

# The Curling Chip

January-February 2019

## FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

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The January 9 Whittle-In featured Ed Ryan demonstrating Kolrosing process and providing a project. Show and Tell projects included intarsia, a roughout of fighting stallions and a folding spoon. The January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting consisted of a paleontology lecture by Becky B. Next up is a narrative and pictures from our winter celebration at the Heglunds. Everyone enjoyed the get together especially the games provided by Trampus. The obituary notice for Lyle Warner is contained in the following segment of the newsletter.

The first February meeting featured Bob P, and a folding spoon project. And Vince brought a beautifully carved sea turtle and Becky W

provided an intricately carved box. The final February Whittle-In is Eric's sea turtle allowing a second opportunity for Vince's project to be shown. Lastly pictures of the carvings at the Heritage Center are featured. The Wahpeton Weekend is at the end of the email. Thanks to all the Flickertail members who helped out and took photos with this newsletter and Becky B for sending it. 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



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

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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.



DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL

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

# Event Calendar

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

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday = carving at Bismarck Edgewood Vista from 2-4 PM (Project Leads =  
Ron Holtz and Larry Graf)**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| March 2, 2019        | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Becky Weisgerber, motion item – dog tail wag or rope jumping  |
| March 19, 2019       | Whittle-In, 7:15-9:00 PM<br>Project by Cliff Orgaard  |
| April 6, 2019        | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Becky Barnes, Trilobite (i.e., prehistoric little ocean bug)  |
| April 16, 2019       | Whittle-In, 7:15-9:00 PM<br>Project by Bob Pedigo, sharpening   |
| April 12-14, 2019    | Fargo Carving Show  |
| May 4, 2019          | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Larry Graf<br>May 17-19, 2019 Spring Carving Class<br>Project: wolf head by Bob Pedigo  |
| May 21, 2019         | Whittle-In, 7:15-9:00 PM<br>Project by Warren Schlecht  |
| June 6 – 8, 2019     | Milan Spoon Gathering<br><a href="https://milanvillageartsschool.org/spoon-gathering/">https://milanvillageartsschool.org/spoon-gathering/</a>  |
| June 21 – 23, 2019   | Wahpeton Carving Weekend  |
| August 15 – 16, 2019 | Vesterheim Kolrosing Carving on Wood<br>Minot, ND <a href="https://folkartschool.vesterheim.org/class/2019-08-15-kolrosing-incising-on-wood">https://folkartschool.vesterheim.org/class/2019-08-15-kolrosing-incising-on-wood</a> |

Please send in any future event info to Doug Emerson or Eric Gaasland.

## ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Dale called the meeting to order. There were probably 20 people present.

Ed Ryen presented a project using a style of carving called kolrosing that a few members knew about, and had been mentioned during the last Whittle-Ins, but most of us had never seen examples or done it.

**Edgewood Vista:** Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. Some of the carvers participating are Ron Holtz, Larry Graf and Doug Emerson. Coming dates are May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, and June 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Secretary's Report:** Diane gave a summary of December's notes. Had not taken note of Memorial Fund. Changed. Eric and Eric moved and seconded the notes be approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren reported that we have around \$7117 in our account. Since that is about what we had last year, the clubs finances are doing well. Eric T agreed to do the audit.

**Membership:** A few latecomers are still signing up.

**Property:** OK.

**Library:** could have more action.

**Publicity:** Ok

**Facebook:** Doing fine.

**Website/Instagram:** Doing fine

**Elections:** *Will be held in Feb:* Elections for Treasurer, Program Chair, and Property. Please see the will be held at the February meeting. Please see the election Committee members if you would like to hold one of these positions.

**Buckstop Junction:** Snowed in.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:** Please be thinking of items to donate to the raffle for October's Show.

**Programs: Spring Classes:** The carving class will feature Bob Pedigo carving a wolf's head in the round from Friday May 17 through Sunday May 19 and about 2/3 full. A colored pencil class will be going on at the same time. They will be held at the Heritage Center from 8am to 5pm on Friday, and 10am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. Doug E is taking reservations.

**Cancer Society:** The number Cancer Hearts is getting low. We may have time after a coming Whittle-In to do some. Try and keep them in mind when you're carving at home.

Dale and Doug E went to the Cancer Society's Awards Dinner just recently. They were made a gift of a CD calendar. Doug already has one. Donna was presented with the other.



**Doug with the CD from the Cancer Society**

**New Business:** The Parks and Rec want to hold a Master Planning Session on Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. We (along with other small clubs) get priced out usually because we haven't



the kind of capital needed for rent. It is reported either last time or this to be about \$780. per year.

Ron T has two Flickertail shirts, XL, one blue and one black for sale. They are too big for him. Dave bought the blue and Jerry G the black.

**Old Business:** Remember that our next meeting will be at the Heritage Center at 7pm rather than the church. Rather than a Whittle-In we are invited to attend a lecture given by Becky Barnes on *Fossils in North Dakota*. We are fortunate to live in a state with such excellent paleontology. The opportunity to find out more about some of the finds should be enjoyable.

**Show and Tell:** There were a number of **snow snakes** returned from carvers who had taken some home from the last meeting, and a few more went with carvers this time. They all need to be given to Doug soon.

Eric T's wild stallions have an impressionistic or abstract feel to them, but they definitely are coming out of their shells.

Becky B is working on the dentition of her latest carnivorous beast.

Tom brought two shiny intarsia creations, one of Santa's famous reindeer and a raccoon hanging from an autumn oak.

Bob P painstakingly carved a replica for housing for an NCAA hockey trophy, which was so well received that he was asked to carve an even smaller one. He brought the smaller one for us to see.

Bob also demonstrated how his folding spoon works. He will be teaching us how to make them in February for our yearly Love Spoon session near Valentine's Day.

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net).

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck, Secretary

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### *January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

The Flickertails have been discussing the technique of Kolrosing in the abstract for a couple of months. Ed Ryen decided to take his project time to teach us about it. According to Ed and handouts he had, Laplanders, the nomadic reindeer herders along the northern reaches of Scandinavia may have developed the craft by incising or etching patterns into bone and horn materials. Eventually, wood became one of the materials used as well. The practice dates back into Viking times, and therefore some of the illustrations have a Celtic flavor given the Viking penchant for raiding in those areas.

Ed says that, for instance, dragons are part of the Celtic, but not the Scandinavian mythology, and some kolrosing incorporates them into the carving. Much of past kolrosing was geometric or animal representations. Now, we can notice other influences. From Telemark County in southern Norway, rosemaling leaves, flowers and vines are being incorporated.



**Ed in center sharing out templates and ideas for kolrosing**

In kolrosing, the idea was not to make a cut that would be of notice by itself, but to rub charcoal or finely ground bark into the design. The dark pattern would give the impression of a three dimensional motif. Therefore the “cut” would be more of an incision than an excision. The items decorated were usually for everyday use, including spoons, bowls, cups and boxes, and did not last for long periods.

Lighter colored woods with little grain are best suited, so basswood, birch and aspen are ideal. All these give a good contrast to the thin lines. Sand the wood and then seal it or the darkening compound, such as ash, will discolor the wood. Once again, sand it with 400 grit paper after it's been sealed. The final step in preparation is to draw the design or transfer it with graph paper onto the wood. Incise the wood just enough to score the wood, pulling for straight cuts and pushing carefully away with your left thumb as a guide if making a curved line. A kolrosing knife works best since it can be held as a pencil. Slow and steady. If an extra line is added, a drop of Elmer's glue in the cut can usually seal it.



### **Starting to incise the wood**

Once the incising is finished, rub in a darkening compound. That can be ash, very finely ground coffee, cinnamon, a tree sawdust for a more normal application.

Experiment with other substances that are that quite fine, but a different color. Wipe off any excess and re-sand with 400-600 grit sandpaper to remove raised cuts. The design should be deep enough to withstand the sanding.

Since most of the pieces are some sort of table ware, the finishing step would be to spread a food safe substance such as vegetable, walnut or flaxseed oil, or beeswax to the piece to give it a nice finish. Letting the item dry and giving it another couple of coats with a couple of hours of drying in between appears to be best. There are Youtube sessions that discuss adding lemon oil or other oil or wax for projects that will be used for food. For items that are not near food, there are, of course, other oil and wax choices.



### **Rubbing coffee into Scandinavian design**

Ed had a variety of items with showing geometric, animal and runic drawings. He had a practice piece with an open weave pattern and an abstract vine or floral design. A note to himself said that pulling the blade gives a thinner line than pushing the blade. An amulet necklace incised with a flower next to the piece is quite lovely.





### Ed's open weave drawing and decorative pictures

He also had a few carving knives, spoons and forks and a decorated piece of wood probably about 2 by 7 inches with "Ryen" in old runic letters at the top. One of the carving knives also had his name "Ed Ryen" with the "R" being the only letter that resembled Latin script. A woodenware fork and spoon set contained an interesting poem, one line to each handle, starting with "wanna spoon?". The second line takes the message into a possible PG13 rating, so no photo. Cute though.

The picture below shows some wonderful work. The animal on the carving knife is fun to see. His eye being part of the hardware is a good adaptation. The spoon is nicely finished and the kolrosing pattern on the handle well matched to the piece. The most intricate artwork, however, is on the strip of wood. The scrollwork has got to have been difficult to achieve. I think the asymmetry of the piece helps it look so pleasing.



**Products of kolrosing**



**A few finished snow snakes**



The Show and Tell items were interesting. Some weren't actually show and tell. Doug E is gathering our snow snakes for the elementary schools we supply. The slithery shapes and pyrographic diamonds are cool. There are only a few left to go out with carvers, and of course a number need yet to be returned. You should get them back on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Eric T has gotten farther along on his stallions. Instead of just pencil lines, they are energetically emerging from the wood. It's amazing to watch how they take form each session. Body shapes in motion. Becky B is working on another creature with large teeth. She is painstakingly separating the sharp teeth inside the jaws. The scales along his throat and jaw embellishments are great additions. Tom has been working on intarsia projects, and he presented a raccoon traveling through oak trees and a reindeer of Santa's in flight for everyone to see. Bob P fulfilled the desire of someone he knows to make a smaller wooden replica that houses hockey sports trophies. And then, because they liked that one, they asked if he could make an even smaller one for them. He also demonstrated the spoon project he will be teaching us in a couple of weeks. It is a folding spoon, which we have never tried before now. Something new.



**Stallions engaging in battle**



**Dental work going well**



**Colorful intarsia animals**





**A stand for a very small hockey sports trophy**

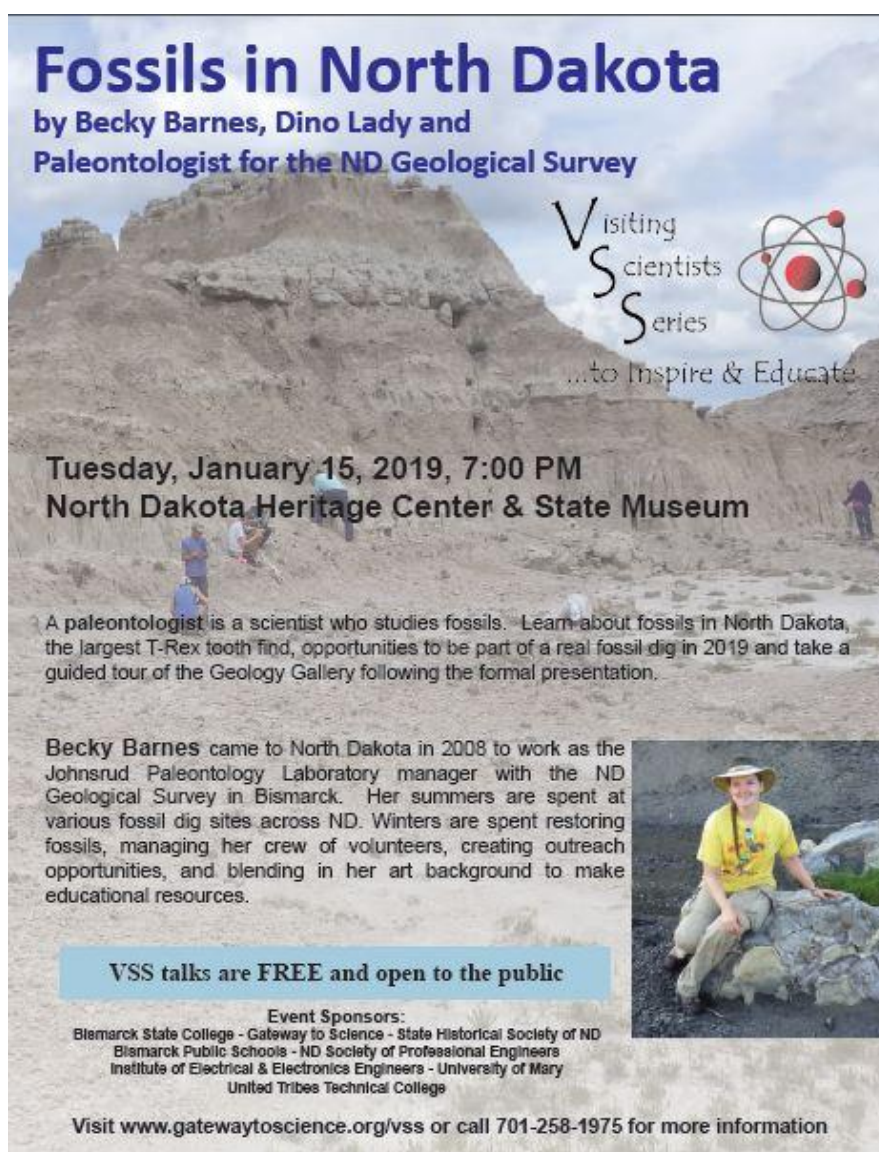


**Bob's example of a folding spoon**

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## *January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Paleontology Lecture*

Rather than have our normal Whittle-In, the club members that were interested were going to attend a paleontology lecture given by Becky Barnes at the Heritage Center. The lecture was part of the Visiting Scientists Series hoping to inspire and educate the public about the exciting and fun they can find in learning about subjects related to, but not only, science, technology, engineering and math.



**Fossils in North Dakota**  
by Becky Barnes, Dino Lady and  
Paleontologist for the ND Geological Survey

Visiting  
Scientists  
Series  
to Inspire & Educate

**Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 7:00 PM**  
**North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum**

A paleontologist is a scientist who studies fossils. Learn about fossils in North Dakota, the largest T-Rex tooth find, opportunities to be part of a real fossil dig in 2019 and take a guided tour of the Geology Gallery following the formal presentation.

Becky Barnes came to North Dakota in 2008 to work as the Johnsrud Paleontology Laboratory manager with the ND Geological Survey in Bismarck. Her summers are spent at various fossil dig sites across ND. Winters are spent restoring fossils, managing her crew of volunteers, creating outreach opportunities, and blending in her art background to make educational resources.

**VSS talks are FREE and open to the public**

Event Sponsors:  
Bismarck State College - Gateway to Science - State Historical Society of ND  
Bismarck Public Schools - ND Society of Professional Engineers  
Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers - University of Mary  
United Tribes Technical College

Visit [www.gatewaytoscience.org/vss](http://www.gatewaytoscience.org/vss) or call 701-258-1975 for more information

**Poster for Becky's talk**

Becky has worked for the Geological Survey as the Lab Manager since 2008. She has the opportunity to go on fossil digs in the summer, and work on the bones and data they find in the colder months. Many of the digs are open to volunteer workers who can sign-up starting in the late winter if they meet certain criteria.

Dale, representing one of the event sponsors introduced Becky, and their friendship was pleasant to see. The presentation Becky gave discussed the types of different sites that the Geological Survey is excavating and some of the finds, like the T. rex tooth we had as a carving project not long ago. Becky interspersed her talk with photos of various sites and other things found during summer work with clever drawings of herself and co-workers. Becky is a wonderful carver and intarsia pieces of real and fantasy realms are wonderfully rendered, but we now know she is also skillful as caricature artist.

She spoke and answered a number of questions, and then took us on an interesting tour of the Geological Gallery to finish off the evening.

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### *January 19<sup>th</sup>, Winter Celebration at the Heglunds*

On Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup>, we held our Winter Celebration. It was at Dale and Jen's house again. Their place is so comfortable it is fortunate that they have allowed us use it for several years. Dale always invites people to come out in the afternoon, before the party, to sit near one of the fireplaces to chat and have a drink. This year, he changed it slightly as an invitation to work on carving the afternoon of the party. The afternoon carving was independent from the evening party. For instance, Luci could only stay for the afternoon, and could not attend in the evening. About half a dozen people came and left, some to return later, at various points during the day. We had a relaxing time with work and chatting. Dale has a workshop in the garage that is chock full the tools and miscellanea needed for wood carving and other projects. He showed us the fish he had finished from the carving class in October with Dick Skauge.





**Dale in his workshop with his pan fish**



**Becky W with the start of a dog**





### **Dale and Becky B later in the afternoon**

Becky B was working on dinosaurs and trilobites. The trilobite would eventually turn into a Whittle-In project. Becky W was working on a dog that would become her Whittle-In project. She is working out how to attach the wagging tail. Other wood carvings littered the table along with coffee, pop and tea.

We had lunch and cookies. Dale and Jen's two cats sat quietly in their carrier until right before our supper when they came out to eat theirs. They were so still all afternoon I didn't even know there were two inside. One is long haired and the other has short hair, but both are a creamy tan, the one with long hair a little more toward the yellow side. Both were very nicely behaved.



### **The Heglund cats at supper**

The party began in the late afternoon. The first guests checked out the garage and eventually everyone was in the house. Items were set up for the pot luck, and Becky W and I helped until the last preparations were finished. People broke into groups to eat snacks, have a before dinner drink, and chat. There were various locations to sit and relax before supper as in previous years and everyone easily found chairs or seats to enjoy each other's company and conversations.

Even though the holiday season was officially over, the home still had cozy feel of elegant comfort. Dale had some interesting alcohol for us to try. I wasn't much of a fan, but several others enjoyed it. The table and chair arrangements were like previous years, with most set in the mid level and places at the kitchen table. The tables at mid level had glass hemispheres with strings of tiny clear lights that added to the atmosphere of celebration.

Of course the food was quite wonderful. It always is. People try to bring the best thing they can, and there is a lot of variety and a lot of food. There was a mix-up with the plates. We have so many from summer picnics that Eric G was going to bring them to the party. When he couldn't come, I bought some not knowing he

would drop them off anyway. So we had winter plates, and summer plates, and enough now for years to come.



**Cliff with the winning paper plate**

Becky W's partner Trampus is the Game Master for Thursday night board games in Mandan. We asked him if he could organize the games for the evening. He graciously agreed. He was perfect. The first game involved spatial awareness. We all put a paper plate on our heads and with a pencil tried to follow Trampus' directions. He wanted us to draw a Christmas scene with a tree and a fireplace in certain areas of the room. The tree had ornaments, a star on top and a present underneath. All told, there were about 10 items we needed to place in certain locations. Then we tallied points depending on how close we came to having the picture drawn correctly. Cliff had the most points.





### **Discussing answers for the true/false multiple choice quiz**

The next game was a traditional true/false multiple choice questionnaire about the holiday. It was not too hard and not too easy. Like “Name the eight reindeer,” or True or False “Santa’s nose is like an apple.” Most people got most answers correct. It had just the right balance between knowledge and guessing. The last game was Christmas song opposites.

An example would be “Black Easter” for “White Christmas.” It is all the more interesting because some opposites like “Easter” for “Christmas” is an approximation; there is no actual opposite for the word. That meant thought for the answer wasn’t exactly a straight line. Some guessing and creativity were necessary. All of the games were fun and there was a lot of talking and laughing throughout.



**Bob P choosing between candy and a Flickertail neckerchief**



**Ron with a black neckerchief**

For prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> we had two broad choices. Becky used different patterned kerchiefs to embroider a new machine embroidery design that looks like

a flickertail with a crown. It might not actually be a prairie dog, maybe a chipmunk, but it looks close enough, and it's cute. If you're wearing it as a bandana, no one will know. The variety of cloths included black, camo, orange/gold, brown and others. The other type of prize was theater box candy like Good & Plenty, Mike & Ike, Hot Tamales and SweetTarts.

Then there were two exchanges, the carving and non-carving. You participated if you had brought a present for one or the other exchange. Most gifts were homemade, but not all. This year Karen got the bottle of alcohol that is usually given (not by the same person). It was Dubliners Irish Whiskey and it came in a nice looking Christmas bag.



**Karen with her charming bag to hold the Irish Whiskey**

In keeping with the spoon theme of the year, two of the exchanges were spoons.





**Ron H got a spoon  
from a wood  
embued with  
colorful streaks, like  
lilac**

**Doug E received a folding  
spoon**

**Both spoons are small  
enough to pocket on a long  
hike and have a utensil  
ready to eat with when you  
stop**



A few more gifts are seen below.



**Warren got an intarsia frog that would hang comfortably on a wall**



**Tom's new Santa ornament has a lot of personality**





**The little character Bob P holds has big ears and a wavy golden beard that looks soft and not hard wood**

**Jen is holding a homemade tote bag. A happy flickertail on the front is painting leaves in autumn colors.**





**Becky W and Trampus**

Finally, a picture of Becky W showing a faux wine bottle of wire to hold wine corks. Knowing Becky she already has three projects she has planned for some of the corks. Next to her is Trampus whose imaginative games gave us a great evening of fun.

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### ***January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Lutfisk Dinner***

The Sons of Norway have been interested in learning more about wood carving, since that was a craft well known in Scandinavian countries. They are trying to explore and experience the things their ancestors did for leisure and for fun. To that end, a number of them sat in on one or several of the beginning carver's class

we had last fall. The session on chip carving was one they wanted particularly to attend.

The Flickertails put a demonstration table up at their Annual Lutfisk Dinner which was held on January 26<sup>th</sup> this year.



**Dave Mathews, now a Flickertail, hosting the Lutfisk Dinner with his wife.**

**They are in front of the demonstration table.**

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## Obituary Notice

On January 25<sup>th</sup> of 2019 we lost one of our members. Lyle Warner has been coming fairly regularly to our meetings for some time. Normally at a table with a group of other carvers, he was part of the regular conversations. In addition, he was one of those who could join in a series of back and forth teasing with the best of the jokers.

He spent most of his career in agricultural education, about 30 years of it at Bismarck State College. His interests in developing youth and their careers, particularly in raising sheep led to a 2013 Award as Agriculturalist of the Year for the 87<sup>th</sup> Little International Livestock Show. He also did two tours in Vietnam for the Navy when he was much younger.

At some point a number of years ago he was involved with the Flickertails, but normal life demands led to him dropping his participation. While he had been busy in retirement, he realized he had time to reacquaint himself with the hobby he enjoyed years before. I don't know if he had been carving at home all along, but he certainly was a skilled carver. He was in Bob Lawrence's Mountain Man in a Wolf's Hat last year, where he and Troy along with several others kept us smiling for the whole weekend. He was one of many who finished the Moravian Christmas ornament within the class time. He was fighting cancer and entered into hospice before he passed away.

Lyle was friendly, generous, kind and fun to engage in conversation. He had purchased some wood including purple heart to fashion into Cancer Hearts before his death. He will be missed.

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## ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Eric G opened the meeting with approximately 20+ people present, a mix of regular and recent members. Perry is back as well.

Bob P had the project which was a folding spoon. We've had lots of Love Spoon variations, but I think the first time for a folding spoon. Thanks.

**Edgewood Vista:** Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. Coming dates are May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, and June 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Secretary's Report:** Diane read January's notes. They were passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren reported that we have \$6511.41. The audit will be back soon.

**Guests/New members:** Jerry Nicholson who used to participate several years ago when Frank was still here.

**Lyle Warner:** Please sign the card for Lyle Warner that is being passed.

**Membership:** Doug S says approximately 70 members are registered, but there are also some stragglers yet.

**Library:** Cliff has reorganized the library. Everything is in order AND there is a catalogue that has publications listed by type of carving with author, title and media (book, DVD, stick, and video) columns. Amazing.

**Property:** Everything is OK.

**Publicity:** Becky W getting announcements for the fall show in magazines.

**Facebook:** Doing fine.

**Website/Instagram:** Becky B has several good ideas that will be discussed in depth when she can be here at the next meeting. They involve social media and more.

**Elections:** The election Committee checked to see if anyone wanted to volunteer for one of the positions up for election, but got no takers as long as those in the positions already were satisfied to retain their titles. Therefore, elections were held by acclamation rather than ballot. The treasurer will stay Warren Schlecht, the program chair will remain Doug Emerson, and Vince Bitz will keep in charge of property.

**Programs: Spring Classes:** The carving class will feature Bob Pedigo carving a wolf's head in the round from Friday May 17 through Sunday May 19. A colored pencil class will be going on at the same time. They will be held at the Heritage Center from 8am to 5pm on Friday, and 10am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. Doug E is taking reservations.

Doug E is filling the projects for 2019-2020 Whittle-In calendar.

The Fargo Show is April 13-14. Information has been in e-mails and the Nov/Dec Newsletter. The classes look interesting and the show itself is always fun.

Don't forget the Wahpeton Carving Show either! It is June 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> this year. Many members and spouses attend as there are activities for everyone, accommodations and food are good and the atmosphere is welcoming to all.

Doug E reminded us that the snowsnakes are coming due. There are some outstanding.

**Buckstop Junction:** Snowed in.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:** Please be thinking of items to donate to the raffle for October's Show.

Doug E asked about having supper at the Radisson for the October Show and given the lack of response, it appears all are thinking that we should. It's always been well received.

Given that the October Show will be an important one for our history, Doug suggested several carvers to consider as the Master Instructor. One was *Cecilia Schiller* from Minneapolis. She carves puppets and automatons, and it could be seen as a tribute to Telle, if there is interest in carving puppets. Another was *Jay Haavik* from Seattle. His carvings are considered Norwegian/Scandinavian and NW Coast Native American. He often carves in relief. Third is *Harley Refsal*, who is considered a Scandinavian wood carver. He studies that style and has lived in Norway. He does flat plane carving and rough out. Some of his carving necessitates long handled tools. Finally, *Harold Enlow* an 'old timer' from Arkansas. He is a leading US carver and caricature specialist. In addition he has completed caricature and other study sticks for learning carvers.

**Heritage Center:** The exhibits should be up soon. There have been some internal difficulties in the heritage center which have caused some things, like this program, to be delayed, but everything appears to be back on track.

**Public Library:** Bob P is returning our exhibits today.

**Picnics in Summer:** yes

**Show and Tell:** Eric G brought an early example of the turtle he will be teaching for a project the next session.

Becky W brought a lovely box with an incised relief design and interesting joinery at the corners.

Vince made an intarsia sea turtle of several woods. Exquisite.

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net) .

