



THE WHITTLER

From the Prez;

REMEMBER, OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE THE FOURTH SATURDAY THE 26TH. NOT THE NORMAL SECOND SATURDAY LIKE USUAL.

We had 29 people sign in at our August meeting. There were two visitors who participated with us. JR and Ed taught bark wood carving. JR made it a lot easier for us by removing most of the unwanted bark which saved a lot of wear and tear on the knives and we had A LOT less mess. There were about sixteen people in the class and there were many positive comments.

Linda had two people in the burn class. There probably will be more classes after our Fall Show.

I would like to THANK everyone who brought in snacks for us to enjoy. Making chips brings out the appetite. 😊

There was no 50-50 and Gary Smith won the table drawing.

Ellen needs help with the East TN Valley Fair. It runs 11 September through the 20th. She can be reached at 561-827-9102 if you can volunteer. She can answer your questions on how and when to enter as well.

Our Fall Show is less than six weeks away. We will use the September meeting to get your things caught up so you can enter them in the show. Contact JR at 309-620-1197 if you have any question about taking classes at the show or volunteering to help.

Busy times I know. Been there, done that, and have the T-shirts to prove it. But with a successful show we can have a money to our FREE wood carving project and bring in outside instructors.

I am still missing four pieces for the Friendship cane. Please bring them to the September meeting or they will not be included in this years cane.

Until then, keep making chips. Richard D. Phillips , President



Tennessee Valley Fair

This fair has been good for our club. We have generated interest and several people have joined after seeing our booth. Please consider entering carvings this year. No entry fee and they have cash awards larger than our club show. You can look up the details on TNvalleyfair.org. The carvings are brought in Tuesday evening Sept. 8 or all day on Wednesday, Sept 9. Judging is on Sept. 10. You can also bring your carvings to our September meeting, and we will get them to the show.

We man the booth thru out the fair, Sept. 11-Sept. 20 . Ellen and Maria handle the schedule. You can carve during this time and talk to folks about carving. It's a lot of fun. We definitely need help this year, some of regulars have conflicts. So please consider it.

2026 Show Update

We are getting close to the show. I am still encouraging you to consider taking a carving class before or after that how. We also have a wood burning class. Richard will be sending out a note on the classes. You can sculpt clay on Oct. 5 and 6.

Thanks for all that signed up to work on the show. Our Helvie knife for the participation raffle winner has arrived and wood burned. The pic is attached.. Many ways to increase your chances: Attend the show, enter a carving, rent a table, donate items for the raffle, help to set up or tear down after the show, assist in registration or man the information table during the show. the show has been better each year, because of you!

Donations are critical for the financial success that fuels all the demonstration projects and the outside instructors. Hoping next year to bring in a bark carving instructor, Windy Capes. Look thru your carving stuff, you probably have something you don't need or use. Please consider donating it to the show. It can be a carving for the general public raffle. Remember this year, we have a second Helvie knife raffle. For every person outside your household, you receive a raffle ticket for the knife...and they are in a raffle for a carving. JR 309-620-1197

This Is How I Do It

Painting adds to your carving. I was told it improves your carving by 20%..maybe more. Some folks like to carve but painting is not their favorite. After I get a carving done, I look at it for a couple days to make sure I didn't miss anything. Then when it's painted, I look at it again, every time I see a dramatic improvement especially when I hand it over a gift. People are very happy.

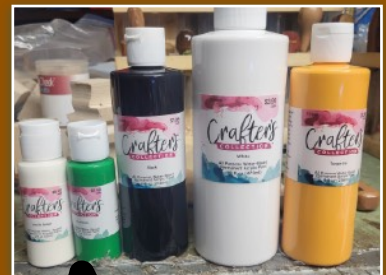
We know painting starts with dipping the project in water and waiting till the drips soak in....about 2-3 minutes. Then dilute the paint 7 to 1, water to paint. The paint brand I use is Crafters that is available at Hobby Lobby for 59 cents each. It's good consistency and stays that way in the bottle. Some of the other brands are water downed (Apple Farms at Walmart) or too thick after a while(Folk Art) and don't stay the same after opening. Test your dilution on a scrap piece to make sure you can see the wood grain. After completing the painting, spray with lacquer or use a brush to apply DecoArt Dura Clean, a polyurethane available at Hobby Lobby, see the attached picture. It's not as messy as the spray, much cheaper but you do have to brush it on. Then I antique it using Watco Natural and Watco Dark. This is the way I do it. JR

Smoky Mountain
Woodcarvers Show

Oct. 3 & Oct. 4

10 - 4pm

**Wood carving show & sales,
training classes,
carving demonstrations,
vendors, raffle, food & more.**



August 8, 2026



Club Demonstration Project

The bark house project was well received. I had several club members say it was their favorite project! I have actually seen a couple finished Bark houses. There will be bark for sale at the show if you are interested. If you want it sooner, let me know and I can bring it to the September meeting. Cost is based on size and like your project, they are all different.

September meeting will be focused on finishing projects for the show. So painting will be available for carvings that are completed. We can also help you finish carving any of the projects. Remember, we have the contest for demonstration projects, everyone that you bring the show, will be rewarded with a raffle ticket for a finished carving from me or two basswood sticks for carvingyour choice. This also helps show what people can do if they join the club. You can bring last year's fall projects, or anything done this year. Thanks!

October project will be an Halloween or Thanksgiving project. November will be a Christmas ornament, and Blake Lunsford will be the instructor for the December project.

I appreciate all the kind words but what really makes me feel good is you bringing in your finished projects to the table display at the monthly meetings. It makes a big smile when I see them. Lillie finishes hers almost every month! Try to do that for next month in preparation for the show!

JR



Bark House 1



Bark House 2

Previous Projects

Did you finish yours, come on let's get them painted and finished!



Study Stick



Uncle Sam Gnomes



Owl

What We Are Working On



Ellen Yatteau



Phillip Pugh



Rick Leihgeber



Jim McCutcheon



Richard Phillips

What We Are Working On



Dan Young



J R Hemmerlein



Lillie Wece



Ed Lampert



Chet Blay

Here for You in 2026 Board Members

President...Richard D. Phillips

Vice President...Maria D'Elio

Secretary...Ellen Yatteau

Treasurer...Dan Young

Board Member...J R Hemmerlein

Board Member...Gary Smith

Board Member...Dick Barnet



Richard



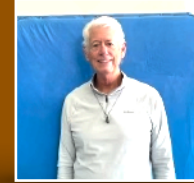
Maria



Ellen



Dan



Dick



J R



Gary

LOCAL CARVING OPPORTUNITIES

Monday

East Tennessee Carving Guild, 6-9pm, Edgewood Primitive Baptist Church,
807 McCammon Ave, Maryville. Any questions, give JR or Dean a call.

Tuesday

1- 5pm, Woodcraft store, 8023 Kingston Pike, Knoxville

9am - Noon, Senior Citizens Center, 1611 Depot St, New Market

Wednesday

9am - Noon, Senior Center, 1403 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge

9am - Noon, My People Senior Activity Center, 1220 W Main St (Chapman Hwy),
Sevierville

Thursday

9am - Noon, Senior Citizens Center, 807 W Jefferson St, Jefferson City

Friday

9am - Noon, My People Senior Activity Center, 1220 W Main St, Sevierville

10am - Noon, John T O'Connor Senior Center, 5th & Winona, Knoxville