



# The Curling Chip

## May / June 2025

One last meeting for the Spring months, and then it's Picnic time at Sertoma Park shelter #5, and demonstrations all summer long. The more the merrier! Everything from Bluegrass Goes Pink cancer benefit, to the Buckstop Junction Hootenanny, Capital A'Fair, and even a Threshing Bee! The official May meeting was canceled, as a good portion of Flickertail leadership was scheduled to be at the Fargo carving show.

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)

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 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





## Red River Valley International Wood Arts Festival, Fargo, ND May 2-5, 2025

The May Flickertail meeting was voted to be canceled at the April meeting, as many of the club members would be in Fargo for the Red River Valley Woodcarvers' show, at the FM Air Museum. Many were taking classes, such as relief carving with John Engler. Becky B. was also teaching the cross-stitch on wood class that she taught at the Flickertail show in October.

Having never gone before, it was an interesting comparison between the Bismarck and Fargo-Moorhead club show styles. The RRVWC had a line of tables dedicated to a judged carving theme - the theme was "What a relief!". Those entering the show were given two tickets - one for Peoples Choice, and one for Carvers Choice. They also did not gather as a group for a potluck or banquet - different than the Flickertails' show. With the Air Museum being close to the NDSU campus, there wasn't a lack of choices for places to eat, however.



Above: Becky B.'s table and cross stitch class (top), and Charles S.' slew of sticks.



Above: Eric G. working on a relief in the John Engler class.

Bottom: Dick Skauge works with Troy F. on a Bellamy-style eagle.







Above: Cliff O. working on a John Engler relief.

Below: Tables set up under and around airplanes (top) at the FM Air Museum. A selection of Bellamy-style eagle blanks (bottom) in the Dick Skauge class.



Above: Becky W. (top) works on a John Engler relief. Cross-stitch pieces are gluing (bottom) in Becky B.'s class.

Below: A flower is blossoming one stitch at a time.





# Monthly Meeting Minutes for Flickertail Woodcarvers

May 20, 2025



**Call to Order** by President Becky Weisgerber

16 members were present, including new member Daniel S.

**Secretary's Report:** Becky Barnes

Secretary's Report - motioned as read by Cliff Orgaard, seconded by Michaela Rose. Still looking for a volunteer to take over this summer! Becky is willing to compile things and send them out - as long as she gets the notes, she can work with it.

**Treasurer's Report:** Warren Schlecht

Not present during impromptu meeting.

## Committee Reports

**Membership** (Doug Smith): New member Daniel says he attended a whittle-in many years ago as a middle-schooler, and wants to learn more. Welcome!

**Programs** (Eric Gaasland): The "Winter Celebration" keeps moving closer and closer to Spring, and doesn't feel as "winter-y" anymore. There was a brief discussion on moving it to November instead, so people could work on smaller projects like ornaments, and have them ready in time for December. Eric will look into scheduling it.

July 26 - **Bluegrass Goes Pink** at Cross Ranch State Park. Cliff is leading that carving demonstration. It's a fun time with carving early on, optional camping / tenting available, and a great dinner. Join in on the walk-run event.

August 2-3 - **Capital A'Fair** around the Capitol loop. Becky W. is leading that event. New setup spot! The flat, brick portion of the State Library walkway on the west side of the building, from the stairs to the road, is fair game for setup. We're not poking spikes into the ground, so we can set up on the flat, right up against the road, which will make the group much more accessible to walkers, wheelchairs, and mobility devices.

August 10 - a request to demonstrate at the Former Governor's Mansion during their **Ice Cream Social** in celebration of 200 years of Norwegian immigration. Suggested by former Heritage Center director and Sons of Norway member Claudia Berg. Who doesn't like ice cream? Sounds like a fun time. Eric will take point of contact.



September 6-7 - **South Central Threshing Bee** in Braddock, ND - overlaps the first meeting in September, but the club said they wanted to demonstrate. We will need to iron things out closer to September to see who is going and who is staying.

June 17 / July 15 / August 19 - next three gatherings will be picnic-style / brown-bag supper at **Sertoma Park shelter #5**, generally starting around 5-5:30, and ending around 7-8pm, or whenever people get tired or rained out.

