

ONTARIO WOOD CARVERS ASSOCIATION (OWCA)

P.O. BOX 165
AGINCOURT POST OFFICE
SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO
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No. 16

APRIL, 1980

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m.

The program will be oriented to "TOOLS". Wayne Jocelyn, one of our most active members who regularly comes in from Cambridge to take part in our meetings, will give a talk and demonstration on tool making, having in mind the types of tools that wood carvers use.

If you have some interesting tools, particularly those useful in wood carving, please bring them along for display and discussion.

MEETING PLACE

We will be meeting at the Ontario Community Centre for the Deaf, on the east side of Bayview Avenue, north of Lawrence Avenue and Sunnybrook Hospital and at the stop lights just a short distance south of Post Road. There is good parking at the Centre. For public transportation take Bayview Bus No. 11 from the Lawrence Avenue Subway Station. There is a bus stop at the Centre.

SALES TABLE

At our next meeting we shall have a sales table where anyone may display anything they wish to sell to anyone at the meetings: wood blocks, carving tools, books, carvings, supplies, etc., etc.

So if you have surplus supplies or equipment that you would like to sell, bring it along. Please put your name and price on each article.

If this experiment is successful, we will have a sales table at each future meeting.

One of our members, Gerry Baileau (whose rocking horse attracted considerable interest at Quarterama) recently purchased a quantity of Silicone Carbide powder (600 gird). He says he has enough for three generations of Baileau's and so wants to sell some of it. It is excellent for putting the final touches on knives and chisels as he will demonstrate. If you are interested in buying some, please bring a small plastic bag or a small bottle.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Just a reminder: our May meeting on the 26th and our June meeting on the 16th.

The annual meeting of the OWCA will be at the June meeting, at which time the election of officers for 1980 - 1981 will be held.

"LET THE CHIPS FLY WHERE THEY MAY"

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After June, there will be no meetings until the Autumn, although we will have a booth at the International Wood Carving Exhibition at the CNE in August and will be asking for volunteers to man it.

PROGRAM IDEAS

At the March meeting, we were pleased to receive several good suggestions for programs for future meetings. We would appreciate receiving additional suggestions for the 1980-1981 season.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the OWCA and hope that we will have an opportunity to meet them soon. Our membership is now 186.

MR. KENNETH H. WHITMAN
SUITE 701,
58 BRIDGEPORT ROAD EAST
WATERLOO, ONTARIO
N2J 4H5

MR. ROBERT K. CHARTER
143 SUNNYRIDGE ROAD,
JERSEYVILLE, ONTARIO
LOR 1R0

MR. WALDEMAR NOWAKOWSKI,
APT. 215
25 SUNNY GLENWAY,
DON MILLS, ONTARIO
M3C 2Z5

MS. PRISCILLE M. DEMPSTER,
49 GREENDOWNS DRIVE,
SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO,
M1M 2G6

MR. ROBERT G. GIRARD,
4179 MARTLEN CRESCENT,
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO,
L5L 2H4

MR. JOHN G. RUSSELL,
4 SAMSUN CRESCENT,
SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO,
M1G 1N3

MR. ALBERT J. LAHMER,
21 HAVILAND DRIVE,
WEST HILL, SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO
M1C 2T6

QUARTERAMA '80

Our booth at Quarterama 80, which is an annual exhibition at the CNE Coliseum sponsored by the Ontario Quarter Horse Association, was only a modest success. This was due to the visitors to the exhibition being much more oriented to horses than to wood carving. We wish to express our thanks to the members who volunteered their time and efforts. The modest success of the venture was certainly not due to lack of effort by the volunteers. We have put Quarterama down to experience: part of our learning experience.

Alex MacDonald's carving of the Carlsburg team and wagon attracted almost as much attention as the real things which were on exhibit quite close to our booth.

OTHER SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS

With increasing frequency sponsors of various shows, exhibitions and sales around Ontario are getting in touch with us, requesting us to set up wood carving displays and/or requesting the names of wood carvers who are interested in giving demonstrations.

In essence, these shows and exhibitions take either of two forms: first, there are exhibitions which are purely for display or educational purposes: second, there are shows that are more in the nature of craft sales. In order to attract attention at either type, some one actually demonstrating wood carving adds a great deal and is often requested.

