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VIKING Woodcarvers
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Vol. 31 No. 6

PRESIDENT

- Jim Forrey

VICE PRESIDENTS

- Jim Ayers
- Myron Asper

SECRETARY

- Lynne Medgaarden

TREASURER

- Leo Mielke

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- Jim Ayers
- Myron Asper

COFFEE COMMITTEE

- Keith Fredrickson
- Leonard Kampa

SHOW CHAIR

- Russell Scott

Viking Web Site - <http://www.russcott.com/~rscott/vwca/>

- **Meeting Location – Knights of Columbus, 1114 W 79th St., Bloomington,**
- **4th Monday – August 22 – Meeting Time – 7:00 PM**

August Presentation: Stan Weros, one of our Viking carvers, will present on Carving Faces. This will be a carve-in so come prepared to do some carving. You will need a hand knife and a V tool. If you don't have a V tool, others can share with you. Stan will provide basswood egg blanks and guide us through carving a face in the egg. Stan is an expert on this approach to face carving and his hands-on approach should provide plenty of learning for all of us. So come prepared to do some carving.

Meeting Minutes of Viking Woodcarver's Meeting

May 23, 2005

By Lynne Medgaarden

President Jim Forrey opened the meeting. The Viking Club will not meet in June but will meet in August. Mark your calendars.

We had two guests at the May meeting: Nick Wroblewski and Kathy Baldwin.

Treasury/Meeting Minutes – Leo Mielke reported the May treasury balance was \$4,404. Viking nametags are available for \$4.50 - order through Leo. Patches are also available for \$3.00. There are still 45 people, out of the 150 members, who have not paid their 2005 dues. Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's report as printed in the previous newsletter were approved and seconded.

Editor's Report: Russ had a problem with the emailed newsletters from April. He will correct the problem shortly.

Show Report: The Viking Fall Carving Show and Sale at Har Mar Mall is scheduled for October 22, 23, 2005. Russ will send out application for the show with the August Newsletter to save postage on doing an extra mailing.

Old Business

Class Committee: The Viking Club is forming a committee to plan and arrange for classes. The Knights of Columbus location (where we hold our regular monthly meetings) is a possibility for a class location. Harley Schmitgen was recommended as a possible instructor. He could teach a class on carving a self-caricature. Someone, possibly Fred Stenmen, could draw a portrait of each carver and then the carver could carve a self-image. Clarence Moe reported that they did something similar in St. Cloud and it was very successful. Sign up with Russell Scott if you would like to be on the Class Committee or contact Russ if you have

suggestions for teachers or locations to meet.

New Business

Sno-daze is scheduled for January 7-8, 2006. Sponsored by the Central Minnesota Woodcarvers Association and held at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, Minnesota. The weekend cost is \$129.00 and includes room, board, snacks and instruction. Blanks are extra. Classes include: Chip carving with Darwin Krueger. Butternut Canadian goose with Lee Eisenschenk and a prancing carousel horse with Larry Longtine. Jim Ayers will teach fan birds. Lloyd Meng will have an assortment of human caricatures and his wife Shirley will be teaching a low relief class. Izubin Becic will instruct students in carving an acanthus shelf. Eve Ellenwood has a relief Santa face or frontiersman. Nancy Dardis will teach wildlife wood burning. Peggy Aschenbrenner will teach a quilting class for the non-carving participants. A tool vendor will be available all weekend and John Krantz will be available to sell wood on Saturday morning. For more information and registration materials contact: Martin Fabel @ 320-253-8929 or Gen Jansen @ 320-252-3966 or gencarvves@aol.com.

The Metro Woodcarvers will hold a carving weekend November 19-20, 2005 in Blaine. The website for information is: www.minnesotawoodcarvers.com/seminars.html

Vendors

- Lew Forsmark had some cutouts from Iver Anderson.
- George Effrem had a new selection of books and a list of upcoming classes at his store. The Intro to Woodcarving class will now be Fundamentals of Woodcarving – 4 nights. There will also be a Woodcarving Projects class – 6 weeks rather than 5.

Program for May

Nick Wroblewski is a professional artist from Minneapolis who discussed woodcuts and reduction printing. He gave a slide presentation of some of his beautiful work. He has been working in the field for 10 years. He went to school for painting and sculpture. He sells his work mainly at art fairs. He specializes in woodcut, reduction prints. He carves in wood but the finished product is a print.

He carves in basswood plywood and says it is as easy to carve as linoleum. He carves down only 1/16 of an inch. The process involves carving, inking the block, applying the block to the paper, burnishing or using a press to apply even pressure. He must know the exact consistence of ink to keep the ink from overflowing into the lines of the carving. He applies the ink with rollers. He taught himself how to sharpen his carving tools. He uses Japanese woodcut tools and prefers wood to linoleum. Wood grain offers additional textures in his prints. He works quickly when printing so the grain raising due to moisture in the basswood is not a problem. Basswood plywood does not warp as easily as plain basswood. His press is adjustable for wood thickness.