**Publicity** (Cliff Orgaard): No change.

**Property** (Matt Hlebechuk): No change.

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

**Historian** (Clara Yonker): Becky B. still has one box of material she will drop off with the club leadership.

**Facebook** (Eric Gaasland): No change.

**Website** (Becky Barnes): No change.

**Buckstop Junction Upgrades** (Doug Emerson, Bob Pedigo, Mike Knudson, Warren Schlecht, Cliff Orgaard, Todd Engelstad): The display was rearranged, and there is now a big empty spot in the middle. A suggestion was made that current carvers bring in examples of their work. Bring them to one of the Buckstop Upgrades members, or to one of the June-July-August picnics. Doug, Bob, Cliff, and Mike took an inventory of all the carvings currently at Buckstop, so we now have a spreadsheet with that information.

## **Old Business**

We received a Thank You letter from the Post-Adoptive Dad's group that was taught by Bob P., Todd E., and Vince B.. Great job guys!

## **New Business**

**Whittle-In Project:** Thank you Michaela Rose for the hatching dinosaur project.

Last year we had an optional "theme" for the Annual Show of "Prehistoric" - where if carvers felt inspired they could carve whatever that word meant to them. The suggested theme for this year is "Agriculture" - that could mean crops, animals, forestry, aquaculture - whatever it means to you, carve it!

We're in talks with St. Cloud and Fargo over event dates, so there will hopefully be less overlap



in the future. It's not as easy as just picking dates however - we all have to work around building schedules, reservations, and instructors.

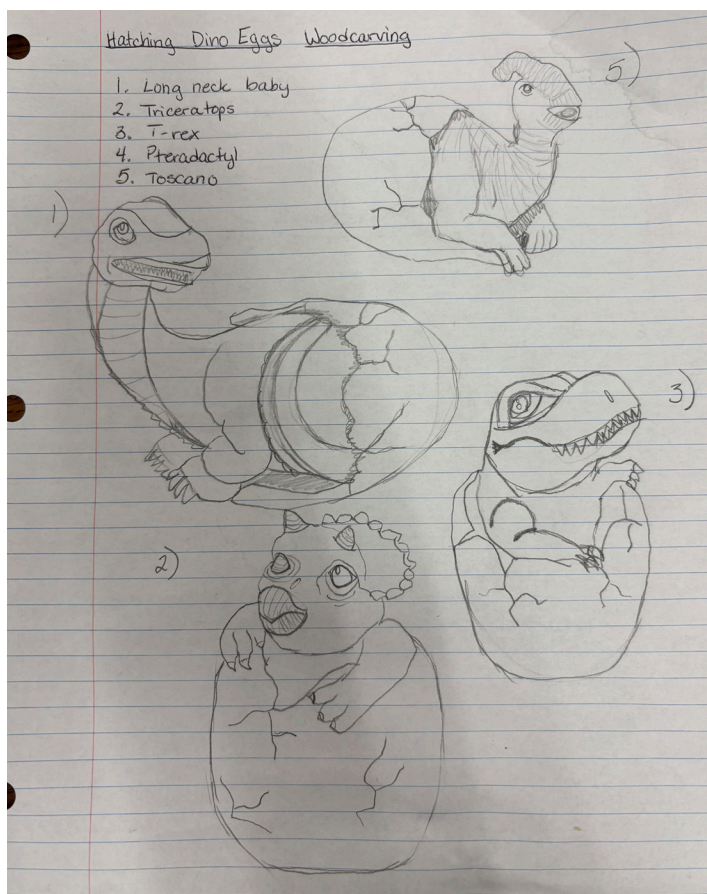
Beavercraft (tool supplier) has over 150 woodcarving patterns available! Simply send them your email address, and they'll supply you with a Google-doc / PDF of anything from caricatures to relief ideas. <https://beavercrafttools.com/pages/patterns>

Meeting was adjourned.

