

The Curling Chip



Sharing with 92 Carver/Members

Number 59 February - March 1994

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CARVINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

REFLECTIONS OF '93

MANY OF OUR MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED OR

REFLECTIONS ON 1993

purchased woodcarvings from different places

H1, Matzke here. As you read this the

around the world. They all have a story to go

Reflections of '93 indicate that the Club had

acquisition. These carvings may get very

a successful year inspite of a few handicaps

home. Frank Koch and the Bismarck Library

be looked on as good. The record 13 inches of

would-like to change that; Frank has arranged

rain and flooding in July ended a multi-year

to have the display cases at the library for

drought. Even the record 29 inch snow in

our use during the months of May and June.

November will provide necessary moisture for

These display cases are in a high visibility,

and with it comes increased potential for

high traffic areas.

more sculpture purchases from us.

Besides your woodcarving, Frank requests

that you have a note about its origins. It

doesn't need to be long-winded or fancy. It

Our Out-reach program proved successful.

should include the type of wood; tools used;

The Club visited Steele, Wing, and Washburn

of the World for pin pointing its location.

during the summer. Each area provided

Because display space may become a premium,

benefits of its own. Plans are presently

Frank requests only one carving per country.

being drafted to continue in '94 to an even

In cases of multiples, the better carving

from each country will be displayed.

Frank requests that you contact him at

255-0280 and get the carving to him no later

than at the April 10th Annual Meeting.

Learnig experiences. Ugly head carving,

Christmas items and Rick Harney in October.

Painting, Novice classes and the Annual Show

ALLOCATED

in November. The Christmas party and Gift

DVAC'S GRANT MONEY

exchange in December. That is a lot of

The Board allocated the money at their Dec.

18th meeting. We will use \$500 for the Harold

and to keep it in the black. \$200 for the

operation during '94. More information will

be provided after finalization meetings.

Another success, I'm impressed with is the

obvious increase in members talents. I

comment each of you and ask that you make it

a goal to continue to do better and to vary

your projects. Doing so will make for a

better all around sculptor or carver.

continued page two

THE TRIBUNES SPORT SHOW IS IN FEBRUARY AND as usual it should be exciting. I encourage each of you to submit an an entry. They have given us a part of this show and we need to support it by submitting entries. Submit some of the Super good pieces that you displayed at the Annual Show. We also increased the Raffle Prizes. The odds of winning are greatly increased and should do good for selling tickets. Remember that the Club is directly benefited by each ticket you sell, so get out there and do your best. Who knows, it might be you who wins one of the fine prizes.

SHARING IS PERHAPS THE GREATEST SUCCESS for our Club. It provides friendship and successes beyond our imagination. It is the number one value that our Club is noted for. We should never let that value diminish.

While I'm on sharing, there is one point that needs to be brought up. Lately, I've noticed that meeting setups and cleanup falls on the shoulders of a select few members. We need to remember that this is a shared duty. We also need to remember that we share the meeting room with other craft people who we need to think about. Next time, grab a broom or dust pan, if you have to leave early, clean up your area before you go. Every effort will help.

WHAT DID I LEARN IN '93? I FOUND OUT THAT there is always room to learn and try more projects and styles. I found out that one person can not make this Club function. Successes may not be instant but with dedication can be achieved. I learned that my kitchen isn't large enough to hold E-Board meetings in. Just wait until I get my home built south of Washburn on the river. We should have great time there. I learned that I am paid back for what I put into the Club. I learned that the Club is a great place to meet and be with friends.

'94 will be an exciting year for the Club. There will be new officers and many new experiences. If there are a few goals you didn't complete, you need only to keep working at them as you have the entire year to succeed. Keep improving and sharing with others.

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NOTE: FOR AND UP TO DATE MAILING LIST SEND A S.A.S.E. (self addressed stamped envelop) to Sam Lacher or pick up at a meeting. A reminder; DO NOT share this list with any Non-Members. We all get enough JUNK mail.

MEETING BRIEFS, November 20, 1993

Happy New Year to you all from your snow-bound secretary! So much for life on the farm.

As of the Nov. meeting we had approximately 85 paid up memberships! Way to go Sam!

We will be having a raffle and one of the items to be given away is a fish carved by Andy Peterson who impressed everyone at the Annual Show. Vince & Frank will be handling all of the details. Thanks Vince & Frank

The library list will be published in the newsletter annually with updates given as new material is purchased. Don't forget to use this valuable resource. Good Job Mickey!

We need volunteers to help keep the sets of tools sharpened for the senior program. See Bob Pedigo or Mickey. Keep carving Seniors! You do terrific work and are terrific club ambassadors!

We will keep "Chip Chats" (the National Woodcarving Magazine) coming to the Bismarck and Mandan Libraries at our expense. Lets let the whole world know about woodcarving!

The last issue of the newsletter contained an advertising brochure from the Western Chiseler, with the additional postage paid for by him. This will remain an option for future issues. Thanks Art for the time & effort you put into producing the newsletter! (Too bad nobody in the club needs Angus Bulls or Rambouillet Sheep).

Treasures report showed a balance of \$713.13. RAH! RAH! RON!!

As you can see the Flickertail Woodcarvers Club is the result of a lot of people all working together! Thank You members for supporting the work of the officers! Woodcarving is a terrific hobby. It can be enjoyed in a group, or in a snowbank! I know!

From the files: Oct. 8, '69: The date set for adoption of the By-Laws was Sept. 20, 1969. "We have \$25.00 in the treasury." Clara Sherman, Secy-Treas.

Bev Vollmer, Secretary



OUR 25th ANNUAL SHOW WILL BE HELD OCT. 21 to 23rd, 1994. We would like it to be the BIGGEST, most attended show our club has ever presented. We will be inviting former members to return and share what they have been do. in carving since leaving our club. We do need their names and up to date addresses so we can accomplish this. Can you help us? Art Tokach, Editor

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

SAM LACHER HAS SOME GLAD NEWS AND SOME SAD

NEWS. First the SAD NEWS. Sam reports that

there are eight members who have not renewed

their membership for 1994. These 8 members

will receive this, their last newsletter and

a dues reminder slip. The GLAD NEWS is that

there were 15 new members who signed up and

paid their dues for this year.

Because our membership list is getting so

long and newsletter space is becoming a

premium, we will not enclose the list with

the newsletter as we have done in the past.

The 1994 mailing list may be picked up at the

Jan 15th meeting or if you desire an up-to-

date list send a long S.A.S.B. to Sam Lacher

for your personal copy.