His style is unique. He enjoys using light and dark. The challenge of making a woodblock image is to create a sense of depth and space. He hand colors some prints using water color. He uses Japanese print making paper which is very light. He uses cherry and other hard woods to carve traditional Japanese prints. The harder woods allow him to create more detail.

He also prints color reductions. He makes a limited number of prints from each block. With a reduction print you can't go backwards. He prints one color then carves away sections after each addition of color to print the next color. Registration marks allow him to print in the same location with each pass of color.

He does some of his prints in abstract. He is fascinated with the way animals communicate and has created some amusing abstract animal

designs. His prints are beautiful with delicate carved areas and additions of delicate color. He adds lots of detail to his designs. He enjoys the challenge of creating shape and textures using only black and white.

Nick reports that selling at art fairs and galleries is also an art form. He mattes and frames his work. His prints sell for \$400 for unframed, \$480 for framed.

Upcoming Events

- The Whilock's will hold their second Carve-Fest on August 27-28, 2005 at the Faribault Ice Arena. They will have classes, exhibits, and vendors at this event. It was great fun last year. Contact Marnie Whilock about classes.
- 'Goods from the Woods' is scheduled in Grand Rapids, MN, September 17-18, 2005.
- The Redwing Woodcarving Association will hold their annual carving show at the Riverfront Center, October 8, 9 2005. Contact Jim Kulstad at 651-388-7503 or email jbkulstad@msn.com
- The North House Folk School offers several woodcarving classes this summer and fall in Grand Marais, MN. www.northhousefolkschool.com/classes/Woodcarve.htm

Interesting Items

Read an interesting article about Joe Jewett, a wood suppliers for the club, at www.dnr.state.us/volunteer/novdec02/enterprise.html

Duane Edwards reports that a group of 5 or 6 carvers meet from 7-9 pm. at the Coffee Grounds, at 1579 Hamline Avenue. "We sit at the table and visit while carving. Drink coffee or eat ice cream or whatever."

The Viking Wood Carvers Fall Show

Reminder – The VWCA Fall Show will be October 22, 23, 2005. I will send applications with the August and September newsletters.

CARVE-FEST 2005!!!

In Fairbault, Minnesota
Wood Carving Displays! * Free Admission! *
Free Demonstrations!

Mini-seminars are only \$5.00 per hour plus materials!

Saturday & Sunday, August 27 & 28 ~ 9:00am to 6:00pm both days
Faribault Ice Arena ~ Rice County Fairgrounds, Faribault, MN 55021 ~

Directions: i-35 to exit 59 ~ South on Highway 21 ~ Left (East) on Highway 3 ~ Under bridge, on right ~ near Aquatic Center.

To register for seminars please email marn@marniewhillock.com or call 507-333-4446.

VIKING MAGNUM OPUS (SHOW AND TELL) – May, 2005

| NAME | CARVING | WOOD | FINISH | COMMENTS |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Harland Kuhlmann | Eagle Bust and Clay Model | Basswood | Unfinished | Gift for Grandson |
| Bob Zastera | Old Madonna | ? | ? | Purchased at garage sale |
| Lew Forsmark | Two Santas | Basswood | Acrylics | Niklo and Bueller Class |
| Jim Kueppers | Nisse | Basswood | Acrylics | |
| Jack Tourtillotte | Elk | Basswood | Acrylics | Antler #14 copper wire/epoxy |
| Nancy Dardis | Wood burning | Basswood | | Watercolor |
| Clarence Moe | Large Cigar Store Indian Small Cigar Store Indian | Poplar Basswood | | Need help to finish |
| Don Groen | Teachers | Basswood | Acrylics | Bees Wax |
| Swede Bengtson | Cabin Scene | 16 Varieties | Polyurethane | |
| Luther Kliche | Relief | Basswood | Acrylics | |
| Erik Meade | The Old Bavarian Hunter | Pine Bark | Acrylics | Hat Ornament is Deer Hair |
| Len Kampa | Two Figures for Viking Village | Basswood | Unfinished | |
| Jeff Lippka | Hawk Feather Indian Bust | Basswood Butternut | Acrylics Acrylics | Almost Life Size |
| Russell Scott | Bung Ruffy | Basswood | Acrylics | Carver's Illustrated |

Everyone can and everyone should,

Everyone Can and Everyone Should

Submitted by Jim Forrey

Everyone can and everyone should,
do something for their club besides carving wood.
Not only would it make you feel great,
it would help the club and that's first rate.
It seems when there's a job to be done,
it's the same group that offers and that's no fun.
Everyone can and everyone should,
stand up and be counted and make their club good.
A club after all will probably live or die,
on the number of members that stand and say aye
There are many tasks that clubs need to have done,
and almost all members could do just one.

try to help out and do what they could
Be it Pres. or Vice or book caretaker,
the maker of coffee or cookie baker.
Helping the committee plan the show,
or help sell tickets or count the dough.
You can see there are many things to be done,
and all of them can't be done by one.
All should help out if they could,
and everyone can and everyone should.

- Ray Kunz, Dayton, Ohio