



October 2026 Newsletter • Volume 2610

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Woodcarvers!

Fall is officially here! It's hard to believe that it has snuck up on us so quickly...at least it has for me. Plus, it looks like the hot weather (and hopefully dry conditions) are behind us.

Dee has been hard at work putting together extracurricular classes, plus we are gearing up to bring in outside carvers to teach their techniques. We are also working on trying to get either evening and/or weekend classes to drum up more interest in our wonderful hobby!

I attended the annual Caricature Carvers of America (CCA) meeting which was held in conjunction with the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers (WRW) Club's show. It was an amazing event! The WRW Show had over 150 tables with 149 participating carvers at their two-day woodcarving show in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. At the CCA meeting it was agreed upon that the CCA would join us at our upcoming 47th Annual Show this coming May 1st and 2nd. This will probably bring in significantly more participants to our show and hopefully create considerably more interest in woodcarving. The event was well attended, so I would expect the same here in North Arkansas. Our Show Committee meetings have resumed now that summer is over, so anyone wanting to join in the fun of organizing our annual show, please do. We meet on the second Thursday of every month.

The Dam Jam was a huge success. Thank you Tina for organizing and handling the logistics of having a booth at this event. The weather was perfect, up until the very end, when it began to sprinkle. The charity carvings and the fund raisers definitely profited from the one-day event. A good time was had by all.

It has come to the board's attention that we may need to consider relocating. There are LOTS of "questions" floating around, and we are actively researching any opportunity that might be presented to us.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your dedication and passion for woodcarving. Together, we are not only "sharpening" our skills but also building a supportive community that inspires creativity and growth. Let's continue to "carve out new paths" and share our love for this art form.

Sandy

General Membership Meeting of September 17, 2026 MINUTES

Meeting called to order by VP Dee Robinson at 10:55 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer Nancy Wheeler was absent but messaged there was no significant updates. Our Membership Chair, Linda Peacy, confirmed we have 93 Members. Bob Gilkerson, Equipment Chair, has all the kits ready for the January 2027 class. Quartermaster/Wood Terry Muth has an order on the way with willow sticks and will be ordering North Dakota bark 3-4" thick. Dee Robinson, VP/Activities Chair, has multiple classes on tap; Cheryl McConkey's spoon class Oct 1st and 8th, and Van Kelly's caricature class Oct. 29, 30 and 31st at the Lakeview City Hall. Upcoming in November is Bob Gilkerson's "Mad Duck" class, Cheryl McConkey's relief dove class, and TBA, Gloria Beckman's class which will probably be a bark class, but she teaches other modalities, too.

Chip Pile/Webmaster, Sunshine Lady, Publicity and Media were all absent at this meeting. Librarian Sonia Nelson states all is well and there was a suggestion for book reviews to help others know what books we have. Show Committee just had their first meeting last week, and is just organizational at this point.

Our next event is the Fall (October) potluck, possibly a pumpkin spice theme, and then the Christmas party. More information to come on that later.

Charity Committee Tina Campbell reminded and thanked everyone for signing up for the Dam Jam in Bull Shoals Saturday, September 26th.

Unfinished Business: It was confirmed that our insurance can cover our classes where ever we have them, including non-members off-site. This may open up the opportunity for Saturday or evening classes at the Art & Crafts Assoc. store. We are also still considering the best way to display and sell, on consignment, our pieces in their shop.

New Business: A slight discussion about going back to the Baxter County Library to display and promote our

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club and work . We will be exploring those logistics.

Announcements: Next year's slate of officers and board chairs is Sandy Smith – *President and Webmaster/Chip Pile Editor*; Dee Robinson – *Vice President and Activities/Classes*; Tina Campbell – *Secretary and Chairperson for the Charity Committee*; Nancy Wheeler – *Treasurer*; Linda and Ray Peacy – *Membership*; Bob Gilkerson – *Equipment & Tools*; Terry Muth – *Quartermaster/Wood*; Sonia Nelson – *Library and Nominating Committee*; Media and Publicity are open at this time, Sandy Lord – *Sunshine Lady*; Barbara Edelbrock – *Event Coordinator*; and Kathy Frisbie – *Auditor*. This is the first posting.

Show & Tell: There were 9 participants and a former member donation by Kathi Clark. Dee Robinson, Tina Campbell, Donna Mutchler, Sid Edelbrock, Carol Riley, Ray Peacy, Terry Muth, Bob Gilkerson and Daryl Lehman. Sid Edelbrock won the drawing.

Name Tag winner was Kay Clark.

Fundraiser winner was Linda Peacy.

A special thanks to Carol Riley for teaching the Pyrography technique class. She did a great job.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tina Campbell, Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting of October 1, 2026 MINUTES

Our meeting was called to order by Sandy Smith, President, at 9:53 a.m. Treasurer Nancy Wheeler reports that we are in line with our budget and she is preparing the budget for next year. There will be an increase in the rental budget due to the number of Thursdays in 2027. Our charity fund grew this weekend with the Bull Shoals Dam Jam and a purchase by a businessman in Mountain Home, who is making 50 baskets for his employees for Christmas, with local artisans' wares. He purchased 50 Christmas ornaments from us.

Linda Peacy, Membership Chair, reports we are still currently at 93 members.

Bob Gilkerson, Equipment/Tools, has 11 sets of tools for the upcoming class in January and one set has been presold. There are extra tools the club has that can be sold. It was suggested that we have a silent auction at the next potluck in October for the sale. He will still maintain the "loaner" tool set we have for upcoming students.

Terry Muth, Wood/Quartermaster, has a delivery of wood coming which will fill most of the current needs in our inventory. This will include some bark, willow canes and standard wood needs. Our member Rick Dubay will be

able to deliver it so there will be NO shipping charge. If you want something special let him know ASAP.

Our classes are rolling along according to VP Dee Robinson. We currently have the second half of the spoon class with Cheryl McConkey. Upcoming classes with Van Kelly, Bob Gilkerson's *Mad Duck*, Gloria Beckman's bark class, and after the first of the year, a relief dove with Cheryl McConkey.

No report for Publicity or Media.

Library is stocked and no new books are needed states Sonia Nelson. *The Chip Pile* and website are okay says Webmaster Sandy Smith. Sunshine Lady Sandy Lord is up to date and will be sending a club thank-you to Kathi Clark for her donations to the charity table.

Show Committee news from Sandy Smith is the CCA is coming to our annual show next year and they will be busy preparing for classes, and renting extra tables. It is confirmed our judge for this year's event is BDavid Duncan and the Clarkridge Volunteer Fire Department Auxillary will provide food at the event and for the banquet.

Barbara Edelbrock wants us to get ready for the October potluck on 10/22 and our Christmas party and gift exchange. This year our exchange will be numbered and people who participate will pick numbers for their gifts.

Tina Campbell, Charity Coordinator, was happy to announce the successful Dam Jam. The charity committee and board are reviewing the best events to participate in and will possibly limit them in 2027 to 4 of the most successful events historically.

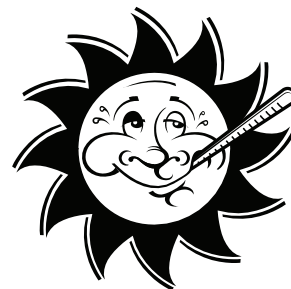
Unfinished Business: Consideration of a new location for the club.

New Business: The board is still exploring the possibility of a better/cheaper location that will still fit our clubs' needs.

Announcements: None

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 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.