



**September 2019**

## **GENESEE VALLEY WOODCARVERS**

Meetings are held from 7 to 9 PM on the 2nd Monday of the month (except July and August) at:  
The 40 & 8 Club (across the street from Gleason Works)  
933 University Avenue, Rochester, New York  
**Web site:** <http://gvwoodcarvers.com/>

**Important Disclosure:** Wood carving and whittling may be habit forming and could prevent you from engaging in household chores and other unpleasant tasks. Carving is enjoyable and you may be prone to share it with others: thus, causing them to experience the same distractions from less pleasant tasks as you may have experience yourself

**Next Meeting**

**Monday, September 9, 2019**

**Topic: Clean Out the Workshop Sale**  
**Show and tell: What did you carve this summer?**  
**2019-2020 Dues are due**

**6:45 – 8:30 pm**

**GVW OFFICERS:** Co Presidents: *George Abbott & Harry Patrick* Treasurer: *Alison Currie*  
Website: *Your Name Here* Membership: *Jeff O'Donnell* Show Chair: *John Currie* At Large: *Don Buss*  
Newsletter: *Susie Nettleton* Historian: *Wayne Kidd*

# GVW 2019-2020 CARVING YEAR

## MEETING/ ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

<b>June 10</b>	Election of officers Annual Dibella's sub social
<b>September 9</b>	Annual "clean out the workshop" sale
<b>October 14</b>	TBD
<b>November 11</b>	TBD
<b>December 9</b>	Presentation of winter carving class projects & Pizza Party
<b>January 6 &amp; 20, 2020</b>	Winter Carving Classes
<b>February 10 &amp; 24, 2020</b>	Winter Carving Classes
<b>March 9 &amp; 23, 2020</b>	Winter Carving Classes
<b>April 3, 2020</b>	Setup & registration for 2020 show
<b>April 4, 2020</b>	2020 Show, 10AM -4:30PM
<b>April 13, 2020</b>	Show wrap up
<b>May 11, 2020</b>	Nomination of officers
<b>June 8, 2020</b>	Election of officers Annual Dibella's sub social

## GVW Meeting Format & Schedule

6:30-7:00 PM	Open time for socializing, informal coaching or critiquing, browse the library, & the informal "Show & Ask Me" table.
7:00-7:15 PM	Welcome new members and guests, announcements.
7:00-8:45 PM	Open carving time and/or demos.
8:45-9:00 PM	Room cleanup

## General Reminders

There is a table available for members to showcase what they're working on. It can be either a finished carving or a work in progress.

If any members have helpful hints, have seen a new product or have information a tools/fixtures that they would like to pass along, please consider a short write-up for the newsletter. Contact Susie Nettleton for more info. [newsletter@gvwoodcarvers.com](mailto:newsletter@gvwoodcarvers.com)

## President's Corner

Welcome to Fall! Sure, beats the hot, humid & sticky days of this past summer. At our last club meeting in June the following individuals were elected as club officers for the 2020 year:

Co-President: George Abbott & Harry Patrick

Treasurer: Alison Currie

Membership: Jeff O'Donnell

Newsletter Editor: Susie Nettleton

Webmaster: **still open**

Show Chair: John Currie

Member at large: Don Buss

Just recently Floyd Lombardi hosted a summer carve-in at his home in Greece. A small group of us got together, ate pizza bread & even accomplished some carving! Thanks, Floyd, for hosting us.

The date for our next show is **April 4, 2020** date. Which in keeping with my tradition, as I write this, is only **228 days or ~32½ weeks** away! Our goal as always, is to increase both the number of participants and the number of carvings.

Sadly, I was recently notified that a former long-time member of our club, Carl S Dumbauld, passed away on July 14<sup>th</sup> in Rochester.

<https://obits.democratandchronicle.com/obituaries/democratandchronicle/obituary.aspx?n=carl-s-dumbauld&pid=193443388>

New members are the life blood of any club. Please talk up the club whenever possible. If you know of someone interested in woodcarving but they're not sure what they would like to do, invite them to attend a meeting to see what we are doing. Currently we have approximately 88 paid members. Dues are \$20 per year for an individual & \$25 for a family. Membership forms are on the website. Please send completed forms to Alison.