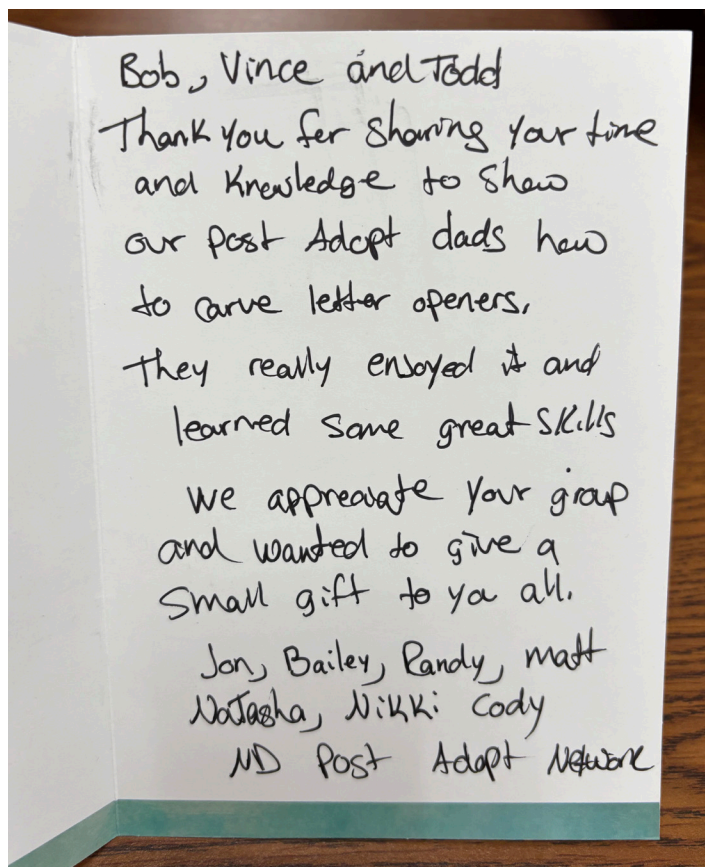


### May 20, 2025 Whittle-In Hatching Dinosaur by Michaela Rose

Michaela drew out four sample hatchling dinosaurs for people to carve - a *Brontosaurus* (left), a *Parasaurolophus* (top), *Triceratops* (bottom), and *Tyrannosaurus* (right).



The club received a very nice Thank-You card from the adoptive Dads retreat, including gift cards for the instructors! Very kind of them.



The card reads:

Bob, Vince, and Todd

Thank you for sharing your time and knowledge to show our Post Adopt dads how to carve letter openers. They really enjoyed it and learned some great skills. We appreciate your group and wanted to give a small gift to you all.

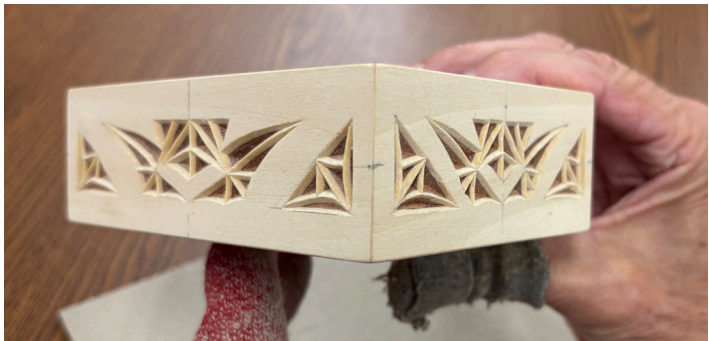
Jon, Bailey, Randy, Matt, Natasha, Nikki, Cody  
ND Post Adopt Network





Above: The last Whittle-In of May tends to run into scheduling errors. It's after the Dance kids have already ended their season, so the doors aren't automatically open at the church. Oops! Had to call the custodian to the rescue! In the meanwhile, Bob P. had a truck-bed full of old woodworking magazines that had been donated to the club (Chip Chats, Woodcarving Illustrated) for dispersal. The extra time outside gave us plenty of time to peruse through the bags of goodies

Below: Alvin B. photographs the dinosaur directions before starting on his egg. You could design your dinosaur to be vertical, or horizontal.



Above: A box full of chip-carved items in preparation for the Bismarck Library display.

