

Mid-America Woodcarvers Association Fall Show — Rules of Competition

This competition is open to dues-paying members of the Mid-America Woodcarvers Association. No one is restricted from joining. Dues are \$20 (USA) per year and run from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Reserving a show table is required to enter into competition.

1. Blue Ribbons and above winning entries in the show are not eligible to be entered at the Fall Show in future years.
2. All carvings must be wood; (except constructed feet/legs for birds and glass eyes for birds, fish and animals,)
3. No carving may be entered in more than one category.
4. There is no limit on the number of entries that you may enter into one specific class.
5. Entries shall be the work of the entrant. Each entry must be tagged if multiple artist worked to complete the exhibit. Entry will be classified by the status of the most advanced carver. (A beginner and an open class carver's entry will be registered in the open class category.)
6. Exhibits must be carved and completed by the exhibiter within the past (2) years of the show date. Judges have the right to remove a piece from competition if the piece does not meet this requirement.
7. Show officials and/or judges may change an exhibit to a class that they deem more appropriate and may withdraw any objectionable carving.
8. Show officials and/or judges may disqualify any entry which is recognized as coming from a duplicated blank or that was produced in a seminar or during a class. Instructor Assisted and Rough Out classes are an exception. Originality is stressed in this competition. Please let your consciences honor that commitment.
9. In order to maintain a certain standard for the show, subject matter, which may be classed as "erotic", will not be permitted.
10. The judges' determinations are final and are not subject to any changes after the competition is completed and the judging is closed.
11. All exhibits, when properly classified, will be judged in that classification regardless of the number of exhibits entered. However, ribbons will be awarded only to those carvings exemplary of judging standards listed following these rules. In other words, if there is just one entry in a class, it won't necessarily get a blue ribbon unless it deserves one.
12. Mid-America Woodcarvers Association and the German American Society cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage due to conditions beyond their control.
13. Rules for finishing carvings:
 - Natural/Stained Finish**—both the texture and the grain of the wood must show through the finish. Maltapul color staining and/or wood burning is permissible.
 - Painted Finish**— an opaque finish that obliterates the grain of the wood or the use of more than one color or tone of stain. If any part of the carving is painted, the carving will be placed in the "painted" category.

14. Use of power tools for a carving is permissible except for whittled pieces—these must be done entirely with a knife, no gouges, chisels, v-tools or sanding is allowed. Work from duplicating equipment will not be accepted.
15. All entries that have a base should be securely attached to that base. NO entries will be accepted that have loose parts that can fall off and get damaged in handling. Relief carvings on easels, canes on stands and service decoys on a stand are exceptions.
16. The term “realistic” means work detailed to the extent of closely resembling the real object.
17. “Impressionistic/free-from/stylized” covers sculptures of subjects that are not realistic, but artistic representations. Media other than wood is accepted only if minor to the piece.
18. The term “caricature” means a humorous exaggeration of distinguishing features.
19. Pyrography on Wood Group R does not allow wood burning on such things as gourds, leather, paper, Plexiglas , etc. Any artwork entered in Pyrography competition must use burning as a primary medium in the form of a picture or design.
20. Carvers are urged to leave their carvings on display both days.
21. All carvings that are not of wood will be judged separately and be awarded in its own Best of Non Carved Group. Those Groups are: xxx—J,S,T, and V.
22. Any change of rules will be announced before the competition begins.
23. THE AWARDS: Best of Show \$175.00
 Best of Show Runner up \$150.00
 Advanced Champion \$100.00
 Advanced Champion Runner up \$50.00
 Open Champion \$100.00
 Open Champion Runner up \$50.00
 Best of Non Carved \$25.00

JUDGING STANDARDS

1. **Originality and Design**— Unusual and exceptional interpretations of the subject matter, true to life. Where applicable, consider proportions, anatomy, balance and perspective, use of light and shadows, use of color. Is the piece a copy of a rough out, seminar or class project.
2. **Skilled Executions**—Tight laminations, good carving techniques, properly fitted add-ons, such as object in hands. Also, the difficulty of the carving, as in a one-piece.
3. **Surface Finish**—Carefully executed sanding where applicable, removal of blemishes such as fuzz, application of finishes. Does the finish enhance the grain? Consider choice of color and application in relationship to overall work.
4. **Final Representation**—In review of all of the above, take into consideration the decorative value and worthiness of the exhibit and the overall continuity and artistry of the presentation.

NOTE

In the years past our Peoples Choice Award went to the best table. This year we are going to try something different. We will have a table set up for you to present one of your best carvings on, so the people (spectators) may vote on one carving to win the Peoples Choice Ribbon. Not eligible for the Peoples Choice Award are the 2015 Best of Show, Best of Show Runner-Up, Advanced Champion, Advanced Champion Runner up, Open Champion, Open Champion Runner-Up and Best of Concaved. Exhibits must be carved and completed by the exhibitor within the past (2) years of the show date.