



VOL. 26, NO. 3

March 2010

ANNUAL MEETING FOR MWCA

APRIL 3, 2010

GREAT WALL CHINESE RESTUARANT

**1 ANTHONY WAY
AUGUSTA, ME**



Please note the meeting date of the Annual Meeting is April 3, 2010

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Greetings from Bog Haven

At Maine Wood Carvers, we are rapidly approaching the end of another year and will soon have a new President to lead our great organization. Traditionally the Annual meeting is held in March, and coincides with the Maine Sportsmen's Show in Augusta. Last year that show was held in April. Our By-Laws required us to hold our Annual meeting in March, therefore we could not hold it in conjunction with the Sportsmen's Show. At a later general membership meeting, it was voted to amend the By-Laws to allow the Annual Meeting to be held in March or April so as to conform to the scheduling of the Maine Sportsmen's Show. Again this year the show is held in early April. PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECTED DATE BELOW.

This will be my last newsletter as President, for the Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Saturday April 3rd**. The CARVER NEWSLETTER will go to print a few days following our Annual Meeting when Chuck Friis will assume the Presidency.

We traditionally have a table at the Maine Sportsmen's Show. We need volunteers to man this table on Friday PM , all day Saturday and Sunday April 2nd-3rd & 4th. Please let me know is you can help manning this table, if only for an hour or two. We need to give the show management a list of those who will be participating so you can get through the gate without paying admission.

The Annual Meeting will be held Saturday April 3rd at the GREAT WALL CHINESE RESTURANT (1 Anthony way Augusta). The meeting is held to coincide with the MAINE SPORTSMEN SHOW at the Civic Center. We will eat lunch at 12:00 noon. The meal will be from the Buffet tables. Please reserve a space for the meal if you plan to attend both the meal and the meeting. We should give the management a head count for the meal. To register for the meal contact me at merribob@megalink.net or call 207 388-2472. If you can't make the meal I hope you will attend the meeting that will begin at 1:00 PM. This years Guest speaker will be Rob Jones, he was the 2010 Down East Show "Best of Show Winner". He will give a video presentation how he creates his wonderful wooden working musical instruments. I think we may also be treated to a demonstration as he plays these instruments.

I wish to thank you all for the support you have given me over the last three years. I consider it a privilege to have served as your President.

Until next Annual Meeting
Happy Carving
Bob Perry
President, MWCA



MWCA Chapter Reports

Streaked Mountain Woodcarvers

Our meeting began with a discussion of the tamarack piece we were given. It's been decided we will meet at Bob Perry's house for the next meeting as this gives us a chance to look at the tamarack and give ideas to what will be done with it.

The Down East Woodcarvers is still looking for officers. If interested talk to Bob Perry.

I would like to ask those of you in our group to come up with possible names for our group entering in the show in the fall. So far it's been decided that we are going for the patriotic look. Any ideas can be brought to the meeting or e mailed to me at Justina_marie_1960@yahoo.com.

I would also like to welcome two new members to our group Robert and Matt Moreau a father and son team. A big welcome to the both of you!

Sincerely Your secretary

Justina

Carver Street Carvers

Had another month of not getting to meetings. If nothing happens will get to at least one this month. Looking forward to seeing them again. Still hoping to get some new members and had a call from a possibility recently.

Have a great month and hope I have more to tell you next month.

Barb

Coastal Carvers

Coastal Carvers February meeting was Saturday the 27 at the home of the Wades. We had discussion about the tamarack piece which is at D&L Printers so we can all get a close look at it next month and finalize our "plan of ATTACK"!

Carvers have been busy with eagle head canes. Other show and tells were several varieties of ducks, fish, stylized bird and cottonwood bark house. Several carvers were working on their own projects while others were brave enough to try their hand at cutting and carving Golf Balls, Gordon loves it!

Our March program will be carving a 9 inch Santa instructed by Fran Fedrizzi. Take note, our March meeting will be back at D&L Printers on the fourth Saturday the 27th at 1pm all are welcome.

