



Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2009

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Club News

With 28 members in attendance, here are the general items that were discussed at the January 3rd meeting

Membership dues for the year 2009 of \$10 are now due and payable. Please get them in by the end of February to the Treasurer, Jack Lloyd.

Bert Frazier and Jim Hickey will be attending a Boy Scouts meeting on the 21st. They will be talking about knife safety..

Starting in April, Eastman Lake, (about 28 miles North East of Chowchilla), will have one person give carving demonstrations on the weekends in exchange for a free campground. Contact Jim Hickey for more information or if you're interested.

In March, the Home and Garden Show will be back and the Club will have a 10' x 10' space. We are looking for ideas about how the space can

be used to best show the public who we are and what we do. Jim will be finding out more info about the space and this will be discussed along with any ideas at the February meeting. If you can't make the meeting but have an idea or suggestion, please get a hold of Jim Hickey and let him know.



The raffle, was conducted by John Boushele and Don Cathey (Vice-President).

Bert Frazier is looking into a free space for the Club at Big Hat Days in Clovis for a possible demonstration, exposition, member's sales type of event. For about \$197 the Club could

purchase an awning for Big Hat Days (or other similar events). There will be more information at the February meeting.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- L Membership Dues should be paid by February 28. Dues are \$10 and can be sent to our Treasurer:

Jack Lloyd
1584 Burl
Clovis, CA 93611

- L Next Meeting will be held on February 7, 10:00 am

Location:
1745 N Cornelia
Fresno, CA

Between Olive and McKinley
About 3 miles West of Hwy 99

- L Weekly carving sessions every Saturday (10 to Noon) at Bert Frazier's (see address above) for learning, teaching, or just plain carving.

New Editor For the Newsletter

This newsletter will be the first one done by me (Barry Walzberg) as the club's newly elected Secretary and News Editor. Thank you for trusting me to fulfill these duties. Although, I think running unopposed may have been the key factor.

I'd like to thank Lance Leitch for his hard work in previously producing the newsletter and helping me during the transition.

I've already received a few suggestions from some members and

would be interested to hear yours. Feel free to talk to me at a meeting (I'm the one that looks like Santa) or e-mail or phone me.

BarryWalzberg@aol.com
(559) 696-2608

Clovis Public Library To Have Our Carvings On Display

For the entire month of May, The Clovis Public Library will have carvings from us on display. Usually only a handful of members choose to participate. However, we encourage everyone to bring something to show. The display cabinets will be closed and locked at all times and have shelves about 18" tall.

Each item will be cataloged and displayed with the carver's name. Keep in mind that this is not a competition. It is currently being discussed that the display could be sectioned into categories of beginners,

intermediate, and advanced.

Everyone should have something they could bring in, so start looking now for the items you'd like to bring in. They should be brought to one of the weekly carving sessions, or the monthly meetings, on Saturdays, But no later than April 25th.

The library would like to have as big a display as possible, including demonstrators in the evenings. The library's hours are 9-9 M-Th, 9-7 F-S, and 9-4 on Sunday. If you'd like to be a demonstrator, there will soon be a sign

up schedule going around on Saturdays, or contact Jim Hickey.

In addition to our display and demonstrations, The County Library will have on display a model ship that was built from scratch in 1825 by a 15 year-old boy using architectural drawings. It was shown to Congress sometime shortly after it was built and through a long provenance eventually came into the hands of the Library. They don't put it on display very often, so it would be worthwhile to go down just to see this amazing work of craftsmanship. It should be interesting to learn more about the model and the ship it was designed from. _

A model ship built in 1825 will be on display along with your carvings.

Fund Raising Raffle

With numerous donated items on the table, raffle ticket sales were brisk. With books, magazines, wood stock, tools, semi-started blanks, and a few other things to be given away, the club was able to bring in \$50 at this meeting.

One of Murphy's Laws was definitely in affect as usual. Seems that many of us had our numbers called just one or two tickets too late for that one item



Barry's Santa Staff

we had our eye on. Of course, this could be said for almost any raffle held anywhere.

Remember that if you have something that you'd like to donate to the raffle, bring it to a meeting. Who knows, you might even win it back.



Horse heads by Lloyd

Newsletter Format

As I'm sure you can see, I have tried a different format and look for this newsletter. And until the dust settles, I'm sure the look and/or content may continue to undergo some changes. I am hoping to eventually have one format for the newsletter that will work for both e-mail and for posting on the Group site, if not for the printed version too. This may take some time, if it's even possible.

in form, but the content will be the same. Of course it would be so much easier if everyone could have this delivered to their e-mail address, or even better if everyone joined our Yahoo! Group® we've set up.

