

Prairie Canada News

September 2008

Carving Championship set for March 21 & 22, 2009

Competition Location and Rules Changes

The 2009 Prairie Canada Carving Competition will be held at the Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, March 21 to 22, 2009. To book a room call (204) 786-4801; toll free 1-877-842-4667. Further details may be found in the Prairie Canada Carving Championship booklet which will be distributed in mid-October (mailed and emailed) and posted on the website www.prairiecanadacarvers.com. For rules inquiries contact Don Young at 489-0149 or e-mail bdyoung@escape.ca.

2009 Competition rules are for the most part be a carbon copy of the 2008 show. Pyrography is now a feature category in 09 thanks to carver interest. Carousel animals will remain an exhibit category. If interest in carousel animals remains low it will be dropped. Class produced carvings has been deleted due to a lack of interest. Cocktail carvings have been expanded to include stone, bone and antler. See changes below to Purchase Award categories.

Featured Carving instructors (full course details will be included in the rules form and extensive instructor bios in the December newsletter)

Del Hebert, Chula Vista, California– Shaping and painting a life-sized Rudy Turnstone with an airbrush.-March 18 to 20

Desiree Hajny, Blue Hill, Nebraska– Carving with chisels and knives a miniature Grizzly Bear (12 ins.) -March 17 to 20

Dennis Drechsler, Victoria, British Columbia - Power carving a miniature Killer Whale- March 23 to 25



Purchase Awards

Dremel: Dremel Tools is offering a \$500 purchase award for the best realistic miniature timber wolf (s) carving. The carving will be the raffle piece PCCA uses to help raise funds for the 2010 show. It will be judged under Division E guidelines (\$15 entry fee).

Oak Hammock Marsh Conservation Centre: OHM is offering a \$1,000 purchase award for the best traditional floating hunting decoy rig of 3 birds of any species or combination of species. Second and third place birds will receive rosettes and remain the property of the carvers. Carvings will be judged under Division B (\$20 entry fee).

James Richardson Antique Duck Decoy: James Richardson is offering a \$500 purchase award for the best antique style working duck decoy. The carving must be a wooden duck decoy, carved in the traditional gunning style and finished with oil paint. The entrant shall provide a short write-up of the carving style or the carver being profiled. It will be judged under Division B guidelines (\$15 entry fee).



The award winning three-duck hunting rig won by Ray Minaudier of St. Claude in the Oak Hammock Marsh Purchase Award category was a popular competition in 08 and will be repeated in 09. Visit the Oak Hammock Marsh Conservation Centre this fall to see all the award winning decoys in this category on display.

(Awards continued on page two)

Chairperson's Message

Here we are embarking on the 23rd year of hosting one of the more notable carving competitions on the continent and by the looks of things it will be another remarkable year. I am particularly pleased with the caliber of carving instructors we have lined up for the 09 show. PCCA has made a point of attracting top notch carving instructors from across the continent as part of our ongoing effort to showcase the art form and help carvers hone their skills. We are here to serve your interests, so I encourage you to attend one of the workshops and equally important let us know what you'd like see offered in the future.

Today, the Prairie Canada Carving Championship includes all manner and form of carvings in wood, bone, antler and stone— an inclusiveness that helps assure the continuation of one of North America's longest running and most successful carving shows. Our success is due in no small measure to the quality of people who serve as volunteers on the Association's board of directors. Like any good organization we attract quality people and retain their support even after they retire from the board. That is certainly the case for Rick Brereton. Rick and Cathie moved to lake country this fall and will be missed by the executives and membership of Les Gens de Bois and PCCA. Amongst a whole bunch of other things Rick and Cathie made a significant contribution to the standardization of the PCCA rules form and the adoption of an electronic registration system. Both organizations will also miss Pierre Deschenes who moved to Montreal in pursuit of a new career in the aviation industry. Pierre has forgotten more about carving than most of us will ever know. The PCCA board is pleased to gain Earl Quesnel as a new member and is always looking for a few more good men and women to serve. If this tickles your fancy or if you know of someone who could be valuable contributor please let me know at 237-1385 or email tedmuir@shaw.ca.



The 208/09 board roster includes Doug Danell who is treasurer and chairs the fund-raising committee. Dave Koss with the assistance of Earl Quesnel coordinates ticket sales. Dave also serves as secretary. Don Young is the rules chairman and is assisted in the delivery of a bevy of tasks by Bonnie Trodden, Prabir Mitra, Shawn Nicol and Doug Danell. Education and marketing is handled by myself (newsletter editor and archival photographer), Jean Mousseau (website developer), Doug Danell (mailing list databank) and John Frye (awards program coordinator). The chair for this committee is vacant as is the vice-chairperson position.

In passing out the accolades I would be remiss in not applauding you the carvers for participating and contributing to the show each and every year. Thank you for the continued support.

Ted Muir –Chairperson, PCCA

Purchase Awards

Best of Show Slick (B.O.S.S.) Purchase Award: Morgan Whiteway is offering a \$500 prize for the best slick working Wood Duck hen decoy. The carving must meet all the criteria of a working decoy (Division D). Wood burning and undercut feathers are not allowed. There are no restrictions on painting— decorative painting detail is encouraged (\$15 entry fee).

