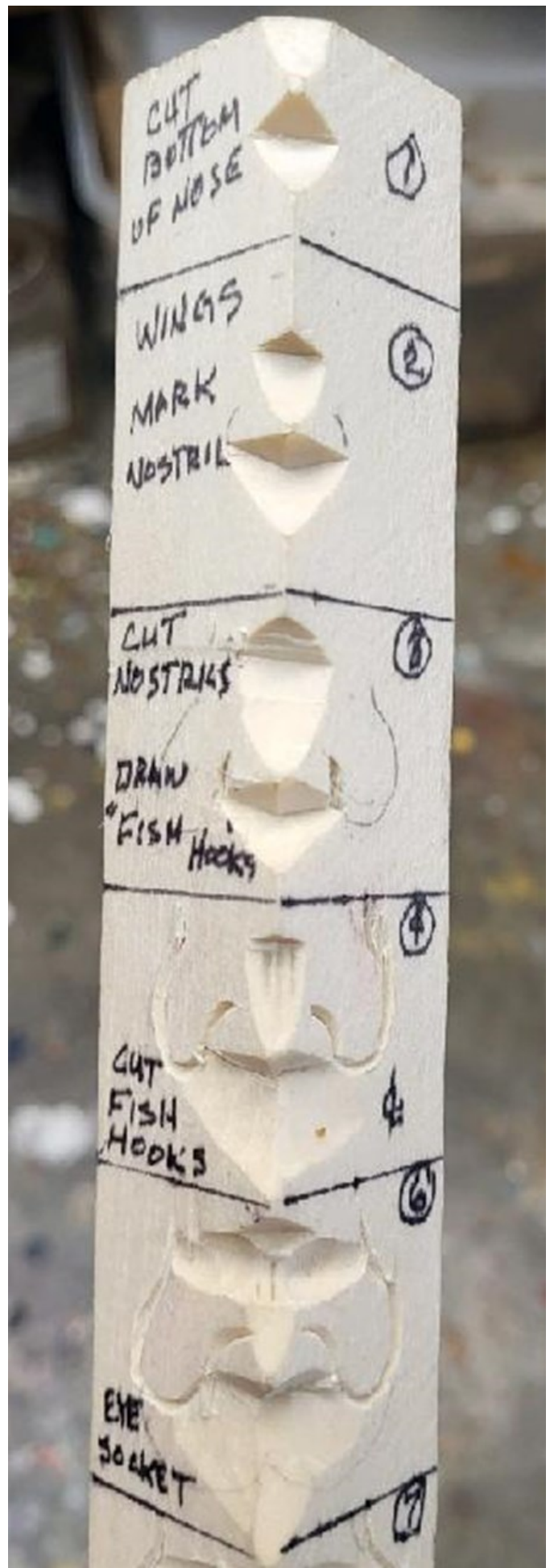
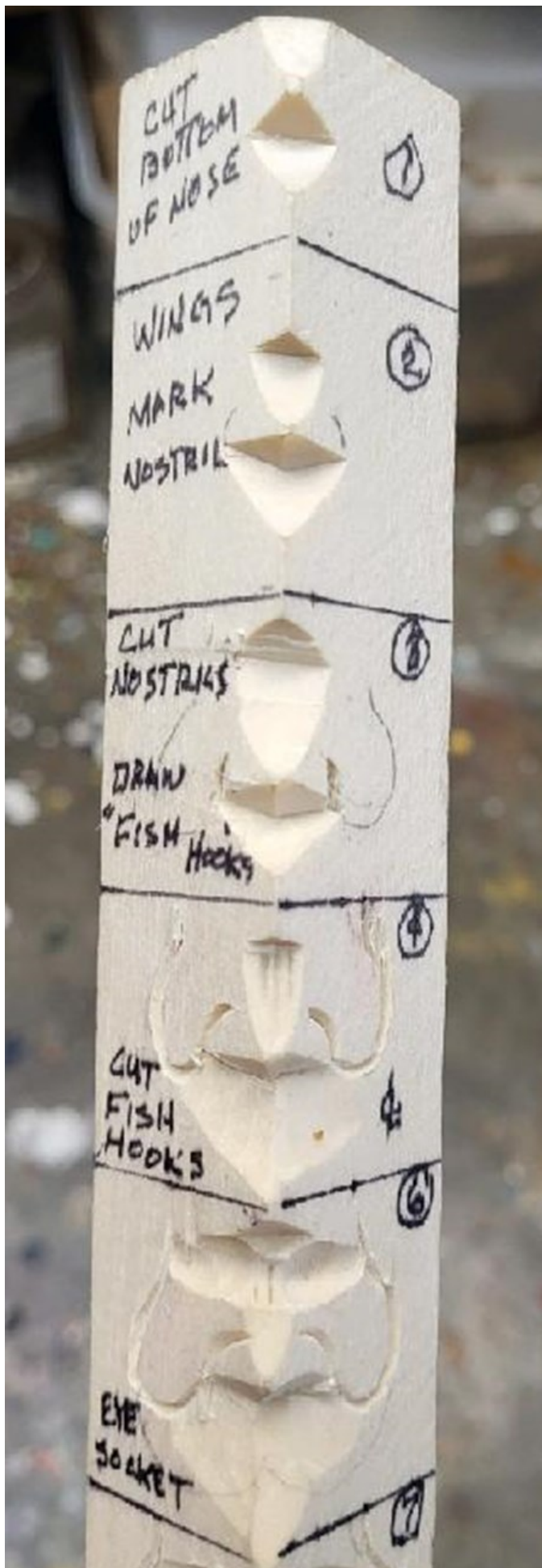


