

# The Curling Chip June/July/August 2022

**FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS**  
**PO BOX 7473**  
**BISMARCK ND 58507**



Summertime get-togethers at Sertoma Park went by quickly. Carving demonstrations were fun and a break from other warm weather activities. Mid-June wood carving classes at Wahpeton were gratifying. In Bismarck, the wood carving display at the Bismarck Library is worth a visit (it's due to change in November). Mike K says snowsnake blanks are now available for carving. If we each do several the kids will have an enjoyable and educational time. Now that we are into fall, the next newsletter should be out soon. Thanks to Becky B, Eric G, Clara and Doug E and anyone else who helped on the newsletter. We hope you enjoy the newsletter. For questions or future articles send your info to Tom/Diane Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net). Good Carving!!

*Newsletter Team: Tom Turck and Diane Lehman Turck*



Website: <https://flickertailwoodcarvers.org/>

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

**Pintress** - <https://www.pinterest.com/flickertailwoodcarvers/>



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.

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BISMARCK, ND

# FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

## Event Calendar

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

Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #5

Website -

<https://flickertailwoodcarvers.org/>

Facebook - @Flickertailwoodcarversnd

Twitter - @FlickertailND

Instagram - @flickertailwoodcarvers

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKV6DD59kY-wDwyepQBfr9Q>

September 3, 2022

Saturday morning no meeting

### **Labor Day is September 5**

September 20, 2022	Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7-9 <b>Project by Becky Barnes-Dala Dino</b>
September 24-24, 2022	Applefest Buckstop Junction, Sat 11-5, Sun 11-4 <b>Event Lead-Mike Knudson</b>
October 1, 2022	Saturday morning, monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM <b>Prep for the Show-Dale Heglund &amp; Bob Pedigo</b>
October 18, 2022	Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM Project by Larry Graf - pelican
November 5, 2022	Saturday morning, Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM Project by Doug Emerson – wood burning
November 15, 2022	Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM Project -Troy Freize - Yellow leg shorebird
December 3, 2022	Saturday morning, Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM Project - Snow Snakes – Mike Knudson
December 20, 2022	Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM Project - Snow Snakes - Mike Knutson
January 7, 2023	Saturday morning, Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM Project - Eric Gaasland - Whale
January 17, 2023	Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM Project- Eileen Heihn - Acorn
Jan 28, 2023	Winter Celebration – Site in the works

Special Project Part #1– Warren Schlect – Bookworm, carving

**February 4, 2023**

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Saturday morning, Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM  
Project by Bob Pedigo – love spoon

February 21, 2023

Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM  
Special Project Part #2– Warren Schlect & Becky Weisgerber – Bookworm, painting

March 4, 2023

Saturday morning, Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM  
Project by Cliff Orgaard, Gouge Chip Carving

March 21, 2023

Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM  
Project by Becky Weisgerber, Relief carving (Peter Fallingsbe carving panels)

April 1, 2023

Saturday morning, Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM  
Project by Mitch Olson - Hillbilly

April 18, 2023

Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM  
Project by Marlene Moser, Chip carving

May 6, 2023

Saturday morning, Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM  
Project by

May 16, 2023

Tuesday evening, Whittle-In, 7:15-9 PM  
Project by

**June 2023**

**Clara Yonker** would like to host a soap stone carving class  
at her lot in Mandan – west of Fox Island – special event!

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President: Becky Barnes

President elect: Cliff Orgaard

Secretary: Diane Lehman Turck

Membership: Doug Smith

Librarian: Todd Englestad

Newsletter Editor: Tom Turck

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### *June 21<sup>st</sup> Picnic*

The weather was temperate and quite comfortable on Tuesday evening. Several people had arrived at Shelter #5 between about 5:00 and 5:30, and were visiting, eating sandwiches and carving. The shelter next to ours was being used by an animal shelter and their cars spilled over into our parking places for a while. I brought a meat and cheese tray and some cookies because I mistakenly called the picnic a pot luck in the newsletter, and didn't want anyone going without food from my error.

Marlene was finishing an elephant from her last lesson. And Cliff was starting a love spoon and had a carving relief of a bear coming out of a tree. Marilyn was crocheting a dishcloth. While Doug E was planning a building out of cottonwood bark and Bob P was carving a bison. Bob sells them in the gift shop of the Heritage Center and said: he knows the form so well that he could carve it in his sleep. Al is doing the relief of a mother and child in butternut where the wood grain has been causing him some problems that he had had to work around. Becky W started on a ladle on an ash branch that came down in the recent storm. Ron is in the midst of carving a Harley Refsal Scandinavian plane figure.

