



# CHARLOTTE WOODCARVERS CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 40 #11/November 2022

## From the President

### Hello Carvers

**It is now official. CPCC is the site for our Showcase on April 14, 15, and 16 2023. There was a BIG hurdle to overcome. The College raised some requirements, the biggest was an increase in Insurance coverage on the event.**



Every day for weeks Keith Jones and Bob Warner headed the effort to satisfy CPCC by working with our Insurance agency and the College to get the coverage that would satisfy the requirements.

The insurance agency talking to the College on our behalf finally put together a package we could afford and satisfied CPCC. Thanks guys and everyone that helped along the way. We now have a contract and the Showcase is on with a little over 5 months to go.

As was mentioned in the last newsletter, volunteers are needed to put on the Showcase and Keith Jones, co-chairman, suggested that committees would greatly help.

**Metrolina Christian Academy Choir will entertain us again at the Christmas party**

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## President's message continued

At the last Showcase meeting the following committees and leaders were formed:

1. Advertising-Bob Warner, Neil McGuire and Rod Gatlin
2. Raffle-Steve Stillitano
3. Social-Betty Negus
4. Food Truck-Bill Robinson
5. Vendors & tables-Bob Gerbe
6. Check in/Check out Neil McGuire & Rich DiFranco
7. Runners-Jim Horn
8. Judging-Rod Gatlin
9. Education Seminars-Rocky Paiano & Neil Zyp
10. Competition Carving-Mitch Cartledge

These leaders will be needing help and will be asking volunteers to join their committee. If you would like a particular committee just let them know.

The outdoor carving season is over for this year. At these events, for the first time we had a signup list for those that wanted a reminder before Showcase 2023. Neil McGuire is handling that chore and reports over 200 verified emails to promote our showcase before the event.

The owls we carve to give out to the children are a great way to get the families attention and over 500 were given out at the 10 events we did at the farmers market, Waxhaw, and Matthews Alive. That is a lot of carving of owls!

If everyone would carve about 5 sticks over the winter in their spare time we would appreciate the help getting ready for next year. That would be 1 stick per month which equals 6 owls per stick. The Club supplies the 1x1 sticks. Please help.

By the way, \$810 was received from Matthews Alive committee.

Jim Horn did a great job with his Carving Class and much praise was received by emails and in person on Tuesdays. Thanks, Jim for sharing your knowledge and talents, we all appreciate your efforts. In a few weeks another class will begin and you should all let us know what you are interested in. Spoons and faces have already been suggested.

As some of you know the carving world lost a great carver and teacher recently when CCA member Peter Ortel passed away. Peter was a member of our club and always attended our Showcase and helped with Judging.

Peter carved a memorial to a 9/11 Fireman that has been at our Showcase. Recently Ray Branch said that since First Responders is our Show theme this coming year that we find some way to honor Peter. If there is any ideas on the matter please let us know.

## President's message continued

Finally, the club Christmas celebration will be held on Tuesday, December 6 at 5:30 pm. There will be a change this year in the Door Prize raffle. The club will supply a special Christmas ornament to each member and family that attends. It will not be necessary to bring a wrapped door prize but don't forget a Donation for Loaves and Fishes and a side dish or dessert to feed the attendees.

Neil McGuire has arranged for the Metrolina Christian Academy Choir to entertain us again. We all loved them so much last year

Happy Thanksgiving  
Bob Gerbe, President  
Charlotte Woodcarvers Club



**“The only mystery in life is why the kamikaze pilots wore helmets.” – Al McGuire**



Neil McGuire  
Editor

# From the Editor

## Editorial Thoughts for November

The Jim Horn Christmas Ornament class is complete, and it was fun. Jim gave us options for several ornaments to choose from, then gave instructions to all.

It was a large class, so it was essentially divided into the beginner level and the experienced. Jim is an incredible resource as he has photo-copied instructions from Woodcarving Illustrated over many years.

