

# Mid-America Woodcarvers Association

## NEWSLETTER

May 2014



Meetings and Open Carving - First and Third Saturdays 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Augustana Lutheran Church 38th and Lafayette St

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Spring at last! It is finally warm enough to go out on the back deck and start working on diamond willow canes again. For some reason people get a little upset if I try to work on them at the kitchen table... Hopefully everyone is starting to get energized with the nice weather to start new projects.

Believe it or not we are close to the 90 day countdown to Doane. We already have 200 students registered for The Doane Experience and look forward to more registrations coming in each week. Included in this month's newsletter is a list of classes that are still open, each class has limited space so I encourage you to get your registration in as soon as possible. If you need a registration form let us know and we will send one to you.

Len has been working very hard accepting and organizing registrations for Doane. Your Doane Experience class confirmations will be going out in mid-May so make sure you watch for that e-mail, for those that do not have e-mail; they will be mailed to you.

Having visited the Doane campus in April, I can tell you that I am getting excited for July. There are some neat changes to the campus this year. The cafeteria and registration desk have been remodeled and look great. It appears that the majority of street repairs around campus will be completed before we meet at Doane so no more scenic routes around town this year.

A HUGE thank you goes out to Rohn Collins. Over several months Rohn cleaned and refurbished the totem pole that was presented to Doane College by the Mid-America Woodcarvers Association twenty-five years ago. It looks great and the college was very excited to have it refurbished and returned to campus. If you are attending Doane this year as a student or just to come check out the classes be sure to look for the totem pole.

Please remember that instead of a meeting the first Saturday in May we will have a Club Picnic. If you have questions regarding the picnic please contact Denny Rourke. I look forward to seeing everyone at the club picnic May 3rd at Camp Brewster and at the May 17th meeting.

*Maria*

**Club Officers - Maria Mulherin - President**

**Mary Ann Klinger - 1st VP**

**PJ Driscoll - 2nd VP**

**Sherry LaTendresse - General Secretary**

**Judy Nygard - Recording Secretary**

**Len Stenneche - Treasurer**

**Board Members: Denny Rourke, Larry Putnam, George Bledsoe, Rich Wagner, Rich Mahacek**

**Membership: Len Stenneche**

**Workshops: Ken Armsbury**

**Library: Sherry LaTendresse and Barb Steiner**

**Tool Managers: Ken Armsbury and Larry Putnam**

**History: Virginia Stewart and Sandy Floral**

**Hospitality: Sandy Floral**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 17 - MAWA Club Meeting - Intro to Relief Carving - Wayne Gildseth

June 7 - MAWA Club Meeting - Whittled Spoon (Part 1) - Ken Armsbury

June 7- 8 – Northeast Nebraska Woodcarvers Workshop– Taught by Desiree Hajny  
For more information on this workshop you may contact Roger Nadrchal at 402/750-5591

June 21 - MAWA Club Meeting – Whittled Spoon (Part 2) – Ken Armsbury

June 21-22 - North Platte Show & Sale, Quality Inn & Suites, North Platte, NE. Contact Paul Jeske 308-532-2599

Burke's Western & Wildlife Art Workshop

July 19-25-2014

Crete, Nebraska

[www.westernwoodcarvers.com](http://www.westernwoodcarvers.com) Contact: Nancy Burke 402-623-4383

The Doane Experience

Doane College Campus Crete Nebraska

July 27-Aug 2 2014

<http://www.thedoaneexperience.com/>

### Last Call for MAWA 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary t-shirts!!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Quantity          Size          Sleeve Length          Cost

Quantity	Size	Sleeve Length	Cost

Orders Due by: April 15, 2014

Grand Total

\*Make all checks payable to The Mid-America Woodcarvers Association

\*Mail orders to Mid-America Woodcarvers Association, P.O. Box 521, Gretna, Ne 68028



### Mid-America Woodcarvers Association 40th Anniversary T-shirt Order Form

Short Sleeve Shirt \$12.00 Long Sleeve Shirt \$ 15.00      Sizes available: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, 2X, 3X, 4X



Roger Nadrchal



Roger Nadrchal

*IT IS SHOW AND SHARE TIME*



Roger Nadrchal



George Bledsoe



Gary Klinger

## *New Members.....*

Frank Griffith	Omaha, NE	Gordon Blake	Hastings, NE
Wilma Huff	Omaha, NE	Ron Hansen	Omaha, NE
Rick / Jacki Jensen	Loveland, CO	Dean Irving	Loudon, TN
Oriette Larewaard-Baker	Pensacola, FL	Mary Beresford	Albuquerque, NM

**Welcome to the club everyone !!!**

### **The Doane Experience – Class Availability**

The following Doane classes still have openings. Those classes that are noted as **limited availability** have only one or two seats still open, other classes have 3 or more seats still available. List is subject to change. When you register for a class **please** list your alternative choices on your registration form.