Ron also brought two red Dala horses for the library exhibit; alternatively, Clara came with two projects from Telle. One was a red dragonfly and he was cute. The other was the figure of a man. Clara was going to sign up for Corn Fest and

Applefest, but Mike wasn't at the picnic to take her application. Meanwhile Dale was signing up carvers for future Whittle-Ins. Larry and Ruth came to visit and later on Eileen and Kelly came as well.

Doug E arrived with his sharpener. Of a compact design, it could sharpen tools easily. Marlene honed a gouge she was using on her elephant. Doug also brought a most skillfully carved voyageur from last Fall's Annual Woodcarving Show with Vic Hood. What struck some of us first was the hat. It was so perfect it appeared to be a real red hat that had been put on the figure. The streaks of white in his beard also gave the look of accuracy. It had a crack near the base. And people were interested in knowing how Doug kept it from traveling further, since similar cracks were a general problem in other blanks used in Vic's class. Others asked what Doug used to seal it.

According in part from Wikipedia, and a from a paper Tom wrote in 1989 on Fur Trade along the Columbia River Gorge, fur trade routes had been opened by the Hudson Bay Company and Northwest Company in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, during the peak of the North American fur trade. Travelers associated with the canoe transportation part of the fur trade business became known as voyageurs, a term which literally means "*traveller*" in French. Authorities issued permits to French-Canadian voyageurs who transported furs over long distances, via canoes, to-and-from remote stations and rendezvous points. These stations were located in the deepest wilderness areas of the Canadian Northwest.

Voyagers were regarded as legendary and celebrated in folklore and music. Despite the fame, the work was grueling and dangerous. They had to be able to carry, at a minimum, two 90 lb. fur bundles at one time over portages. Ambushes were a reoccurring problem. They began their journeys in a large flotilla and only separated from the main fleet near their final destinations. They wore jackets of elk hide because this particular material was hard for an arrow to pierce.

Some voyageurs stayed in the back country over the winter. They then transported trade goods from the posts to more distant French outposts. These men were known as the *hivernants* (winterers). They helped negotiate trade in indigenous communities. And in the spring carry furs from remote outposts back to the rendezvous posts.





**A bison in sun down shadows**



**The beginning of Mother and Child in relief**



**A black bear peering out**



**A Harley Refsal caricature**





**Two red Dala horses**



**A life-like voyageur in butternut**



**A dragonfly and man from Telle's Whittle-In classes**



**Marlene using Doug E's sharpener**

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### *July 19<sup>th</sup> Picnic*

The weather was warm. People had arrived at Shelter #5 between about 5:00 and 5:30, and continued coming through much of the early evening. Some members brought sandwiches but many came after having already eaten. Eric T had a loaf of blueberry bread, which was very good. In all at least 20 people came.

Becky W was checking with members who had indicated they would give a carving to the raffle at the Annual Fall Show. She is trying to get prizes lined up so that they can be listed on the tickets when they get ordered. Buyers like to see the types of things they can win. So far, the number and types of treasures to be awarded sound really great!

She has a number of volunteers for the *Capital A'Fair* in August. Mike K was there too, and he and Dale may be looking for helpers for Corn Fest and Applefest.

Bob P was picking up items to be displayed in the cases in front of the library. Right now the cases contain porcelain that members of a club have painted on them using mostly oils. The items are plates and vases of many sizes and shapes, with pictures such as flowers, horses, and Christmas scenes. They even have a set of earrings, bracelet and pendant that have been decorated using Zentangle designs of pen and ink.

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### *August 16<sup>th</sup> Picnic*

Carol Dahl, a woman I had met through Yoga, was coming to the picnic, and I had wanted to get there before she did, but I had company which ran a little late and that combined with road construction running rampant along our stretch of Washington, and Bismarck's version of a rush hour put me closer to 5:30 than 5:00. In my hurry to get to the park, I neglected to bring my camera, and no pictures were taken. As with the other two picnics, a number of people had arrived and more kept coming throughout the early evening. The weather was warm. Some members brought sandwiches but many came after having already eaten.

