

Be the best you can be

The Curling Chip



Sharing with 92 Carver/Members

Number 59 February - March 1994

CHARTER ADOPTED Sept. 20, 1969

Next Newsletter DEADLINE March 11, 1994

CARVINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

REFLECTIONS OF '93

MANY OF OUR MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED OR

purchased woodcarvings from different places

around the world. They all have a story to go

along with their manufacture or of your

acquisition. These carvings may get very

little attention being displayed only in your

home. Frank Koch and the Bismarck Library

would like to change that. Frank has arranged

to have the display cases at the library for

our use during the months of May and June.

These display cases are in a high visibility,

high traffic area.

Besides your woodcarving, Frank requests

that you have a note about its origins. It

doesn't need to be long-winded or fancy. It

should include the type of wood, tools used;

the country of origin; how the carving was

acquired. The library will have a large map

of the world for pin pointing its location.

Because display space may become a premium,

Frank requests only one carving per country.

In cases of multiples, the better carving

from each country will be displayed.

Frank requests that you contact him at

255-0280 and get the carving to him no later

than at the April 10th Annual Meeting.

DVAC'S GRANT MONEY ALLOCATED

Dakota West Arts Council, DVAC's awarded a \$1500 grant to the Rickerdall Woodcarvers. The Board allocated the money at their Dec. 18th meeting. We will use \$500 for the Harold Rindow Workshop in March; \$300 is added to the "Curling Chip" Newsletter Budget to improve it and to keep it in the black; \$200 for the Seniors Program Honorarium. \$500 will be applied to a Fall Workshop that has not been finalized.

Their main request is that we continue with our sharing programs to bring the art of woodcarving to the public in all of the ways possible.

REFLECTIONS ON 1993

H1, Matzke here. As you read this the

holidays will be over and a new year started.

Reflections of '93 indicate that the Club had

a successful year inspite of a few handicaps

from Mother Nature. But these handicaps can

be looked on as good. The record 13 inches of

rain and flooding in July ended a multi-year

drought. Even the record 29 inch snow in

November will provide necessary moisture for

the '94 crops. The economy will be stimulated

and with it comes increased potential for

more sculpture purchases from us.

Our Out-reach program proved successful.

The Club visited Steele, Wing, and Washburn

during the summer. Each area provided

benefits of its own. Plans are presently

being drafted to continue in '94 to an even

greater success.

Training by the Club continues to amaze

me. We had opportunities of Mini hooded

merganser and Rams head relief in January.

Eagles head belt buckles and the Tribune

Sport Show in February. Knife making and Oak

Leaf relief in March. Desiree Hahn in April.

During the summer the Whittle-Ins were all

learning experiences. Ugly head carving,

Christmas items and Rick Harney in October.

Painting, Novice classes and the Annual Show

in November. The Christmas party and gift

exchange in December. That is a lot of

training. I think the Club out did itself

this year.

The December meeting brought good news.

The Club received grants that will allow for

some good training sessions and quality

operation during '94. More information will

be provided after finalization meetings.

Another success, I'm impressed with is the

obvious increase in members talents. I

commend each of you and ask that you make it

a goal to continue to do better and to vary

your projects. Doing so will make for a

better all around sculptor or carver.

continued page two

THE TRIBUNES SPORT SHOW IS IN FEBRUARY AND as usual it should be exciting. I encourage each of you to submit an an entry. They have given us a part of this show and we need to support it by submitting entries. Submit some of the Super good pieces that you displayed at the Annual Show. We also increased the Raffle Prizes. The odds of winning are greatly increased and should do good for selling tickets. Remember that the Club is directly benefited by each ticket you sell, so get out there and do your best. Who knows, it might be you who wins one of the fine prizes.

SHARING IS PERHAPS THE GREATEST SUCCESS for our Club. It provides friendship and successes beyond our imagination. It is the number one value that our Club is noted for. We should never let that value diminish.

