and a bouncy castle isn't planned, we will have a great time and surprises for all.

DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 1804 (University Ave) south of Bismarck past the airport, heading toward the University of Mary. Prior to the hill going to U Mary, turn west (right) on 48th Ave SE, then south (left) on Sibley Drive. Take Sibley Drive about 2.5 miles south. Sibley is a winding road - continue south until you are west of the U Mary cross, then watch for a tan house on the right (north) side of Sibley Drive.

Cottonwood Bark

Just a note. There is a large, down cottonwood tree south of town. A number of people with pick-up trucks and other vehicles will be salvaging some of the bark next Saturday, November 19th around noon. If you would like to help, or can't help but would appreciate some bark, and I haven't heard from you yet, please let me know. Diane



Event Calendar

Meetings and Whittle-Ins are held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismarck
Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

August 16, 2016	Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5-8 PM Grill and Potluck – Public is invited
August 21, 2016	Corn Feed at Buckstop, Junction, carving demo, _____ Coordinator
September 3, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Bob Fererer, TBD
September 20, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
September 24 and 25	Apple Fest at Buckstop Junction, carving demos,

	Dale Heglund coordinator
September 27 – Oct 1	Hostfest, Minot – Carving Classes
October 1, 2016	Monthly meeting 9–11 AM Project by
October 8-9, 2016	Flickertail Woodcarving Show 47th Annual Show Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy Feature Carver, Oct 6-9, 2016 will be Rick Jensen Project = a whimsical cottonwood bark mushroom Non- Carving Class – Pine needle basket Weekend Carver – Bob Pedigo – fish spearing decoy
October 18, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
October ??, 2016	Saskatoon
November 5, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Mike Knudson
November 15, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Marlene Moser
December 3, 2016	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Tom Turck and Diane Lehman Turck
December 5, 2016	Christmas Party – Diane Turck and Michelle Collins Coordinators
December 20, 2016	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Doug Smith
January 7, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Vince Bitz, TBD
January 17, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes
February 4, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Bob Pedigo Love Spoon
February 21, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Eric Gaasland

March 4, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by
March 21, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Ron Holtz
April 1, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by
April 18, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by
April ??, 2017	Fargo Carving Show
May 6, 2017	Monthly meeting 9-11 AM Project by Alvin Braunagel
May 16, 2017	Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Warren Schlecht,

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

September 3rd, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

Past President, Doug E opened the meeting, the first one since May.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Diane was not present and Donna agreed to take minutes (Thank you Donna!).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Warren did email the report to Doug but he didn't have it with him, he estimates the balance is about \$5,000 and after the show, that amount should be about \$3,000.

SHOW AND TELL: Eric G brought actual wood legos – 48 of them – and says you can build many things! There is even a sheet of examples included. Thank you Eric.



Different Species of Wooden Chinese Legos - Tree Names in Oriental Script

OLD WEST TOWN: Dale Heglund picked up the Old West Town from Kay Koch and will be on display at BuckStop Junction in the Warehouse Building (Formerly the old Bismarck Lumber Building) in a showcase rebuilt by Mike Knutson. Thank you Mike and Dale!

ANNUAL WOODCARVERS SHOW: Rick Jensen's wood bark carving class is full. Bob Pedigo's fish lure carving class still has a few openings, and the non-carving pine needle basket class is full. Shelly has got the Banquet Dinner for Saturday evening set up. Eric Gaasland has been working on the raffle set up to highlight the prizes.

APPLEFEST: Dale is coordinating our club's participation; our table in previous years has been by the blacksmith shop, but this year we will try to have it across the street by the Warehouse building to be near the Old West Town. Anyone interested in working (carving and/or selling tickets) please sign up. There are still some openings.

SPRING CARVING CLASS: May 5th, 6th and 7th, 2017 Jan Jensen will do a chip carving class for us. You will be able to pick your own project. She taught some classes in Texas that Alvin attended over last winter season. His beautiful jewelry box is a result of her instruction. Final arrangements for our class still need to be made. More details will be available when the January newsletter comes out. You will be able to sign up at that time.

BISMARCK PUBLIC LIBRARY: Our display of zoo animals is up and running and we received many positive comments from visitors. This display will be transferred to the Zoo for the winter and next summer. Go and check this out while it is still there.

NEW HATS: Doug said he ordered new hats and they should be coming in next week! These hats will only have the name “Flickertail Woodcarvers” and will be available in different colors. Thanks for doing that; it’s nice to have hats and shirts with the club logo.

NEWSLETTER: Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck

CLUB LIBRARY: Eric G reported he is adding a new book to the library by Guy Paulson. Mr. Paulson is the Norwegian-American carver who has the Yggdrasil exhibit this year at Bismarck Heritage Center and is responsible for the full-scale replica of the Hopperstad Stave Church of Vik, Norway that was built in Moorhead.

OTHER NOTES:

Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1st and 3rd Thursday s of each month. Some of the carvers participating are Ron Holtz and Larry Graf. Coming dates are September 15th, October 6th and 20th, and November 3rd. What a nice way to enjoy the changing seasons.

We are back our regular schedule of carving in the church basement. Doug wants us to be aware that the church prepares a noon meal every Saturday for the community, with workers coming in during our carving time. This should not be a problem as we are cleaned up and out before they serve their meal at 11:30. The church has decided to provide this lunch every Saturday to compliment their Thursday suppers.

Only three future Whittle-In projects are needed for our regular meeting carving schedule from now into next spring. Please talk with Dale or Doug to sign-up if you have an idea.

Having no further business, Eric G made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ed, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Donna Grunett, *Acting Secretary*.

September 3rd, Whittle-In

Bob Federer has been preparing for his project much of the summer. He is going to have us carving golf balls. While I missed the class, I was able to see some of



Bob's work at the last picnic this summer. He creates lots of interesting faces. After you remove half of the golf ball cover, the inside material is able to be carved. It comes in a range of colors from yellows and pinks to greens and blues. According to the internet, the different colors have to do with the performance of the ball, such as how fast it spins.

Eric G's finished Golf Ball from Show and Tell October 1st

There is some variety on the composition of golf ball cores as well. Titleist and several others use types of synthetic rubber. Bob helped the members of the group conceive of the type of caricature face each wanted to carve into their ball.

September 20th, 2016 Whittle-In

Perry Cook came with some Xeroxes of an old wizard head project he chose from the *Woodcarving* magazine. He also had cut out a number of paper and cardboard patterns to transfer a likeness of the head onto the wood templates that were



prepared to the correct dimensions. Perry cautioned us to be careful not to cut the ears off and pay attention when carving the hat. The article said defining the hat first helps keep the head proportions more appropriate. There was also a short discussion on safety with sharp tools since Perry managed to cut his thumb when making the wood for the group.

Perry helping Spencer and Noelle



Eric G and Eileen discussing the Project



Clara with the Next Whittle-In Project

Clara Yonker encouraged us to be ready for the second part of her project on October 1st. The fish blanks that she had handed out would need to be sanded down and shaped by then. Doug E originally helped her shape the blanks into fish shape, since he had the necessary tools which she lacked.

Besides Spencer and Noelle Blaylock, who recently joined Flickertails, four visitors came to see what our carving club was like. Two women, Bethany and Christine came together, another Bethany and Matt came separately a little later. A number of people from the group talked to them and showed them around. We included them on some e-mails that would be sent later in the week.



Eric G showing Bethany, Bethany and Christine our Relief Carving Panel



Hand Size Owl

Finally, there were several items for Show and Tell. Larry had two things: an expressive little owl and a wonderful old fashioned toy of chickens pecking at corn. The latter will be one of the raffle prizes at the Annual Show in October.



Bob F playing with “Feeding Chickens” Toy

Michelle also had a raffle prize. She has created a table runner in squares of browns, turquoise-blues, blacks and white surrounding a circular quilting pattern on the background silver-grey material.



