

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Woodcarvers!

It's hard to believe that it's September already. We must be having a LOT of fun, because time is certainly "flying by!" The summer is not yet over, so while it's still hot outside, I hope you are taking advantage of the air conditioning and catching up on carving projects.

Now that the beginners' classes are over, Dee has been very busy setting up extra classes within the club and planning for classes from non-member instructors. It's always fun to partake in the extra classes (or to sign up for woodcarving seminars). Every instructor offers different techniques and shares their expertise on how they carve what is offered in class. It's a perfect way to expand your knowledge and discover different ways to do things.

Last month's potluck lunch was extraordinary due to the diverse array of delicious salads and desserts brought by the members to complement the fried chicken. Thank you Barb for organizing this very tasty event.

Now that the "summer vacation" for the Show Committee is over, meetings will commence on the second Thursday of each month. Anyone wanting to join in the fun of organizing our annual show is welcome to these meetings.

A big **Thank You** to Sid and Barb Edelbrock for organizing a "Carve In" that included a yummy pulled pork lunch. Sid provided 32 "comfort birds" to carve and then return to the club's charity table. Nearly half of the birds were completed with promises to have the rest ready by the next meeting.

Thank you to everyone for participating and supporting our club. I encourage all members to share your ideas and projects for our next meeting. Please stay engaged and plan to take part in the events we have planned in the upcoming months.

Sandy

General Membership Meeting of August 20, 2026 MINUTES

The meeting was started at 10:35 a.m. by Dee Robinson, VP in for absent President Sandy Smith. The

Meeting *Minutes* as published in *The Chip Pile* were approved by vote, and the membership was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer Nancy Wheeler reported no discretionary spending and all allocated/budgeted spending was on track. We have funds for charity. Ask our Treasurer or an officer for the current amount.

Our Membership Chair Linda Peacy was absent. We did add one member since the last report.

Publicity and Media chairs, Pat Grimes and Evelyn Burttram, and *The Chip Pile* editor, Sandy Smith, were all absent this meeting.

Bob Gilkerson, Equipment and Tool Chairman, was present and reports that all tools are here and ready for the January class.

Quartermaster and Wood Chairman Terry Muth reports wood stock is good and he will be purchasing some diamond willows to boost our stock since they are difficult to get and our source is a very old vendor who may not be available in the future. A general vote agreed with this plan.

Dee Robinson, VP and Classes, said we have finished up a couple of small classes with Marty Wells for brooms and birds. We greatly appreciate his time and willingness to teach. We have several small group classes coming up. Carol Riley will teach a pyrography technique class the third week in September. This class size will be limited, so check the sign up sheets. We were contacted by a new Arkansan (Gloria Beckman from Alaska) who does bark carving and other types of carving, and we invited her to come to our meeting to meet her to see what interest there would be for her to teach. Cheryl McConkey will be teaching a spoon class and possibly another dove class in the near future. Van Kelly, a caricature carver, offered a 3-day class in October. We need at least 8 and the cost will be \$195, plus the cost of the roughouts he has. You can view Van Kelly roughouts on Hill & Holler Woodcarving or www.vankellycarvings.com. Also, Tim Sharp is willing to do a power tool demonstration as weather permits, as this will need to be outside.

Sonia Nelson, Librarian, says all is well with the library and to "check it out".

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Sandy Lord, Sunshine Lady, reports she is all caught up.

Our potluck is August 27th, reported Barbara Edelbrock Event Coordinator, and it is fried chicken provided by donations. Please bring salads and desserts.

Our next charity event, reported by Tina Campbell, will be the Dam Jam at Danuser Park in Bull Shoals on September 26th. This is an all-day event and we will need volunteers to help cover from start, including setting up a canopy and taking it down at 5 p.m. Please see Tina for when and how you can help. Sign-up sheets will be out shortly.

Unfinished Business: Sign-up sheets are out for the Van Kelly Class.

New Business: Meet and find out more about Gloria Beckman classes. The officers, Dee, Sandy and Tina will be meeting with the Arts and Crafts Association to find out if there are some collaborations we could do to boost both of our clubs.

Announcements: Nominations have been submitted for the upcoming year's chairmen and officers. If you have a nomination or are interested in fulfilling a position before the club votes, please let Sonia Nelson know. She is responsible for the nominations.

We had a GREAT Show and Tell this month with 15 participants! Thanks to Dee Robinson, Cheryl McConkey, Rita Margolian, Carol Riley, Bob Gilkerson, Daryl Lehman, Terry Muth, Paul Baumann, Cindy Clifton, Steve Munch, Deb Whiteaker, Sonia Nelson, Marty Wells, Lisa Hays and Tina Campbell. Cindy Clifton won the card drawing for Show and Tell.

Tina Campbell was the name tag winner and Daryl Lehman won the weekly fundraiser. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tina Campbell, Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting of September 3, 2026 MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by Sandy Smith, President. Nancy Wheeler, Treasurer, gave the announcement that all board members should begin to prepare for the 2027 budget. She gave us a review of this year's balances and projections, as a guide in our preparation.

Membership has risen to 93 reported Linda Peacy. Bob Gilkerson states that our equipment inventory is ample and ready for the upcoming classes in 2027. His budget for 2027 may be reduced due to the current supply of tools. Terry Muth, Quartermaster/Wood, was absent, along with Pat Grimes, Publicity, and Evelyn Burttram, Media.

Dee Robinson, VP and Classes, gave a great list of upcoming classes within and outside of the club. Caricature carver Van Kelly will be hosting a class late October. There will be a pyrography class on techniques with Carol Riley, and a spoon class with Cheryl McConkey. We will also have upcoming classes on the mad duck with Bob Gilkerson and possibly a bark class with our new member Gloria Beckman.

Our library is okay per librarian Sonia Nelson, and so is *The Chip Pile* and website per Sandy Smith, Webmaster. Our Go Daddy domain name was just renewed.

Sunshine Lady Sandy Lord cheerfully reported "all is well". And Barbara Edelbrock says all is well, and she will start planning for the potluck in October, and the December Christmas party and annual exchange of gifts.

Tina Campbell, Charity Coordinator, presented the board with some possibilities to join forces with the Art and Crafts Association. We could increase sales and exposure at their shop with consignment sales and have classes during weekends or evenings in their small classroom at their shop. The board agreed to look into it further, especially regarding insurance coverage, etc. The Dam Jam is September 26th in Bull Shoals and a sign-up sheet is out on the sign-up table. The Fall Craftfest is November 20th and 21st, and there may be another Open House in early November.

The Show Committee begins meeting again for the 2027 show next week. (*Ed. note: If interested, please attend the meetings held on the second Thursday of each month.*)

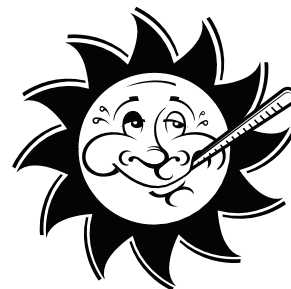
Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Table peg game carvings were suggested for next year's club projects, similar to Tic-Tac-Toe and Jump Peg.

Announcements: There is a voter website to view ballots for the upcoming November 3rd Midterm Election. Visit: www.voterview.ar-nova.org to get familiar with the candidates and the issues.

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tina Campbell, Secretary



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.