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February 20,2005

President John Lovett called the meeting to order promptly at 2:00 pm. Approximately 37 people were in attendance at the meeting. Greg DeAngelis and Denise Lockwood were visiting.

Membership

Membership dues are still due for 32 members! Please see Bill Zech 1739 Oakley Dr., Dover PA 17315, (717) 764-2586, if you have not paid your dues. If your mailing address or email address has changed, please let one of the officers know.

Tuesday Carvers

Every Tuesday night, there is an open carving session from 6:30-8:30 pm. Several projects will be going on including Bill Zech doing a Santa Claus, Mike Galloway doing a bottle stopper class (\$10 cost for materials), etc. Please take advantage of these activities to improve your carving skills and enjoy a night out.

Club Patches and Name Tags

Donna Krone needs to place an order for name tags. Please see Donna if you need a name tag and wish to place an order. It is nice to have a nametag at the meetings to avoid contributing to the "Little White Can!"

Seminars

- Gary Akers - Antler carving –March 12, has 4 openings, \$65
- Jack Kochan—Eagle Head - June11-12, has 1 opening, \$50
- Kirt Curtis-Cougar with Cub– July 9-11, has 5 openings, \$200.
- Harley Schmitgen- Relief August 26 (evening)-28, has openings, \$175.
- Pete Ortel—Caricatures -October 7 (evening)-9, has openings, \$130
- Vic Hood—Human figure - October 26 (evening)-28, has openings, \$175

For a full seminar list see:
<http://conewagocarvers.tripod.com/seminar.htm>

Please contact Jim Hiser for more information (717) 243-0644 or hiser@pa.net



Treasury Report

Charlie Lockwood reported we have \$6490.09 in the Treasury and the account is headed in the right direction.

Show Report

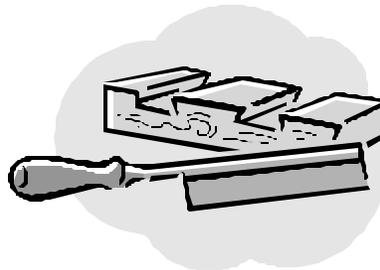
The show fliers are here, take a few to pass along to friends, family, and neighbors. Help spread the word for a great turnout to this year's show! We will soon update the club website with the show information. Our theme Carving this year will be "Halloween" and prizes will be awarded so start your entry now!. We still need a volunteer to do our silent auction this year!

Hanover Colonial Days

July 29 between 4-7 pm, **Dutch Colonial Days** will be held. Looking for a carver to give demonstrations, the carver can sell items. See John Lovett if interested.

Library Corner

Many thanks to Don and Jo Stueven for donating carving books and magazines to our library.



Join Us

Next Meeting is March 20, at 2:00 at the EBCC. Phil Adams will present a program on walking sticks and canes.

Health News

Don Stueven, Bill Zech and Dale McCoy are all on the road to recovery! However, Marlene and Jo agree it has been a long road!!

Lancaster Carving Show

Terry Keemer, President of the Lancaster Woodcarvers, is offering the club a table at the Lancaster Show to promote our club. The show will be held on March 5 and 6. Our club decided to take advantage of the opportunity. If you wish to display a Seminar piece at this show please Contact Gary Peiffer or one of our club officers. The table will be monitored.

Business Matters

Charlie Lockwood has volunteered to do a demo for a senior group in Fairfield on June 29
The Non –Profit status of our club has been renewed.
Doug Gable and John Lovett will meet to set up the renewal of our EBACC lease which is up at the end of the year.
Bill Zech has everything set up for our picnic and the banquet. Thanks Bill!

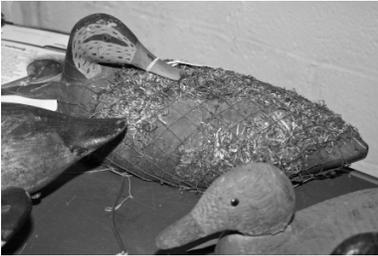


Collecting Working Duck Decoys by Gene Shue

A very interesting and informative program was given by Gene Shue who worked with Rod Flinchbaugh and grew up with Bill Zech, started collecting antique duck decoys 20 years ago. He neither carves nor hunts but enjoys collecting working (also called gunning) duck decoys which are specifically carved to be used by duck hunters. Duck Decoys are considered a true American Folk Art. It is thought to have started with the American Indians 2000 years ago. Ties to the local area includes the Susquehanna River decoys.

There are different schools of carving decoys. There are hand carved decoys as well as factory produced decoys each categorized by grade and painted, tack or glass eyes. The value of the decoys varies greatly depending on the carver or factory, the grade and if the decoy has been signed. Gene Shue has 75-80 ducks in his collection. He showed a picture of one worth \$800,000! Unfortunately that one was not in his collection. The oldest decoy in the collection was carved in Chester County MD in 1850!

Madison Mitchell was a decoy carver in the early 1900's. He made many decoys and they are easy to recognize due to the painted eyes. Unfortunately Mitchell's eyesight started to fail as he got older and he stopped signing his work. This devalued his pieces and most are worth less than \$1000.



There are several books available to those who are interested in collecting working decoys, some focusing on hand carvers and some on factory carved decoys.

Thank you to Gene Shue for his Presentation!

Don't miss the March Program on walking sticks and canes by Phil Adams!

Show and Tell

Linda Murphy-a painted Brants duck, Linda will be happy to help anyone to prepare for the next sportsman show. They are looking to have a lot more participation in their 3 hour duck painting competition this year. See Linda if you are interested. She also brought in a bear carved out of walnut finished with tongue oil and painted the nose and eyes with steel wool soaked in vinegar which turned it black. Thanks to Dave kicking her in gear, she also brought her Harley Schmitgen wolves, freshly painted Linda Murphy style, and a bark lighthouse that actually lights up.

Braden Ausherman- A 3' replica of the Queen Mary carved by his Grandfather in jail sometime between 1932 and 1934. The portholes were made from shoe eyelets and the masts were held by straight pins. Braden had repainted it but everything else, including several light bulbs which still work, is all original! Braden also brought in a Cowboy he had done in Harley's class.

Don Stueven- A USS Independence hull and deck still a work in progress.

Bill Zech- A box turtle with grass made of walnut chips sprayed green. Also a pair of Gnomes made from his own design.

Gary Peiffer- 3 Different Santas carved from the same blank.

Mary Hoffman- A woodburned box made from spalted wood, and a Bullet box (because every woman needs a bullet box!) with a hunting scene burned on it!

Bill Martin- Several stained figures (Bill was cleaning out his shop!)

Jack Moxley- Horse and dog figures, also a painted Oscar figure

Conewago Carvers is brought to you by:
 President John Lovett (717) 624-4068
 Vice President Carl Smith (717) 757-6886
 Treasurer Charlie Lockwood (717) 642-8125
 Secretary Ed Otto (717) 243-9114
 Newsletter Editor Nikki Otto (717) 243-9114
 Web Site <http://conewagocarvers.tripod.com/>



Caption Contest of the Month

February 2005

"I can't believe it took him that long to carve it, I could have done it in half the time."

Thank you Linda Murphy for your winning entry. Thank you for the many captions we received this month! Don't forget we also will take photo submissions.

Submit your caption for the March Photo of Nick and John on the bottom of the page to otloe@pa.net



March 2005