Michelle's Table Runner for the Raffle

Applefest September 24 & 25, 2016

This was the 10th Annual Applefest, one of the events the Cancer Center sponsors each year. It has grown and become more polished each year with more to do and see. The weather for the weekend turned out to be very pleasant, although rather windy. We had hoped to be located near the old lumber building where the Flickertails are beginning to house exhibits starting with the Old West Town display that was in Medora for many years. Mike and Dale were able to set up the



display recently, just before the last Buckstop Junction occasion. That way more visitors would get a chance to see it and we would be able to discuss it as well as woodcarving in general with them. Unfortunately signals got crossed as they will, and our booth was again next to the blacksmith on one side and a small music stage on the other. Next time our booth may be relocated. We did have the new Flickertail Woodcarver hats that Doug E ordered for sale.

Woodcarvers listening to the Music



Hats for Sale

Dale Heglund was the lead for the project. Saturday he made sure our structure was up, and the Flickertail signs were in place before he left. Mike said he was ill with the voracious one day cold/flu that is sweeping through town, and he did



return on Sunday. Lots of volunteers staffed the booth and lots of people stopped by. Some raffle tickets were sold and a number of people showed interest in coming to the show in early October. The hayride wagon occasionally passed, a small parade assembled a couple of times a day and other organized activities sometimes joined the family-oriented foot traffic on the street in front of us. Overall it was a lovely early autumn weekend.

Becky (in her new cap) and Michelle in deep Conversation



Visitors Dressed for the Wind

October is Breast Cancer Month

I am sure most people who have been reading or listening to the news know that October is Breast Cancer Month. The Flickertails are pleased and proud to provide the Cancer Center with carved memory hearts for their clients and patients year round. It is an honor to be able to give some bit of comfort to cancer victims and their families. Almost every newsletter notes someone who has created more hearts for the Center, which is good since there never seem to be enough.

Doug E just received a supply of hearts from Roger Duchsherer who lives in Minot. How wonderful they arrived in October. Each is a little different, and will be special to whoever chooses it.



Cancer Center Hearts

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

October 1st, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

Bob Pedigo opened the meeting, filling in for Doug E and Dale who could not be here.

Guests: Eric brought his friend Monte, from work, with his wife Kaylin.

Secretary's Report: It was approved and seconded that the May minutes as presented in the May/June Newsletter be accepted. Diane read the minutes for the September 3 meeting that Donna had taken. They were approved and seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Warren reported we have \$7,766.00 in our account with all bills paid. Bills for the show, though, will be appearing shortly. Eric G approved and Vince seconded.

Show and Tell: Warren was interested in the many other types of carving, besides houses or castles one can do with cottonwood bark, such as portraits or caricatures. He contacted Jim Redhawk, whose work in portraiture is well-known to discuss the process and get some ideas. While Mr. Redhawk didn't help much, Warren did purchase a CD and a template from him.

Bob P and his wife, Karen, have recently been to Wales where they purchased Welsh Love Spoons. Apparently men in a number of European countries used elegantly carved spoons to convince women, who spent a lot of their lives cooking and feeding their families, of their true (and sensible) love. It is thought that the term "spooning" may come from the giving of a spoon, whose acceptance indicated that the couple was either courting or engaged. Different carvings on the spoon had meaning. Hearts, and crosses are obvious, a vine meant that love was growing. Some symbols such as a dragon or daffodils represented Wales itself.

Ron is just beginning to work on a Santa blank. He is shaping the legs for now. Becky has fashioned a number of buttons made from several kinds of wood and is now working on a small scene, like an environmental diorama of mushrooms where she'll scatter wood chips to make it appear like a patch of woodland habitat. Eric still has his wooden legos. In the box, besides toy making instructions, is a

piece of cloth, dishtowel size, showing oriental characters for different tree species (see page 6 above).

October Show: Our 47th Annual Show is coming up fast. October 8-9 is next weekend. The Career Academy building on BSC Campus will be open on Saturday the 8th at 7:30 am for everyone to set up their tables for the exhibition. We will not be able to set up on Friday evening as in years past. If you have reserved a table, your name will be on it when you arrive Saturday morning. You will receive passes to have lunch at the BSC cafeteria on Saturday and Sunday. Remember to be back at the Show by the time the public arrives at noon both days. Please check that your name is on the list to avoid minor problems.

Most of the 1,500 raffle tickets have been sold. There are only 200 left, but some people have tickets in their possession that are unsold. Still, that is exceptionally good. Eric G with Donna will set up the raffle prizes at the entrance along with the Flickertail Woodcarver hats and T-shirts. We will need some volunteers to staff the table throughout both days. Those able to use Yard Signs, please take one home and display it. If there are locations or businesses that will allow you to put our poster up, that will be great.

Our featured woodcarver will be Rick Jensen. His four day class using cottonwood bark to create a whimsical mushroom house is full. Bob Pedigo will teach a class on carving a spear fishing decoy and he has a few openings. Our non-carving project is pine needle basketry. Eileen McEnroe will explain the method of weaving or sewing pine needles together to fashion a basket. Her class is full as well.

The first two days of Rick's class, Thursday and Friday, will meet in the Youth Room at the Lutheran Church and run until 5 pm. Saturday and Sunday it will be held at the Career Academy in the morning before the Show. Students will be able to get into both buildings at 7:30 am. The class on Thursday begins at 8:30 am. And the students in the class will decide what time classes should begin the other three days.

Bob and Eileen's classes will begin at 8:30 am on Saturday and Sunday at the Career Academy and end about 11:30 am in time to get lunch. If your class had a list of items to bring or a cost for materials, please come prepared. Michelle has

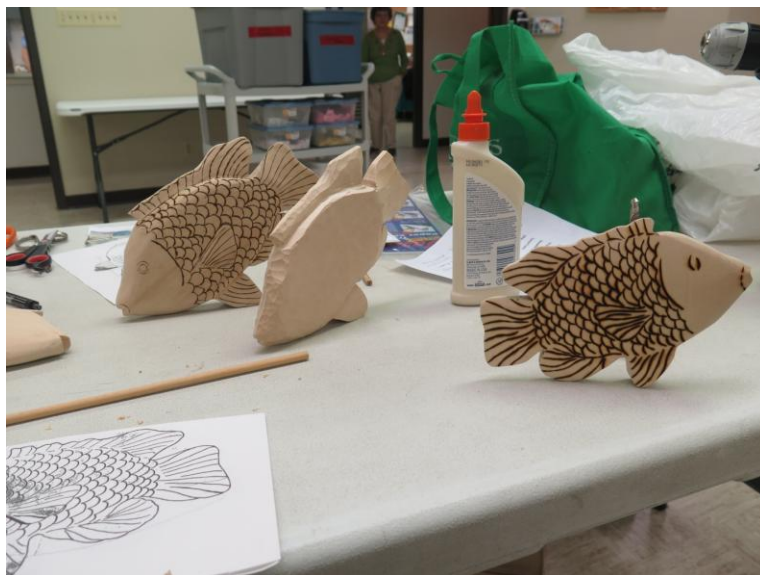
arranged for Dinner on Saturday to at the Radisson across the street from Belle Mehus. Show exhibitors from North Dakota, the surrounding region and a few from Canada will be there. Our normal gift exchange will be held. Rick will talk to us about his life and how he became involved in carving.

Unfinished/New Business: Anyone with ideas for future Whittle-In projects please talk with Dale or Doug to sign-up, there are still some gaps after the end of the year.

Other Business: Every other Thursday at Edgewood Vista from 2-4 in the afternoon, there is a whittle-in in the Activity Center. Several of the residents are carvers. Coffee is provided and it is a pleasant atmosphere.