Karen Knowles

South Coast Carvers

South Coast Carvers met Thursday, 2/25 at Woodcraft Store in Newington, NH

The show went on with eight of us being foolish enough to venture out into the raging winds and rain. The heating system in the room we use for our carving sessions failed so we had to endure a very cool room. However, Brain kept us entertained with his very informative class on carving golf balls. We all attempted to put a frog in a golf ball. There were numerous successful frogs carved I wish I could say the same for myself. All in all we experienced a very enjoyable evening. The next class Mr. Todd will be teaching a class on the art of pin carving. I am looking forward to it and hope to see you all there. Bring a friend with you
. Paul Durant

.Capital Chapter

Well, another month has flown by. About the only 'newsworthy' event was the pizza party that George hosted a couple weeks ago. He prepared & cooked 'fresh dough' pizza's for the group. And they were DELICIOUS [by unanimous vote]. About the only carving done that nite was of the pizza's.

Hopefully, 'springish' weather is finally starting to arrive for us & all the snow storms will stay to our south. They seem to have gotten more than they've had in years, or ever. My grandson in coastal VA had school cancelled for 3 days due to the snow. They don't have the equipment or knowledge of what to do with that much snow.

Keep the chips flying, your tools & wits sharp, and your fingers out of the way ! ;oD
Loyd



Tom Cote, President
6 Summit Street
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Tel: (207) 325-4258 Cell: (207) 325-1233



Hello Everyone!

The Top of Maine Carvers are now meeting every last Thursday of the month @ 6:00 p.m. and all are welcome to join us.

We are busy making plans for our July 30, 31, and August 1 Woodcarving & Art Show. We are also in the process of designing our relief carving for our portion of the slab of tamarack and should begin work on it soon. So mark your calendars...we are so looking forward to seeing everyone again and are excited to see the results of the relief carvings on your own piece of wood. There are so many wonderful carvers all over the state and especially within the chapter groups. We would like to thank everyone for their hard work, commitment and effort on this project. It's projects like these that tie the chapters together and give way for greater opportunities to promote and preserve the art and history of woodcarving.

Tom's brother, Dolard Cote, gave a class on constructing carving tools (like knives and gouges, etc.). Everyone who attended the class came away quite impressed with Dolard's knowledge of tool-making for carvers. Looks like the whole family is gifted one way or another.

Russell Mount of Castle Hill has committed to offering a duck decoy workshop during March for the Top of Maine Carvers. We are looking forward to it. Everyone was pleased with the way their shorebird decoys finally turned out. Can't wait Russell!!

Everyone is still busy carving on their own projects and some of our group are working on Indian head busts as a group project. They're really looking great.... All are in different stages of completion.

We are also thinking about carving weather vanes as another group project...I already have my design picked out....although as Tom can testify..... that is always subject to change.

The Eagle Cane Project continues...we have been able to present several of the canes so far.....so we're pleased about that. Elizabeth, Tom's granddaughter, finished two canes for her grandparents who live in New Jersey. Both her grandfather and her grandmother served during WWII. The canes turned out beautifully and I am sure they were thrilled when they received their canes. What a wonderful gift from their granddaughter. Very thoughtful and meaningful.

We will try to keep everyone informed of the upcoming carving show in July-August as we have more details. Spring is in the air...and the carving continues....

Annette Tardy for
The Top of Maine Carvers

Central Maine Carvers

No report and the last word was that they are looking for a place to meet.

Downeast Woodcarvers

No Report this month.

Alan Talbot

Poland Spring Carvers

No Report this month

Stanley Tanner, Secretary
The Poland Spring Carvers

McGaffey Mountain Carvers

McGaffey MTN carvers met twice in February. On the first Wed, we had a great showing of folks including our group of young men. We have a group project under way...we are doing a cane for a special veteran and most everyone will do a portion of the cane. The head has been carved, sanded, eyes placed, detailed and wood burned. The shaft is sanded, stained, name engraved and sealed. A few more steps and it will be ready for presentation. Looking good! Some of the group are continuing to work on the little Puffins while others are starting on the Jim Wade Otter. Several folks brought along their Tamerac pieces to work on or show. July is fast approaching and we want to have our contribution to the Tree Project ready to go! The second meeting we watched a video on how to make icicles and water splashes. Maybe we'll use those techniques on our Chapter table entry this year !
McGaffey MTN Carvers meet at 6:15 pm every 1st and 3rd Wed of the month at the Vienna Community Center (next to the Fire Dept). All are welcome!

Financial Report MWCA

**Financial Report MWCA
February 1, 2010 to February 28, 2010**

Received word that Vic Hamburg has passed away but no other information is available at this time. When we have more details will send it out.

