

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA CARVER

March-April 2004

Issue 04-03

## Programs

Our April program will feature Don Williams, the Senior Furniture Conservator for the Smithsonian Institution. He will talk about and demonstrate materials and techniques used for wood finishing in the pre-industrial period. With special emphasis on the use of shellac and other natural resins, he will show how it was done in the old days. Don has been a professional finisher and restorer since 1972, and has worked for the Smithsonian since 1984.

We had 24 attendees at our February meeting. Instead of a program our special show and tell theme of caricatures was well represented with Jim Ernst's Santa; Pete Ward's collection of little people carved from left over critter cut outs; Joy Burks' Serious Themes; Jim Loebach's Clown, Poodle, and Crazy Critter collection; Felicia Kluzak's Wizard Santa; Joyce Beene's collectors carvings of a Cat and Goose. Mike LaPlante won the drawing of a Herb

## Next Meeting

**Third Thursday of month  
Thursday 7:30 P.M.  
April 15, 2003  
Route 7 & Haycock Road  
Falls Church, VA**

## Activities at the Carving Center

Members have continued at a busy pace on varied projects of personal interest as well as participating in classes. Hank Cloutier's pen carving class was a huge success with about 28 participants. Pete Ward provided a one night knife sharpening class which a number of members were happy to participate and improve their sharpening skills. A big THANK YOU to Hank and Pete.

### Dunkle carving knife.

For our March meeting we had good attendance with over 20 people. Our special program by Ken Sheehan was on pattern transfers. Ken showed us the techniques he uses to copy and transfer patterns to wood for his chip carved projects. His preferred technique of heat transfer of patterns from special heat transfer paper also could have uses in woodburning and relief carving. We had an interesting spectrum of "Show and Tell" projects from Pete Ward's Carolina wren, woodburned mallard, and squirrels; Mike Parker's latest turned pens and walking stick; Jim Loebach's cat pens; Hank Cloutier's recently finished horse from an earlier Debbie Edward's class, and an eagle head; Ken Sheehan's eagle head and ram also from an earlier Debbie Edward's class.

Ernie Machate won the Herb Dunkle carving knife drawing.

Please note our class for April will feature an Introduction to Woodburning by John Noffsinger (see Page 2). We also wish to thank Bob Marshall for developing and presenting a successful proposal for

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### Some March Show and Tell Items



## Activities (Cont)

*(Continued from page 1)*

an Artisans United Outreach grant for our public demonstrations to be given at the Woodworkers Show. A special report on the Woodworking Show Demonstration will be provided



Jim Ernst's February Show & Tell



Skilled new member Luis Iglesias with magnificent relief carving

## INTRODUCTION TO WOODBURNING

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** John Noffsinger will be offering a class on wood burning skills needed as a foundation for composition and projects. Class will cover wood selection, tools and equipment, and applied technique for composition. There will be five 2-HOUR SESSIONS: Thursdays, April 1, 8, 22, 29, and May 6, all from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**CLASS SIZE:** 5 - 8

Students must have access to a burner and several tips. (Club will try help locate a burner if you don't have one) Notebook for notes if desired. Instructor will provide all materials except wood burners, tips, and gouges.

**COST:** \$75 Instructor fee & Materials fee

Sign ups will start in March 19th at the center. Payment is due upon sign-up. Checks should be made payable to John Noffsinger. Any question should be addressed to John Noffsinger at 703-876-9580.

Source for burners and tips: Little Mountain Carving Supplies: 800-752-7573.

**Recommended Burner:** The Cub, package B

**Replaceable Tips:** S-shading, C-writing, D-small round, and PS

**Alternative Tips:** A-large round, J-tight round, MC-ball point writing, M-micro

**Replaceable Tip Handle:** #CRH

### JOHN NOFFSINGER, THE ARTIST AND INSTRUCTOR

John Noffsinger is a local artist well known in woodworking and woodturning circles in Northern Virginia and Maryland. He has studied at the Corcoran School of Art and the Art League School. Awards include the following:

Best in Show, Washington Woodworkers Guild Show, "Washington Wood," 2001

First and Second Place, Advanced Woodturning, Northern Virginia Carvers, 2002

First Place, Pyrography, Northern Virginia Carvers, 2003

Best in Show, Chesapeake Woodturners, 2003

Best Design, Washington Woodworkers Guild Show, 2003

In addition, his pyrography embellished platter of a colt, which won First Place in the NVC show, has been accepted for publication in Lark's book, 500 Wooden Bowls, set for publication in Fall 2004. The vehicle of John's artistic expression is woodturning. The artistic skills he incorporates into woodturning include drawing and painting in both realistic and abstract form. Ancient imagery, geometric design, and surface texture have been areas of study and are commonly visible in his work through pyrography and other available techniques.

He states: "Artistic craft has been a strong focus for most of my life. At an early age I began seeking ways to further my artistic skills through school curriculum and other available means. Since that time I have found pyrography to be a strong technique for artistic expression. From basic design to advanced composition, pyrography has become an invaluable skill to relate my inspirations to others and has become a major part of my present works."