October 1st, 2016 Whittle-In

Because of the complexity of her project, Clara Yonker had us begin several weeks ago by sanding our fish to achieve the proper shape. That was an excellent idea, since after a bit of carving and awhile of sanding with sand paper, an power sander worked better and more quickly, although it still took time. The silhouette of the fish could be whatever you imagine, or anything from a tropical tang, to a bluegill, to the languid fish (somewhat modified) seen in Disney's *Fantasia*.



Clara's Display: a roughed out Blank, a Pattern and wood burned Fish

Clara brought small rectangular blocks colored to resemble a chiseled rock stand along with a short dowel to be put in the top of the block and a hole in the bottom of the fish for display purposes. A couple of people used nicely polished pieces of wood instead of the block stand. The second part of the project began with a paper pattern of fish scales and fin lines that pretty much exactly fit over the template. She had red and blue carbon so we could transfer the pattern onto the fish. Although you could then wood burn the drawn lines directly on the fish, Clara suggested putting small cuts in the pattern lines before wood burning them. That makes the edge more defined, and if done correctly sets up the wood so that it seems like an actual fish scale.



Larry with his sanded Fish



Clara showing how to place the Pattern on the Fish



During the formal part of the meeting Warren brought up other things, like portraiture, that cottonwood bark can be transformed into besides houses. He is interested in Jim Redhawk's work, and has purchased a CD and template from him.

Native American Indian in Cottonwood Bark

Bob P brought some Welsh love spoons from his trip in that part of Europe. Although I'm sure there was quite a variety of spoons to choose from given the many symbols of love, country and religion the carvers select in their collection, the two they decided to get represent the country well. There is even a dragon.



Heart shaped Love Spoon with Vines and Grapes for growing fruitful Love



Hearts for love, a Cross for Christianity all topped by a Dragon for Wales



Ron with his emerging Santa



Becky with home carved Buttons and Blocks which will soon be Mushrooms

Flickertail Woodcarvers 47th Annual Show

Our 47th Annual Flickertail Woodcarvers Show was held on October 8th-9th at the Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy on the Bismarck State College campus. Exhibitors for the show could setup their work after the building opened at 7:30 Saturday. We had 32 registrations for tables including members of Flickertails, and carvers from other places in North Dakota, regional states, and a couple from Canada. Tables arranged in two rectangles for easy viewing by the public and assigned by name tag ahead of time to avoid confusion.



Doug E's table - note Rick Brereton's relief Project and Desiree's Lynx along with beautiful Birds

A few tables were lined up in the center of each rectangle, one area for the cottonwood bark project, and the other for the spear fishing lure class. That kept the dust and tools away from the displays, but allowed people to see the ongoing

effort of the carvers besides the breadth and wonder of the completed carvings on the display tables. An unused corner of the room was set with tables for the non-wood carving basketry instruction. At the entrance, tables were arranged with the raffle prizes along with tickets, Flickertail Wood-carver T-shirts and hats for sale.



Donna and Eric G arranging the Raffle and Sale Items



Raffle Items

Along one wall at the entrance are a line of tables for the show's two principle vendors. Joe Jewitt and his family came over each year with basswood cut to various width and thickness dimensions that we can purchase. This year his wife and one of his daughters in her early teens came with him. His daughter is selling yarn made from the wool of her sheep. Next to him is Bob Lawrence from Fargo who sells carving tools as well as gloves and thumb guards. The public can buy wood or tools, too. Please support the vendors.

The exhibits were free and open to the public from 12pm to 4 pm on both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday we opened with a large number of people going through and looking at everything. It was definitely a good beginning. By mid-afternoon, while there were people enjoying the show, attendance was more on a par with years past. On the other hand, there seemed to be some added interest, so the effort to advertise and explain more about the show and woodcarving had some benefit. In addition, representatives from two TV stations came Saturday afternoon and talked with Dale and various other members of the club. It was nice to have the exposure in the news that evening.



News Reporter Malique Rankin talking with Clara



Rick Jensen explaining his Carving to Malique, from the TV news

Our Saturday Night Show Dinner was held at the Radisson. Michelle chose an elegant, comfortable setting. The room was well lit and the curtains made the atmosphere more private. A bar was across the hall, so you come into the room already to sit down instead of waiting in line for a drink. There were 47 for the meal and we were all good company, or so the laughing from various tables seemed to confirm. The food was enjoyable. After supper, those who brought carvings for the gift exchange participated, although a couple of the gifts were “to be delivered later.”

Rick Jensen told us the interesting story of his life’s road, with a few stops and bypaths, into becoming an expert wood carver, and an innovative and sought after cottonwood bark carver. It was a pleasure to listen. Shortly after he leaves us, he is going to have his knee repaired, since it is getting very painful and he can sometimes hardly walk. **Classes:** As has been the practice in years past, two woodcarving and one non-woodcarving class are associated with the show. The principal class is taught by a Master Carver and begins a day or two before the show. This year’s class, a whimsical mushroom cottonwood bark house, was conducted by Rick Jensen.



2016 Project - Whimsical Mushroom Cottonwood Bark House

Alan Giagnocavo, the publisher of *Woodcarving Illustrated*, said “Rick didn’t invent bark carving, but he has popularized it all over the United States.”¹

The featured four-day class took place at both Trinity Lutheran Church and the Career Center on the BSC campus. Presently, there are severe restrictions on taking tree bark over the US/Canadian border. Therefore many Canadian members would have been unable to take home the finished class project, so they stayed home. In attendance were several local Flickertail members, people from out-of-state and one Canadian who donated his finished bark house to next year’s raffle.

Rick is a long time carver and teacher who made the class feel very comfortable. First, we started out by choosing a rough-out: two cottonwood pieces Rick had

¹ Duncan, Bob

2014, Holiday Edition, 2014 Woodcarver of the Year, (Bark House Industry),
Woodcarving Illustrated, Fox Chapel Publishing Company Inc.

previously glued together with thin card stock placed between the two pieces of wood. Using this method, the bark houses in the round would be free standing when finished. Rick is not a big proponent of leaving some outer bark on the finished piece, so eventually he had us remove much of the coarse exterior bark. We started by carving out the roof line and then separating the roof from the walls of the building structures. Some people used knives and gouges while others worked with the smaller Foredom type power carvers. Cottonwood bark is easy to carve but somewhat hard on the tools.



Rick Surrounded by his Students

Rick and some people who took a previous class from him brought along a fabricated tool for cleaning the power burrs. The tool consisted of a small, circular (approx 3 inch diameter) wire wheel attached to a wood base similar to a water wheel. A carver would run the burr full speed against the wire wheel thereby spinning it and cleaning the bit.

The next step was further delineating the base foundation line and then drawing in the windows. Carvers then cut out the window openings using a power drill and/or a knife. Rick had us go fairly deep into the bark. Then using a flexible putty knife

to cut through the card stock in the center, we split the two pieces of wood back in half. This was fairly easy to do.



Rick Power Carving

The next step was hollowing out the two bark centers to expose the windows and doors while being careful not to cut a hole through to the outside. If you made a mistake, Rick showed us a way of repairing the hole by gluing a wooden piece inside and then making a patch with sifted cottonwood bark dust and a special epoxy. He then ran both pieces over a jointer taking off a few thousandths of an inch. Next Rick joined the two pieces together using premium wood glue (Titebond) and “F” style clamps creating a seamless finished joint. At this point we had completed the second day of class.

For the next two days day we moved to the Career Academy for the show and to continue with our project. This consisted of further defining and refining the features on the bark house. The smaller windows we had previously cut out as open squares. Now we inserted thin slightly tapered wedges to serve as muntins. Once in place, a little cyanoacrylate glue was added to the joints and then sprayed

with a little accelerator for quicker drying. This same method was used on cracks. The last step was cutting the wedge off flush.

