



NORTHERN ALBERTA WOODCARVERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

February 2016

Edmonton, Alberta

Number 1

2016 NAWCA Executive

PRESIDENT - Doug Bean
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VICE PRESIDENT - Harold Hough
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SECRETARY / TREASURER
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Demonstrations - Jack Wallace
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Directors at Large
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Barney Murray
Mary Tharp - mjct@telus.net

Newsletter - Cam Wallace
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Next Meeting

Date: February 10th, 2016

Time: 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Duggan Community League Hall
3728 - 106 Street, Edmonton



Our Christmas Potluck was another rousing success! Thanks to everybody for the great food, entertainment, and an all-around great time!

What's Happening at the NAWCA

Show Reminder – It's never too soon to start thinking about our **Annual Woodcarving Show** (April 23rd and 24th). **We need lots of entries for all levels!!!** We want to put on a good show for the public, so please don't be shy about entering multiple carvings!

Rink Boards – Thanks to Doug Bean and Mike Leahy for their efforts in replacing the rink boards for the Duggan Community Center. As Donna said after it was finished: "It was a *lot* of work!"

Carving Gloves – Thanks to Harold Hough for researching and purchasing a number of Kevlar gloves in sizes S, M, L, and XL. If you're in the market for a new glove, club members can pick one up for eight dollars...

Festival of Trees – Congratulations to our club members for our wonderfully decorated tree donation for the 2015 Festival of Trees. If you're anything like me, you should probably start on some new decorations for next year's tree now!!



Donna Bean and Laurie Wilson-Larson decorating during our Nov. 18th meeting. Thanks to Jean Cloutier for the tree topper!



Our finished tree during the festival!

Photo by Donna Bean

NAWCA Article with *The Local Good*



You may have noticed Erin Wallace (my wife) carving and interviewing folks at some of our recent meetings. She's been writing an article about the NAWCA for a local blog she's a part of called *The Local Good*. *The Local Good* showcases interesting people and events around Edmonton, and the story about us came out last week! Please check it out at www.thelocalgood.ca/learning-carve-with-northern-alberta-woodcarvers-association/#more-11073 (or just type www.thelocalgood.ca into your search engine)!



Some more pictures from the Christmas Potluck...



Website Updates – Have you seen the changes...?

Make sure you check out all the changes our new webmaster Werner Groeschel has made to the NAWCA Website since he took over. So far he has:

- changed the home page slide show pictures
- added an advertisement about the upcoming show to the home page
- added the 2016 competition and show details to the quick links, and
- updated the executive list

Thanks for your continuing effort on this Werner! If you have any items, suggestions, or questions, please send Werner an email at groeschel@shaw.ca

And Speaking of Werner...

Here is an article submitted to the Newsletter by our webmaster!

First Nations Style Carvings

I have always had an interest in First Nations style carvings. Many years ago, during a family camping trip to Haida Gwaii (former Queen Charlotte Islands), I visited the Haida museum on the island and got hooked on their beautiful carvings and their particular carving style.

Over the years I have tried to imitate some of their carvings and I carved several pieces such as masks, a totem pole, a bowl, and other items.



My latest First Nations style carving was the bust I started when attending the International Wood Carvers Congress in Iowa last year. Since this was my first attempt at the human figure it took me quite a few months to finish this carving.

While attending a meeting of the Alberta Wild Life Carvers Association at the Amiskwaciy Academy at the former municipal airport in Edmonton, I thought this carving might be of interest to the school as it is a First Nations high school. I contacted the school and arranged for a meeting with the school's principal, Mr. Fred Hynes and the school's Elder, Mr. Francis Whiskeyjack.

I brought the bust carving with me to the meeting and both gentlemen seemed to like it and were in agreement that it would fit well with the other First Nations items on display at the school.



Students from several classes at the school were called out to show them the carving and pictures were taken by the school staff.

The carving was put into one of the display cases at the entrance to the school.



The principal later also invited me to attend a school celebration the following week which I was honoured to attend.

I would like to thank the Principal, Mr. Fred Hines and the Elder, Mr. Francis Wiskeyjack for giving me the opportunity to have this carving displayed at their school.

- Werner Groeschel



Wooden Quilt Project for Canada's 150th Birthday in 2017



As many members are already aware, Gary Sedgwick has proposed an exciting group project to help celebrate Canada's 150th Birthday in 2017!

The club will be supplying the 5x5” bass wood panels (to keep everything uniform), and all members are strongly encouraged to carve one or more of these 5x5” panels. The more panels we have by the start of 2017, the more quilts we can assemble for the April 2017 completion date! The overall theme at the moment is “My Canada” but that may get more specific as we begin carving.

The hope is to have three rectangular quilts with carved borders, and I think we can do it!



If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the quilts, please direct them to:

Gary Sedgwick (gary.sedgwick@ualberta.ca)

Cam Wallace (campbellwallace@shaw.ca)

Bonnie Budge (bonnbud@telus.net)

What will you carve?

Name Tags – Why should you have one?

Whether you're a new member to the club or a seasoned wood carver, if you don't have a name tag for our meetings, you should consider making a personalized name tag your next project. It's a chance to show the rest of the group a particular carving interest (maybe chip-carving or caricature carving), or something else you're passionate about. Best of all, it can help other carvers learn your name faster! If you have an idea and need help making it happen, just ask!



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Newsletter – Next newsletter will be the Spring Edition. Please send me any photos, interesting articles, member achievements, or new carvings you've made. Include all the pertinent information (who, what, where, when)! I'll try to add your news to the newsletter. You can send items to campbellwallace@shaw.ca