

Newsletter

HOUSTON AREA WOCARVERS

Chip Carving

This Saturday JoAn Brueggeman will teach a class on chip carving a box with a leaf/floral design. If you signed up ahead of time to carve letters, she will have the letter pattern ready for you.



Miniature Pelicans

Lance Rath's second class on carving miniature pelicans will be this Saturday. The class is limited to those who signed up previously unless there are cancellations.



The Case of the Missing Indian by Gail Plunkett

Twenty-five years ago, Houston Area Woodcarvers Club (HAWC) presented a five-foot tall cigar store Indian named Hawcai to the Memorial City Mall. Various members of HAWC worked on the carving over the span of a year. The club wanted to show its appreciation to the mall for providing a venue free of charge for its carving shows, which used to be held twice a year. Hawcai (pronounced Hawkeye) was presented during the twenty-fifth show that was held there, with a plaque attached to it that read:

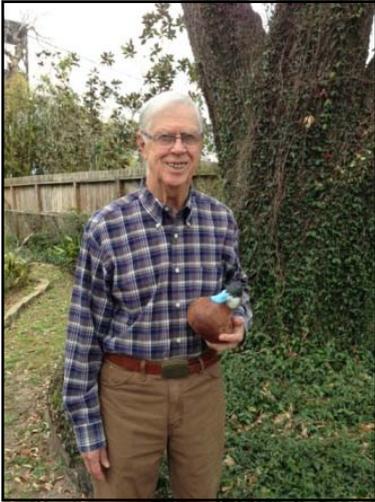
HAWCAI*

(*Houston Area Woodcarvers Club American Indian)

Hand Carved With Thanks and Appreciation To
MEMORIAL CITY MALL
FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE
HOUSTON AREA WOODCARVERS CLUB, 1989

I wasn't involved with the club at the time, and I would love to see Hawcai. Unfortunately, I haven't yet found anyone who knows his whereabouts. Current and recent-past management of the mall have been of no help so far. If you know anything that might lead to a Hawcai sighting, even a clue that might lead to another clue, please let me hear from you. (See pg. 2.)

President's Message



HAWC is off to a running start in 2014.

As announced at the February meeting, we will be starting a new program (class) with Dave Kissinger as the organizer. It will be an advanced beginner's class or the next step class. The objective is to help new carvers move from the beginners table—at their pace—to an advanced level to improve and advance their carving skills.

The class will work on tool skills as well as using those skills in the carving interest of the carver. For example, if new carvers are interested in carving faces an HAWC carver experienced in face carving will teach the basics. This is true for other carving disciplines. It will not take away from the monthly classes. If there is a monthly class of interest to the new carver, sign up for that class.

The HAWC annual carving Show and Competition will be held Saturday, September 13, 2014, at the Bellaire Community Center. Classes will be held the preceding Thursday and Friday, September 11 and 12.

Thanks to Lance Rath for sharing his carving expertise during the February meeting as the instructor at the class table. Lance had a full table for his miniature pelican class and it should be full again at the March meeting when a new carving group will start the class.

For chip carvers, JoAn Brueggeman will teach a chip carving class during the March meeting. JoAn is an excellent teacher and many of you have seen her carvings during the Show and Tell sessions.

There is a class change that is noted on the class calendar in this HAWC Newsletter. At the May meeting, Carolyn and Preston Smith will be teaching classes.

Continued: The Case of the Missing Indian

The subject of the missing Indian came up after I started stirring up memories among you for the history I want to write about HAWC. Details were sketchy until several articles about him were found in a box of old issues of *Chip Chats* that someone donated to HAWC. In one issue, Hawcai and club members Paul McBride and Tom Bingham are pictured with Ron Stone. The photo was taken during their appearance on KPRC-TV's "The Scene at Five," just before the presentation to the mall. Even wooden Indians crave their ten minutes of fame, it seems.

HAWC has been around for nearly forty-five years,

making history. HAWC was the first club in Texas to form under the banner of the National Wood Carvers Association. Early on, its meetings attracted carvers from outside the Houston area. As a direct result, other clubs began to form around Texas, including those in San Antonio and Dallas. Early members of HAWC were also instrumental in the creation of the Texas Wood Carvers Guild.

HAWC's history is tied up not only with the growth of a community, but also with magic. How else explain hard wood looking so soft and pettable, like it was warm with life? Woodcarvers make the world better

Continued: The Case of the Missing Indian

with the beauty and humor of their carvings, and the stories and artifacts of HAWC – *your* stories and *your* work – are worthy of being recorded and preserved. The mystery of the whereabouts of Hawcai may forever remain unsolved. I hope you'll help prevent that from happening with any more treasures related to HAWC. Please look through your stuff for anything

that would help tell HAWC's story, past or present. Nothing is insignificant! If you have items that you would like to give to HAWC to be archived, or that could be copied or photographed for its archives, please contact me at HAWChistory@yahoo.com or 713-416-8232. Thanks, Gail

Show and Tell



Lorraine Lewis: Uncle Sam and Mouse



Bud Rudolph: Buffalo and Uncle Sam (not shown)





JoAn Brueggeman: Chip Carving



Phillip Wingate: Canes and Cars



Butch Wilkens: Wolf Carving



Fred Carter: Wolf Carving



Judy Guy: Male Bust and Woodburning

The Houston Area Woodcarvers meet from 9am-2pm on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston, TX 77074. In April and December of 2014 we meet on the 2nd Saturday.

2014 Class Schedule

1-11	Fred Carter	Uncle Sam
2-15	Lance Rath	Miniature Pelicans
3-15	JoAn Brueggeman	Chip Carving
3-15	Lance Rath	Miniature Pelicans
4-12	Bob Lyons	Spoon Carving
5-17	Carolyn Smith	Woodburning
5-17	Preston Smith	TBA

6-21	Joe Perkins	TBA
7-19	Fred Childers	Fan Bird
8-16	Mike Moeskau	Witch Relief
9-11	HAWC Pre-Show Class, TBA	
9-12	HAWC Pre-Show Class, TBA	
9-13	HAWC Show & Sale	Bellaire Comm. Ctr.
10-18	John Curcio	TBA

See us on the Web: houstonareawoodcarvers.com