



ROCK RIVER VALLEY CARVERS OF WISCONSIN

February 2021

Volume 22 issue 2

Editor: Rosemary Kautz

Website www.rockrivervalleycarvers.com

End of Year Club Information

- **Treasurer's Report** (Rosie Kautz): We began 2020 with a balance of \$5,657.08 in our account and the end of year balance was \$5,285.08. Major income was from \$855 of dues and \$310 from the sale of donations. Major expenses were \$440 rent, \$400 insurance, \$338 newsletter, and \$198 show expenses (printing). The year-end report was approved by the board by an email vote. A substantial deposit was made Jan. 13, 2021 - \$731 from Chili Mania and \$320 refund of rent charged last year for use of the Janesville Senior Center for evening meetings not held.
- **Sunshine Cards** (Rosie Kautz): Cards were sent to the following club members the last four months of 2020: Reggie James (sympathy for his mother), Bernie Fields Family (sympathy), Mike Hughbanks (sympathy for his mother), Mary Johnsons' Family (sympathy), and Bev Fields (get well). A get-well card was sent to Joe McNally in January for recovery from heart treatment.
- **2021 Carving Show** (Brad Crandall): Craig Center is currently operating at 25% capacity (150-200 people) and prospects are looking good for our show Sept. 11. He is keeping in touch with Rock County on this status. Brad is in the process of contacting carving magazines to include our show information. County Line Products (wood) and Hummul have committed to be here. Ernie Tucker will be our featured carver. Demos have been lined up: Randy Callison - spiral carving, Jackie Widmar - pyrography, and Denny Neubauer - carving little people. Denny will also have his tool sharpening equipment for those needing his services.
- **Sr. Center Update** (Rosie Kautz): The Janesville Senior Center will not be open again until the city enters phase 3 of Covid response or the end of May at the earliest. The HVAC system is being replaced (heating and air conditioning) and will not be completed until then. The roof will also be worked on in June and July. If the center is open, it will be noisy inside during those months.

2021 Officers

President:	Thomas Kautz 608-868-4522
Vice President:	Mark Ludois 608-371-3838
Secretary:	Mark Ludois 608-371-3838
Treasurer:	Rosemary Kautz 608-868-4522
Librarian:	Bud Cunningham 608-853-1777
Editor:	Rosemary Kautz 608-868-4522

**Learn from the
mistakes of
others – you can't
live long enough
to make them all
yourself**

We normally meet on the first Thursday of the month at the Janesville Senior Center, Second Floor 69 S. Water St. Janesville, WI Meeting or Carving begins at 7:15 p.m. Board Meeting at 6 p.m.

Notes from the President's Carving Bench

- Well, well, well, things seem to be looking up. People are looking forward to getting their inoculations with the Covid vaccine.
- Right now planning is moving forward for our clubs' 2021 show, sale, and competition. Many, many thanks to Brad Crandall for taking on this responsibility. Save the dates of Friday, Sept. 10 and Saturday, Sept. 11. Friday afternoon it will be all hands on deck to help set up the Craig Center for the show on Saturday. Be sure to sign up to exhibit and enter the competition when forms are available (soon). At the end of the day Saturday, some additional help will be needed to take everything down and pack it up.
- The biggest show in the state will be presented by the Wisconsin River Woodcarvers in Stevens Point. The 2-day show, sale, and competition will be Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 18 and 19. More information can be obtained on their web site, <https://wisconsinriverwoodcarvers.org/>, or from Ron O'Kray, 715-341-2214 or Greg Wirtz, 715-423-0471.
- Keep carving and as soon as safety and health concerns improve, we will be carving and meeting together again.

Member Challenge

All RRVC members have the opportunity to challenge themselves to carve a miniature. Judging will occur at our show and an anonymous donor has provided a \$25 cash prize. The club will provide a basswood blank, 1 15/16"x1 15/16"x 4 3/4" tall. Finished carvings **must fit inside the official judging box, 2"x2"x5" tall**. Any family-friendly subject is ok. It can have a clear finish, painted finish, or pyrography. Contact your club president for your block of wood. If you want to use your own wood (basswood or another species), contact the president to register, but remember that the finished carving must fit inside the official box.

Get to Know a Fellow Carver

(Submitted by Jim Dowd): "I served in the Marine Corp from 1952-1955. My college years were spent in Whitewater and Madison where I earned degrees in English and Journalism. I wrote for the Janesville Gazette almost twenty-five years and retired in 1997.

Rachael and I were married on April Fool's Day in 1961. Our family consists of Rebecca, RuthAnn, and David; nine grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

We enjoyed traveling; have visited Europe a couple of times and Central America several times. I read every day, pull weeds in our huge flower garden, and do some yard work.

I started carving as a charter member of our club in 1997. Other members were very helpful in teaching me the basic skills, and I enjoyed carving until my hands began to lose feeling. I served as club treasurer for eight years and on the board of directors for two years.

My favorite carvings were spoons, birds, with the favorite being an old stretched-out "coon" dog." Jim started the Get to Know a Fellow Carver column for the newsletter several years ago. Jim received the RRVC Above and Beyond Award in 2018. (Article submitted by Robin Rios.)



Received Notes

Bernie Fields' Family sent a lovely photo of Bernie in his workshop that said,

"I saw this piece of wood one day
When I picked it up it seemed to say,
There's something hiding inside of me
Remove some chips and you will see.
- My task was now to set it free."

Many thanks for your sympathy and kindness. The family of Bernard Fields

A note from Mary Johnson's family thanked us and included the following: "Please know how important you all were to Mom. She so enjoyed getting together and shows (pre Covid). Hopefully she is already carving in heaven."

Carving Tips

Put your carving glove on before you pick up your knife.
If you drop a knife or tool, don't try to catch it!



Bud Hilgendorf's
Cedar Waxwing

Club Members' Carvings



Randy Callison's Comfort Crosses to be
delivered to Mercy Hospital upon completion



Bud Hilgendorf's Female Cardinal (on left) and 2 Red Breasted
Nuthatches going up and down a tree branch (below)





John Raisbeck's Greenman Hiding in Cottonwood bark

Denny Pryce's completed Knot Head (below)



Mark Ludois' Spirit Man In progress



Jim Svoboda carved the Navy Relief from Linden tree wood for a fellow Navy serviceman, who gave him the wood. He also carved the men from different wood he had on hand.