Having no further business, Diane moved that the meeting be adjourned and Eric G seconded.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck, Secretary





### *February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

Usually about this time of year, in February near Valentine's Day, we carve Love Spoons. Bob P has designed them for us for several years. Last year, though, carved spoons seemed to be everywhere all year long. They were the subject of classes taken by Eric G and Luci, they were highlighted parts of carving shows in various places and even the subject of exhibits and books in the states and Canada. Sessions were held teaching wet carving, dry carving, and using different types of wood. Then there were regular spoons, ladles, butter knives and spreaders of various sizes. Finally, some were adorned with normal cultural designs like flowers and hearts progressing to more modern fire bursts from dragons or car exhausts depending on your point of view.

Bob P could have just designed a Love Spoon. His spoons are so well imagined, that would have satisfied everyone. Instead, he created a folding spoon. He had been telling us that about the idea, and there were at least 20 people to see how it was made. It has a simple, roundish bowl part and an uncomplicated pentagonal handle with a forward bending tip at the handle's end. The bent tip, I think, adds stability to the handle to keep it from breaking over the bowl when the two pieces are closed. Between the bowl and the handle is the semi circular hinge connecting the bowl and handle. The two parts from the bowl enclose around the projection from the handle and a small wire or rod passes through all three to make them one piece.

Bob had the wooden templates, cut out drawings to show how to proceed with the carving, and the hardware to go through the hinge. In addition, Bob brought a number of spoon examples with different treatments on their handles. Using kolrosing, one had a geometric pattern of curves and diamond shapes with the kolrosing laid on quite thickly, and another was incised with a leafy vine or branch. A third had a line of two hearts cut through the wood.

Everyone was enjoying the project. It was challenging but manageable with occasional help. The hinge was a newer concept for some. Bob made the rounds of the tables to make sure people understood what they should do.



**Bob's templates and drawings**



**Note the two different woods and the upturned handle ends**





**Working diligently.**



**Even when you're carving, there's always time to chat.**





**Bob P helping Mike with his spoon**

Eric G is working on a turtle for his project next week. With his front legs positioned right now stemming from his neck area, he will be a great sea turtle. I think he has a few more cuts to go in the shoulder area. The back legs look pretty much like they are more useful on land yet. I look forward to trying this carving. The poor thing had an accident to one of his back legs, but some quick doctoring with glue looks to have made it good as new.

Vince brought a turtle to Show and Tell that is also a sea turtle, and beautifully made one at that. The intarsia piece, comprised of four or five different types of wood has been polished until it gleams. The grain in the lower part of his back gives depth to his shell. Because it's 2-dimensional, we only see one front and one rear leg. Part of the front leg and neck are a cream color contrasting to the browns in the rest of the turtle. The set of his jaw and the total focus of his eye make him appear to be quite determined.



**Eric's turtle in progress with a mended back leg**



**Vince's single-minded turtle**



### **A wonderfully intricate box**

Becky W brought a box created by Peter Follansbee from Massachusetts. Follansbee reproduces furniture based on works done in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. He has been researching and demonstrating in this field for some 20 years. He is employed at the Plymouth Plantation in New England and has written a book called *Joiner's Work* on what he does. The box is made exclusively with hand tools and shows a number of carving and joining techniques.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In***

Eric G has been working on this turtle for awhile. He had a turtle project a couple of years ago, but this is a different iteration. He got his inspiration from one of the Christmas ornaments his mother brought back with her from a trip to Hawaii. It was a sea turtle made of woven palm fronds. It was not very thick and maybe the size of a drink coaster. Very Hawaiian looking, actually.



I was looking forward to this session. Eric's sea turtle looks easier to carve than his land turtle was. In addition, it does look like the sea turtles I remember seeing in Hawaii. Unfortunately, I was down with the flu, and the members who came were the ones who carve, not the ones who take photos. The photo below is the only one that I think was that evening, but I have a few others that I will make do double duty. I will use them here to augment this Whittle-In, and then where they belong as well.



**Eric's sea turtles**

Two species of sea turtle figure into Hawaiian lore and history. The hawksbill or *'ea* and the green or *honu* sea turtles are both mentioned in the creation narrative, but the green sea turtle is most often associated with Hawaii. In fact there is a distinct subpopulation that is associated with the Hawaiian Islands. The green turtle is one of the largest hard-shelled sea turtles, being 3-4 feet long and weighing an average of 300-350 pounds. The shell or carapace has a tear drop shape and is olive, dark brown or black in color, often with mottling, spot shapes or variegated rays. Green, their name, is associated with their fat layer rather than their outward color.

Green turtles are a migratory animal. They travel great distances to their breeding grounds. While the females mate every 2-4 years, males visit the breeding grounds each year. Females may breed 3-5 times in the season, however, and have 85-200 eggs in a clutch which they bury in a hole on the beach by the ocean. The hatchlings emerge 50-70 days later at night when the temperature and incubation conditions are right and make a break for the water. There are lots of predators waiting. The sex of the babies depends on the temperature. Warmer air temperatures and areas in the central, warmer part of the nest favor the production of females.

Babies are carnivores, spending several years in the open oceans, then juveniles settle into a shallow water way of life. At this age, green turtles are omnivorous. As adults they are herbivores and their trimming of seagrasses is an important component to the ecosystem, and the reason their fat layer is green. While green turtles need to breathe, they spend most of their time under water, even sleeping under rocks or coastal ledges.

Because green turtles live mostly under water, their eyesight is good there, but they are near sighted on land. While they see in color, they can't discern the part of the spectrum that is orange-red. They hear mostly by vibration. No sea turtle can retract its head into its shell the way land turtles can. Green sea turtles don't become sexually mature until they are between 20-30 years old and can live to past 80 years old. It is thought they have an internal magnetic compass to help them in their long migratory travels.

All sea turtles are threatened or endangered. Only 1% of green turtles reach maturity. Of course, that isn't the last of their problems. The green turtle along with other turtles, caught in fish nets normally drown. Beaches where breeding populations mate have become construction developments. In addition, although there are restrictions on eating turtle and their eggs, many people tend to ignore such laws for their own satisfaction.



**Turtle blanks, and finished turtles, one upside down showing how much to trim on the bottom**



**Vince's intarsia green sea turtle**



Eric had enough blanks, and gave directions on how to proceed with carving. He went around to the various tables and helped people as they needed. Now that I've learned a bit about sea turtles, I think that Vince's turtle is a green turtle.

I am sorry anyone who had Show and Tell items, I have no record of what was shown or photos. Bring the items in again, though and we can remedy that.

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### *Heritage Center*

#### *Hall of Carving, 2019*

In the small side hallway, just outside the Governor's Gallery in the Heritage Center, The Flickertail Woodcarvers have an exhibit highlighting a few of the many aspects of woodcarving.

Although the display, titled *Chisels and Shavings*, was delayed for a month or so, the results are quite worth the wait. The exhibit is defined by two small wooden walls jutting into the hallway, one on either side. The title is shown on one wall and a small glass case, like a foyer into a larger room, is on the other wall. It shows the most recent carvings of three veteran carvers, fox, horse, dog and caricature, along with similar carvings of those subjects when the men were first starting in the 1980s and 1990s. The idea is that with time and a work, anyone can improve in carving.

Behind that wall, so on the left side of the room, is a glass case containing examples of everyday carvings. There is everything from a boot to a small carousel of dala horses, people and animals in various poses, and a walking stick.



**Early carvings mixed with ones showing more expertise**



**Many carvings detail people and animals in everyday activities**



### **The evolution of a carving and the tools to accomplish it**

The case in the back left corner includes several carving progressions. A man, a fish and a graduate are shown from the beginning blank or template through several iterations down to the finished, painted product. Also in the case are the normal carving tools, and accessories, protective glove and thumb guard, and in a small area in the back, the types of wood.

To the right of that is a tall case that shows how carving has changed and how it has remained the same. It also reveals how past carving has inspired and influenced today's carvers. At the top of the case is a puppet made by Telle Rudser in the 1930s next to a plesiosaur whose head and neck, tail and fins are able to move and be repositioned in a more fluid motion than the puppet. Further, staining has improved allowing more original color. Detailing has improved with the older fisherman on a mid shelf using fishing line and the newer man under him having his catch on a chain, and the smaller bison at the bottom being more true-to-life, showing the heavy pelt hair on his back. On the other hand, painting on the more recent plate near the center of the case is similar to the paint on the letter opener and stamp dispenser next to it.





### **Carving examples through time**

In the right corner on the back wall the case exhibits some of the utilitarian items wood carving makes. Besides the huge ladle and spoons, there is a carved Norwegian tine box with a sea serpent, an Icelandic food container, a beautiful chip carved jewelry box, a reliquary with a religious medal inside and a Finnish cup or Kuksa, still a favorite especially when camping.

On the right hand wall towards the back center is a case hanging on the wall. Being the only wall hanging case, much smaller than the rest, and with only two pieces inside, it draws your attention as a focal point in the room. Within is a cottonwood bark house, tall, complex and exquisite. A small outbuilding or outhouse is down the hill. The colored pine tree at its side adds to the scene.



### **A fantastic house**

Finally, the glass case on the right hand wall just behind the wooden partition is filled with spoons. Spoons have been a dominant theme in carving lately, and this showcases the variety in carving from love spoons, to chip carved, to kolrosted, to elaborate; in type from regular spoons, to ladles, to spatulas, to spreaders; in types of wood from basswood, to walnut, to lilac, to sumac. This one utilitarian (usually) item can run the gamut of what a simple carving can encompass.



**A myriad amount of spoons**



# The Curling Chip

March-April 2019

## FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

PO BOX 7473

BISMARCK ND 58507-7473



Check out the Summer Event Calender for Whittle-In Picnics at Sertoma Park as well as other events such as Cross Ranch State Park, July 27; Capital A'Fair, August 3-4; Harvest Feed at Buckstop Junction, August 17; and Applefest at Buckstop Junction, September 28-29. BAGA will be having a Pyrography Workshop on September 7<sup>th</sup>. For the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Whittle-In, Becky's project was a tail wagging dog. Cliff's Mar 19<sup>th</sup> project were a wizard and Santa Claus. The April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting featured a prehistoric trilobite by Becky B and Bob P taught a tool sharpening class on April 16<sup>th</sup>. For questions or

future articles send your info to Tom/Diane Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net).

BAGA submitted the pyrography article, several photos were from Facebook and information on projects used the internet.

Good Carving! Newsletter Team: Tom Turck and Diane Lehman Turck



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

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

**Pintress -**

<https://www.pinterest.com/flickertailwoodcarvers/>

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.



DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL

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



# Event Calendar

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

Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday carving at Edgewood Vista from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

[www.flickertail.org](http://www.flickertail.org)

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| June 18, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| June 21-23, 2019   | Wahpeton Carving Weekend  |
| July 16, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| July 27, 2019      | Cross Ranch State Park, carving demo<br>Doug Emerson Coordinator                        |
| August 3 & 4, 2019 | Capital Art Affair, carving demo,<br>Becky Weisgerber Coordinator                       |
| August 20, 2019    | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| August 17, 2019     | Harvest Feed at Buckstop Junction, carving demo,<br>Mike Knudson Coordinator  |
| September 7, 2019   | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Larry Graf  |
| September 7, 2019   | Pyrography Workshop 8:00 AM-4:00PM<br>Julie Bender, BAGA, Register by 8/6/19  |
| September 8, 2019   | Heritage Center Sensational Sunday, talk on pyrography by Julie<br>Bender, 2:00 PM  |
| September 17, 2018  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Perry Cook   |
| September 28 and 29 | Applefest at Buckstop Junction, carving<br>demos, Dale Heglund Coordinator  |
| October 5, 2019     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Donna Grunett   |
| October 12-13, 2019 | Flickertail Woodcarving Show<br>50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Show<br>Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy<br><b>Feature Carver</b> , Oct 10-13 will be Jay Haavik<br>Project – Nordic style carving<br><b>Non-Carving Class</b> – Teri Stegmiller – fabric painting<br><b>Weekend Carver</b> – Karen Henderson – spoon carving |
| October 15, 2019    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Vince Bitz   |
| November 2, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mike Knudson  |
| November 19, 2019   | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Smith   |
| December 7, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Diane and Tom Turck   |
| December ??, 2019   | Christmas Party – _____ Coordinators  |



|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| December 17, 2019 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes            |
| January 4, 2020   | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes |
| January 21, 2020  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Cliff Orgaard                        |
| February 1, 2020  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Bob Pedigo, love spoon    |
| February 18, 2020 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Eric Gaasland                        |
| March 7, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Becky Weisgerber          |
| March 17, 2020    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Becky Barnes                         |
| April 4, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Ed Ryan                   |
| April 21, 2020    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Marlene Moser                        |
| April ??, 2020    | Fargo Carving Show  |
| April/May         | Spring Carving Class by Rick and Cathy Brereton                       |
| May 2, 2020       | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mitch Olson               |
| May 19, 2020      | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Warren Schlecht                      |

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## *Correction*

### *January-February Newsletter, 2019*

In the article on the Lutefisk Dinner, January 26, 2019, I misidentified Dave Phillips as Dave Mathews. I regret the error. Dale's guess that it had to do with the Dave Mathews Band is at least a theory. I can't come up with anything. Again, I am sorry for the error.

Diane

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## *Coming Attractions*

This is an abbreviated reiteration of parts of the event Calendar for the summer and fall with added color. Not much, of course; flashing lights are impossible. Still, sometimes we read things without paying much attention, and here is lots of fun.

### [Learning:](#)

Wahpeton Carving Weekend, June 21-23

4-4:30 teardown

Bender Pyrography Class, Saturday September 7

Heritage Center Sensational Sunday - Pyrography Lecture, September 8

Possible chainsaw carving class with at least an eagle feather at Dale's, unknown date as yet

**Flickertail Woodcarving Show**, October 10-13, Jay Haavik carving, Teri Stegmiller fabric painting and 12-13 Karen Henderson spoon carving

## Demonstrations (usually 2-3 hour shifts):

Heritage Center Carving Exhibition: anytime someone has a couple of hours, they can set up a table in front of the exhibits and carve. Interact with visitors from Bismarck throughout the world and describe what you do, and what is in the exhibit. June 19-into the winter

Cross Ranch State Park, July 27 Doug E Coordinator (let Doug know if are coming)

Capital A'Fair, August 3-4 Becky Weisgerber Coordinator (needs sign up people see below [vortenjou@bis.midco.net](mailto:vortenjou@bis.midco.net))

Sat Aug 3 10-6,

9am setup

10-12

12-2

2-4

4-6

Sun Aug 4 10-4

10-12

12-2

2-4 (tear down)

Harvest Feed at Buckstop Junction, August 17 Mike Knudson Coordinator

Applefest at Buckstop Junction, September 28-29 Dale Heglund Coordinator

(The Buckstop boys [Mike and Dale above] could use some help as well)

**Flickertail Woodcarving Show**, October 12-13 tables for carvers

## Picnics at Sertoma #4

June 18 (done)

July 16

August 20



Unknown date Taste of Italy Wine and Snack Bar at Dale and Jen's house  
following chainsaw carving class

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## *Pyrography Workshop*

*Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>*

Bismarck Art & Galleries Association (BAGA) invites you to join national, award-winning artist Julie Bender for her one-day pyrography (woodburning) workshop where students receive a strong foundation in theory of pyrography and technique. Students with and without experience are welcomed and will receive step-by-step instruction in wood surface preparation, burn-tip choice, technique and problem solving. Expect to create a finished work of art! The class fee is \$125.00 and includes all supplies except the woodburner. Bender recommends the Walnut Hollow brand that is available through Michaels or Hobby Lobby. Class will be held from 8 am – 4 pm on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at the gallery, 422 E. Front Avenue. Registration is due no later than **August 6<sup>th</sup>** so the artist can be sure to have the appropriate number of other materials for attendees.

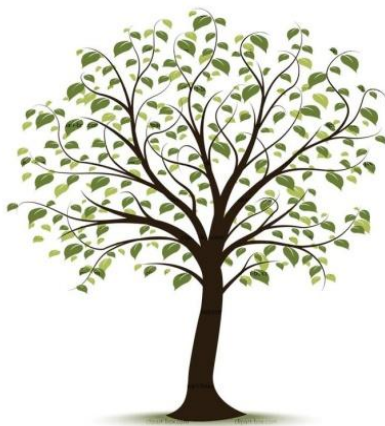
In conjunction with the Flickertail Woodcarver's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Bender will also be giving a talk on the subject of pyrography on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm as a part of the Heritage Center's Sensational Sunday's programming. She will also have an exhibit of her artwork at BAGA September 3-28, with an opening reception September 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm that is open to the public and free of charge.

You can view Bender's spectacular artwork at [www.juliebender.com](http://www.juliebender.com). For further information on any of the above programs please call BAGA at 223-5986 or email [baga@midconetwork.com](mailto:baga@midconetwork.com).

Thanks to BAGA for the article

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## *Monthly Summer Whittle-Ins at Sertoma Park*



### *Come Out & Play*

**Location:** Sertoma Park Shelter #4

**Dates:** The third Tuesday of the month = **June 18 (just held), July 16, and August 20**

**Time:** Around 5:30pm-8pm: Come when you can, leave when you have to go.

**Food:** Bring a dish for pot-luck. Plates, napkins, cups and utensils provided. Eric provided enough sandwich fixin's for June that everyone could have had a Dagwood sandwich. If you haven't food (no time or forgot), just come. There will be plenty to share.

**Drink:** Bring your own. It is a public park, so no alcohol, and no glass drinking bottles. Anything else is fine.

**Projects:** We always can use hearts for the Cancer Center. In general, though, bring something you want to work on. It can be carving, painting, or other activities like sewing, beading etc. There will be woodcarvers to help visitors who want to learn to carve, as well. If you're between projects, you can always pull out one from that 1/2 finished pile that everyone has.

**Requirements:** Bring yourself. Bring your wife, husband and/or friend. Everyone is welcome. Come to relax and have fun. Laugh, converse with friends, eat, do some carving or crafting, learn a little, even play on the nearby swings.

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## ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Eric G opened the meeting with approximately 18 people present. As with most of this winter, it is extremely cold this morning.

The project Becky W presented was a dog wagging his tail.

**Edgewood Vista:** Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. Coming dates are June 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, and July 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Cancer Hearts:** Please keep making hearts when you have a chance.

**Newer members:** Crystal, Katherine and Dave, who are recent joiners of the club, were present today.

**Secretary's Report:** Diane summarized February's notes. Becky W moved the notes be approved, Tom seconded the motion. It was passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren reported that we have \$6900.41 currently in our account. Diane moved and Eric T seconded motion to approve. Passed. Eric T has completed the audit and found all in order. Warren noted that our finances from year to year are stable, which is very good.

**Membership:** Doug estimates there are 75-80 members.

**Library:** The library is even more user friendly with Cliff's reference resource.

**Property:** Vince has completed an inventory. Everything is fine.

**Publicity:** Becky W says no change.

**Facebook:** Eric G says everything is up to date.



**Website/Instagram:** Becky B says the Website is getting more feedback, and Instagram continues to get new followers. Both are good for the club. The Lutfisk pictures are up.

**Historian:** Clara is snowbirding.

**Buckstop Junction:** Was snowbound last month and is likely to be so now as well.

**Elections:** Thanks to the nominating committee and to those who agreed to be elected to new or continuing positions.

**Whittle-In Projects:** Doug E works with the membership to fill Whittle-In projects for the year. He typically does that during election season. Most of the slots have been already taken, however, if you haven't yet volunteered, or you have a project that would be fun to present, please check with Doug.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:** As President, Eric G will not have time to run the Raffle for the annual show in October. Becky W has agreed to be in charge, and Diane will help. We need people to be thinking about projects that they can donate. This is the Anniversary year, so maybe we can showcase some of the items as a draw for attendance and show publicity. To get the tickets ready, though, *we have to get them to the printer soon.*

**Heritage Center:** The display of carvings is up in the hallway just outside the Governor's Showroom. It is quite well done. Different types of carvings, cultural carvings and, of course, spoons of a variety of woods and styles are represented. It's free, not far from downtown, surrounded by other engaging exhibits and well worth the visit.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Becky B started the conversation about having people carve near the exhibit for several hours on weekends, when people are more likely to be there. We can demonstrate carving and answer questions. It would give carvers a specific time to carve, which can be helpful. Like any other demonstration, it would be voluntary. We could decide on specific weekends or days during summer vacation. Seeing people work at a project, even occasionally, adds to the experience for the audience. Sign-up sheets could be available.

**Spring Classes:** From May 17-19 Flickertails will hold classes at the Heritage Center. The main class will feature Bob Pedigo carving a wolf's head in the round. The other will be an artist led colored pencil class. The sessions will begin on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 8am-5pm, and Saturday and Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am-5pm. There is one seat left in the wolf carving class and the colored pencil class is full. Doug E has the list for reservations.

**Other Carving Venues:** The Fargo Show is April 13-14. Information has come out in e-mails and the Nov/Dec Newsletter. The classes look interesting and the show itself looks fun.

Eric G notes there is a 2 day Butternut carving class in Duluth, MN on May 25-26. The proposed project is a nutcracker. He hasn't more details, but anyone interested could find out and send an e-mail or report on it next meeting.

Another show of note is a Spoon Gathering in Milan, MN from June 6-8.

The Wahpeton Carving Show June 21-23 is a yearly weekend that many of Flickertails attend. It has a delightful cross section of classes in wood carving, plus a wide variety of other crafts. The food is quite pleasant as are the accommodations. It is a lovely weekend for couples and friends. Everyone enjoys the experience.

**Old Business:** The Capital A'Fair in August needs a new organizer. Bob P has done it for a number of years, and someone else needs a turn. It involves setting up the booth on Friday, finding volunteers for Saturday and Sunday shifts, and closing the booth Sunday afternoon.

Name tags. Becky B kindly carved rectangles in the shape of North Dakota for all of us to decorate with our names. The club is gaining new members, but some of us have trouble with our own names much less others. As Becky pointed out, there is a huge variety of styles! Chip carving, kolrosing, intarsia or inlay, relief carving, pyrography to name popular ones; please do as you want. Experiment with fonts or colors as well.

**New Business:** Flickertails demonstrates at Cross Ranch at the Cottonwood Bluegrass Festival every year. This year the event is on July 27. Doug E, Clara

and several other members have attended each year. Everyone is welcome to come, eat and hear the music.

Dave, one of our newer members, will be demonstrating for the Sons of Norway.

If anyone has ideas of other groups, including cultural groups, who might appreciate learning something about carving, or might have members who would like to join us as part of his or her heritage, let us know.

We have been fortunate in the volunteers who fill the elected roles for the club. Many agree to continue filling the role the next time around, and they are excellent in their jobs. Still, think of a job you would consider taking and perhaps offer to shadow the person in it to acquaint yourself with its duties.

Other carving. If one knows how to look, which I understand a number of us have no idea, there are other shows and seminars for carving being held. Please let Eric G know if you find something interesting, and he can pass it along. That will help all of us, particularly the computer inefficient. It can be posted on our sites, e-mailed or put in the newsletter.

In Evart, MI from June 10-14 (Monday-Friday) Floyd Fest is a collection of classes by well known carvers doing projects ranging from birds to bark carving to wood burning. Floyd Rhadigan will be teaching caricature. There are hotel rooms available as well as camping spots.

Another is Carv-Fest in Faribault, MN which shows about 20 classes, some covering all three days, and some for only one day. You can sign up to fill openings from Thursday to Saturday, August 10-12. Carving projects as well as painting and beginning stained glass are listed.

The Vesterhim, the National Norwegian-American Museum and Heritage Center in Decorah, Iowa has classes in folk arts including wood carving, rosemaling and painting, needlework and fiber arts throughout the year.

Another idea Becky B brought up in conjunction with social media was creating short videos. These could be created for one of our social media pages or for a YouTube site or a Twitch platform. While a video could be longer, they only need to be a few minutes or less. She points out that they could emphasize real people

saying why they like carving, what do they like to carve etc. showing hands, hearing sounds of carving. Besides individuals, some clips could show bunches of carvers talking or doing. These types of things will generate interest and bring in new members. She has the equipment we would need to do this.

**Show and Tell:** Eric T, Eric G and Becky B had the Show and Tell items for the session. If you recall, Eric T has been working on two stallions fighting in sparsely vegetated loose or sandy soil. He has completed the tableau and it radiates the energy of the combatants.

Eric G brought turtle blanks and some completed turtles from his lesson last time. That was nice as I was sick, and now have a blank to try to fashion a turtle.

While Eric G brought turtle blanks from last time, Becky B brought some examples of prehistoric animals, one of which will be an upcoming project. Trilobites were marine animals that flourished during the Paleozoic. Becky is working on two of their body types, one with regular eyes and one with eye stalks to present for carving. She is also carving a triceratops just for fun. They lived in the late Cretaceous around the time of T. rex.

In addition she had magnetic stickers with a flickertail and flickertail carving for anyone wanting to attach them to something for advertisement of the club.

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net). Having no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck, Secretary

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### *March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

Becky Weisgerber has been working on her project at least since January. The basic part is a dog, paws down and rear up in a yoga “down dog” position. He looks like he’s raring to play. The difference with this fellow is that his tail wags. Becky devised two types of tail. One is a straight tail like that of a pointer dog. The other has a feathery top like a setter dog. Since the carving of the dog is



somewhat non-descript as to breed, either type of tail is appropriate. A pin through the tail is balanced on either side of the dog's haunches.

Everything we would need to make the dog was laid out the table. There were rectangular blocks with holes at one end for the tail and smaller blocks for the tail. Pins and weights were available to attach to the tail. In addition to directions, there was carbon paper to draw the dog on the block.



### **Eric G making a perfect target for teasing next to the project blocks**

With Becky's dog, the tail acts as a pendulum and the weight at the end is the bob, which swings side to side because of gravity. The pendulum converts potential energy at the top of the swing into kinetic energy while it swings down. As it returns to the high point on the other side, it has stored potential energy. Then the cycle repeats. Theoretically, if there were no air resistance, the pendulum could swing forever in that same arc. However, the air does cause friction and drag, so the tail eventually stops.



**Dog set-up with his wagging tail**



**Perry drawing the dog on his block**







**Eric T's Stallions fighting**

One of the carvings that has been interesting to watch lately as it progressed from a block of wood to a finished piece is Eric T's wild horse fight. The stallions are in a well choreographed battle with pounding hooves and sand or loose soil churning. Their ears are back and their teeth are bared. The only thing missing is a group of mares calmly eating a small distance away.

Other pieces included past Whittle-in and future Whittle-in projects. Eric G had a number of sea turtles from his previous session. Regular basswood and a cottonwood bark trio look like they are arriving at or leaving the beach during the egg laying process. Below the knife at the bottom of the photo is a turtle blank, which is good for those of us unable to get one earlier.