While I'm on sharing, there is one point that needs to be brought up. Lately, I've noticed that meeting setups and cleanup falls on the shoulders of a select few members. We need to remember that this is a shared duty. We also need to remember that we share the meeting room with other craft people who we need to think about. Next time, grab a broom or dust pan, if you have to leave early, clean up your area before you go. Every effort will help.

WHAT DID I LEARN IN '93? I FOUND OUT THAT there is always room to learn and try more projects and styles. I found out that one person can not make this Club function. Successes may not be instant but with dedication can be achieved. I learned that my kitchen isn't large enough to hold E-Board meetings in. Just wait until I get my home built south of Washburn on the river. We should have great time there. I learned that I am paid back for what I put into the Club. I learned that the Club is a great place to meet and be with friends.

'94 will be an exciting year for the Club. There will be new officers and many new experiences. If there are a few goals you didn't complete, you need only to keep working at them as you have the entire year to succeed. Keep improving and sharing with others.

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NOTE: FOR AND UP TO DATE MAILING LIST SEND A S.A.S.E. (self addressed stamped envelop) to Sam Lacher or pick up at a meeting. A reminder; DO NOT share this list with any Non-Members. We all get enough JUNK mail.

MEETING BRIEFS, November 20, 1993

Happy New Year to you all from your snow-bound secretary! So much for life on the farm.

As of the Nov. meeting we had approximately 85 paid up memberships! Way to go Sam!

We will be having a raffle and one of the items to be given away is a fish carved by Andy Peterson who impressed everyone at the Annual Show. Vince & Frank will be handling all of the details. Thanks Vince & Frank

The library list will be published in the newsletter annually with updates given as new material is purchased. Don't forget to use this valuable resource. Good Job Mickey!

We need volunteers to help keep the sets of tools sharpened for the senior program. See Bob Pedigo or Mickey. Keep carving Seniors! You do terrific work and are terrific club ambassadors!

We will keep "Chip Chats" (the National Woodcarving Magazine) coming to the Bismarck and Mandan Libraries at our expense. Lets let the whole world know about woodcarving!

The last issue of the newsletter contained an advertising brochure from the Western Chiseler, with the additional postage paid for by him. This will remain an option for future issues. Thanks Art for the time & effort you put into producing the newsletter! (Too bad nobody in the club needs Angus Bulls or Rambouillet Sheep).

Treasures report showed a balance of \$713.13. RAH! RAH! RON!!

As you can see the Flickertail Woodcarvers Club is the result of a lot of people all working together! Thank You members for supporting the work of the officers! Woodcarving is a terrific hobby. It can be enjoyed in a group, or in a snowbank! I know!

From the files: Oct. 8, '69: The date set for adoption of the By-Laws was Sept. 20, 1969. "We have \$25.00 in the treasury." Clara Sherman, Secy-Treas.

Bev Vollmer, Secretary



OUR 25th ANNUAL SHOW WILL BE HELD OCT. 21 to 23rd, 1994. We would like it to be the BIGGEST, most attended show our club has ever presented. We will be inviting former members to return and share what they have been doing in carving since leaving our club. We do need their names and up to date addresses so we can accomplish this. Can you help us? Art Tokach, Editor

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

SAM LACHER HAS SOME GLAD NEWS AND SOME SAD

NEWS. First the SAD NEWS. Sam reports that

there are eight members who have not renewed

their membership for 1994. These 8 members

will receive this, their last newsletter and

a dues reminder slip. The GLAD NEWS is that

there were 15 new members who signed up and

paid their dues for this year.

Because our membership list is getting so

long and newsletter space is becoming a

premium, we will not enclose the list with

the newsletter as we have done in the past.

The 1994 mailing list may be picked up at the

Jan 15th meeting or if you desire an up-to-

date list send a long S.A.S.B. to Sam Lacher

for your personal copy.

A word of CAUTION; DO NOT share this list

with any non members. We all get too many

picture window letters now!

People are given five senses -

touch, taste, smell, sight, and hearing.