A word of CAUTION; DO NOT share this list

with any non members. We all get too many

picture window letters now!

People are given five senses -

touch, taste, smell, sight, and hearing.

A good leader has two more - horse and common



OL. TIMBERS STRIKES AGAIN

I FORGOT MYSELF AGAIN AND PLACED DAVE AND

MAVIS JORDANS HOME CLOSE TO DEERFIELD. IT IS

CLOSE TO DEERWOOD, MN. DAVE SAYS TO COME ON

DOWN AND SPEND SOME TIME. HE HAS PLENTY OF

ROOM TO CAMP, CARVE OR DO BOTH.

DAVE ALSO SENT ALONG A CLIPPING FROM THE

BRainerd Newspaper CONCERNING BUTTERNUT TREES

AND THE CANKERWORM THAT IS ATTACKING AND

SLOWLY, KILLING THEM. FORESTERS ARE AT WORK

ON THE PROBLEM. LETS WISH THEM WELL SO WE

DON'T LOSE THIS BEAUTIFUL TREE AND ITS

WONDERFUL CARVING WOOD.

Art Tokach, Editor

Brainerd Daily Dispatch (Minn.), Wednesday, April 7, 1993

Forest Service strives to save butternut trees

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Forest Service says it is working with state governments, conservation organizations and woodcrafters to help ensure the health of butternut trees.

The trees, now in severe decline because of a devastating non-native canker disease, is favored by woodcarvers and has been used for furniture, fine woodwork and paneling.

The disease has been found from Minnesota to Maine and south to Arkansas and the Carolinas.

"The joint effort includes genetics research on disease-resistant trees, a harvest ban on healthy butternut trees in national forests, and formation of a team to implement voluntary conservation measures at all levels and ownerships," Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson said in a recent news release.

He said the coalition's aim is to restore butternut throughout its range and promote healthy regeneration.

The harvest restriction is expected to remain in place on national forests until a disease-resistant strain of butternut can be identified and propagated.

The Forest Service said it is hoped that the coordinated effort can save the butternut from a similar fate as that of the American chestnut, once the most common Eastern hardwood, which also was decimated by a non-native disease introduced earlier in the century.

And now to add to my little pickle, I must have a name for my knives & chisel. A Whittier, A Carver, or Sculptor, let see Most of the time "Wood Butcher" fits me.

I carve for fun, an artist-probably not Some things turn out fine, others go to the firepot! I appreciate the sculpting, the artists in the club They challenge me to new heights- and I think that's fun! But don't neglect the carvers or the whittlers in the bunch, We vitalize, recruit, take classes-thats not just a hunch!

It seems I can't ever leave this little mess behind- It follows me everywhere-jobs, recreation, all the time! I only really hope if in heaven, I do arrive Our titles, will all be neatly parked outside!

Mr. Matzke, to you I must confide, Titles have always been a big pain in my backside When I got married, it was decreed, A housewife, a farmwife, you will be.

BY Bev Vollmer

Then the women's movement caused me to think, I'm not married to a house, or a ranch- what is the link? I tried domestic engineer, seemed a farce to be sure Mother, wife, Homemaker- what is the fad this year?

I thought, I'll go to school, get a degree Then I'll have the proper title for Me!

Oh yes, behind my name, I attached B.S.

Some thought that only too true, I guess!

I got a job, now titles are no problem,

It didn't take long to discover, I was better without 'em

The secretaries wondered, is she a Miss, Mrs, Or Miz

Oh Lord, what was proper, I think Bev is who she is!

Was I a salesman, a Salesperson, Director, or Directorate,

Chairman, or Chairwoman, Please, just let me forget!

Back to the farm, now titles are really confusing!

Are we farmers, or ranchers, it is quite amusing!

The IRS says there can only be one farmer per household,

No social security benefits for you- They're not allowed.

## "As I See It"

ART, I-OVERHEARD YOU COMMENT TO ANOTHER PERSON that you didn't have very many pieces in this years show because you didn't carve any others. Is this a club rule that you can only show your work once or in the year that it was carved?

ABSOLUTELY NOT. OUR CLUB HAS NEVER HAD ANY rules about what you can show or how often you show it and I hope it remains that way. Back in my more productive years I started this as a personal policy only because I had so many things to show. Now when I don't carve as many pieces I still carry this idea in my head, "Make it and show it this year." Or it could be like the poker players bluff rule; "Show the good ones and hide the bad." I'm also a person who dislikes seeing several carvings of the same style displayed on a cluttered table. Simple is so much more pleasing to the eye.  
Art Tokach, Editor

## ❖❖❖ HAPPY BIRTHDAY ❖❖❖

We tried to get you to repond to our plea for your Birthday dates. We got a total of five replies. Cleo Koch finally resorted to plan-two, and called as many locals as she could find at home. One big problem, our phone-budget does not allow us to call those of you who live out of town to get this vital information. We do want to honor you on your SPECIAL Day but how can we if we don't know when it is. PLEASE, take the time and send us the information. Especially those of you who live out of the Bismarck-Mandan area.

Jan. 1, Maythel Dierks; Jan 4, Frank Manolovitz; Jan.5, Norm LaFontaine; Jan.8, Jeanette Radig; Jan 12; Gynell Torgeson; Jan.12, Harvey Pedersen; Jan. 13, Bob Olson; Jan. 18, Beven Shaw; Jan. 30, Jim Knight; Jan. 31, Laura Schmidt;

Feb. 1, Larry Brewster; Feb. 2, Delia Hammel; Feb. 7, Herb Thurn; Feb. 11, Irene Cotton; Feb. 15, Frank Koch; Feb. 21; Bob Pedigo; Feb. 21, Ron Torgeson; Feb. 26, Diane Matzke; Feb. 28, Lowell Boyum;

Mar. 1, Bev Vollmer; Mar. 2, Allen Arnts; Mar. 3; Agnus LaFontaine; Mar. 4, PJ Curtis; Mar. -8, Alice Arnts; Mar. 8, Shirley Pedersen; Mar. 11, Ernie Dierks; Mar. 14, Jeannette Wagner; Mar. 18, Mike Senger; Mar. 20, Bill Hammel; Mar. 22, Keith Stevens;

Happy Birthday to you, you live in a zoo, you look like a \_\_\_\_\_ and you act like one too.

Cleo Koch, Sunshine Coordinator

E BOARD AND REGULAR MEETING BRIEFS:  
DEC. 19, 1993

D.W.A.C.'s Grant of \$1500 received. Allocated funds as follows; \$500 to Enlow Workshop, \$200 Honorarium to Seniors Progr, \$300 for the "Curling Chip", and \$500 for unnamed Fall Workshop Instructor.