To make the shake style shingles, first “L”s were cut across the entire roof and then the shingles were tapered to different heights. Rick also showed us a method on how to square the base so it would stand straight by running it on a belt sander in a “Figure 8” motion. A coat of neutral colored shoe polish was later applied to finish the house. See “*Denouement for Rick’s Class*” below.



Discussing Their Progress



Some of Rick’s Cottonwood Bark Houses

Denouement for Rick's Class

One note, Rick Jensen recommends Jim Wilsford if you need repairs on your micrometer tools. He does a great job and costs much less than sending the tool back to the company for repair. You can contact Jim at the following address.

Jim Wilsford

In addition, Doug E talked with Mark Gratner at Gratner's Shoe Repair. He said that a US based company, Kelly Shoe Paste, bought the British company that Rick mentioned. Mr. Gratner ordered some Kelly Shoe Paste in neutral, and it arrived late last week, for anyone who wanted some.

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Bob Pedigo, as you know, is a member of the Flickertails. He is an excellent carver and teacher, and volunteered to teach his spear fishing lure class. He has taught a variety of classes for the ND Game and Fish seminars for women learning

outdoors skills and this particular class is one for which he has a curriculum. The shorter two morning carving session is perfect for people who cannot take Thursday and Friday off work, but still want to learn something new.



Bob had a good group of students. I think with the exception of Bob Lawrence, most students were from Bismarck. With characters like Perry, Eric G and Becky, etc. they may not be the most serious minded individuals, but I'm sure everyone enjoyed the class and will never forget how to make a spear fishing lure. Whenever someone passed, they were sanding bodies, cutting metal and gluing fins. Having a lot of fun.

Alvin, Eric G and Becky shaping their Fish



Close to the Final Stages

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Our non-carving educator this year was Eileen McEnroe, who the friendly and engaging teacher of pine needle basketry in the Bismarck area. People who take the non-carving instruction are usually the wives of some of the carvers, or carvers who attracted to the subject matter. It was a perfect class, having generated a lot of



Eileen explaining the Process of Starting

interest both from people who had been wanting to take it but hadn't found the right time, and those who have taken it in the past, but wanted to take a refresher course. Self taught in the beginning, she understands that the vagaries of making a basket, where you just guide the coils in the direction you want them to go, seem, well, indefinite – but they work.

Eileen provided us with the materials to make two baskets. She uses southern longleaf pine needles which reach from 8-18 inches in length, although the needles we had were an average size. These trees grow through a broad swath of the southeastern US, and can live for upwards of 300 years. Unfortunately, they are a tree which relies on fire to germinate, and with fire suppression were becoming extremely scarce until foresters and environmentalists realized there was a problem. There are now conservation programs to help them increase, good for basketry, and endangered species, and they are insect and pollution resistant.



Working on Baskets - Note the length of the pine needles, the colorful thread and the completed Basket on the tables

Eileen taught us about keeping the needles moist in order to keep them flexible. The beginning bundle is about 7-8 or so needles tied at one end in a double half knot with waxed thread. Using a size 20 darning needle we sewed them around a central wooden disk. There is a trick to attaching the first coil to the disk firmly, but then, you just keep going around in a spiral. In order to maintain the size of the bundle, you put a small gauge encircling the needles.

You carefully add needles through the gauge into the bundle as needed to keep the bundle full, but not tight. It is important to hold the project correctly so that you don't get confused concerning where to stick the next stitch.

As your project emerges into a basket, you form it into the shape you want. Paying attention to your final goal is necessary because the bundle is quite flexible. So, as the coils go somewhat perpendicular to the center as you start, you can slightly turn them out, and a number of rows later, slightly turn them in. If you have been

careful how you placed your stitches there will be a pleasing pattern on the outside of the finished product. When you see what has been accomplished, most are lovely and even the first try is passable for the craft-challenged, if it isn't closely examined.

Many of the students completed their first basket on Saturday, and were ready to start the second on Sunday after Eileen showed them how to finish it. Eileen had a variety of other central pieces, some the same as Saturday, and others more appealing, that we could choose as the center. Several chose nicer pieces as the center to create a plate rather than a basket shape. In making a plate you make the stitches on the front, rather than the back, the ones that fall into an agreeable pattern. At least one participant is planning on taking what she learned this weekend to make Christmas gifts.

Eileen in discussing basketry has been showing us some of the things you can do or create without much trouble. Many of these objects she has for sale, which is helpful since they would be hard to acquire elsewhere. For instance, you can use different color threads, or dyed needles. With dyed needles, they all need to be dyed at once or the shade of color may be different enough to notice. You can make more elaborate stitch patterns, use raffia instead of thread, incorporate beads on the sides of the basket or put beads into the weaving of the, basket, plate or



other art piece itself. Besides using wood as centers, you can use clay pottery, polished rock or almost anything, really. Shapes can be wildly different as well. Eileen showed us a unique retirement gift she was commissioned to create for a businessman in town. It is intricate, complex and amazing. He must be very special to his company.

Commissioned Retirement Piece

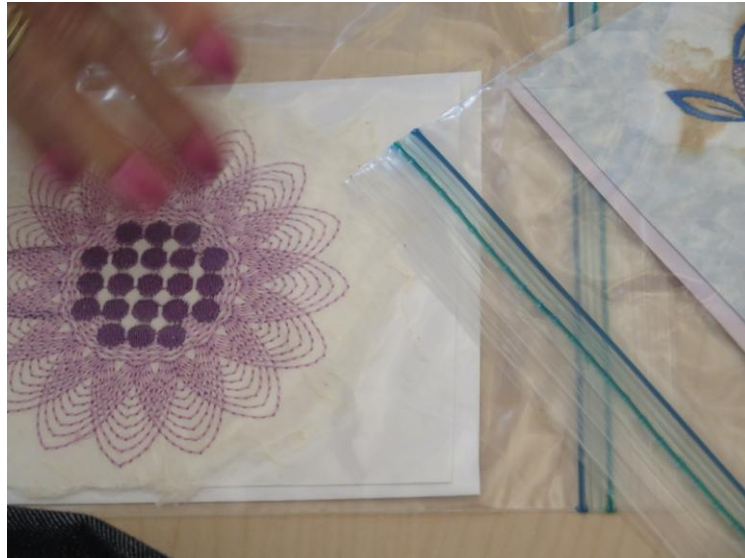
As is normal with our October Show, on Sunday, the women participants and wives have a Show and Tell of the challenging and fun things they have fashioned during the year. Many are quilters, seamstresses, designers and more. One woodcarver's wife was even working on an art project for her university course all weekend in the lobby. Most create for the love of crafting, though, and take opportunities to learn more where ever they can. Here are some samples.



**Darlene had several things
This wall hanging would brighten anyone's day**



Gynnel made this cute Hat



Tatting is such a delicate Art



**Mona designs remembrance bears for People
who have lost Someone using their Clothes**

Some of the teenagers have started businesses. Joe Jewitt's daughter was selling yarn from her sheep, and some other teenagers were taking worn out sweaters and converting them into mittens.



Yarn from Minnesota



Mittens from worn out Sweaters

The last item is a weaving that Deb Emerson made. Doug made the loom she used. Her weaving outgrew the previous one. This is an example of our non-carving project for next year. Of course preparations will need to be made, and Bonnie and Karen will work with Deb, but it is exciting to contemplate.



Deb's Weaving Example

Finally, at the close of the Show on Sunday, raffle tickets were drawn and prizes were awarded. A lot of tickets were sold, and that is gratifying. Several more prizes appeared on the table than were listed, and that, too, was appreciated. All of the people who donated prizes should feel pleased with themselves. Thought went into their making as well as time and money.

October 16th, 2016 Whittle-In

Larry Graf has been preparing to present his project on beveled snowflakes for a little while at least. At our recent Annual Show, some of the snowflakes were on his table of exhibits. His table also contained finished pieces from a half dozen of other projects taught at various Whittle-Ins. That was nice to see. For his project, Larry had a small box full of snowflake blanks and sheets of instructions. There were about 14 or 15 people and we settled down to work at various tables. We discussed where to bevel first and cut, although the instructions were clear. Snowflakes are white, so it's sometimes difficult to decide which side is which. Larry occasionally came around to check on our progress.