A good leader has two more - horse and common

OL. TIMBERS STRIKES AGAIN

I FORGOT MYSELF AGAIN AND PLACED DAVE AND

MAVIS JORDANS home close to Deerfield. It is

close to DEERWOOD, MN. Dave says to come on

down and spend some time. He has plenty of

room to camp, carve or do both.

Dave also sent along a clipping from the

Brainerd Newspaper concerning Butternut trees

and the cankerworm that is attacking and

slowly, killing them. Foresters are at work

on the problem. Lets wish them well so we

don't lose this beautiful tree and its

wonderful carving wood.

Art Tokach, Editor

Brainerd Daily Dispatch (Minn.), Wednesday, April 7, 1993

Forest Service strives to save butternut trees

regeneration. The harvest restric-

tion is expected to remain in place

on national forests until a disease-

resistant strain of butternut can be

identified and propagated.

The Forest Service said it is hoped

that the coordinated effort can save

the butternut from a similar fate as

that of the American chestnut, once

the most common Eastern hard-

wood, which also was decimated by

a non-native disease introduced

Arkansas and the Carolinas.

"The joint effort includes genetics

research on disease-resistant trees,

a harvest ban on healthy butternut

trees in national forests, and forma-

tion of a team to implement volun-

tary conservation measures at all

levels and ownerships," Forest Ser-

vice Chief F. Dale Robertson said in

a recent news release.

He said the coalition's aim is to

restore butternut throughout its

WASHINGTON (AP) - The

Forest Service says it is working

with state governments, conserva-

tion organizations and woodcrafters

to help ensure the health of butternut

trees.

The trees, now in severe decline

because of a devastating non-native

canker disease, is favored by wood

carvers and has been used for fur-

niture, fine woodwork and paneling.

The disease has been found from

Minnesota to Maine and south to

TITLES ; ;

BY Bev Vollmer

Mr. Matzke, to you I must confide,

Titles have always been a big pain in my backside

When I got married, it was decreed,

A housewife, a farmwife, you will be.

Then the women's movement caused me to think,

I'm not married to a house, or a ranch - what is the link?

I tried domestic engineer, seemed a farce to be sure

Mother, wife, Homemaker - what is the fad this year?

I thought, I'll go to school, get a degree

Then I'll have the proper title for me!

Oh yes, behind my name, I attached B.S.

Some thought that only too true, I guess!

I got a job, now titles are no problem,

It didn't take long to discover, I was better without 'em

The secretaries wondered, is she a Miss, Mrs, or Miz

Oh Lord, what was proper, I think Bev is who she is!

Was I a saleswoman, a Salesperson, Director, or Directorette,

Chairman, or Chairwoman, Please, just let me forget!

Back to the farm, now titles are really confusing!

Are we farmers, or ranchers, it is quite amusing!

The IRS says there can only be one farmer per household,

No social security benefits for you - They're not allowed.

And now to add to my little pickle,

I must have a name for my knives & chisel,

A Whittier, A Carver, or Sculptor, let see

Most of the time "Wood Butcher" fits me.

I carve for fun, an artist-probably not

Some things turn out fine, others go to the firepot!

I appreciate the sculpting, the artists in the club

They challenge me to new heights - and I think that's fun!

But don't neglect the carvers or the whittlers in the bunch,

We vitalize, recruit, take classes - that's not just a hunch!

It seems I can't ever leave this little mess behind -

It follows me everywhere - jobs, recreation, all the time!

I only really hope if in heaven, I do arrive

Our titles, will all be neatly parked outside!

## "As I See It"

ART, I-OVERHEARD YOU COMMENT TO ANOTHER PERSON that you didn't have very many pieces in this years show because you didn't carve any others. Is this a club rule that you can only show your work once or in the year that it was carved?

