



HOUSTON AREA WOODCARVERS

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NEWSLETTER



APRIL 18, 2009 CLASS: CHIP CARVING WITH JOAN BRUEGGEMAN



Chip carving has been popular since the seventeenth century; it is often used in decorating furniture, boxes, plaques, and other household items. It is a carving discipline that teaches you how to make precise clean cuts to remove selected chips of wood in various pleasing patterns. This is your chance to learn chip carving from one of the best, JoAn Brueggeman. The class will include basic chip carving techniques.

Tools required: Chip carving knife; a few will be available to borrow.

Cost: \$5 for class and board with patterns. Extra patterned boards are \$2.50 each.



Thank You Herb Teesdale

In March, 2009 Herb Teesdale taught caricature carving. He brought a large box of roughouts for people to select from, and had several go-bys for use while carving. Herb went around the table helping each person in turn, and had a workout, because the class was very large. We will use the photos he gave us to finish our carvings at home. If you would like to take additional classes from Herb, information is available on Majichorsewoodcarvings.com. Thank you Herb for this excellent class.



The Chicken or the Egg

I have been considering the old debate of "Which came first the Chicken or the Egg?" in terms of Wood Carving. Do you start with an idea or design and then select a piece of wood that will become the design? Or do you find or buy a piece of wood and then the design that is in the wood presents itself. The old adage that you remove everything that is not the elephant would support the concept that the Wood has the design inside it and the carver is the medium to remove what does not belong. It becomes a dilemma for me. Do I chose the wood and find the design or select the design and then find the right piece of wood. At the last club meeting the answer presented itself as a rough out. Now I can get the design and the wood at the same time. I get the chicken and egg at the same time. Again carving has proved to have the answer to a mystery of life.

Happy Carving, Glenn Miller





Welcome Visitors & New Member

Our visitors in March were Larry and Lillian Wang. We hope you visit us again soon. We also have a new member, John Curcio. We hope to see you all next month.



The 2008 George R. Mobley Award



The George R. Mobley award was given to Pete Reitinger for the "2008 Woodcarver Who Has Done the Most for the Club." JoAn Brueggeman explained how the award was started to honor the founding father of the club: George R. Mobley. Pete has been acting as President and Vice-President, and he is involved in every aspect of our club. We are all very grateful to Pete for all he has done. Hats off to you Pete. You're the best!



George R. Mobley Award, Winner's Note

Thank you, I am honored. However, the real credit belongs to the members who quietly contribute their time and effort to the club month after month. As the club's figurehead I get credited with the club's successes, but it is the members that make a club. Therefore, I would like to acknowledge some of the contributions of our members.

Lorraine Lewis has done an excellent job managing the club's finances. But did you know that she procures the meeting door prizes, she has procured most of the items we sell to raise club funds, she started the beginner's table, and until recently she provided the food for the meetings. Thank you Lorraine.

Jackie Childers is responsible for upgrading our newsletter, the public face of the club, while also serving as the club secretary. And when these newsletters were posted on the website created and managed by Jim Edwards, the number of visitors to the club increased. Thank you Jackie and Jim.

Bob Clum missed the old club library, so he started a new one. Now the club has a valuable resource for its members and an enormous benefit for new carvers. Thank you Bob. And thank you everyone who has volunteered this year, you make the club a success.

pete reitinger

Excerpts from the March 21, 2009 Meeting Minutes:

HAWC sent flowers to the funeral of Tom Bingham; details of memorial trees are being worked out.

Jenny Smith was absent due to a car accident; she was bruised but fortunately had no broken bones. Her cart and car were damaged. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Tom Hale will show his carvings at the Sugarland Senior Center Arts and Crafts show on April 13th.





The Texas Wood Carvers Guild Spring Round-up is April 26 through May 2, 2009 in Kerrville; for information on classes, check their website www.texaswoodcarversguild.com/.

Preston Smith discussed the October Show and Sale at Trader’s Village on October 2nd and 3rd. The first day is for carvers and will include classes. The second day is the show; it is free to carvers and \$3 per car for others. See www.tradersvillage.com/en/houston/festivals.

It’s time to start carving for our Christmas fund raiser and the Christmas gift exchange.