We will apply for another Grant from the ND Council of the Arts in March.

Approved Money Raising Raffle and Vince Bitz to handle Ticket Sales for Tribune Sport Show Drawing. Accepted Carved Prizes from several members.

Approved an Ad Policy to carry Paid Full Page Ads in the Newsletter. Discussed ways to reduce rising costs of Newsletter.

Agreed to take part in DWAC's "Art in the Heart of Winter" at Kirkwood Mall Jan. 21 to 23, 1993. Approved Information Brochure for Hand Out at this function.

Summer Reach Out or "On the Road Whittle-Ins" for next Summer discussed. Several places possible. More later after check out.

Carving Projects for meetings and Whittle-Ins finalized through March.  
Mickey Tokach, Acting Secretary

NO KNIFE CARVING ??  
Who came up with this idea? Whats its purpose? Who is involved in it? How much does it cost?

The idea is from Frank Koch. We all know that the future of woodcarving is in the hands of the young people of today. We also know that if we show them the correct and safe way to create something in wood this idea will remain in their minds and maybe influence them later when they have more time to become more involved in this great hobby. It is for the 10 to 16 year old boy or girl carver. It is not a freebie, but the cost is minimal, \$3.00. The E Board feels that anything without a cost is not appreciated as much.

Frank does need some help on the Feb. 19th afternoon to make sure these young people get a warm feeling about creating something in wood and woodcarving. To volunteer your help, Call him at 255-0280

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WHEW !! THANK THE LORD FOR BAD WEATHER AND BLOCKED ROADS. Because of those two things, Bev Vollmer couldn't get to the Christmas Meeting and present me with her Special "AWARD" Gift. But now I have to wait and worry about what it might be. Mickey and I will miss the Jan. 15th meeting, so it will be February 19th before she gets her sweet revenge. WORRY, WORRY, WORRY!!!
Art Tokach, Editor

POWER TOOL QUESTION

OH MY GOSH, NOW WHAT DID I DO WRONG? Here I am, late on a Sunday evening, rushing to get my Christmas gifts carved, sanded and a finish on them and my "Dremel" just "Wopped" my hand a good one and destroyed the spiral sander that I had chucked in it. It scared the beebees out of me. Well thats enough for that tool, it can just lay there unplugged until morning and I'll ask Art about it.

Art informed me that two things may have caused my Dremel to rebel like it did. He said the tool could have been dropped on the nose of the sander which could have bent the 1/8" shaft slightly and the first time I'd use the tool it would go wop, wop, wop, wop, and end up like it is now. I told him this is the first time I'd ever used this sander so that wasn't the reason.

The second reason is one I find easier to believe. He told me that even though it is a "power tool" a person can't force it as I may have been doing. I was rushing to get the gift finished. He said that this type of a bend usually happens to a tool with a 1/8" shaft and once it starts the tool will self destruct if too much side pressure is applied on its end or "nose". The 1/8" shaft is meant for moderate side pressure but everything has its limits. He advised using a lighter touch and gentler strokes when using POWER. Allowing myself more time to do a good job would also be a fine idea.

I was working under a self imposed deadline. I'd forgotten that this is supposed to be a relaxing hobby and here I was pushing it to its limit. I guess I'll have to buy another mandrel and take it a little easier on it. Now to get up enough courage to "Get back on the horse again and ride", I may still have enough time to finish them. Cleo Koch, More Cautious Power Tool User

CAN YOU IMAGINE THIS ONE? WE CREDITED THE wrong person with a carving. Norm Lafontaine says that some how his name was attached to a carving carved by Hugh McVarish. We have conducted an extensive investigation into this and have found no one at fault. Pety the Snake must have done it.

PS: The carving in question? The owl. Art Tokach, Editor

Pride is what compels people to do their best work when there's nobody watching.

WHITTLE-IN NEWS

NOW THIS IS THE WAY TO HAVE A WHITTLE-IN. It was such a great feeling to observe the 25+ members who sat around the tables with 3, 4 or 5 people per table. Helping one another regardless of anyone's capability or knowledge. This is what Whittle-Ins are all about, CARVERS SHARING WITH CARVERS.

Both the Nov. 3rd Whittle-In with Bob Matzke and his "L+I Dudes" and the Dec 1st "Sitting Santa" with Al Wolte did just that. The Nov Meeting project with Angie Wagner was one of the better color classes many of us have witnessed. Thirty plus people and we have witnessed. Thirty plus people and NO ONE was ready to leave when the time ran out on her class. The most often heard comment was; She didn't assume anything, she started us out from square one with the three primary colors. From there she took us through the whole spectrum of color mixing and into the tints and tones. Finishing with how to paint a face with pallet mixed colors instead of "Ready Mixed" colors, which can be all wrong for your carving, giving it a ceramic appearance. All the while she was doing this she answered any questions that were put to her. While she didn't have time for a hands on painting class, MAYBE ? If she is asked again she might consider it.

Art Tokach, Editor



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Membership Chairman, Sam Lacher informs us that the following 16 NEW members have joined our club and hopefully will become active and leading assets in our clubs future.

George Anderson, Bismarck; Bverett Debertin, Minot; Ralph Reland, Mandan; Dave Forth, Wing; Cliff Horner, Bismarck; Pat Idyle, Bismarck; Leonard Larhus, Bismarck; Ralph Lafontaine, Mandan; Jenny Longtine, Bismarck; Cindy Roth, Bowbells; Jeff & Cathy Rustad, Garrison; Bill & Polly Schwal, Belfeld; Jerry Schneider, Dickinson; Sandy Sorensen, Bismarck; Halder Thompson, Mandan;

A reminder to all new and old members to take advantage of as many of our services as possible. Our Library has Carving Books and Videos just waiting for you to check them out. The Meetings and Whittle-Ins have a different project each time for you to try. Come, join in and become active and have an enjoyable time. Art Tokach, Editor

LIMITS EXIST ONLY IN YOUR MIND

The Curling Chip

CHARTER ADOPTED Sept, 20, 1969

Number 60 April - May 1994 Sharing with 103 Carver/Members Next Newsletter DEADLINE May 15, 1994

ENOUGH ALL READY!