ABSOLUTELY NOT. OUR CLUB HAS NEVER HAD ANY rules about what you can show or how often you show it and I hope it remains that way. Back in my more productive years I started this as a personal policy only because I had so many things to show. Now when I don't carve as many pieces I still carry this idea in my head, "Make it and show it this year." Or it could be like the poker players bluff rule; "Show the good ones and hide the bad." I'm also a person who dislikes seeing several carvings of the same style displayed on a cluttered table. Simple is so much more pleasing to the eye.  
Art Tokach, Editor

## ❖❖❖ HAPPY BIRTHDAY ❖❖❖

We tried to get you to repond to our plea for your Birthday dates. We got a total of five replies. Cleo Koch finally resorted to plan-two, and called as many locals as she could find at home. One big problem, our phone-budget does not allow us to call those of you who live out of town to get this vital information. We do want to honor you on your SPECIAL Day but how can we if we don't know when it is. PLEASE, take the time and send us the information. Especially those of you who live out of the Bismarck-Mandan area.

Jan. 1, Maythel Dierks; Jan 4, Frank Manolovitz; Jan.5, Norm LaFontaine; Jan.8, Jeanette Radig; Jan 12; Gynell Torgeson; Jan.12, Harvey Pedersen; Jan. 13, Bob Olson; Jan. 18, Beven Shaw; Jan. 30, Jim Knight; Jan. 31, Laura Schmidt;

Feb. 1, Larry Brewster; Feb. 2, Delia Hammel; Feb. 7, Herb Thurn; Feb. 11, Irene Cotton; Feb. 15, Frank Koch; Feb. 21; Bob Pedigo; Feb. 21, Ron Torgeson; Feb. 26, Diane Matzke; Feb. 28, Lowell Boyum;

Mar. 1, Bev Vollmer; Mar. 2, Allen Arnts; Mar. 3; Agnus LaFontaine; Mar. 4, PJ Curtis; Mar. -8, Alice Arnts; Mar. 8, Shirley Pedersen; Mar. 11, Ernie Dierks; Mar. 14, Jeannette Wagner; Mar. 18, Mike Senger; Mar. 20, Bill Hammel; Mar. 22, Keith Stevens;

Happy Birthday to you, you live in a zoo, you look like a \_\_\_\_\_ and you act like one too.

Cleo Koch, Sunshine Coordinator

E BOARD AND REGULAR MEETING BRIEFS:  
DEC. 19, 1993

D.W.A.C.'s Grant of \$1500 received. Allocated funds as follows; \$500 to Enlow Workshop, \$200 Honorarium to Seniors Progr, \$300 for the "Curling Chip", and \$500 for unnamed Fall Workshop Instructor.

We will apply for another Grant from the ND Council of the Arts in March.

Approved Money Raising Raffle and Vince Bitz to handle Ticket Sales for Tribune Sport Show Drawing. Accepted Carved Prizes from several members.

Approved an Ad Policy to carry Paid Full Page Ads in the Newsletter. Discussed ways to reduce rising costs of Newsletter.

Agreed to take part in DWAC's "Art in the Heart of Winter" at Kirkwood Mall Jan. 21 to 23, 1993. Approved Information Brochure for Hand Out at this function.

Summer Reach Out or "On the Road Whittle-Ins" for next Summer discussed. Several places possible. More later after check out.

Carving Projects for meetings and Whittle-Ins finalized through March.  
Mickey Tokach, Acting Secretary

NO KNIFE CARVING ??  
Who came up with this idea? Whats its purpose? Who is involved in it? How much does it cost?

The idea is from Frank Koch. We all know that the future of woodcarving is in the hands of the young people of today. We also know that if we show them the correct and safe way to create something in wood this idea will remain in their minds and maybe influence them later when they have more time to become more involved in this great hobby. It is for the 10 to 16 year old boy or girl carver. It is not a freebie, but the cost is minimal, \$3.00. The E Board feels that anything without a cost is not appreciated as much.

