

West Wisconsin Wood Carvers Guild  
L.E. Phillips Senior Center  
Minutes  
2/11/2026

Board Members Attending: Rich Thelen (President) absent, Virginia Meyer (Vice President), John Allen (Treasurer), Carol Figi (Secretary). 9 members attending. Meeting convened at 6:38 p.m.

### Secretary's Report

Minutes from the January meeting were sent out to members. Edit was requested, the date for the Feb meeting was incorrect and will be corrected in the secretary file. Motion to accept made by Joann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dennis. Motion passed.

### Treasurer's Report

Currently the Guild has \$4704.79. There will be several payments going out for this month to pay for rent at various places and policies. 32 members paid for 2026.

### Old Business

- Education Committee had the following questions for the members attending tonight. Q & A below:
  - Should WWWCG Newsletter include a regional events section? Response: We already have a News and Events Section on the Webpage, so make sure we connect the Webpage News & Events to the Newsletter.
  - Do we broaden our communication outreach beyond paid members? Response: We are already doing so by having a Webpage – all information is found there, no further action needed.
  - How do we encourage member presence at regional events? Response: Keep sharing experiences and encouraging each other to attend. An informal carpool is a great way to “come along” to events such as Westby or other events!

Thank you for your input and comments!

- Social Media Update – Sarah looked and said good growth in activity engagement seen in the month of January, 346 followers on Instagram! Please share photos and push the Like button. Goal is to increase visibility, engagement and sharing member work.
- Officer Election: Open position remains for 2026-28, the Treasurer. Please step up to fill this position.
- LE Phillips Rental Contract. Rich met with LE Phillips leadership to renew our 2026 contract. A new certificate of liability up to 1 million dollars was purchased as required.

### New Business

- Welcome new members Ally and Jen Dickman!
- Folk Arts Festival WWWCG Demonstration, Saturday February 28, 2006. Club has secured space at this larger venue this year! Virginia, Sarah, and Allyson set to demonstrate carving, get the banner, get some brochures etc. for this event at the Feb 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Advanced set up will be available on Friday, February 27, 2026 from 12:00-5:00 pm, or by special arrangement. Set up the day of the event is from 9:30-11:30 am on Saturday, February 28, 2026 with building hours from 10 am - 5 pm and

Festival hours running 12:00 Noon - 5:00 pm. Please consider volunteering for a 2-hour block, or the whole 5 hours, to participate in this fun event!

## Classes

- Internal Classes –  
Volunteers needed. No takers tonight.
- External Classes – New this year: External classes will be marketed to the public. If you want to attend, it will be on a first registration form completion/money paid/sent in to be in the class. No more “save me a spot” as we have historically done. Money and registration are the only way to get into a class.
  - Karen Henderson, Treenware (spoons, items carved from green/fresh wood), Saturday May 2, 2026. Class will be one day (Saturday) from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Paint Shack. Registration details to come via e-mail soon. There will be a limit of 12 people. Cost will be \$50. Wood/spoon blanks available for purchase ~ \$7-10. Registration to be sent out to members soon. 6 people paid thus far
  - Stenmann relief class, August 20-23 (4-day class only). There will be a limit of 12 people. Wood for project is extra cost. IF you are NOT doing one of their Stenmann patterns, you must submit your idea for your project at least 4 to 8 weeks prior to class. Details to come when registration is sent out to members.

## Events

- March 14, Saturday, 10am to 4pm, Heyde Center for the Arts, Chippewa Falls. Relief Wood Carving, instructor: Kevin Ewing. Learn relief carving techniques on your own 8"x10" basswood board with step-by-step guidance, all tools and materials included. Bring a sketch to carve or select a design from various options available in class. Cost \$75
- March 28-29 2026- Rochester, Minnesota. \*NOTE CORRECTION IN THE DATE\*. Rochester Woodcarvers and Zumbro Valley Woodturners 50th Anniversary Carving Show. Aune Hall (the 4-H Building) in Graham Park. The doors will be open from 10 am to 4 pm on both Saturday and Sunday. <https://www.rochesterwoodcarvers.com/annual-show-2/>
- March 27-28, 2026- Forest Lake, Minnesota. Becky Lusk caricature carving class. Now open to all carvers. Cost for class is \$140 for Lakes Area Woodcarvers members and \$160 for non members. Contact Brian Shousek at 715-220-6622 or [brian@shousek.com](mailto:brian@shousek.com) for more details.
- April 11, 2026- Westby, Wisconsin. 10th Annual Karve In. 10am-4pm. Featured carver: Jared Torkelson. Westby High School. 206 West Avenue S., Westby, WI 54667. Free Admission. For more information contact John Sutton at [lbarnfarms@gmail.com](mailto:lbarnfarms@gmail.com) or Steve Michaels at 608-769-8498.
- April 24-26, 2026- Sartell, Minnesota. Snow Daze Carve In. Hosted by Central Minnesota Woodcarvers. Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S., Sartell, MN 56377. Registration and class information <https://www.centralmnwoodcarvers.org/product/snow-daze-carve-in-2026/4>
- April 28-30th, 2026, Lincoln Center in Stevens Point WI. Instructor is Floyd Rhadigan, Cost is \$160 plus cost of rough out. Rough outs are between \$15 and \$40 and can be purchased at class time. Registration form is found here [Floyd Rhadigan Registration](#)
- June 15-20<sup>th</sup>, 2026. 58th International Woodcarvers Congress. Sponsored by Affiliated Woodcarvers. Jackson County Fairgrounds, 1212 E. Quarry Street, Maquoketa, Iowa 52060.

- September 19-20, 2026- Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Caricature Carvers of America 2026 Caricature Carving Competition. In conjunction with Wisconsin River Woodcarvers, Inc. Holiday Inn Steven's Point- Convention Center. 1001 Amber Ave, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54482.
- New Location, same events. October 2-4, 2026- Coon Rapids, Minnesota. 23rd Annual MWCA Carving Weekend. Coon Rapids VFW Post #9625, 1919 Coon Rapids Blvd. NW. Sponsored by the Minnesota Wood Carvers Association. Contact Tom Sheldon at 763-213-4178 or [tbshel@comcast.net](mailto:tbshel@comcast.net).

### **Go Around**

- Thank you, Virginia, and Allyson for bringing treats tonight! Mmm Mmm
- Dennis – A horse/Indian carving has been donated as an item for our show in September by a gentleman in Chippewa Falls.
- John – Remember to enter your carvings for competition in the Northern Wisconsin State Fair!

**Next Member Meeting: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 6:30PM      Location: Eau Claire LE Phillips Senior Center.**

Motion to Adjourn at 7:25 pm by 1<sup>st</sup> by Carol, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jackie.

Submitted to membership by Carol Figi – WWWCG Secretary