ALL RIGHT, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, LETS CALL A

TRUCE. After originating the idea of using

the newsletter as a forum about the dis-

cussion of wood carving vs. wood sculpturing,

I believe now that if it continues it will

cause a split within our club. We all have

personal opinions about this issue and many

have voiced theirs. Bob Matzke's intent, that

he hoped to convey during his talk at the

dinner was for all of us to raise our mental

self image. He felt that in that way we would

raise the quality of our work, whether it is

for self gratification or for the sake of

art. Who can argue with that idea?

Let us return to the original concept for

which this club was formed 25 years ago. We

all loved WOOD. We all loved the camaraderie

of the meetings and the sharing of each

others ideas whether we were skilled or

novice. This club has endured because of

these beliefs and will make another 25 years

or more if we continue with them.

Thanks to all of the members who expressed

their views through the "Curling Chip".

Please continue to support the club and we

will continue to bring you the best carving

newsletter any of you will ever find.

ENLOW WORKSHOP

HAROLD ENLOW OF DOGPATCH, ARK. ARRIVED IN

town last week sporting his "Basic Cap" and

showing off a "Texas Yardsstick" (you guessed

it, a stick found in a Texas yard). He was

pleased that he wasn't directed outside, just

down the hall for the rest room.

As most carving seminars go, this one

deserved an A+ feeling with the 21 carvers

who attended from both sessions. He imparts

on his students that relaxed feeling of

carving for fun and relaxation. Leave your

problems some where else they don't belong

bothering you when you're carving. The

feeling of camaraderie extended to the after

class "Pizza Party" attended by 16 carvers

and spouses.

If anyone felt cheated, it could only be

those who didn't attend or even visit this

seminar. Art Tokach, Editor

BEGINNERS VIEWPOINT

I did not really plan to become involved

in woodcarving. The process sort of snuck up

on me. Last spring I read "Drawing on the

Right Side of the Brain", by Betty Edwards

and was surprised by how much fun I had doing

the elementary drawing exercises. I was caught

up by Edwards' idea that real involvement and

concentration on any subject encouraged

creativity. Throughout the summer I kept on

reading and drawing and had lots of fun. I

was learning to observe and reproduce the

relationships between form and space. I found

that although I had worked with cows for

forty years there were lots of things about

animals that I thought I knew, but really had

never looked at well enough to be able to

reproduce. The world was suddenly full of all

sorts of interests I had been missing.

As all this was going on, I twice ran into

the Fickertall outreach program. First at

Wings Community Days and then at the Art

Show in Washburn I saw the work of club

members and watched Bev Vollmer carve. Here

was another way of looking at forms and

space! I really think I was already hooked by

the time of the Annual Show in November. What

a great event the club staged. My wife, Anne,

and I were impressed by the variety of styles

and techniques and by the exceptional local

work. At the time I think I preferred those

pieces that had been designed to show off the

natural beauty of the wood. You can see where

Anne's preference lay when I tell you about

the good time I had at Art's latest chip-

carving class.

The result of all my looking was that I

became a club member and joined Frank Koch's

beginners class. Boy, did I have to learn

fast. My tools were all wrong, my thumbs were

always in the way, I had been working with

the wrong kinds of wood, I was too timid, I

was too eager to cut away too much wood: boy

did I have a lot to learn!

It may be a very long time before I

produce any sort of carving that's up to club

standards but I'm having fun and learning a

lot, not only about woodcarving.

Dave Forth, Novice Woodcarver

Power carving is a modern method of removing wood, using power tools, to create wood sculptures or carvings. Some traditional carvers frown on the use of power tools because our craft began using less advanced tools which were not mechanized. However, the knife carvers of today use high grade carbon steel blades which were introduced in more recent times. Early sculptures used stone tools to scrape or break their medium, which was stone, into a finished sculpture. So, I suppose someone could say that those who use knives are not carvers in the traditional sense too. I feel power tools take the drudgery out of removing large unnecessary portions of wood and they allow expansion into carving types of wood which would just be too darned hard to carve using knives. The variety of bits for power tools allow for great detail in your carvings.

For those who are interested, there will be a class on basic power carving tools and techniques, Saturday and Sunday, April 9 & 10, beginning at 8:30 AM. The project will be a miniature Canada Goose. Painting will be completed on Saturday, April 16, during our Annual Meeting. A cost of \$25.00 will include three full days instruction, the goose blank, glass eyes, and necessary paint. The instructor has one flexible shaft tool and one small rotary tool which can be used during the class for those who don't have power tools and just want to see what power carving is all about. Dust boxes are required for those who bring their own tools to class. Dust masks and eye protection are strongly recommended for all participants. Talk to Bob Pedigo (258-0702) by April 2 to sign up for the class. Maximum of six students.
Bob Pedigo, Power Carving Instructor

Whittle-Ins

The projects at the Whittle-Ins and the Saturday Meetings must be well chosen because there have been about 25 members present and most are working on the project for the meeting. The carving camaraderie is still our best feature at these gatherings. When you read this there will ONLY be four opportunities to join in on these projects before the Brown Bag Whittle-Ins start.

DARREL KRAUSE LEFT THE CLUB A MOMENTO OF his days as a woodcarver, a RED APRON with autographs of people he had met through woodcarving. He also had a chain that he had carved using a different wood for each link. Darrel was not a charter member but he joined soon afterwards. He belonged to the club in the seventy's. Darrel died Jan. 25, 1994.

Hi, Matzke here. Did you have a chance to visit the carving table at the Bismarck Tribune Sport Show? I sure hope so. There were some truly good pieces entered in the carving contest.

The Flickertail Woodcarvers table was a continuous attraction for crowds. There were hundreds of the usual questions and expressions of appreciation for the good work. But best of all was the desire for information about the club.

Congratulations are in order for the contest winners. I was truly impressed by the quality of the pieces entered. It appears that they are better each year. This is great as it brings out the best in each of us as we try to stay in step with our fellow carvers. The winners were: BUST- Don Eck, DUCK/BIRD-Dave Schmidt, FISH/WATER CREATURES- John Opp, ANIMALS- Bob Matzke, RELIEF/CHIP- Doug Smith, CARICATURE/FUN CARVING- Frank Koch, SPECIAL MEDIA- Dave Schmidt.

The raffle was an important part of the Sport Show. It was a real draw for the carvers table and a positive for the club. The total income after cost for the club wasn't available at the time of this letter. But, without a doubt the club did well. The raffle was made a success due to the willingness of members to sell tickets and through the generosity of members who donated me valuable carvings as prizes. Each of the members who donated carvings will receive a personal letter of appreciation from the President of the club for their contribution to the success of the raffle.

A special thank you to those who volunteered to work the carving table. Without your assistance the event would not have went as smoothly as it did.

