



# The Curling Chip

## January / February 2025

January and February always seem to be the coldest months. It's tough to get the motivation to leave your house and brave the -20F weather (not counting wind-chill!).

Have an idea for an article? Did you take woodcarving photos on a trip? Please send them to Becky at [thewoodwurm@gmail.com](mailto:thewoodwurm@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: Becky Barnes

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[makerspace.social/@FlickertailWoodcarvers](https://makerspace.social/@FlickertailWoodcarvers)



FlickertailWoodcarvers

## 2025 Leadership

President: Becky Weisgerber  
Past President: Cliff Orgaard  
Programs: Eric Gaasland  
Treasurer: Warren Schlecht  
Secretary: Becky Barnes  
Librarian: Todd Engelstad  
Historian: Clara Sherman Yonker  
Membership: Doug Smith  
Annual Show: Eric Gaasland  
Property: Matt Hlebechuk  
Publicity: Cliff Orgaard  
Buckstop Gallery: Mike Knudson,  
Doug Emerson, Bob Pedigo, Warren  
Schlecht, Cliff Orgaard, Todd Engelstad  
Facebook: Eric Gaasland  
Pinterest: Cindy Roth  
Mastodon & Instagram: Becky Barnes  
Website: Becky Barnes



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

# Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

January 4, 2025



**Call to Order** by President Cliff Orgaard  
21 members were present

**Secretary's Report:** Becky Barnes

Secretary's Report – Motioned as read by Eric Gaasland, seconded by Todd Engelstad.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren Schlecht

Balance is at \$4,657, with everything up to date. This includes church room rental. A financial audit was completed by Gretchen D.; she reports everything looks good. It should be done annually - it took longer this time around only because it was multiple years. Motioned as read by Todd Engelstad, seconded by Eric Gaasland.

## Committee Reports

**Membership** (Doug Smith): Only about half of the current members have renewed their memberships. This does include people in the Beginning Carving Class, who may or may not renew.

**Programs** (Eric Gaasland): There are openings in March for Whittle-In project leads.

[Wesley Hathaway](#) is tentatively scheduled for the 2025 Spring carving class, sometime in May. The subject will be a Norwegian dragon head shoulder mount.

Eric will check in with [Carol Leavy](#) again about teaching in October after her surgery.

**Publicity** (Becky Weisgerber): No change.

**Property** (Becky Weisgerber): No change.

**Library** (Todd Engelstad): No change.

**Historian** (Clara Yonker): Not present.

**Facebook** (Eric Gaasland): No change - keeping it updated.

**Website** (Becky Barnes): No huge updates. The November-December Curling Chip is now

available online

**Buckstop Junction Upgrades** (Doug Emerson, Bob Pedigo, Mike Knudson, Warren Schlecht, Cliff Orgaard, Todd Engelstad): Mike Knudson acquired three carvings by Ole the Hermit. Those, along with a small paperback book covering some of his life and history, will be added to the Buckstop displays this spring.

**Nominating Committee:** Club positions of Treasurer, Program Chairperson, and Physical Properties Chairperson are up for election. Warren S. has said he is willing to continue on with Treasurer, Eric G. has said he will continue with Programs, and Matt H. said he would be willing to act as Physical Properties Chair. Elections will be during the February meeting.

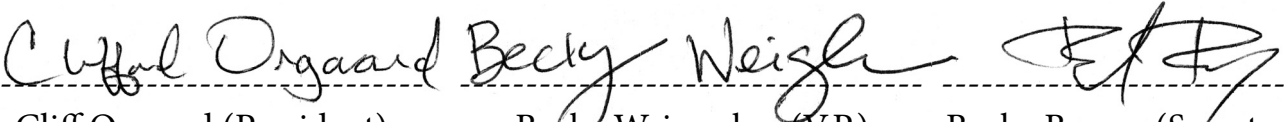
## Old Business

None.

