

# IDAHO WOODCARVERS GUILD

October 2010

# Newsletter

Our Guild meets the second Thursday of each month September through May at 6:30 P.M. at the Woodcraft located at the Overland Park Shopping Center at 6883 Overland, Boise, Id, 83709, (208) 338-1190.



Jane, Toni, Steve and Roy officiating our September meeting



Carolyn Greener teaching bark carving

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2010 Idaho Artistry in Wood Show

### President:

Steve Moreno

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

Roy Bosley

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Eric Owens

### Secretary:

Toni Landers

### Treasurer:

Jane Eubanks

### Newsletter Editor:

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## From President, Steve Moreno:

**Artistry in Wood** – Roy Bosley and I met with the other woodworking clubs to discuss February's Idaho Artistry in Wood (IAW) show. Jane was present as well because she is serving as the treasurer for IAW and owns her own club.



Key outcomes of the meeting included

1. Each woodworking club will be represented by their President and Vice President on all issues requiring a vote.

2. Each club will be responsible to

- select judges for the show.
- create its own prospectus for the show including judging categories
- register participants

IAW will be setting up a website.

Following the meeting, Doug Rose offered to lead the publicity efforts for the show.

We will still be looking for volunteers to assist with logistical support items.

3. It currently appears the IAW has enough funds to set up the show.

### MONTHLY PROJECTS

Thanks to Caroline Greener for leading the Sept bark carving project. We need carvers willing to serve as project hosts for our monthly meeting. Please consider leading a monthly meeting.

**Next meeting is October 14, at 6:30 PM, at Woodcraft!!!!**

I know and can see clearly exactly what, I want to carve.  
But on the long journey from my head through my arms,  
So much is lost before it gets to my fingers and tools. -CarverfromNowhere<sup>1</sup>

## **Minutes September 2010**

President Steve Moreno called the first meeting of the 2010-2011 year to order, and introduced this year's officers:

Roy Bosley - 1st VP, Eric Owens - 2nd VP, Jane Eubanks - Treasurer, and Toni Landers - Secretary.

Steve inquired if everyone on the email list had received the September newsletter, and the answer was a resounding YES!

### **New ideas were presented for this year:**

To boost attendance at the monthly meetings, red tickets will be passed out at every meeting, and a drawing will be held at the end of the meeting, with the prize to be a \$25 Woodcraft gift card.

To boost membership, anyone who purchases Lennie's \$100 class package will automatically get a 1 year membership to the IWG.

The roster will be distributed soon, but we need to make sure we have each member's name, address, phone number and email address.

The \$20 annual membership fee is delinquent if not received by closing of the November meeting.

### **Upcoming carve-ins:**

Hidden Springs Historical Society, September 19th from noon to 5pm. Four carvers are needed, lunch is provided.  
Downtown Boise Library, November 13 from 10am to 1pm. Needed are display pieces for the month of November.

Garden City Library, a Saturday yet to be determined in February - 10am to 4pm.

Board members met with Monte (WoodCraft's owner) regarding IWG bringing in a master instructor for a 2 day class, paid for mostly by IWG funds with a nominal participant fee. Several suggestions were made for the type of carving, including relief, chip and pyrography. A vote will be held at the October meeting to decide if this is a worthwhile use of IWG funds.

Another discussion was brought up regarding possible upcoming classes utilizing WoodCraft employees to volunteer teach. Monte will allow WoodCraft employees to volunteer their time to teach classes, as he does not see a conflict of interest.

In November, the wood turners group will once again make pens for veterans. All skill levels are needed, as it is a huge project and involves much more than just turning the pens. Volunteers are needed for building boxes and assembling pens, among many tasks to be completed.

### **Newcomers:**

George Ross who carved his first boot 20 years ago is now with the Ada County Wood Workers and states that the turning date is November 16th, and they plan to turn 1,100 pens beginning at 8am. They will have 26 lathes set up out back.