Once again the Flickertail Woodcarvers saw a success at the Sport Show, but as usual, I want to remind each of you that now is the time to start thinking of next year and what type of pieces you'll be entering.
Bob Matzke, President

PRAIRIE DOG CARVING

Thanks, Bob for a fun and rewarding carving session. Your project for the Jan. 15th Whittle-In was perfect. One prairie poodle was even entered in the fun carving part of the Sport Show. Keep the good ideas coming.

Anyone having a good idea, but don't feel up to teaching, let someone else know. Perhaps a class can be developed between two or more of the members.
Bob Matzke

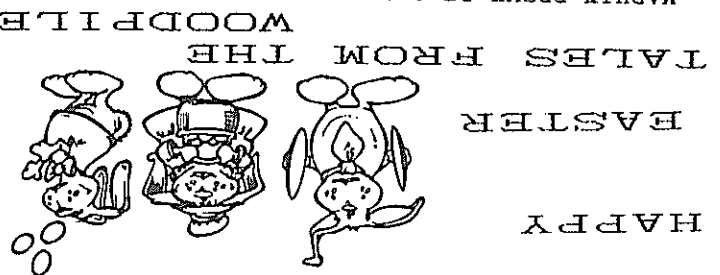
FARGO HONORS BAKKEN

There are not very many Flickertail Woodcarvers left who remember what Stewart Bakken, Fargo, did for our club when it was just an idea in a couple of our minds. He was the Dist. Rep. for the National Wood Carvers Association. He furnished Dave Jordan with a copy of a Constitution and By Laws for us to form this club and begin to bring this great hobby to so many willing carvers. Stew and Vern Spooner attended our first Whittle-Ins at Fort Lincoln State Park. They showed us their carvings and told us how we could become as good at carving as they were. Both of these carvers gave us a lot of advice most of which was never recognized at the time.

The Red River Wood Carvers honored Stew and his wife Marion with a dinner on Jan. 14th. They also presented them with Friendship Canes carved by their friends they had made during the past thirty years. I am proud that a handpiece I carved tops one of them.

THANK YOU STEW AND MARION FROM THE FLICKERTAIL WOODCARVERS

Art Tokach, Editor



HAPPY EASTER

TALBS FROM THE WOODPILE

MARVIN BROWN IS A QUITE, NEBRASKA FARMER

who has a smile as large as his body. Marvin loves to play "Gotcha". He shared in my sharpening class at Doane this year. During my instruction of the 'V' tool, I told the class about a young carver who the evening before was having trouble sharpening his small 'V' tool. He was using it for hair texturing. I helped him get it sharp. I demonstrated to him that he could get the same results with a large 'V' tool, but he could not do the same job with a smaller 'V' tool that the larger one could do. Even with repeated passes. The point of this lesson was. "To use the largest carving tool possible for the job at hand". Marvin, who quite took in this lesson then remarked. "Art, I see your point exactly, but how do I get that 5/16" 'V' tool in between the toes on the Wren that I'm carving". He smiled and said "Gotcha". Well after we all shared in the humor and I had time to think a little, my answer to him was, "Yes, I see your problem also, but remember, you need to use the largest tool possible to do the job at hand". Art Tokach, Editor

POWER TIP

Art - I get 8 to 10 Club newsletters every month, & "Curling Chip" is right up with the best of them. Keep up the good work! Another caution for Cleo Koch and the rest of us who do power carving! 1- To do it well, sanding speed should be slow & pressure light. 2- Most Drum sanders, even those on 1/4" shafts can't take the speeds of the machines we use. Even if you're using a hardened shank, like some of the better stones (dental types) they won't handle the 20,000+ rpm of a Dremel unless they are nearly perfect on balance. Using split mandrel or cushion drum sanders, we just can't get the balance to run much over the 5 - 8,000 rpm's most manufacturers will recommend. Avoid the "WOP" - keep the speed down. It's safer plus the results will improve! Cliff Drinkwine, 510 Dorn Drive, Waunakee, WI

NO KNIFE CARVING CLASS FOR YOUTH

The No Knife Carving Classes was held on Feb. 20th from 1PM to 3:30PM. In everyone's opinion, it was a complete success. Nine young men and ladies eagerly took up the challenge and made some pretty nice letter openers. Motivation remained high and all were well behaved. Each of the youths expressed a desired that we should conduct more classes for them. It was rather fun working with them, as I saw a mini version of the regular club at work. Everyone was visiting, yet working hard and asking questions and feeling pleased with their efforts. Thanks to Frank Koch for organizing the class and to Vince Bitz, Mitzi Olson and Bob Matzke for conducting the class.