Club T-shirts and ball caps are still available for \$10 each. Club business cards are also on hand; take some to share with folks who may be interested in carving.

Remember, safety first and keep those wood chips flying and the dust collected!

*Regards,*

*Harry & George*

## New Chips off the Block

*Candace & Gerald Fasano*

## Note from the Treasurer

Greetings! September is upon us and that means it's time to renew your club membership. Mel Connell has kindly agreed to collect dues at the [September 9th](#) meeting in my absence. I will be on my way back from a hiking trip in Scotland. Mel will have copies of the form available and a pdf is included with this month's newsletter if you wish to download and complete it ahead of time. Annual dues remain \$20 per individual and \$25 per family. Checks should be made out to "Genesee Valley Woodcarvers." Looking forward to seeing you in October. Alison

**Editor's Note: [Membership form on the last page of the newsletter](#)**

## Announcements

**Wanted: Webmaster-in-Training:** Our current webmaster, Mardou Case, has expressed the desire to do some traveling next year and wishes to turn over the reins to a new person. She will work with someone until the October-November time frame, at which point that individual will take over the position. Duties include general maintenance of the website, posting photos, posting information on the show and winter classes & updating the calendar of events. This person will be a member of the board, with possibly two meetings a year to attend. If interested please contact either Mardou [mardou@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mardou@rochester.rr.com) or Harry 585.880.4924 or [hpatrick@rochester.rr.com](mailto:hpatrick@rochester.rr.com) Thank you for your consideration.

The following ideas have been provided to me for future winter carving classes. Please contact me with any other ideas. If any member has experience in these & would be willing to share either as a winter class or a mini demo for next year, please contact Harry Patrick at (585) 880-4924 or [hpatrick@rochester.rr.com](mailto:hpatrick@rochester.rr.com)

- Habitat making: log sections with realistic bark, leaves, berries, etc.
- Feet & legs, especially for warbler size birds
- Carving birds of all kinds
- Celtic knot carving
- Bark carvings

I'm also currently looking for members to be instructors for this winter's sessions. Please contact me if you're interested. Don't make me call you!

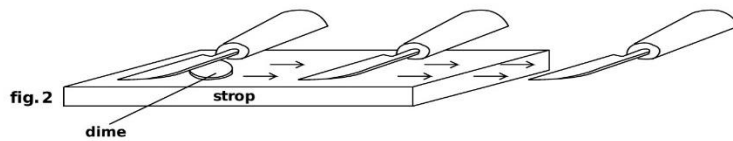
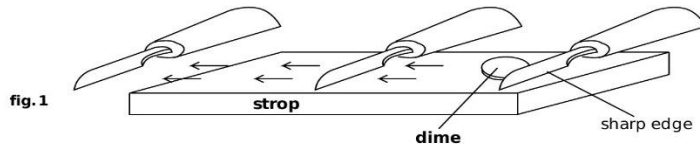
## Community Requests

Contact the folks directly if you can be of assistance

Shelly Gorino at the Henrietta Senior Center is looking for someone to help ~10 beginners learn wood carving skills. They are looking for ~1 hour during the day, once a month. Some people have some wood burning experience. For more information, please contact Shelly at 585.334.4030 or [sgorino@henrietta.org](mailto:sgorino@henrietta.org).

## HOW TO SHARPEN A KNIFE

- 1 - Using a strop with sharpening compound on it place your knife flat on the strop. (for more info on sharpening compound see: shop talk 6)
- 2 - Pick the back edge (unsharpened edge) up so you can fit approx. a dime under it. This should be 1/2 the thickness of your blade.
- 3 - With a gentle pulling motion pull the blade towards you trying to maintain that dime thickness under the blade. (fig.1)  
- Pull all the way off the strop decreasing in pressure and slightly lifting your knife as you get to the end. You do not want to roll off the end as this will create an edge that is rounded over. So make sure to gently lift up the knife as you get to the end.
- 4 - Now you need to do the other side of the knife. Flip your knife over. The same rules apply, just remember to never push the sharp edge of your knife into your strop. (fig.2)  
**- The sharp edge should always be the last thing off the strop.**  
**- Always strop the same amount on each side of the knife.**



www.DeepwoodsVentures.com

An easy and inexpensive way to sharpen your wood carving tools.