. If you have any suggestions, ideas, complaints, or kudos don't hesitate to let me know, and I'll see what I can do.

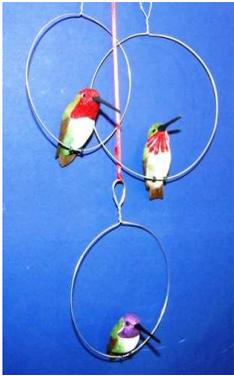


Sweet 'tator carvings by Bud

Until then, there may be differences

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Show & Tell



Humming birds done by Clarence Mattos.

Five members had items to show this time.

—
Clarence Mattos displayed three more of his beautiful hummingbirds. An *Anna's Hummingbird* with a red throat, a *Costa's Hummingbird* with a purple throat, and a

Calliope Hummingbird with a stripped throat. He had carved and finished 23 birds since Thanksgiving and is able to make two in a day from start to finish including painting the iridescent throats. He can sell them for \$35 a piece.

—
Roger brought in a pack mule that took him a couple of weeks to make. For some of the parts of the pack he soaked in water to shape them before he attached them to the mule. He completed it with **Minwax®**



Roger's pack mule.

PolyShades® in Walnut for the finish.

—
Barry Walzberg (Santa) showed his Santa walking staff that he made. The staff is Sweet Gum, even though he called it Sorghum. (what does he know), that he purchased at Treeline.com. He removed the outer bark and inlaid a pewter star which he added gold leafing to. Much to the chagrin of some (Jim), but due in part to the time constraints, he didn't carve the bow on top of the deceptively simple "gift box" top. The bow was made from wired ribbon. He used this staff as Santa during the tree lighting ceremony for the City of Clovis..

—
Bud Sanders had a display of sweet 'tator carvings that he and his wife had carved out of sweet potatoes (yams). He peels the outer skin, except when he uses the skin for head and coloration (as shown), then carves the faces

and places them on sticks. After letting them dry for a few weeks they can then be painted or sealed. The drying process always changes the look of the carving, and once dried they become very brittle.

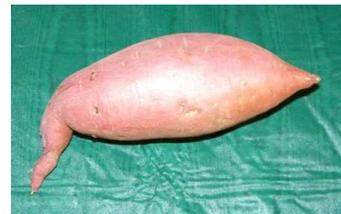


Lloyd's frog

—
Lloyd Moore had several things to show. He brought a frog as an example of a carving using butternut.

He also showed a horse head that he created out of Plasticine in order to achieve just the look he wanted. He then used it to transfer the shape to a blank and to use for reference as he carves the final head.

Lloyd showed some of the tools he used to make the Plasticine horse head and some reference books he used.



Pre sweet 'tator carving. Just a yam.

Getting Online

So you have a computer but don't know how to join our Group online? Remember this is FREE. So here's what to do.

Go to the web site: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FresnoWoodcarvers>. Above the Club Logo is a button that reads "Join This Group!". Click on that button and it will ask you to sign in to Yahoo®. If you have a Yahoo ID (this may include a Yahoo, ATT, or SBC Global e-mail account) simply

enter it and your password and your done.

If you don't then click on the words "Sign Up". Follow the instructions on the screen. They should be self-explanatory. But if you have any trouble or have any questions, let me know.

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More of Bud's sweet 'tator carvings

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We're on the web!
[http://groups.yahoo.com/
group/FresnoWoodcarvers](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FresnoWoodcarvers)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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The Club Has An Online Presence

We've opened a Yahoo!® Groups web site for the club, and as those that have registered there know, I have been copying the newsletters to that site for distribution and archival. The newsletters that are there start from the May '08 meeting.

But there is more there than just copies of the newsletter. Of course much of it depends on YOU, Every member can add to the content in many ways.

First of all, we can post messages. Ask questions, tell everyone what your up to, relate

adventures that you've had, or explain the best (or worst) way of doing something. It's just like having a conversation about whatever you'd like to discuss. Naturally, it should be carving related, but the potential is endless.

In addition, you can upload pictures of you and/or or carvings. Or look at other's.

You can add links to resources and look at what others have added. Even add your personal web site if you have one.

Upload or download how-to files about

various things.

You can find out when things are happening in the Calendar section. There is even a Poll section where members can express their opinion about a question you may have. There is also an Applications section where you can add your name to the address book or member map, post something to sell or give away, or maybe a carving job you know of that you can't fill.

It's all a free benefit of membership so don't miss out. Join today!

Mailing Address