

North Arkansas  
Woodcarvers Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 531  
Mountain Home, AR 72654

February 2026 Newsletter • Volume 2602

[www.northarkansaswoodcarvers.org](http://www.northarkansaswoodcarvers.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Woodcarvers!

I hope this message finds you "warm" and well as our area has experienced the coldest part of winter so far.

We've had fantastic turnouts for our first meetings of 2026. Our first Beginners' Class began on January 22 with 8 in attendance. It's looking to be a great year as enthusiasm for woodcarving is high. With our growing presence on Facebook, folks will get to see what we do as a club and the progress of our Beginners. Our library has a great variety of carving books and our club also has a good selection of carving wood.

Hopefully everyone renewed their dues by the end of January so that Pat Grimes, Publicity Chairman, can proceed with the next photo directory. February 26th will be our next Potluck. There will be no theme this time - just a general potluck lunch.

Currently we have 2 fund raiser projects - the Gnome Village and a Caricature Cowboy Scene. Sales for this fund raiser will begin at our upcoming 46th Annual Woodcarving Show, May 2 and 3, which is right around the corner. Please plan on participating (or helping out) at our show. If you need an application, see me.

A special thank you to Bob Gilkerson for "working his magic" on Ebay and selling Wally's collection of *Harold Enlow's "Inferior Tool Company"* tools. Also, a special thank you to Paul Baumann for organizing and selling Wally's tools and carving equipment. Both were very successful in making money to help our club with its finances.

Our rent includes the use of the hall for 5 hours - 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The VFW kitchen is open and serves lunch, or you can bring a sack lunch. Please plan to hang out with us until 1:00 every Thursday.

Sandy

---

## General Membership Meeting of January 15, 2026 MINUTES

Our meeting was called to order by Sandy Smith, President, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reports began with Treasurer Nancy Wheeler confirming that the club currently has adequate operating capital and some carry over for our charity fund. Amounts are always given privately to club members, so if interested, ask Nancy. Our annual membership renewal is going

well and we currently have 70 confirmed members, with 11 more confirmed to be in the upcoming beginners' winter class, starting January 22nd. Please get your dues paid by the end of January so we can complete our most recent club directory. Bob Gilkerson has been working to get the necessary tool sets ready for the class and we will have just enough sets as needed. Terry Muth, Quartermaster/Wood, was absent, but when he is not here Norm Dixon can get wood for members. We have a good supply, so get your best deal by buying wood from us. Dee Robinson, VP and class organizer, had a couple of cancellations to the class, but had an active waiting list and filled the spots almost immediately. How grateful we are for diligence to provide the coordination for the classes. It is an integral part of our club and the best way to grow our membership. Pat Grimes was absent for the publicity report, but we did have an article published in *The Baxter Bulletin* (1/14/26) page A-6 with a wrap up of our 2025 activities. Evelyn Burttram is keeping our Facebook page up to date and active, and members are encouraged to follow us there. Our library is fully stocked and Sonia Nelson will begin to thin the inventory in preparation for the May show. *The Chip Pile* and the website are fine. Remember to visit the website for extra information at: [www.northarkansaswoodcarvers.org](http://www.northarkansaswoodcarvers.org).

Sunshine Lady Sandy Lord is full of sunshine. There were no reports of a need for her services. Our next potluck according to Barb Edelbrock is Feb 26th - no theme, just yummy food. Our new tagging of the charity items is going well thanks to Deb Bergum's help, and we are excited to get a fresh look on the charity table presentation. We are still considering when and where we can promote our charity treasures this year. Please bring any suggestions or ideas to Tina Campbell, Charity Coordinator. Our show committee is busy getting ready for the upcoming show in May. It comes fast so get your carvings ready. We are hoping to find one or two more club projects for the club fundraiser. There is no unfinished business or new business at this time. We did receive a good news update on Kim Valentine, and he is doing well with his medical recovery. We all send him our best wishes on his healing.