## New Business

**Whittle-In Project:** Thank you Eric Gaasland for the tiny-houses and tiny-castle projects.

**New Signature Authority for banking:** Ron Holtz wants to step down as the current secondary signatory. As Warren can't sign checks to himself, Todd Engelstad has volunteered to be registered as a second signatory. The decision was put to a vote, and all present voted Aye. The vote passed. Club officers present, not counting Warren Schlecht (Treasurer) and Todd Engelstad (Library) to witness:

  
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Cliff Orgaard (President)      Becky Weisgerber (V.P.)      Becky Barnes (Secretary)

**Demonstration requests** have come in through the website and email.

- The elementary school demonstrations mentioned previously were well received. All the carving kits have been resharpened, and missing tools (strops, rulers) filled back in.
- Post Adopt Dad's Retreat, scheduled for April 12th has been moved to a room in Ascension Catholic Church on third street - we have agreed to demonstrate, but will need more volunteers to make it a success. This will be a 2-hour long class, with between 6-10 people. Bob P. and Todd E. have indicated interest. The more the merrier. They're looking for a demonstration and a short class.
- ND Asian-American Arts and Cultural Initiative Cultural Expo, May 17th at the Heritage Center - Cliff O. contacted them, and they said they want our display / demonstration table there. Details to come later.

**Winter Celebration** at Hillside Aquatic Park on February 15, 2025. The Parks waived the

rental fee - very kind of them.

- A bag with pieces for ~15 butternut teddy bears was donated to the group. Bob P. is taking one home to see what he can work out, however his primary focus right now is getting the February Love Spoon design going. If he can find time, he'll work with the Teddy bear, if not, then the backup plan is to have a couple smaller projects taught. Dennis R. is willing to teach his golf ball caricatures. Becky W. has a cupcake box, but might need access to a warmer space for cutting blanks.
- Bob Pedigo reminds us to keep going on our chip-carving projects, in preparation for the August exhibit at the Bismarck Public Library.

## Show and Tell

Doug Emerson picked up spoons and other utensils from his trip to Vietnam and Cambodia. They were crafted out of palm wood. More details on palm wood will be included in the next Curling Chip. He also visited a craft community of victims / survivors of Agent Orange - exposure to the chemical alters your DNA, so children conceived after expose can have terrible deformities. These crafters were making detailed images using lacquer, egg shells, sea shells, and more combined into a mosaic image. He had two of these for show and tell as well.

Cathy Lash made modifications on her Fairy door, adding moss to some of the "bricks" - the result was adorable. She says the door is "done" done now!

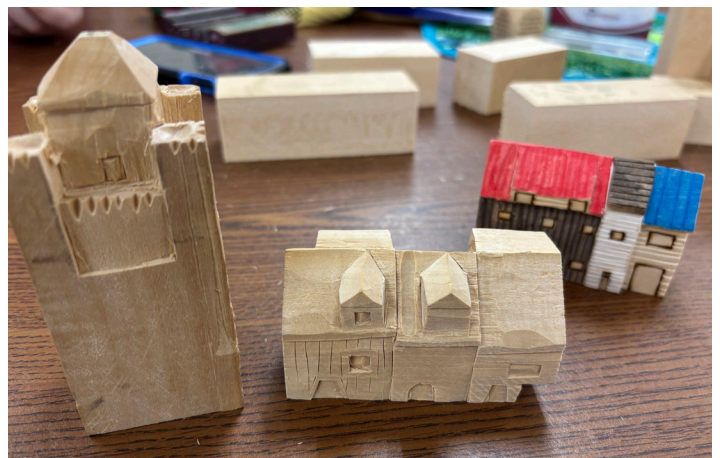
Anna Wright made tiny Christmas trees that she placed under tiny glass bell jars with cork stoppers. The stars on the top of the tree were crafted from UV-cure nail-polish by building up thin layers at a time, and curing them as she went. She basically turned herself into a human 3D resin printer.

**Meeting was adjourned.**

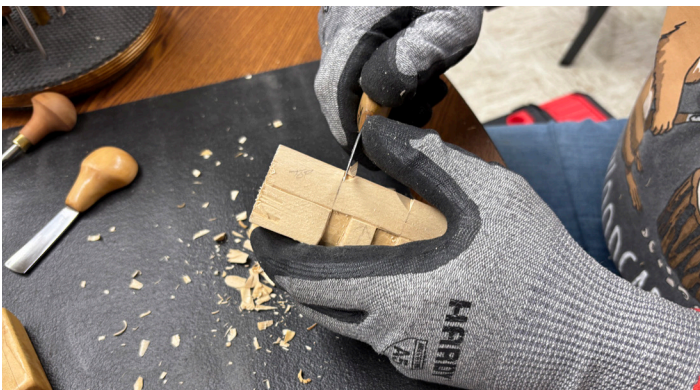


## January 4, 2025 Whittle-In Tiny Houses by Eric Gaasland

Eric Gaasland brought in rows of tiny block houses - and what better to go along with a little village than a castle? There were numerous ideas and shapes to choose from. Each was carved from a short length of 1.5 x 1.5 or 2 x 2 basswood, then painted.