Kira has never carved, but stopped by out of curiosity

### **Prizes:**

Door prize was won by Toni Landers

Raffle tickets were sold by Roy and Beck, and the winners were:

Becky won a troll

Jack Hanson won a huge block of basswood

Roy Bosley won a \$15 gift card

Dave Sharp shared Carolyn Greener's t-shirt which displayed the caption "Rogue Carvers Guild"

## Back to Business!

Jane Eubanks presented the Treasurer's report

Steve Moreno discussed the possibility of catering this year's Holiday Feast, rather than the usual potluck. Hopefully this will be voted on in the October or November meeting.

Roy Bosley clarified that the cost of a two day class would be heavily subsidized by club funds, and just a nominal fee would be collected from participants.

Artistry in Wood's 2011 budget was discussed, and it was brought to light that AIW does not have enough funds in their budget to foot the entire bill, and will need some help again this year for the up-front costs such as rent, posters, etc.

Respectfully submitted by Toni Landers

### Brush Care Tip

Do not reuse the plastic tube used on new brushes; this may bend the bristles beyond repair.

Never use a brush to mix large amounts of color.

If the bristles fray, dip them in a cup of hot water for 30 seconds, reshape them, and allow them to dry.

Protect the brushes when you are traveling by rolling them up in a towel or using a brush carrier.

### Featured Carver for October, Toni Landers

In 2004, my then 14 year old son Nick and I attended the Gravenstein Apple Fair in Sebastopol, CA. While wandering through the booths, we came across the Sonoma County Wood Carvers demonstration booth, and sensing Nick's interest in what he was seeing, I jotted down a few notes. I contacted Ellie Nevin, who at the age of 83, had been carving for 78 years!! Ellie was offering carving lessons/group carving on Wednesdays from 6-10pm (you can get a LOT of carving done in 4 hours!). Our introduction to the wonderful world of carving took place in her studio, surrounded by a group of very friendly and helpful carvers of all skill levels (not unlike this fine group!) We were warmly received, and with a little pre-carving instruction from Ellie, began the first of four pre-assigned projects (see pictures below), after which we were free to carve whatever we pleased. I renew my membership to this group every year, and look forward to their newsletters every month. Sadly, Nick lost interest during the second project, however by that time I WAS HOOKED!! I continued carving on Wednesday nights with this group for almost two years, at which time we moved to Kuna. I did my homework, and contacted Gene Fuller about carving groups in the Boise area. Gene was kind enough to refer me to Cleve Taylor. At the time, I had NO idea that I was conversing with two of the top caricature carvers in America (as evidenced by their status as members of the elite Caricature Carvers of America). If you have not yet done so, I urge you to check out the membership list of CCA at [www.cca-carvers.org](http://www.cca-carvers.org). Hopefully, you will feel as grateful as I do for the wonderful opportunity to carve with so many of the CCA members whom we are fortunate enough to have as members of the IWG, as well as instructors at the Jamboree.



My introduction to the Thursday night carving group was lively, and I felt quite at home, although with just two hours to carve, it seemed like I was just getting started when it was time to pack up and go home (I was used to four hour carving sessions back home). I was fortunate enough to get my tools sharpened by Cleve (I had NO idea how dull my tools really were!), and the very next session I discovered just how sharp they were, and had two stitches in my index finger to prove it.

While I was thrilled to be carving again, I was sad that my carving was limited to 2 hours per week, due to working full-time and having 5 year old twins, I did not have the time or courage to bring my tools out at home. While most of my fellow carvers were churning out project after project, I slowly turned out some pieces I am pretty happy to claim as mine (see pictures below).

A couple of summers ago, Jane and I attended one of Virgil Butler's weekend power-carving workshops, and I learned how to use a Foredom to create a very cool swimming fish.

This year's Artistry in Wood event was the first time I had ever entered a carving in a competition. I was absolutely floored to learn that I'd seven ribbons for the six pieces I'd entered. This went a long way toward boosting my confidence in my carving and painting abilities.

I've just completed my first cottonwood bark house, and as it was a present for my mother's 80th birthday in July, I mailed it off to her right away (in retrospect I wish I'd held on to it for a few more weeks so I could present it for show and tell.