Under the constitution of the OWCA, one of our aims and objectives is:

"to promote an interest in, and an appreciation of, wood carving by and for the general public in the Province of Ontario,"

With this in mind, participation of the OWCA in various shows and exhibitions around the Province is a reasonable request and a natural development. However, we have not been able to do much along this line as yet, because our facilities are still limited and because we are not sufficiently organized for that purpose.

It is true that we have a "travelling show" that has been moving for over a year now from branch to branch in the North York and Toronto Library Systems and is still doing so. Although this project has been successful, judging by the comments we have received, it has meant that some of our member's carvings have been tied up for various periods of time and it has entailed a fair amount of work on the part of a few members to move the carvings from branch to branch under the leadership of Joe Dampf.

If we are going to participate to a greater extent in these shows and exhibitions in various centres around Ontario, we will need to become better organized to do so. That means we will need more help from our members and, probably, will need to establish an "Exhibition Committee" for that specific purpose.

We are discussing this question of shows and exhibitions at some length because to some extent we are wondering what the OWCA should do. Should we take definite steps to develop this actively? Is this a type of activity that our members want? We would very much appreciate receiving your thoughts and comments.

CARVING AT THE DEAF CENTRE CRAFT SHOP

With summer coming soon, which means weekends at cottages, it has been decided to switch from Sunday afternoons to Wednesday evenings. So our volunteer carvers who work on the large relief will be getting together on Wednesdays between 6:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

The change starts with Wednesday, April 9. However, Joe Dampf, who is in charge of the project, will be away on vacation on April 23 and 30, so the dates will be as follows:

April 9

April 16

May 7 and each Wednesday thereafter for a while. Later it may be desirable to switch to Monday evenings. If so, we'll let you know in a later newsletter.

While some members work on the relief carving, others "do their own things" (as we said last month) or they just get together and talk shop. So please feel free to stop in any Wednesday (except April 30 and 30) anytime

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between 6:30 and 10:30 p.m.

EXOTIC WOODS

In our February newsletter, we thanked John Hordyk, one of our members and President of Exotic Woods, for his kind donation of the wood needed for the relief carving discussed above, which will be donated to the Ontario Community Centre for the Deaf when it is finished.

We would like to add that John has told us that whenever he can he will be pleased to give a discount on purchases by members of the OWCA. This depends largely on the quantity purchased. Exotic Woods is located at 3483 Industrial St. Burlington, Ontario, L7P 1A6, telephone, 416-335-8066.

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

The OWCA carving display which was set up on March 1 at the Riverdale Branch of the Toronto Public Library System will be removed from there on Monday evening, May 5. The carvings will then be held by Joe Dampf until Monday evening, May 12, at which time they will be put on display at the Forest Hill Branch. The carvings will remain there until the first week in July.

We would like to include some additional carvings, so please bring some to our next meeting on April 21. Joe is in charge of the display but he will be on vacation on April 21. So Norm Tarver will collect the carvings at the meeting and look after them until the move to the Forest Hill Branch on May 12. Please put the carvings in cartons so they will be protected from damage and also be sure to attach a card with your name and telephone number to each carving. Also, since the carvings are insured, the value of each carving should be noted on the card.

SOUTHTOWNS WOODCARVERS OF WESTERN NEW YORK

This association will be holding its annual exhibition on May 3 and 4 at Hilbert College, 5200 South Park Avenue, Hamburg, N.Y. Joe Dampf will be driving over early on Saturday, May 3, and will be taking several members and their carvings. We have received a map and other information, which will be on hand at the next meeting on April 21. If anyone is interested in going to this exhibition, please get in touch with Joe prior to April 19 (416-444-6837) or with Ruth Badzo after April 19 (416-783-0536).

Members from several associations and clubs (including the Niagara Wood Carvers Association, Niagara Falls, Ontario) will be participating, so it should be a very interesting exhibition and get-together.

INTERNATIONAL WOOD CARVING EXHIBITION

This exhibition, which is considered to be the largest annual wood carving exhibition in the world, will be held at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto from August 13 to September 1. The booklet listing classes and prizes has now been printed and will be mailed to all our members soon, if it has not already been mailed. If you do not receive your copy soon or if you wish to have a copy sent to a wood carving friend, please contact

Mr. Ross Farr,
Manager, Agricultural Department,
Canadian National Exhibition,
Exhibition Place,
TORONTO, Ontario,
M6K 3C3
PHONE: 416-366-7551

The OWCA will be giving two trophies this year as we did last year for residents of Ontario: first prize for a carving in the round and first prize for a relief carving. These trophies are in addition to cash prizes given by the CNE.