Above: Carvers work on houses and castles.

Below: The utensils Doug E. picked up on his visit to Vietnam and Cambodia, most likely carved from some kind of palm wood.



Above: Cathy L. thought she had finished her fairy door - then decided to add moss to the rocks and wood. I think the addition is just wonderful.

Below: One of two laquered images created by artisans affected by Agent Orange, purchased by Doug on his trip to Vietnam and Cambodia. Doug said it was an artist commune, where they would take natural elements such as egg shell and mother-of-pearl, and assemble them into detailed designs.







Above: Anna W's adorable tiny trees in tiny bell jars.



### Tool Review:

#### Gramercy Spoonmaker's Riffler Rasps

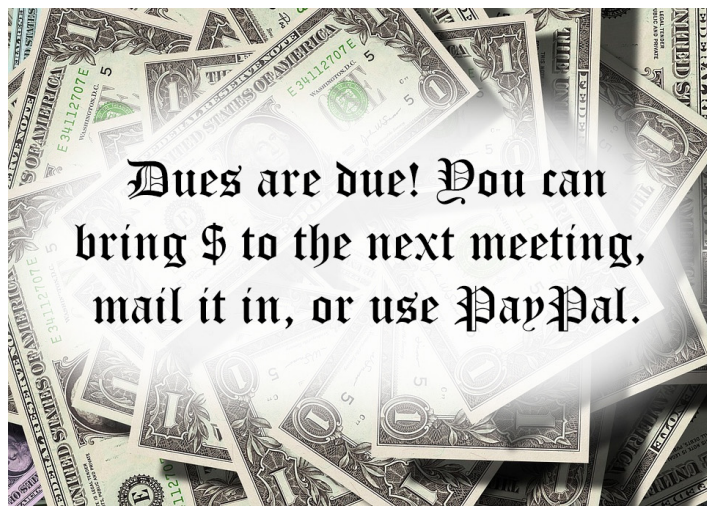
Eric G. brought in a couple new tools again - leave it to him to dig into the Online Aether and find cool new things to try. The Gramercy Tools 8" Hand-cut spoonmaker's riffler rasps were packaged in nice cardboard boxes, with form-fitting foam on the inside. It felt like you were removing the Crown Jewels from their display. One was a "Coarse" grind with 18 tooth-per-inch, or tpi (\$65.95), and the other a "Fine" grind with 25tpi (\$69.95) - both available at <https://toolsforworkingwood.com>.

Each riffler came with a straight end, and a curved end. The straight end was double-sided,



with one side flat, and the other convex. The curved end looked like a spoon hook-knife, but had a change in curvature along the curl. Half-way down at the belly, the curve was gentle and open, and then towards the tip it tightened. This allows for gentle bevels in spoons or kuksas, or tighter curves in pipes.

Becky B., having brought along an unfinished kuksa, gave the tools a try. The flat edges were definitely useful in shaping edges, and the convex portion of the straight edge were perfect for ensuring the fluting along the outside was uniform. The curved hook end was efficient for getting inside the rim of the bowl. All in all she was impressed. They might even end up on a Christmas wish-list!



#### January 21, 2025 Whittle-In Longhorns by Alvin Braunagel

A big Thank You to Alvin B. for bringing in two versions of longhorn cattle to work with. One was more of a cartoon caricature, while the other was more realistic.