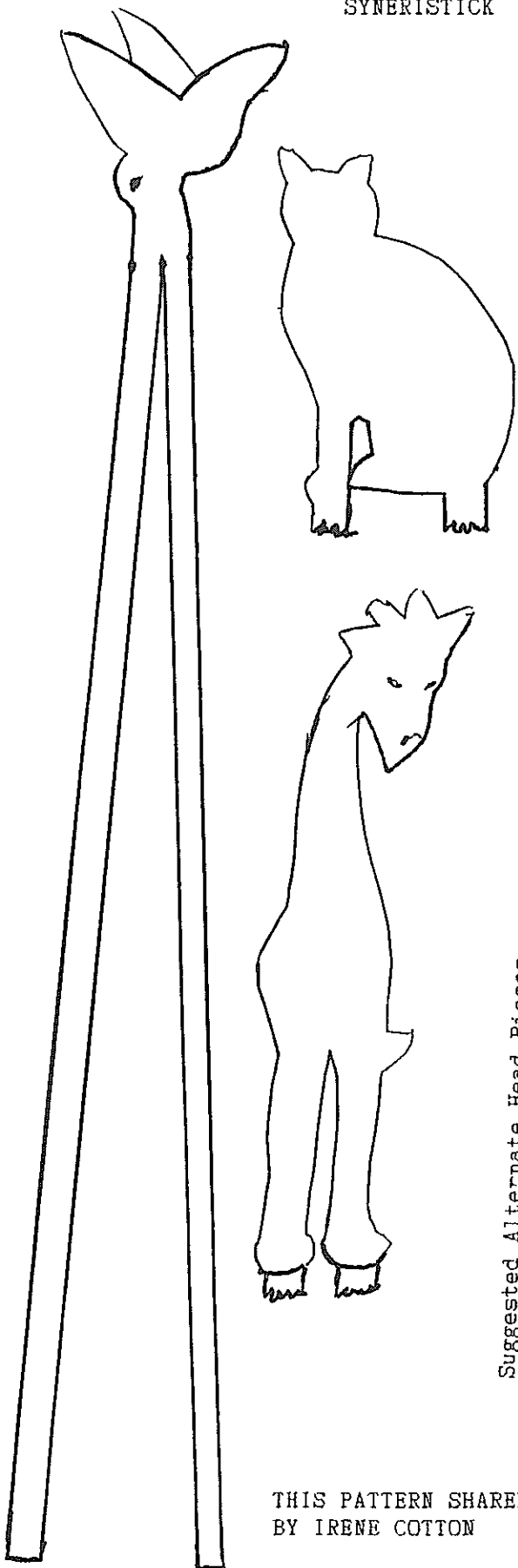
HIP HIP, HOORAY

DRUM ROLL PLEASE, The Flickertail Woodcarvers would like to recognize John Opp and Vince Bitz for their work to better our clubs finances. John Opp, Past President, is our Grant Application Writer. Vince Bitz, Member at Large who has been in charge of the Raffle for the past several years. Both of your works have benefited our club so we can continue to bring woodcarving into more lives in the Bismarck-Mandan area and all the surrounding country.

DRUM ROLL PLEASE

APRIL IS A SPECIAL MONTH FOR 12 MEMBERS. Born in April were; Apr. 9, Christ Hansen; Apr. 10, Vince Bitz; Apr. 13, Mitch Olson; Apr. 16, Jean Davidson; Apr. 18, Cliff Rime; Apr. 19, Pat Kramer, and George Schamberger; Apr. 21, Allen Vollmer, and Shirley Lacher; Apr. 22, Marge Bitz; Apr. 24, Miles Hansen; Apr. 28, Vanona Rime.

MAY HAPPY BIRTHDAYS GO OUT TO 9 MEMBERS: May 1, Stan Dolbinski, and Harold Cotton; May 2, Murial Boyum, and Mary Lawrence; May 3, Bob Lawrence; May 6, Sharron Hansen and Meg Burke; May 13, Al Wolfe; May 15, Bob Matzke; Cleo Koch, Sunshine Coordinator



Grain -> 3/8" hardwood

Suggested Alternate Head Pieces

THIS PATTERN SHARED
BY IRENE COTTON

DID YOU KNOW---

Mitch Olson is working with a group of people from the Garrison area who are forming a carving club. They have borrowed our By-Laws for their guide. They plan to meet the third Monday of each month at the Ottertail Meeting Room in Garrison. Their first guest instructor will be Art Tokach on April 30th. His subject will be sharpening your carving tools on a bench stone.

MEETING BRIEFS'

First of all, my sincerest of thanks to Bob M, Art & Mickey for taking notes on the meetings that I have not been able to attend due to the undescrivable winter of '93-'94. Now if we can make it through the calving & lambing, I will be free to join the world of carving again.

Some things from the Feb. meeting I thought you might be interested in.... Frank Koch asked for ideas for the fall show. Art reminded the club that he is still seeking personal profiles for the newsletter. A different site location for our club is being explored. Any ideas???

The Annual Meeting will be coming up in April and one thing is for certain- That will be a beautiful Saturday. You will be torn between finally getting outside in the yard, etc. or sitting in the basement carving!! I hope you can give us a couple of hours on April 16th - - YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!!
Bev Vollmer, Secretary

From the files; Nov 15, '69, "A period of praise & criticism during our meetings was suggested for helping each other in evaluating our work. It was also suggested that John Beck give comments on his Cigar Store Indian Carved from wood.

SYNERISTICK

Also known as
Toast or Napkin Tongs
Could also be used as
Foolproof "Chop Sticks"

WOODCARVING WITH POWER TOOLS

A 1990 Seminar by Cliff Drinkwine
Reprinted by Permission

TOPIC ONE, TOOL SAFETY

also cause problems for a lot of folks who work with them. Cedar, for example, is very irritating to many people, because of a high content of aromatic oils. Fruitwoods (apple, cherry) and nutwoods (walnut, butternut) also cause problems for some. Basswood is one of the least toxic woods you can use, but you still should keep the dust out of your lungs as much as possible. A throwaway mask (3M makes one) is cheap, and it will help. If wood fumes bother you, as they do me, use a canister-type respirator to protect yourself.

4. PROTECT YOUR BODY.

Just like your hand tools, your power tools can hurt you - only faster. You need good light, adequate space, and safe footing. Don't try to operate your equipment when you're over-tired or after you've had a couple of beers. Structured Carbide Tools (Kutsalis) are especially nasty when they get away. Use special care as you work toward the end of a block, since the rotation of the cutter can catch the end grain and "walk" over the edge into the hand that's holding the piece you're working on. At the very least, you'll get a "raspberry", and if you catch a finger nail, it can be a real mess. A sturdy apron is a must - preferably leather, or a leather reinforced apron save your hide, but it will save you in the chest/belly area. Not only can the clothes, and the shaft of your flex-tool.

Power Tools can make many of your carving projects easier. With practice, you will learn to do things that you haven't thought of yet. But your success and enjoyment can come to a painful end if you fail to observe a few common sense rules.

1. PROTECT YOUR EYES.

If you wear glasses, be sure they are shatterproof. Better yet, wear a good pair of goggles or a face shield. Wood splinters and dust may cause discomfort and injure your eyes, but you need to be much more concerned that a cutter might break. At 25,000 RPM, a piece of carbide or a fragment of stone can blind you.

2. PROTECT YOUR EARS.

When working with a flex shaft tool, try to place the motor away from your ears. The noise from the machine running at high speed can damage your hearing, especially if you're inclined to work with it several hours at a time.

3. PROTECT YOUR LUNGS.

All wood dust is irritating to your lungs. Some kinds of wood dust is highly toxic: tropical woods (zebra, monkey pod, ebony, etc.) are the worst offenders, but many popular carving woods

continued + + +

TOPIC TWO, TOOL TYPES

b. Flexible shaft tools transfer the rotation of the motor through a cable and sheath arrangement to a handpiece that allows the cutter/finisher to be held and moved more easily. Dremel, Foredam and Pflingst all make flexible shaft machines for woodcarving.

2. RECIPROCATING TOOLS.

Gaining popularity with many carvers, the so-called power chisels use a cam and roller to change the rotation of the motor into a linear motion. Best known is the Auto-Mach, which is available in a hand held motor (about the size and weight of a Dremel Mototool) and a flex-shaft version. Various shapes of chisel bits can be inserted into the chuck to do a number of carving jobs. A major advantage of this tool is the ability to carve almost dust-free, much like you can do with hand tools.