Last Christmas, I had a set of wooden carving gouges/knives made for the twins, so I could introduce them to the wonderful world of carving, via soap! They loved it, so this summer we camped twice at Arrow Head Park in Cascade, and the boys took two lessons from "Big" John, creating a baseball bat and a boot. They've since gone on to carving fish, and I was thrilled to bring them to an open carving session last week and introduce them to my fellow carvers.

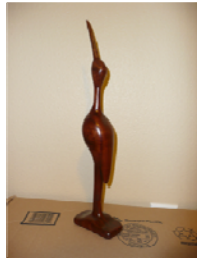
While I have confidence in my carving ability, I cannot say the same about my sharpening ability. Therefore, when I became the proud owner of one of Cleve's very useful sharpening systems, I purchased a cheapie set of gouges to practice on rather than ruin the tools I've purchased and received as gifts and hand-me-downs. I'm slowly getting better at it, and I'm becoming more diligent in my stropping duties. What a pleasure it is to carve with properly maintained tools!



My first three carving projects



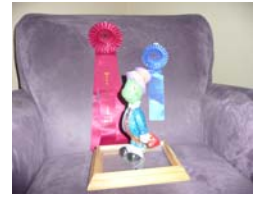
My fourth project was a relief carving of my choice



I then tried my hand at spoon-making with Black Walnut (what a chore!!)



Civil War Soldier Bust



Jiminy Cricket

I have been so fortunate to make some very good friends among this group, and I look forward to getting to know the rest of you in the coming weeks, months and years as we continue to carve together.

### Show and Tell



**Walt Mifflin** shared his American Widgeon, also known as a Bald Pate, which is commonly seen at local watering holes along side Mallards.



**Beck Beus** brought in the Blue Man he carved in Marv Kaisersatt's class at this year's Jamboree.

**Dorian Wheaton** shared his blue ribbon for the Black Walnut Hawaiian Floral wall piece. Alas, he could not share the piece as it had already been sold!



**Roy Bosley** shared some Choke Cherry bowls he turned in his newly converted garage/shop. He is a self-admitted power-carver, but wants to carve hollow forms (like gourds) with either burning the design on the outside or by using a rotary sawblade.



**Steve Moreno** showed his bark houses (from Rick Jensen's class), to which he also added clocks.



**John Brubaker** shared his Woodsman Who Works in the Forest. We've waited a long time to see him, and were very pleased with his outcome!



**Dan Geary** brought in a Gad Well that he had carved.

["It's when you're going through the process of seeing the wood almost coming to life. Then, at the end of the process, with the eyes looking back at you, it's almost like it's coming alive."](#)  
-Bruce DiVaccaro

["Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best."](#)  
-Henry Vandyke



**Don Bigham** showed us his Santa with Puppy, which his wife did a great job of painting.



**Carolyn Greener** shared her sheepherder's wagon and XXXXX which earned blue ribbons at the Western Idaho Fair. I failed to photograph it

## Open Carving

We continue to meet on every Thursday evening, except the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, at 6:30 pm, at Woodcraft. Just bring whatever you are carving and join in the fun, great conversation and it's a good chance to learn from other carvers. Take advantage of all that's offered by our Club.

["I'm not the best, dont try to be, the fun part is always just trying your best", anon.](#)

## Carving Demonstration



Our club participated at the Hidden Springs- Dry Creek Historical Harvest Party. We were represented by David Sharp, Jane Eubanks, Eric Owens and me. We answered questions about carving, club activities and hopefully generated some interest in attracting new members. Attendees seemed impressed with the variety of objects they saw. All of the carvers encouraged visitors to handle the carvings. If you get a chance to attend one of these carve ins in the future, you will enjoy it.

## Upcoming Events

Nov 13 Saturday

The downtown Boise library will host a carve-in from 10am until 1pm. We will be looking for participants for this event. The library will provide two locked display cabinets to us for the month of November. For those wishing to display their work, the carvings should be less than 12 inches tall OR they can be displayed on their sides.

December 9 Thursday :The annual holiday party at Woodcraft.