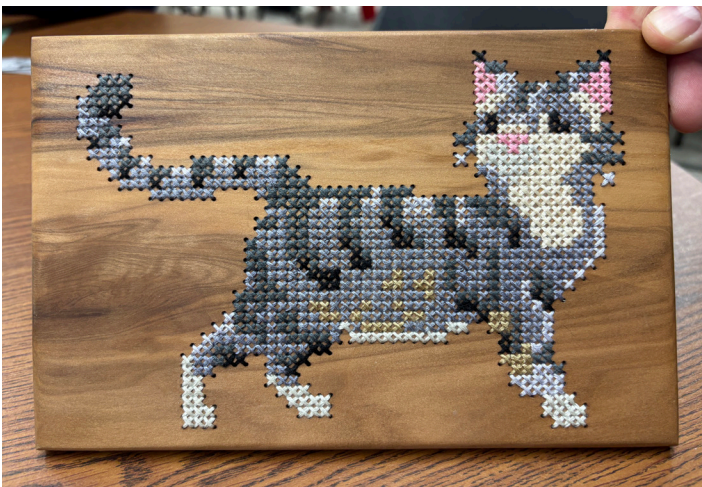






Above: Alvin's Longhorn projects.

Below: Bob P. finished his cat cross-stitch from the Annual Show class.



Mike Knudson brought in three carvings by Ole the Hermit from the Valley City area, along with a pamphlet describing who he was, and what he did. The pamphlet and the carvings will be placed on display at Buckstop Junction in the Lumber Mill, along with the other carvings from club members, and historical pieces. Paraphrasing from his obituary, Ole A. Olson died at the age of 83 in Valley City, ND, on April



22, 1966. He was a prolific carver, with many of his carvings being distributed world-wide. He began carving in his late 50s after retiring from farming. Born in Norway, his parents moved to Litchville, ND when he was just eleven months old. A common theme throughout his carvings is the everyday neighbors - homespun clothing, baggy trousers, shaggy shawls, all painted up.



Above: Cathy L. saw someone carve an avocado pit into a bunny, so she decided to give it a try! It oxidized rapidly, turning an orange color.



Left & below: Eric G. began working up a troll carving.



# Vinterfest Snow Sculptures

## Heritage Center & State Museum

### Bismarck, ND

#### January 19, 2025

Not wood, but definitely carving: A giant snow globe and two small trolls popped up in front of the Heritage Center over the weekend. The snowglobe took a bit of prep time, with an empty form bring brought onto the area, and then filled with snow brought in with machinery. It was so cold we were worried about the snow actually sticking together, so staff volunteered to stomp the snow into shape INSIDE the hollow form. Once the giant cube was ready, the form was removed, and sculptors Jay Ray, Mike Nelson, and Josh Zeis went to work carving swirls and animals along the outside edge. You might remember the giant Santa outside the Heritage Center last year.

It was titled “Scandinavian Snow Globe”, and the info plaque read:

The Norwegian traditional folk art of rosemaling or “rose painting” involves painting or carving

floral patterns and decorative motifs on everything from churches and homes to every day objects. In a tribute to this rich tradition, Team ND will be carving a massive 8’ diameter sphere or “snowglobe” featuring a mesh of traditional rosemaling patterns as well as some local fauna worked in throughout. Can you find them all?

Vinterfest is a month-long celebration of winter, kicking off in January and running to the beginning part of February. The festival seeks to promote educational, recreational, and cultural heritage programming throughout central North Dakota for the public’s enjoyment. From artisan workshops to cross-country skiing, Vinterfest invited people to learn new hobbies and share in time-honored traditions.



# Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

February 1, 2025

**Call to Order** by President Cliff Orgaard  
17 members were present



**Secretary's Report:** Becky Barnes (not present)

Secretary's Report – read by Becky Weisgerber. Motioned as read by Eric Gaasland, seconded by Michaela Rose.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren Schlecht

Balance is at \$4,817 in the bank, with all bills paid. Last meeting someone paid in cash and Warren didn't write their name down, so please see him again if that was you. We think it was Alvin. The State and Federal reports are due in May, but were completed ahead of time. Motioned as read by Michaela Rose, seconded by Eric Gaasland.

## Committee Reports

**Membership** (Doug Smith): Dues are due!

**Programs** (Eric Gaasland): There are still openings for Whittle-ins during March and April. Please sign up if you have an idea - the club has wood and supplies.

[Wesley Hathaway](#) is scheduled for the 2025 Spring carving class, May 16-18. Signups should come out next month.

Carol Leavy will NOT be able to do fall 2025, but we'll reach out to her again for next year.

Eric asked Rick Brereton about doing Fall 2025 - possibly a "hooter" relief carved owl. This does use long-handled tools, but the club has many sets to borrow.

