



NORTHERN ALBERTA WOODCARVERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

December 2016

Edmonton, Alberta

Issue #4

2016 NAWCA Executive

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Next Meeting

Date: December 14th, 2016 **Time:** 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

(*The first meeting of the new year will be January 4th, 2017)

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



Our new president Harold Hough stands with our club's 2016 donation to The Festival of Trees. Thanks to everybody for the beautiful carvings they've donated on behalf of the club!

Christmas is right around the corner, and the NAWCA Christmas Party is even closer! Our winter potluck is Wednesday, December 14th at our regular meeting place and time. Please bring your merry self (and your family), as well as a potluck item!

As we head into the new year, the club gives its thanks to our outgoing executive, our incoming executive, and those staunch souls who have held a position (or positions) over a period of several years!

One such individual is our esteemed outgoing president, **Doug Bean**. During the last three years, Doug has worked on behalf of the club in various ways, from organizing the club's Festival of Trees donation, and supporting the Annual Show organizers in their efforts, to coordinating the rink repairs that have enabled us to use Duggan Hall all year. Doug and Donna Bean have provided many, many blanks to the club members over the years (often season specific items such as Christmas ornaments or Remembrance Day poppies), which has been greatly appreciated! Thanks for your hard work as our president, Doug!

I asked Doug some questions about his time as the NAWCA President, and so, in his own words...

Outgoing President's Report



I was VP for three years under Dave Eisenbeis, then became President for three years. The highlights during my time with the club have been the shows. I have also enjoyed the demonstrations and the club's programming, both as a participant and as a presenter. I recall learning that I was doing a presentation on carving a chain. I thought "Gee, I best carve one before I try to teach others how to do it." I was quite busy just before that program night!

I've really enjoyed our participation in the Festival of Trees. Gord Dunsmuir had spearheaded it for at least one or two years before he handed me the reins. I have cut out quite a few ornaments!

Our 'rent' for the use of Duggan Hall is paid through *sweat equity* (about an \$1800 yearly value). The first year we painted the rink boards and supplied some volunteers for a casino. Mike Leahy gave me some much-appreciated help last year when we rebuilt the north gates including new

puckboard. This year there were only a few boards and a bit of painting. Next year there will be several boards and more painting—we should address this earlier in the year when painting is easier!

My favorite type of carving is faces. Unfortunately, faces are surrounded by ears and hair and necks, which helps explain the large number of unfinished carvings in our house! My favorite wood is butternut, and secondly, 'free'!

Thanks to all who have helped keep the club operating!

Keep carving,
Doug Bean

What's Happening at the NAWCA

Notices

It's with great sadness that the club recognizes the passing of our friend,
NAWCA member Helen Tomchak.



On November 3, 2016, Helen Marie Tomchak of Edmonton passed away at the age of 74 years.

Helen is survived by her husband, Ted Kitsco; children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and two sisters, Anne (Harry) Wanechko and Katie Cabay. Also surviving is sister-in-law, Anne Babee and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family. Predeceased by first husband, Ray Tomchak; son, Michael Tomchak; and brother, John Babee.

Helen enjoyed wood carving, gardening, her fruit trees, knitting, crocheting and all her grand and great-grandchildren. In lieu of other tributes, donations may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Upcoming Courses

Lee Valley & Veritas® – Llew Bertsch reminded me that one of our excellent sponsors, Lee Valley Tools, runs several seminars every month — everything from carving to gardening. Keep an eye on their *In-Store Seminars* listing at www.leevalley.com/en/home/SeminarList.aspx?c=1&rs=30.

Carving Gloves

If you're in the market for a new carving glove, the club has Kevlar gloves in sizes S, M, L, and XL, for eight dollars apiece.



NAWCA and Facebook

If you're on Facebook make sure to join/follow the Northern Alberta Woodcarvers' Association Facebook page. It's a great way to see up-to-date content from club members and to find out who's online!

Demonstration at the Muttart Conservatory



Bonnie, Carmen, Brianna, Mike, and Weasel (taking the pics) having a great time at Muttart on Dec. 11th!



Lots of people braved a cold winter day to check out the table, and I heard that Carmen brought chocolate cake for our intrepid carvers!

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

Weasel (Gary) Sedgwick has been working very hard organizing our carved quilt project for Canada's 150th birthday in 2017. The project is really rolling along now with many of the tiles being completed and returned!