1. Bark Whimsy Houses – Ken Armsbury **\*Limited Availability\***
4. Hatching Dragons & Other Critters – David Borg
7. 16" Workshop Santa Mallet Carving – Marty Dolphens
8. 9" Fireman in Small Scene – P.J. Driscoll
9. Bass Splashing Water – Gary and Mary Ann Klinger
10. Pyrography – Gen Kreyling **\*Limited Availability\***
12. Antler carving (Small) – Roger Lyons
13. Speckled Trout – Wanda Reichert
15. Basket Weaving – Zac Reinecker
16. Downy Woodpecker – Steve Schumacher **\*Limited Availability\***
17. Low Relief Carving – Fred and Elaine Stenman **\*Limited Availability\***
18. Basswood Fiddler Caricature – Dave Stetson **\*Limited Availability\***
19. Man with Sandwich Board Sign – Bob Travis
20. Chip Carving – Rich Wagner **\*Limited Availability\***
21. Intaglio Relief – Greg Wirtz
22. Decorative Gourds – Breta and Denny Jackson
23. Flat Reed Baskets – Sandy Wirtz

Check it out at <http://www.thedoaneexperience.com>

### Condolences

Richard "Dick" Carman passed away on Sunday, April 6, 2014 at Faith Regional Hospital in Norfolk Nebraska, the day after he and his wife Roberta celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary with family.

Dick was an avid carver and shared his many talents as an instructor at the annual Doane Experience for several years. He was also a lifelong member of the club. Condolences can be sent to his wife Roberta at the Wakefield Care Center, 306 Ash St. Wakefield, NE 68784

# The 2014 Doane Experience Sponsors!



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<http://www.proxxontools.com>

*Thank You  
 To these sponsors*

## Vernal Reflections by Denny Jackson

Finally! The Polar Vortex is becoming a tropical exhale, and I hope that silly Pennsylvania groundhog's tail is a few inches shorter from freezing it off. What a miserable winter. Maybe you like the cold and snow, but when you have to call in to work and tell them you won't be in today, because you haven't made it home yet from yesterday, it's a little much. I even heard that the lions at the zoo were gluing themselves to the bears. Ha! Breta says she's going to change her name to "Nanook". Hmmm. I wonder if Dalmatians wear thermal spots. If there's an upside to all this, I guess it would be that the snow fills all the potholes.

So, Spring and Summer are on the way and soon we'll be complaining about the heat. At least we won't have to shovel it. We have lots of friends who can't wait to get into their yards and gardens. I guess I never had the knack for growing things. I bought a hanging fern once and the rope died. I'm probably the only person I know that killed ceramic tulips. Last Spring at this time, I planted a rock garden, and the next morning, two of them were dead. At least my lawn was perfect. Each blade of grass was three feet high.

I guess I'll just stick to things that I'm a little more familiar with. There are lots of opportunities coming up this Spring and Summer, to improve on our carving, painting, wood turning, gourd art, or whatever interest we may have.

You may or may not be like I was at one point in my carving career. I wanted to be able to leave my artwork to a worthy charity. "The Institute for the Blind" was suggested. Someone commented that one of my early carvings was a "Wow!" Yup, one of the wowsiest carvings they had ever seen. You know that I am just kidding. You do, don't you? Anyway, that wasn't too far from the truth, until I started taking lessons from, Marty Dolphens, P. J. Driscoll, Kirt and Linda Curtis, Ken Armsbury, Steve Schumacher, Gary and Mary Ann Klinger, and Len Dillon. I hope that I never get to the point that I can't benefit from the knowledge of others.

The cool thing is that, as MAWA members, we have the opportunity to take classes from these and other nationally known instructors at our own 'Doane Experience', in July. If you're interested in improving your skills, or are undecided about enrolling in the best seminar in the country, what are you waiting for? Come join the fun. As a side note to you gourd artists, Sara and Larry Cornwell will not be at Doane this year, but have endorsed Breta and me, as their replacement instructors. Breta has taken many classes from Larry and Sara, and is excited about this opportunity. I'm pretty much her go-fer, but I'm excited too. As a carver, gourds have added one more medium source for me. I love creative challenges. In closing, remember that for every student with a spark of brilliance, there are ten of us with ignition problems. Light your own fire. Come join us at Doane, or find a local mentor and glean some knowledge. Above all, have fun and keep smiling.

