



Celebrating 50 years 1975-2025

January 2025

GENESEE VALLEY WOODCARVERS

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

January 13, 2025 6:30 PM

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

President's Note

I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. At our upcoming meeting on January 13th member Bob Martin will be talking about walking sticks and what you need to consider if you plan to carve one for yourself. Also, we still have some blocks for carving our friendship cane before our April show- I will bring them to the next meeting.

Mike

January Meeting

Bob Martin will share the art of carving walking sticks and the types of sticks you should consider when walking on flat sidewalks or hiking through trails in the woods. This will be very interesting, plan to attend.

Club Calendar for 2025

January 13: Bob Martin on carving walking sticks open carving

February 10: 1-Hour Carving Competition

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

March 10: Club Carving Classes

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

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

April 14: Club Carving Classes, including new member welcome class part 1

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

May: 50th Commemorative Show at local library

June 9: Annual Meeting

June: Carvin' Cookout (weekend event, date & details TBD)

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. This is the Club's opportunity to showcase our creations and talents to the public.

Set up and carving registration is Friday afternoon, April 4, 2025 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. 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 starting at the January 2025 meeting. If you prefer, email me at 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. There is no registration fee for club members to enter carvings and no limit on the number of carvings entered. The complete competition rules, entry tags and publicity information will be sent in a separate email.

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.

Friendship Cane

We can not 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.

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 1st, 2nd, and 3rd 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 Class Update

Sign up for the March April club classes will happen at the February meeting. Here is the list of classes so far. If you have a class you would like to teach, email Carla alacarla@hotmail.com

Club Class Dates: March 10 March 24 April 14 April 28 6:30 – 8:30

Carvers' Qigong

Instructor: Steve Gilbert

No cost no limit to number of participants. It is FREE.

Qigong is a mash-up of Tai Chi, Yoga, acupuncture, 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.

Carving with Jim

Jim will teach a class. He would like your input as to what you would like him to teach. Once a project is decided on the details of cost, etc. will be shared. Email Jim with what you would like to carve jebutlin@yahoo.com



Carve and paint a life size Red Tailed Hawk Flight Feather

Life-size Red-tailed hawk flight feather with Alison

Max # of students: 6

Required tools (if any): Carving knives, wood burner, painting supplies

Approximate cost of materials \$5

Welcome Sign Letter Carving

Learn to carve letters with Annita

Class size: 4 participants

Cost: \$5.00

Interested in upgrading Fido's dog house with a name plaque over the door? How about something special to mark the family's camp site this summer? Maybe a personalized Christmas gift would be perfect for December. Any and all can be created with carved letters, a little bit of time and some basic tools.



Interesting Resource

A Shop Talk Live produced by Fine Woodworking on the topic of wood finish for items that come in contact with food or that small children would chew on. I found it interesting. I will continue to cut raw meat, fish, and chicken on a plastic cutting board.

No Finish No Problem

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21QtMDnQHfA>

Save the Date 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. Dennis will present examples of chip carving and talk about this decorative carving technique on Friday evening, March 21, 2025. On Saturday, March 22, 2025, he will conduct a one-day chip carving workshop, and will provide chip carving knives for those who don't (yet) have their own. This is a great opportunity to try the specialized tool, learn (or expand) a carving skill, and to connect with others who enjoy woodworking.

Lecture	Friday, March 21	6:30 pm	St John Fisher Campus	No Cost
Workshop	Saturday, March 22	9 am – 4 pm	bring your lunch	St. Michaels's Workshop
	\$50.00	Registration required	more details next month	

Seeking

Carolina Wren pattern and or blank

Woodcarving Illustrated in 2014 (not sure exact issue) or Whittling issue that gives article on carving a work boot.

Call Earl 585-533-9103 efrech@rochester.rr.com

Gallery

Remember to send Susie your photos for the gallery



By Aimee Nothnagle



Christmas Carvings by Earl

Can You Help Us Carve Out A Place In The Community?

Friends and acquaintances are usually surprised to learn that Rochester has an active woodcarving club. Especially with our 50th anniversary, we want the whole community to know about GVWC and the talented people who are part of it. Please contact Carla if you can see yourself promoting our club via print and/or broadcast media, such as writing an article, attending a radio discussion or meeting with a print-based interviewer. Email: alacarla@hotmail.com

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

No meeting in January

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

Chips from the Editor

Happy New Year,

I hope you had calm holidays and Santa brought you something fun. Carving season has arrived. Time to get your carvings started or finished for the show.

We need friendship cane sections. The last friendship cane we raffled off at the show brought it a lot of revenue for the club. Please get your cane blank carved.

Happy Carving,
Susie Nettleton editor

February newsletter deadline: January 29 by 12:00 PM