Becky B will be showing us how to carve a trilobite marine creature next month and has been working on those as well as a triceratops. So, a trilobite lived in oceans before dinosaurs existed, and a triceratops lived on land during the last age of the dinosaurs. Both pretty amazing animals to investigate.

Becky has two trilobites finished. They both sort of look like a cross between a pill bug and a horseshoe crab, but the one has its eyes on stalks. Her triceratops is



just roughed out, the back portion of its body covered in small, irregular shaped chips, its face not yet defined by the three horns in its name.

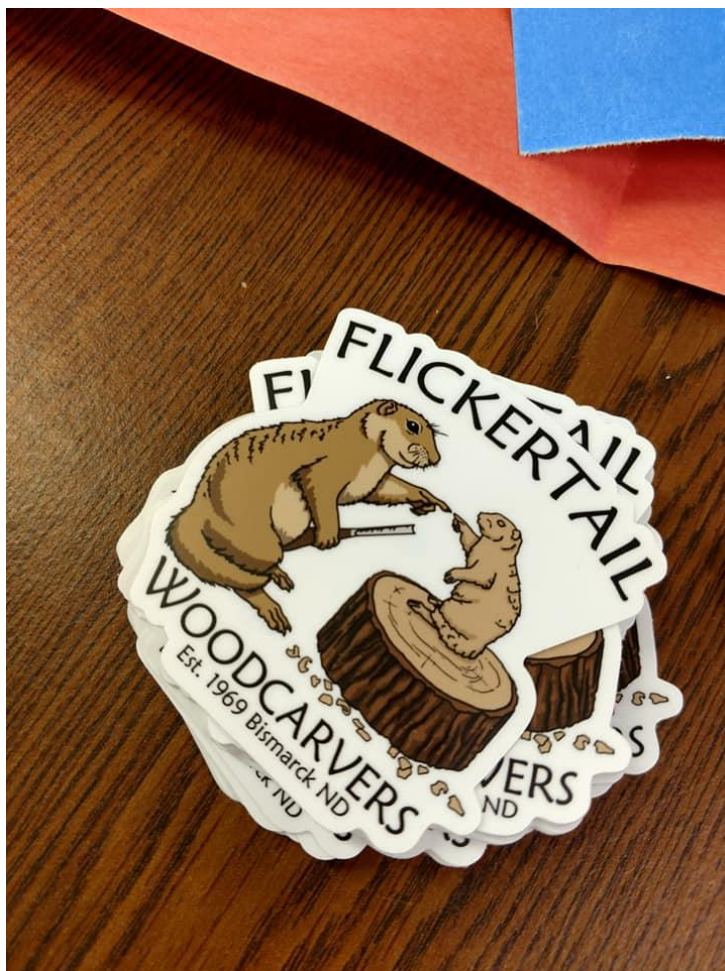


**Traveling sea turtles**



**Trilobites in the lower left, and a triceratops in the upper right corner**

Finally, Becky also had stickers with our flickertail for anyone wanting to advertise our club.



**Good advertisement**

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### ***March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In***

Cliff Orgaard presented us with a delightful little carving called the “Quick Wizard” from the summer 2017 issue of Woodcarving Illustrated. There were about 20 people attending the gathering including Luci’s young daughter Elizabeth. It was a pretty laid back session. The carving uses a column of basswood 1”x1”x6”. The only tools needed are a carving knife, a small V tool, a ruler and a pencil. Cliff had the directions copied on a sheet of paper for carvers to

take, and they were easy to decipher. Measurements were given along the front and back corners, and the carving itself was broken down into nine steps. Cliff had given us a head start with the measurements drawn on the wood. A painting guide for this particular wizard was included.



### **Cliff's finished wizard and Santa**

Cliff made two figures for us to use as examples, one the wizard and one a simple Santa. Other similar types of characters, such as dwarves or old men, could be fashioned from the same pattern. Cliff was available to help anyone where needed. Everyone enjoyed the project.

Several people had brought items to share with the rest of the carvers. One was an exquisite mask that Bob P and his wife Karen bought on a visit to the Superstition Mountains in Arizona. Some of the artisans there were from Oaxaca, Mexico. Bob purchased this well-executed, creatively designed jaguar. The talented piece is a pleasure to see. It is crafted from the wood of the copal tree.

Mike K has fashioned his name tag from the templates that Becky B furnished all of us so that we could be identified to each other as well as the public stopping by at demonstrations. He also has the sea turtle from Eric G's project, complete with



an inscribed shell and painted green. Finally he had the folding spoon from Bob P's lesson with his initial carved in the handle.



**Bob P with his jaguar mask**





**Mike, the self identified St Louis Cardinals fan**

A second spoon was present, a true love spoon carved with hearts and a leaf with berries. The leaf and berries are usually grape and signify a tie to Christianity. The spoon bowl is long and gentle in shape. It seems to be made of butternut, and a girl would be fortunate to receive such a beautifully made totem of affection.

Then, the last two spoons were carved by Donna. Both are lovely in their simplicity. One is a folding spoon, crafted with care and preserved. A decorative infinity symbol is on the handle. The other, a bit smaller than the folding spoon, is a stylized feather. The vane part of the feather is the handle, and the rachis starts at the bowl and travels through the vane. It looks like it would be the size of a salt cellar spoon.



**Mike's finished Whittle In projects**



**Dainty love spoon**



Larry has a series of boxes he got from Kim, the husband of Char, who came with Jan Jensen to teach chip carving two years ago. Kim makes the boxes and blanks for the projects in Jan's book, and he also sells blanks and other items to the public at large. Only about 3" square, the boxes are comprised of a dark and a light wood, nicely sealed, joined by a plain box joint and the top closes with magnets. Very elegant, they would be a place for a few pieces of jewelry or a keepsake.

From one of the past carving classes, a roughed out older cowboy caricature in a great coat and hat appeared on one of the tables. His expression is somewhat introspective. Not remembering who he belonged to, I tried to discover but failed. If he is yours, let me know and I will add you as his owner in a future newsletter. (The same goes with the small love spoon).



**Donna's two spoons**



**Series of keepsake  
boxes**



**Roughed out cowboy**



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### ***BAGA Chip Carving Exhibit***

***March 26-April 19, 2019***

The Bismarck Art and Galleries Association's last exhibit included three artists. One of them was Rick Hermes who spent his childhood in Bismarck, but now lives in Puyallup, WA. As a wood turner, he took two chip carving courses from Wayne Barton while on a cruise to Norway. From that experience, he has been an expert chip carver since 2012, using his engineering skills to design wonderful chip carvings. He has received many first place awards in juried shows, particularly in Washington, Oregon and Arizona. Recently he has begun to try his hand at Northwest Coast Carving.



**Some of the chip carved pieces at the gallery**



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## *Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers*

*April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church*

Dale, standing in for Eric G, called the meeting to order. There were about 16 people present.

Becky Barnes debuted her trilobite project for the Whittle-In.

**Edgewood Vista:** Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. Coming dates are June 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, and July 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Cancer Hearts:** Please keep making hearts when you have a chance.

**Guests/Newer members:** Keith and his son Julius dropped in. Keith had been a member of the club previously, and thinks he may return.

**Secretary's Report:** Diane summarized March's notes. Perry moved and Ed seconded that the notes be passed. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren reported that we have recently received \$125 from memberships and we have \$7100 even in our account. Bob P moved and Diane seconded the report be passed. Accepted.

**Membership:** Doug S says 74 members have paid. A few latecomers may be still straggling in.

**Property:** Question from Vince about U and V gauges in property. Answer: they were from previous kits that were organized for new members, but gauges aren't normally put in intro kits anymore.

**Library:** Check out Cliff's new reference pamphlet.

**Publicity:** Ok

**Facebook:** Doing fine.

**Website/Instagram:** A motion was made by Becky B to buy the defunct Flickertails.org for \$120.00 and conjoin it with Flickertailwoodcarvers.org. Vince moved the motion be adopted. Ed seconded the motion. Passed on a voice ballot.

**Buckstop Junction:** No activity yet, but seasons are changing.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:** Please be thinking of items to donate to the raffle for October's Show.

Jay Haavik will be our Master Woodcarver doing relief carving in Scandinavian style. It will be done in mahogany.

**Programs:** **Spring Classes:** The carving class will feature Bob Pedigo carving a wolf's head in the round from Friday May 17 through Sunday May 19 and is full. A colored pencil class will be going on at the same time and that is also full. They will be held at the Heritage Center from 8am to 5pm on Friday, and 10am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. Doug E is taking names for cancellations.

**New Business:** The Parks and Rec has agreed for us to use Sertoma #4 for third Tuesday of the month in June, July and August for our pot lucks

Don brought some purple heart wood and basswood that Lyle Warner had been using to fashion cancer hearts before he died. His wife is trying to sell some of it. People were invited to bid on it. Some of it was sold.

**Old Business:** None.

**Show and Tell:** With the trilobite project, Becky B brought a number of casts of the marine creatures.

Bob P brought the jaguar he had last time which was good because a lot of people didn't get to see it. He bought it in the Superstition Mountains, but it was carved out of copal in by a woman from Oaxaca.

Dave provided us with a look at a blue Dala-like horse. Not yet decorated with rosmaling, the horse is also stylistically different and with a smaller head.

Dale has a rosmaled lunch box from Scandinavia. The lath of wood forming the sides appears to be sewn with wood or root fiber. It is fragile, and we didn't open it.

And, Dale has a chain saw feather with an eagle's head. He is proposing to do a chain saw class later this summer at his house. Vince or another carver may be willing to help him.

Besides the feather we also had a chain saw marlin. The fish's finer details were done with a gauge and then it was stained or had finish applied.

Doug is finishing a well-conceived folding spoon learned in Bob P's February class.

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net).

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck, Secretary

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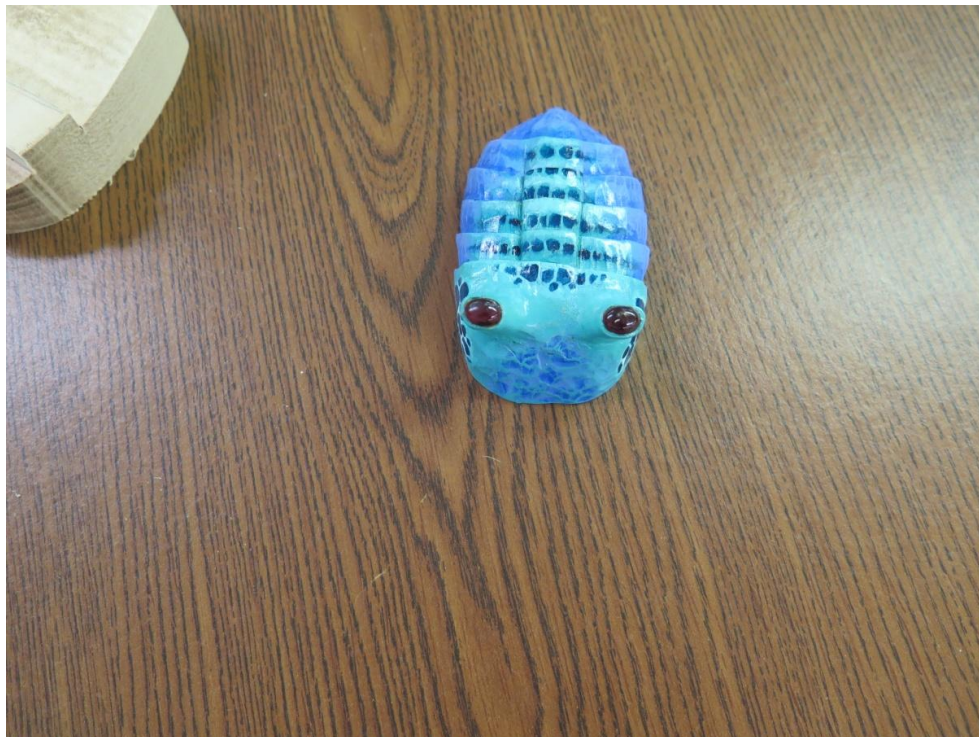
### *April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Whittle-In*

A paleontologist as well as a wood carver, Becky Barnes has been playing with prehistoric animal carvings for some time. The Age of Dinosaurs is compelling. Back in January at the Heritage Center, we learned about several of Becky's summer digs involving remains of T. rex, and Becky has recently been carving a triceratops for the fun of it. Those two animals are often displayed in museums, including ours, in fights to the death. Very dramatic. Before dinosaurs, however, which existed in the Mesozoic era, there was a huge expanse of history even longer called the Paleozoic. Towards the start of that era, in the Cambrian period a creature called the trilobite appeared. The trilobite was one of the most successful of early marine animals, living for 300 million years and even before. Most of us have seen timelines on TV or in books; we know that human existence is a drop in the bucket compared to the ocean expanse of the earth's actual timeline. Trilobites occupied a lot of that early time. Trilobites are a form of arthropod which includes insects, spiders, crustaceans and others. That means they have exoskeletons, and have segmented bilateral bodies.





**Cast of a typical trilobite**



**A stylized trilobite with eye stalks (template with casts in the corner)**

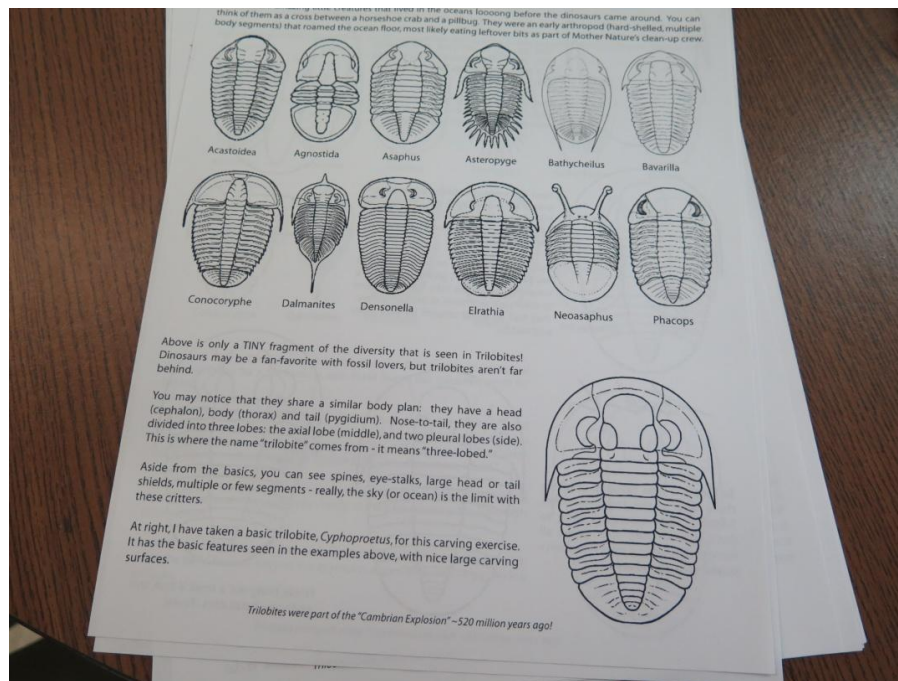
As you might guess from their name, trilobite bodies had three lobes. The central lobe was distinct and ran longitudinally between the two others. Its body was also marked by three regions, the head, the thorax and the tail. In order to grow, a trilobite had to shed its exoskeleton. One reason trilobite fossils are so numerous is the exoskeletons they left behind. By the time we can recognize the trilobite in the fossil record, it had been around for a long time. When first known, it was already extremely widespread and there was a wide diversity in body types. For instance, most trilobites had compound eyes, in addition, at least one of them had eye stalks up to 3 inches long, but others had no eyes at all. Some were active hunters, but there were numerous scavengers and plankton eaters too. While some trilobite bodies had more equal representations of head, thorax and tail regions, others had huge heads like horseshoe crabs, or barely any middle at all. The ones with spikes around their bodies or at strategic locations of the head and tail were probably more predatory. The countless different species have been located in fossils around the world wherever Paleozoic ocean remnants occur.



**Common size trilobite templates without eye stalks and casts**



Becky B had templates for trilobites with and without eye stalks, and directions along with depictions of several different trilobites.



**Description sheet of trilobites**

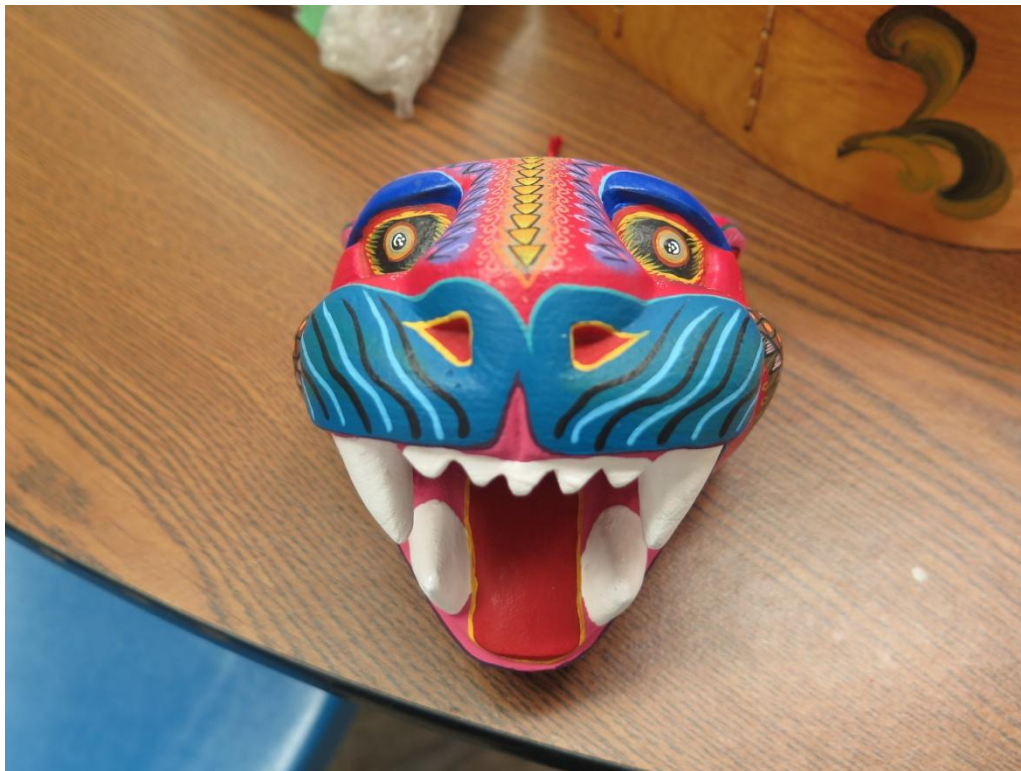


**Carvers including Keith and his son Julius**

There was a good mix of regular and newer members at the meeting. One person, Keith, had been a past member, and he visited with his son Julius. They looked like they were enjoying themselves and said they would return. It was a nice session.

Along with the monthly meeting, there were a number of Show and Tell items brought in. First up were the trilobite casts that Becky B used to illustrate what common trilobites looked like. Earlier in this article there are a couple of pictures of them as well as other information.

Making a return performance was Bob P's jaguar. Although he brought it to the previous meeting, because he left early not many people saw it. He found it on a trip to the Superstition Mountains in Arizona. It is made from the copal tree (*Busea bipinnata* and *glabrifolia*) that grows in Mexico and part of Central America and is used by artisans in Oaxaca. Copal is also the name of a type of resin that occurs in tropical areas such as Oaxaca, but is from a completely different tree. The beautiful pattern of the painting sometimes takes a week to finish and each design is unique.



**A well-painted jaguar from Oaxaca by way of the Superstitions**



Dave Phillips showed a blue Dala-like horse. The body is more angular than that of a regular Dala horse, and the head is different in style but interesting in concept. It hasn't any decoration or rosmaling, but the bright blue precludes the need for other adornment.

The first of Dale's Show and Tell items uses oranges and greens from the color wheel for a flower and leaf motif to highlight an old fashioned Scandinavian lunch box. Oval in shape, it has a handle for carrying and is latched by a wooden mechanism on either side. A lath, probably 6 to 8 inches in height was formed into the ovate sides of the box and double stitched with wood strips or thin roots. Because it is fragile, we didn't try to open it.

And for something much larger, we have Dale's chainsawed feather with an eagle's head at the tip. Its black eye and black accents to the beak and feather vanes add personality. The rachis stands out as polished from the more worked feather, and the whole thing is stained.



**An abstract Dala horse**



**An older lunch box with rosmaling**



**The top of the photo shows Dale's eagle feather**



### **A marlin visiting our meeting**

Our second chainsaw piece of art is a marlin. It even has the tail fins swept up on the back part of the fish's body the way many pictures show them. Its pectoral fins lie along underside of the upper body. The tail fins, pectorals and a few other areas are stained a lighter color than the caramel color of the remainder of the fish. A gouge was used to add the eye mark, gills and fins. Very well done.

The final carving item is a folding spoon. Doug E has been working on a couple of them since Bob P's class in February. The picture besides showing a spoon in the midst of being well fashioned also is a good illustration of the way a good carver should wear a glove and thumb protection for safety.

Not for Show and tell, but boxes of Lyle's purple heart wood and cottonwood bark were available for a nominal cost.





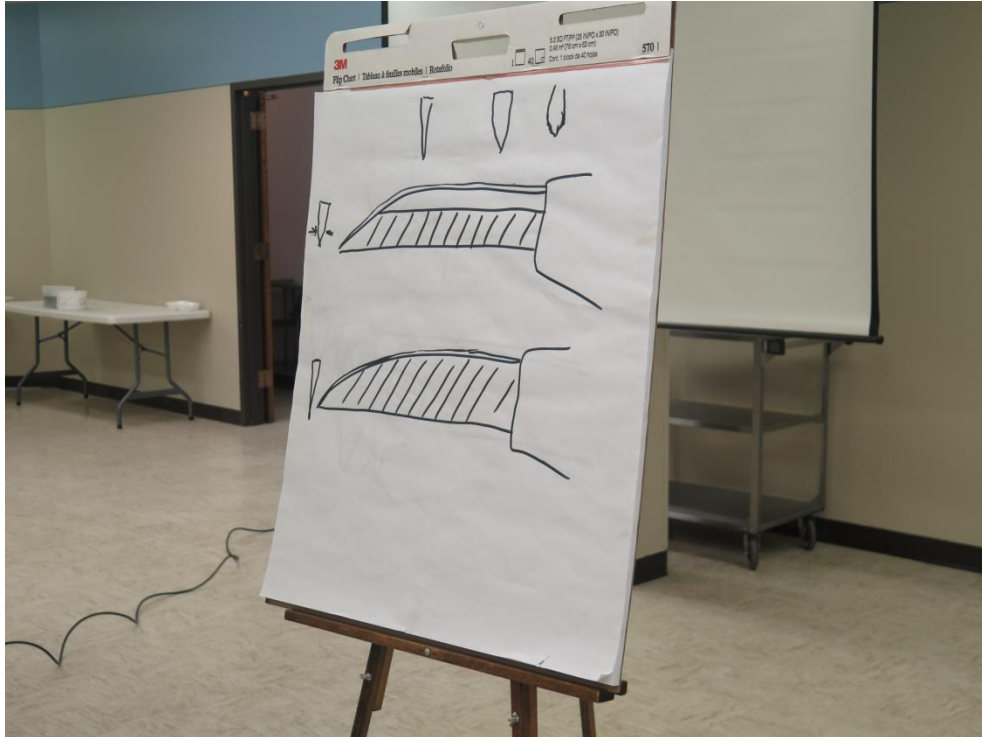
**Doug creating another folding spoon**

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### *April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

Rather than having a project for this Whittle-In, Bob Pedigo went through techniques for sharpening carving tools. The three principal types of tools are knives, gouges and V-tools (also called V gouges). For regular sharpening, Bob has three diamond stones: a coarse, medium and fine stone. Other than that he uses a leather strop. Some people put oil on their stones, but he doesn't. When sharpening, you lay the blade flat, push it away from you, and then flip it, lay it flat and pull it towards you. Because the wood we typically use is basswood or a soft hard wood the bevel of the knife should be the width of the blade.

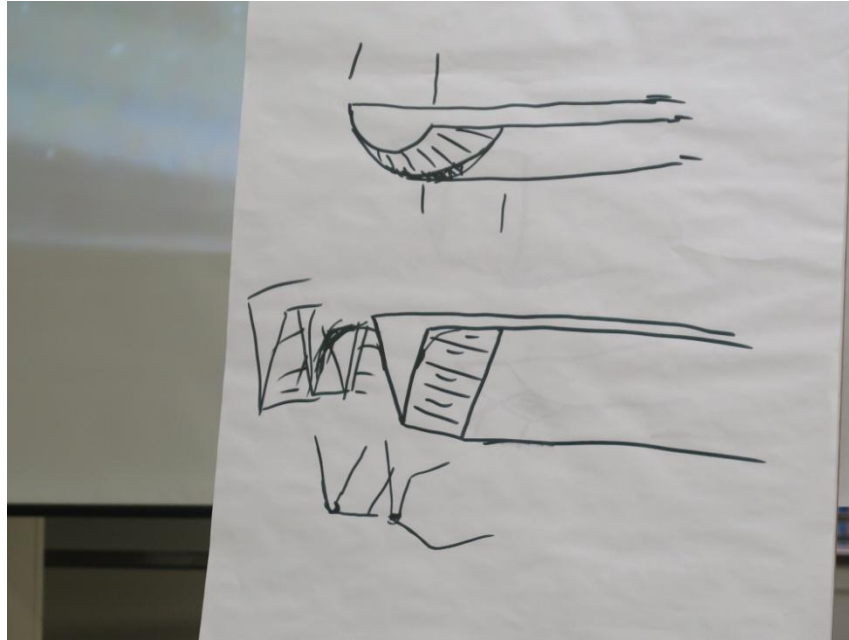




### **New blade on top, desired fuller bevel on bottom**

A new carving knife's bevel only goes part way up to blade. In order to complete a flat bevel, a sharpening wheel is best. When using a sharpening wheel, you might want to use eye protection. Bob uses magnifying lenses to see the knife edge more closely. He also wets the wheel to keep it from getting overheated. When finished he wants the blade straight ground from the tip to the haft.

With gouges and V-tools, only sharpen the outside, and in taking down the bevel, make sure to involve the width of the tool. Put one corner, raised, on the wheel or stone, move it along to the other side, and then flip it and return to the opposite side. With a V-tool, the juncture of the V has to meet precisely.



### **Gouge and V-tool showing bevels and V-tool problems**

New V-tools have a raised part that is shaped rather like a diamond on the bottom. It is best to remove that projection since it will cause resistance when you carve.