Frank does need some help on the Feb. 19th afternoon to make sure these young people get a warm feeling about creating something in wood and woodcarving. To volunteer your help, Call him at 255-0280

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WHEW !! THANK THE LORD FOR BAD WEATHER AND BLOCKED ROADS. Because of those two things, Bev Vollmer couldn't get to the Christmas Meeting and present me with her Special "AWARD" Gift. But now I have to wait and worry about what it might be. Mickey and I will miss the Jan. 15th meeting, so it will be February 19th before she gets her sweet revenge. WORRY, WORRY, WORRY!!!
Art Tokach, Editor

POWER TOOL QUESTION

OH MY GOSH, NOW WHAT DID I DO WRONG? Here I am, late on a Sunday evening, rushing to get my Christmas gifts carved, sanded and a finish on them and my "Dremel" just "Wopped" my hand a good one and destroyed the spiral sander that I had chucked in it. It scared the beebees out of me. Well thats enough for that tool, it can just lay there unplugged until morning and I'll ask Art about it.

Art informed me that two things may have caused my Dremel to rebel like it did. He said the tool could have been dropped on the nose of the sander which could have bent the 1/8" shaft slightly and the first time I'd use the tool it would go wop, wop, wop, wop, and end up like it is now. I told him this is the first time I'd ever used this sander so that wasn't the reason.

The second reason is one I find easier to believe. He told me that even though it is a "power tool" a person can't force it as I may have been doing. I was rushing to get the gift finished. He said that this type of a bend usually happens to a tool with a 1/8" shaft and once it starts the tool will self destruct if too much side pressure is applied on its end or "nose". The 1/8" shaft is meant for moderate side pressure but everything has its limits. He advised using a lighter touch and gentler strokes when using POWER. Allowing myself more time to do a good job would also be a fine idea.

I was working under a self imposed deadline. I'd forgotten that this is supposed to be a relaxing hobby and here I was pushing it to its limit. I guess I'll have to buy another mandrel and take it a little easier on it. Now to get up enough courage to "Get back on the horse again and ride", I may still have enough time to finish them. Cleo Koch, More Cautious Power Tool User

CAN YOU IMAGINE THIS ONE? WE CREDITED THE wrong person with a carving. Norm Lafontaine says that some how his name was attached to a carving carved by Hugh McVarish. We have conducted an extensive investigation into this and have found no one at fault. Pety the Snake must have done it.

PS: The carving in question? The owl. Art Tokach, Editor

Pride is what compels people to do their best work when there's nobody watching.

WHITTLE-IN NEWS

NOW THIS IS THE WAY TO HAVE A WHITTLE-IN. It was such a great feeling to observe the 25+ members who sat around the tables with 3, 4 or 5 people per table. Helping one another regardless of anyone's capability or knowledge. This is what Whittle-Ins are all about, CARVERS SHARING WITH CARVERS. Both the Nov. 3rd Whittle-In with Bob Matzke and his "L+1 Dudes" and the Dec 1st "Sitting Santa" with Al Wolte did just that. The Nov Meeting project with Angie Wagner was one of the better color classes many of us have witnessed. Thirty plus people and NO ONE was ready to leave when the time ran out on her class. The most often heard comment was; She didn't assume anything, she started us out from square one with the three primary colors. From there she took us through the whole spectrum of color mixing and into the tints and tones. Finishing with how to paint a face with pallet mixed colors instead of "Ready Mixed" colors, which can be all wrong for your carving, giving it a ceramic appearance. All the while she was doing this she answered any questions that were put to her. While she didn't have time for a hands on painting class, MAYBE if she is asked again she might consider it.

