

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Carvers,

In spite of the pandemic, we have a lot going on. I encourage you to register for the January and February monthly programs. These are presented by two very experienced and talented carvers, Chuck Rinehart and Kelley Stadelman (details below).

Eric Owen's November program is [archived](#) on our website's Video Gallery, along with past programs. Eric carved the two Civil War caricatures on the cover of the Treeline USA catalog, shown here.



Eric Owens caricatures

Roger Crooks created a stropping class for beginners and has scheduled a pilot class for Dec 8, with repeat classes in January and February. Roger also wrote a [companion handout](#). Terry Burnside recorded supporting videos, available soon.

Terry also scheduled a new Green Man class for Intermediate carvers for February, (details below).

Thanks to Jim Spitzer's efforts, we're happy to announce that local suppliers Woodcrafters and Woodcraft are new sponsors. We expect Rockler will join soon. Members are eligible for discounts on many products. When you ask for the discount, be sure to thank them. We are collectively committed to helping each other.


I want to thank Tony Rizzuto for donating his entire Chip Chats collection of 200 issues, and the Idaho Woodcarvers Guild for donating another 85 copies, making our library collection 90% complete for 50 years of editions. Eventually you will have easy library access. In the meantime if you are interested in back issues, just contact me ([Larry Wade](#)).



Example

This month a friend of Kelley Stadelman donated 15 blocks of Sugar Pine, while another person donated a box of bird carving supplies and accessories. Next month we are receiving an important estate tool collection to be used to support emerging carvers. We are truly blessed.

I wish you the best for the upcoming holiday season.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry".

[Larry Wade](#), President, 503-312-7745  
On behalf of the Board

[Roger Crooks](#), Vice President  
[Terry Burnside](#), Secretary and Webmaster  
[Diana Groseclose-Larabee](#), Treasurer  
[Jim Spitzer](#), Sponsor Coordinator

I encourage you to subscribe to Chip Chats, the official magazine of the National Wood Carvers Association. The cost for membership and the subscription is \$20 per year. Go to [www.chipchats.org](http://www.chipchats.org). While there, sign up for the new NWCA monthly newsletter.

## Upcoming Programs

➔ **FREE Grinling Gibbons - UK Trip Report— JAN 11, 7:00 PM** [Click here](#) to register

**JAN** Chuck Rinehart travelled to the UK on an eight day trip organized by Mary May to view the stunning carvings by arguably the world's best carver. Chuck is a talented photographer and will share some of the jaw-dropping works they viewed and enlighten us with some of the history and background of these works, produced circa 1700.



Chuck



Gibbons example

These 300 year old carvings have been through WW II bombings, fires and relocations, and restorations, but the Limewood Gibbons carved has endured these hardships.

Gibbon's "life-like" style of imaging flowers, vegetables, plants, seafood, animals, game, musical instruments, crowns, jewels, lace, fabrics, ribbons, even musical notes on sheet music, were influenced by his early years in the Netherlands where highly detailed, life-like images of flowers in vivid colors were the subject of fine-art paintings. So different from the classical Oak Gothic forms, the norm in England in the 1600s.

For background, read the [Wiki article](#), or [one of the books](#) by David Esterly.

➔ **FREE Kelley Stadelman— Large Sculptural Carvings FEB 8, 7:00 PM** [Click here](#) to register

**FEB** Kelley Stadelman is a notable carving professional and teacher, extending back to the 1990s. She is famous for her Santa and related figures, but she has also created monumental works, including a five-foot crucifix for her church in North Plains. This program features slides, videos and Q&A of how she conceived, modeled, carved, and painted this 18 month project. She may also describe how she created another large statue 15 years earlier. Her process is a model for creating large projects.



Stadelman in her studio



Glue-up of 5 foot statue.  
Photo by Kelley Stadelman



Portion of Kelley's St. Edward statue

➔ **FREE Weekly Carving Conversations - Mondays 9:00-10:00 AM, online**

**WEEKLY** A small group has been meeting for about nine months and welcomes others. Originally the participants were former Mack Sutter relief carving class students. There is no agenda. [Click here](#) to get the weekly email reminder and join the conversation whenever you feel like it.