Carol created a plate of delicious fudge and Bob F and his wife, Jane, passed some wonderful peanut butter cookies.

Carol came to talk about a problem. She has a house quite full of creches. They populate every room, are a variety of sizes and most are made of wood. She has one from Ecuador that she brought to show us. This scene has a donkey and cow, and Mary and Joseph made of walnut, but it lacks a baby Jesus. She borrowed a Jesus figurine from a friend's Nativity that looks like she would like him to appear. She doesn't want done for free, she knows it will take time to make it look as she wants. After some discussion, Bob P said he would undertake the assignment. He will probably use a different wood, as walnut is a difficult wood to carve.

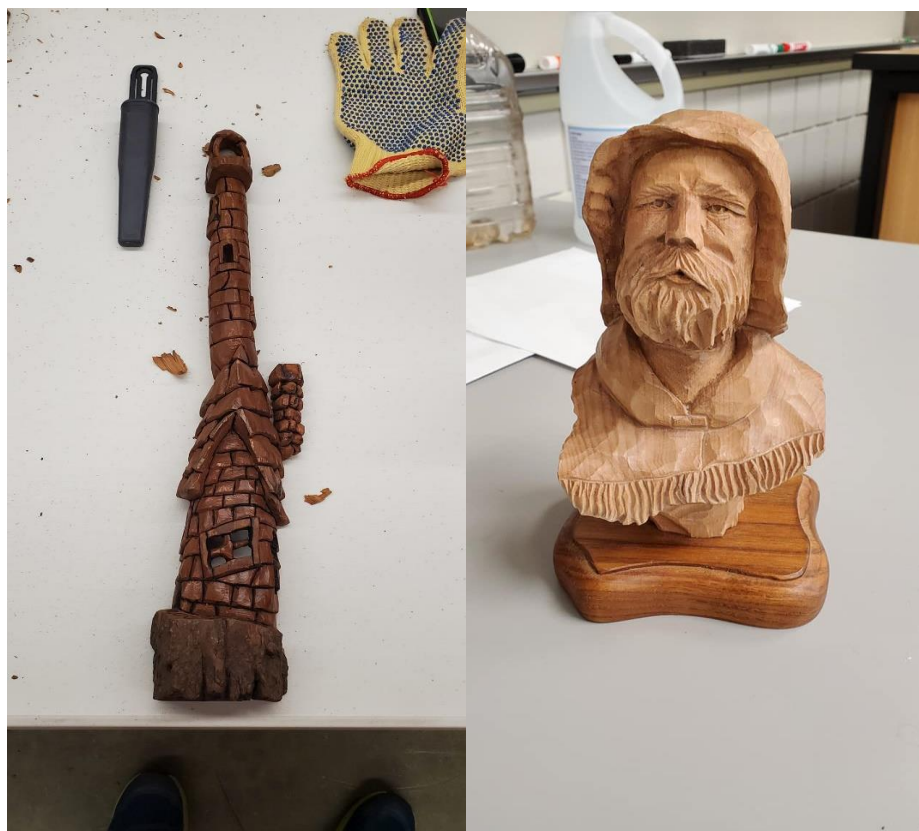
The rest of the evening passed pleasantly. There were about 20 members present and talk was concerning the Corn Fest coming this Sunday at Buckstop Junction. Mike K had not gotten enough volunteers yet, and so Becky B said she would put together a roster for him. Eric G will help. Several others indicated they would assist as well. Bob P thought the library display might be up, and when I went the next day, it was.

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### ***Wahpeton Carving Weekend 6/24-25/2022***

Not one of our events, but one which a number of our members attend is the Wahpeton Carving Weekend. Held at the Tech Center, North Dakota State College of Science, most attendees stay at the dorms on campus. It's an exciting and fun filled few days. Several of our past instructors were teaching sessions such as Karen Henderson and Jan Jensen. Cliff O was there with Marilyn, his wife who was leading a class in quilting. Bob L was also an instructor. Some of the other participants, but probably not all were Eric G, Bob P, Doug E and Larry.