### **Note diamond shape toward the bevel of the blade**

V-tools seem to be the most obstinate as far as keeping useful without problems. Or perhaps because there are more surfaces to keep sharp, there are more times

things can go wrong with them. On the other hand, they are a versatile implement for adding expression to a carving. If you get a burr in the interior of the V, fold a piece of 600 grit sandpaper to see if you can remove it that way. Sometimes burrs occur on the outside V, and they can be removed with sandpaper or sharpening, but sometimes a kind of hole happens where the two sides should join. Then you have to grind off the two sides and re-form the V where the two sides meet precisely.

With certain types of projects, a carver may desire to have a V-tool where the sides are not perfectly straight up and down. In some instances, the two sides of the V incline backwards like wings or the top two points lean forwards about 1/16 inch.



**A V-tool with straight sides**

While Bob magnifies all of his sharpening procedures, he points out that if you try to sharpen microtools, you really do need them enlarged. The club has a sharpening wheel. He likes his better because the motor is a bit slower. The water he spritzes on the wheel keeps it below 212 degrees. Remember that once your tools have been sharpened to their basic edge, keep them that way without using a power wheel. Wheel sharpening will more quickly erode the metal from the tool.

In returning to some other ideas of the basic tool use, Bob said that stropping your knife about every hour was a good rule of thumb. Of course, it depends, too, upon

the wood you are using. A harder wood like oak or cherry would need to be sharpened more often. Cottonwood bark, because of the sand ingrained in the wood is hard on knife edges and they would also need more frequent attention. As a tool becomes duller, it drags upon the wood and with practice you can tell as that happens.



### **Bob showing us how to sharpen tools**

Finally, after all that sharpening, you want to protect your tools from getting banged about. When they are not being used, unless you have a system where each tool is stored or hung separately, many carvers cut clear plastic tubing to fit over the length of the metal and hug onto the haft area below.

The club is fortunate to have someone of Bob's expertise who can occasionally present a teaching lecture like this one. About 22 members were here, there were good questions, and at least one poor, misshapen V-tool was refurbished. Whenever Flickertails is having a session, Bob is willing to help anyone having a problem, with the power wheel, stone or stropping a tool.





### **Some of Bob's audience**

Before Bob began teaching the class, Warren told me about a project he is conducting with a group of seniors at Touchmark. He will be carving Cancer Hearts, and they will paint them in their bi-monthly meetings. They will then be donated to the Cancer Center for distribution. What a lovely idea.

A number of people went to the Fargo Show and remarked how enjoyable it was. Warren talked about the pyrography class where Amanda Legal taught a small project. Doug E took Rick Jensen's cottonwood bark whimsy house workshop. He brought it to the Whittle-In, and it looks almost done. The fanciful roof and the unusual window shapes make it look like a fun place to explore. Dale and Troy took Roger Beane, the featured carver's, class on a 9" Santa with a wood burned winter scene along the bottom of his coat. He's traveling along with a walking stick. Dale came with his Santa, and he bought an extra blank from Roger.



**One side of Doug's little house**



**Dale's blue coated Santa and the blank**





**Dale's colorful fish**



**Becky W's Tom Thumb size pet**

Dale also showed us a strikingly colored fish he got at the show. The lime green and white ornamented body would attract anything. The fins are a camouflage kelp design. There is a hook on its back for hanging it up.

Becky W brought a sleeping cat curled in relaxation. About the size of a large ring, it was carved from an avocado pit.

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# The Curling Chip

May, 2019

## FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

PO BOX 7473

BISMARCK ND 58507-7473



Raffle tickets are now available for the annual October show. In this issue there is information on a chain saw carving and wood burning classes. Feature items were carving a robin with Larry Graf on May 4<sup>th</sup>, a wolf's head carving class and a colored pencil class. Warren Schlect had an American flag for the May 21<sup>st</sup> Whittle-In project. We are looking for volunteers for Harvest Fest, Apple Fest and the program at the Heritage Center. Added extra is the Fall Show registration. For questions or future articles send your info to Tom/Diane Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net).

BAGA submitted the pyrography article, several photos were from Facebook and information on projects used the internet.

Good Carving! Newsletter Team: Tom Turck and Diane Lehman Turck



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS



DAKOTA WEST ARTS COUNCIL

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

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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

Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday carving at Edgewood Vista from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

[www.flickertail.org](http://www.flickertail.org)

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| July 27, 2019      | Cross Ranch State Park, carving demo<br>Doug Emerson Coordinator   |
| August 3 & 4, 2019 | Capital Art Affair, carving demo,<br>Becky Weisgerber Coordinator  |
| August 10, 2019    | Chain Saw and Chardonnay, class starts at 10am, carving at least<br>one feather; Wine tasting starts at 4pm; 2 events are separate |
| August 20, 2019    | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited  |
| August 17, 2019    | Harvest Feed at Buckstop Junction, carving demo,<br>Mike Knudson Coordinator   |
| September 7, 2019  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Larry Graf   |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| September 7, 2019   | Pyrography Workshop 8:00 AM-4:00PM<br>Julie Bender, BAGA, Register by 8/6/19  |
| September 8, 2019   | Heritage Center Sensational Sunday, talk on pyrography by Julie Bender, 2:00 PM   |
| September 17, 2018  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Perry Cook   |
| September 28 and 29 | Applefest at Buckstop Junction, carving<br>demos, Dale Heglund Coordinator  |
| October 5, 2019     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Donna Grunett   |
| October 12-13, 2019 | Flickertail Woodcarving Show<br>50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Show<br>Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy<br><b>Feature Carver</b> , Oct 10-13 will be Jay Haavik<br>Project – Nordic style carving<br><b>Non-Carving Class</b> – Teri Stegmiller – fabric painting<br><b>Weekend Carver</b> – Karen Henderson – spoon carving |
| October 15, 2019    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Vince Bitz   |
| November 2, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mike Knudson  |
| November 19, 2019   | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Smith   |
| December 7, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Diane and Tom Turck   |
| December ??, 2019   | Christmas Party – _____ Coordinators  |
| December 17, 2019   | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes  |
| January 4, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes   |

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| January 21, 2020  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Cliff Orgaard                     |
| February 1, 2020  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Bob Pedigo, love spoon |
| February 18, 2020 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Eric Gaasland                     |
| March 7, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Becky Weisgerber       |
| March 17, 2020    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Becky Barnes                      |
| April 4, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Ed Ryan                |
| April 21, 2020    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Marlene Moser                     |
| April ??, 2020    | Fargo Carving Show   |
| April/May         | Spring Carving Class by Rick and Cathy Brereton                    |
| May 2, 2020       | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mitch Olson            |
| May 19, 2020      | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Warren Schlecht                   |



## ***Coming Attractions***

This is an abbreviated reiteration of parts of the event Calendar for the summer and fall with added color.

***Chain saw carving*** and ***Chardonnay*** August 10 See announcement next page

***Bender Pyrography*** (wood burning)

Class: Saturday September 7 Julie Bender Instructor, 8-4 at BAGA

Lecture: September 8 Heritage Center Sensational Sunday, 2:00pm

***Harvest Feed at Buckstop Junction*** August 17 Mike Knudson Coordinator

9am-4pm please call Mike to help with 2 hour shifts

***Applefest at Buckstop Junction*** September 28-29 Dale Heglund Coordinator

11am-6pm Saturday; 11am-4pm Sunday please call Dale for 2hour shifts

***Flickertail Woodcarving Show*** October 10-13, Heritage Center

Featured carver: Jay Haavik Nordic carving

Weekend non-carver: Teri Stegmiller fabric painting

Weekend carver: Karen Henderson spoon carving

***Picnic at Sertoma #4*** August 20 5:30-8:00pm

***Heritage Center Carving Exhibition (usually 2-3 hour shifts):***

Whenever anyone has a couple of hours to spend, they can set up a table in front of the exhibits and carve. Interact with visitors from Bismarck throughout the world. Describe what you are doing, and what is in the exhibit. Contact the docents at the desk for assistance.

## *Chainsaw Carving Opportunity*

# Chainsaws and Chardonnay (aka, Husqvarna and 19 Crimes)

**Saturday, August 10, 2019**

Saws start at 10 AM, lunch at noon, Chardonnay and a Taste of Italy at 4 PM  
Jen & Dale Heglund - 8100 Sibley Drive – Bismarck, ND 58504

### **What You Saw?**

\$0 – park on the main road, bring your own log, work in the back of your pickup

\$40 – log, class instruction and cleanup is included

\$75 – log, tools to use, class instruction and clean-up is included

After the event, everyone is invited to sit back and enjoy the art pieces. Good carvers get one glass of wine and challenged carvers get a couple glasses of wine – all will then appreciate their own artist creations.

**Warning** – chainsaw carving is dangerous. Participants should wear full protective gear.

Safety glasses, hardhats with shields, ear protection, safety vest or jacket, safety pants, leather boots and leather gloves are recommended. These items are not provided as part of the class. Chainsaw fundamentals are desired but not required. The class will include a safety and training briefing. You will need to sign a waiver releasing the Flickertail

Woodcarvers and the instructors prior to any carving.

**Instructors – Dale Heglund and Vince Bitz**

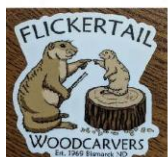
Class project – 3' long eagle feather

Class size is limited to 10.

Sign up today.

[dale.heglund@ndsu.edu](mailto:dale.heglund@ndsu.edu)

701-318-6893





## *Pyrography Workshop*

*Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>*

Bismarck Art & Galleries Association (BAGA) invites you to join national, award-winning artist Julie Bender for her one-day pyrography (woodburning) workshop where students receive a strong foundation in theory of pyrography and technique. Students with and without experience are welcomed and will receive step-by-step instruction in wood surface preparation, burn-tip choice, technique and problem solving. Expect to create a finished work of art! The class fee is \$125.00 and includes all supplies except the woodburner. Bender recommends the Walnut Hollow brand that is available through Michaels or Hobby Lobby. Class will be held from 8 am – 4 pm on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at the gallery, 422 E. Front Avenue. Registration is due no later than **August 6<sup>th</sup>** so the artist can be sure to have the appropriate number of other materials for attendees.

In conjunction with the Flickertail Woodcarver's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Bender will also be giving a talk on the subject of pyrography on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm as a part of the Heritage Center's Sensational Sunday's programming. She will also have an exhibit of her artwork at BAGA September 3-28, with an opening reception September 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm that is open to the public and free of charge.

You can view Bender's spectacular artwork at [www.juliebender.com](http://www.juliebender.com). For further information on any of the above programs please call BAGA at 223-5986 or email [baga@midconetwork.com](mailto:baga@midconetwork.com).

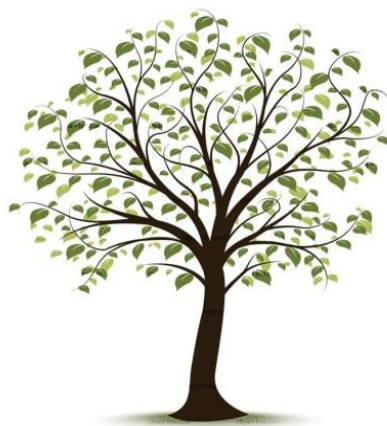
Thanks to BAGA for the article

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## *Raffle Tickets*

Books of Raffle tickets are now available for distribution. Becky W and Eric G have them now. They will be offered at the picnic on August 20<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to sell some before then, e-mail Becky at [vortenjou@bis.midco.net](mailto:vortenjou@bis.midco.net) or Eric at [egaasland@yahoo.com](mailto:egaasland@yahoo.com).

## *Monthly Summer Whittle-In at Sertoma Park*



### *Come Out & Play*

**Location:** Sertoma Park Shelter #4

**Date:** August 20

**Time:** Around 5:30pm-8pm: Come when you can, leave when you have to go.

**Food:** Bring a dish for pot-luck. Plates, napkins, cups and utensils provided. If you haven't food (no time or forgot), just come. There will be plenty to share.

**Drink:** Bring your own. It is a public park, so no alcohol, and no glass drinking bottles. Anything else is fine.

**Projects:** We always can use hearts for the Cancer Center. In general, though, bring something you want to work on. It can be carving, painting, or other activities like sewing, beading etc. There will be woodcarvers to help visitors who want to learn to carve, as well. If you're between projects, you can always pull out one from that 1/2 finished pile that everyone has.

**Requirements:** Bring yourself. Bring your wife, husband and/or friend. Everyone is welcome. Come to relax and have fun. Laugh, converse with friends, eat, do some carving or crafting, learn a little, even play on the nearby swings



## ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Dale called the meeting with about 20 members in attendance. Dale was standing in for Eric, who had been out of town and arrived before the end of the meeting.

**Larry Graf** had several robin templates with directions and then the blanks to choose from in order to make a small, cute robin.

**Edgewood Vista - Bismarck:** Carvers are meeting with residents at Edgewood Vista - Bismarck in the Activity Center from 2-4 PM on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Coming dates: July 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, August 1<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, and September 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Guests:** Not exactly guests, but two children, maybe 1<sup>st</sup> grade age, came to visit. Their relatives were getting ready for the breakfast in a few hours, and they were bored. We were not a lot more fun, but at least more interesting. Several people, mostly Becky W, kept them amused.

**Secretary's Report:** Diane summarized April's Meeting Notes. Larry motioned that the meeting minutes be approved and Mike seconded the motion. It was passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren reported that we have \$7405 in the account with one bill out for rental and purchase. Memorial for approximately \$100 Moved by Perry and seconded by Vince

**Membership:** No change

**Library:** No change

**Property:** No change

**Publicity:** No change

**Website/Instagram:** No change

**Facebook:** No change

**Cancer Hearts:** Approximately 50 people complete cancer treatments every month and we don't carve 50 hearts in a month. We need to try to remember to carve one or two when we're not sure what project to create next.

**Spring Program:** The May carving and color pencil drawing classes are full. Doug E is taking names for waiting lists. The sessions will be held at the Heritage Center May 17-19.

**Annual October Show:** Don't forget this is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Becky W with help from Diane is attempting to get offers for raffle items in order to get the tickets printed soon.

Doug announced the Jay Haavik will be teaching a Nordic relief carving for the main class from Thursday, October 10-Sunday, October 13. The other carving class has Karen Henderson showing how to carve spoons on Saturday and Sunday mornings. The non-carving class is taught as a painting party also on Saturday and Sunday mornings. All three classes sound like good investments of time and returns in a wonderful product and enjoyment besides.

**Coming Demonstration Programs:** Cross Ranch will again hold its *Blue Grass Goes Pink* Cancer fund raising event on July 27<sup>th</sup>. It is possible that overnight campsites may be full, but there is daytime parking. Flickertail Woodcarvers, under the leadership of Doug E will be demonstrating their craft, with an emphasis on Cancer hearts. Flickertail Woodcarving participation is even mentioned in the ND Parks and Rec Site. There will be a free will supper at 5pm and a \$10.00 concert at 7pm. All proceeds go to Cancer Fundraising.

The yearly Capital A'fair will be held August 3-4 at the Capital grounds. Becky W will be coordinating. She is looking for volunteers sign-up to help in 2-hour shifts. It's nice to see all the other booths and visit with the people coming by. We have gotten a good response from this event to our Annual October Show, and to our beginning carving class. While the weather can be warm, we have been fortunate with breezes coming through our stall area.

Harvest Fest is the new name for the old Corn Feed. It will be held at Buckstop Junction to benefit the community education and preservation being carried out at Buckstop. Held on August 17<sup>th</sup> Mike is the organizer, and will need a number of volunteers, again in 2-hour shifts. While Capital A'Fair is geared towards selling various crafts, Harvest and Apple Fest are more like community get-togethers with some craft vendors, music and children's activities.

Apple Fest is hosted by the Cancer Center with all proceeds going to them. It is at Buckstop Junction September 21-22, and is quite similar to Harvest Fest, although it has a pie eating contest. Dale Heglund is in charge of filling the 2-hour volunteer slots for the weekend. Let him know if you can help.

**Picnics** The summer's pot luck picnics will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of June (18<sup>th</sup>), July (16<sup>th</sup>), and August (20<sup>th</sup>) at Sertoma #4 from 5:30 until 8:00. The times are rather fluid, come before, stay later if you want. Come for good food, fun conversation and a relaxing time to practice carving (Cancer Hearts are always an idea) or some other craft.

**Newsletter:** The March April newsletter is out. Please let Diane or Tom know if you have not received it.

**Show and Tell:** besides presenting the project, Larry brought two beautifully incised birds. Their majestic flourishes gave them an inspiring appearance.

Dave purchased two lobster fishermen, a weir, a buoy and a small boat from a silent auction at the Sons of Norway. The boat may come from a different set of figures, since it is much smaller.

Eileen is creating a golf carving for one of her grandchildren. She has a page showing a simple drawing of white clouds in a blue sky on the top half over a green grass. The subject set in the grass is a driver club set to hit a golf ball off a tee. Part way done, it looks like the copy in relief will be quite good.

Eric G brought two penguins that his parents bought in South America, probably Argentina. One is a cute little knick knack size, and the other is on the end of spoon.

Becky W had a small-bowled spoon with a long handle, as well as a set of a spreader and an olive/pickle fork in a contemporary style, a very lovely reddish brown.

The last two pictures are repeats from a previous newsletter, but they are nice to revisit. Many members, I think, keep several projects in their carving carry-alls with tools and extra items such as pencils, sandpaper and bits of wood. Donna still has her two lovely spoons, one the subject of Bob P's project in February and the other a smaller unstained one with a feather handle. The final photo shows two of Mike's carvings. Similar to Donna, one is February's folding spoon project while the other is the sea turtle that Eric G taught.

Eric G also displayed a new vinyl "Flickertail Woodcarvers" sign to be part of our demonstrations and shows. About 4ft x 1.5ft, it will be a good announcement for our carving areas.

### *May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

A robin! What a nice project for Larry Graf to decide to share. I think he said he got the idea from Pinterest. Robins are well-known all over the North American Continent. An industrious, migratory bird with a round orange belly and a round dark head, they are awaited in the waning part of winter as a harbinger of spring in the northern states. Although they do migrate, the number that go south for the winter varies greatly by available food supplies of berries and fruit trees, and many overwinter in more protected areas near their summer grounds. They live in urban areas, lawns, parks, farming areas and forests. Robins stand upright. They often take several hopping steps across the ground and cock their heads listening for worms or other prey underneath the surface.

The male arrives first from the south, and stakes out his territory. Once he attracts a mate, the female, which is usually paler in color than the male, constructs a cup shaped nest of dried grasses and twigs, reinforced with mud. She and her mate have one to three broods a season with three to five chicks. Although robins eat insects, worms, berries, etc., before laying each egg (she lays only one a day) the mother bird loads up on worms in the early morning, almost like women who crave a specific food while pregnant.

Biliverdin, a pigment produced in the shell gland, is responsible for the blue color of the shell. Similar pigmentation results in blue butterflies or moths and the blue shade of some human bruising. The female incubates the eggs for 12-14 days, and the babies are born blind, naked and voraciously hungry. Both parents feed the chicks for 14-16 days around 40 times a day. The female may start building a second nest before the fledglings are ready to leave, putting the last few days of training more on her mate.

Larry came with blanks for everyone, an instruction sheet, a set of four robins in different stages of completion and some templates to draw the wings on the bird. After people had gotten their blanks, Larry was available to help with any questions. A painted robin was the last stage of completion. It showed the patch of white underside on the bird. With about 20 participants it was a nice crowd. To celebrate the idea (if not the fact) of spring, the church had the tables decorated with tulips and daisies, perfect for the project.





**A touch of spring**



**Degrees of completion, right to left**



**Side view of the robin and the paper used to draw the wing**



**Showing the area to paint white on the bottom of the robin**

There were a good number of Show and Tell items this session. In keeping with his theme of birds, Larry had two incised plaques. One appears to be a dove. The incisions are white, and the wings are raised in flight. It is quite a heavenly representation. The second bird's incised lines are blue and there are embellishments to bring out the wing and tail feathers. I don't know if the bird is supposed to be a specific species or just a stylized bird in general. Both, especially as a pair, would be graceful on any wall in a household. Larry achieved the effect by wiping away the excess paint from the wood, just covering the cuts.

Dave, who is a member of the Sons of Norway as well as a Flickertail, recently purchased two fishermen or lobstermen along with a lobster trap and buoy. Their raingear reminds me of the Northeast Coast, along with the wool knit sweater. They have a lobster trap and a marker buoy. In Maine, the buoys are painted specifically for each lobster catcher or boat. The color scheme has to be unique to the lobsterman, and the design must be shown on both sides of the boat. This one is red on top and white on the bottom.



**White fills the marks Larry made on the wood tablet**





### **A more elaborate bird, also in flight**

One internet site showed the example of the chart for Monhegan Island, in Maine, in 1960. None of the buoys had the pattern of Dave's two lobstermen, but one with orange on top and white on the bottom belonged to Bobby Field, and that season there were 42 colored patterns registered for the island. The pattern protects each man's catch, and makes sure no one is catching more than they are allowed. While most lobster buoys and traps are now Styrofoam or plastic, buoys used to be made of cedar. The colors were passed down through families for generations, and many buoys were carved in various shapes by the owners. While some wooden ones are still in use, they ding up the boats props. Styrofoam fades, though, and needs repainting, and plastic can get crunched and deformed.

Besides the two men, their trap and their buoy, Dave also got a small, clay colored canoe. One of the men's feet would just about fit in the main section, and the boat had no oars or other indications to say what its use was. It may have been put for auction with the lobstermen because of their nautical theme. Putting the buoy in the canoe helps the marker from getting lost due to its size.





### **Well-made Northeast Coast lobstermen**

Eileen always has interesting projects. She is making a simple golf game relief for her granddaughter. It looks like it's about 7" x 5" or maybe 8" x 6". The drawing she used is sort of minimalist i.e. a few extra lines, no extra colors. The colors remind me of tempera paints for kids: blue sky, green grass, white clouds. The subject is a driver club aiming at a ball on a tee. The golf club and ball, though, are more detailed, with exterior dimples on the ball, and lines along the face of the driver. The driver, ball, tee and clouds are in relief, along with the added frame. It should make a valued gift.

Eric G's parents bring wonderful gifts for him when they return from their travels. From their visit to South America, probably Argentina, they gave him two penguins. The first little fellow is several inches tall. He is not supposed to be any specific species that lives in the vicinity of South America. In contrast to most penguins, he has a little bit of white on his front and sort of white stripes on his head. Still, his body shape, flipper arms and beak identify him as a penguin. He would be an agreeable object to a cabinet or end table with other figurines.



### **Eileen's present for her granddaughter**

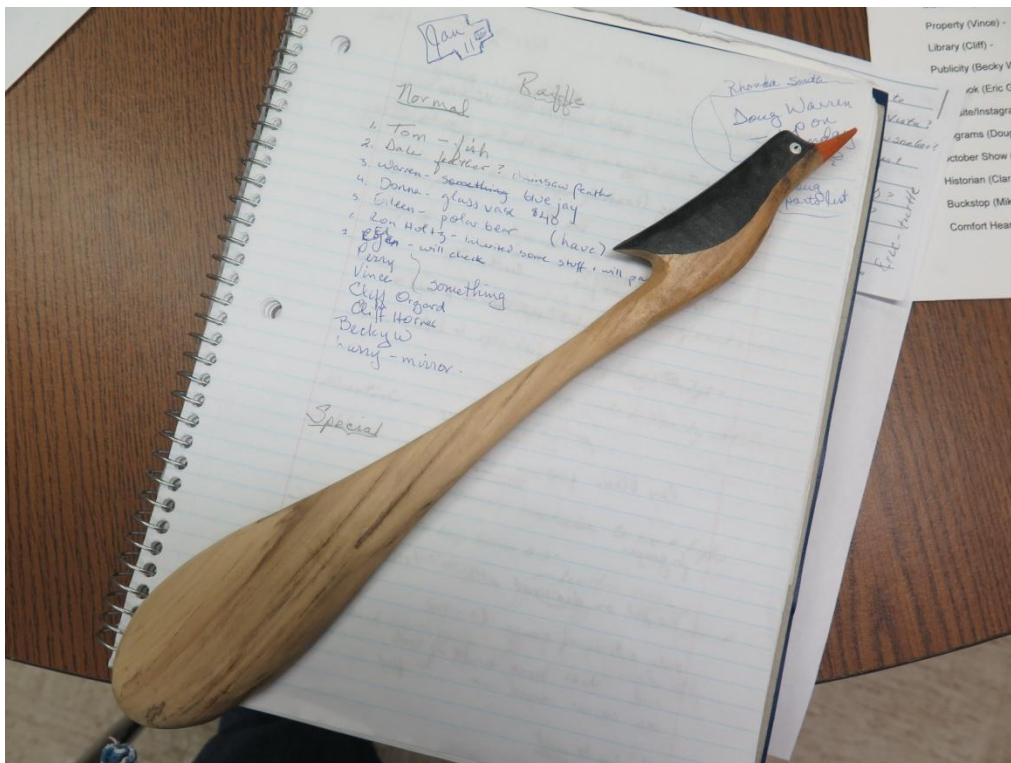
The second penguin is on the handle of a spoon. He's formed into the top and is only an inch or two from the tip of his beak to his tail. Not a certain type of penguin either, he is black and known by his shape. The spoon is a stirring spoon for soups and stews and has a nice grain to it.

Becky W brought some utensils as well. Her spoon is yellowish with dark grain. It is nicely stained. It has a small bowl and a curved handle. It may have been fashioned for a specific use as it is so small. The other two utensils appear to be a set. The one is a spreader for butter or soft cheese. The other is an olive/small pickle fork. Their dark straight grain against the reddish brown color makes them look like they would be welcome in a society dinner.

You'll recognize the last several items. They are repeats from the last newsletter, because their carvers still had them in their packs. I thought that was OK anyway.



**A cute, friendly penguin**



**Eric's parents following a penguin theme**





**An elegant set of utensils for hors'devours and a small spoon**



**Donna's small spoon with a feather handle; a folding spoon from February**





**Mike's folding spoon and painted sea turtle from another project**



**Eric G with our new "Flickertail Woodcarvers" sign**

Eric G modeled the new "Flickertail Woodcarvers" banner. It appears to be about 4 feet long and probably 1.5 feet wide. The carving flickertail is in the right hand corner, and the words are drawn to look like they have a wood grain. There are several grommet holes to attach it to where ever it is being hung.

