

Newsletter



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Club News

During the November 7th meeting these were the items discussed.



The Fresno Fair was again the main topic of discussion. Our booth display was awarded the people's choice award for the second year in a row. The voting took place on the next to the last day of the Fair on Oct. 17. That day we had Don Lenz, Jimmy Satterfield, John Boushele, Lance Leitch, and Jim Hickey representing us at the table. Good job guys!

The raffle for Lola's wolf was a big success, taking in over \$350. This looks like something we may want to continue in the future.

For those that entered items in the Fair, we had three winners. Del Dixon won 1st place for his Crystal Gazer (was in the Show & Tell of the June Newsletter), Don Cathey won Third place for his Break Time (see the April's Newsletter), and Jim Hickey won Honorable Mention for his stone sculpture (see September's Newsletter). Congratulations to each of them.

This has been one of the better Fairs for the club

and a special thanks goes out to Greg Essman who did a great job organizing and setting up for it. Ideas are already being brought up to help make next years display even better.



The Chaffee Zoo has expressed interest in having carvers donate their time and come out to their *Zoo Lights* event! During 14 nights of *Zoo Lights*, the Zoo will attract thousands of people to tour the Zoo lit with brilliant lights. The event runs December 4-6, 11-13, 18-23, and 26-27. They will provide materials.

Sara Mohr has asked if we would pass along her contact information. She would love to talk to some individuals from our group that may be interested in coming out during *Zoo Lights* and doing a demonstration. You can get a hold of her at:

Sara K. Mohr
Marketing Assistant
Fresno Chaffee Zoo
894 W Belmont Avenue
Fresno CA 93728



March will see the Home Improvement Show back out at the Fresno fairgrounds. The

membership at the meeting voted to say yes to the request that we have a booth at this event. It will be held for three days on March 5, 6, and 7. Like the Fair sign-up, we'd like to have two shifts, morning and evening, for each of the days. We will have a sign-up sheet when it gets closer to the event.

For the show it is being considered to have another raffle like we had at the Fair. This time, instead of a carving, perhaps a birdhouse or something more in lines of the show is being considered. If you have any ideas, please let us know your thoughts.



Our new Librarian, Ed Hunt, is hoping everyone is enjoying the use of our lending service and is getting some good patterns and ideas from it. We would also like to remind everyone that if you've taken any books or magazines from the club library to bring them back after you're done with them so others can use them too. We've started out with numerous pattern books and we're now down to just a few.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

☞ *Next Meeting will be held on December 5, 10:00 am*

Location:

1745 N Cornelia
Fresno, CA

*Between Olive and McKinley
About 3 miles West of Hwy 99*

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

☞ *Christmas lunch after the meeting on December 5th.*

☞ *Home Improvement Show on March 5, 6, and 7.*

Time and Money Saving Tips on Tools for New Carvers

Part 3 — by **Lloyd D. Moore**

Rotary Power Tools

Buy the best rotary power tools you can afford. I have owned five different brands and have used most of them to death. I currently am recommending,

based on cost, my Master Carver A797236 “Hanging Basket Set”, a two year warranty, forward and reverse power, 1/3 horse power, foot power speed control, 26,000 RPM. Mine is in its 4th year of heavy use. All of the cutters I have demonstrated at meetings work in it just fine. Keep in mind when buying any brand that all cutters only work on forward power. Remember reverse power wears off the burrs of the cutter, though you will have a clean cutter that won't cut. Nothing I know of to date is “duo directional”. The Master Carver holds anything from needle size to 1/4 inch shaft. I also have three other brands and this is the one I use the most. If you can't afford this one, which costs \$199.95, I suggest Harbor Freight where I bought one a year ago for \$49.00. It has a 6 month warranty and does about everything the Master Carver does, but won't handle the 1/4 inch shaft of heavy tools. Master Carver is available through Wood Carvers Supply Inc.

The Flex Shaft Dremel is a great tool. It is cheap, reliable and like a small Master Carver. The problem is it will only handle the smaller shank cutters, so it has limitations. Mine is more than 25 years old and never a glitch yet.

There is no reverse on it though. It handles all 1/8 and smaller bits and tools. Buy it separately and not as a kit!

Dental bits as shown at the September 3rd meeting work in the power tools discussed above. True dental bits, like I use, are all designed to wear down with use.