INCOME:

Membership	15.00
VFW Post 9935, Sanford, Maine,	
Eagle Cane Donation	<u>200.00</u>
Income	215.00

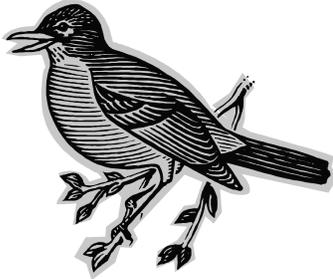
EXPENSES:

Albison's Printing, Inc.	190.61
Barbara McCutcheon, Editor	40.00
U. S. Bird Permit	<u>75.00</u>
Expenses	305.61

Checkbook balance

as of 2/28/10 \$7,926.67

*Details of any transaction are available from the Treasurer,
Wilma Sarna*



Relief-Carving: The Importance of the Background by Richard Spear, A.M.

Readers of the *Maine Carver* may recall that, in an article published in the fall of 2008, I made the radical suggestion that inexperienced carvers should NOT begin their relief projects by cutting the background to an even depth. In that essay I even went so far as to suggest that there might be good reasons for developing an undulating background in finished relief work. In the next few paragraphs, I hope to share with you my experience and thinking regarding this easily-underrated aspect of relief-carving: the importance of the background.

My opening premise, however, is a simple one and applicable to every surface in a relief: the human eye finds flat surfaces **un**interesting. Regardless of their frequent appearance in our every-day, three-dimensional world, a flat surface (either the original surface of the board you are carving or any lower level in the board that is perfectly parallel with that original surface) is to be avoided in the lively never-never world of accomplished relief-carving! If nothing else is done, a surface can be made a trifle concave or convex—or some combination of the two—to avoid that deadly flatness.

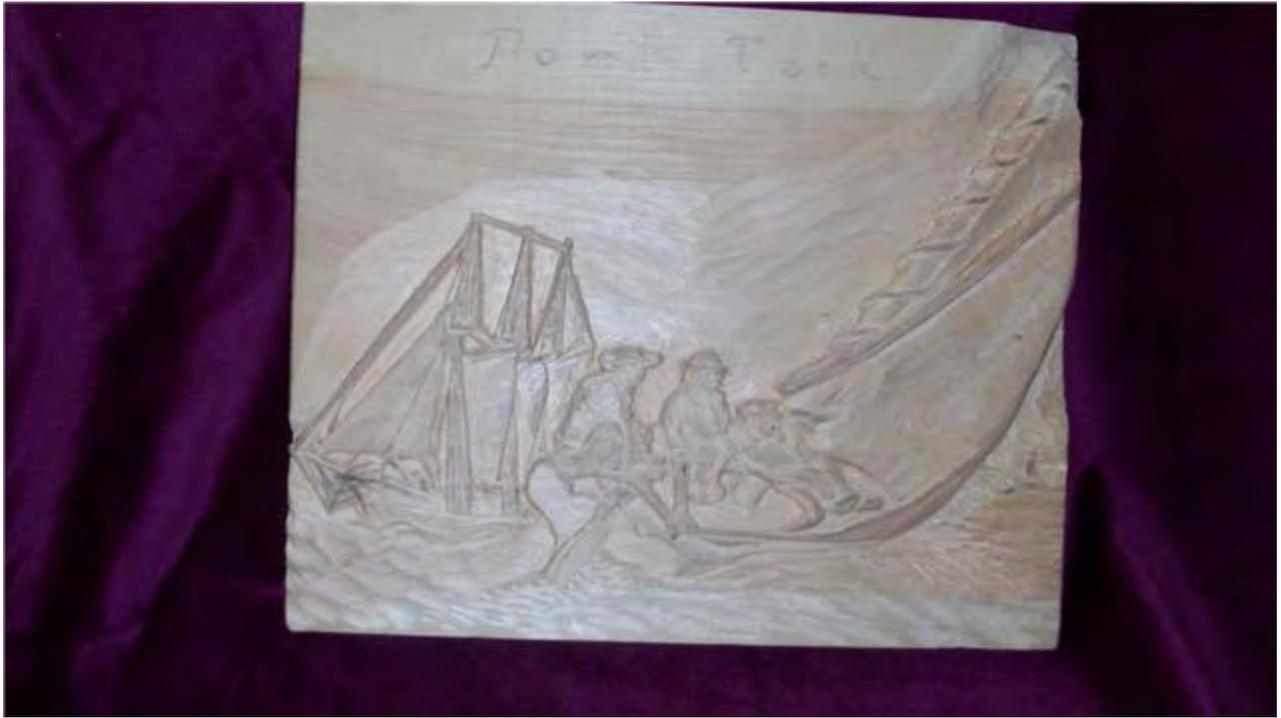
"And what is 'deadly' about the original flat surface and the planes below it?" I hear you ask. I am not altogether sure, but my eye tells me that such a flat passage looks "lame," limits the over-all illusion of depth, and impairs any dynamism one is trying to impart to one's work. And it is just that lively illusion--and often dynamism--that I am trying to squeeze out of the limited depth of my board or plank. Why, I ask you, would I fail to use the potential impact of the background by making it a flat surface?