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## *Spring Class May 17-19, 2019*

### *Carving a Wolf*

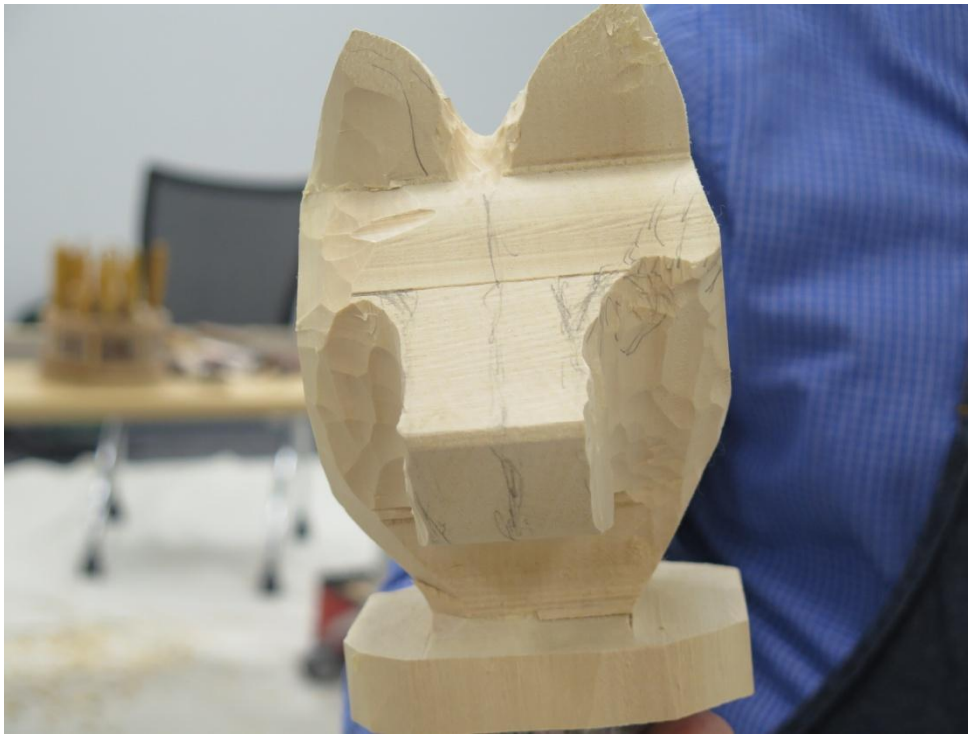
To honor our 50 year anniversary, some of the Flickertail Woodcarvers educational activities are being held at the Heritage Center. The Spring Classes are one of those venues. Usually, the Spring Class is one carving class held over a three or four day weekend. This year, though, we combined a carving class with an art class to run over the same period, this year being three days. We were fortunate to have access to two of the classroom/meeting rooms in the hallway of the Heritage Center. Besides being set up for the carving class, the larger room is also equipped with kitchen facilities, a sink, countertop and a refrigerator. The other room was laid out for the art projects. As always with these sessions, people bring snacks enough to feed all of us without ever having to leave, but there is also a café in the building. Bread, bars, scones and many kinds of wonderful things to eat graced the counter, and the amount was replenished daily. Thanks to everyone who made and brought food.



#### **Bob demonstrating with a barely started head**

As to the main class, Bob Pedigo had us carving a wolf's head in the round from basswood, about 6 inches in height. Several people that were signed up couldn't

make the class, so we don't have a full complement of 12. The room is very well lit with the tables set in an open rectangle, with Warren and Dale at the tables on one short end of the room, and three people each along the side tables. Bob was set up on the other short end. Bob had pictures of wolves with their heads looking every way possible to get an idea of how not only to carve the head shape proper, but the ears, eyes, nose, and, and, and mouth too.



### **The same head after a little cutting**

In addition, he had a good number of templates in various stages of being done to help as well. There were enough templates, and everyone had enough room at their tables that people could borrow one of Bob's partially done heads for awhile, pass it to someone else when they had an area of their head done, and acquire another template to see the head from a different perspective.

After everyone chose their blank, Bob began by showing us the first areas to cut back and cut down to begin to visualize the wolf breaking through the wood. After mostly chiseling or gouging away the first layer, the cutting continued. From trimming the ears, reducing the side of the face, chipping into the eye area, slicing away parts of the cheek area, and really minimizing the size of the muzzle a sleeker animal appeared.





**Markings for future cutting on the same head**



**Everyone paying attention to Bob's direction**





### **One template almost done, the other showing ears, eyes and marked areas**

Bob would occasionally gather us to show us as a group where we should be working, and pointing out the various pictures which illustrated the objectives he was trying to make. Most of the time, though, he would help individual members of the class with their projects. In discussing the modifications we were making to the blank, he noted that the blanks we have could also be used to create a coyote or a fox.

While we carved and studied the progress we were making on our wolves, we also took small breaks now and then to see how others were doing, trade templates with each other and snack. Larry had invented a tool that assisted him in drawing lines and there was a conversation about that. People occasionally visited the art class to see what they were doing. At least 4 or 5 women in the art class had husbands who were carving. At lunch, some people looked at the Heritage Center exhibits, some people ate the lunch they brought and others went to the café nearby. One weekend day, Ron came and set up a table for carving in front of our exhibit to visit and talk with visitors walking by. An archaeological meeting on Saturday had Tom and me occasionally visiting people there and listening to information.



**Snacking and conversation concerning Larry's invention**



**Note the progress made by the second day with Bob and Warren**

As the overall structure of the wolf takes place, fur takes shape under the guidance of gouges and V-tools of various widths and sizes. Paying attention to the way the hair lies along the back of its head, its cheeks, and its brow, how the muzzle hair flows short from the center of the nose down to the jaw line, looking so different from most of the pelt except on the back of its ears. So the idea is to create the impression that it is in fact, a wolf.

One of the areas that required attention, although not too much, was the wolf's ears. The interior ear has hair growing from both sides in, probably as insulation and protection from colder weather. Looking carefully at the different photos gave the carver perspective on making it seem natural, and the color, often white, to give it eventually.

Two problems that take more preparation to get correct are the wolf's eyes and its upper lip. Probably half or more of the class had to have help putting the eyes in correctly. The shape, size and location - one or more caused difficulty. Bob patiently helped each of us see how and why the eyes should be placed as they are in the canine's skull, above but near the nasal cavity, with the inner corner recessed. I imagine the several people who were already carving their next animal before the class was finished had an easier time with the second since they would have the lesson fresh in their memories.

Ah, the upper lip. The two lips don't quite meet, you see. The lower lip is definitely called a lower lip, but the upper lip in canines including wolves is called a flews. Bob spent some time discussing that the upper lip, or flews, goes over the lower lip. We stared at lots of examples trying to get the idea right, since the wolf's mouth takes up a good portion of his face, and his expression should be correct. In domesticated dogs, some flews have become, well, overwhelming and are a source of much drool. In canines in general, flews are thought to assist in directing scent to the nose, especially working with the upper palate. I think that would be useful in a wolf tracking prey. An angled V-tool can work to get the correct amount of overlap.

Minimal attention was paid on the base. As with last year's carving, the base can be a plain shaped piece of wood colored to match the carving, or embellished with gouge marks, or with something the carver wants. One wolf is sitting on a bed of

rocks. Bob had the back of one head marked with a paw print besides his name. That was quite impressive, partly, I suppose because it was unexpected. Very nice.



### **Dale trying to get the individual elements to come together as a wolf**

Some time was spent by various carvers working with wood burning tools to highlight the direction and texture of the wolf's hair. Parts of Sunday, Bob worked with us show how to apply paint, and blend it. We paid attention to the various photos available. No two wolf's pelts were the same. Not only was there a great difference in the colors expressed, but the markings around the eyes and rest of the head, while similar were actually quite individual. As with most mammals, though, there was a lot of symmetry in each one.

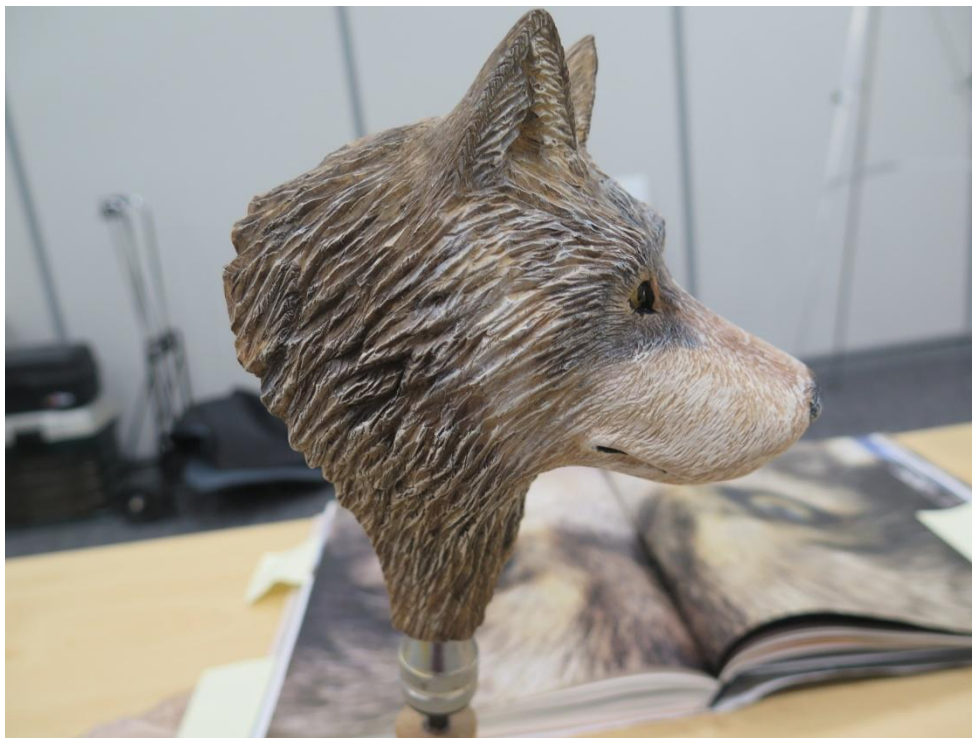
Before the class was complete Dale and Warren were beginning a second animal from the extra blanks that Bob had. Dale was going to carve a fox, I think. Warren may have been going to do another wolf, but I don't know. Warren was detailed and careful, he may have wanted to try for increased perfection in a wolf.

Bob's teaching was thorough and extremely knowledgeable. His preparation was wonderful with so many photos and templates. And he was patient, listening and taking time for everyone. An excellent instructor!





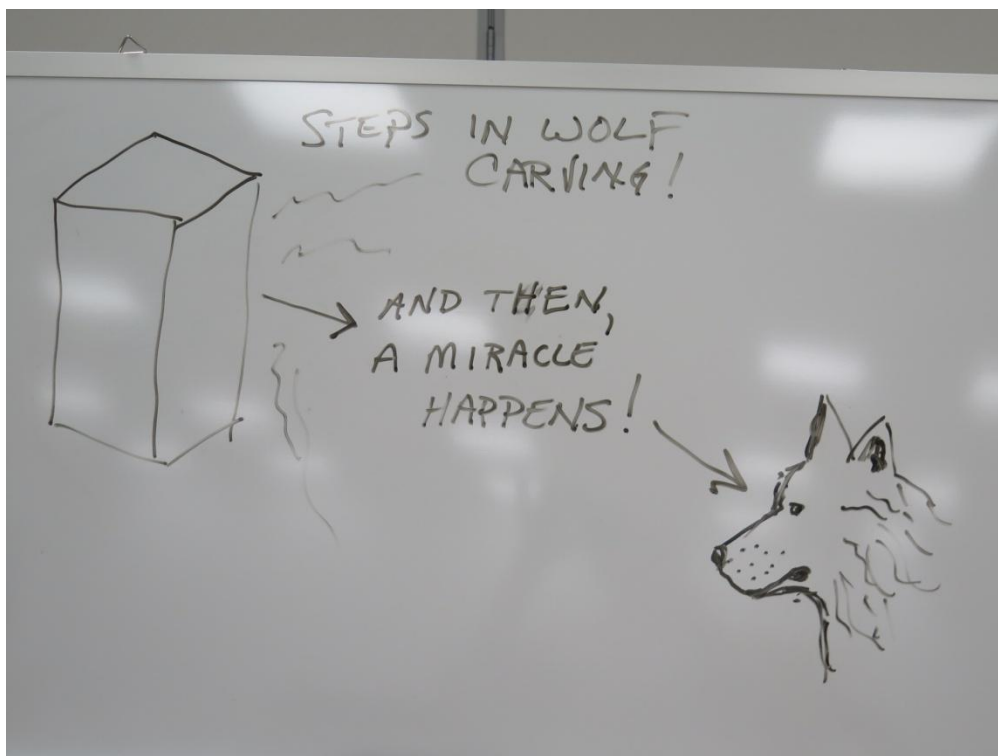
**Bob painting**



**One of Bob's finished wolves**



**A polished butternut wolf**



**A true thing**



## **The Wolf Pack**

### *Visitors*

One of the enjoyable things about having the Spring Classes in the Heritage Center was that, depending where the teacher or class was in their lesson, their doors could be open to encourage passers-by to stop in and investigate what we were doing. It was easier to do in the carving room since it was more of a meeting room, while the art sessions were in a smaller room with little side room for extra people to squeeze in. Still, it was heartening to see families with one or several children come in and engage Bob, Rhonda or another of us in conversation and show the children what we were doing while their little beings were open to drinking in new experiences from the Heritage Center. Several wanted to know if they could do that too. Adults stopping in had, of course, different questions. They were often as interested as families, though. One of the part time employees stopped in several times on her breaks, just to see how far we'd gotten.



### *Colored Pencil Class*

Our second class was taught by Rhonda Smith. There was excitement about having her colored pencil drawing class among wives and some of the members who were curious to engage in something different. Besides needing a set of 72 colored pencils, it was noted that electric erasers and pencil sharpeners were a requirement. Rhonda had the black paper and boards to work on, the tracing paper and blending tools. As I mentioned, the room was smaller than the carving room and with a full complement of 12 students, all women, there was little extra space. Tables were again set up in a rectangle, but with less openness. About four or five people sat at each side. All the women had enough area to put their work out and move around, though. Seven of the women were Flickertail wives, and another three were Flickertails. Two were friends who had heard about the class and signed up. They were not only welcome to come and see what the carving class was doing, but to eat the snacks in the kitchen, much of the food having been made by these participants.



**A drawn feather with a real one as an example**





**All the feathers are examples of a real one, but using one's imagination**

Rhonda was set up in the back of the room. She had her drawing on an easel where everyone could see it. She talked about the tools that the students would be using and how to apply them. She pointed out the differences among colors, why she employs the brands and kinds of tools she uses, and the importance of keeping your pencils sharp at all times. Then she discussed the techniques they would be learning. The first project was to become acquainted with the manner in which everyone would need to proceed. Since the main project was an owl's head, the initial project would be a feather.

Everyone became engaged in sketching the feather. The finished products all look like life portrayals, but of course, they are not exact copies of the feather. One only has to look at their size, the varied browns and rustish colors in the interior vane, the white outlining the edges, the breaks in the vane, the white downy ends at the bottom of the rachis, and the after feathers between the downy ends, and the vane. Together the feathers were immensely pleasing. Knowing someone could draw so well so quickly. All of them were distinctive. A number of the students were already done with the feather by the time lunch time came or a little after.



**The owl standing on Rhonda's easel**



**Participants at their table tracing the owl, look at all the colored pencils**

**The beginning steps in  
the illustration**





Rhonda placed the owl drawing on the easel. The students taped down black paper with removable tape on a board. Along with the picture on the easel, everyone had a copy of the owl and tracing paper. They transferred main parts of the picture onto the paper with faint marks. Besides the marks for the head and nose, the eyes were represented and then, with white and black pencils, clearly depicted. The main artistry begins with erasing some of the eye to add texture lines, and it continues from there.

Rhonda went around the room helping those with questions and other problems. When you look up close, the drawing is much more complex than just a series of lines. The white lines, for instance, are sometimes short and bunched together, as at the side of the eye or under the beak. They may be a little longer and not so dense as when they follow the contour of the ear. Finally, they can be longer still and scattered with only minimal direction as around the lower eye. Judging just that takes time, patience and for me it would take a lot of erasing.

Color, too, is another consideration. There's the white, and the brown, but slight amounts of ochery or off-yellow run on the right side of the owl's cheek and gently through some of the feathers below its head. What shade and how much to apply of that and other minor shades or keeping it simple is another factor.

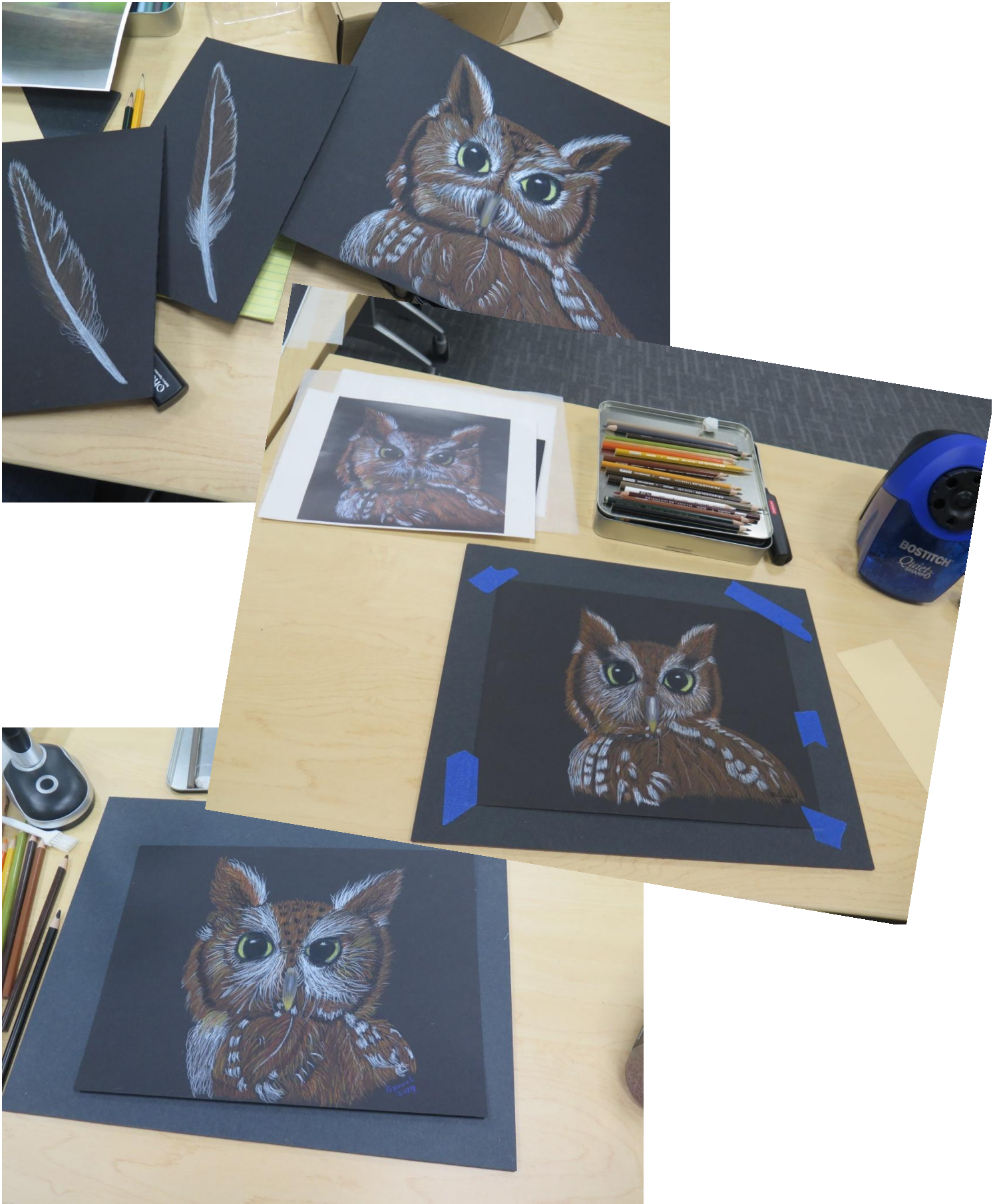
This type of art is beautiful. It is deliberate and focused, though. A lot of thought and planning go into where you start to draw, the length of the lines, and how to create different patterns, like the stippling on the head between the eyebrows- even the beaks. Everyone looks the same, but they are all distinctive.

By sometime on Sunday morning, most of the class was ready for another project. Rhonda had a still life bowl of apples. With that, the students had to take shading and line into account more, sort of like an intro to art class. Green apples in a dark bowl next to a barn or shed wall. Experimenting with curves in the apples and myriad variations of green and showing the room light on the front faces of the apples. Accounting for the bit of red on the apples and the shadows under bowl and along the slanted board was also essential.

Rhonda had a receptive group of women and they enjoyed learning how to draw the various projects. Everyone had the right materials. She was an excellent teacher, always available to assist and make suggestions. A wonderful class.



## A collage of owls





**Intent on drawing apples**



**Having fun, though, too**





## A Parliament of owls

\*\*\*\*\*

### *May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

We got a preview of Warren Schlect's project at the wolf carving class. It is a portion of the US flag waving. It's a delightful feel-good carving for everyone. Our flag, with star deviations, has been our standard since June 1777. The thirteen horizontal stripes, alternating red and white, are for the thirteen colonies. The blue field or canton is a rectangular area at the top hoist corner. It contains the 50 stars, one of each state. Modified some 26 times, the last time was in 1960 for the addition of Hawaii. Plans for possible future stars or states include Washington DC, Puerto Rico, and Guam. None has legitimacy, however.

August 1777 was the first time the flag was flown in battle during the siege of Fort Stanwix in the Mohawk River Valley. Massachusetts reinforcements told the New York militia about the adoption of the flag. Soldiers used their white shirts, and red flannel petticoats from the officers' wives. Captain Swartwout's blue cloth coat was used for the canton. Taken together they sewed a flag. The flag took on heightened status during the Civil War. It came to stand for nationalism and the denunciation of secessionism, and the Southern viewpoint. The flag became a manifestation of those ideas, and merchants could not keep up with the demand. All six manned moon missions that successfully landed at different locations raised a flag at each site. The exhaust from Apollo 11, however, blew that flag over. The colors in the flag have no significance. Those same colors in the US seal have meaning. The white implies purity and innocence, red indicates hardiness and valor, while blue signifies vigilance, perseverance and justice.

Warren created a piece of flag caught by the wind. The red and white stripes are tossed about and some of the blue with white stars emerges in the middle. Brilliant colors add to the overall positive impression. He brought rectangular pieces of basswood to use as blanks. There were paper drawings and tracing paper to transfer the design onto the wood. Fairly flat gouges appeared to be the most useful tool to employ for most of the area. Warren explained the dips and curves in the carving. Looking at the four sides as well helps in planning how to take off the right amount of wood. Warren walked around visiting and helping people who had questions. There were about 15 to 20 members. Not bad after such a busy week end of carving and art. Warren said to paint with acrylics, and opaque red and phalo-blue would give the truest results.





### **Warren's finished template for the flag**

A number of members brought items for Show and Tell. Some were from last week's carving and art classes, and one was from the Fargo Show this spring. There are a couple others as well.

The best Show and Tell, though, was Luci's baby son Benjamin. He was looking around, curious and taking everything in. And he has hair, which not all newborns can say. I got to sit and hold him. While that was a joy for me, I didn't get as much done on the flag as I would have liked.

Becky W came with her completed wolf from last weekend. I like that his eyes are looking up, which is different. The pedestal is shaped and worked which is a pleasing accent. Becky put the wolf's paw print on the backside of his head the way Bob P did, although it isn't cut into the wood yet.

Marlene had her owl and feather drawings from last weekend. Nicely frames, they would make a lovely addition to anyone's walls. The owl seems to have been freshly combed and groomed to have his picture taken.



**Benjamin comfortable with Mom**



**Curious about the wide world**





**Becky W's watchful wolf**



**Preliminary paw print on the back of his head**



### **Marlene's professional portraits**

Along with his project, Warren brought an ornament to show the type of thing you can make with the flag. He glued gold braid around the three lower sides and threaded the braid to a top above the blue field side. At the bottom he attached a photo of his son, in the Armed Services. It was an excellent idea.

We had some carvings from the Fargo Show last newsletter, including some Santas. Troy let us see his Santa today. The fur markings along the hat and coat are so good, his facial expression is so welcoming what a wonderful figurine.

Bob P came with a pair of wooden shoes from Europe. They are adorned with chip carving designs on the top and sides. The shoes are almost perfect copies of each other. On top of each is a circle with six rays or parts to it. The designs on the sides compliment the elements of the main circular pattern. There is a size marker inside so supposedly they can be worn, probably by a child. They would be fun to wear for a short while to see how it feels.

Eileen had a cheerful vase, with flowers whose petals are painted in vibrant colors. The petals and leaves are marked with black punctuates for further definition.





**Warren's son with the flag project**



**Troy's Santa ready for the holidays**



**Bob's shoes  
look like they  
and Santa come  
from a similar  
country**



**Eileen's picturesque vase**



Kelly is working on a comfort cross right now and brought a diamond cane with him.