Still need a topic for the shorter fall class - reach out to Eric if you have any ideas. Still need a topic for the non-carving class. Please also pass any suggestions to Eric. Pysanky (traditional wax-resist eggs) was mentioned.

**Publicity** (Becky Weisgerber): Nothing new right now.

**Property** (Becky Weisgerber): Becky W. owes an updated list to the new chair, Matt H.



**Library** (Todd Engelstad): Showing good usage. If you still have stuff out, consider returning it to let others have a chance.

**Historian** (Clara Yonker): Not present.

**Facebook** (Eric Gaasland): Still exists.

**Website** (Becky Barnes): Not present.

**Buckstop Junction Upgrades** (Doug Emerson, Bob Pedigo, Mike Knudson, Warren Schlecht, Cliff Orgaard, Todd Engelstad): Nothing new.

## **Old Business**

The Adoptive Dad's retreat will be April 12, 2-5pm-ish, at the community room at Ascension Church. They would like a project, not just a demo, which does mean lending tools. The coordinator will reach out to Bob P with a count of people. They are still taking suggestions of projects.

The NDAAACPI fair is unfortunately right over our Wesley Hathaway spring class. Becky W. will man the table, but requests that club members loan her any especially pertinent carvings for display.

Someone contacted the group asking for a carving to be done on a piece of pretty rough-looking wood. Bob P. will contact her.

The Winter Celebration is Saturday, February 15, 2025. There will be two small projects - golf balls and cupcake boxes. Bob will bring kolrosing materials back, so you can finish today's spoon. Potluck signup sheet will be sent shortly. Carving starts around 9am, lunch on your own, and the potluck starts around 5:30pm.

## **New Business**

**Whittle-In Project:** Thank you Bob Pedigo for the annual Love Spoon project - this one was a smooth basswood spoon meant to highlight kolrosing. Bob had rose, daisy, and coneflower line art examples for us to use, and a selection of pigments: cinnamon, cloves, and dust from black walnut wood. The oil used was walnut oil.

**Election of Officers** One absentee ballot was returned. The following slate was accepted as nominated. Motioned by Michaela Rose, seconded by Todd Engelstad.

Treasurer: Warren Schlecht

Programs: Eric Gaasland

Property: Matt Hlebechuk

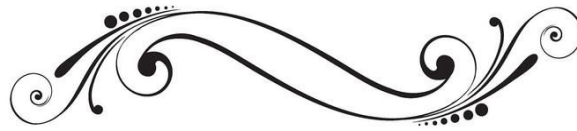
President Elect Becky Weisgerber also moved into the position of President, while Cliff Orgaard moved into the position of Past President. Thank you all for volunteering!

## Show and Tell

Troy Frieze had a set of 3D printed spoon templates from a company named “Sunny Beach Design” that he picked up from the Spoon Gathering. He also found an antique spoon with kolrosing and a very interesting acanthus detail on the bottom of the bowl.

Doug Emerson had a letter opener in the shape of a kestrel carved by Bob Mullen

## Meeting was adjourned.



### February 1, 2025 Whittle-In Love Spoons by Bob Pedigo

Every Year, Bob Pedigo works his magic and creates a unique Love Spoon in honor of Valentine's Day, as well as the tradition of giving a Spoon to the target of your affection, to prove you have the proper skills (crafting, finishing, providing for a family) to make a good spouse. As Eric said: Beware the man with many spoons!

This year the spoon design itself was simple - but the embellishment had the potential for precision and detail: kolrosing. Kolrosing is the method of incising drawings into your carving, and then rubbing a mixture of oil and a stain (coffee, cinnamon, walnut dust, etc.) into the lines.

Bob's kolrosing suggestions:

- Graphite is oil-soluble! Take care to use light pencil marks, not pressing into the wood. He left one pencil line uncarved to demonstrate how rubbing with walnut oil dissolved the mark.

- Bob tried paprika, but felt it did not provide enough contrast to the base wood. He likes the color of cinnamon better than cloves. Instant coffee tends to dissolve and stain the project, rather than staying in its groove.

- His process -

- kolrose the cuts

- Oil - smushing it into low areas, then wiping it off.

- Then pigment. The extra oil in the low areas should wet the pigment a little.

- Then burnish to hold pigment in.