Larry's Snowflake Project

Doug E with some help from Eric G was leading a student class of about 10. They were creating letter openers with a carved eagle's head. Doug is an attentive teacher and everyone's eagle looked good.



Doug E teaching eagle's head letter openers



Classroom instruction with people working on snowflakes in the background

In addition, Nathaniel had brought his daughter Abigail. She is a delightful young girl with a beautiful smile and would be welcome back any time.



Abigail brightens the Room

Two fish were the features of Show and Tell. Larry has completed the fish project Clara presented. He used water color pencils imitating the technique Bonnie Perry described to Clara. Bob had fashioned a fish lure from his class at the Annual Show into a male salmon painted in Northwest Coast Indian style.



A finished colorful Fish that looks very Friendly



**Bob's Male, Sockeye Salmon Lure
with traditional Northwest Coast Indian Art**

The Curling Chip

November-December, 2016

FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

PO BOX 7473

BISMARCK ND 585007-7473



Flickertail Woodcarvers enjoyed a mild November but the balmy weather didn't last. More on the upbeat, besides the usual enjoyable articles this newsletter features the revised information and directions for our Flickertail Winter Celebration potluck at Dale's house. Also Doug Emerson provides particulars on the Spring Carving Class registration and other information about the chip carving class taking place in May. Finally, toward the end of the newsletter is an important story about a television interview that took place in early January.

Diane Lehman Turck wrote most of the Whittle In articles; Thomas Turck, Diane Lehman Turck, Eric Gaasland and Dale Heglund contributed photographs for this newsletter. For questions or future articles send your info to Tom/Diane Turck. Good Carving! *Newsletter Team: Tom Turck and Diane Lehman Turck*



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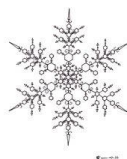
DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL

Leads, advocates, and advances the arts and culture in North Dakota's Capital City.

Flickertail Woodcarver projects are supported in part by grants from the North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. They are also supported by grants from Dakota West Arts Council and Montana Dakota Resources Group.

Flickertail

Winter Celebration



Come to the Flickertail Woodcarvers' Winter Celebration on Friday, January 13th at Dale and Jennifer Heglund's house. Directions to follow:

The social will begin at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. The Heglunds are providing the entrée. Everyone will have a choice of beef, pork and chicken along with baked potatoes. We're asking you to bring a dish (vegetable, salad, dessert, condiments, relishes, silverware, cups, other) to share and your own beverage.

Please phone or text Michelle Collins to RSVP and let her know the dish you plan on bringing so we have a variety. We would like to have your RSVP by the meeting on Saturday, January 7th, in order to better prepare, but can keep taking reservations until Tuesday, January 10th. If you have any dietary restrictions let Michelle know when you call.

Of course there will be a carving exchange and a non carving exchange. Each of these is optional.

We look forward to seeing you at the Flickertail Woodcarvers' Winter Celebration. The way this winter is going, we could all use a celebration. Everyone will have a great time and surprises for all.

DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 1804 (University Ave) south of Bismarck past the airport, heading toward the University of Mary. Prior to the hill going to U Mary,

turn west (right) on 48th Ave SE, then south (left) on Sibley Drive. Take Sibley Drive about 2.5 miles south. Sibley is a winding road - continue south until you are west of the U Mary cross, then watch for a tan house on the right (north) side of Sibley Drive.

Spring 2017 Carving Class Doug Emerson

The instructor for our spring 2017 carving class will be Jan Jenson from Eau Claire, WI. And the class will be held at the Trinity Lutheran Church Friday, May 5 through Sunday, May 7, 2017. Sessions will run from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm each day with about an hour for lunch. Jan will start the class with a chip carving practice piece after which participants will select a project from several types made available. She will provide individual instruction to each participant. Cost of the class is \$45 plus a nominal fee for the individually selected projects.

When you receive this newsletter, you may email or call Doug Emerson with your intent to take the class which is limited to 12 participants. Applicants then have seven days to remit the class fee of \$45 to Doug Emerson. Checks are to be made out to the Flickertail Woodcarvers. Cost of your selected project is paid to Jan Jenson and the range in price is from \$10 to \$25. Jan will have additional projects that you may purchase. Some of the projects are: napkin holder, business card box, playing card box, and six-inch square box. She also will have a few chip carving knives available for purchase if you do not have one.

Meetings and Whittle-Ins are held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismarck



Event Calendar

Meetings and Whittle-Ins are held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismarck
 Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

1st and 3rd Thursday = carving at Bismarck Edgewood Vista from 2-4 PM

January 13, 2017

Winter Celebration – Potluck Dinner
Michelle and Diane are the event coordinators

January 17, 2017

Tuesday, Whittle-In, 7-9 PM
Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes

February 4, 2017

Annual Meeting – 8:30–10:30 AM
 Nominations for Treasurer, Physical Property Chair and Program
 Chair
 Project by Bob Pedigo, love spoon

February 21, 2017

Tuesday, Whittle-In, 7-9 PM
Project by Eric Gaasland, lady bug

March 4, 2017

Saturday, Monthly meeting 8:30–10:30 AM
Project by Doug Emerson, memory hearts

March 21, 2017	Tuesday, Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Ron Holtz, TBD
April 1, 2017	Saturday, Monthly meeting 8:30–10:30 AM Project by Dale Heglund, dala moose or goat May shift to painting class by Deb Emerson
April 18, 2017	Tuesday, Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Becky Weisgerber, mushroom
April ??, 2017	Fargo Carving Show
May 6, 2017	Saturday, Monthly meeting 8:30–10:30 AM Project by Alvin Braunagel
May 5-7, 2017	Featured Artist - Chip Carving Class by Janet Jenson. Doug Emerson is coordinating the event. Sign-up details will be listed in the Winter 2016/2017 Flickertail newsletter.
May 16, 2017	Tuesday, Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project by Warren Schlecht, TBD
June 17-18, 2017??	Wahpeton Carving Weekend Need to confirm dates and get details.

Please send in any future event info to [Doug Emerson](#) or [Dale Heglund](#).

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

November 5th, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

Eric Gaasland opened the meeting for Dale, who is at a banquet honoring his son-in-law and daughter in Richland County.

Secretary's Report: Diane read her notes for October's meeting. Perry moved and Tom seconded the notes.

Treasurer' Report: Warren reported that all bills except the banquet have been paid and we have approximately \$4,974 in our account. Perry moved and Tom seconded the report.

Dale is applying for a Grant due on the November 30th. He is requesting \$1,500.

A reminder - please pay dues to Doug Smith. Dues are \$15.00 for an individual and \$25.00 for a family membership.

Show and Tell: Eric G brought two carvings done by John L Clarke, an exceptionally famous carver. Clarke's ethnicity is mostly Blackfoot. He became deaf at the age of two after having scarlet fever, and he used signing to communicate. His carvings, particularly those representing animals, such as mountain goats and bear found in Glacier National Park, started receiving acclaim in the 1910s. He was acquainted and worked with other western artists such as Charles Russell. Many of his carvings were bought and exhibited by well-known art galleries, collectors including Rockefeller and museums. The Great Northern

Railroad used one of his carvings for their mountain sheep logo. He died in 1970, but his fame has lasted and his carvings are prized by their owners.

Another item Eric G had was an interesting dark brown box carved with gouges in a diamond shaped flower pattern on the top. A handle was of braided leather. The flowers are stained a very dense blue or black.

Last, Eric had a finished elf from Perry's project in September, although it was modified and lacked visible ears, victim of a slight mishap.