When reading the favorite woodcarving magazines, you might think that you need expensive Japanese water stones, perfectly machined flat diamond plates, complicated motorized sharpening setups and the patience of a zen master.

It is not true!

I knew a man who carried his sharpening kit in an envelope! He would sit at his table at the beginning of the carving club meeting, pull out his cloth backed 600 grit wet sandpaper and a strop and sharpen as he listened to the business end of the meeting. By the time the carving part of the meeting started he had a razor sharp knife. To get the best edge on a carving knife that will be used to carve some of the softer woods such as Basswood, Tupelo, and Butternut you will use some cloth backed wet sand paper, a heavy piece of leather or gray tablet cardboard and some Aluminum oxide buffing compound. All totaled up, less than ten dollars worth of equipment.

Depending on how damaged your blade is, you will use a 400 grit wet sandpaper laid on a flat surface such as the edge of the table or a smooth board. Place the blade edge down and drag it across the wet surface of the paper at an eleven degree angle. Right now you thinking an eleven degree angle? What does an eleven degree angle look like?

There are two ways to find this out. Take a post-it note, fold it corner to corner to give you a triangle. Take the newly formed folded edge and fold it again to the bottom. You now have a twenty two and a half degree triangle. Fold it again and now you have a Eleven and a quarter degree triangle. Close enough. The top edge of the triangle represents your blade and the bottom of the triangle represents your sharpening surface.

### **OR the simple way,**

If your carving blade is three quarters of an inch in width or more, lay your blade flat on the sharpening surface and raise the spine of the blade until you can fit the edge of a nickel under it. If it is less than three quarters of an inch, use a dime. Now drag the edge along the wet sandpaper surface at your eleven degree angle until all the nicks are gone and you have a smooth edge. Move on to a 600 grit wet sandpaper and do the same thing on both sides.

Now you will load your cardboard or leather up with your white aluminum oxide to the point that it will not absorb any more compound. You may use some light oil to help this process to create a paste-like consistency. Wipe your blade clean of any sandpaper residue with a cloth. You do not want to get any grit on your strop. Now, drag your knife edge along this strop at the same 11 degree angle, and continue equally on both sides until you get a mirrored edge.

To test your edge to see if you still have any nicks, LIGHTLY and slowly, drag the edge of your knife across the surface of your thumbnail. If you have any nicks, you will feel the edge catch on your nail. If you feel any nicks, go back to the sandpaper again, then strop.

Another test. Take your knife and carve across the end grain of a piece of your favorite carving wood. After taking this slice, you should see a smooth shiny surface and the end grain clearly. If you see a white line in your slice, you have a nick in your edge. You need to go back and start the process over.

When you are done with your sandpaper, wash it off with water and dish detergent. And your paper will last longer. Keep your strop clean. That nice surface you have created loves to attract sand and dirt.

Once you have the edge you like on your knife, all you should have to do is protect your edge when you are not using your knife with some plastic tubing over your blade edge, and strop often, say every fifteen minutes or so. The whole point of this article is that you do not need a lot of stones etc. to achieve the perfect cutting edge.

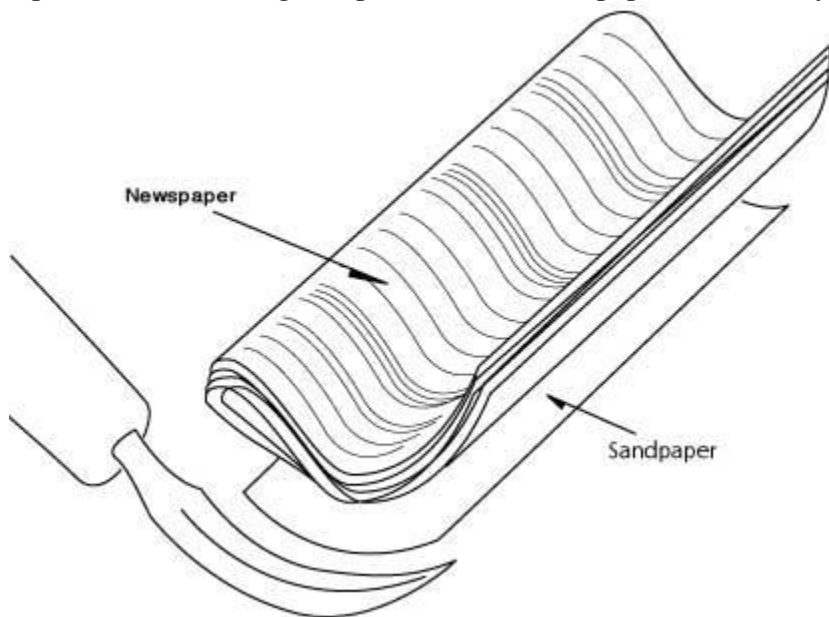
Enjoy your wood carving knives.