Power tools all use electric motors as their power source. They utilize that power in one of two ways.

1. ROTARY TOOLS.

By far the most common of the two types of power tools used for woodcarving, rotary tools are found in fixed shaft and flexible shaft versions.

a. Fixed shaft tools put the motor in your hand and drive the cutter or finisher directly. A key-type or collet-type chuck holds the shank of the bit being used, generally turning it at the same speed as the motor itself. The Dremel Mototool is the most common example of this type of tool. The newer (and very expensive) miniature motors like Gesswein and MSK offer exceptional speed, light weight and ease of use not found in most fixed shaft tools.

continued + + +

TOPIC THREE, CUTTERS AND FINISHERS

Cutters come in a number of sizes and shapes. the basic shapes are;

1. Ball
2. Cone
3. Cylinder
4. Disc

A wide variety of cutters combine basic shapes to do a better job in specific cases. A ball and cylinder, for example, can become a ballnose.

Cutters are made of a variety of materials. Each has its own advantages and disadvantages.

STRUCTURED CARBIDE (Kutsall); Particles of tungsten are bonded to a steel core to provide the cutting surface. These cutters are available in two grits; Coarse and medium. These cutters are very fast for stock removal, but will tear wood grain below the surface. Sanding is a must if the piece will be stained or painted.

STEEL - These cutters are made of tool steel with flutes to cut away the wood. Each flute works like a knife to pare away a small amount of material. Turning at high speed, they are capable of removing a lot of material in a rather short time and leaving a smooth surface. Like a knife, the cutting edges must be sharp to work well, but most steel cutters are impossible for the carver to sharpen.

RUBY OR DIAMOND - As the name implies, these burrs have tiny chips of ruby or diamond ceramically bonded to steel. Like sandpaper and the structured carbides above, these are abrasive cutters. Because the grit is fine and sharp, however, they produce a near-finish surface in most woods. More expensive than steel or stone cutter, rubies and diamonds can work well for a very long time.

STONES- These burrs come in a variety of sizes, shapes and materials. Abrasives like corundum, aluminum oxide, silicon carbide, etc. are ceramic-bonded to steel shanks. The stone itself is shaped, and can be dressed to restore a surface or change its shape. Colors vary from one manufacturer to another (one maker's white may be his finest grit and another makers black may be his finest), but can be used to identify stones from the same manufacturer. The finer stones will provide a smooth, finished surface. They are quite inexpensive, and many carvers now use stones to put the final texture on a carving instead of woodburning it in.

FINISHERS can be abrasive or non-abrasive. Sanders are the most common of the abras. finishers, and some come in a number of types. Sanding should always be done at a lower speed and light pressure.

1. DISC SANDERS cut on their face. The tendency to dig in at the edges make them of limited use for most woodcarvings.

2. DRUM SANDERS cut on the circumference. Used with care, they can smooth tool marks and leave a surface ready for paint, sealer or stain. Small drums tend to leave a rippled surface, and larger ones may flatten contours that have been carved in.

3. "TOOTSIE ROLL" SANDERS are tapered rolls of emery cloth on a tapered mandrel. They have the advantage of being able to get into irregular places and as they wear down, new abrasive is exposed.

4. SPLIT MANDRELS hold a strip of emery cloth or sandpaper which can be made larger or smaller by the number of turns wrapped around the mandrel. The main advantage is the ability to easily change grits since any kind of sandpaper and emery cloth can be used.

5. FLAP WHEEL SANDERS have the ability to conform to almost any shape, making them a good choice for many carving projects. the flaps are made of emery cloth which project through a number of slots in the edge of a wheel. Flap sanders are usually bench mounted.

DEFUZZERS are used to remove the fine splinters and slivers left on the surface. Made of Scotchbrite or similar material, these are most useful to smooth a surface to its final finish after it has been sealed. Medium speed and light pressure is most effective.

BURNISHERS are non-abrasive burrs made of wood, bone, or metal to impart a gloss finish to a carving. Burnishing is usually done as a last step before applying a claeer finish to the item carved. A hardwood dowel, for example, can be chucked into a drill, sanded and polished to a smooth surface. Burnishers are used with a slow speed and fairly heavy pressure.

MAKE A KNIFE

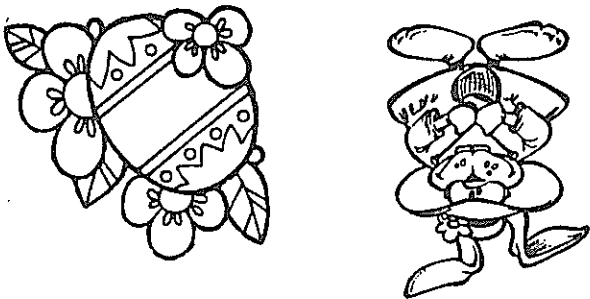
Last year I conducted a Knife Making Class in my garage workshop for six carvers. Two per half day on Saturdays. I would be willing to repeat that class on April 9 and 23. I will cover all aspects of making a carving knife from carbon steel. You should go home with a carving knife you've made. Cost of class with knife blank and handle-\$20.00 Call Art Tokach, 663-8587 for reservation and information

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership-Host Chairman, Sam Lacher informs us that the following 7 NBW Family Members have joined our club since the January meeting and hopefully they will become active and leading assets in our clubs future. We now have 103 paid up Family Memberships.

WELCOME NEW CARVERS: George Schamberger, Bismarck; Donovan Eck, Bismarck; Rudolf Carriedo, Bismarck; Edwin Boger, Burlington; Cliff Rime, Garrison; Charles Boger, Bismarck; Meg and Randy Burke, Mandan. Harriet Erckenbrack, Jamestown.

NOTE: Send a long S.A.S.B. to Sam Lacher for your current membership list.



DID YOU KNOW

The clubs raffle was a success. There were 676 tickets sold. The final figures are not available at deadline time but it looks like it brought in about \$450 for the club treasury.