Lorraine Lewis updated us on finances; they are posted during meetings for our review. Thank you Anonymous and new member John Curcio for your donations.

Respectfully Submitted by Claudia Edwards, March 21st, 2009

A Note about Charlotte Vaughn: George and Charlotte Vaughn of Midland, Texas, have owned The Tool Box, an online wood carving supply store, since 2000. Charlotte was critically injured in an accident while she and George were on vacation this year. She was taken off of life support in March and is not expected to recover. Please keep George and his family in your prayers.

Team Blake: Dallas and Donna Deege’s grandson, Blake, is under treatment for Ewing’s Sarcoma until early 2010. The Club will be selling carving wood at the meetings, and the proceeds will be donated to the “Team Blake” fund. This is your chance to buy wood at a good price; the proceeds will help pay for either Blake’s or another child’s cancer treatments.

Montgomery County Fair: Glenn and Dianah Miller represented the Houston Area Wood Carvers in March at the Montgomery Co. Fair for “...3 hours of carving that turned into 6 hours of fun. I was amazed that we had people watching and talking to us most of the time. Kids of all ages watched and told us of their interest in carving. We were able to meet many nice people, hand out flyers and invite them to club meetings. I hope that some will be our guests at the next meeting.”



The Woodworking Show: Thanks to everyone who manned the HAWC tables at the show. It was a great chance to visit with people interested in a variety of woodcrafts and with members of other local wood crafting clubs. Most importantly it was a wonderful opportunity to stimulate the economy and buy woodworking tools.



2009 CARVING EVENTS

April 27-May 2	Texas Woodcarvers Guild Spring Roundup	Inn of the Hills, Kerrville
Oct. 2-3	Houston Area Woodcarvers Club Show	Traders Village, Houston
Oct. 11-16	Texas Woodcarvers Guild Fall Extravaganza	Inn of the Hills, Kerrville
Oct. 17-18	Texas State Championship Show & Sale	YO Resort, Kerrville

The Houston Area Woodcarvers Club meets 9am-2pm on the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston, TX.





Show & Tell

If you are new to carving or if you would like an fun project for the day, stop by the beginner's table. Ronnie Boston is a great teacher and he always has something there to work on.



Ronnie Boston brought in a sign made years ago by the Bay Area Carvers. Several of the letters were carved by HAWC members. Ronnie and JoAn Brueggeman are members of both groups.

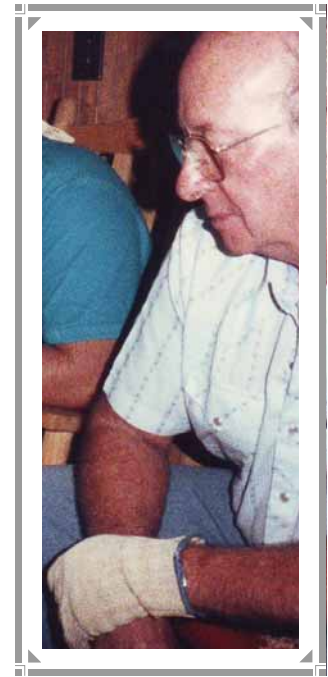


Berny Alvarez showed a photo of a chain saw carved Panda Bear made from a wood piling. He also made scroll saw portraits of Frank Sinatra, Humphrey Bogart, an Indian, and Abraham Lincoln. He does them 4 at a time.





Bob Clum showed a Scotty dog and a boot that were made by Tom Bingham.

