

West Wisconsin Wood Carvers Guild
L.E. Phillips Senior Center
Minutes
04/09/2025

Board Members Attending: Rich Thelen (President), Wayne Dubberke (Vice President), Carol Figi (Secretary), John Allen (Treasurer). 9 members attending. Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting were sent out to members. Changes requested, date at header incorrect, corrected. Motion to accept made by Jan, 2nd by JoAnn. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report and Membership

Currently the Guild has \$4,295.14 in the checkbook. 40 paid members for 2025. Motion to accept by Wayne, 2nd by Judy. Motion passed

Old Business

- Call for membership dues for first quarter complete. The membership list, e-mail list, and vendor list will be updated to reflect 40 paid members to date.
- Karve-In 9 in Westby, April 26, 10:00am to 4:00pm. Guild will have a table – thank you to John Allen for sitting at our guild table at this event. Others in the club will have tables at this event. Please come to enjoy this event!
- Jim Ayres will hold a fan bird carving class at the Chippewa Falls Senior Center on Saturday, June 7th from 9am to 4 or 5 pm. Flyer sent out to members regarding this event. Dennis reported 19 slots out of 20 are filled at this time. Contact Dennis at dermjohn@aol.com if interested – see flyer for details. Thank you, Dennis, for planning and coordinating this event – it will be fun!
- Chippewa Valley Wood Carving Show and Sale – September 27, 2025. Updates from Char:
 - JoAnn has volunteered to organize the food again – thank you!
 - Jan has volunteered to work on advertising again – thank you!
 - Dell has volunteered to organize the Used Tool/Carving supply Table again – thank you! Gib, Dick, and Al said they will help.
 - Door Prize update. Char has connected with vendors for donations. To date:
 - Woodcarving Illustrated donated 5 books, 3 T-Shirts, some subscription cards
 - Wall Lenk Corporation donated a branding iron with personalized tip (\$100 value)
 - Sellars donated 2 cases of TOOLBOX® White Rags
 - Loctite is unable to donate
 - Titebond Glue has not returned her request yet
 - Looking for people to demonstrate. Contact Char at 715-497-6296 if interested. She mentioned Sellars would like pictures of someone using their White Rags, so if the demonstration included use of these, that would be great.
 - If interested in having a table at the show, please contact Char at 715-497-6296.

New Business

- Discuss Future of our club.
 - Wondering opportunities to grow the club in the future. Discussion included:

- Attend craft shows – JoAnn willing to bring brochures & banner to upcoming craft show at Heartbreakers in Hallie (June).
- Dell attended the Chippewa Falls History Museum Craft fair which he reports as well attended. He has made contacts for our club to be part of future fairs.
- Let's Paint the Town in Menomonie is July 19th from 10am to 4 pm. Charge is \$35/table. Members wanted to commit for a table. We will need volunteers to attend/work the table.
- Men's Shed - Barron County. Wayne is interested in offering a demonstration to this club in September/October. More to come, let Wayne know if you would like to help with this event.
 - Inquire about Northern WI State Fair of Oktoberfest opportunity.
 - Create short video for social media about our club.
 - Social media postings to promote club.
- Rich has been trying social media/video posting apps and has had success. He is looking for something with ease of use and low cost for the club.

Classes

- Internal Classes – Carol is willing to start the Flat Plane Carve Along with video from Harley Refsal DVD on 4th Wed meeting – could start Wednesday April 23rd.
- External Classes – Jan Jensen currently has a class underway for beginner Old World Chip Carving during March (details sent to members in separate e-mail).
 - Other ideas for external classes included
 - John Overby – flat plane
 - Jan Jensen – Celtic cross
 - Carol Figi – Flat plan carving following along with Harley Refsal - DVD
 - Carl McKeeth – ball and chain
 - John Engler – deep relief
 - Karen Henderson – green wood spoon carving
 - Interest in wood burning – need instructor ideas

Events

- Karve-In, 206 West Avenue S, Westby Wisconsin, April 26, 2025, 10:00-4:00, Judy Gates will be the Featured Carver
- Mid-Wisconsin Chippers – Artistry in Wood, Sunday, May 4, 2025, 9:00am – 4 pm. Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. For more information contact Paul Wolters (902) 727-2139.
- 48th Doane Experience – May 31-June 5, 2025. Crete Nebraska. Doane University, 1014 Boswelle Ave. www.thedoaneexperience.com
- International Woodcarvers Congress – Maquoketa, Iowa – June 7-14, 2025 www.woodcarverscongress.org/
- Wisconsin River Woodcarvers 21 Annual Show, September 20-21, 2025, Holiday Inn, Stevens Point
- Chippewa Valley Wood Carvers Show and Sale - September 27, 2025
- 22nd Annual Minnesota Wood Carvers Association Carving Weekend – October 4-5, 2025, Coon Rapids MN. VFW Post #9625, 1919 Coon Rapids Blvd. N.W. 8am to 5pm Saturday, 8am to 3pm Sunday. Lunch included both days. Cost is \$125 per person. Instructor, Materials, supplies are extra and paid to instructor at class time.
- Capital Area Carvers – DeForest, Wisconsin – October 26, 2025

Go Around

- Carol – I will be unable to be at the upcoming May 14th meeting to take minutes. Would someone please come to that meeting and take handwritten notes using these meeting minutes and/or the agenda that Rich hands out. I can get those notes from you and take care of the rest. Please let me know if you can help me – ca.figi@charter.net Thank you.
- Jan Jensen – If you are interested in taking a chip carving class, please call her at 715-559-4163. In addition, she is planning on placing an order for wood from West Wisconsin Wood in Durand. Selling 3/8" boards for \$1. Contact her if you would like some wood so the order is larger for the vendor.
- John – Receive a request for a carving judge for an event at the La Crosse County Fair in West Salem July 16th-20th. Let John know if you are interested to discuss more. 715-723-1304. In addition, he mentioned you can purchase cut-outs from the Vesterheim website for \$12 each.
<https://store.vesterheim.org/collections/folk-art-supplies>
- Wayne – We need to take pictures of our activities for our show in September. We could place on a loop video for interest!
- Virginia – this person approached me to let club knows he sells birch wood. If interested, contact him at Blade Millworks – Jeremy Nelson 715-695-3418.

Next Meeting: May 14th, 2025

Motion to Adjourn at 7:38 pm by Wayne, 2nd by Judy

Submitted by Carol Figi – WWWCG Secretary