

Newsletter



President's Message

Oh Wow! Our 55th Annual Show, Sale and Competition was a lot of fun and had a wonderful turnout! There were 14 display tables, 12 carvers entered 36 pieces in the competition, 7 carvers entered the whittling contest, 2 tables of "brown bag" raffle items and 1 table of free items. There was a nice group of non-carving visitors who came and some past members.

Congratulations to Pete Reitinger who won Best of Show with his chip carved owl and **Jen Laughlin** who won Pastor's Choice with her butterflies on a log. Congratulations to the winners in each of the carving categories. See the full list and pictures on our website under the Fall Show tab. I am so excited — this year for the first time that I know of, we had a category for Youth. **Kylie Laughlin** won first place with her carved Christmas tree. Way to go Kylie! Whittling contest winners were **Jerry McNulty**, 1st place; **Mike Moeskau**, 2nd place; and **Pete Reitinger**, 3rd place. Many thanks to David Borg for being show judge and Fred Childers for being judge's helper.

The classes on Wednesday – Friday were a lot of fun and we learned a lot. Thank you Lance Rath and David Borg! The bird carvers were able to hatch their birds and get them ready for flight. Our dragons are still trying to claw their way out of their eggs! The baby dragons still have a little way to go; you'll get to see them soon (I hope).

Thank you to everyone who helped put the show together, participated, and helped out day-of-show. Thanks to the visiting carvers who participated with tables and entering competitions: Jerry and April McNulty and Jen and Kylie Laughlin from the Texas Wood Carvers Guild. We couldn't have done it without

you. And now it's not too early to think about (uhm, start planning) the 56th Show for October 17, 2026.

Do you hear sleigh bells? It's time to plan our annual Christmas party for our December meeting. We'll talk about food, carvings and elf mischief at this month's meeting.

It's also time to think about club leaders for 2026. So if anyone is interested please let us know.

Carolyn & Preston Smith

Monthly Project (Mini-class)

Jamie Frontiera is bringing this month's project: a post-card size, chip carved angel. Thank you! December will be our annual Christmas party so there won't be a class. Volunteers are needed for 2026. A suggested project type is beginning relief; we just need someone who is willing to share what they know.

Sunshine Corner

We had a nice visit with Jan Cole, a past member, at the show on the 17th. Jan is going to try to make it to some of our meetings.

Did you know? One of our Show Sponsors, David and Sally Nye of Fan Carvers World, have video how-to's on carving fan birds. There's a link to their website on ours. It's a nice source to learn more about the legend of the fan bird and how to carve them.

Christmas Ornaments for the National Wood Carvers Association (Chip Chats) Share & Care Campaign

The ornaments from the Christmas in July carving contest and others from Ronnie Boston and Leroy Miller were sent to Chip Chats. In all, HAWC contributed 26 ornaments. Good Job! Check out the gallery of submitted ornaments at [NWCA - Holiday Ornament](#). There are some really unique ornaments. Thanks for participating.

Crosses for Faith Lutheran

We need more crosses! It takes a bunch of crosses to make a big splash on a wall. So far we have only 11 crosses contributed by 7 carvers. Let's see if we can double that total at the December meeting. We need medium to large crosses — any style of carving or wood burning.

See the last page for a photo of some of the crosses we have collected so far.

Jamie's class project for November:



Houston Area Woodcarvers Show October, 2025



BEST OF SHOW:
CHIP CARVED OWL



PETE REITTINGER:
WINNER, BEST OF SHOW



PASTOR'S CHOICE: BUTTERFLIES ON BARK, JENNIFER LAUGHLIN



CARICATURE NOVICE: FIRST PLACE, CHARLIE HOLDEN



CARICATURE OPEN: FIRST PLACE, JERRY MCNULTY



SANTA/MYTHICAL OPEN: FIRST PLACE, CAROLYN SMITH



CHIP CARVING OPEN: FIRST PLACE,
PETE REITTINGER



REALISTIC ANIMALS: FIRST
PLACE, JENNIFER LAUGHLIN



BIRDS/WILDFOWL REALISTIC:
1st & 2nd, MIKE MOESKAU





BARK CARVING: FIRST PLACE,
MIKE MOESKAU



RELIEF CARVING: FIRST
PLACE, KEVIN LAWSON

Note: Kevin won first place in relief carving. He was accidentally handed a red ribbon instead of a blue ribbon.



WOODBURNING: FIRST PLACE, WILLIE HOLDEN



MINIATURE: FIRST PLACE,
JENNIFER LAUGHLIN



MISCELLANEOUS: FIRST PLACE, JAMIE FRONTIERA



YOUTH: FIRST PLACE, KYLIE LAUGHLIN



WHITTLLING CONTEST: FIRST PLACE, JERRY MCNULTY



WHITTLLING CONTEST:
FIRST PLACE, JERRY MCNULTY
SECOND PLACE, MIKE MOESKAU
THIRD PLACE, PETE REITTINGER



Caricature Open: 2nd,
Kevin Lawson



Caricature Open: 3rd,
Kevin Lawson



Santa/Mythical: 2nd,
Carolyn Smith



Chip Carving: 2nd,
Randall Clements



Chip Carving: 3rd,
Carolyn Smith



Animals: 2nd & 3rd,
Bill Todd



Bark Carving: 2nd,
Bill Todd



Relief: 2nd,
Jamie Frontiera



Woodburning: 2nd,
Randall Clements



Woodburning: 3rd,
Randall Clements



Miniature: 2nd,
Carolyn Smith



Miniature: 3rd,
Bill Todd



Miscellaneous: 2nd,
Jennifer Laughlin





DAVID BORG'S CLASS



LANCE RATH'S CLASS



The Houston Area Woodcarvers meet this Saturday November 15, 2025, from 9am-5pm, at the Faith Lutheran Church Day School Community Center, 4600 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX

See us on the Web: houstonareawoodcarvers.com

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On Facebook: Houston Area Wood Carvers