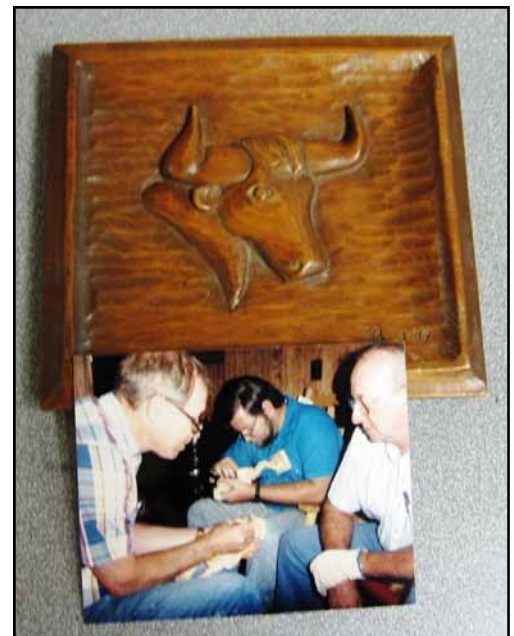


A Photo of the late Tom Bingham



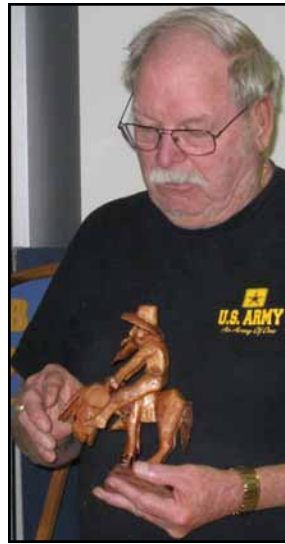
JoAn Brueggeman showed a 1979 longhorn relief by Tom Bingham. She was lucky to get it in a Christmas exchange.

She carved the wood relief pencil box.





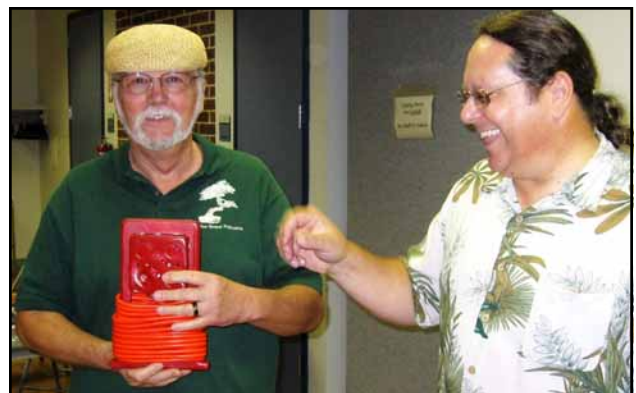
Mike Moeskau showed a wood spirit from sweet gum. It called out "carve me" to him. It's stained with brown shoe polish and baby oil. He used a scrap from it to make a little house.



Tom Hale carved this Man on a Donkey.



Charles Glass made this wood spirit from found wood. He won the door prize.





Jim Berry brought his Long Billed Curlew Shore Bird. The detail and painting were outstanding.



Dub Johnson showed this fine buck he carved at one of Herb Teesdale's classes.



Elmo McCoy had an in progress work, found wood with deep reliefs of dolphins and other sea creatures.





Ronnie Boston brought a hound dog from one of Herb Teesdale's classes. Instead of finishing it off with a bowl in its mouth saying "will hunt for food," he put half a cat in its mouth and sat it next to kitty's bowl with the caption "Wow! Tast Like Chicken."



Shelley Key showed her bark carving from Mike Moeskau's class and an aspen wood walking stick painted with acrylics and coated with a water-based oak stain.





First Club Contest of 2009: The first contest of the year is actually two contests in one. Both contests are open for carvers, pyrographers, and woodworkers.

Springtime for Novices: take a 2”X2”X6” block of basswood and create something that makes you think of springtime. The winner will be chosen based upon how well the piece captures the idea of springtime. This contest is for novices, or for those who have not hand carved in a long time.



The Carpenter’s Pencil Open: simply carve, burn, or saw anything in a 9/16”X9/32”X7” carpenter’s pencil. (Make sure you get a basswood pencil.) This contest is open to everyone, so it is possible to participate in both contests.

This Contest Ends at the May 16th Meeting. Pencils and basswood blocks are available free of charge for all members. Winners will be selected by popular vote.

Club Officers

President	Pete Reittinger	281-395-5735
Vice-President	n/a	n/a
Treasurer	Lorraine Lewis	713-303-3076
Secretary	Claudia Edwards	281-802-8529
Editor	Helen Havemann	713-666-7093
Show Chairs	Carolyn Smith & Preston Smith	281-392-0713
Web Master	Jim Edwards	281-332-8514
Librarian	Lin Swalley	713-721-4514
Refreshments	Shelley Key	713-666-7093

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Check out
our website!



Sign up for e-mail delivery. This saves \$12 annually on printing and mailing which will be donated to the special project fund.