Recently I have been carving into a pine board, a three-masted schooner sailing toward the viewer at an angle. (This is a significant detail in a larger composition.) With perspective and the placement of sails, one can satisfy some of the eye's requirements, since it knows how the masts, &c. are symmetrically configured on the ship. However, what about the background behind masts and sails? One needs to carve the background to a greater depth nearer the vessel's deck than up at the mastheads in order to define these elements clearly. One can also cut the background somewhat deeper near those edges of sails, &c. that are supposed to be nearer to the viewer.

With some discernment and cautious experimentation, you should soon find that the varying depths of the background will cause your principal figures to "pop," and perhaps even move before your eyes. Remember three facts that are true in the wonderfully fictional world of relief: (1) physical laws are suspended or altered so that even stone walls can bend away to accommodate the swirling cloaks of battling soldiers--and lesser accommodations are commonplace, (2) an illusion of distance from the viewer is best achieved--not simply by the mere depth of the background--but by perspective AND the varying planes of an undulating background, and (3) the human eye finds satisfaction and indeed delights in reading deft deceptions of perspective and sinuous planes.

Finally, if these visual tricks are expressive when we carve dynamic subjects like ships under sail, animals on the move, or knights slaying dragons, think how useful these ploys can be to interest our viewers in more staid scenes of houses, mills, bridges and trees!

Here are two photos of Richard's latest carving for Carver Street Carvers project on relief.



WWII Veterans Honored on Pearl Harbor Day

December 7, 2009

On December 6, 2009 Norm Devonshire and I drove to the American Legion Post #214 in Lebanon, Maine for the presentation of Eagle Canes to five WWII veterans.

It was an experience that I would like to share with you. I was amazed by the dedication and loyalty that these veterans have for liberty and freedom in this country.

We listened to Harold Sheffield tell his story about being in the South Pacific as a Marine Raider going into the islands in search of the enemy. It was without a doubt the most inspiring group of soldiers I have met in a long time.

My thanks go out to these five men and their families. I would also like to thank all the thousands of men and women who have defended this country for years. I can only wish them good health and a huge "THANK YOU" for their dedication, so we in this country can be free.

Listed below are the names of the five veterans honored on Pearl Harbor day, December 7, 2009.

Harold Sheffield, U.S. Marine Corp, Marine Raiders, WWII
Bernard Hall, Pearl Harbor, WWII
Leo Leroses, U.S. Army/Air Corps, South Pacific, Korea
Robert 'Bob' Wood, U.S. Navy, U.S.S. Block Island, WWII
Floyd St. Arnault, U.S. Army, WWII

*Submitted by Carver, Chuck Perry
Streaked Mountain Carving Club*

To learn more about the Eagle Cane Project, to make in-kind donations, or **if anyone has a completed cane** contact:

Marcia Berkall
165 Rockwood Dr.
South China, ME 04358
207-445-4280
eaglecane@mainewoodcarvers.org

To support the project:

by making a donation, send them to –

Wilma Sarna, Treasurer
Maine Wood Carvers Association
336 Harpswell Islands Road
Harpswell, ME 04079
0.207-729-5838



by purchasing items with the Maine Eagle Head
Cane Project logo, go to –

<http://www.cafepress.com/maineeaglecane>

ORONO CARVING COMPETITION- 2010

Spring is on its way and again it's time to get ready for the Maine Woodcarver's Association carving shows. The Eastern Maine Sportsman Show at University of Maine, Orono is **March 12, 13, & 14**. We have a good, visible spot (the "pit" gym). Entry registration is Friday, March 12 (1-8 pm) and Sat., March 13 from 9-10:00 am at the Field House at U.M., Orono; judging starts at 10 am on Saturday, and pieces must be picked up Sunday between 3:00 and 4:00.

