

West Wisconsin Wood Carvers Guild  
L.E. Phillips Senior Center  
Minutes  
3/11/2026

Board Members Attending: Rich Thelen (President) absent, Virginia Meyer (Vice President), John Allen (Treasurer) absent, Carol Figi (Secretary). 7 members plus 2 guests attending. Meeting convened at 6:40 p.m.

### Secretary's Report

Minutes from the February 11, 2026 meeting were sent out to members. Motion to accept made by Bruce, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dennis. Motion passed.

### Treasurer's Report

Currently the Guild has \$4,624.79. 38 members paid for 2026. Motion to accept made by Sarah, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce. Motion passed.

### Old Business

- Officer Election: Open position remains for 2026-28, the Treasurer. Please step up to fill this position.
- Folk Arts Festival WWWCG Demonstration, Saturday February 28, 2006. Club was represented by Virginia, Sarah, and Allyson. Thank you for your time and enthusiasm! It was a fun event, and many people were interested in what we do and signed up for more information. We ran out of brochures!! Tonight, we have 2 guests here because of the festival. Karen Jacobson from the Chippewa Valley Museum sent the guild a nice thank you letter for participating in the event. A record number of people attended this year!

### New Business

- Welcome new members Deb Brown and Jen Hofmiester! Both know Des through their interest in sketching. Des encouraged them to come check out carving tonight. Deb and Deb have carved before, at a Dave Constatine class and Beaver Creek. Thank you for coming! Thank you to Des too!
- We received a notice from the organizers of Menomonie's 'Let's Paint the Town' event. They will not be having an event in 2026, yet intend to return in 2027, pending a City Council action.
- We have a club table at the April 11<sup>th</sup> Westby Karve-In event. John and Dottie will be at the table, and invite others to come and bring their carvings to display at our table during this fun event. Sarah plans to go, and is interested in getting a car-pool together to get to Westby. Reply to these minutes (Carol Figi) if interested in car-pooling. See **Events** section for details below.
- Steve Johnson shared information regarding a brand-new upcoming show, US Open, June 26-28, 2026, in Black River Falls at the Ho Chunk Gaming & Casino parking lot area. Free Admission, free tables to our carving group.
  - Friday 6/26 9a-5p, auction 5p-7p
  - Saturday 6/27 9a-5p, auction 5p-7p
  - Sunday 6/28 9a-3p, auction 3p-5p

For fundraising, event table sales have a requirement of 70% to seller, 30% to Special Needs Veterans, and auction items sales have a requirement of 50% to seller, 50% to Special Needs Veterans.

If you want a table, contact Ada Klute ASAP at 608-445-5040 to get a table at the event (can display and not sell as well). Ada said this will be like the Chainsaw Carving event historically held at Carson Park. We have access to the Casino bathrooms or if inclement weather, to take cover. She plans to have a live band playing there at some point during the weekend to draw in people as well. WWWCG members will consider hosting a table, yet no interest from members willing to attend/manage a table on behalf of the Guild at tonight's meeting. More planning to come.

## Classes

- Internal Classes –
  - Volunteers needed. Dennis stepped up to show a project he would be willing to lead – carved evergreen trees. Various sizes for carving and painting. Members present said “yes” and were excited. Date of class TBD.
- 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 4/4:30 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 info on our website.
  - 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. Registration details on our website.

## 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 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 or Steve Michaels at 608-769-8498.
- **NEW** April 19<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Kettle Moraine Karvers Klub, Artistry in Wood. 10am-4pm. Location = Emil Mazey Hall, 5425 Sheboygan Ave, Sheboygan WI. Raffle, items for sale and competition. Competition items must be registered and in place between 7am-7:45am. Competition will start at 8am. For more information, contact Jim Rooker at 920-918-8512 or jrooker49@gmail.com

- 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](#)
- **NEW** May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Saturday, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Artistry in Wood, Show, Competition & Sale. Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Over 60 carvers and pyrographers. Carved art, wood, tools, and books for sale. Food, raffle, free parking. Info at <https://midwisconsinchippers.weebly.com> or [Mid-Wis Shippers Flyer](#)
- 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

- Dennis – Chippewa Falls Senior Center meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> is cancelled due to an event.
- Longtime member Joe Forner died last night. [Chippewa Valley Cremation](#) will be handling arrangements.
- Bruce – [Treelineusa.com](http://Treelineusa.com) is a vendor I would like to share with everyone.

**Next Member Meeting: Wednesday, April 08, 2026 6:30PM**  
Center.

**Location: Eau Claire LE Phillips Senior**

Motion to Adjourn at 7:29 pm by 1<sup>st</sup> by Jackie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah.

Submitted to membership by Carol Figi – WWWCG Secretary