The winners and the prizes are:
 The Grand Prize, a Carved Northern Pike by Andy Pederson, was won by Ron Holmes, Neb.
 Mike Hove, Bismarck, Geese by Frank Koch;
 Dennis Braun, Mandan, Plate by Art Tokach;
 Al Holzer, Bismarck, Bark Carving by Mickey Tokach;
 Margaret Decoteau, Bismarck, Duck by John Opp;
 Sandy Sorenson, Bismarck, Bark Carving by Angie Wagner;
 Brenda Diehl, Bismarck, Duck by Bob Matzke;
 Karla Stenberg, Bismarck, Moose carved by Bob Pedigo;

Ray Olson, Max, Weekend at the Doublewood Inn;

A REVIEW OF SOME HELPFUL CARVING BOOKS FOR BIRD CARVERS

Let me start by explaining that I'm not a professional carver or sculptor. I have been carving for less than three years. I don't sell my carvings to put meat and potatoes on the table. I carve for the pleasure it gives me and me alone. Part of my pleasure, however are the comments received from other carvers and non-carvers about the quality of my finished carvings. I enjoy doing a good job on my carvings and strive for the best carvings I am able to accomplish. I want to let other carvers know about some books which I have found helpful to improve my carvings.

I was trying to find information on how to make bird feet to complete a carving. I had heard about carving for competition, that all elements of the carving had to be made by the carver -- including feet and habitat. During my search I found a book titled "Bird Carving Basics - Feet" by Curtis J Badger. The book showed how to make bird feet using different techniques. I was impressed by the photos and each was accompanied by just a few words explaining the technique shown in the photo. He presented different professional carvers and featured them in the photos demonstrating their own techniques. Each technique progressed in a sequence that was easily followed. I used one of the techniques to complete the feet on my own carving and got quite satisfactory results.

Mr. Badger also has several other volumes in this series. I borrowed all I could obtain from the Bismarck Public Library and enjoyed each one as much as I did the volume on feet. Every volume is pictured in great detail with short captions explaining each step picture in sequence. The other volumes are "Bird Carving Basics - Eyes. -Bills and Beaks, - Carving Basics - Eyes. -Painting, -Special Heads, -Texturing, -Painting, -Special Painting Techniques, -Habitat, -Songbird Painting, and -Tools.

Each of the books are available from the Bismarck Public Library and I have seen them available for sale in various carving magazines also. If you're looking for some good technique instruction books, give these a try. I enjoyed each and every one.

Bob Pedigo, A More Knowledgeable Carver

New member Cliff Rime from Garrison brought along some of his Norwegian Humor and Carvings to the joy of those who sat at his and adjoining tables. Welcome to the club Cliff, your humor is welcome anytime.

WANT TO SELL IT? HERE'S HOW

E BOARD-HI LITES

SO YOU WANT TO SELL A SCULPTURE. LET ME BE your customer. Here is what I would purchase if the following were present and to my liking. I will use a whitetail deer as an example.

I want the sculpture to be the appropriate size. I am not looking for a mini sculpture that I need magnifiers to view. Nor do I want something so large that I have to build supportive structures just to hold it. I would consider sculptures in the 10" to 14" height class just about right.

Craftsmanship is important. There should be no unfinished or rough areas, even in the hard to get to places. It need not be a super detailed sculpture, but the work style should benefit the piece.

The pose and body proportions must be correct and natural. The legs must bend at the joints and be the proper size.

I also want expression. After all this is perhaps the one thing that caught my eye in the first place. I want to be able to ponder on where the deer has been and where it's going? What's on its mind? Is it fleeing from something or someone? What are its chances? When I display it I want my guests to feel the same things about the piece.

The base and finish are important. The base should complement the sculpture as should the finish. A while back, I spoke on shinny. A soft or satin is best in most cases.

Next I would consider the originality of the piece. Is it original or one of mass production. I would opt for the first.

The last consideration is the price. I would expect to pay a reasonable price for good art work. I think that far too many artists after selling a few pieces set the price far too high and this really hurts the sales.

If you meet the above, guess what? You've probably sold me your sculpture. It would be something that I will be proud to display.

Bob Matzke, Wood Sculptor

E BOARD MEETING MINUTES (CONDENSED ?)

Meeting held March 7th; Treasures report of \$1,549.80 bank balance. \$343.00 paid for Enlow blanks which will be reimbursed at the seminar. \$676 gross ticket sales at raffle Approved \$150. payment to Andy Anderson for the Fish used as main raffle prize. Received \$20. honorarium from DWAC's for our participation in the "Art in the Heart of Winter"

Letter read from Cleo Koch about means of improving our participation in the Tribune Sport Show. Action later for final plans.

Membership is now at 103 paid, 3 courtesy. Art Tokach asked to publish a 10 page newsletter this time to catch up on the many things that are planned. Approved.

John Opp applied for \$2200 Grant from ND Council On The Arts. This grant will not be awarded until July 1, '94.

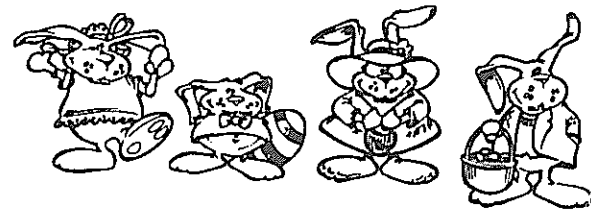
Frank Koch was directed to sign a contract with Brian Grott of Minneapolis, for a 19" Decorative Walleye Workshop to be held Aug. 11, 12, 13, & 14, '94. Contact Frank Koch, 255-0280 for class sign up and cost.

Frank was also directed to send a contract to John Burke for a Oct. 14, 15, & 16, '94 Workshop of a 8"x8"x14" butternut bust. John would also be Showcased at BAGA during this time and would hold a small bust seminar at the Annual Show the following weekend. Reservations accepted for the first workshop only, contact Frank Koch, 255-0280.

Letter from Art Tokach to create "Wood-carving Ambassadors" as part of our "Out Reach Program". Committee of Pedigo, Koch and Tokach to report back at annual meeting.

Motion to purchase name tags for the E-Board and the members taking the Harold Enlow Seminar at \$3 each (\$2. from member, \$1 from club). The E-Board felt that we should give back this much for the good job all of the members did for the raffle. This should also avoid the name confusion at our meetings. Name tags for other members can be ordered and will be made in time for the Annual Meeting. Order yours today, find separate article in this issue. Art Tokach, Editor

DO THE BEST YOU CAN DO



DID YOU KNOW????

The "Souris River Wood Workers Club" from Minot is holding a Show and Sale on April 15 & 16, 1994 at the "Town & Country Mall". There is a Wood Carving Division for competition and prizes. \$3.00 per entry Contact Myles Common, 838-1687

John Opp has applied for a Grant from the ND Council on the Arts. The money is for activities from July 1, 1994 to June 30, 1995. We should know by May 1st how much we will receive from them.