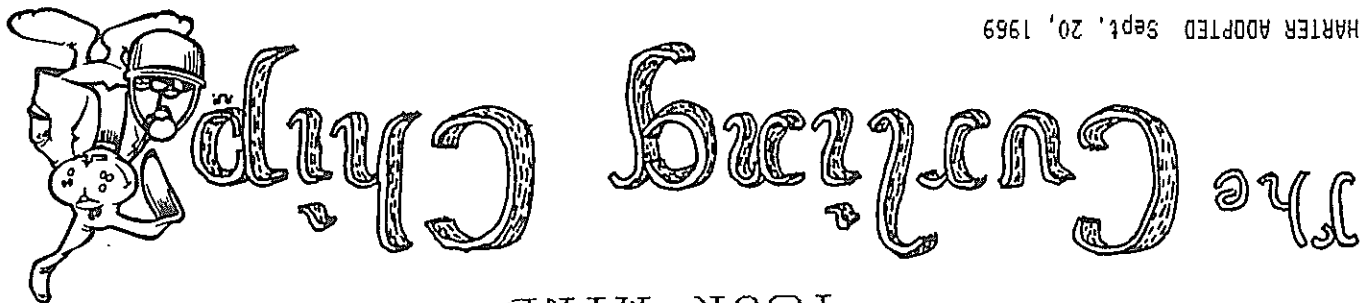


WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
Membership Chairman, Sam Lacher informs us that the following 16 NW members have joined our club and hopefully will become active and leading assets in our clubs future.

George Anderson, Bismarck; Bverett Debertin, Minot; Ralph Reland, Mandan; Dave Forth, Wing; Cliff Horner, Bismarck; Pat Idyle, Bismarck; Leonard Larhus, Bismarck; Ralph Lafontaine, Mandan; Jenny Longtine, Bismarck; Cindy Roth, Bowbells; Jeff & Cathy Rustad, Garrison; Bill & Polly Schwal, Belfeld; Jerry Schneider, Dickinson; Sandy Sorensen, Bismarck; Halder Thompson, Mandan;

A reminder to all new and old members to take advantage of as many of our services as possible. Our Library has Carving Books and Videos just waiting for you to check them out. The Meetings and Whittle-Ins have a different project each time for you to try. Come, join in and become active and have an enjoyable time. Art Tokach, Editor

LIMITS EXIST ONLY IN YOUR MIND



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ENOUGH ALL READY!

ALL RIGHT, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, LETS CALL A

TRUCE. After originating the idea of using

the newsletter as a forum about the dis-

cussion of wood carving vs. wood sculpturing,

I believe now that if it continues it will

cause a split within our club. We all have

personal opinions about this issue and many

have voiced theirs. Bob Matzke's intent, that

he hoped to convey during his talk at the

dinner was for all of us to raise our mental

self image. He felt that in that way we would

raise the quality of our work, whether it is

for self gratification or for the sake of

art. Who can argue with that idea?

Let us return to the original concept for

which this club was formed 25 years ago. We

all loved WOOD. We all loved the camaraderie

of the meetings and the sharing of each

others ideas whether we were skilled or

novice. This club has endured because of

these beliefs and will make another 25 years

or more if we continue with them.

Thanks to all of the members who expressed

their views through the "Curling Chip".

Please continue to support the club and we

will continue to bring you the best carving

newsletter any of you will ever find.

ENLOW WORKSHOP

HAROLD ENLOW OF DOGPATCH, ARK. ARRIVED IN

town last week sporting his "Basic Cap" and

showing off a "Texas Yardsstick" (you guessed

it, a stick found in a Texas yard). He was

pleased that he wasn't directed outside, just

down the hall for the rest room.

As most carving seminars go, this one

deserved an A+ feeling with the 21 carvers

who attended from both sessions. He imparts

on his students that relaxed feeling of

carving for fun and relaxation. Leave your

problems some where else they don't belong

bothering you when you're carving. The

feeling of camaraderie extended to the after

class "Pizza Party" attended by 16 carvers

and spouses.

If anyone felt cheated, it could only be

those who didn't attend or even visit this

seminar. Art Tokach, Editor

lot, not only about woodcarving.

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It may be a very long time before I

did I have a lot to learn!

was too eager to cut away too much wood: boy

the wrong kinds of wood, I was too timid, I

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fast. My tools were all wrong, my thumbs were

beginners class. Boy, did I have to learn

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The result of all my looking was that I

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Anne's preference lay when I tell you about

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Right Side of the Brain", by Betty Edwards

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BEGINNERS VIEWPOINT

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