

# Metro Carvers of Michigan

Volume 35 Number 09

Curt Chastain, President

November 2013



## NEXT MEETING

### **Club meeting Tuesday Nov. 12th 2013:**

Next meetings are: Dec.10, 2014 Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 11, Apr. 8, May. 13, Jun. 10

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. for social time, libraries and supply purchases. The Business meeting starts at 7:15 p.m.

### **Treasurers Report: By Rizal Baysa**

If you have already paid your 2014 membership dues, Thank You. Please remember 2014 membership dues need to be paid by January of 2014. Dues are \$15.00. If you pay after December 2013 there is a late charge of \$4.00 and the dues go up to \$19.00.

### **New Members:**

**Marion Sorensen** - 4801 Sidney  
Shelby Twp, MI 48317

**Sandra Mc Connell** -  
3730 Main Dr.  
Dryden, MI 48428

**Gloria Irla-Marlow** -  
spelling correction



Marion Sorensen Gloria Irla-Marlow

### **President's Corner. By Curt Chastain**

While I was up north in Mid-Michigan last week, the first snow fell. It didn't last long and melted right away.

However, as the weather changes, the days get shorter, and daylight savings starts, carving activities can speed up. Looking forward to February, 2014, the monthly theme is "Door and Raffle Prizes for Metro Show". These are carvings that can be started now. In addition the two group projects are underway, but individual carvings will also be needed.



A volunteer is needed to organize solicitation and recognition of contributors for the Metro Show. There have already been individual contacts made but these need to be organized and pulled together. Note: this is a new addition to the show but can bring benefits to club members and attendees.

Please consider being the Carver of the Month for the December meeting. Sharon Baker has volunteered for the November meeting. This is a good method to share your carvings and experiences with the other members of the Metro Carvers.

In regards to the December 10, 2013 "Christmas" meeting, we are in need of a volunteer or volunteers to help coordinate a "pot luck", set up, make coffee etc.

As you can see there are several activities that require volunteers to keep this club functioning at monthly meetings, Metro Show, etc. please consider where you can help the most and participate.

The Metro Carvers plan to sponsor a carving class by Floyd Radigan on Monday (3/24/2014), Tuesday (3/25/2014), and Wednesday 3/26/2014). These are three days after the Metro Show. The cost will be \$120 for Metro members and \$140 for non-members. The class will be held at the Shadbrush Nature Center which is located at John R & Hamlin Roads in Shelby Township.

### **Theme Carvings for this 2013-14 season:**

- November- Woodburning.
- December- Christmas.
- January- Bark Carving.
- February- Door and raffle prize for Metro Show.
- March- Exchange for "Carvers Exchange".
- April- Chip Carving.
- May- Wild Life.
- June- Caricatures.

### **2014 Show: By Mike LePage**

It was nice seeing everyone at the October club meeting. By the time this newsletter is out, the show will be a little less than five months away. Things are starting to take shape for the March show. Thank you, Terry, for organizing a group of carvers and working on a project to be raffled off for the show. I really appreciate it. Perhaps, some of you carvers who belong to another carving club could get some carvers together to brainstorm and carve something for our

# Metro Carvers of Michigan

raffle, too. We have some raffle prizes that were carved by Al Ponte and Nancy Neff. I hope other carvers have been working on projects for the raffle, too. You may bring completed projects to the meeting and I will be happy to take care of them until show time.

Thanks to a couple of Metro Carver members, our Volunteer Sign Up Sheets are no longer completely blank! Sharon Baker and Norm Jepson both have signed up to help. Please be thinking of ways you can make this show the best ever. Remember, if you sign up to do a mini seminar, you will get \$5 off your table reservation. Sign up sheets will be out at the next meeting, so come prepared to give a little bit of time for the show. This is OUR show and together we can make a difference. Thanks, and see you next month.

## Show Raffle Project: By Marcy Larson

As most of you have heard, a committee of 1 (Terry) nominated (read ,suckered ) me to head up one of the group projects for the show raffle prize.