## Upcoming Classes

### Advanced Mack Sutter Relief Carving Class — online & hybrid

Saturdays Jan 8, 15, 22, 9:30-12:00

Taught by Larry Wade, two separate classes, Saturday session, [click here](#), Thursday session, [click here](#)

This class carves the fourth of the 12 projects originally taught by Mack Sutter for forty years. Tuition is free, but an optional and free-will donation to the club is requested upon completion. Material costs will be about \$25 for a hardwood blank and a pre-sawn Basswood appliqué for practice. There will be a shipping charge if you don't pick up wood or tools near Beaverton. You will need a strop. To see all the patterns created by Mack Sutter and the three original articles he wrote for Chip Chats, [click here](#).

This workshop will be taught online with Zoom, and two in-person students might be possible depending on the state of the pandemic.



### Incised Carving Class (free) — online & hybrid

one Saturday 1:30-4:00 PM, repeated monthly

Click on a date to register for one session [Jan 15](#), [Feb 19](#), [Mar 19](#)

This one-session, 2 1/2 hour class is for those new to carving or those who want to try incised carving. The same class repeats each month.

The incised style carves lines into the surface of wood and can be done safely with one tool. This workshop is for those who have never carved or for carvers who have no incised experience. If safe from the pandemic, the class might be available simultaneously online and in person (hybrid). You will be provided with free basswood, a loaner tool, patterns, and a carving mat.

Students will carve the Dogs Welcome sign shown, then a second project will be at least started. Students will use a parting (V) tool, and will be shown how an Xacto knife or equivalent can also be used.



### Stropping for Beginners (free) — in-person only

Taught by Roger Crooks. Click a date to register [Dec 8](#), [Jan 12](#), [Feb 9](#), [Interest List](#), Wednesdays, 9:30-noon

One of our main charters is to preserve the art of carving and to do so requires teaching beginners. We all know sharpening is critical. There are many articles and videos online, and they often show contradictory ways to sharpen. For a beginner with few tools, figuring out how to start sharpening is daunting.

Our philosophy is to start with good tools and keep them sharp with stropping. Reshaping tools, power sharpening, and using stones will be future classes. This beginner's class will be hands-on, as there is a fine line between getting a sharp edge and rolling over the edge making the tool duller. Correcting your technique in real time will start you on the right path to building muscle memory for sharpening. The class repeats monthly, currently on Wednesday mornings.

A handout paper is available by [clicking here](#), and a supporting video is nearly ready.



Smooth side up or down? Or both?

### Carving a Green Man (tuition)— online only

Taught by Terry Burnside. [Click here](#) to register, Saturdays Feb 19, 26, Mar 5, 9:30-11:30

The ancient Green Man form has many styles. This class is intended for those who have some carving experience (advanced beginner and above) and experience using mallets and related tools. Students will select from several designs and provide their own wood. They will need to band saw out their chosen pattern, either by themselves or ask for assistance.



By Terry Burnside

### Whittling

#### Whittling - Where to Start as a Beginner?

Note: The information below was spotted on YouTube and looks like a good resource, one of thousands. If you have favorite YouTube channels or videos, [send an email](#).

For those of you who are new to whittling and wood carving, you may not know exactly what to start carving or where to look for inspiration. You could have all the tools you need, but knowing what the next steps are and even taking the next steps can feel intimidating.

This [Carving is Fun](#) video is meant for beginners feeling a little lost as to what to do next and help them enjoy this wonderful hobby!

If you are ready to start your first project, check out this YouTube [whittling guide](#) for carving a simple fox.

Amazon links to books recommended in the video:

[Complete Starter Guide to Whittling](#) [Swiss Army Knife Whittling Guide](#)



Remember that we have whittling instructions for creating this dog from the Art in the Pearl show.



Video - [click here](#)

PDF - [click here](#)

### Setziol Catalogs for sale

We have a number of the original 1991 Leroy Setziol exhibition catalogs for sale for \$20, plus \$5 shipping if not picked up. These are the last remaining printed catalogs and are likely to be considered rare. They make great additions to your library, and are prized by those who still like high quality publications. That said, the University of Oregon Museum gave us permission to post a free PDF of the same catalog, available to download by [clicking here](#) so you have a choice.

To order send an email to [Larry Wade](#) or call or text 503-312-7745.

The catalog size is 75 pages long, 11 by 11 1/2, and has an embossed cover.

The information below is from the Museum's website describing the original exhibition.



1991 Leroy Setziol Retrospective catalog

JORDAN SCHNITZER  
MUSEUM OF ART

#### Exhibition Title

**Leroy Setziol Retrospective: Carved Wood Sculpture**

**Dates** 5 October 1991 to 24 November 1991

**Description** Leroy Setziol has long been recognized as the Northwest's most outstanding self-taught wood sculptor. His wood relief sculptures have been commissioned for major architectural projects by leading architects throughout the U.S. and abroad. This retrospective exhibition spans 40 years of carving and illustrates the development of Setziol's visual language. An illustrated catalog accompanies the exhibition.