### **How to Sharpen your Bent Knife, Spoon Knife, etc.**

This is an easy and inexpensive way to sharpen any knife that is curved.

Roll up a newspaper to the diameter of the inside of the knife. Now, place some 600-800 grit sandpaper along the curve of the newspaper. With a sort of filing action, "file" the knife edge. Then place the sandpaper on the opposite side of the newspaper and "file" the other side of your knife.

Optional: Rub buffing compound on the newspaper and use as you would a strop.



<https://youtu.be/tc2r5n54BE8>

# What did you carve this summer?

Bring your finished or unfinished carvings to display at the September 9 meeting.  
A windchime carved by Earl.



## Carving Groups

**Greece Carving Group      Contact Bob Martin at [rjm578@aol.com](mailto:rjm578@aol.com)**

The Greece Carving Group will meet every Monday Morning from 9:00 to 11:30 (except Holidays) The Greece Senior Center is in the Town of Greece Town Hall complex just to the North of the Town Hall, on the West side of Long Pond Rd. approx. 1/4 mile North of Latta Rd. Bring your own project to carve.

**Chili Carving Group**

The Chili Carving Group meets on at the Chili Senior Center on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am. The Chili Senior Center is located at 3235 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624.

**Photo by Aimee Nothnagle** Thanks to Earl for sharing them.



Great Crested Flycatcher in her Brighton Yard



# Upcoming Class

## Join Robin Salsbury to carve a life-sized Baltimore Oriole

West Irondequoit Continuing Ed. The class runs from 7 to 9 Tuesday nights for eight weeks beginning on September 17<sup>th</sup> ends November 12. Call 336-3014 for more info or to register.

## Upcoming events

- September 8, 2019** Maumee Bay Carvers Decoy Show, Pearson Metropark 761 Lallendorf Rd., Oregon OH  
**Contact:** Steve Secord, 419.385.6020; [ssecord@att.net](mailto:ssecord@att.net); [www.maumeebaycarvers.com](http://www.maumeebaycarvers.com)
- September 14, 2019** Kawartha Carving Competition & Show, "Artistic Expressions in Wood", Bobcaygeon Curling Club, Mansfield Street Fairgrounds, Bobcaygeon Ontario.  
**Contact:** [www.kawarthacarvingcompetition.org](http://www.kawarthacarvingcompetition.org).
- October 20, 2019** New England Woodcarvers Annual Spirit of Wood Show & Competition. Woburn Senior Center, 144 School St. Woburn MA  
**Contact:** John Early, 978-922-0168, [www.newc.org/spirit-of-wood-show](http://www.newc.org/spirit-of-wood-show)
- October 26-27, 2019** Sauder Village Woodcarver's Show & Fair; Founder's Hall at Sauder Village, 2201 State Rt. 2, Archbold OH.  
**Contact:** [www.saudervillage.org/woodcarvers](http://www.saudervillage.org/woodcarvers)
- October 26-27, 2019** Conewago Carvers 27th Annual Woodcarving and Art Show & Sale. East Berlin Area Community Center, 405 North Avenue, East Berlin PA  
**Contact:** Kyle Gabel, 717-676-7611, [info@conewagocarvers.com](mailto:info@conewagocarvers.com)
- Nov 2-3, 2019** William Rush Wood Carving, Wildlife Art, and Craft Show and Sale. Penn State Brandywine Campus, 25 Yearsley Rd., Media PA  
**Contact:** John Chacosky, 610.762.0030  
[johnchacosky@gmail.com](mailto:johnchacosky@gmail.com), [www.williamrushwoodcarvers.blogspot.com](http://www.williamrushwoodcarvers.blogspot.com)
- Nov 8-10, 2019** Waterfowl Festival Eaton, MD <https://www.waterfowlfestival.org/>
- March 21-22, 2020** Lancaster County WoodCarvers, 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Woodcarving & Wildlife Art Festival, Student Memorial Center, Millersville University, Millersville PA  
**Contact:** Pete Kovarovic, (717) 392-4814, [Woodchips624@comcast.net](mailto:Woodchips624@comcast.net),  
competition info: David Parker, (410) 867-2214, [daveparker1000@gmail.com](mailto:daveparker1000@gmail.com)
- April 24-26, 2020** 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Ward World Wildfowl Competition & Art Festival, Roland E. Powell Convention Center, Ocean City MD

