



# The Whittler

## From the Prez!

- In our June meeting we had 29 people sign in. There were about 17 people absent; summer vacations will do that.
- 18 people were in the carving class taught by Blake Lunsford; JR assisted. Many thanks to Blake for taking the time out of his busy schedule to come down and teach a class. You're welcome back anytime.
- Mary Pilkay won the 50/50 drawing, Lillie Wece won the table drawing and Claudette Pridmore won the drawing for the free instructor class this Fall. She is the fourth finalist. There will be three more drawings before the grand prize drawing in September. The tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5.
- Now is the time to be turning in the Friendship Cane pieces. I have a few but there still several out there.
- An important reminder...Dean Irving is stepping down as Club Secretary and News Letter Editor. You can be the Club Secretary without doing the newsletter so do not let that scare you off from seeking the office. With that said, it would be a shame to lose our newsletter. Talk to Dean if you have any questions.
- Until then, keep making chips



## Table of Contents

From the "PREZ" .....	1
Treasurer Report/Show Update .....	2
Club Demonstrations .....	3
Table Display .....	4
June Club Mtg Pictures .....	9
How I Do It/Local Carving Opportunities .....	12

# Treasurer's Report for May 2025

## 2025 Show Update

We have four finalists for the FREE carving class. The last finalist will be picked at the September meeting and then we will pick the winner of a free class.

Next meeting, sign up sheets will be available for show help. Remember, the participation raffle is for a Helvie knife.

Unfortunately, Bill Johnson, the chip carving instructor, had to cancel his class due to a conflict.

Please look at all the training. You can take a class regardless of your skill level. I did when I started out! You learn a lot and in the end, you have great project. Here are the classes:

Gary Falin caricatures: Oct 1--3, \$150 plus roughout. A painting class is included.

Ed Lampert: Mr Santa Claus! 1 or 2 days, Oct 2 (2 day class), Oct 3 (1 day class)  
\$60 for 1 day class; \$100 for 2 day class

Richard Houlden, unique faces, Oct 2,3 \$100

Rich Wetherbee: Clay sculpting October 6,7 \$85 per day. Roughout or bark carving October 8,9 plus project cost

Brochures will be available next week on the website: <https://smkywca.club>

We have a Facebook page for the Show: Smoky Mountain Wood Carvers Annual Show. Let's get some activity on there to stir up some interest.

Any questions on show, reach out to me, JR 309-620-1197

## Club Demonstrations - JR

A big thanks to Blake for teaching his cute pig, "Tomorrow's Bacon." Most of the participants have their pig almost completed. Select a coral pink if you can find it for painting.

JR won't be at the July meeting but the plan is for Chet and Dean to teach. Project hasn't been firmed up but leading idea is Ddalo's "Simple Hillbilly" fridge magnet. However, instead of starting from a 100mmx50mmx40mm [4"x2"x1.5"] block and then carving down the side to get our triangular shape for the face, we'll start off "carving on the corner" using a 1.5" square block cut on the diagonal. Below are pictures of what we'll be carving.



Above is picture from Ddalo's YouTube video showing how he marks up the block then carves off the sides. Instead of doing all this carving, we'll start "on the corner".



Here a list of the demonstrations scheduled for the rest of 2025. NOTE, this schedule is EXTREMELY flexible. If you have ideas for demonstrations, let JR know as soon as possible.

August JR (Tennessee fan??)

September Painting/Finishing up projects for show

October Halloween Pumpkin (plan is to carve and paint...end at 2pm);

November Christmas themed??? Ideas please!



# June Table Display





















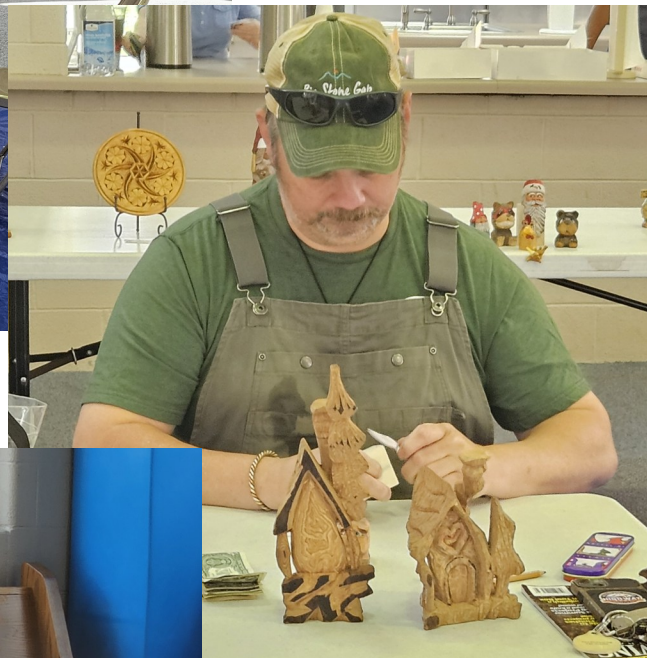
# June Meeting











## This is how I to do it: Painting

Painting is a challenge for most of us.

Don't be afraid because you have the potential to improve your project significantly.

The number one problem most folks have is using paint that is too thick. I try to use a ratio of water to paint (7 to 1) for most paints. After mixing (I don't use the mixing brush for testing/painting) I test the dilution on a scrap board that has been carved on surface. You should see the grain. If not, dilute more. Whites are diluted less...maybe 4 to 1. Black is diluted more, like 10 to 1.

I dip my carving in water before I paint. Wipe off the excess water and paint directly on the wet wood. If carving gets dry during the painting process (most do), I re-dip in water.

On the eyes, use full strength paint. But don't re-dip; full strength paint can't be re-dipped until it's dry.

This is how I do it ... JR

## 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