## Linoleum Carving

from Jordan Makower, Santa Clara Valley Carving Club, (408) 828-3392, [jmakower@mac.com](mailto:jmakower@mac.com)

[Editors Note: Jordan saw an earlier newsletter and corresponded, saying in effect, "I've been carving since 1970 and lived in Corvallis in 1964-5 - worked for the Soil Conservation Service while going to OSU." Jordan carves a variety of things but likes linoleum carving the best and shared three documents that are now on our website. To see them, [click here](#) and scroll down through the list of Tutorials and look for:

Beginning Linoleum Carving and Printing  
How to do Linoleum Block Carving  
Inspiration and Linoleum Carving Technique  
plus the photos below

Recall that linoleum has no grain to worry about, just like gourds, ice, food, rubber stamps, golf ball cores, and HDU (high density urethane, used for signs and models).



All photos by  
Jordan Makower



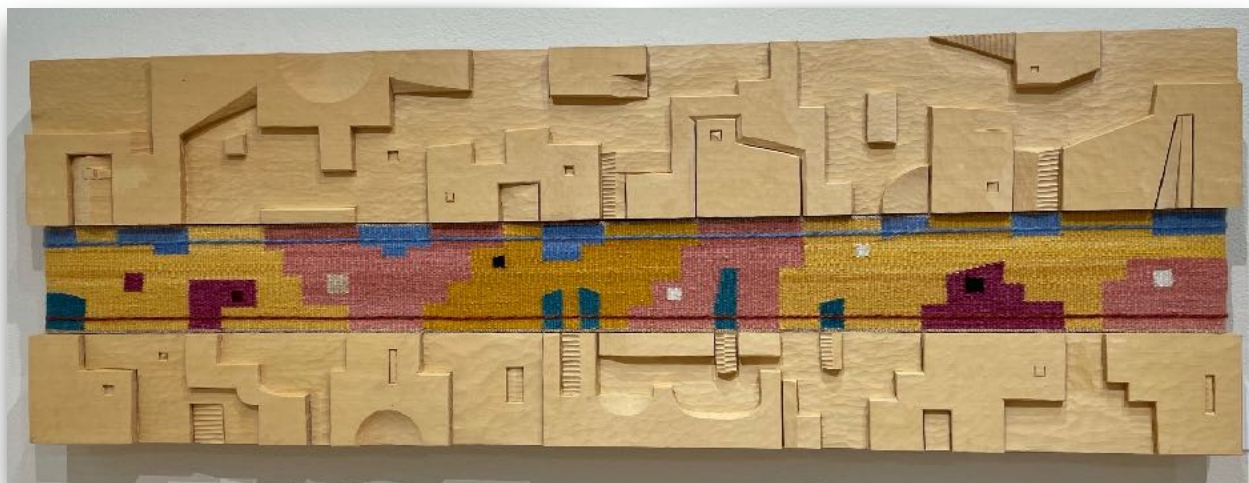


## Journeys with Wood

By Jim Spitzer

Regular newsletter readers know that I enjoy unexpectedly stopping in my tracks to admire carvings encountered during walks and travels. A postcard from Monica Setziol-Phillips about an exhibit featuring wood carvings motivated a trip to the Oregon Coast to see the exhibit, and enjoy a few days of salt air, wind-driven spindrift, and stormy seas. For nine years Monica has led carving workshops at the [Sitka Center for Art and Ecology](#). Located on Cascade Head just north of Lincoln City and the Salmon River estuary, the center offers over 100 one to four-day intensive courses in a number of arts on a campus located on a magical, heavily forested hillside.

The Journeys with Wood exhibit was at the Chessman Gallery inside the Lincoln City Cultural Center this past October into early November. It featured mostly abstract and some symbolic carvings by Monica and seven of her Sitka students. The Guild presented a January 2021 program online on Monica's father [Leroy Setziol and features him as a Notable Carver](#).



'It Takes a Village' by Monica Setziol-Phillips

However, aside from a piece by Monica on pages 6-8 of the February Newsletter on the [Doors at Nordia House](#), we have yet to do justice to her extensive body of work that expands on her father's style. A fairly common element of the Setziol style is cutting grids into the wood to separate patterns and elements. This article further honors Monica's work and her influence on others. It features my favorite of the several pieces that each student exhibited, a few words about them, and more on Monica and her work.