Our first Show & Tell this year had a great assortment of unique items. Marty Wells's new "bird on top" which he generously donated to the charity table; Norm Dixon's red pig and cardinal; Steve Munch's Santa reindeer for his granddaughter; Cindy Clifton's snake-eyed woodsman; Bonnie Davis's beautiful display of assorted spoons and 2 Santa's with amazing detail; Sid Edelbrock's steel fork challenge and butternut; Ethan

*Continued on Page 2*

## General Membership Meeting of January 15, 2026 Minutes - Continued from Page 1

Swanson's first Santa; Carol Riley shared her pyrography art with the mythical Kraken, Gnome & Goat and a Tree of Life inside a turned bowl with accents around the outside; Paul Baumann III brought hobo delights, a Becorn with carving surprise inside, some really fun stuff (check out <https://www.davidmbird.com>, but you can find it by just typing in Becorn Art); Rita Margolian showed off her first magazine instruction carving of an Eskimo; Ray Peacy brought his cedar basket, "stool sample" and "A Ram, A Lamb, A Ding Dong" for some laughs; and Bob Gilkerson shared the "last" of his lambs plus Santas for charity, and won the drawing.

Norm Rutledge won the name tag drawing and Bob Shaffer won the 50/50.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. with a reminder that the club will remain open until 1:00 p.m. so there can be more carving for all.

Respectfully submitted by Tina Campbell, Secretary

---

## Board of Directors Meeting of February 5, 2026 MINUTES

The February Board meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Sandy Smith, President.

The Treasurer's report was given by Nancy Wheeler, who stated that our funds are adequate at this time. We did complete a satisfactory audit, too. If members are interested in specific amounts in the general fund or the charity fund, please ask an officer.

Linda Peacy had an updated membership report of 75 regular members and 4 supporting memberships. Reminder letters have been sent out to previous members.

Our supply of tools has dwindled with this last class and Bob Gilkerson, Equipment/Tools, will be taking an inventory to determine what tools may be needed for the upcoming spring class.

Our wood supply is good right now. Terry Muth, Quartermaster, is usually available at our weekly meeting to supply members with all their wood needs.

Dee Robinson, VP and our class organizer, says things are going well with the current class. There will be a painting class by Deb Bergum April 16 and 23. March 16-20 is the Ozark Woodcarving Seminar with John Engler ([ozarkwoodcarvingseminar.com](http://ozarkwoodcarvingseminar.com)).

Our directory has been delayed due to weather, so Pat Grimes will be working on completing it by the end of this month.

We currently have 754 Facebook followers and have even heard from people as far away as Georgia, so the word is getting out. Check us out on our Facebook page and be sure to follow us. There are frequent postings by Evelyn Burrtram, Media Chairman, and we thank her for her diligence.

Sonia Nelson, Librarian, says we do not seem to be getting many *new* books. We believe this is because the availability on-line.

*The Chip Pile* and the website are fine and *hopefully* up to date said Sandy Smith.

Sandy Lord brought sunshine to 3 club members who contribute regularly to our charity project. She will send a card to Kathy Hewitt who lost her mother recently.

The show committee is busy preparing for the show and we currently have 9 tables reserved. Sandy Smith reports that Nancy Burke has offered us a discount on the Burke line of sharpeners. If members are interested in purchasing a Burke Sharpening System, Nancy will offer members a \$50 discount on any of her 3 models if she is notified in advance. She will bring sharpeners to the show, but by reserving one in advance you'll be sure to get one along with a \$50 discount. See Sandy Smith for more information.

February 26th will be our potluck, so plan on bringing your favorite dish.

Our charity table is up to date with new tags that indicate the price and the name of the carver. We will have a demonstration for the club and an open house (March 12th) to the public to see the charity table for 2026.

**Unfinished Business:** We still need one or two more club projects as a fundraiser. Suggestions are a wreath or tree with Christmas (or Patriotic) ornaments, a quilt or something themed for the 250th anniversary of the country, and a stylized nativity scene.

**New Business:** None.

**Announcements:** Bob Gilkerson raised \$657 from Wally's *Inferior Tool Company* tool collection on Ebay, and Paul Baumann raised an additional \$182 from the sale of Joyce Smietanski's donation of Wally's carving shop.

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tina Campbell, Secretary

---

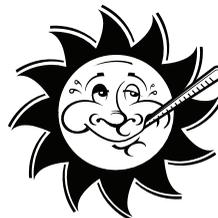
## PLEASE NOTE: 2026 Annual Membership Dues has increased due to Hall Rental Hike

**\$75** - Individual Membership

**\$30** - Supporting Membership (Restrictions Apply)

Please see **Linda and Ray Peacy**, *Membership Chairpeople*, to Renew Your Membership

---



## SUNSHINE LADY REPORTS

**Please let Sandy Lord or Board Members know** of any member who may be ill or who may have lost a loved one. Our members appreciate knowing that we are thinking of them and that our best wishes are extended to them during these stressful and often traumatic times.