- Oil liberally, especially endgrain

- If you see you missed a line you can easily go back in and re-cut it

- How to hold the knife - he holds it like a pen; gets better curves by holding the hand steady and rotating the wood underneath it

- The kolrosing knife is wider than other knives, which forces open the wood to make a channel to hold the pigment

- What about washing these? Burnishing should help hold the pigment in, but Bob prefers to make these decorative and not wash them. Burnish with a round tool or kitchen spoon.

- There is a kolrosing DVD in our library.



Above: Four spoons shaped - some with simple handles, some with more fluted handles. Bob provided designs for a sunflower, rose, daisy, and coneflower as decorative inspiration.

Below: Bob holds the kolrosing knife, which has a shorter, wider blade than a normal carving knife or exacto blade. The wider blade opens up the wood fibers more, allowing the pigment to hide in the cracks.



Above: Bob applies walnut oil to the incised spoon handle.

Below: A selection of powders to use (cinnamon, cloves, walnut dust) in the lines of the kolrosed spoon. Gloves keep your hands free of oils and stains.







Above: An antique spoon Troy F. discovered, with acanthus carving on the handle, kolrosing on the bowl, and more carving on the bottom-side of the bowl.



**Ruksa Cup Carving Class**  
**Milan Village Arts School, MN**  
**By Alex Yerks**  
**January 31 - February 2, 2025**

I (Becky B.) spent three days in the Milan Village Arts School, located in Milan, MN. The building is a ~150 year old school house that has been renovated, making it one of the oldest folk schools in Minnesota. They just recently lifted the building to add a basement to it – which doubles as an apartment for visiting instructors. The school is run by Ron Porep, the MVAS Director, a gentleman with many stories, and

a knack for making awesome Swedish coffee. You might have heard of their annual Spoon Gathering which takes place in June. Pre-pandemic the Spoon Gathering boasted close to 250 participants – now however they've put a soft cap of 150 people.



Above: The Milan Village Arts School.



Above: Alex Yerks poses with a kuksa, and stands next to a log bench used with axe-work.

Below: A selection of finished kuksas made by Alex.





The kuksa class, taught by Alex Yerks, ran from 9am to 5pm each day, Friday-Sunday, with a lunch break in the middle. Lunch was on our own – most simply brought snacks or food from home. The local cafes had sadly shut down, and the closest selection of restaurants was in Montevideo to the southeast, about a 15 minute drive from the school.

So what is a kuksa? A kuksa is a wooden cup of Nordic, particularly Finnish and Sami origin. Depending on where you are, the names vary: gukse, guksi, guksie, kuksa, kukse, kuk'sie, etc. A fantastic reference online to see a more modern take, carving process, woods, shapes, and history can be found here:

<https://www.kuksa.shop/en/blog/what-is-kuksa/>

The class began with an overview of wood types, then wood selection for our pieces. He had brought beautiful silky looking birch, some spalted birch, and some spalted maple. I figured (get it?) I might regret it, but I chose the spalted maple. It was much harder to work with than the birch, but I just couldn't pass up the gorgeous colors. Our first introduction to axe work was splitting out our log section into a more manageable slice. It was safer and more like surgery to place the blade of the axe on the wood, and use a mallet to hit the axe, pushing the blade exactly where you wanted it to go. Smaller urethane mallets or wooden hammers were not up to the task – two wooden hammers shattered with the abuse! Alex had some backup thwackers which could double for a Troll club. It was a thick branch with one end shaved down into a handle.

Once split, we chopped away the bark and made the “top” flat for sketching. Holding the log with fingers safely out of harms way, we shaved down the bottom 2/3 of the bark, and then flipped the



log over for the remaining 1/3. Using a compass we drew on our desired inside and outside diameter of the kuksa, and the general area where the handle would be.



Above: The spalted maple log split into smaller pieces.

Opposite Jim Paulson's ale bowl class, we carved out the inside of the kuksa first! Adzes, gouges, bent-neck, dog-leg, and swan-neck, along with some custom gouges Alex had made (currently on a very long wait list). If you were patient, you could even make multi-petaled “flowers” out of the insides of the bowl – Alex was able to pull many flowers out of a single void.

The outside rough shaping was once again back to axe work. Much like in bronze-casting, the more work you put into your wax, the less you





Above: A “flower” from the kuksa gouge-work.