**Kelly working quietly**

# The Curling Chip

June, July, August, 2019

## FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

PO BOX 7473

BISMARCK ND 58507-7473



Summer Whittle-Ins and picnics are a nice interlude to regular life and have been well attended. We participated Capitol A'Fair, Cross Ranch and Harvest Fest. Dale and Vince gave a chain saw carving class featured in this document. This news letter is shorter because there are fewer photographs, but the events themselves were enjoyable. The calender, written by Eric Gaasland, has some updates. Additional photograph credits go to Jen & Dale Heglund and Eric Gaasland. 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



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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 the Fellowship Hall in Trinity Lutheran Church, 502 N 4<sup>th</sup> St Bismarck

Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday carving at Edgewood Vista  
from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

[www.flickertail.org](http://www.flickertail.org)

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| June 18, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| June 21-23, 2019   | Wahpeton Carving Weekend  |
| July 16, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| July 27, 2019      | Cross Ranch State Park, carving demo<br>Doug Emerson Coordinator                        |
| August 3 & 4, 2019 | Capital Art Affair, carving demo,<br>Becky Weisgerber.                                  |
| August 10, 2019    | Chainsaw Carving, 10 AM<br>Dale Heglund and Vince Bitz                                  |
| August 17, 2019    | Harvest Feed at Buckstop, Junction, carving demo,<br>Mike Knudson Coordinator           |

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| August 20, 2019     | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited  |
| September 7, 2019   | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Larry Graf, gazelle  |
| September 7, 2019   | Pyrography Workshop 8:00 AM-4:00PM<br>Julie Bender, BAGA, Register by 8/6/19   |
| September 8, 2019   | Heritage Center Sensational Sunday, talk on pyrography<br>by Julie Bender, 2:00 PM   |
| September 17, 2019  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Perry Cook, owl   |
| September 21 and 22 | Applefest at Buckstop Junction, carving<br>demos, Dale Heglund Coordinator   |
| September 25-28     | Hostfest University (Kolrosing and Spoon Carving<br>Classes)<br><a href="http://hostfest.com/hu/">http://hostfest.com/hu/</a>  |
| October 5, 2019     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Donna Grunett, salt spoon feather  |
| October 12-13, 2019 | Flickertail Woodcarving Show<br>50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Show<br><br>North Dakota Heritage Center<br><b>Feature Carver</b> , Oct 10-13 will be Jay Haavik<br>Project – Nordic style carving<br><b>Non-Carving Class</b> – Teri Stegmiller – fabric<br>painting<br><b>Weekend Carver</b> – Karen Henderson – Green wood<br>spoon carving |
| October 15, 2019    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Vince Bitz  |
| November 2, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mike Knudson   |
| November 19, 2019   | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Smith  |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| December 7, 2019  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Diane and Tom Turck                     |
| December 17, 2019 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes                          |
| January 4, 2020   | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes               |
| January ?, 2020   | Holiday Party – Becky Weisgerber and Diane Lehman<br>Turck, Coordinators            |
| January 21, 2020  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project<br>by Cliff Orgaard                                      |
| February 1, 2020  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Bob Pedigo, love spoon                  |
| February 18, 2020 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Eric Gaasland                                      |
| March 7, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM Project by Becky<br>Weisgerber, crocodile clothespins |
| March 17, 2020    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM Project<br>by Becky Barnes                                       |
| April 4, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Ed Ryan                                 |
| April 21, 2020    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Marlene Moser                                      |
| April ??, 2020    | Fargo Carving Show  |

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## ***2019 Summer Whittle-In/Picnics***

***June 18<sup>h</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, and August 20<sup>st</sup>***

It is true that our summer picnics have a lot in common with each other from month to month, and from year to year. There are differences of course, but a lot of similarities. Husbands and wives or single members gather together and chat while the food is laid out along one of the tables. There were about 20-25 people each time which is somewhat fewer than last summer. It is lovely to reconnect with the spouses of the members that don't regularly come to the monthly Whittle-Ins. This year, however, a number were at the May classes at the Heritage Center, so there was some interaction beforehand. Still, we hadn't a lot of time to just talk on breaks.

Facing the shelter, the food was set along the first several tables of the left row. At the start, the whole group was by the first few tables as participants laid out the food and greeted each other. Gradually, people took places stringing out along the center table or in smaller groups at the base of the middle table or on the left or right side tables. Men and women sat on the same or opposite sides of the table discussing a variety of topics, mostly craft or family related. Enjoyable!

A good variety of food was set on the corner table with fixings for sandwiches, cheeses and cold meats as well as a lot of salads and desserts. Also included was watermelon as itself and pickled, vegetable plates, pasta salads. There was enough food each month to break anyone's best diet intentions. The August bees and wasps have gotten more manageable by the year as the trash barrels have lids and we keep our food more covered. As always people scooted back and forth to sample one more salad or try one more dessert. In between they take a seat and chat with several others. I missed having more children this year. For instance, Luci's and Becky B's daughters weren't present. Luci has a new baby to care for and Becky is leading a dinosaur dig elsewhere in the state. We were lucky enough, though, to have Larry and Ruth's grandson in June along with his mother, and he was very welcome.



**Having a spot of supper June (above) and July (below)**





**August took a little while longer to get involved in eating**



**Larry and Ruth's grandson, intent on his surroundings, content and patient**



In June most of the people were more interested in visiting with each other than carving, but more were carving in July, and most were doing so in August. Besides attacking other projects, some people were fashioning hearts for the Cancer Society. Items brought to share over the months were always fun to see. In June there was a wizard newly conjured from a recent Whittle-In session. Next, a puzzling Teddy Bear with a hole through the center, and then attached to a rod or maybe a candlestick (?). No one had a good explanation for its function. Finally, there was a lovely cottonwood rose. You can see the areas on the cottonwood where it is being cut away in order for the rose to emerge.

In July Eileen had a duck on which she was working. With cute red eyes, it was almost done. It needed to be sanded. She had been in a situation where she had given a duck to one child, and now owed one to the other.



**The little wizard only needs some color to give him substance or pizzazz**



**Obviously created with a purpose in mind**



**Clara's handsome rose**

Well, if there were only a few things to share in June and July, August made up for it. Eileen had finished her duck and it is wonderfully sanded. I'm certain the recipient it will be quite pleased.



**The un-sanded and sanded duck**





To celebrate carving, Larry and Doug E wore shirts in honor of the vocation.



**Larry's message: Life is simple: eat, sleep, carve**



**Doug's inscription: The Wood Whisperer**

Doug contributed more to the evening than by wearing his shirt. He had made a carving knife with a beautifully shaped haft of nicely grained wood. It should fit comfortably in his hand. And he was adding texture and dimensions to his cottonwood house. A more compact version than some, it is probably 1 ½ stories high with a sloping roof over the attic and an intriguing chimney.

Becky W was not only working on cancer hearts, she was finishing a carving of the dog with the waggily tail that she taught earlier this year. It will be one of the Raffle Ticket items at the October Show.

Alvin was making one of his amazing chip carving items. This one was a tissue box cover with not only an artistic design, but a different pattern of colors to the chips and crosses. He was working carefully because it is for a daughter in-law in the Carolinas, and he wants it to be perfect.

Eric T brought some wooden horseshoes and a stack of blanks of them, and a small stack of walnut boards, each maybe about 4" x 4" which were among the items his father had given him. Eric is trying to find other homes for some of these things which he doesn't really want or need himself.



**Doug's professionally made looking knife**





**The roof and chimney on this household interest**



**Working on hearts is always a good project**



**Completing a little dog named Raffles**



**Alvin's beautifully appointed Kleenex box cover**





### **Horseshoes with template boards and stack of walnut squares**

This summer we had three great picnics with lots of food, lots of conversations and a good amount of carving. Everyone who came enjoyed their time and it helped in making us a closer group.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Cross Ranch Bluegrass Festival***

***July 27, 2019***

For the last several years the Flickertails have demonstrated at the Bluegrass Goes Pink Festival at Cross Ranch, which is a community fundraiser for the Cancer Society. Clara has family in the band that plays in the evening, and a number of other carvers and their spouses set up a demonstration booth for people to visit as they pass along. Later in the afternoon is a Communal Supper with a free will offering. In the evening, is a concert with excellent music to cap the enjoyable day.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Capital A'Fair*

*August 3-4, 2019*

Our booth for demonstration was moved back to near the State Library on the right hand side of the Capital grounds. Last year it was close to a busker musician on the left side of the oval. He was playing tunes on the inside of street, which faces away from the venders. People listening to him had their attention drawn away from venders trying to sell a product, to our demonstrations nearby. Since the object is to encourage visitors to buy the exhibited wares, and ours is to gain recognition, we returned to the other side of the grounds.

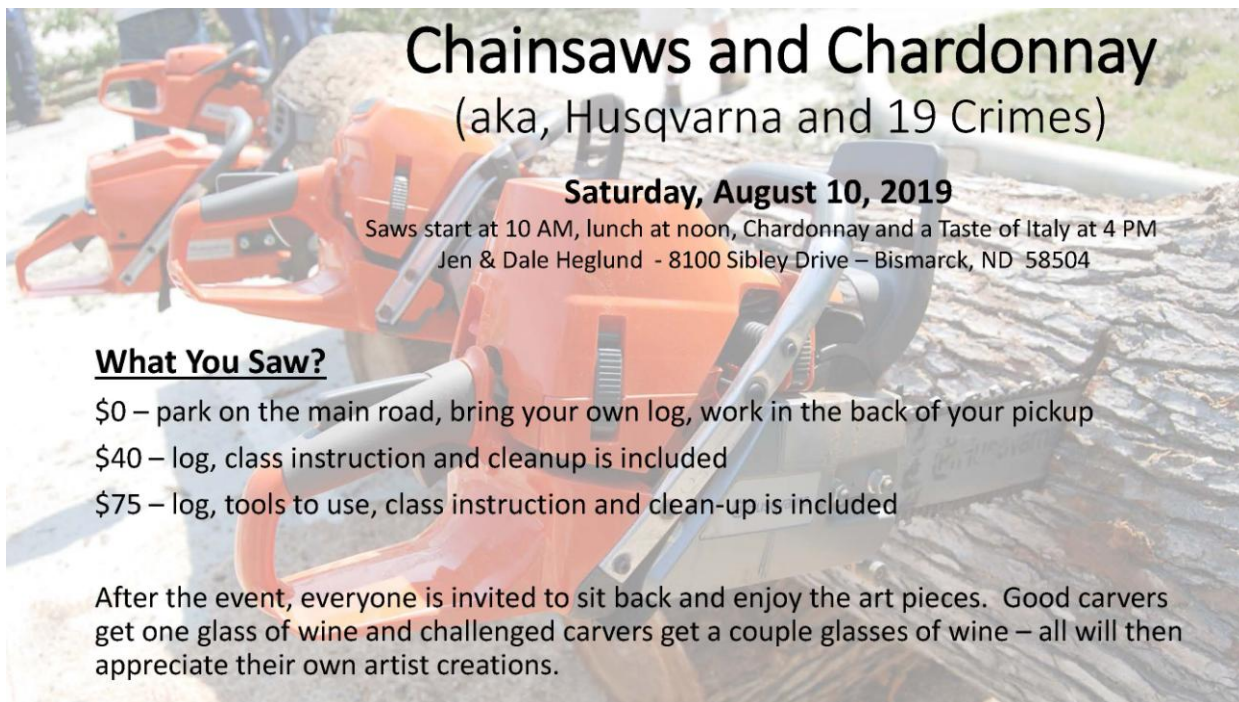
Becky W was in charge this year. She and Eric G went to the oval at the Capital grounds to choose where to set up, and got close to the place beneath the trees we had used in past years. Becky had things organized. Saturday was typical of most demonstration days. A lot of people came over to see what we were doing and to chat. It was interesting to see the different venders and watch the public meandering along the road. Sunday was stormy and at one point in the early afternoon, it rained hard enough that the fairgoers were leaving to get out of the rain, and the booths owners shut down in order to protect their products. Our booth, too, closed in order to keep carvings from becoming wet. The downpour wasn't long, but it abruptly ended the street celebration.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Chain Saws and Chardonnay*

*August 10, 2019*

Dale has been excited about having a chain saw class for awhile. He finally pinned down a day, August 10, and came up with a poster to advertise it the club.



## Chainsaws and Chardonnay

(aka, Husqvarna and 19 Crimes)

**Saturday, August 10, 2019**

Saws start at 10 AM, lunch at noon, Chardonnay and a Taste of Italy at 4 PM  
Jen & Dale Heglund - 8100 Sibley Drive – Bismarck, ND 58504

**What You Saw?**

- \$0 – park on the main road, bring your own log, work in the back of your pickup
- \$40 – log, class instruction and cleanup is included
- \$75 – log, tools to use, class instruction and clean-up is included

After the event, everyone is invited to sit back and enjoy the art pieces. Good carvers get one glass of wine and challenged carvers get a couple glasses of wine – all will then appreciate their own artist creations.

It was at Dale's property, and attendees were able to borrow a chain saw, and acquire a log. He and Vince took upon themselves the teaching of a 3' eagle's feather. Before beginning the carving, though, they went through a safety class regarding what to wear to protect eyes, ears, hands, legs, arms and torso. They also went into how to use a chainsaw, and required a waiver to be signed. Really it was just a walk in the park.

Along with the class, all participants got lunch, and there was an afternoon wine tasting at 4pm for everyone, carvers or just people who came to admire the resulting feathers.

Becky W and Bob P took up the challenge. Becky too has thought chainsaw carving would be fun to pursue, and Bob was interested. The Pedigos stayed for the wine after the class. With the enthusiasm of the two in the class along with Dale and Vince, it seems likely there will be a class next year.





**Becky and Vince cutting above; Bob cutting below**







**Class picture**

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Harvest Fest***

***August 17, 2019***

For the last several years the Flickertails have demonstrated at Corn Fest and at Buckstop Junction. This year it has been rechristened Harvest Fest, although it is rather the same. The one day event raises money for Buckstop's preservation and expansion. Buckstop's purpose is to benefit the community education of North Dakota and local history. The Flickertails, themselves, have an exhibit in the old lumber building.

Mike was the lead for the day's demonstration. It was a blustery and grey day, but the volunteers had a fun if somewhat of a cold time, and the show went off well. People stopped by and interacted with the members present. At the end, the booth was stored for the next event to happen in about a month at Buckstop.

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



We are back to normal activities after a summer of picnics and demonstrations. More recently the one major activity was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Flickertail Show held at the Heritage Center. It was very nice that the Heritage Center partnered with us and we are greatly appreciative. Even with the snowstorm everything went great. Presenters were Jay Haavick, master Carver, Karen Henderson taught spoons and Teri Stegmiller's art project was more than worth while. Other September/October activities were regular meetings and Whittle-Ins. The updated

calendar was written by Eric Gaasland. Photograph credits go to Eric Gaasland, Dale Heglund and Facebook contributors. 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**



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Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday carving at Edgewood Vista from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

[www.flickertail.org](http://www.flickertail.org)

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| December 17, 2019 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes                               |
| January 4, 2020   | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes                    |
| January , 2020??  | (Maybe March??) Holiday Party – All Day<br>Coordinators Becky Weisgerber and Diane Turck |
| January 21, 2020  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Cliff Orgaard   |
| February 1, 2020  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Bob Pedigo, love spoon                       |
| February 18, 2020 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Eric Gaasland   |
| March 7, 2020     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Becky Weisgerber                             |

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| March 17, 2020      | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Becky Barnes                  |
| April 4, 2020       | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Ed Ryan            |
| April 21, 2020      | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Marlene Moser                 |
| April 18 - 19, 2020 | Fargo Carving Show   |
| May 1 – 3, 2020?    | Spring Carving Class by Rick and Cathy Brereton<br>Rustic Loon |
| May 2, 2020         | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mitch Olson        |
| May 19, 2020        | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Warren Schlecht               |
| June 26 – 28, 2020  | Wahpeton Carving Weekend                                       |

#### **PAST EVENTS**

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| June 18, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| June 21-23, 2019   | Wahpeton Carving Weekend  |
| July 16, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| July 27, 2019      | Cross Ranch State Park, carving demo<br>Doug Emerson Coordinator                        |
| August 3 & 4, 2019 | Capital Art Affair, carving demo,<br>Becky Weisgerber.                                  |
| August 20, 2019    | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| August 17, 2019    | Harvest Feed at Buckstop, Junction, carving demo,<br>Mike Knudson Coordinator           |
| September 7, 2019  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Larry Graf                                  |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| September 17, 2019  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Perry Cook   |
| September 25-28     | Hostfest University (Kolrosing and Spoon Carving<br>Classes)<br><a href="http://hostfest.com/hu/">http://hostfest.com/hu/</a>   |
| September 28 and 29 | Applefest at Buckstop Junction, carving<br>demos, Dale Heglund Coordinator  |
| October 5, 2019     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Donna Grunett   |
| October 11, 2019    | Potluck at Quality Inn  |
| October 12-13, 2019 | Flickertail Woodcarving Show<br>50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Show<br>North Dakota Heritage Center<br><b>Feature Carver</b> , Oct 10-13 will be Jay Haavik Project –<br>Nordic style carving<br><br><b>Non-Carving Class</b> – Teri Stegmiller – fabric painting <b>Weekend</b><br><b>Carver</b> – Karen Henderson – Green wood spoon carving |
| October 15, 2019    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Vince Bitz   |
| November 2, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mike Knudson  |
| November 19, 2019   | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Smith   |
| December 7, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Diane and Tom Turck   |



\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Eric G, called the meeting to order. There were about 16-7 people present.

Larry Graf had an elegant gazelle project for the Whittle-In.

**Edgewood Vista:** Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. Coming dates are December 19<sup>th</sup>, January 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, and February 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Cancer Hearts:** Please keep making hearts when you have a chance.

**“Guest:** Becky W came to drop off Raffle Tickets for the October Show. She is actually taking the pyrography class with Julie Bender today, and can’t be here.

**Secretary’s Report:** The May Minutes are in the May newsletter. Please let Diane know if any changes were needed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Bob P and Eric G noted that the bills have been paid and that there is \$8,753 in the account not including money involved in the October Show. The Sons of Norway have donated \$300 to us for the October Show and to foster a closer relationship. Diane moved and Dale seconded that the report be passed. Accepted.

**Membership:** Doug S not here.

**Property:** Vince reports we are doing well. From discussion, we presently have 5 beginner carving sets. We will purchase 5 more from Bob Lawrence.

**Library:** Cliff says it’s doing fine.

**Publicity:** Becky W has purchased some business cards.

**Historian:** Clara isn't here today.

**Facebook:** Eric G is putting photos on Facebook as we speak.

**Website/Instagram:** Becky B not here today.

**Buckstop Junction:** Harvest Fest did OK weather wasn't very cooperative. Apple Fest is September 21-22. Dale passed around a sign-up sheet.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:** This is our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and we are pleased to be able to hold it at the North Dakota Heritage Center. Jay Haavik, a world renowned carver, will be our Master Woodcarver doing relief carving in Scandinavian style. The project will be done in mahogany. See the signup sheet for a list of the suggested tools you may want to have. He will instruct students in a Nordic relief carving on Thursday and Friday, October 10 and 11 from 8:30-5pm and Saturday and Sunday, October 12 and 13 from 8-12 noon.

The other two classes will be on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Karen Henderson will lead a session in making useable spoons and eating implements from a variety of woods. Finally, Terri Stegmiller will lead a group in painting a huge cloth with lots of color. The masterpiece will be divided among the participants to take home at the end.

None of the classes is completely full. The carving ones have nine signed up, and the art one has eight. Karen Pedigo took the information about Stegmiller's project to her quilting group to see if anyone there wants to participate.

So far at least 22 tables have been requested with several more being applied for as members sign-up for classes.

Please sell Raffle Tickets for the Show. We have some wonderful prizes and this is one way we make money to carry out our various projects.

**Programs:** Begining carving classes will start after the October Show. We are looking for people who can teach the individual lessons.

The chainsaw carving class was worthwhile and can be offered next year, too.

**New Business:** Dale will receive information about a scout troop wanting to work on the wood carving merit badge.

**Old Business:** None.

**Show and Tell:** Larry brought a belt buckle with a cute pair of raccoons as a giveaway.

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net).

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck, Secretary

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### *September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Whittle-In*

Larry Graf is a talented woodcarver with some great ideas. He came up with the concept of carving a gazelle. One of the many antelopes from Africa, it is as elegant as a dancer, and in fact, the stance of Larry's carving reminds one of a dancer *en pointe*. Antelopes are even toed ungulates, but Wikipedia calls the name a "wastebasket taxon" because it is not one group or taxon, but rather the over 90 species called antelope occur in some 30 genera.

A number of them, including most gazelle species inhabit the savannahs of East Africa. Gazelles live in herds and eat easily digestible plants and leaves. While a number of antelopes take part in grand migrations to trail the seasonal rain patterns across the grasslands, many gazelles, with their strong, slender legs and long strides, follow one of the furthest routes. They are known for their agility and speed, and having eyes on either side of their heads gives them radial vision to help out maneuver lions, cheetahs and other predators. Gazelles can reach 60 miles and can sustain 50 miles an hour.





### **Graceful gazelles. Basswood between two butternut creatures**

Along with their sight, gazelles have keen senses of smell and hearing to perceive danger at night. Some species of gazelle have white rumps that they flash to alert the rest of the herd of nearby threats and their vocal communications have warning calls and trumpets as well as other types of interactive calls. Of the 10 or so species, most are considered threatened to some extent. Four others are extinct.

Larry discovered the project on the internet. He used a scroll saw to create more than enough blanks for the approximately 17 people present to buy. While most of the blanks were basswood, he also had some in butternut as well. He came prepared with sheet of paper with drawing and directions on both sides. The butternut may contain insect holes through the wood which makes the end carving look interesting. Besides the template for the animal, Larry had small square stands to put the gathered gazelle's hooves in.



**Blanks and bases on the table**

A number of the tables were full of people who were intent on carving the project. The completed gazelles were shared by participants looking to get details of the gazelle correct.



**Eileen examining the direction sheet**



### **Sharing a finished gazelle to help these four in their carvings**

Even though most Saturday mornings there are a number of items to share for show and tell, this morning Larry was the only one who brought something interesting. He has had for a number of years a belt buckle made of polished wood, displaying two raccoons sitting on a branch in the moonlight. The buckle is oval and set in yellow metal. The effect is almost a silhouette with the coats of the animals shining brown by the light of the moon, and their eyes reflecting close to the same goldfish color as the moon. Larry is trying to give it to someone who would like to have it. He was agreeable for it to become part of the October Raffle.



**Raccoons startled in the moonlight**

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## *Julie Bender Pyrography Lecture*

*September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

Both Luci and Becky W took Julie's class Pyrography yesterday. A number of carvers attended her lecture today. She aptly called it "Playing with Fire."

She first started becoming interested in wood burning to memorialize a dog of whom she was particularly fond. She looked on the internet for boxes, and developed a business in urns for pets, starting out at local shows. Maple was her wood of choice because it is hard and burns slowly. She eventually started to use burl maple as well. She progressed into regional shows, tested flat maple and began to work for herself rather than just taking orders from others, and expanded into juried shows.

Julie moved to Colorado in her quest to go into creating pictures. She began to figure out how to combine water color and burning together. Some of her early successes included using sand, and coffee in sponges for texture and color. She found 300 lb weight paper works best. Using oil color pencils in the past, she now uses thin acrylic. With her photos, she plans her composition completely. Julie may use a combination of photos to achieve the result she wants. First she burns all the elements of the picture and then plans where to put the color. She stressed that it is important to know the use of values. In answer to questions she stated that when she uses wood, she sands it smooth. She uses a spray varnish on wood pieces. She finds having great photographs is imperative.

She gives retreats for people to come to Colorado, hike and take photos, and then burn/paint a picture over a period of days.

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### *September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Whittle-In*

Perry Cook arrived encumbered with cases and carryalls and Oliver. Oliver has grown since I last saw him. Much more mobile now of course, he is a pleasant character.



**Perry and grandson Oliver**

Perry came with a cute stylized owl which can be used as a necklace pendant or something similar. Broadly speaking there are at least 200 species of owl. Most are solitary and nocturnal predators. Easily recognized by their huge often round or slightly frowning eyes like the spotted owl or great-horned owl, no other bird has as large a binocular field of vision. Perry's trinket has big radiating round eyes. Its patterned chest reminds one of spotted or barred owls. All owls can turn their heads 270°, and have excellent far vision, though their near vision is pretty useless. Their hearing is quite extraordinary. Their ears are asymmetrical on either side of their heads and that facial ruff of feathers helps direct sound accurately. Within 30 millionth of a second an owl can pinpoint the exact location of its prey. In addition, most species of owls have feathers especially adapted in shape and form to attain silent flying. The drawback to that is they can't fly in the rain. In rainy periods of several days that causes food problems for the owl, but also for any young owlets.



**An owl blank, washers for eye diameter, a cord and eye for making a pendent**



**Two completed owls**

As we were getting ready to get our owl blanks and settle down, Dennis Houle came in to offer us red cedar that he had outside in his vehicle. He teaches at one of the colleges and is a friend of Dale. A friend of his had some red cedar in their yard burned by some children playing with cottonwood fluff and matches in the next yard. They had already given some away, but had more. Some of us went out to see it and take advantage of his offer. Several weeks later, I found out that the children were playing with their father's supervision. He must not have realized how flammable cottonwood seeds are. The fire took off through at least two yards. I talked to a woman who owns the second house. They needed to have the siding replaced on their house, and the house with the cedar trees is still undergoing repair. The boys and the father had apologized and paid for some of the damage.



**Eric T's cottonwood bark guitar player**



Listening to her tell how the fire had raced across the yards, and how it had caused much more damage than a couple of trees, and that the father had been oblivious to how much playing with fire could be a problem, it was like listening to one of old Paul Harvey's, "The Rest of the Story," episodes.

Everyone finally settled down to Perry's project. About the time we were all discussing it and visiting in general, it was Oliver's bedtime and they left. There were a number of show and tell items, though. Eric T had brought the most.



**Some of the 18 carvers**

He had a young guitarist whose stature and mien are not satisfying him. He is deciding whether to make some modifications to make it more pleasing to his way of thinking. Then there is the poor little raccoon peering out of a work boot. He is a bit scuffed and missing ears. Eric's cat got a hold of the carving, ate away his ears, scratched at his nose and face and left him in need of repair. The third piece he had was a delightful field mouse. The ears on the mouse would be just about right for the raccoon, but I hope he finds another source since that would help the one animal and not deprive the other of his ears.





**Earless raccoon**



**Unsuspecting mouse**

Finally, a wonderful show and tell, Clara is providing us with a spoon carved by Telle Ruder styled with Acanthus leaves.



**The front (above) and back (below) of Telle's spoon**



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## *Apple Fest*

*September 21-22, 2019*

The Flickertails have demonstrated at Applefest at Buckstop Junction for a number of years to help support the Bismarck Cancer Center. There are musical performances, great food, games and parades. This year they had a blowup obstacle course and a Blood Drive. All of the proceeds go to the Cancer Center for community services the center provides.

We set our booth up next to the blacksmith shop. It offers clear view to the lines of people walking along the street, and sitting in the chairs in front of the music tent, but it is hard at times to carry on any good conversation with the loudness of the music. Still, the music tent is a draw. Due to the blustery weather of the Harvest Fest, the sides to the booth were found should they be needed. It is only a month away from the October show, so encouraging passersby to attend is a goal, as well as to talk about joining the beginning carver's class.



**Clara watching the tractors go along the parade route**



Clara came to spend much of the day. She went out to see what the festival had to offer and returned with some food to sustain her. Eric T came to put in some time and realized he had forgotten a carving project, so accepted a blank I had in my carrying case from the Santa Tom and I had offered as a project last year. He said he'd see what could make of it. The volunteers enjoyed talking each other and the visitors, and the show went off well.



**Eric G and Clara talking to some people walking by**

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### ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Eric G called the meeting to order.

Donna Grunett provided a feather spoon project.



**Edgewood Vista:** Carvers are meeting to carve with residents at Edgewood Vista in their Activity Center from 2-4 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. Coming dates are December 19<sup>th</sup>, and January 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, and February 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Cancer Hearts:** Please keep making hearts when you have a chance.

**Guest:** Bob Johnson.

**Show and Tell:** Bob P: a quail with cactus

Donna: a salt chicken

**Secretary's Report:** Becky B read the Minutes from the September Meeting. Perry motioned and Vince 2nded.

**Treasurer's Report:** \$9,518 in the account. Motioned and Becky W 2nded.

**Membership:** N/A.

**Property:** Vince reports there are problems with the lock. It has become hard to operate. We have ordered 5 more beginner carving tool sets from Bob Lawrence for \$550. Delivery will be at the Show.