Monica started her career as a weaver and gradually began to combine her weaving with wood carving, striving to get each medium to relate to the other. She sees this approach as the completion of a circle; she builds a work of fabric through the addition of warp to weft, subtracts material in carving wood, and precariously puts them together in the hope that they clearly belong together. I think you will agree that the above and below pieces do that well.

In 'It Takes a Village,' Monica melds cheerfully bright wool tapestry with bold shapes and textures carved in Alaska Yellow Cedar. We have all heard this in the context of raising a child. Monica notes that it carries into creating a cohesive society that can sustain the arts, culture, and so many other elements of community.

**Journeys with Wood**

'Landscape' is more subject to one's interpretation. I see a long, lonesome byway. The stepped perimeter and vivid blues and greens make the work visually pop. I don't know what to make of the square shape with a peak; I can't help but visualize the back pocket of a pair of jeans.



'Landscape' by Monica Setziol-Phillips

In this untitled carving on Alaska Yellow Cedar, Jeff Lorence combines many patterns, shapes, and textures. Jeff has worked with wood for most of his life, first under his Dad's wing, and then built a career in historical and period architecture.



'Untitled' by Jeff Lorence  
(Alaska Yellow Cedar)

'Fall Where They May' on Alder is an example of Jim Gryte's preference to let the beauty of the wood inform the work. Jim has loved working in wood ever since carving a 7-inch long kayak in his grandfather's garage as a boy. He sees the meditative process of carving as a foil to the stresses of life and his profession in health care.



'Fall Where They May' by Jim Gryte (Alder)



**Journeys with Wood**



'Untitled' by Edward Running (Mahogany)

In this untitled piece on mahogany, Edward Running strives for a dialog between the material and the explorer to tell a successful story. Almost all of the segments are uneven four-sided rectangles of various elevations with the uneven perimeter adding visual interest.

I needed to see the title to fully discern how Whitney Vogel's 'Cosmic Goose' in Black Walnut took full advantage of the grain and coloration of the wood to inform the design and title. It's as if the diving bird were silhouetted against the orb of a planet or moon with a star overhead and hills below. What is a craftsperson by trade, art director for film and television by day, and wood carver on any break and sometimes at night. He notes that Monica not only weaves fabric and carves wood, she also weaves poetry into the lessons.



'Cosmic Goose' by Whitney Vogel (Black Walnut)



'Untitled' by Ian Gelbrich

Ian Gelbrich got to know Monica through the public arts commission process. He comes from a timber family and was raised along various coastlines of the Pacific Northwest. As an architect and photographer he felt a step removed from the process of making and appreciates the meditative qualities of carving.



**Journeys with Wood**

Film maker and musician Matt Ritter grew up in a creative environment and found wood carving as a relatively recent creative outlet. I am amazed that this mahogany piece is untitled as it speaks so loudly to me as a naturalist and environmentalist at heart. Do you see what I see in this work?



'Untitled' by Matt Ritter (found wood)



'MUN' by Hillary Pfeifer  
(Reclaimed hardwoods)

Hilary Pfeifer's 'MUN' is crafted of reclaimed hardwoods. She is a sculptor who took Monica's class in order to explore how carved elements can add one more subtle element to her art. Many of us who work in wood might find freestanding works and mobiles to be excellent creative uses for scraps and offcuts that have been destined for the burn pile.

## Journeys with Wood

I will leave you with a couple more pieces by Monica Setziol-Phillips:



'Circle Cycles' by Monica Setziol-Phillips, (Alaska Yellow Cedar)



'Land of Clouds' by Monica Setziol-Phillips, (Spalted Maple)

**Want to see more on the exhibit from the gallery director and Monica?**

[Here is a link](#) to a very well done ten minute video.



## Carving Nearby

### Wildcraft Studio

A multi-arts non-profit that frequently has carving classes, [click here](#) for their website then scroll through their calendar. Rose Holdorf frequently teaches carving classes on the Scandinavian Dala Horse, spoons and kitchen utensils. Their classroom is now at 50th and SE Division.

### Capitol Woodcarvers — Salem

For information, [click here](#). Their annual April carving show is well known, and the club has a solid history and reputation.

### Coastal Carvers — Lincoln City

For information [click here](#). Their annual January carving show is a fixture in the state and well worth attending, but they had to cancel the January 2022 show because the casino isn't taking reservations for group events. The club meets weekly on Sundays October through May.