Competition is open to all carvers (membership not required). Remember pieces must have been completed since last year's show.

Help us make this a terrific show, please consider placing some entries and challenge your carving buddies to do the same – the more pieces we have, the more challenging and the more enjoyable for all!

Please contact me or Alan Talbot if you would like more information or a copy of the official Rules. *See you in Orono.*

Ed Hawkes (288-5746) carvered@prexar.com
Alan Talbot (cell 460-5877) alan.talbot@maine.gov



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Notice of publication *The Maine Carver* is published monthly by the Maine Wood Carvers Association, a non-profit 501 (C)(3) organization dedicated to the education, promotion, and advancement of artists who express themselves in wood.

Please submit all material for *The Maine Carver* before the 25th of the month for the next month's publication.

Membership Fees: Individual Member: \$15, Family \$22.50, annually. All membership fees are due and payable by September 1.

The Maine Carver accepts advertisements without making any guarantees implied or otherwise as to the quality of products or services advertised, or delivery of these products/services. The Maine Wood Carvers Association shall not be held accountable for typos and other errors appearing in *The Maine Carver*.

Advertising in the MAINE CARVER

Members (non professional) are permitted one free 1/8 page advertisement in any month.

ALL other advertisements are charged according to the following schedule:

½ page ad = \$20 per month - \$240/yr
¼ page ad = \$10 per month - \$120/yr
⅛ page ad = \$5 per month - \$60/yr

½ pg = 3.25" x 9.5" or 6.5" x 4.75"
¼ pg = 3.25" x 4.75"
⅛ pg = 3.25" x 2.25"

[A non-professional does not sell carvings]

A ⅛ page ad approximates a business size card]

Payment for advertising, made by check made out to Maine Woodcarvers Association, must be received in advance by;

Barbara McCutcheon, Editor
13 Liberty Street
Fairfield, ME 04937

Membership in the Maine Wood Carvers Assoc. runs from September 1, and ending September 1 the following year.

All members receive a newsletter, *The Maine Carver*, on a monthly basis. However, occasionally a double month issue is printed, e.g., during the summer when there is little news or the post-show issue. If you do not receive the newsletter, contact our Newsletter Editor, Barbara McCutcheon at 13 Liberty Street, Fairfield, ME 04937 or call (207) 453-6048 or email barb72@hotmail.com

**Maine Wood Carvers Association
Quick Info/Contact List**

Chapters

CAPITAL CARVERS

*Every Thursday, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
George Gunning Workshop
Legion Park Road, Windsor ME
FMI: (207) 445-2688 or 445-2078

CARVER STREET CARVERS

*Every Tuesday, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Seton Village Senior Center
1 Carver Street, Waterville ME
FMI: Barbara McCutcheon (207) 453-6048

COASTAL CARVERS

*4th Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
D & L Printers, Route 1, Newcastle ME,
FMI: Jim Wade, (207) 563-2034

McGAFFEY MOUNTAIN WOODCARVERS

*1st and 3rd Wednesdays
Vienna Community Center
FMI: Norma Wing (207)293-3725

POLAND SPRING CARVERS

3rd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Richer Memorial Library
Main Street, Poland ME
FMI: Chuck Friis, (207) 998-2436

SOUTH COAST CARVERS,

*4th Tuesday, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Wal Mart Plaza, Woodcraft
Woodbury Av, Newington NH
FMIPaulDurant (603)332-3247

STREAKED MOUNTAIN WOOD CARVERS

*2nd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
FMI: Bob Perry, (207) 388-2472

TOP OF MAINE CARVERS

Tom Cote', 8 Summit St.
Limestone ME 04750,
FMI: (207) 325-4258

**Check for possible changes in schedule.*

Affiliated Carving Group

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Ed Hawkes, (207) 288-5746

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<http://mainewoodcarvers.org>

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RESOURCE LOAN PROGRAM -

If you would be willing to loan books, magazine articles, video tapes, study casts or anything else related to carving and painting, send your list to
browndav@roadrunner.com



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HIGHLIGHTS !

In this issue

Chapter Reports & Notices