His value as an instructor is increased with his knowledge and skill in carving and painting. Each group was given instruction on their level to make an ornament to the best of their ability.

My suggestion; get help from Jim when you have questions. He is one of the ones to give help in a variety of carving areas. My apologies for the few images. I can only give the excuse of my age.



## Catawba Valley Wood Carvers competition

Five of us attended the Catawba Valley Woodcarvers competition on October 22, 2022. Joe Davis, Paul DesRoisers, Jim Horn, Rod Gatlin and me, Neil McGuire all competed. We didn't run away with best of show or best of open or best of anything, but we all returned with ribbons, Jim being the ribbon master.

Again, my age got in the way of taking photographs. Apologies.

If you have never taken the time to go to Hickory for this show, it is a different format from ours. They have a corner in the Klingspor Extravaganza show.

The area with the woodcarving had vendors that interest us directly. Dunkle Knives was there right next to Bill Johnson with his chip carving designs. Michelle Parsons filled out those most familiar with us.

Then there was the woodworking shop side of the show. Anything you can imagine to fill your shop with tools. It was amazing.

Next year you might like to spend a Saturday in Hickory competing and shopping with no pressure.



# Carvings Needed

## Advanced and Open Carvers...Your carving club needs you!!!

As we prepare for the 2023 show, the raffle committee is reaching out for your support. Our goal is to expand the number of finished carvings included on the raffle table. We are looking for high quality, finished carvings that we can include in our raffle.

The purpose of this request is to provide the non-carvers (those not interested in tools or wood that we typically raffle off) who attend our show, with a number of finished carvings to bid on and take home. This is a way to demonstrate the high quality carvings our club can produce and help support the club.

Please reach out to Steve Stillitano ([stephenstillitano@yahoo.com](mailto:stephenstillitano@yahoo.com)) if you are interested and willing to donate a finished product for the show raffle. This can be an ideal time to clean off a shelf and make some room for your new ribbon winning carvings. There is no restriction on when the item was carved — it just needs to be your best work.

Thank you in advance to those that have already donated. Looking forward to a great show!!!

Steve Stillitano



**“The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.” – Albert Einstein**



Our own Rod Gatlin was on YouTube the last Saturday in October. He was the guest on the International Association of Wood Carvers Saturday show. He made a quality presentation of the Showcase of Woodcarvers as well as our club on the program. Then he spent some time, due to questions, about his teaching and roughouts he has created. Well done Ron! You can find his show at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZQ1pe67ic8&t=91s>

# Announcements

The 40th Showcase of Woodcarvings

April 14-16, 2022 Show

Theme is: First Responders

## Weekly Carving Meetup

- Club carving on Tuesdays from 9am to 6pm. Come when you can, leave when you must.
- We carve at the Cathcart Center, Carmel Presbyterian Church

## Calendar

Nov 8

Election Day

Dec 6

Christmas Banquet

*Vote on Election Day*



We have a new member, John Direnzi. Seen here working on his hawk, John is obviously not a beginner carver.

He told me that he started this bird about 20 years ago. Busy life got in the way, but he picked it up recently and joined our club.

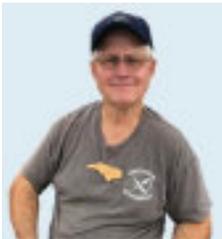
We are glad to have you with us John.





**Bob Gerbe**  
President

# Club Officers



**Bill Robinson**  
Vice President



**Steve Stillitano**  
Board Member



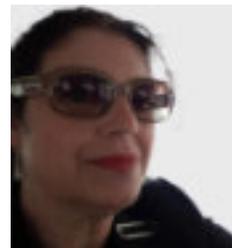
**Neil Zyp**  
Membership  
Committee



**Tom Bowling**  
Secretary



**David McDaniel**  
Board Member



**Lisa Murphy-Stafford**  
Showcase  
Committee



**Rich DiFranco**  
Treasurer



**Rocky Piano**  
Board Member



**Lee Servatius**  
Board Member



**Neil McGuire**  
Editor