## Club Library

The club library is officially open for business. Our heartfelt thanks go to Chuck Barker for housing all the materials in his garage until their permanent home was ready. Ditto to Doug Angold for taking care of the bird study casts.

Everything has been moved to the elegant first floor library of the 40 & 8 Club. The books are organized by author: birds on one side and general on the other. Jim Butlin has kindly consented to resume his duties as librarian.

All the materials contain index cards to track them. To check out something, simply complete the card and give it to Jim. Keeping materials checked out for a month (meeting-to-meeting) is a reasonable policy. If you want to keep them longer or over the summer, that's OK too. Just let Jim know.

The club has a wealth of resources so please stop by, take a look, and get inspired to carve.

## Chips from the Editor

It is hard to believe fall is rapidly upon us. I hope you got some carving done over the summer. I started a few things but finished nothing. Bring your finished or unfinished carvings to the September meeting. It will be fun to see works in progress. Think of it as a Fourth grade "What I did on my summer vacation" project. Happy carving.

**The October newsletter deadline is September 24.**

Susie Nettleton, Editor [newsletter@gvwoodcarvers.com](mailto:newsletter@gvwoodcarvers.com)

Genesee Valley Woodcarvers Membership Revised: September 2019

Join today, participate, and receive the club newsletter. Newsletters are distributed via email (standard mail by special request only and posted online at [www.gvwoodcarvers.com](http://www.gvwoodcarvers.com)) The Club meets on the 2nd Monday of each month from September to June at the 40 & 8 Club, 933 University Avenue across from Gleason Works. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm with time for socializing, informal coaching, browsing the library, etc. The general meeting, presentations, and informal carving sessions begin at 7 pm with cleanup completed by 9 pm. Meeting information and special notices can be found online.

The club treasurer or representative is available before meetings to collect dues and registration forms. Annual dues, payable on September 1st, are \$20.00 for individuals and \$25.00 per family. Annual memberships expire on August 31st.

To join, complete the form below and mail it, along with a check payable to GV Woodcarvers, to:

Alison Currie 340 Oakridge Drive Rochester, NY 14617

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (line 1) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (line 2) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Year that you joined Genesee Valley Woodcarvers \_\_\_\_\_

Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form I hereby assume all of the risks of participating in and/or volunteering at any activities or events involving the Genesee Valley Woodcarvers and assume any risks that may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property, owned, maintained, or controlled by them, or because of their possible liability without fault.

I acknowledge that this Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form will be used by the event holders, sponsors, and organizers of the activities or events in which I may participate and that it will govern my actions and responsibilities at said activities or events.

In consideration of my application and permitting me to participate in these events, I hereby take action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows:

I WAIVE, RELEASE, AND DISCHARGE from any and all liability, including but not limited to, liability arising from the negligence or fault of the entities or persons released for my death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft, or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to me including my traveling to and from any activities or events, THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES OR PERSONS: The Genesee Valley Woodcarvers or any of their representatives.

I certify that I have read this document and fully understand its content. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract and I sign it of my own free will.

Name (Print)    Signature    Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You may opt out of sharing your contact information and receiving a membership list by checking the box below. Otherwise your contact information will be shared with fellow club members.

NO!

I ELECT NOT TO SHARE MY CONTACT INFORMATION WITH FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS. I DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE A MEMBERSHIP LIST