Eileen brought a sprightly green elephant made of soap stone that she got at the recent Thirst religious conference.

In addition Mike had a sign in black cherry wood that he made for the exhibit at Buckstop Junction. In capital letters it reads North Dakota Woodcarvers. It will be displayed during all the events at Buckstop Junction at the display case. He also had a chip carved picture frame. Dark wood, the frame looks sturdy, but with added flourishes that give it a pleasing character. A relative of Mike's in battle fatigues smiles out of the center.

Annual Woodcarver's Show: Anyone not completing an evaluation for the class they attended please do so. Evaluations assist us in receiving Grant money, and are helpful for the teachers and the club.

Start to think about donations for next year for the raffle. We already have a mushroom bark house! This year's prizes, by the way, were a good variety. I would bet that our raffle items could stand up in quality and diversity with any of the silent auctions in the area. We just wouldn't have the amount or basket items necessary for a silent auction.

Anyone who still has lawn signs, please return them.

Also: Thanks to Bob F and Bob P for their extra help of late as well as Warren.

Bismarck Public Library: Bob P has the zoo animals we displayed at the library. He could not leave them at the zoo since they had no secure place to keep them.

And he will speak with Rod to see if there is a safe location for their display. For now, Bob thinks it would be best if you come to his house to reclaim your carvings.

We should be thinking of library exhibits for the future. Next year is an anniversary for the library.

Events

Spring Class: May 5th, 6th and 7th, 2017 Jan Jensen will teach a chip carving class for us. You will be able to pick your own project. She taught some classes in Texas that Alvin attended over last winter season. His beautiful jewelry box is a result of her instruction. Final arrangements for our class still need to be made. More details will be available when the January newsletter comes out (see above). You will be able to sign up at that time.

Fall Class: At our Annual Show Josh Guge, Bob Guge's son, will hold a habitat class. He will be teaching how to create rocks, leaves and branches using various materials and adherents such as epoxy and solder.

Spring 2018 Class: Doug presented an idea of asking Pat Moore to be our teacher. She is an accomplished carver and painter, and has won numerous awards for her work. Santas are one of her specialties.

Please note the change from November's actual notes

Christmas Party: Originally it was to be on Monday, December 5th, but was postponed due to a winter snow storm. Being [Brave Souls](#), we are going to try again. (Just how many winter storms can we have??!!). It has been rechristened a *Winter Celebration*, and given this winter's disposition, the party will be held appropriately on Friday January 13th. See more information and directions at the beginning of the newsletter. Thanks

Property: Vince reports everything is in order. Any property or tool can be signed out for one month. Unless someone else wants the borrowed item, your request can be renewed for another month.

Library: Eric G reports everything is in order. Any book or magazine can be signed out for three months. Unless someone else wants the borrowed item, your request can be renewed.

Program Calendar: Only three future Whittle-In projects are needed for our regular meeting carving schedule, one in March and two in April. Please talk with Dale or Doug to sign-up if you have an idea.

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at tdturck@bis.midco.net.

Other Items:

Elections: An Election Committee consisting of Perry, Eric G and Diane will enlist candidates to run for Treasurer, Property Manager and Program Manager. Elections will be held two months from now, in February. Anyone wishing to apply for these three positions please let one of the committee members know.

Please note the change from November's actual notes

Cottonwood bark: Anyone wishing to gather cottonwood bark will have done so on Saturday, November 19th. Diane has extra bark for anyone who could not gather it in person. Perry may have some as well and may want to get rid of his first.

Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1st and 3rd Thursday s of each month. Some of the carvers participating are Ron Holtz and Larry Graf. Coming dates are January 5th and 19th, February 2nd and 16th, and March 2nd.

We need to be aware of cleaning up after ourselves. Sometimes our projects leave only a few chips, and then we forget that certain ones make lots of mess.

Having no further business, Perry made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Larry, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck, Secretary

November 5th Whittle-In

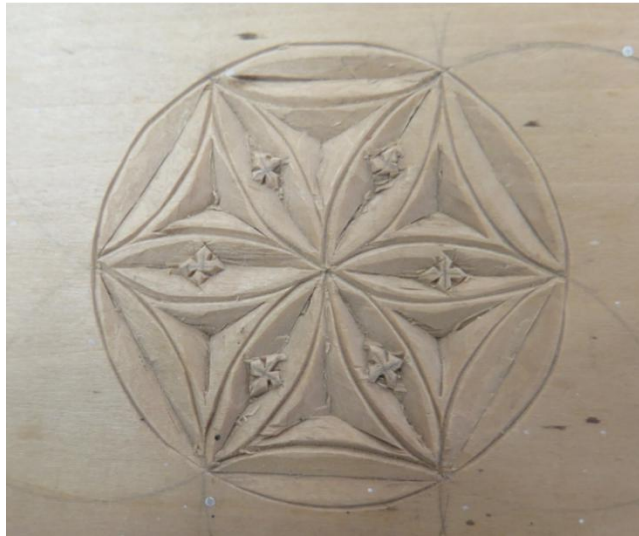
Mike Knudson brought some templates for a beautiful chip carving and then some wood to saw into the correct size for the project to produce more templates. Sometimes it's hard to know how many people will attend, although lately 15 have been about the least number and with beginner classes in session, several more people besides. This morning there were about 20 souls present, including students.

Some of the scrap wood Mike had spread on the table showed attempts at various designs. As presented, the sketch Mike chose would be quite lovely on a box or

tile prized just for itself. It could be used easily on larger or heavier item, like the main furniture in a manor such as a dining room cabinet, with the four petal flowers adding a touch of delicacy. On the other hand those could be small crosses, and the pattern would be appropriate in the wooden altar or choir areas in an older, more traditional church.



Members and New Members working on the project



Chip Carving Project

Along with the carving project for this morning, Mike also brought a sign he created in black cherry wood for the exhibit the Flickertails have in the Lumber Building at Buckstop Junction. It will help channel visitors to Old West Town and future displays.



Mike's Black Cherry Sign for Buckstop Junction Exhibits

In addition, Mike had an older chip carved picture frame. Constructed of sturdy, dark wood, the careful flourishes in its details make it an attractive piece. Mike is currently using it for a picture of smiling relative in army fatigues.



Complex, Well-done Picture Frame

Eric G had a modified elf finished from Perry's project. I'm not sure you can call the little creature an elf since he has no ears. Pointed ears do seem to be a defining characteristic. Still, he is cute.



Eric's modified Elf

Eric's other items were more noteworthy. First he had purchased two Mountain Goats carved by John L Clarke. Born in Montana in 1881, he became deaf at the age of two from scarlet fever, which killed 5 of his siblings. Over about 29 years

he attended schools for the deaf throughout the country. At one in Montana he learned to carve and at one in Milwaukee he was employed in a factory creating church altars. In 1913 he returned to the area of East Glacier Park and began carving animals and Native Americans. A few years later he met Mary Simon when they were both working at the park and they married. She took over the business side of Clarke's art, just as Charles Russell, another artist in the region, wife managed his paintings and sculptures. Among other things, Clarke was known for his life-like animals.



Two of John L Clarke carved Mountain Goats

Clarke's carvings were shown in America and Europe where he won many awards and medals. Rockefeller bought eight of his works, and President Harding had one of Clarke's eagles holding the American flag exhibited in the Oval Office. The *Great Northern Railroad* Mountain Goat logo was designed from a carving made by Clarke. The artist worked right up until he died at the age of 89 in 1970. One of Eric's Mountain Goats is dated to 1941.



The other artifact Eric purchased was designed by Judy Anderson. It is a walnut, chip carved box with a braided handle. The box could be used as a tote to transport things like paint tubes, as a purse, seat or even a step stool. The pattern is a diamond shape of gouges with flowers colored in a dark blue or black in each corner and the middle of the diamond. The hinges on the top allow the lid to completely open.

