



---

# 37th Annual Show & Competition

## April 21, 22 & 23, 2023

---

### “SHOW RULES”

1. The competition is open to NAWCA Members and Non-members. No one is restricted from joining NAWCA. Club members received a reduced registration fee for the annual show (entry fees are listed on the entry form).
2. No fee or membership is necessary for Juvenile Level.
3. Entries shall be the work of the artist and carved within the last three years. Competitors can enter as many carvings as they wish. All entries must be placed in one Class Level. Class Levels are: Youth, Novice, Intermediate or Open.
4. Competitors will decide the Class Level in which they wish to compete. There will be a panel of a minimum of two people to assist the entrant on the Class Level and Category that their carving should compete at. The NAWCA Show Committee will have the final decision in which Level and Category a carving will compete.
5. The NAWCA Show Committee may combine Categories at their discretion if there are insufficient entries to provide competition. The Show committee is made up as per the Show Director's discretion.
6. The carving should be made of wood. Other materials can be used to enhance their carving.
7. Both Hand and power tool carving is permitted. However, carving from a duplicating machine is not. Parts cast from real specimens are not permitted.
8. Not eligible to compete: Carvings that have already won a ribbon at a previous NAWCA Annual Competition.
9. Show rules and Entry forms will be available prior to the Show. Entry forms will also be available on registration night.
10. ALL Entries must be submitted on the Friday of the Show weekend from 4:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Note that, unlike previous years, LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED on the Saturday. Ensure that your entries are submitted on the Friday evening.

11. Carvings arriving late will not be able to compete. However, arrangements will be made to showcase your carving(s) on the display tables, and they will still be eligible to compete in a future year.
12. Every Category in each Class Level will receive a First, Second, Third and at least one Honourary Place Ribbon as determined by the judges, although some categories may be deleted if they are combined with a different category (see rule 5 above).
13. The NAWCA agrees to take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety of the carvings. It must be understood that carvers are required to assume all risk of damage or loss. Should an item be accidentally damaged, lost or stolen, NAWCA will render all assistance in their power to help recover the item but will not recognize any claim for payment of the value of the item.
14. All entries must remain on display for the duration of the show and must not be removed until 2 p.m. on the Sunday of the Show.
15. Should any questions arise that are not provided for in these rules, the decision of the NAWCA Show Committee will be final.

## **COMPETITION CLASSES**

### **YOUTH (JUVENILE) CLASS:**

Anyone of school age (17 and younger). No charge for entries. No limit on number of entries submitted. Carvings may be all placed together in one large category, or simplified categories may be created at the start of the show depending on the number and diversity of entries in this Class.

### **NOVICE CLASS:**

Carvers are encouraged to enter this level if they have minimal experience in the category they are carving. If a novice receives a first, second or third or 'Best of' in that particular category, he/she must advance to one of the next two levels of his/her choice (once advanced, he/she cannot return to novice).

### **INTERMEDIATE:**

Open to Carvers who have advanced to this level or if the carver feels that he/she is qualified to be in this category by their experience. The pre-screening panel will assist in determining which Class and Category entries should be placed.

The Carver may remain in the intermediate class as long as the carver does not feel qualified to move to the open class.

### **OPEN:**

All carvers may enter this division, although the carvings are expected to be of **a high caliber** as they are a presentation to the public of the “Best of” work woodcarvers have to offer. **Carvers who are experienced and confident in their abilities and the quality of their work are encouraged to compete in OPEN.**

### **NOTE:**

Carvers can enter their carving in either Novice, Intermediate or Open as long as the carvings are not in the same category. For example: If one carving is in the Bird category and another is a Relief, they may be placed in two different classes.

This is to encourage Carvers to try their skills at different carving projects.

## **CARVING CATEGORIES**

The categories below are in each Class Level except Juvenile.

1. **In the Round - Birds, Butterflies, Bees and Insects:** Three dimensional carving of Birds, Bees, Butterflies and Insects in a realistic form carved from wood and/or bark. All sizes will be in the same category.
2. **Bark Carving:** Faerie Houses & whimsical in nature.
3. **Bark Carving – Wood Spirits/Faces & Other:** These includes houses, animals, faces and figures in the round, or any other theme other than whimsical houses and faces.
4. **Canes and Walking Sticks:** These include any carved stick designed for walking support and/or decoration.
5. **Caricature:** This includes human, animal, etc. in the round or relief with an exaggeration of certain features for a comic effect.
6. **Chip Carving:** An intricate design produced by removing geometric chips from a planar surface.
7. **Human in the Round - (Faces, Busts and/or Body):** A three dimensional carving of the human face and/or body in a realistic form from natural resources such as wood and/or bark of the artist’s choice.