**Library:** Nothing new to report.

**Publicity:** Becky W did a Dakota Media Access Interview. They will provide us the audio file to place on the website and Facebook.

**Historian:** N/A.

**Facebook:** Eric G is putting photos on Facebook as we speak.

**Website/Instagram:** Becky B stated that the website is up to date.

**Buckstop Junction:** N/A.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:**

Doug E:

Classes are from 8 to 5 on Thursday and Friday  
Saturday and Sunday the Heritage Center will open at 8 AM for carvers  
Becky B will be at the Registration table

Bring a Table Cloth and sheet to cover your table when you are not at your table.

Saturday lunch will be served at noon at the West Entrance. Food ticket will be in the package

Friday pot luck at 5 PM at the Quality Inn West End Room E. Contact Karen Pedigo if you are going to attend with food.

Banquet Saturday at Harvest Brazilian Grill at 6:30

Sunday Heritage Center Closes at 4:30

Vendors in the Classroom. No Sales in the Hallways.

Raffle ticket drawings at the October 15 Whittle-in

**Programs:** All set for the show. Please sell Raffle Tickets for the Show.

**New Business:** Beginning carving class signups are open. We will start after the October Show. We are looking for people who can teach the individual lessons.

There is a Colored Pencil Class similar to the one held at the May Spring Class coming soon. Anyone interested contact Karen Pedigo.

**Old Business:** Thank you to everyone who helped out at Buckstop Junction for the Harvest Fest and Applefest.

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net).

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Becky Barnes, Acting Secretary

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### *October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

Donna Grunett has been working on carving miniature spoons called salt spoons for several months. Normal salt spoons range from 2-3 inches long, with a small circular bowl. They and their associated salt cellars were used until the early half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The design on the spoon often matched the design on the salt cellar. Salt tends to absorb moisture and clump into a large lump. Usually the

head of the household would distribute salt from a larger container. A quantity or lump of salt would be broken up into crystals and put in a salt cellar with the spoon to be put on the dining table. Because salt was expensive it was understood that you used the small salt spoon to sprinkle it over your food.



**Donna's salt spoon with chicken feathered handle**

Although one computer site places the development of adding magnesium carbonate to salt as late as the 1930s, Morton Salt inaugurated its campaign of, "When it rains, it pours," in 1914 in response to its success in the use of the absorbing agent in 1911. Since salt no longer stuck so readily to itself, shakers became the way salt was distributed at tables. Today, salt spoons and salt cellars are highly collectible items and are used nostalgically in many dining rooms.



### **Working on spoons**

About 15 members turned out to see what the carving assignment would be, and soon got busy with their spoons. It was a wonderful project. Donna had the spoons at other meetings for show and tell, so it was nice that we actually got to make them. In addition, she brought a salt chicken or a salt cellar chicken for show and tell. It was pleasant to see them as a set. Very good.

Bob P had a small tableau with a quail and cactus. Quail like this one are small desert dwelling birds. They would rather walk than fly, and do walk quickly. When they gather, their groups are known as coveys, or bevys. They enjoy taking dust baths. The female usually has about 10-12 chicks which are precocial. That indicates that they are born ready to follow their parents. They are more insectivorous when first born, but gradually add plants to their diets as they age.





**A salt chicken and spoon**



**Bob P's bright eyed quail**

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## ***October Woodcarving Show***

***October 10-13<sup>th</sup>, 2019***

Although the October Woodcarving Show actually starts with the beginning of the Master Class on Thursday, the rest of the show starts on Friday evening. The Flickertails set aside a block of rooms for people to stay for the weekend at the Quality Inn. People arriving from out of town as well as those from Bismarck gather in one of their meeting rooms, Room E usually, for a traditional pot luck dinner. The people from Bismarck brought food for everyone to eat. That way we all got to visit and the out-of-towners didn't have to find dinner elsewhere. Karen Pedigo was kind enough to set it up. She and four or five others made sloppy joes in crock pots. Others brought beans and small frankfurters. There were numbers of excellent side dishes, salads, and desserts, all of which were worth an extra visit as well.



**Getting dinner**

The Quality Inn provided water and glasses. There was a nearby bar for anyone wanting a beer or mixed drink. The food was set up on a long table across the top of the room and another table down part of the far side. Long tables for dinner

guests were arranged perpendicularly to the side walls with a wide center aisle in between.

Considering the storm raging around the state, there were a fair number of people at the pot luck. Some people just couldn't make it. I-94 was impassible, and the thought of getting marooned in the snow was very possible. We were fortunate the storm hadn't started earlier. Jay Haavik our Master Carver was already there, his class having begun on Thursday. Karen Henderson, our other instructor from out of state, and her husband decided to come over a day early rather than wait when they saw the forecast. Joe Jewett and his wife, who provide us with much of the year's supply of wood, hadn't made it Friday evening, but before the Heritage Center closed on Saturday, they arrived by going back roads parallel to the freeway. We were all glad that he came but it must have been a treacherous drive.



### **Visiting while eating**

Even at Friday's dinner there were a couple of new carvings to look at. Ruth, Larry's wife, wore a pendent that Larry carved from Perry's owl class. It was quite well executed. Eric T had a man's head with a beaver hat, shoulder length hair, a slightly wavy beard and a great handlebar mustache. The small carving came from a template last year for a Santa's head. Quite an interesting difference.





### **A 19<sup>th</sup> century individual**

Saturday morning didn't really "dawn." It wasn't anything but ugly. The storm could have been worse, but it wasn't comfortable. A number of us arrived just before 8 am at the Heritage Center to start setting up before classes began. The tables were arranged around the welcoming hub you see when you first enter, then continued down the hallway edge and along to the classrooms. There was enough space between each table that several more tables could have been inserted, but with fewer people to exhibit than usual, the spread looked right. The tables had name tags, as with other years, and Becky B was one of those sitting around the circle. Becky could help show participants with concerns and later visitors with questions, being at the beginning. There was also a table with the raffle prizes set for viewing.

The participants each got a little "swag bag" that held our tickets for lunch both days, supper at the Brazilian Harvest Event Center (BHEC) Saturday night, carving knives for the members in the two carving classes and individual thermoses emblazoned with gold flickertails for the painters. The knives were beautiful and good quality. The thermoses had been tested by Bob P to figure out which brand performed the best on a series of tests such as heat retention.





### **A showing of some of the raffle prizes**

Unlike shows from other years, because this show was at the Heritage Center, a public building, we could not sell raffle tickets, wood supplies or tools except in the classroom area. We knew that would make raffle ticket sales less than previous years, but hoped that it would not cut into them too much. Sales of wood supplies and tools would not be too affected by being restricted. Rather, the inability of people to attend could present a problem there.

Saturday not many people braved the weather to come and find us, but more than I would have thought. Besides wanting to see the show, I think people probably wanted to get out their homes, or maybe get away from shoveling, and the Heritage Center is a nice location for families to go and spend a few hours.

Sunday we did have more attendance, and I think all the people who came because they knew we were here, as well as the folks who just happened upon us, were quite pleased at what they found. Sunday we seemed to hit our stride as far as interacting with the public and it feeling more like the show and less like coming in out of the storm. The members at the different tables seemed to be enjoying themselves more and the passersby seemed more engaged with the exhibits.



**Michal and Al talking near Warren's table**

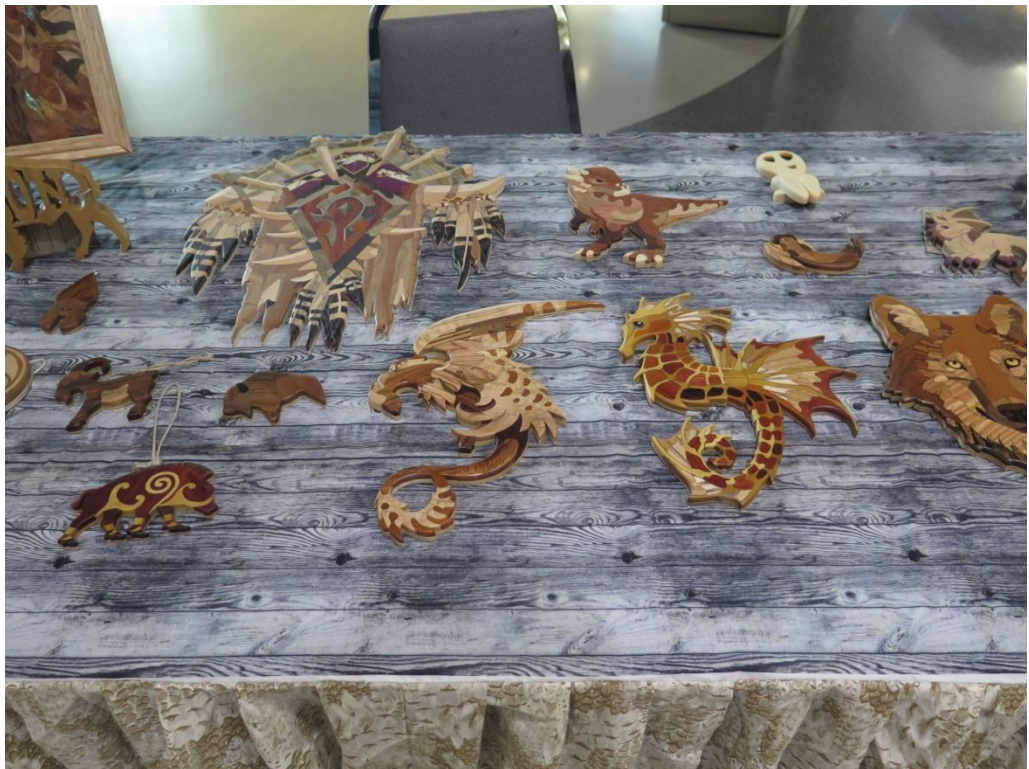


**Eileen's Christmas, Halloween and ducks**





**Mostly relief carvings from Rick**



**Real and fantastic visions from Becky B**



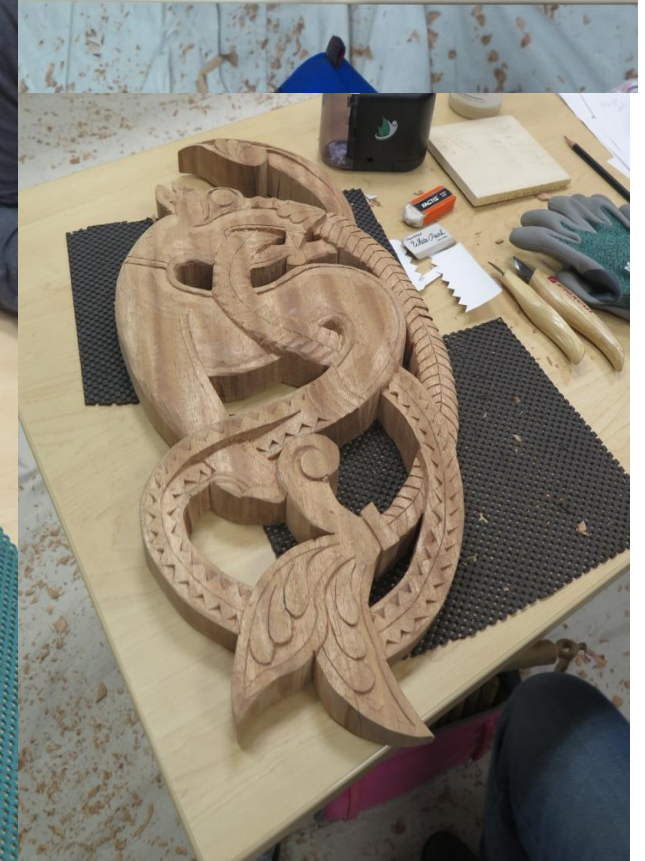
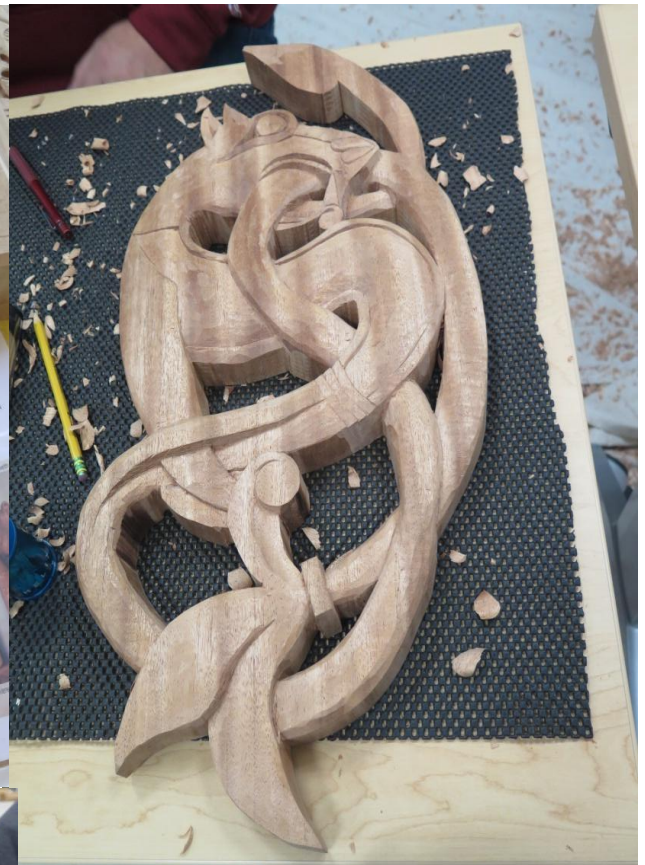
**One of Jay Haavik's relief panels**

This year Jay Haavik was our Master Carver. His stand alone and relief art is quite amazing. Largely self taught in the beginning, he has worked all over the world primarily undertaking Northwest Coast representations and Scandinavian art from the Viking era. In 2010 he was hired as the lead carver in a project to create a replica of a Norwegian Viking Ship, called the Oseberg Ship, using tools and techniques of the time, including working outside.

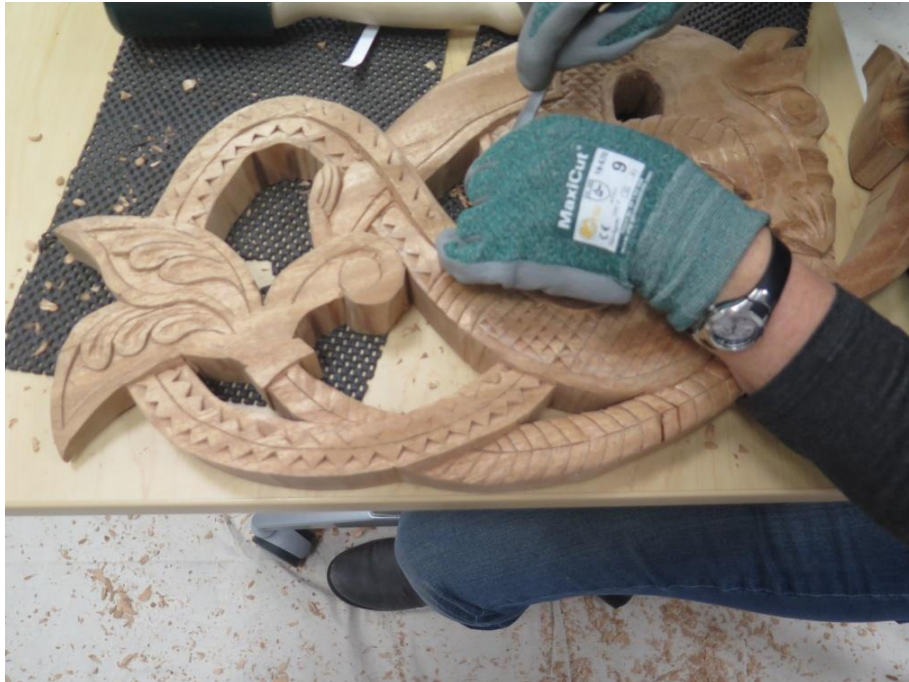
His earlier Northwest Coast conceptions in mythology and lore and his later Viking and early Scandinavian designs are complex and a pleasure to see. The twists and turns of the patterns and figures in his Viking productions are truly exceptional.

His class listed an array of tools that would be necessary, and the four day length of his instruction was certainly warranted. There was a lot of attention to detail, not only in the basic outline of the creature, but in the internal patterns of his skin or coat.









**A visual set of the fantastic creature**

The pictures on the last page and this show the progress of the carving being accomplished by different members of the class. In the top right hand corner of the page is Jay's project relief. The top left is a creature that has had little done, although considering the chips, the person doing the carving probably feels that more work should be visible. The person on the lower right of the page has been working on the textured body of the monster, while the one on the left has been completing the scales on the bifurcated tail and its feathery end. The last one shown on this page has begun to have the torso checkered, and so is getting close to being finished.

The Heritage Center has been helping us celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. One of the ways they are working with us is that they asked Jay to give a *Sensational Sunday* talk regarding his adventure on the work crew building the replica of the Oseberg Ship in Tonsberg, Norway. Even though he is not a Scandinavian Native his extensive work on Viking styles and art led the people building the ship to offer him the job. Viking ships are a symbol of the time of the Vikings the way that pyramids are a symbol of ancient Egypt.

The job came from efforts to reconstruct a famous ancient ship that had been excavated in 1904 from a burial mound. It is thought to have been built in around

790AD and buried in around 840AD. A high quality of preservation occurred because it was entombed in blue clay which kept water from entering. The ship was constructed of oak with elaborate wood carvings on the bow and stern. Some of the furnishings and furniture it held included a cart, four sleighs, a bed, chains, and some carved heads reminiscent of Irish animal heads. Two skeletons of women were discovered with the ship. Among the theories about the women, is that the older one may have been more important and the other a servant.

One of the attempts to build the ship in the 1970s ended with the vessel sinking after 20 minutes. With x-rays, lasers and extraordinary measurements, the team Jay was on began the project. Jay's slides show the way in which the boat was constructed using only traditional tools and methods. Like the original, the ship was about 60 ft long and had 15 oars to a side. Besides seeing the way Jay composed his parts of the decorative areas on the ship, watching how the boat itself came together and how it was seaworthy was interesting. It actually sailed on the open water to make sure that it would have floated and not just been used for burial.



**A Viking mythical head post**

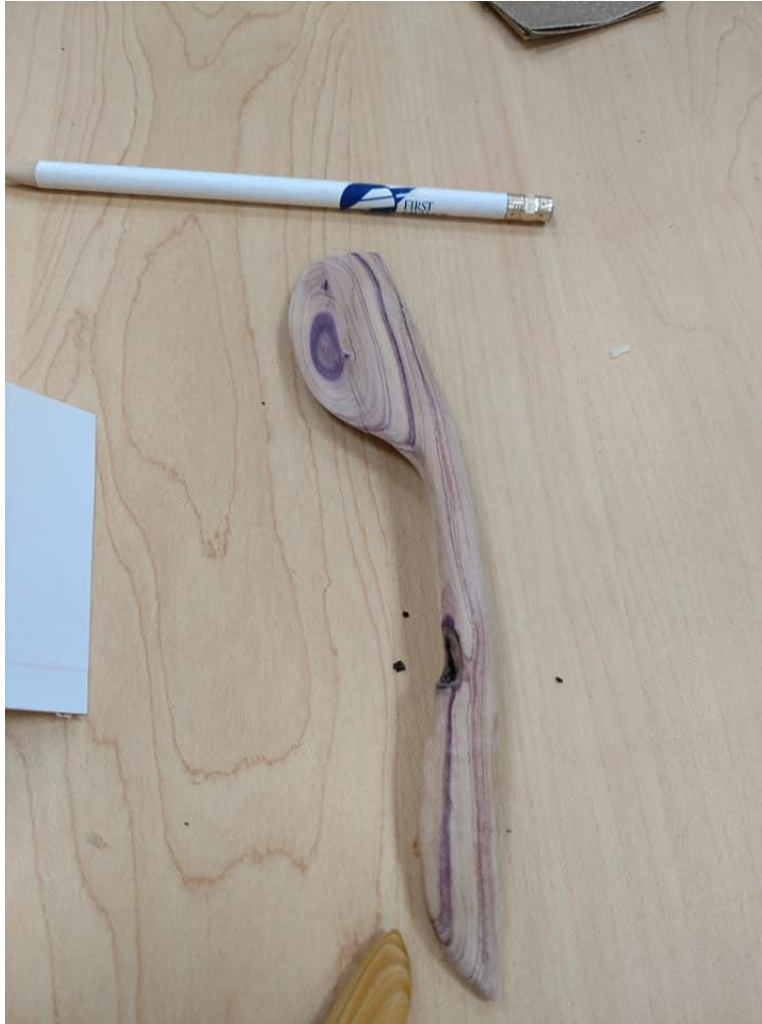
Karen Henderson taught the other group of students. Carving spoons shared little of the anxious intensity of the relief carving going on in the room next door. Karen's method of carving uses water to keep the wood supple and from drying, of course. It's a departure from the dry carving with which most of us are familiar. The first item they fashioned was a spreader. There were over seven different woods to choose from. Each wood was a little different in color, texture and workability. Some of the woods available were maple, apple, cherry, walnut, buckthorn, sumac and lilac. Karen even had a few mulberry pieces.

After opting for the wood each wanted, the carver took time and cut down the wood to the thickness desired. The next step involved smoothing the wood. That process used graduated grits of sandpaper. They are rated inversely to size, so 100 grit is coarser than 200 grit, and 400 would be a fine grit. The person starts with the grittiest paper, say 100 and works until the spreader feels smooth, then continues with a 180 or 200 grit until that seems smooth, working in increments down to something around 380 or 420. Taking a shortcut just means you end up going back and working with the layer you missed. Even while sanding, small variations in color or appearance that you didn't see in the previous shaping of the piece can emerge.



**Tubs of wood from which to choose**





### **Lilac Spreader**

After completing a spreader students got to choose a blank from which to create a spoon. With most of these blanks it is evident which should be the handle and which the bowl, but normally that is the first decision to make. Often, figure half for one side and half for the other rather than over killing the procedure. On the back, form the keel, a sort of cross between the bowl and handle to give it stability and definition. When carving the back of the bowl pay attention to the curve. No kamikaze shortened sides. Also, when carving on the back, work into the keel end first near the bowl, then go with the grain. Lastly carve the bowl by initially drawing a circle to stay inside. Carve cross grained so you can control where you are making cuts.

Many of the woods Karen has show differences in grain, lilac for instance showing lovely purples running through it, or sumac with dark bands alternating with lighter. Some woods themselves are yellowish, reddish or even dark brown. After fashioning the spreader or spoon to look the way you want, and getting it sanded down to be completely smooth, Karen suggests using Danish oil to finish it. It is food safe, you will be able to eat off of your utensils, and it brings out the colors nicely.

Several in this class, and others who had taken a previous session with Karen, wanted to purchase her kit of sandpapers along with a number of spoon blanks to make on their own. You can keep the spoons in your freezer for some time, and reconstitute them by boiling them for 2 hours and leaving them sit overnight. You should be able to work with the wood then. Besides spoons and spreaders for future use, Karen had containers of wooden leaf shapes lining the front wall with directions how to make them into small dishes for candy or nuts.

Finally, she had a cute duo of birds hatching from eggs that were being made by a street vender in a town she was visiting on vacation. He crafted them so easily and quickly she had to buy them.



**Karen talking with Ron and Bob P**



**Handmade hatching birds**



**Karen's class with spoons and spreaders**



Various members' wives have been talking about the fun people have when they take one of Terri Stegmiller's classes. A lot of them were excited that we were going to have that as our non-carving session this fall. The idea is to create an explosion of color to at the beginning. Everyone gathers around and paints shapes like hearts, squares, circles, leaf outlines etc. until the entire space is covered. Of course, they talk about what they are doing, offer suggestions and encourage each other in their artistic endeavor.



### **Getting a feel for the project**

That is left to dry. When the group returns, they add more. Triangles begin to look like pieces of pepperoni pizza, squares are segmented and squiggles are embellished with other squiggles. No blank places are left. After it dries again, even more is added, which looks great even though you couldn't imagine where it was going to go before the artists started. Words and slogans, and short phrases are added as well. Eventually the entire tapestry of color appears that it can hold not one jot more.



**Nowhere near done**



**Adding another layer**



Then it is divided into eight pieces and each person gets to devise their own art project, like a tote bag. We were missing a student for this class, and since our friend Bonnie Cook was looking forward to doing this class, Karen P is going to use the remaining piece to fashion a tote for Bonnie's daughter.



**Three of the eight pieces**

Saturday, of course, the members in the Flickertails who were in the classes stayed fairly close to where their instructions were being given, but there were opportunities to go to the kitchen for snacks or to see what the other classes were doing. The way things were arranged, it wasn't as easy to get breaks to visit your demonstration table as other years. It didn't seem to be a problem though.

At one point Doug went to each instructor and presented them with various thank you gifts including the thermos. Lunch was supplied by the BHEC, which also provides the food for the cafeteria in the Heritage Center. They set up steamers of food for us at the other end of the Heritage Center which used to be the entrance. During the afternoon, Clara had showing the carving she is donating of Telle Rudser. She had it at the September 18<sup>th</sup> Whittle-In. It is a fine addition to our ongoing collection.





**Doug and Jay with gift**



**A lovely carving by Telle Rudser**

As I mentioned, toward the end of the afternoon, Joe Jewitt and his wife arrived with loads of lumber of useful sizes. Very nice, now there are both wood supplies and new tools available for purchase in the classroom next to the relief carving. Things feel more complete. At the end of the day, people went back to their motels or homes to freshen up and meet again for supper.

The BHEC is located on the main street of Mandan. Since only part of it was set up for our dinner, it appears rather cavernous but agreeably lit. We were tucked away in a huge corner, with a number of circular tables near a buffet line. The food was so good, and people ate enough that even with encouragement the small cheesecake squares for dessert remained unfinished.

After dinner those participating in the gift swap exchanged numbers and presents. Jay gave an informative slide show on some of the Northwest Coast and Scandinavian art he has designed.

Sunday the storm had abated, people came to the show, looking at the tables of carvings. Kathy and Rick Brereton will be instructing students how to create a loon for the Spring Class, and she brought a completed one to the show for members and the general public to see.

As the afternoon progressed, projects were in their finishing stages. The mural was divided, and spoons were shaped or in planning phases of where they would be by the end of the day. Some people bought spoon, spreader and leaf bowl blanks for later development. Relief carvers were trying to see how far they could get and what to do in the days following the Show in order to finish their undertakings. Jay's *Sensational Sunday* presentation was well received and impressive.

At the day's end, everyone pitched in and gathered tarps, packed away tools, wood, tables and artifacts. The floors were swept and vacuumed. The Heritage Center went back to looking like it had before we arrived.