## Artisans United News

NVC is invited to join the Capital Area Woodturners in a combined woodturner/carver AU Gallery Show and Sale for the months of July and August with a wood art theme. There will also be a AU 15th anniversary reception for the kickoff. Details will be forthcoming in next newsletter.

AU plans to start Guild Workdays on April 6 and May 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This will be an opportunity for various Guild members to work their crafts and mix with members of other guilds.

### Notice Carving Center Restrictions

We received a notice that construction is going to begin at the school on a new building at the end closer to Tyson's Corner, in the field area where busses are currently parked. For this reason, the entrance off of Route 7 that goes behind the school will be closed on March 15. Some of the parking there will be eliminated, so parking in general might become more difficult. We will still be able to enter the school grounds via Haymarket Street.

## Woodcarvers wanted at Herndon Festival June 5th

The Herndon Festival's Children's Hands On Art Area is looking for woodcarvers to demonstrate their craft at this year's Festival.

It's the largest arts & crafts, carnival, food, music, children's crafts and fun festival in Herndon. This is a town-wide event and attracts over **80,000** people from the greater Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area. This year's Festival is part of the Town's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration!

The Children's Hands On Art Area runs Sat & Sun, June 5th (10-5) , 6th (12-5) . We are seeking fine artists and artisans to show off their work in progress, while the children watch from a safe distance. This would complement the many other (free) activities for the kids, such as rubber stamping, finger weaving, brass rubbings, etc.

We hope to find groups to showcase their work for 2-3 hour intervals over the weekend. There is a small honorarium (\$200) for each artist or group and parking passes, and of course, the appreciation of the many children and their families!

Please let me know if someone in your group is interested in participating in this great community outreach event! I'm hoping to get the artisan list finalized by the end of March.

I can be reached via email and cell phone 703.217.1877 at any time.  
Thank you for your consideration,

*Grace Wolf*  
Council for the Arts of Herndon, Board of Directors  
<http://www.herndonarts.org>  
Help Keep the Arts Alive!  
<http://www.herndonfestival.org>  
Herndon Festival 2004

## NVC Calendar of Events

### Weekly

*Thursdays, 3:30-8:30 PM Carving Center Open to all Members*

### Monthly

*3d Thursday, 7:30 PM Membership Meetings at Carving Center*

### Classes

*Apr 1 - May 6 Introduction to Wood Burning — John Noffsinger*

### Other Events of Interest

*March 19 to 21 Woodworking Show — NVC has a Demo Booth*  
*April 24—25 Fine Arts & Crafts Spring Showcase, Annandale NOVA*  
*June 5th Herndon Art Festival 2004*

## Directions to the Carving Center/Meeting Room At George Mason High School

**From I-495 Northern VA:** Take exit for "VA-7 Leesburg Pike to Falls Church". Continue on VA-7, Leesburg Pike and go Southeast for approximately 1.8 miles to George Mason High School (on left), 7124 Leesburg Pike. Turn left onto Haycock, then take the next left, and find parking in one of the lots to the left. **To Find the Carving Center Room (G024):** On the western end (toward I-495) of the upper parking lot is a building marked **Community Education Channel 38**. Just to the left of this building is a sidewalk which leads to the back. Follow it, bear right across some grass and enter the Center (door on corner of building).

### NVC Contacts

President	Joyce Beene	Chairs General Meetings and Board Meetings — NVC Web Page	Beene(at)wizard.net	703-978-2032
Vice-President	Ken Sheehan	Vice Chair of General Meetings and Board Meetings	KShee17892(at)aol.com	703-759-4529
Center Coordinator	Hank Cloutier	Manages Carving Center - Runs NVC Library	hankusaf(at)bellatlantic.net	703-430-1222
Treasurer	J. C. Evans	Manages finances and Collects Dues	birdsnfish(at)peoplepc.com	703-378-6277
Secretary	Dana Kercher	Keeps Minutes and Maintains NVC Archives		703-450-0433
Show Chairman	Mike Parker	Supervises and Coordinates Annual NVC Carving Show — Maintains Web Site	KnifeCut(at)aol.com	703-680-1194
Newsletter Editor	Hap O'Brien	Edits and Writes for NVC Newsletter — Maintains Membership Database	hapob2(at)yahoo.com	703-425-8703
NVC Web Site		www.nvacarvers.org	nvc@nvacarvers.org	

### Welcome New Member

**Luis Iglesias, Falls Church, VA**

**!!NOTE new return address below for renewals!! Remember renewals this year are prorated by quarter to December 31, 2004.**

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA CARVERS**  
**13526 Norwick Place**  
**Gainesville, VA 20155-1391**



*Please check the expiration date on your label.  
 To renew your membership, send the label and  
 \$20.00 dues to the above address.*

Address Correction Requested