Eric's Box created by Judy Anderson

The last Show and Tell item is a wonderful little green soapstone elephant with light colored curls and stick-stars affixed to black dots on its body. Eileen got the elephant at a Thirst religious conference over the weekend. If the conference was anything like the elephant, it was probably joyful and uplifting.



Eileen's Wonderful Little Elephant

November 15th Whittle-In

Although Marlene Moser brought 30 blanks of helicopters, she still ran out. There were a number of regular members, and the new class of members besides. In addition, I think a couple of people bought an extra to make later. They are cute. The items included in the project were the main body of the helicopter, the main rotor and a peg to attach one to the other on top. She also gave us a brush and there were some paints to bestow a personality to the whirlybirds, should we get that far.

Marlene has shown us her helicopters before, but this is the first time she has presented a class on carving them. Not only do we get to try to carve helicopters, but it is a joint session with the beginning student's class. I think she developed the design for the "chopper" from a show her grandchildren watch, and it blossomed from there. First she had an idea of what she thought the children would

like, and eventually, some of her grandchildren had opinions about the end product. Now she has quite a few with different personalities, and some in different sizes too.



The student class working with Troy and Eric T helping



A small fleet of finished helicopters

Colors Marlene uses are not just the primary reds and blues, but brighter pinks and greens that one could imagine Disney using in some of his cartoons. Even the camouflaged helicopter looks more muted in color and a little jauntier than an actual helo camouflaged for combat. That could, of course, have something to do

with the fluttery eyelashes. Marlene even carves planes to go with the copters. All she needs now is a toy box shaped like an aircraft hangar.



Helicopter in camouflage colors



A cutie in pink and hearts



For this meeting, only Eileen and Becky brought items to show everyone but they were wonderful. Eileen has been working on a bottle with Maleficent carved on it. The carving of the witch is so good, you expect her to speak. After she paints it, she just needs to fill it with apple wine and carve an appropriate bottle stopper.

Maleficent - A wonderfully evil Disney villain beautifully carved

Becky brought little conifers with snow tipped branches or garland festooned branches. She has been working on trees like this for various applications since summer. These ones were made to be Christmas ornaments, although Eric and Donna had other ideas.



A grove of pine, or maybe spruce



Perhaps Eric and Donna can wear these to the Winter Celebration

Cottonwood Bark Pick-Up



On Saturday, November 19th, at noonish a number of Flickertail members met at Julie Rostwick's home south of town to collect cottonwood bark. It was perfect fall weather, crisp but not too cold, and no wind.

Cottonwood stump with bark removed. Geoff in background

Over the course of about an hour, Larry and his son Ivan, Roger from Minot and his wife, Geoff from Carrington, Eric G, Doug E, Becky, Eric T, and Perry with his soon-to-be son-in-law along with me arrived at an enclosed field with several nice sized brush piles. The first of us on the scene tackled a huge above-head high cottonwood stump just outside the fence. We must have looked like a bunch of focused ants attacking some prized piece of food. The bark was off the stump, and the insides of the bark cleaned of their paper-like inner layer in no time.

By the time we entered the field to examine the brush pile, almost everyone was present. The cottonwood occupied much of the brush pile, with a lot of accessible bark. People with pick-ups moved their trucks into the field. Roger is using his bark to make items for sale. He has a relative with a booth at craft shows, and he wants enough bark to help him get a stockpile of things to sell.



Some of the bark in piles from the logs in the background

Geoff and Larry also had a good idea of what they wanted as far as size and thickness. Becky wanted some bark, but was more interested in the lichens and mushrooms we found on the bark in some places. She also gathered some well-shaped pinecones. Perry's friend had a chain saw and cut a section of log for her that had interesting character.

Julie had a piece of bark with a very smooth, light tan interior which she gave to Eric. Most of the rest of us obtained pieces for ourselves, and I took some for others such as Ron T who couldn't come. Perry ended up with more than he had anticipated, since his truck was closer than the brush pile. We put the extra pieces from the stump into his truck bed when we were cleaning up. We were accompanied by a very inquisitive, handsome grey farm cat named Balzac.



Remaining bark piles and Balzac in the brush in front of me

Fortunately he seemed to know how far to stay away, except for being petted, and he didn't jump in any of the cars or trucks unseen for a ride. Julie gave us a wonderful gift of bark and we brought a party atmosphere. We had a lot of fun and laughter and were done in less than two hours. Thanks Julie!

Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

December 3rd, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church

Meeting was opened by Dale. Because the church choir was setting up and doing some rehearsing, the meeting would be short. About 23 people were present.

Secretary's Report: Not done to keep meeting short.

Treasurer's Report: Warren reported we have \$4,965 in our account with all bills paid.

Dale submitted a Grant proposal to DWAC requesting \$1,800 and our chances appear favorable.

Dues: Doug S is collecting dues for single membership and family membership.

Flickertail hats and shirts are for sale.

Elections: will be held in February for the positions of Treasurer, Program Manager, and Property Manager. If you would like to run for one of these jobs, please see one of the Nominating Committee: Eric G, Perry or Diane. Presently, Warren is Treasurer, Doug E is Program Manager and Vince is Property Manager.

Show and Tell: A number of people made things for show and tell. The first item, though, is the wine that Donna brought for Klaus. He won it in the raffle at the Flickertail Woodcarver's Annual Show in October. For the Christmas Season, Donna had a snowman, a cute little guy with a green scarf to match his hat band. Chris made a holly wreath with a black capped chickadee sitting in the middle. And Doug E made some Christmas ornaments that were part of a set from a project that Tom and Diane presented last year.

From the carving project in November, Noelle had finished a green and yellow helicopter along with a delicate four-link chain. The finely wrought scallop shaped carving of Spencer's could be added to anything, such as a piece of furniture, to make it special. Eric G's upcoming project is obviously ladybugs. He has so many examples that by the time the project occurs, Eric will be able to give us each one without our having to carve it ourselves.

Carving Classes:

Our fall teaching class is drawing to a close. The last class will be Dec 20th, because of recent snow storms. It has been a good experience for both teachers and students. It is the first time we have used more than one instructor, and that has proved to work well. The students are fun to work with, and will make wonderful club members. The Cottonwood Bark lesson may need some reworking, though.

(Not mentioned but added due to importance)

Spring Carving Class: May 5th, 6th and 7th, 2017 Jan Jensen will do a chip carving class for us. She is a knowledgeable and patient teacher, and you will be able to pick your own project. More details are available in the beginning of this newsletter including how to sign-up.

Newsletter: Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck.

Other notes:

Please note change from December's actual notes:

The Christmas Party originally scheduled for Monday, December 5th was snowed out and postponed until Friday, January 13th. Rechristened a Winter Celebration, its date might bring us luck. Who can miss a quiz where one of the questions might be, "Why can't Christmas be on Friday the 13th?" Please see the announcement for details at the beginning of the Newsletter.

Club members are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1st and 3rd Thursday s of each month. Some of the carvers participating are Ron Holtz, Doug Emerson and Larry Graf. Coming dates are January 5th and 19th, February 2nd and 16th, and March 2nd.

Needing to cut the meeting short, Eric G made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Perry, motion carried.

December 3rd Whittle-In

It took awhile for Tom and me to come up with the right project. After a couple of false starts, we finally found what we wanted when our latest *Woodcarving Illustrated* magazine arrived. There was an article showing how to take the same little template and carve it into one of three types of Santa ornaments. The difference in the ornaments was in Santa's eyes. One had both of them visible, one had his hat dipped below one eye and in the third Santa's hat had slipped down to his nose, covering both eyes.



Carved Santa Ornaments

We brought a number of all three versions of Santa as well as templates without the face having been drawn on the wood. That way, if someone wanted a specific face, and none of that version remained they could draw their own. The blanks were straight forward and not difficult to carve so all were taken by the evening's end. Not that the Santas were all finished, but they would be easy to carve for a project as an ornament for someone else.