As a group we are putting together a decorated Christmas tree, 3 ft in height. What I, or really the club needs is a carved ornament or wood burned or a combo of both. Ornament size is to be no longer than 5 or 6" and no wider than 3" and down to as small as you'd like to make. I'd like to have all the ornaments by mid February. This will give me time to assemble and decorate the tree. Please help make this a true group effort. I'll take your completed ornament any time. The club and I thank you.

## FOT Update: By Bill Phillips

The Festival of Trees is one of the largest annual special events fundraisers for "medical research at Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation".

We would like to invite everyone to view the FOT display at the: FORD COMMUNITY & PROFORMING ARTS CENTER located at 15801 Michigan Ave. Dearborn, MI 48126.

Come join us and view the trees and other Christmas items along with our wood carvings & wood burnings in the gift shop. Who knows you may wish to purchase a few items for Christmas gifts.

Our carvers have outdone themselves with carvings along with a couple of Santa's helpers who made a few special Christmas tree skirts for the bottom of trees which won't last long in the gift shop, so come early.

The FOT special "Preview Gala" event party (black tie optional) is on Saturday Nov 23rd 6:30 - 11pm

Tickets are \$75/adult & \$25 children. Click on FOT.org ticket sales to order tickets.

The admission tickets for (Sunday Nov. 24th thru Sunday Dec 1st) viewings are \$5 per adult, \$3 children & under 2 free. The 2012 event had over 7000 visitors so please attend the 2013 event.

**Sun. Nov 24th 2pm – 7 pm, Mon. Nov 25th 10am- 7pm, Tues. Nov 26th 10am-7pm, Wed. Nov 27th 10am-6pm CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY Fri. Nov 29th 10am-8pm, Sat. Nov 30th 10am-8pm, Sun. Dec 1st 10am-4pm**

The FOT host is looking for volunteers to assist during the above hours. As a volunteer you will have fun and be part of this

festive event. You will greet attendees, answer visitor's questions, sell raffle tickets, work in gift shop or assist in the setup and cleanup. Most positions require some standing & walking. The shifts are 3-4 hours depending on the day(s) you select. If you are interested please contact: JANET LeBEAU 1-734-239-5088 or jan8542@gmail.com

They/we could use your help!! Ruth & I will be attending & volunteering as much of the time as we can fit into our schedule so come on down & join us and get into the Christmas spirit.

### MWCA calendars

The 2014 MWCA calendar are available for just \$4 including \$5 coupon from Cedar Bird Shoppe again this year. Pat Murphy should have them.

## Carve Fest X ????: By John Sabina

Washington Carve Fest IX is now history and was, by all reports, another successful event. The 104 people who attended appeared to enjoy the event. We had nothing but positive comments from the participants. Credit must go to my committee (Dick Mann, Paul Blanchard, Rizal Baysa and Don Schneider) and the great instructors who make this event go. Our thirteen instructors were: Paul Balog, Rizal Baysa, Paul Blanchard, Gary Bityk, Barb Harris, Norm Jepson, Dawn Laatz, Marcy Larson, Dick Mann, Arlene Murphy, Pat Murphy, myself, and Ingrid Santti.

Carve Fest has been held on the last Friday and Saturday in September since 2005. Dick and I have noticed a trend in dwindling attendance. We have Carve Fest attendance data for seven of the nine years. This year's attendance breakdown was 78 people on Friday and 72 people on Saturday. 57 of the 104 different people were Metro members. 2013 was the second lowest attendance to date, well below the 7-year average of 92 people on Friday, 86 people on Saturday, and 123 total different people. Only 2005, our first year, had fewer attendees.

Our committee has discussed this at length, and our fear is that Carve Fest is dying a natural death. We have observed that only woodburning has been a consistent draw since we started. We attribute this to three factors: 1) The ladies do a great job of instructing, 2) Woodburning requires specialized equipment that not everyone has, and 3) A large variety of patterns are available each year, meaning that even repeat participants are afforded variety.