8. **Folk/Native Art:** An artistic work with a decorative design, bright bold colors, flattened perspective, and strong forms in simple arrangements. This covers all types of native-style art or Folk Art. Examples: figures, old store signs, masks, totems, et al.
9. **Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles:** Any carving that is mainly of fish, amphibians or reptiles (either real or mythical - i.e. dinosaurs). Miniatures and full size will be judged together.
10. **Mammals:** A three dimension realistic carving of warm-blooded animals such as dogs, foxes, coyotes, whales, elephants, horses from wood or bark.
11. **Miniature:** Entry can be a caricature, animal, fish, mammal, human, reptile, bird, flower, nature, etc., carved, etched or pyrography from wood or bark. For example: Carving fits into a 2" x 2" box or.
12. **Miscellaneous:** This class is to include all carvings that do not fit any other Class. For example – toys and furniture.
13. **Nature:** Relief, Chip Carving or three dimensional carving that is true nature in a realistic form. Nature would be a combination of animals, plants, scenery, etc.
14. **Pyrography Artwork:** The art of decorating wood or other materials with burn marks.
15. **Relief:** Is a sculptural form in which figures are carved in a flat panel of wood. The figures project only slightly from the background rather than standing freely. A relief carving cannot be viewed from the back.
16. **Spoons and Chains:** This Class is for Welsh style love spoons and chains.
17. **Stylized:** Artistic impression (any subject) using pleasing and flowing lines. Details are usually hinted through the form rather than explicitly carved or painted in.
18. **Decorations:** Hanging or Holiday Ornaments. Decorations of any kind. Those that celebrate different nationalities or cultures (i.e. Christmas from around the World, Easter, Birthday, etc.). This will include wood carving and pyrography.

## **Judging Criteria Guidelines and Interpretation**

Judging will be done by three (3) appointed people who are considered experts in their own particular field. Each carving will be judged in each of the following skill criteria. Each Judge will judge each piece individually. The final result will be decided by consensus of all the Judges' opinions of the piece.

The Judges will consider the following criteria in formulating the First, Second and Third Place winners plus Honourable Mention (if awarded), in all Categories of the 4 Levels, or in such Categories and Levels for which there are competitors. Judging in Juvenile,

**Youth, Novice and Intermediate Classes will be primarily judged on craftsmanship and finish, although design and originality may influence the ranking of an award winner.**

**For Open Class, only well-crafted and finished items will be considered for awards, and design, originality and presentation will be the primary criteria for ranking within the awards.**

### **1. Design and Composition:**

The Design and Composition of the piece should capture the essence of the subject matter through skilled disposition, structure, and arrangement of its elements. Accuracy in form, proportion, perspective, and balance should be considered.

### **2. Craftsmanship:**

Craftsmanship refers to the technical skills required to execute the carving, resulting in an easily recognizable subject. Difficulty of carving, including technical woodworking skills such as tight laminations, joinery and fitted appendages would apply here. This

### **3. Surface Finish:**

There should be an appropriate finishing of the surface including the choice and application of colour in painted items and the smoothing, varnishing, waxing and overall finish of natural wood items.

### **4. Originality and Final Presentation:**

The Originality and Final Presentation should be an individual expression of the subject matter resulting in a unique, unusual and/or exceptional piece. Continuity of presentation in all of the four criteria should be considered.

## **Distribution of Awards**

**Categories within the Juvenile/Youth Class:** Carvings will be awarded with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Ribbon. All others will receive an Honourable Mention ribbon.

### **Categories within the Novice, Intermediate and Open Classes:**

Ribbons will be awarded to First, Second, Third and Honourary Mention in each Category within each Class.

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Red Ribbon

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Blue Ribbon  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – White Ribbon  
Honourary Mention – Green Ribbon

### **Best of Class**

Rosette Ribbons will be presented to the best of each show Class:

Best of Youth  
Best of Novice,  
Best of Intermediate  
Best of Open

**Winner of these awards will also receive a gift certificate from a show sponsor.**

### **BEST OF SHOW (First, Second, Third):**

The Judge's will select the Best of Show winners **from all the 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners from each Class and Category.**

The Best of Show, Second Best of Show, and Third Best of Show winners will receive a Rosette Ribbon as well as gift certificate or cash prize from the Show Sponsor(s).

Peoples' Choice - Selected from the public voting. Winner of this award will receive a Rosette Ribbon and a gift certificate or cash from a Show Sponsor.

Carvers' Choice - Selected by the show entrants only. Winner of this award will receive a Rosette Ribbon and a gift certificate or cash from a Show Sponsor.

President's Choice – Selected by the NAWCA President. Winner of this award will receive a Rosette Ribbon.

The actual gift certificate and value of prizes will be determined by the show committee, and will depend upon the number and value of gift certificates provided by the sponsors for this year.

If enough Sponsorship is received, additional cash equivalent awards may be presented as door prizes which all show entrants will be eligible for.