



Celebrating 50 years 1975-2025

## **February 2025**

# **GENESEE VALLEY WOODCARVERS**

Web site: <http://gvwoodcarvers.com/>

**February 10, 2025 6:30 PM**

40 & 8 Club (across the street from Gleason Works)  
933 A University Avenue, Rochester, New York

## **President's Note**

Hello everyone,

We have a lot of activities going on at our upcoming meetings with carving group breakouts and our 50th year celebration planning going on. Please make an effort to come to our monthly meetings if you can.

Thanks,  
Mike

## **February Timed Carving Contest**

Since this is the first time we have had a contest like this, the original idea put forth in the December newsletter has evolved to make it easier for you to carve in your own style and hopefully have more fun while participating. Instead of being handed a pattern and a cutout, you will now be handed a block of basswood measuring 1.5" x 1.5" x 6". You will have 1.5 hours to carve anything you like. You don't have to use the entire piece of wood and you can use any tools that you bring along with you. At the end of the 1.5 hours, you will put down your tools and the judging will begin. Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> will be awarded.

There are lots of reasons to give the contest a try - You'll be among friends, you'll receive a free block of wood, you will be challenging yourself as you try something new. You may even win a prize! If those reasons don't move you, you are always welcome to come and watch the fun.

# Club Calendar for 2025

## **February 10: 1-Hour Carving Competition**

February 7 – 9: Bird Carving class (Al Jordan) – weekend event

## **March 10: Meeting and Club Carving Classes #1**

March 21 & 22: Chip Carving presentation & workshop by Dennis Wilson (ADK carver)

## **March 24: Club Carving Class #2**

**April 5: Annual Show and Competition** Friday, April 4 set up

**April 14: Meeting Club Carving Classes #3** , including new member welcome class part 1

**April 28: Club Carving Classes #4** last one

**May 12: Member Auction (tools, supplies), new member welcome class part 2**

May: 50th Commemorative Show at local library

**June 9: Annual Meeting with cookout and 50<sup>th</sup> celebration at Roberts Cabin**

## **2025 Show and Competition**

The 2025 GVW Show and Competition will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at the RMSC Eisenhart Auditorium from 10 am to 4:30 pm. Set up and carving registration is Friday afternoon, April 4, 2025 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.

There is no registration fee for club members to enter carvings and no limit on the number of carvings entered. Rules, entry forms and announcements you can use to publicize the show are attached. As always, we need volunteers on Friday and Saturday to help make the show a success. Please sign up on the volunteer sheets which will be available at the February 2025 meeting. If you prefer, email me at [jcurrie.rr@gmail.com](mailto:jcurrie.rr@gmail.com) to sign up for your desired volunteer position. I will also try to answer any questions you may have.

This year's Special Division is spoon carving. You can use a spoon blank supplied by the club or one of your own design. Any and all subjects are encouraged. We've already seen some of the spoon carvings in progress and this should prove to be a creative and exciting contest.

We're asking members to bring mechanical carvings as well as decoys from past shows. These will be displayed on separate (non-judged) tables. Members are also asked to bring previous winning entries for display. These special display tables always add interest and variety to the show.

Floyd Lombardi is still collecting items for the annual raffle. The most sought after items are always carvings. Please have a look at home and find something special for Floyd to add to our offerings. He will be delighted to receive your donated carvings. The raffle is the club's primary fundraiser and is critical to funding the annual show.

I look forward to seeing you at the show!

John Currie, Show Chairman

# Special Category

## April 5, 2025 GVWC Show and Competition Special Project

### Show your love with a carved spoon!

This year's special project for the GVWC show will be carved spoons. Spoon carving is a Welsh tradition. Lovespoons were meticulously carved and given as a token of love and affection. Here is an example of a spoon lovingly made back in 1667. Join in the fun of this traditional artform and carve a spoon for the show!



### Spoon blanks are still available if you need one.

You can use the blanks provided or use any wood you like. Your spoon can be any size or style. If you have carved a spoon, please bring it to the meeting to show our members. Photos of carved spoons will be available to inspire you.

## Spoon Inspiration from Earl



# Friendship Cane

We cannot have another friendship cane to raffle at the 2025 show unless you carve some blocks. You can pick up your cane blank at the meeting. You can carve, wood burn, chip carve; the design is totally up to you. If need help or ideas, reach out to another club member. When you have finished your cane piece, please give it to Jim. Be sure to sign you piece somewhere on the **face** of the carving. Editor note: a lot of you have blocks out there Please carve them and bring them in.

## Raffle Update

Bring your raffle donations to any meeting or connect with Floyd to get them to him. Carving donations are especially needed. Maybe you have some carvings that need new homes. The raffle helps pay for the show so please donate.

## Club Class Update

There is still space for everyone in Carvers' Qigong. It is free. All the other classes are full.

If you signed up at the January meeting, you need to fill out a registration form available at the February meeting and pay the \$10.00 registration fee. **If for some reason you will not be at the February meeting, email Susie [Susie.nettleton@rochester.rr.com](mailto:Susie.nettleton@rochester.rr.com) and she will email you the form and details on how to pay.**

**Your registration fee must be received by February 26 to be in the class.**

Instructors will collect the materials fee at the first class.