A huge thanks to Mike Leahy for building the poplar easels to display our finished quilts; Llew Bertsch, who has carved the walnut frame for the first quilt; Fay Hough, who has agreed to work on writing grants; and Bonnie Budge, who has been busy writing up the summary/description of the club and the whole idea behind the quilt.



A close-up of Llew's walnut frame for the quilt. Gary Chanin of Chanin Hardwoods generously donated the walnut stock.

53+ carvers (79% of the membership) have taken at least one tile. There have been 106 tiles signed out (enough to do 3 quilts if all returned). Here is a sample of the many returned tiles...
Wow!



Bonnie Budge



Lance Love



Herb Riese



Selma Kurlyowich



Harvey Fontaine



Barney Murray



Charlotte Varem-Sanders



Paul Blinzer



Heinz Zadler



Mike Irwin



Werner Groeschel



Doug Witting



Campbell Ross



Lance Paul



Peter Rodgers



Laurie Wilson-Larson



Harold Schimpf



Andres Mendez



Llew Bertsch



Ruth Whiffin

The club is providing the quilt pieces at no charge to our members (thanks to the donation of bass wood by Gary Chanin of *Chanin Hardwoods*), and all members are strongly encouraged to carve one (or more!) of these 5x5" panels. We definitely want the quilts to present the wide range of levels and interests that we have within the club. The more panels we have by the start of 2017, the more quilts we can assemble for the April 2017 completion date. So far, our overall theme of "My Canada" seems to be sparking everybody's imagination...

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)

Decking the Hall!



Festival of Tree! Lance and Carmen doing a 'quality control' inspection on our tree donation.



Jeanine and Herb share a laugh.

The Three Laws of Art

1. **Create:** *The worst it can do is suck.*
2. **Create again:** *Bad art happens to good artists.*
3. **Just create:** *Art is cheaper than therapy.*

(Contributed by Paulette Brown, from the *Prince George Art Newsletter*)

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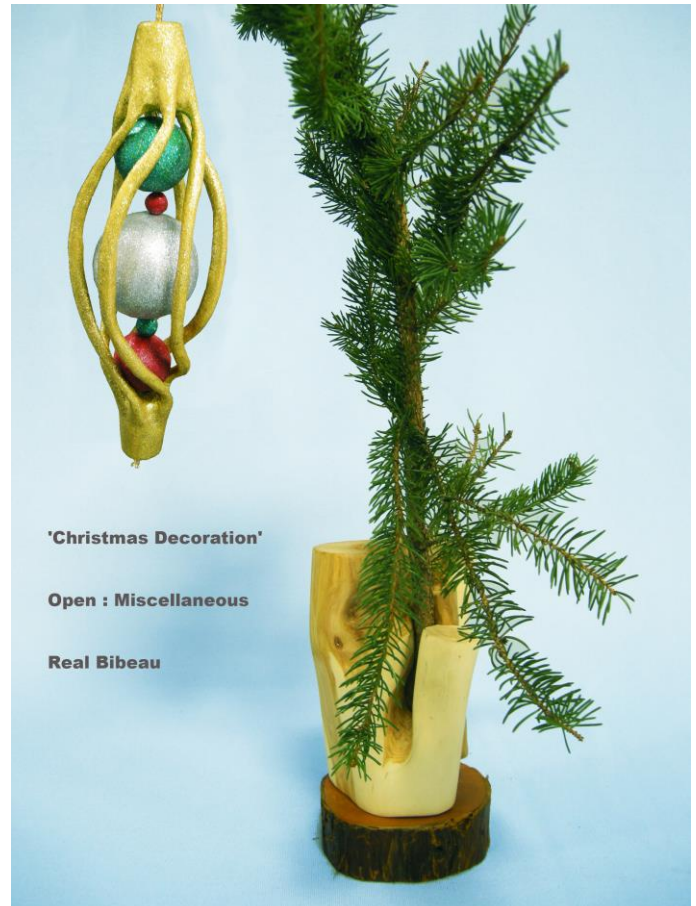
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Fox Chapel Publishing – www.foxchapelpublishing.com/woodcarving

Canadian Woodworking Magazine – www.canadianwoodworking.com/current-issue

Merry Christmas from the Northern Alberta Woodcarvers' Association!



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