Denny

## Christmas in July!

### Mark your calendars for the July 19th meeting!

As many of you know, every year local club members and our Doane members carve Christmas ornaments that are raffled at the Fall Show. Due to the popularity of the wreaths last year we will be raffling off 3 Christmas wreaths filled with your carvings again this year. Proceeds from this year's wreath raffle will go to the American Cancer Society.

To encourage members to help us fill the wreaths this year we will be holding a carving event Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. Members will be able to choose two cutouts, one for the wreath and one to keep. We will be carving, painting and filling the wreaths that day.

Larry Putnam and Judy Nygard have volunteered to make cutouts for this event. Because we need so many cutouts we would appreciate the help of other members in helping to find simple patterns and cutting them out. If you would like to help, please contact Larry Putnam at 712/328-8013.

***New this year:*** We will be awarding 2 (two) prizes to ornament carvers.

#### Local Club Members

We are grateful to all our local club members who carve an ornament for the raffle wreaths. Carvers who donate an ornament will be entered into a drawing for \$25.00. The drawing for this award will be at the MAWA Fall Show in October.

#### Doane Members

We are also grateful to our Doane members who donate ornaments every year as well, because we get so many ornaments from our Doane members we will be awarding \$25.00 to a carver at Doane this year. Everyone who donates a hand carved ornament at The Doane Experience will be eligible for the \$25.00 drawing. The drawing will be held at Doane and the award given at the Raffle and Auction Thursday night.

You may donate one ornament or several. For every ornament you donate you will be given an entry in the drawing. So feel free to better your chances at the prize by donating more than one ornament!

## *WOW talk about HOT and COLD*

I am not sure what to make of this Quiz thing, one month I get many responses next month I get 3. I am committed to doing this until the tools are gone, so I will keep going. I thought it was because the first ones were too hard, so I switched it up and tried something different. I was real happy with the garden shear responses. Then I did the red pencil (get it, the government accountant 15+ trillion in debt) one and got 3 responses.

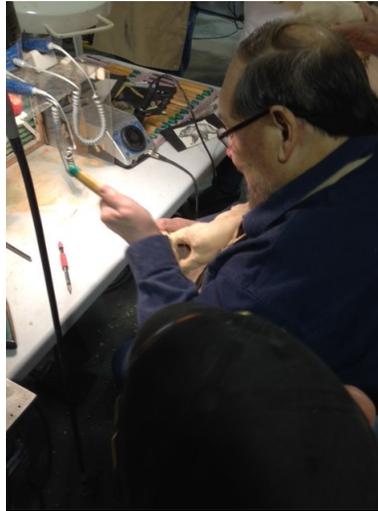
So not sure what to try this time.... ok I got it, back to the Doane theme. The next quiz for the few who apparently are interested in a new tool..... ***Rocky's friend has a nice set.....*** (come on put your mind to it)

### *Second Bonus Quiz*

For a Loess Hills Sawmill T- Shirt I am thinking of a number between 1 -25

First email with either or both wins — loesshillssawmill@hotmail.com

For the record: Phillip Johnson was last Months quiz winner.....



### Kirt and Linda Curtis Class in Glenwood Iowa

We were lucky enough to get Kirt and Linda to come to Glenwood and teach a class. We carved a standing black bear and were lucky to get the use of a friends shop. It was a great class as always and, everyone's bear turned out great. Kirt and Linda are wonderful teachers whether you are an experienced power carver or a novice just getting started. This is my Third class with Kirt and I have thoroughly enjoyed each and every one. We had a great location and my wife made lunch on Sat so what more could you ask for. I want to thank Kirt and Linda for making the trip over and everyone who attended. I hope to do it again this Fall so look for an update later in the year.

### *A Parting Shot.....* By George Bledsoe

Tons of info in the newsletter this month, great for me as I don't have as much space to fill.

I am busying working on getting logs to cut on the sawmill. I have a lead on some walnut logs that I am hoping will work out. I have some Butternut logs that I have reserved which is exciting (well at least to me). On that note I am thinking about building a garage this fall. I have a 3 car garage already. It had a truck in it once, looked good too sitting in there. I just moved the truck out for a short time to put in a little pile of kiln dried wood to keep it out of the rain, and the rest is history. It would be nice to be able to park my truck in a garage in the winter, but spring, summer, fall that space would just be sitting there empty right? I lost my wife right at that point.....

I also wanted to brag a little (very little) about my bear I did while I was taking Kirt's class. It was a roughout I bought from Moore's at some point and it had sat for many years. While I was working on the class project I just sort of followed the same steps on that roughout. It turned out pretty good (at least in my eye) and in the end that is all that matters. It just shows that you can take a roughout and make it look completely different from what someone else carved and make it your own work of art. So until next month Keep the Chips Flyin.....George



**MID-AMERICA WOODCARVERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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