**The Brereton loon**



**Some gifts in the exchange**





**Joe Jewitt and Bob Lawrence at dinner**



**A view of the event hall**

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### *October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Whittle-In*

The meeting started out more chaotically than usual. About 17 members and 10 new students, the raffle prizes and the raffle ticket wheel, all crowded into the area near the door. Slowly, the members sat a few of the round tables away from the door, since the raffle items and apparatus were set up on some of the first round tables, and the students were getting seated at the long tables on the inside of the doors. One of the students is a teenager, and he came with his mother. A younger child came with an adult who was taking the class. Eric G ran the class with occasional help from Cliff and a couple of others. He was concentrating on intro types of cuts and safety. Once the class began, it seemed to go well.



**Eric G and Becky B with the new class**

Vince forgot he was to host the project, which can be easy to do, but Donna came partly to the rescue. Donna had the earlier project in the month, and by happenstance, the people at her table hadn't been to the session. She was able to hold a mini class for about five people who had missed her salt spoon because she still had some blanks. That was fortunate and the spoon was such a good project.



### **People working on the salt spoon**

Others present, such as Matt and his daughter, and Luci and Becky B were working on items they brought with them.

Becky W, with help, laid out the raffle prizes on one table, and on a nearby table set up the tumbler with the slips of numbers of people who had entered. Marlene stood by to stir the pieces of paper, and Henleigh, Doug E's granddaughter did the honor of pulling out all the numbers for the prize winners. She did an excellent job, reaching in and getting slips of paper from all over in the barrel, and Marlene and she made sure it was well mixed each time.

There were about 900 tickets. Even with all the jumbling, Flickertails won five prizes. Of course, they probably bought a lot of the tickets. Ron and Darlene won three. Becky W and Bob P each won one. Eric G had misplaced the wizard made by Eric T for the raffle, but Darlene won it, and everyone was certain the wizard would eventually emerge. Most of the winners were from Bismarck, or were known to someone in the club. No one was from New York or Texas or some distant location. A person from Dickinson was about the farthest away, and his





**A variety of the raffle prizes**



**Marlene and Doug E with Henleigh doing an expert job of choosing**

son lives in Bismarck. A few people were difficult to find or contact, but in the end, everything worked out well.

Finally Doug S showed a cottonwood bark building which included a lot of extra creation. Bits of bark highlighted the rocks below most of the structure and the edge of the roof eaves. That was in addition to the circular piece and attic house above that.



**The lattice work on the ball and structure below it mimic each other**

# The Curling Chip      November/December 2020

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



In this issue, check out Mike Knudson's leaf spirit similar to a Green Man but leaf size. Seasonal renderings for monthly Whittle Ins include Doug Smith's Christmas elf and Tom and Diane's Santa peeking out of a chimney. Our fall beginners class had about 10 students. Several teenagers participated with us in our yearly December snake carving event. They were there to learn how to carve and help out. Also Dale Heglund taught four classes of 4-H Students how to carve with soap. Thanks to all the Flickertail members who helped out with this 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**



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

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.





# Event Calendar

Meetings and Whittle-Ins are held at the Fellowship Hall in Trinity Lutheran Church, 502 N 4<sup>th</sup> St Bismarck

Summer – June, July and August at Sertoma Park, Shelter #4

[www.flickertail.org](http://www.flickertail.org)

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| December 7, 2019  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Diane and Tom Turck       |
| December 17, 2019 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes            |
| January 4, 2020   | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Doug Emerson, snow snakes |
| January 21, 2020  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Cliff Orgaard<br>toadstools          |
| February 1, 2020  | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Bob Pedigo, love spoon    |
| February 18, 2020 | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Eric Gaasland, pineapple             |

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| March 7, 2020       | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Becky Weisgerber<br>(see below)    |
| March 7, 2020       | Ides of March Party – All Day<br>Coordinators Becky Weisgerber and Diane Turck |
| March 17, 2020      | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Becky Barnes                                  |
| April 4, 2020       | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Ed Ryan                            |
| April 21, 2020      | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Marlene Moser                                 |
| April 18 - 19, 2020 | Fargo Carving Show   |
| May 1 – 3, 2020?    | Spring Carving Class by Rick and Cathy Brereton<br>Rustic Loon                 |
| May 2, 2020         | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mitch Olson                        |
| May 19, 2020        | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Warren Schlecht                               |
| June 26 – 28, 2020  | Wahpeton Carving Weekend   |

#### **PAST EVENTS**

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| June 18, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| June 21-23, 2019   | Wahpeton Carving Weekend  |
| July 16, 2019      | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| July 27, 2019      | Cross Ranch State Park, carving demo<br>Doug Emerson Coordinator                        |
| August 3 & 4, 2019 | Capital Art Affair, carving demo,<br>Becky Weisgerber.                                  |
| August 20, 2019    | Whittle-In, Sertoma Park, shelter 4, 5:30-8 PM<br>Grill and Potluck – Public is invited |
| August 17, 2019    | Harvest Feed at Buckstop, Junction, carving demo,<br>Mike Knudson Coordinator           |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| September 7, 2019   | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Larry Graf  |
| September 17, 2019  | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Perry Cook   |
| September 25-28     | Hostfest University (Kolrosing and Spoon Carving<br>Classes)<br><a href="http://hostfest.com/hu/">http://hostfest.com/hu/</a>   |
| September 28 and 29 | Applefest at Buckstop Junction, carving<br>demos, Dale Heglund Coordinator  |
| October 5, 2019     | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Donna Grunett   |
| October 11, 2019    | Potluck at Quality Inn  |
| October 12-13, 2019 | Flickertail Woodcarving Show<br>50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Show<br>North Dakota Heritage Center<br><b>Feature Carver</b> , Oct 10-13 will be Jay Haavik Project –<br>Nordic style carving<br><br><b>Non-Carving Class</b> – Teri Stegmiller – fabric painting <b>Weekend</b><br><b>Carver</b> – Karen Henderson – Green wood spoon carving |
| October 15, 2019    | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Vince Bitz   |
| November 2, 2019    | Monthly meeting 8:30-10:30 AM<br>Project by Mike Knudson  |
| November 19, 2019   | Whittle-In, 7-9 PM<br>Project by Doug Smith   |



## ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Eric G, called the meeting to order.

Mike Knudson presented a leaf spirit, like a Green Man, but leaf size.

**Edgewood Vista:** Carvers are longer meeting at Edgewood Vista.

**Cancer Hearts:** Please keep making hearts when you have a chance. Doug E reiterated how important it is. If you would rather not paint them, Warren has an arrangement with Touchmark. They have an art group who will paint any heart that we make. We can give them to Warren at a meeting, and he will take care of it.

**Guest:** none.

**Show and Tell:** Doug E brought an amazing eagle called a Sansaro-bori from Japan.

Becky B has a Kodama sitting on her carving case. They are little creatures who live in healthy forests. She also had a toy triceratops.

Vince brought a wonderful diamond willow with 27 diamonds and an eagle for the top of the walking stick.

Eric T has a delicately carved salt spoon from Donna's project.

Mitch brought an oversize knife similar to the knife he gave away for the raffle, except this one has a straight rather than a curved blade. It would give a nasty cut if it were at all sharp.

**Secretary's Report:** Diane forgot the minutes, but noted there was not anything that needed to be read into the current meeting. Becky Barnes had taken the September minutes, though, and deserved thanks. They were well done.

**Treasurer's Report:** \$3301 in the account. Money is still being moved about from the show, though. I moved and Vince seconded.

**Membership:** N/A.

**Property:** It appears the lock only jams if it shut and rammed too tightly. Vince and Eric G were logging in the new tools into the inventory in preparation for purchase.

**Library:** Becky W bought the library a new book about puppets. Eric G will soon be submitting a book, and there may be a few more coming. Make use of our library. It's a great resource.

**Publicity:** Becky W did a Dakota Media Access Interview. They have provided us the audio file to place on the website and Facebook. Becky and Clara did a TV interview as well.

**Historian:** N/A.

**Facebook:** Eric G is working on Facebook but has been under the weather.

**Website/Instagram:** Becky B stated that the website is up to date.

**Buckstop Junction:** N/A.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:** Eric said the Heritage Center said that many of the people coming in that weekend told the docents they were coming to see the carving show. So even though attendance was less than we'd hoped for, it really had to do with the weather.

Doug E asked if we like the banquet at the Harvest Brazilian Grill and wanted to go there next year. Consensus was we should go there again.

Some raffle prizes are left to go out.

Next year's Master Carver will be lectured Vic Hood. He will be doing a caricature bust about 12" high in butternut. He will have a variety of options available.

**Programs:** The Spring class in May will be taught by Cathy and Rick Brereton. They will be train us how to carve the loon they had at the show. Registration will be open January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Beginning Carving Class:** Eric said 10 students have started the class. One child's mother may eventually join. Seems like a good group.

**New Business:** Election Committee will be Eric T, Doug E and Becky W to nominate pres. elect, membership, sec., newsletter, and library.

**Old Business:** The Holiday/Winter Party will be in January, but both Becky and I forgot the date Dale suggested.

**Announcements:** We have Travel mugs (\$15), Knives (\$35), Patches (\$3), and Stickers (\$1) for sale. In addition, we have really cool business cards with Flickertail Facebook pictures on the back for free! (Free advertising and interesting as well).

Anyone having information for the newsletter, email it to Tom Turck at [tdturck@bis.midco.net](mailto:tdturck@bis.midco.net).

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck Secretary

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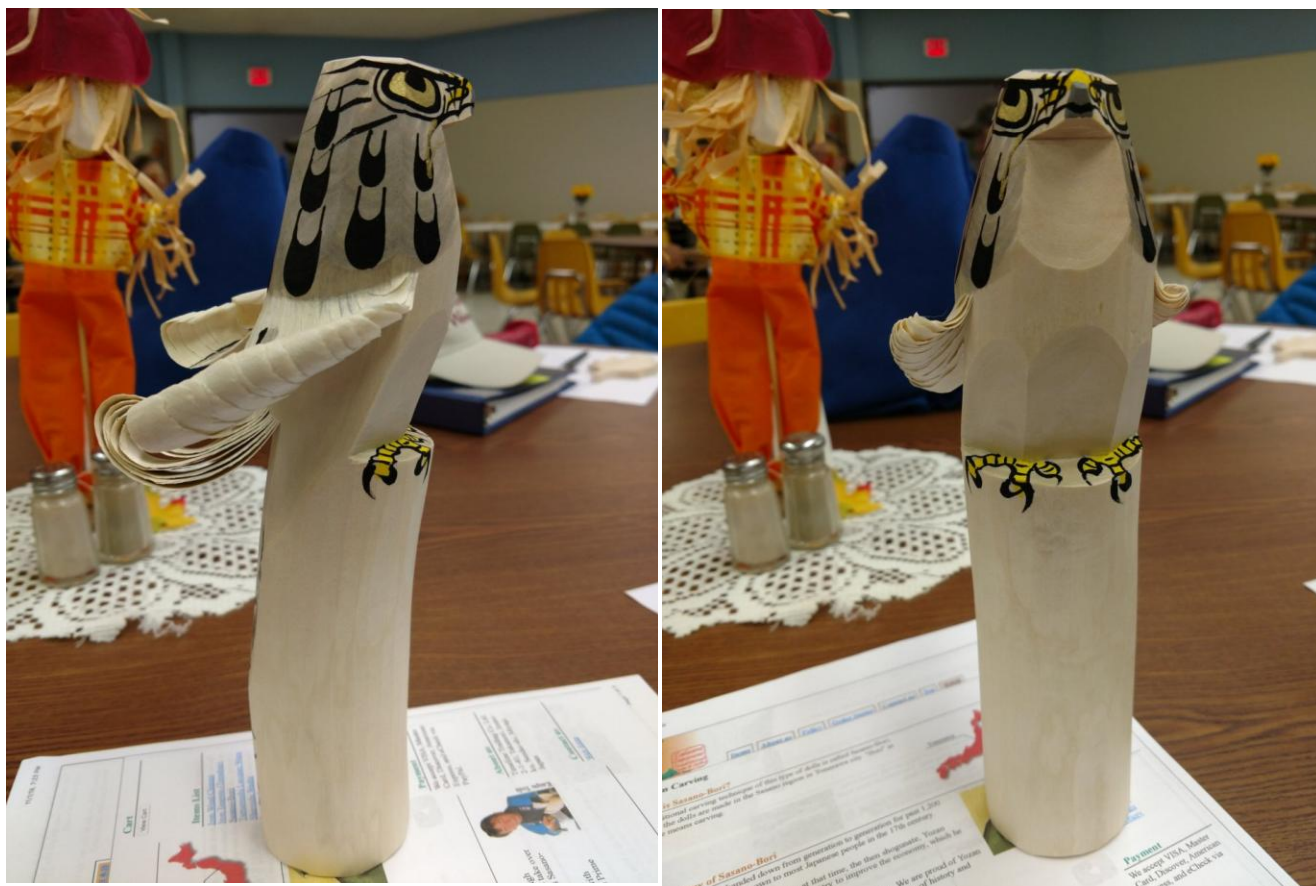
### *November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

#### **Mike's gallery of Green Men leaves with distinctive expressions**

There were about 18 members at the church all ready to make one of Mike's tree creatures along with Rob and Casey from the beginner's class. Several members brought items for Show and Tell. Doug E purchased a Sansaro-bori from Japan. It is an eagle, carved in a specific manner, from the Sansaro region in Japan and is a practice that has been used for hundreds of years. The owners of the shop have been doing this type of carving for many generations and not only the carving but the painting on the eagle is traditional.

Becky B's carving case was sporting a little fellow called a Kodama. They are spirits found in Japanese folklore. Living in mountainous forests, not only the spirit in the tree, but the tree itself is designated Kodama. The word and belief in Kodama is very old, before written language. Cutting down a Kodama inhabited tree will bring a curse. Kodama is similar to the idea of dryads in Greek mythology.





### **Strong with delicate looking feathers, a Sansoro-eagle**

The other thing Becky showed was a wonderful toy-like representation of a triceratops dinosaur. With a neck frill of horn, a horn near each eye and another above his parrot like beak he looks like a plaything for a lot of prehistoric or adventure scenarios.

Vince has a diamond willow. There are a total of 27 diamonds and a superb appearance of tan and brown bands coursing up and down the cane. At the top of the stick, a little taller than Vince, is an eagle's head staring down at its surroundings.



**Becky's Kodama and triceratops,  
and Vince's diamond willow and  
mouse**



As you can see from the little picture, Vince also brought a mouse. In fact, he brought enough mouse blanks for everyone. Cute and not difficult to make, their heads look down over the edge of a shelf. Vince was due to be the project leader for our October 15<sup>th</sup> Whittle-In but forgot, so he came with an extra one to take home for today. That was very nice of him.

Several of the group, who came on October 15<sup>th</sup>, missed Donna's session on October 5th and were able to take advantage of extra spoons she still was carrying on the latter date. Eric T was one who benefitted. He created a lovely salt cellar spoon. Mitch, who made an oversize carving knife for the raffle in the fall show, made a straight knife one just for himself.



**Eric T's salt cellar spoon**



**Mitch's large knife (not sharp)**



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### *November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

The days are getting shorter and the Thanksgiving decorations will be on the tables for another couple weeks. December is just around the corner. Doug Smith presented a seasonal elf to carve. The older, completed fellow has a learned look in his eye. The painting of the main elf is done to bring out a weathered appearance. Doug even took the shine off the elf's eye glasses. Very nice! Slightly different painting treatment and carving and the elves could appear to be tired or mischievous or any of a dozen other expressions. Doug has several others that he is in the middle of carving. One thing that Doug does change on the elves is their hats. Some have twists and turns to the top above the head, while others are quite simple. Each style gives a little different character.

Doug brought eye hooks and strips of thin craft metal to attach to the elves caps to make them ornaments and thin gold wire bent in the shape of glasses to attach to their faces.



**Two of Doug's elves**



**Some of the other elves. Note the glasses in the corner**



**Note the progression in carving from right to left**



**The student class working on chip carving**





### **Talking and carving. Note the centerpieces**

Donna Grunett has been working on a couple of carving projects. One is a scoop with a handle. It could be used as a spoon or a small ladle. The other, not quite finished, is a leaf from Mike's project. The back is finished with a main vein running down the center and side veins going to the points, all well sanded in. The front of the leaf has a face where the stem and the two top points look like a hat. Right now the eyes are drawn in. Cheeks and nose are below the eyes, and the bottom two points traveling up to the mouth are covered in beard hair and mustache.



### **Donna's scoop**

Warren showed two chip carved sleds. They were one of the projects presented in the recent *Woodcarving Illustrated* magazine. He modified the runners remembering how his sleds worked as a child. The top of the sled is glued to the runners, and the wood piece between the runners is also glued. Simple but elegant designs on the runners and the surface of the sled make it a project that is truly pleasing.

Eric T had the final Show and Tell. He has just begun to carve a fox. The only part sticking away from the wood block yet is his tail.





**Back of the leaf**



**Front of the leaf**





**Chip carved sleds**



**The tail end**

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## ***Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers***

***December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church***

Eric G called the meeting to order. There were about 18 people present.

Diane Lehman Turck and Tom Turck's project featured Santa's nose and hat poking up from a chimney.

**Cancer Hearts:** Please keep making hearts when you have a chance.

**Guests:** Two students came to carve at the regular meeting. Ben, and Rob Casey. In addition, Nuala, Becky B's daughter accompanied her.

**Show and Tell:** Eric T is working on his fox's face. Vince has a beautiful flower composed of three sections. Becky B brought several little ornaments: a bison, a dinosaur, a fox and a goat. She also had a North Dakota nametag she had fashioned for Karen Pedigo. Becky W carved a sign for a knifemaker from the annual show. She also had some designs pieces. Eric G displayed a unique heart and Dave had some winter designs in his carving box.

**Secretary's Report:** Reviewed. Eric T motioned and Vince 2nded. Accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Doug reported for Warren. All bills are paid. We have \$5,489.41 in our account. Diane motioned and Ron 2nded. Accepted.

**Membership:** We have about 77 members; 30 or so have paid.

**Property:** Vince has been conducting an inventory of gloves and knives. We have 8 extra V-tools that we will incorporate with the beginner sets for next year.

**Library:** Cliff reports that we have a few new books: one soap carving, one on a Kachina, a signed one on marionettes and at least one more. Come and see what there is to offer.

**Publicity:** Becky W will be mailing the last of the raffle presents right after the meeting.

**Historian:** Clara isn't here. I expect she's where it's warmer.

**Facebook:** Eric has been under the weather, but things are going well.

**Website/Instagram:** Doing fine. The contact page is working.

**Buckstop Junction:** Winter.

**Annual Woodcarver's Show:** We have several extra tumblers (\$15) and knives (\$35) from the show for sale. Both are very good quality and the tumblers are quite nice in appearance as well.

See publicity on raffle.

**Programs:** Beginning classes are doing well.

The spring class, May 1-3 will feature Cathy and Rick Brereton instructing on carving a loon. See the flier at the beginning of this newsletter for more information.

**New Business:** Sons of Norway will be having a Lutefisk Supper on Saturday, Jan 25 from 2-6 here at the church. We are invited to attend and we are invited to have a Demonstration Booth.

The Bismarck Public Library would like us to have a display in their front cabinet starting in August and into the fall (3 mos). What would we like to show? Suggestions include chip carvings, spoons and caricatures. The annual show this year will have a caricaturist.

**Old Business:** The election committee is working on positions for President elect, newsletter, secretary, librarian and membership. If you are interested in having one of those positions please let one of the committee members know.

The Christmas/holiday party may become the Ides of March or St Pat's day party.

**Shoes:** Please scrape chips off of shoes and brush slacks before leaving the room. Thanks.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Lehman Turck, Secretary



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### *December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

Christmas was coming so a Christmas ornament was appropriate. The small 5 1/2 x 1 inch square decoration is Santa's hat and cherry-red nose appearing over the rim of a chimney. Somewhere around the 12<sup>th</sup> century larger buildings, such as castles, were first constructed with chimneys in Europe. Before then, fire was set on a clay or brick surface in the center of the room, and what smoke escaped the house did so from a hole in the roof or in a wall made for that purpose. Buildings and homes were usually smoke filled. By the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century hearths were moved against a back wall where flues could control the smoke out of a one or two story fireplace.

Because chimneys were inefficient and dangerous, movements in England in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century led to demands that wooden, and wattle and daub constructions be replaced with brick and mortar and further, that the brick construction extend 4 1/2 feet above the roofline. In America, safety measures were not instituted, although population centers did have fire wardens. Fireplaces were erected along an outside wall so in case of fire, they could be quickly torn away from the house. In the latter half of the 1700s, Benjamin Franklin and Benjamin Thompson, known as Count Rumford, worked on the problem of smoke entering the house. Until that time, smoke was thought to somehow transport heat to the rooms. Once the smoke was redirected and the heat was captured, fireplaces became welcome into the home of the 1850s.

The first time Santa entered a home through a chimney was in an 1812 book by Washington Irving. For several hundred years previously, brownies, fairies, elves and witches used the area of the hearth as a transition space where supernatural folk could enter homes. Historical figures becoming legends such as St. Nicholas took advantage of these methods and people like Washington Irving, Thomas Nast and in the early 1930s, Coca Cola made the stories come to life.

Bob Kozakiewicz created this little, easy carving for the last *Woodcarving Illustrated* of the year. With a ruler and pencil, the chimney cap was defined by two lines. The remainder of the chimney tower was defined by horizontal and

vertical lines, closely to measure but not exact. After the bricks were drawn, and Santa's nose and hat were defined, the carver created a series of long, horizontal V-cuts connected by short vertical V-cuts for the chimney bricks. Finally the nose had to be rounded and the hat fur shaped. And last the hat shown with a rippling movement and a puff ball at the top. The painting instructions were good, with the V-cuts wide enough to exclude the brick red paints. Red or green ribbon and an eye-screw were given with the templates.

About 18 people including a couple of students and Nuala, Becky B's daughter were at the meeting. It was fairly lively with a lot of visiting going on around the room. Vince set up a station at one of the tables to take an inventory of gloves and knives. He discovered we have eight extra V-tools. At the meeting we decided to incorporate them in with the beginner sets for next year.

Eric T has gotten far on his fox. He is working on the face to make sure it has the look of a fox, rather than some other in the canid family. Vince had a stunning yellow rose that would grace any coffee table or shelf.



**Vince discussing inventory with Doug E**



**Eric working on the trees and paying attention to the face**

Nuala was helping to make sure people saw the pretty little ornaments that her mother, Becky B had brought with her. Little intarsia ornaments, they could be hung anywhere and would look perfect on a Christmas tree. There were two red fox, two goats, twin T-rexes, and three bison. In addition Becky had finished a nametag that looks like a star quilt square for Karen Pedigo.

Becky W had a commission to carve a sign for a knifemaker advertising his business. He hired her during the annual show. She has completed that assignment and fashioned two art pieces as well. One may be from Karen Henderson's designs that she was selling and the other from a book that Becky owns.

Eric G found a distinctive piece of wood from which to create a one-of-a-kind heart. Dave didn't show me anything, but when I was passing beside his box, I saw the familiar first carvings of a Christmas stocking and a tree. I just had to take a picture.





**The yellow rose of North Dakota**



**Cute intarsia ornaments**



**Karen P's nametag in earthtones**



**A professional sign for Clifford Kaufmann, Knifemaker**





**A well-executed trefoil**



**The start of another complex piece by Becky W**





**The special heart crafted by Eric G**



**A view into Dave's carving box**

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### *December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Whittle-In*

For over 20 years Flickertails have fashioned snakes for Kurt Weinberg's 4<sup>th</sup> grade Phy Ed class at Highland Acres, adding the 4<sup>th</sup> grade class at Roosevelt Elementary as well several years ago. Doug Emerson is in charge of the project. This year he came prepared with 44 3 foot lengths of wood with the squared edges rounded off. Enough for both elementary school class room students to each get his or her own snake. Except for new club members, everyone knows about our yearly snake racing project. A simple undertaking, everyone takes a snake or two and modifies the head so it is looking up, and tail so it is tapered or with rattles. Then a design of the carver's choosing is scrolled down the back or sides of snake/stick. There are usually two sessions, one in December and a second in January to finish the last of the carvings since we now cover two schools.

The idea came from a summer camp activity. Counselors were emulating an Ojibwa or Chippewa Native American sport where modified branches were thrown down an ice covered hill by teams in a series of heats to see who could win by going the farthest. Teachers returned from camp with a way for students to combine lessons in learning about Native American cultures, have an art session, and get to race their snakes down a snowy/icy hill to see who can get the farthest for a Phy Ed lesson. Lately, the teacher gives the winners Sacagawea coins and explains who she was.

The head should look up so the fellow hits the snow at an angle rather than square on to help with speed. The rattles are just 'cause what's better than a rattlesnake? The kids like learning about the games and sports of Native Americans, using paints to compliment carving modifications made to the snake, and really enjoy throwing the snakes down the slope to see whose can go the best. The race was even reported in a winter edition of the *Woodcarvers Illustrated*.

Everyone at the meeting either works on their own project, or looks through the available "snakes" for the right one. Most people actually just grab one, but some like to check out the grain marks and knot variations in the wood. Then members take the snake-to-be back to the table and carve chatting with others.



### **The head of one of the children's snakes**

This Tuesday there were about 16 people present. In addition, several parents brought teenagers some of whom liked the idea of snake carving. Besides the adolescents, Luci came and had Ben with her. He's such a content little boy; it's always a joy to see him. So many children were there it was like a family gathering.

A few Show and Tell items were evident. Eric T's fox is now standing by a dead tree. Discussion around the animal was whether its muzzle was really that of a fox or some other canid. The tail is certainly that of a fox.

Cliff worked on his Santa in a chimney from the last project and has a wonderful rendition peeking out of the chimney top.

Mike brought a relief carving of Satchel Paige done in black walnut. A stitched baseball is in the upper left of the panel. Very well done.



Another relief carving was a finely crafted cross on a small portion of wood. The lengthwise cuts are nicely executed and it is a lovely piece.



**Santa peeking out from the chimney**



**Luci with a sleepy Ben**



**An emergent fox**



**A cross for a wall or  
coffee table**



**Satchel Paige relief in black walnut**

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***December 2019***

### ***4-H Soap Carving Class***

Dale Heglund volunteered to teach four classes of 4-H Students how to carve with soap near Wahpeton in Richland County. He used the Cub Scout requirements and some assistance from Doug E regarding tools to use and patterns that are easy to carve for beginners. Doug provided him with a boot and fish designs. Dale found that a paper clip is a good addition to soap carving tools of plastic knives and spoons. He also creatively used wire brushes. All of these helped when conducting the classes.