If you didn't get in a class ,bring the carving project you are working on and carve with other carvers. It is nice to get input from fellow carvers. Need a project work on your spoon, friendship cane blank or comfort bird.

### Carvers' Qigong

Instructor: Steve Gilbert

Qigong is a mash-up of Tai Chi, Yoga, acupressure, and gentle stretching. It was created 3-4,000 years ago in China and is practiced in thousands of schools throughout the world.

The Carver's Qigong Sessions will be focused on reducing the tension and pain, that commonly results from a long session of carving, knitting, crafting, computing, etc.

The sessions will last about 10 minutes, each session being different than any other. They will be held a few minutes prior to the start of all other classes, so that you won't miss any carving classes. They will be held outside if weather permits, or in the downstairs lobby or library.

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

When: Monday, June 9, 2025  
Time: Regular meeting time +  
Where: Roberts Cabin  
Veterans Memorial Park  
Cabin Rd, Henrietta, NY 14467

Join us for a cookout and celebrate the Genesee Valley Woodcarvers' 50th Birthday. Lots of surprises in store. Stay tuned for details.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party Committee is actively planning GVWC's celebratory party. If you'd like to help prepare for this event, please attend our next meeting on February 3, 2025, from 6:30-7:30pm. Contact Carla at [alacarla@hotmail.com](mailto:alacarla@hotmail.com) for the Zoom links.

## Volunteers Needed

Opportunity to Meet and Mentor New Members - We Need You!

The club has been very fortunate to have new members join the club every year at the annual show. Many thanks to our membership table volunteers who have done a fantastic recruiting job.

To engage our new members and get them off to a good start, the club has been offering introductory carving workshops at the April and May meetings. This year that would be April 14th & May 12th. Once again, we are looking for someone to lead these classes.

Please consider stepping up to take on this important role. Let Mike or Carla know if you or you and a friend would be willing to take this on.

## Collaboration with RWS

### CHIP CARVING - AN INTRODUCTION

Dennis Wilson, a chip carver, will be visiting Rochester as part of Rochester Woodworkers Society's Visiting Speakers series. GVWC members are invited to attend his free presentation about chip carving on Friday, March 14, 2025 at 6:30pm at St. John Fisher Campus. If space allows, GVWC members will be invited to participate in his workshop on Saturday, March 15. A fee will apply. More information: <https://www.rochesterwoodworkers.org/>

## New Community Outreach Opportunity

Genesee Country Village and Museum has invited GVWC members to carve during their Maple Syrup weekend, March 29 & 30, 10am - 3pm each day. Like the October event, there will be no charge for club members who participate, but family and friends will be charged regular admission. Lunch (or brunch in this case!) will be on your own.

From GCV&M: *"In some ways the weekend is very similar to our fall event - it's focused on nature and the outdoors. Our Nature Center and pancake breakfast are the stars, and we have the*

*opportunity to highlight activities in the Historic Village that we aren't able to do at other times of the year. We work with members of the Haudenosaunee community to share indigenous stories, offer timber sports demos with FLCC students, host an entire trail of maple interpretation, and more. The event is rain or shine. We only cancel the event if roads are closed or an emergency is declared. We monitor the weather very closely, so the call is never last-minute. I was thinking GVWC would do well in our Town Hall (which has a modern heater) in the center of activities in the Historic Village."*

GCV&M needs to know if we are going to participate. To reserve our spot, we need a commitment ASAP from a minimum of two members to attend each day. Please send an email to Carla at [alacarla@hotmail.com](mailto:alacarla@hotmail.com) if it is likely you will attend. If we have enough people, more details and an official sign-up will follow. Also, GVWC is confirmed to attend GCV&M's Agricultural Fair on Oct. 4 & 5. Mark your calendars, now!

## January Meeting

Thanks to Bob Martin for a wonderful presentation.



# Loaner Tools

Floyd put together a kit with loaner tools for guests to use at a meeting. The kit is in the closet with the vacuum. See Floyd for more information.

Do you have extra carving gloves? We could use gloves in a variety of sizes. We could also use some straight carving knives.

## Additional Carving Get togethers

Email Susie if you need the list

## Women with Knives and Gouges

**Next meeting February 20 6:30  
at Nettleton's in Victor**

We are having a great time getting together. If you are interested in joining, contact Susie.  
[susie.nettleton@rochester.rr.com](mailto:susie.nettleton@rochester.rr.com) 585-734-0266

## Chips from the Editor

Happy Winter,

The weather has been right for hiding in the basement or your workshop to carve.

Thanks for the prayers, cards and well wishes. My rotator cuff surgery went well. I got permission to type without wearing the sling provided everything is close to my body. The recovery will take a long time and I am trying to be patient.

Please carve your friendship cane block. It would be great to have a friendship cane for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary show.

Happy Carving,  
Susie Nettleton editor

**March newsletter deadline: February 24 by 12:00 PM**