Last year more than 40 of our members won prizes at this exhibition. It's fun. So now is the time to start planning and working on your entries.

As mentioned above, the OWCA will have a booth at this exhibition where we will distribute information about the OWCA and wood carving in general. We are most frequently asked about classes where wood carving may be learned. Please let us have particulars about classes, especially those outside Metropolitan Toronto.

Also, please keep in mind that we will be asking for volunteers to man our booth. A volunteer has an excellent opportunity to talk shop with other carvers and with the show judges. It is an interesting experience.

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS GUILD OF FINE ARTS

A reminder: from April 8 to April 26, the Guild will be holding a craft show of high quality woodworking, including a range of exhibits based on wood. It will be held in the RAILS' END STATION GALLERY in the village of Haliburton.

ONTARIO CRAFTS CENTRE

An exhibition entitled "WOOD TRANSFORMED" is currently running in the Crafts Gallery at the Ontario Crafts Centre at 346 Dundas St. W., Toronto. The exhibition is open on Tuesday's through Saturday's from 10:00a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday's from 2:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. The exhibition ends on Sunday, April 27. All the pieces on display have been made by native peoples of Ontario.

FERGUS MARKET

The market is now open every weekend: Friday's from 11:00a.m. to 7:00p.m.: Saturday's from 3:00a.m. to 4:00p.m.: Sunday's 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

Each weekend specializes in different items of interest ranging from snowblowers in March to photography in June. For wood carvers, the following dates are of particular interest:

April 18, 19, 20 - Antique and Craft Show

June 6, 7, 8 - Handcrafted Furniture, Carvings and Tools

June 13, 14, 15 - Antique and Craft Show.

Although these and many other special events are scheduled, it is possible that

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some changes may have to be made, so, if you are interested in special events, it would be wise to call 519-843-5221 ahead of time. Crafts people, vendors and the public may make reservations or secure information by calling that number or by writing to FERGUS MARKET, Box 300, Fergus, Ontario, N1M 2W8.

ELORA

If you visit the Fergus Market, it is suggested that you also visit Elora, which is only 3 miles away and has an interesting restored area near the Grand River. There is a group of interesting craft shops and other shops and also a good restaurant in the old mill alongside the river and gorge.

CANADIAN CRAFT SHOWS

The Sixth Annual Craft Show will be held on Monday, November 24 through Sunday, November 30, 1980. This is primarily a show where sales are made to the public or to merchants, principally with Christmas in mind. All the booths have already been rented. In a later newsletter next Autumn, we will give you more details.

This year the sponsors are holding a "Winter's End Craft Show" for four days, Thursday, April 24 through Sunday, April 27. Again this show is primarily designed for sales to the public and to merchants and all booths have already been rented. This is a new venture which will likely become an annual event.

Both of these shows are held in the Queen Elizabeth Building at the CNE in Toronto. For craft people and persons interested in crafts, the annual show in November has been very interesting. No doubt the Spring Show will be also.

Perhaps some of our members would like to form a small group and rent a booth at one or other show in 1981. If so, it is necessary to start thinking about it now, because booths are limited and rent quickly and because it is necessary to have a good supply of items prepared for cash sales, particularly for the November show. Commissions can be taken, of course.

For more information write to The Canadian Craft Show, 458 St. Clements Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5N 1M1, or telephone June Bibby at 416-960-3680.

If you think you might be interested in participating, we suggest that you take a look at the Spring Show.

ONTARIO WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

We recently received a copy of this association's most recent newsletter entitled, "TOUCH WOOD". Their membership list includes about 130 members, so it is obvious that the OWA, which was formed in September, 1979, is now a going concern.

The membership fee is \$10.00 per year and applications for membership may be made to Kathy Cherney, Membership Secretary, 134 Cornell Street, Cambridge, Ontario, N3H 1K4.

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The OWA will be holding a conference in Owen Sound September, 1980. The theme will be wood processing, although details are still being developed. For information, contact: The Conference Committee, c/o Paul Epp, 134 Cornell Street, Cambridge, Ontario, N3H 1K4.