February 19, Saturday    Carve In                      Garden City Library

**INVITATION TO ARTISTS  
WHOSE WORK INCLUDES  
WOODTURNING                      WOODCARVING    WOODBURNING    MARQUETRY    SCROLLING  
FINE WOODWORKING  
GOURDS    AND    INTARSIA**

You are invited to participate in the

### **2011 IDAHO ARTISTRY IN WOOD SHOW**

The 2011 Idaho Artistry in Wood Show will be held Saturday, February 26 and Sunday, February 27 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, 3300 Vista Ave., Boise, Idaho. Competitors from all skill levels, Beginner – Expert, are invited to submit their entries for display and judging. The show will also include vendors, a banquet and auction. The Idaho Artistry in Wood Show continues a cultural tradition and competitive exhibition that has been one of the leading displays of wood art in the Western United States. **Registration will take place on Friday, February 25, 2010 from 12-6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn.** Detailed information on the show will be available in the coming weeks at Woodcraft in Boise and from the following member groups of the Idaho Artistry in Wood Association: Idaho Woodcarvers Guild, Treasure Valley Scrollers, Southwest Idaho Wood Turners Association, Ada County Woodworkers and Idaho Gourd Society. Each group will have registration forms and a prospectus available.

The cost of participation in the show is \$3 per entry for pre-registered pieces and \$5 for registrations at the door. Youth age 16 and under may compete without cost. Further information on the show should be available in the near future at Woodcraft in Boise and the following websites:

Idaho Artistry in Wood Association: Website under development.

Carvers: [www.idahowoodcarversguild.org](http://www.idahowoodcarversguild.org)

Scrollers: [www.treasurevalleyscrollers.org](http://www.treasurevalleyscrollers.org)

Turners: <http://swiwt.com>

Woodworkers: <http://acwoodworkers.com>

Gourd workers: [www.idahogourdsociety.org](http://www.idahogourdsociety.org)

For specific questions, contact: Douglas Rose (208) 387-0492,  
[roseboise@yahoo.com](mailto:roseboise@yahoo.com)

## **Animal Carving Tip**

To help you get started, here is a web site with lots of animal photos:

<http://animals.timduru.org/dirlist/>

Pick out an animal you want to carve, go through the photos until you find several that look good to you. Then take a piece of paper and roughly sketch the outline of the animal from the front, the side, and the top (if possible). If your sketch is too large for the wood you have, run down to the closest Kinkos or other place with a decent photocopier and reduce the drawing in size until the dimensions match the piece of wood you have. Transfer the drawing outlines to the block of wood by using carbon paper or just re-sketch right on the wood. Then start carving, and redraw the outlines as necessary while you are carving so you don't lose where you are.

## **Upcoming Classes**

### **Weekly Wood Carving with Lennie Williams**

Lennie teaches on Tuesdays from 6 pm – 8 pm. Learn the basics of wood carving any style: relief, architectural, realistic, caricature, wildlife, coastal Indian, chip carving. Beginning students will work on a practice piece to learn the basic techniques of carving, overview of carving tools and their care, and an overview of different styles of carving. Upon completion of the basics, students may work on a carving in the style of their choice on an on-going basis. New students need to meet with the instructor one week prior to their first class. \$30.00/class or 4 class punch-card for \$99.00. Class fee does not include materials. Call Woodcraft at (208) 338-1190 to learn how to register.



Lennie is a member of the IWG and is a great carver.



**CAN NOT CUT YOURSELF.**

**AS LONG AS YOU KEEP ALL FOUR OF THEM CONNECTED YOU**

**BOTH HANDS ARE TOUCHING,  
THE RIGHT HAND HOLDS THE KNIFE AND TOUCHES THE WOOD  
WHILE THE LEFT HAND HOLDS THE WOOD AND TOUCHES THE THUMB  
OF THE RIGHT HAND.**

**KEEP EVERYTHING TOGETHER  
AND YOU'LL NEVER CUT YOURSELF**

**SAFETY FIRST**

David Sharp  
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