Below: Becky B. working on her kuksa bowl - albeit with less flower-luck.



had to do with the metal. In this case the more work you could finish with the axe, the less you had to do with knife-work. For knife-technique, we learned a few power-moves that had to be done with care. The “chest-pull” or “chicken-wing” – hold the kuksa in one hand and the knife in the other with bevel facing towards you. Pull the kuksa and knife apart at the middle by bringing your elbows backward. Another was the Elbow & Skew, or Power & Knee grip, where the bevel faces away from you, and you push the knife away. The Pull Grip and Scissor Grip were

also gone over. If you would like to see these cuts in action – there are short helpful videos available here: <https://piranhatoos.co.nz/blogs/how-tos/learn-the-swedish-knife-grip> As with any new style – be patient, be careful, don’t rush, and watch where your fingers are.

By the third day I felt my first kuksa was far



enough along that I felt comfortable finishing it at home, and starting a new one to hone what I had learned the first two days. The second cup I cut from birch – which after two days of maple felt like I was cutting through butter.



All in all, the class the enjoyable with new tools and techniques learned, the instructor was kind, thorough, approachable, and knowledgeable, and the three other carving students made the whole class a great experience. If anyone is interested in taking a future class from Alex Yerks, he has an upcoming class in April for Hewn Wood Bowls.



<https://milanvillageartsschool.org/carving-working-with-wood/>

The Milan Village Arts School has a number of other woodworking opportunities as well, ranging from their Spoon Gathering, to spoon carving, acanthus work, flat-plane Scandinavian pieces, bowls, lathe work, and more. You can become a member of the school for class discounts, as well as simply supporting their good work.

<https://milanvillageartsschool.org/>



### Palm “Wood”

Palm trees and their relatives are monocots (short for monocotyledon) – meaning they produce one initial leaf from their seed. Bamboo, grass, wheat, bananas, corn, and rice are also monocots. Other trees, flowers, and plants are dicots – and you are correct to assume this means they produce two initial leaves from their seeds.

A cross-section through a palm trunk reveals a gradation of lightly packed fibers in the center, and more densely packed darker fibers towards the outside. It does not have the telltale tree-rings found in other lumber. The grain



is generally straight, without knots, and the endgrain resembles a bunch of polka-dots. It is much easier to split along the grain, than perpendicular to it. Tools should be sharp, and may need to be sharpened often. The hard, darker fibers can be brittle, and are prone to splintering – sealing the wood with glue or stabilizer before finish-work will save your tools, and your hands, from many a sliver.



### February 18, 2025 Whittle-In Patriotic Eggs by Doug Emerson

Bismarck has been experiencing sub-zero temperatures for quite a while, and tonight was no exception. It was COLD! Only about eight people braved the frigid temps, but we still had fun. Doug Emerson brought in a variety of egg blanks that were part of Larry Graf’s stock. The pattern was a mix of stars and stripes, to make it look like the egg was draped in red-white stripes, with white stars popping out of a blue background. Some versions had straight stripes, while others looked like they were billowing fabric.



Above: Three painted patriotic egg samples with different stripe methods. Doug E. also brought sheets with stars for easy tracing.



February 7-9, 2025  
Wild Outdoor Women (WOW)  
Lake Metigoshe State Park

This was the first year of the Flickertail Woodcarvers participating in the Wild Outdoor Women weekend at Lake Metigoshe State Park. In 2024, Becky Barnes and her mother Anita Burbeck attended the event, and had a very enjoyable time with classes such as Naalbinding (viking knitting), antler-handle knife crafting, and spearfish decoy carving. During the moments they were not busy with classes, they spent their time around one of the dorm fireplaces, happily naalbinding (Anita) or carving (Becky) their time away. Becky happened to be working on Tushrooms, and the ladies wandering past inquired as to what they were, and how they would like to include carving again in their lineup. Previous years Emily Laaveg, an Icelandic State Park ranger, had taught spoon carving - so carving had been introduced in years past. At the end-of-session survey, Becky B. mentioned she would be willing to teach beginner carving if there was interest.

Fast-forward, and sure enough there was interest! Chatting with the organizer, Amy Schimetz, park ranger at Lake Metigoshe State Park (north of Bottineau, ND), and she suggested a wildlife-oriented carving project. We settled on Safety; the Practice Stick - an intro to different cuts; the Otter Letter Opener in butternut - to highlight different cuts, and a second type of wood; and finally the Tiny Duck - a compact complex piece in basswood that tested grain direction, cuts, and precision.