Everyone at work

Some people, like Bob P, carved a couple of stylistic changes making the ornament look much more sophisticated than the original. We also had the little circular screw hooks for the top to make them into ornaments.

Besides our project, the beginning carving class has been extended until December 20th to make up for the snow storm closings we've been experiencing, so they were working on a project as well.



And, as with last year at this time, the Trinity Church Christmas Choir was assembling and practicing. We saw a few people with instruments as well, but they were gathering in a different room upstairs. This group seemed a bit more subdued than last year's singers. Of course there may have been one or two perky persons in last year's group who livened things up. Their presence did keep the business meeting short.

Vince's fish mobile for the new members



Old members and new members carving with the Choir in the background

People showed Christmas and other carvings at the meeting. A non-carved item, though, was a bottle of be-ribboned wine that Klaus won in the raffle at the Flickertail Woodcarver's Annual Show in October. It was the first time that Donna, who was storing the wine and Klaus were at the same meeting. For the Christmas Season, Donna had a snowman with a sign for the North Pole. Chris made a holly wreath with a black capped chickadee sitting in the middle. Both the snowman and the wreath would make good tree ornaments or even coat lapel pins. Some of the ornaments Doug E recently chip carved from a book he purchased were part of a set from a project that Tom and Diane presented last year.



Klaus with his bottle of Wine



Donna and her Snowman



Chris with a holiday Wreath and nicely painted Bird



**The light red/green shades of Color make
Doug's Ornaments look more delicate**

The Blaylocks each had non seasonal items they had finished. Noelle's green and yellow helicopter is looking curiously about, and the fragile four link chain seems more like a jewelry piece than a useful chain. Beautifully formed, Spencer's scallop will enhance any project he puts it with. And then we come to Eric G's ladybugs. Both seem to grace flowerpots. Are frogs next?



Noelle's Helicopter and Chain



Wonderful Scallop carving by Spencer



One done and One started from Eric's "lovliness" of ladybugs

Learning to Carve

Our Fall 2016 Woodcarving Class was a success. The credit goes to those who planned the lessons, the instructors, and the students. Even snow storms couldn't dampen the overall enthusiasm.

Instructors

We want to highlight our instructors who really enjoy carving and want to pass on that skill to others. Not only are they dedicated and patient, but they are personable and fun to be around. Perfect for teachers! Lessons were planned with a main instructor and an assistant. Although there may have been some minor changes as time progressed, and I know more people helped than are mentioned, the following are those listed in the syllabus.

Vince Bitz and Eric Gaasland;

Perry Cook and Larry Graf;

Doug Emerson and Bob Pedigo;

Marlene Moser and Mike Knutson;

Warren Schlect and Troy Frieze;

Doug Smith and Bob Ferderer

Students; New Members

With any organization like Flickertail Woodcarvers, if we want to remain vibrant, growing and learning, and a useful part of the community over time, then we need to be able to attract people who will enjoy carving wood for many years to come. We have been fortunate this year to interest individuals who seem to fit into that framework. Already several of the new members seem to have been part of the group forever, and not just those in the refresher course.

Noelle Blaylock;	Spencer Blaylock;	Michelle Collins;*
Matt Dewald;	Eric Gaasland;*	Jerry Gengler;
Barbara Nash;	Cliff Orgaard;	Doug Schumaker;
Jerry Vetter;	William Zinsli*	

Those in the refresher course are indicated by *

Thank you to everyone!

December 20th, Whittle-In



As many of you know, Flickertail Woodcarvers have been carving snow snakes for over 20 years for Kurt Weinberg. During a Cultural Interpretive Activity one summer vacation, he found out that certain tribes of Native Americans mostly in the Northeast and Midwest had developed a team sport of racing lengths of shaped branches to see whose could go farthest.

Start by Rounding the Corners – Note the bread on the white table

Being the Phy Ed teacher at Highland Acres Elementary, he partnered with the 4th Grade teacher to create a multipurpose lesson: The children paint the “snakes” for art, have a cultural lesson about Native tribes and games, and then, in a modification of the original game, they get to race the “snakes” in Phy Ed to see whose goes farthest. Last year the snow fall was pretty dismal, and the snakes didn’t get to travel very far. With adequate snow, and favorable slickness, they can race along to about 60 feet.



Bob P gouging in some “personality”

Because of school teacher reassignments, this year we are going to provide two 4th grade classes with snow snakes. Highland Acres will continue to get snakes, and we will now also supply Roosevelt Elementary. This means we need to complete twice as many snakes and so proposed projects were moved around in order to devote two meetings to carving the snow snakes. Kurt provided us with our snow snake blanks through Doug E, his liaison to our club. The “snakes” are about a yardstick in length, and an inch or two square or rectangular. While the project starts at one meeting, a lot of people take one or two home and return them finished to make sure we have an adequate supply. Not too much needs to be done to shape the snake.

This meeting had between 15-20 people. Before starting to carve many people used a rasp on the wood while standing over a trash can to make the body more circular or at least less square. Some snakes at the meeting and others taken home are shaped with curves to look more snakelike. Carvers incise bodies with simple to complex lines and shapes, often triangles or diamonds. Gouges are sometimes used for wider designs including girding the body at intervals. Many tails appear to have rattlesnake like segments with heads either very simple or ferocious. Of

course personality is key. Because the sticks are blocky, the heads of the snakes are usually carved to be looking up. Then, when the snake is thrown into the snow, the neck hits parallel to the surface. Otherwise, the squarish face hits the snow

head on and may dig in and not travel as far.

Besides working on the snakes, this was the final day for the fall class. New members were finishing their last project, and helping with some snakes as well. As a treat Mike's wife had made some lovely Scandinavian bread for the holiday. Food like that is always so special.



Finishing the last student project for Vince – Note the snake carvers in the background

Dale brought the letters the 4th Graders had written last year to thank us for the snakes. They are colorful and fun to read. Then, for show and tell, he had two ornaments that he finished from previous projects. One ornament was from a year or more ago with a Santa attached to a star, and the other was from the project on December 3rd. I teased Dale because his Santa had eyelashes, but trimming our tree at home, I realized that a good many Santas have eyelashes.



Dale's project Santa modified to look less Triangular

Two other items need mentioning. Mike brought a carved pamphlet holder to contain our Flickertail Woodcarving pamphlets near the exhibit at Buckstop Junction. He has the word “JOIN” nicely inscribed and the holder is attractive. It should be an asset to our advertizing.



Very Professional Looking

Doug E and Jerry were discussing our need for more hearts. Doug E will be leading a project to carve more on March 4th, but really anytime your hands are idle, making a heart for the Cancer Center would be an excellent idea. We have ribbon here to thread through the top if you need some.



What's a Heart between Friends

Bob Pedigo Improves Tool Sharpener



Flickertail Woodcarvers is fortunate to have many members who are helpful, kind and knowledgeable. One of the best of them is Bob Pedigo. Recently he decided that our tool sharpener and strop needed a few modifications to be more useful. To that end he added a backboard and light, which will benefit us all. **Thanks very much!**

Vince looking over the new Additions

Mattie Hjelseth from KFYR Visits

Technically, Mattie Hjelseth's visit to our meeting on Saturday, January 7th, should be in the next Newsletter, but that would be in two months. Her visit is a breath of fresh air in our efforts to get people to hear about our club, so I'm inserting it now. Mattie was everything that you would want a television interviewer to be. She knew her job, was organized, interested, enjoyable to be around, and wanted to



show the Flickertails and our meeting in the best light possible.

We were on the 6:00 pm news, and the 10:00 pm news (delayed for a football game). The piece was edited beautifully, with opinions and information from a number of people. Having her carve a bit was fun to watch, and she may come back at another meeting and try it again.

Mattie filming Warren and Cliff