Our conclusion is that new instructors and new projects are the key to keeping Carve Fest fresh and appealing. Rizal Baysa's love spoons and Norm Jepson's fancy knots were both new and well received this year. Expecting the same instructors to continue year after year is just not reasonable. Will there be a Carve Fest X next September? I believe that it should happen and certainly am hopeful that it will. Having a solid instructor list with numerous fresh projects is the key. Some have suggested that more publicity is needed. While I do not disagree, we must have a definite list of instructors and projects before we can heavily advertise. So, instructors are the key!

Last May I wrote an article asking for volunteer instructors. There was no response! Thus, our committee has decided that if we do not have four new volunteer instructors by the Metro Show in March of 2014, then we will NOT stage Carve Fest X. This is not a case where everyone can let someone else do it. If four new people do not step up, the Washington Carve Fest will be no more! It is up to you. We are happy to listen to any proposals. With a solid instructor and project list, our committee will handle the rest of the details. Speak now, or forever hold your peace!

# Metro Carvers of Michigan

## Monthly Carving Display



**Sharon Baker**



**Archie Huggins**



**Dwain Lusk**



**Greg Lutz**



**Gary Baker**



**Don Schnieder**



**Carl Sikes**



**Roger Sonnenfeld**



**Bernie Wozniak**

## Monthly Carving Competition

Coordinated by Sandra Huffman -

### Master

### Advanced

**Don Schnieder** – Beer bottle cowboy

**Greg Lutz** – Relief

**Gary Baker** – Panda

**Archie Huggins** – Feather

### Intermediate

**Roger Sonnenfeld** – Robbin

### Beginner

**Sharon Baker** – Can and mouse

### Display

**Bernie Wozniak** – Teal duck

**Carl Sikes** – Figures

**Gail Sartele** – Relief, dog

**Dwain Lusk** – Intarsia, loon

### Theme – FOT ornaments

Lots of ornaments from many members.

## Metro Carvers of Michigan

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1597  
Royal Oak, MI 48068

**E-Mail Address:** [metrocarvers@yahoo.com](mailto:metrocarvers@yahoo.com)

**Web Site** [www.metrocarvers.com](http://www.metrocarvers.com)

**Meeting Location:** Helen Keller School  
*near 12 mile & I-75* 1505 N. Campbell Rd.  
Royal Oak, MI

**Meeting Day:** Second Tuesday of each month.  
(No Meetings July & August)

**Meeting Time:** 7:15pm (doors open at 6:30)

**President:** Curt Chastain 248-609-5341

**Vice Pres.:** Mike Murdock

**Secretary:** Harold Green

**Treasurer:** Rizal Baysa

**Directors:** Dave Copeman Marcy Larson

**Directors:** Bill Ebinger Carl Sikes

**Directors:** Doug Evans

**Show Chair:** Mike LePage 586-791-7728

**MWCA rep:** Pat Murphy

**Newsletter:** Terry Zobl

**Webmaster:** Terry Zobl, Marcy Larson

### Carving Groups Location and Times

Mon. 8:30am-11:30\_\_Troy Sen.Ctr.

Mon. Noon-3pm \_\_Sterling Heights Sen.Ctr.

Mon. 9am-Noon \_\_Warren Stillwell Manor

Tue. 9am-Noon \_\_Washington Twp. Sen.Ctr.

Tue. Noon-3pm \_\_St. Clair Shrs. Sen. Ctr.

Tue. 1pm-4pm \_\_Chesterfield. Sen. Ctr.

Wed. Noon-3pm \_\_Clinton Twp. Sen. Ctr.

Thur. 9am-Noon \_\_Warren Stillwell Manor

Thur. 9am-Noon \_\_Washington Twp. Sen.Ctr.

Thur. 6pm-9pm \_\_St. Clair Shrs. Sen. Ctr.

Thur. 6pm-9pm \_\_Shelby Shadbush Nature Ctr.



METRO CARVERS OF MICHIGAN  
P.O. Box 1597  
Royal Oak, Michigan 48068