By the end, everyone finished their practice stick. Most ladies finished their Otter Letter Opener, or at least were far enough along they were confident starting another project.



Above: Eggs in various stages of carving.

Below: Left - Cathy L. continued work on her Plague Doctor. Right - Michaela B. worked on the lid of a pine box - not the kindest material to work with, but she persevered. Between knotwork on the edges and kolrosing in the middle, it was quite the lid!

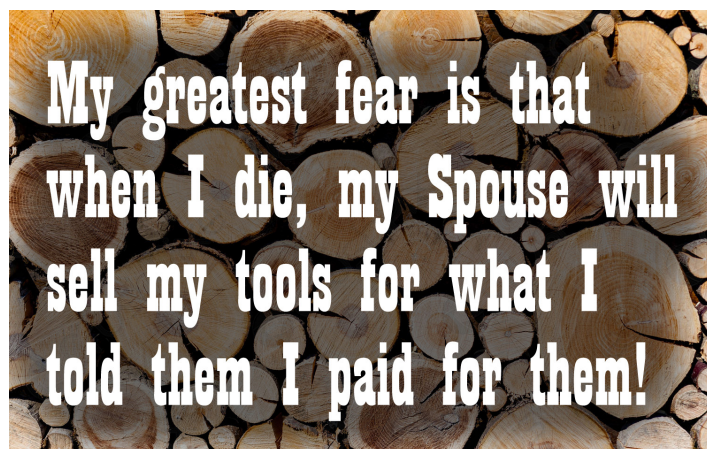




The carving class was also divided into two parts - one session before dinner, the other after. This way ladies could choose whether or not they continued on, or ended early. A few had scheduling conflicts (travel!) but most came back for the second session, and worked on their Tiny Ducks.

Becky B. brought along the carving kits from the club, as well as her own tools. She offered up her own knives for people to try different blade shapes, handle shapes, and even the occasional gouge.

When the feedback surveys were distributed to instructors, it was amusing to see the "It was easier than I expected!" right next to the "It was harder than I thought!"



## Carvings from the Collections: Woodworking from the Heritage Center and State Museum

Jenny and I found a gorgeous acanthus food carrier, donated to the SHSND by the North Dakota Council on the Arts. It was carved by Guy Paulson in 2013. The cataloging reads "A wooden food container, made of a hollowed basswood log. The container is cylindrical with carved acanthus leaves in a band around the sides. There is a lid with acanthus leaves carved into the top and into a handle, which is round in the center and attached to the top. There are two acanthus brackets around the top of the container, which help to hold the lid in place. The bottom has four feet, also of an acanthus design. "GP/13" is incised into the bottom of the container."



Above: The front of the food container with intertwining acanthus swirls. SHSND 2017.00046.00016



Guy Paulson is a woodcarver and artist of Norwegian descent, from Fargo, North Dakota. Much of his work is inspired by traditional Norwegian designs. All pieces were featured in an exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center entitled, "Yggdrasil: The Norwegian-American Carvings of Gaylord 'Guy' Paulson".

A grautspann was traditionally used to hold different kinds of porridge, barley, rice, or flour, as well as other semi-liquid foods such as stew. Today they are more commonly used to store non-food items.

SHSND 2017.00046.00016



## Chatoyance

Chatoyance (sha-toy-an-see) is the reflective shimmer of light in gemstones and wood, generally bands of light that move across the material as the wood or person shifts position. While the effect is most commonly found in hardwoods, softer woods can exhibit the phenomenon as well.

In the woodworking world, you may come across the terms figure, flame, ribbon, quilting, or tiger stripe - these all refer to the reflective effect. What causes it? Where tree fibers are more dense, such as areas of high stress (the middle connection of a Y, for instance) you may be more likely to see it.



The back of a violin, crafted with quilted maple.

## Upcoming Events

### March

18: Whittle-In 7-9pm

### April

5: Meeting & Whittle-In 9-11am

22: Whittle-In 7-9pm

[25-27: Snow Daze Carve In - Waite Park, MN](#)

### May

[2-4: Red River Valley Woodcarvers Annual show - Fargo, ND](#)

5: Meeting & Whittle-In 9-11am

22: Whittle-In 7-9pm