

West Wisconsin Wood Carvers Guild
L.E. Phillips Senior Center
Minutes
4/08/2026

Board Members Attending: Rich Thelen (President), Virginia Meyer (Vice President), John Allen (Treasurer), Carol Figi (Secretary) absent. 7 members plus 2 guests attending. Meeting convened at 6:02 p.m.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the March 11, 2026 meeting were sent out to members. Motion to accept made by Jan, 2nd by Char. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Currently the Guild has \$4,588.60. 38 members paid for 2026. Motion to accept made by Sarah, 2nd by Jan. 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.
- We have a club table at the April 11th 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.
- Social Media update. May blitz "How do I actually learn?" Instagram with 550 followers.
- Stevens Point Show: Sold all tables. Will have more categories for competition.

New Business

- Welcome new members Ford Peterson! Just moved here from Minnesota.
- 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. Chip Chats has an article.
 - 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 USSA 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. Dennis will check this event out.

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 then next class painting. Members present said “yes” and were excited. Date in September.
- 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. 3 openings, 6 people have paid. 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

- 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 19th, 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 3rd, Saturday, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. 50th 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 15-20th, 2026. 58th International Woodcarvers Congress. Sponsored by Affiliated Woodcarvers. Jackson County Fairgrounds, 1212 E. Quarry Street, Maquoketa, Iowa 52060.
- September 12-13, 2026 Minnesota Wood Carvers Association Annual Woodcarving Show. Blaine MN. Northtown Mall, 398 Northtown Drive, Blaine MN.
- 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.

Go Around

- Dennis – Denny’s Spiral Icicles – Volume 3 article.
- Char – Went to Rochester Show – Jan and Char went, small show, nice. Members only get show tables, and the tables were full for the space they were in. Char gave 240 hearts to the Cancer Center. Thank you to Rich for all the hearts he carved! Wow! Char plans to go to the Waupaca Carving show on November 1st.
- Jan – Teaching Old World Chip Carving at Snow Daze event in Sartell MN in April
- Elva – back on campus in September.
- John can make you a nametag for \$2. Let him know if you want one.

Next Member Meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 6:30PM Location: Eau Claire LE Phillips Senior Center.

Motion to Adjourn at 7:29 pm by 1st by Jan, 2nd by Sarah.

Submitted to membership by Carol Figi – WWWCG Secretary Thank you to Sarah for taking the notes/minutes at this meeting for me!