Resinous woods may clog them up a bit, but I have never experiences this. They work well at high speeds. Hardness of the cutter is determined by color: white, green, blue. Do not buy any dental bits that have a metal grit on them. The metal grit quickly clogs and becomes useless, unless you have a means of cleaning it and I don't. Buy the shape that suits you, and keep in mind that the bit is eroded down and changes form. The bit can be re-shaped using one of the black lava blocks. It only takes a second! The cutter may lose some of its cutting power in the process. The pink stones are fine to work with, but the least attempt to force or to speed up the use will result in clogging and the tool needs to be re-done. (I have never successfully re-done one!) They are actually covered with diamond dust, hence the high price. The same suggestions hold true for the other bits which are coated with the dust of sapphire, rubies, and other precious jewels. Expensive stones are not worth it for those who are just learning to carve. Some dental bits are available through a catalog supplied by the Medical and Dental Supply Company in Clovis. See me for more information about buying them.

While you are looking at the Woodcraft Shop catalog on page 90, items B and C # 523101 and #523102 are very useful for sanding any piece. They are padded sleeves and use your own sandpaper. Mine are more than 10 years old and are used regularly. See the ad on page 91 for Swiss sandpaper. I use the 150 and the 225 grit. This really works well on wood and lasts for a long time, once you figure out what you are doing! I have not had to purchase any sandpaper of any kind in several years. Avoid all the other

products on those pages.

An attractive alternative to sandpaper is “Scotch-Brite™”. Scotch-Brite is the common scrubbing pad for dishes, floors and other household items. It comes in a variety of colors, but you are only interested in white or dark green. I buy mine at janitorial supply houses such as the one on Peach Avenue just south of Shaw Avenue in Clovis. They have bigger sheets, it is cheaper and they have a full range of colors.

Use scissors to cut a sheet of Scotch-Brite into 4 or 5 one inch squares. The more pads used the greater the efficiency. Punch a hole in the center of each pad then stack all that you have chosen on the screw head mandrel, shown on page 87 of the Woodcraft Shop catalog. From the Sanding and Screw Mandrels illustration, select F #309717 at \$1.50 each. To assemble the pads and the rod, undo the screw from the top, slide the 4 or 5 square pieces of the abrasive on to the threaded shaft of the screw and screw the shaft back into the top of the base. It is now ready to install in your Dremel. The white abrasive is much gentler than sandpaper and reaches into the cracks in the carving and all the hard to reach places. Don't mix colors on the mandrel. Use the green color if you want more abrasive. I always keep two mandrels ready to use.

Also on page 87 of the Woodcraft Shop catalog, is item # 304214, a fiber glass cut off tool. This is a super tool for a multitude of uses. It can be used as a saw on glass, plastic, metal, wood, fingers. You can buy the wheels in many local hardware stores and use the same mandrel as for the Scotch-Brite and save money.



Show & Tell

Five members showed off their work at the November 7th meeting.



Jimmy Satterfield showed off his carved mask that he used for Halloween. It's of Tobi, who is a fan favorite of the Japanese manga



Jimmy's Mask

series Naruto and the latest introduced antagonist of the series. (Jimmy is now wondering how I knew that.)

He made the mask out of sugar pine and it took him about 20 to 30 hours to complete.



Edward Wojewoda presented two intricate relief pieces. Both expertly carved, one was of roses with an oval frame made from just one piece of oak. The other, a trophy plaque complete with oak leaves and acorns, was also made from oak.



Edward's Reliefs

Roy Smith showed us how a Halloween decoration can be fun and non-scary. His whimsical "Ghost in Red High Top Converse" is reminiscent of *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown*.



Donnie Cathey, although he spent the meeting helping out in the carving class, had brought in three pieces he's recently carved. His unique

caricatures of a man, a moose, and a bear had many wondering if Don had drawn inspiration from faces of club members.



Roy's Ghost



Don's Caricatures

Jim Hickey had a wood spirit from a class he and several members took a while back that was unfinished. He worked on it while at our booth at the Fair and managed to finish it. It was made from Austrian stone pine.



Jim's Wood Spirit



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NEWSLETTER

Barry Walzberg—Editor
Lloyd Moore



New Carving Class Starts



The new carving class is bigger than ever. In fact it was so big this year, that it managed to kick us out of our regular area and put us back in Bert's shop. That is except for the meeting day. Either way, it's



always fun to get together and we look forward to when the class is over and we can get to know our new members better.