**Bark house carving**

**Carving from Bob L's class**

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### ***Bluegrass goes Pink, July 30***

This celebration is to promote the Cancer Society as a fund-raising event and it took in \$12,000 this year! It takes place at Cross Ranch State Park. The day begins with a 5K/10K walk/run race near the Missouri River. You can enter with a bike or stroller besides entering yourself. There are fun events scheduled throughout the day. A free will donation supper is prepared by churches from the Washburn area. In the evening, the Cottonwood Bluegrass band holds a concert. The Flickertails have a demonstration booth during the day. Clara, Bob F, Warren and Doug E are there most years, including this year. Becky B, Bob P, Bob F and Alvin were there this year too. Doug E participated in the race this year and in previous years. He does very well. This year Alvin, Warren and Bob F walked in the race too. Thanks to all those who came.





**Doug passing the “Almost There” chalk mark**



**Alvin working at the demonstration booth**

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### *Capital A'Fair, August 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>*

One of the region's largest arts and crafts fairs takes place on the state capitol mall. Advertising says it boasts over 130 artisans. There did not appear to be as many vendors this year as others, which still may be a reflection of Covid-19. On the other hand, on Saturday, there were a lot of people wandering the street and showing interest in the various booths. And dogs, of every size and type. There was a dog for every 10 or 20 people. The demonstration booths, including ours, were off to the side and didn't get quite as much traffic, but we still got enough. Saturday was a little cool but humid and it rained Saturday night. Sunday started out much the same as Saturday, but the temperature rose and the sky cleared; it was a lovely day. Thanks to the number of members who helped including Becky W of course, Eric G, Cliff, Marlene, Doug E, Bob P, Alyse, Todd and Diane. Some people were there for 2 hour shifts, but some were there all of Saturday or all of Sunday. Alyse stopped by on Saturday with Eric G (even they had a dog) and Todd stopping by on Sunday. I'm sorry if I missed someone.



**Becky W shows off woodcarving projects**

Saturday two booths ran out of wares. One was a cookie seller who made more than last year, and still ran out. Her molasses cookies were delicious.

There was a bouncing castle for children to play in and a booth giving free Covid test kits. Becky W and I each got some. The truck compartment giving them away was isolated on the other side of the little parking lot, by the State Library, so it didn't have many people coming to use it. All in all, it was an excellent demonstration for wood carving. Thanks to those who took part.

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### *Library Display of Previous Lessons*

Flickertail Woodcarvers have had several displays in the front windows of the library over the past years. We had bird carvings in 2016, different cultures around the world in 2018, and spoons in 2020. This year we are having examples of carvings from different lessons over the years. There is a wide variety of pieces. At the right of the exhibit Bob P has a progression of Bison from a drawing, two bison going through the process and a finished bison. On the bottom shelf is a family of pelicans, a number of ducks, two old men taking covid precautions and a scary mask. The next shelves to the left hold some gnome and other faces, some cotton wood bark houses, a bust of a back-woodsman, a nightlight, and a bottle. Further down are complete gnomes, pineapples, a carved golf ball two noses for glasses and a large Santa. On a small box in the middle are two of Telle's creations: a dragonfly and a small man along with other little toys. Thanks to Bob P who gathered the artifacts and everyone who contributed!





**Bison, pelicans, two old men, ducks and an outlandish mask**



**Including some gnomes, bark houses, two busts and a Halloween bottle**



**In progression: pineapples, a golf ball, noses for glasses and Santa**



**Finally: a cowboy, trinkets, Telle's dragonfly and man, and a bookworm**



### ***Corn Fest at Buckstop Junction, August 21<sup>st</sup>***

Our booth at Corn Fest was right outside of the lumber building which holds a number of Flickertail exhibits. The shade from our canopy and walls was providential. The day, while nice and sunny, was going to be rather warm as well. A fair number of people wandered the street in family groups and would turn coming over the bridge leading to the lumber building. I had thought fewer people would try to see our booth since the lumber building is recessed from the street, but we had a fair amount of action. A few of the people who stopped were interested in carving but lived too far away. We were able to sell and or give away some of the raffle tickets.

Several of the members who helped at the *Capital A'Fair* assisted at Corn Fest. But Becky B and Clara were there along with Mike K, of course, and Eric G, Bob F, Bob P and Diane. Becky W was at the spinning display. I know I've forgotten a couple of demonstrators; I lost my list. Thanks to all who volunteered. One of the fun things to do was to go to the old hotel and get a real bottle of sarsaparilla and check out the old cars by the filling station.



**Clara and Becky B in their Flickertail shirts**



**Mike K staffing the booth**



**Becky B's woodcrafts**