Below: A dinosaur in an egg slowly taking shape!



Above: Vases carved and painted by Eileen H.





## Sertoma Park Picnic June 17, 2025

Over a dozen people showed up for the first Sertoma Whittle-In of the summer. Many different projects were being worked on, including more chip-carving.



Above: A box chip carved on multiple sides by Michaela.

Below: A great day for carving, AND being outside.





## Wahpeton Carving Weekend June 27-29, 2025

Flickertails made a fabulous presence at the annual Wahpeton Carving Weekend, and at least one was in almost every different class offered. As always, the food was tasty, plentiful and filling - although they got rid of the cafeteria trays, which was a slight quality-of-life downgrade (in my opinion). I can't comment on the dorms this year, since I stayed at the Travelodge. The housing there, much like last year, was nice and quiet.



Above: Troy F. making spoons with Karen Henderson's Beautiful and Usable Spoon class.

Below: Bob P. working on a colored pencil flower in Rhonda Smith's class.



Above: Anna W. and Doug E. both took Ken Ramler's Layered Landscape class.

Below: Todd E. with a nearly complete caricature, from Bruce Ankeny's class.







Above: Eric G. (top) and Cliff O. (bottom) took Dick Skauge's rusty nail shorebird / kingfisher class.

Below: Marilyn Orgaard's quilting class was attended by Karen P., and Michal S..



Above: Becky W. (top) and Becky B. (bottom) took Izo Becic's Greenman class.

Saturday evening after supper, instructors could choose to teach a "mini" class. A number of Flickertails took Bruce Ankeny's screaming



pickle caricature class. As the evening wore to a close, suddenly the tornado sirens began to go off in town, and anyone with a cell phone received a tornado warning alarm / text, telling us to seek shelter away from windows, preferably in a basement. Well... we just happened to be in a basement away from windows! So we all just kept carving.

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

### 2017.1.1 - Stool

Norwegian Kubbestol, carved by Otto Aaland from a single piece of log. Covered in North Dakota symbols, including the state capitol (on the top back and front base), state seal (on the front base), and a meadowlark and prairie rose (side of base). The front side of the chair back is covered in intricate swirls, a series of leaves are carved into the edges of the chair. Base is hollow, on the inside of base is carved "O.P.A./2015". On the outside of the base is "NORTH DAKOTA". The seat is covered with a round green pillow with piping in the seams. Outer layer of wood has been stained with a light color wood stain.



Below: Warren S.' bark-house in Norm Minske's Bark-architecture class.







## Upcoming Events

\*Beginner Class same day as Whittle-In.

July 15, 2025

Brown-bag Supper at Sertoma Park, Shelter #5  
~5pm-8pm

July 26, 2025

Bluegrass Goes Pink – Cancer benefit /  
fundraiser with carving demonstrations at  
Cross Ranch State Park. Contact Cliff Orgaard.

August 2-3, 2025

Capital A'Fair – carving demo. Contact Becky  
Weisgerber.

August 10, 2025

Norwegian carving demo at the Former  
Governor's Mansion, 1-4pm. Contact Eric  
Gaasland.

August 16, 2025

Buckstop Junction Hootenanny – carving demo.  
Contact Eric Gaasland.

August 19, 2025

Brown-bag Supper at Sertoma Park, Shelter #5  
~5pm-8pm

September 6, 2025

Monthly Meeting 9-11am Project by Eric  
Gaasland

September 6-7, 2025

50th Annual Threshing Bee, Braddock, ND –  
carving demo. Contact Bob Pedigo.

September 16, 2025

Whittle-In 7-9pm Project by Todd Engelstad

October 4, 2025

Monthly Meeting 9-11am

October 9-12, 2025

Annual Show. Contact Eric Gaasland. Master  
Carving class Oct 9-12, show Oct 11-12.  
Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy.

October 21, 2025

Whittle-In 7-9pm Project by Alvin Braunagel

October 21, 2025\*

Beginner Class 1

October 28, 2025

Beginner Class 2

November 1, 2025

Monthly Meeting 9-11am Project by Warren  
Schlecht

November 4, 2025

Beginner Class 3