### Vancouver / King's Way Carvers — weekly on Thursdays

Thursday evenings 6:00 - 9:00 PM (summer 9:00 - noon). Contact Jim Mather at 360-931-0079, [jimmatherxx@gmail.com](mailto:jimmatherxx@gmail.com). This group has been meeting since 2007 in a first class art room at a large private high school at 3606 NE 78th in Vancouver (Hazel Dell). The facility is locked so call ahead for the access code. They are a friendly, experienced group of carvers with a variety of interests.

### Milwaukie Woodcarvers — weekly on Wednesdays, 8:30 - 11:30

This established group has recently restarted in-person carving sessions at the Milwaukie Center; drop-ins welcome, small fee of \$1 or \$2 fee per session. Support for beginning carvers provided. The address is 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr, Milwaukie, OR 97222 (off Hwy 224 near Rusk Rd).

### Central Oregon Wood Carvers— Bend

A group of carvers in and around Bend, for information, contact Scott Beyer at [dxdevolt@gmail.com](mailto:dxdevolt@gmail.com).

### NW Carving Academy, Ellensburg, WA July 11-15, 2022

This is a long-established, week-long educational opportunity with multiple instructors from around the region and country. For information, [click here](#).

### Olympia Woodworkers Guild

They occasionally have interesting carving presenters for their monthly meetings. For information contact Bill Cogswell at [info@owwg.org](mailto:info@owwg.org) or see [owwg.org/blog](http://owwg.org/blog).

### Port Townsend School of Woodworking

A very important regional resource that frequently has visiting carving professionals, including Mary May. For information, see [ptwoodschoool.org](http://ptwoodschoool.org).

### Idaho Carvers Guild

This is a long-established group of carvers in and around Boise that have some meetings online and some in person. For information contact Eric Owens at [idahowoodcarvers@gmail.com](mailto:idahowoodcarvers@gmail.com).

### California Carvers Guild (CCG)

This statewide umbrella organization supports over 40 clubs throughout the state and has a very long and deep history. Local clubs produce a variety of notable shows and events, while CCG produces a comprehensive newsletter called The Log, and trains judges for shows. [Click here](#) for their website.

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### Other Oregon or Regional clubs?

To list others, [click here](#).

## Upcoming Events

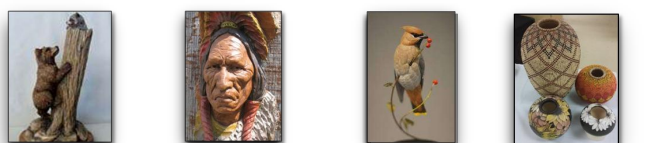
### Portland - Ed Quigley Cowboy Artist Exhibit - through January 23

At the Oregon Historical Society ([click here](#)).

Ed Quigley was perhaps the finest fine art carver in Oregon's history. He specialized in horses and western themes and was a painter and carver. This exhibit only has two carvings out of dozens, but they are worth seeing, along with his paintings. The Oregon Historical Society is producing an online catalog of all of his carvings, and we will link to those when available.



Photo from Oregon Historical Society



## Northwest Carving Academy



Kittitas Valley Event Center

Ellensburg, WA

July 11-15, 2022



The Northwest Carving Academy would like to invite you to spend a fun filled week with some of the country's top woodcarving instructors.



Wayne Barton  
Penny Burns  
Debbe Edwards  
Josh Guge  
Ryan Olsen  
Pat Moore

Charley Phillips  
Mike Reifel  
Bob Travis  
Rich Wetherbee  
Dick Wilk



Check out our website for more information

[www.nwcarvingacademy.com](http://www.nwcarvingacademy.com)



INSTRUCTOR	CLASS TITLE	COST
Wayne Barton	Chip Carving (intermediate-advanced)	\$350
Penny Burns	Nantucket Basket Weaving	\$60/day
Debbe Edwards	Animal TBD	\$425
Pat Moore	Santa with Raggedy Ann Doll	\$400
Ryan Olsen	Barbershop Quartet	\$350
Charley Phillips	Basket of Illusion	\$325
Mike Reifel	Marionette TBD	\$300
Bob Travis	Caricature Carving from Roughout	\$300
Rich Wetherbee	Butternut - Mountain Man	\$325
Dick Wilk	Small Totem	\$300
Josh Guge	Cedar waxwing w/open wing	\$500
Quilters/Crafters	Bring your own Projects	\$75

Current Instructor Roster

For registration form, [click here](#).