March Club Meeting













This is the Way I Do It - JR Hemmerlein

I have two topics to share with you. First is **PAINTING**; here are some tips

This biggest issue with painting is getting the correct mixture of paint and water. Most folks paint much too heavy and paint dries on the surface of the project. You want the paint to soak in. A buddy (Ed Lampert) taught me to dip the carving in water before I paint. This adds moisture and helps the wood soak in the coat of paint...but wait you still have to dilute the paint. Put a couple drops of paint into the palette, then add a couple drops of water, then mix. then dilute with more water (overall about 7 drops of water to one drop of paint is about right). Adding a couple drops of water first allows paint easier to mix with the remaining water. Then have a scrap board handy and use a different brush than your mixing brush to try how it soaks in. If you only see paint on the scrap.....too thick dilute more. Use mixing brush not your paint brush to avoid getting the heavy paint that remains in the mixing brush on your project. If you need the project darker, paint more coats..don't add paint to the mix. You should see the wood after you test dilution. That's the way I do it

Second topic is **Carving Tools**.

I am not a fan of buying many tools. And yes, I don't practice what I preach. But most of my tools have been bought and used over the course of 10 years. I have noticed many of you have tools but they are not the right number or the correct size. I still don't recommend that you need to buy a bunch of tools, but work towards a basic few tools. Do NOT buy new "sets"...too many extra tools are included and not needed. Here is what I use the most for our caricature projects. Pictures of each are shown below. If you have questions, let me or some experienced carvers look at your toolbox and make recommendations. No, you don't need them all at once but start building your collection.



This is the minimum starter set.

3 knives: Roughout, Detail & "Eye" knife

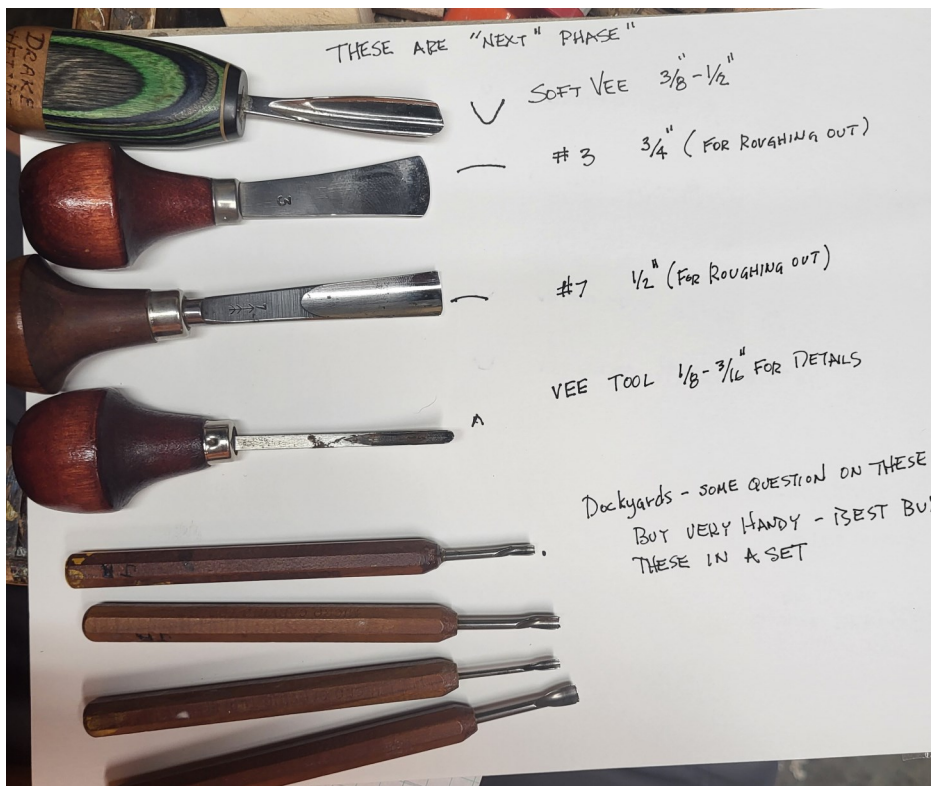
Gouges:

#9 or #11, 1/4 or 5/16"

#5 or #7, 1/4"

V-tool, 1/4 or 3/8"

Small gouge: #9, 1/8 (for texturing hair/beards)



Expand the Basic Set
 Soft V-tool, 3/8-1/2"
 #3, 3/4"
 #7, 1/2"
 V-tool, 1/8-3/16"
 Dockyard micro gouges

So basically, get a couple correct knives, a vee tool and a couple gouges that are the right size.

My least favorite brand is Flexcut; they work, the knife bevels are steep...which can be corrected by Dave Cummings. The Ramelson numbers don't match up but good tools. The Stubai are good tools and can be bought several places. But I would look for used tools first; prices are normally 1/3 to 1/2 the price of new. Pfeil tools are thought to be best but also the most expensive.

So stay with these manufacturers: Stubai, Ramelson, Drake, Pfeil (or Swiss made). Some good places to buy are TreelineUSA.com, WhittlingShack.com, Smoky Mountain Woodcarvers and many others; but exhaust use-tool opportunities first.

Oh yeah, get a decent stop. Any question, please ask me or experienced carver to help.

COMING NEXT MONTH

JR has a great idea. Let's go through our tool bags and get rid of those tools we no longer need/use/want.

Starting next month I'll include a section at the end of the newsletter where members can offer tools for sale; I envision something very similar to FACEBOOK's Tool Trader Woodcarving page.

If you want to participate, simply send me an email with pictures of the tools, what they are (e.g., #5, 1/4"; #9, 10mm), and how much you want. Be sure to include contact info (phone, email) so buyers can reach you. Remember, all transactions will have to be conducted outside church parking lot.

Whittling Wednesday now **TWHITTILING TUESDAYS**

Dwayne Gosnell's Zoom Whittling Wednesday classes became Twhittling Tuesday classes this year.

I've said this many, many times in the newsletter that Dwayne's Zoom classes are one of the best deals going for online carving classes. For \$20, you get 4-hrs of instruction in two 2hr zoom sessions. Dwayne sends you the pattern (so you can make as many cutouts as you want) and allows you to record the zoom sessions so you can replay whenever you want.

So, do yourself a favor and sign up on his website: <https://www.dgosnellwoodcarving.com/> You'll be glad you did.

Here's the 2024 Twhittling Tuesday lineup:

MAR: SHELLY.... CARICATURE TURTLE

APR: CARICATURE COWBOY.....I KNOW I KNOW I DONT DO ENOUGH COWBOYS LOL BUT HERE'S YOUR CHANCE

MAY: "VIK", LOOOOONG HORN VIKNIG BUST

JUN: "MR. SMITH, an OLD GENTLEMAN

JUL: DAPPER DAVE, MAN WITH BOLO HAT

AUG: GEORGE....IM MEMORY OF MY FATHER IN LAW "PICKLE BALL" PLAYER

SEP: MORBID, MUMMY CARICATURE

OCT: TACKY TURKEY....TURKEY CARICATURE

NOV: BUCKSKIN MOUNTAIN MAN

DEC: SANTA.....SANTA CARICATURE HOLDING STAR 2024



Here's a picture of March's project, Shelly the turtle.

Still time to sign up. 1st Zoom session is Tue, 12 Mar;
2nd class is Mar 26th.

Hope to see you in class.