Ross Gage Shorebird: Ross Gage Investment Counsel is offering \$200 prize for the best working shorebird. The second place winner will receive a \$50 prize, with the carving remaining the property of the carver. It will be judged under Division B guidelines (\$10 entry fee).

Les Gens de Bois will once again be offering \$200 to the carver whose carving was selected by ballot under the People's Choice Award.

Manitoba Carving Competitions, Courses and Clubs Leaflet

PCCA is in the process of updating its list of 08 carving clubs, competition and courses. It is perfect document to help promote the art form. Visit our website or contact Ted Muir for a free copy.



Spotted Sandpiper by Frank MacFarlane-Ross Gage Award

Nominations Sought for Carver's Award of Excellence

The *Carver's Award of Excellence* was established in 2006 to acknowledge individuals, organizations and businesses for excellence and achievement in promoting and engendering the art of carving in North America. It was designed, quite simply, to pay tribute to individuals or organizations that have made a long term commitment to the advancement and promotion of carving, ideally leaving a lasting influence upon the carving community. Recipients to date have all been outstanding leaders in the carving community, each racking up well in excess of 15 years of exemplary service. Each of the recipients receives a one of a kind bronze award is sculpted by renowned wildlife artist Peter Sawatzky of Glenboro, Manitoba.

Carver's Award of Excellence recipients include: 2006 - Dr. Frank Baldwin of Lockport, Manitoba and Hugh McVarish of Winnipeg; 2007- Bill Palmer of Winnipeg; and 2008- Les Barrow of Thunder Bay and Ron Davidson of Saskatoon .

Nominations must be submitted in writing to John Frye at 139 Lodge Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3J 0R6 or e-mail: jfrye@cc.umanitoba.ca. Nominations must be submitted by January 31, 2009. Recipients must be nominated for recognition from the carving community. Nominators are encouraged to complete nomination forms which can be obtained from John or downloaded from the PCCA website. 2009 recipients will be acknowledged at the annual PCCA awards banquet on Saturday, March 21. They will also be acknowledged in the various articles PCCA submits to national carving magazines like *Chip Chats* and *Waterfowl Carving Magazine*.



Carvers Encouraged to Sell Raffle Tickets

The revenue generated from the sale of raffle tickets is an important fund-raiser for PCCA. We are only able to keep entry fees affordable and the show operating with these funds. As such we need the help of carvers in selling books of \$ 2.00 raffle tickets. If you can sell a book please contact Dave Koss at dkoss@escape.ca. The 08 raffle piece, sponsored by Dremel Tools, is of a feeding pair of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds crafted by Rusty Rutherford of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba (photo insert) . The 2009 Dremel carving features a miniature Timber Wolf (s).

Dave is also always looking for volunteers to staff the various venues where we sell tickets and promote carving, handing out lists of Manitoba carving clubs and encouraging folks to take up the art form. In mid September we were at the Woodworking Tool and Hobby show in Winnipeg and coming up this fall and winter we will be at Winnipeg's Cabela's and Lee Valley Tools. Quite likely we will be back at the Boat show and Recreational Vehicle Show held at the Winnipeg Convention Centre in late winter.



Jack and Joyce Yellowlees are among a cadre of volunteers who sell tickets. for PCCA.

Carvers can also contribute to the show's financial success by taking part in the auction program— be it the 50/50 or cocktail category. With the 50/50 auction proceeds are evenly split between the carver and PCCA. We encourage carvers to continue to push the envelope in micro-miniature cocktail carving and make a lot of show goers extremely happy with their acquisitions. While the cocktail carving competition started off as duck competition, it has since grown by leaps and bounds to include all manner and form of carvings of wood, bone, stone and antler. All auction proceeds go toward the running of the show (\$ 2,847 in 2008).



B Prairie Canada Carvers'
O Association
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R Doug Danell
D Dave Koss
O John Frye
F Prabir Mitra
D Jean Mousseau
I Ted Muir
R Shawn Nicol
E Earl Quesnel
C Bonnie Trodden
T Don Young
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2009 Fall Workshops

Tom Park: Cork Killer Whale Workshop– Sunday, November 9 at Fort Whyte Alive, Winnipeg, (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Pre-register with Ft. Whyte Alive at 989-8364. Members \$25; non-members \$30.

Make your own miniature killer whale out of compressed cork and learn the basics of making a pattern, hand and power sanding, inserting fins and painting. Suitable for novice carvers (over 13 years of age). All supplies provided. Bring an apron. For more information call Ted Muir at 237-1385 or Tom Park at 269-4290. Tom has run several of these workshops before on behalf of Prairie Canada, all of which have been well attended– so register early.



Jean Minaudier: American Wigeon Painting Workshop– Saturday, November 15, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Artists Emporium, 1610 St. James Street, Winnipeg. Paint (acrylic) a cast of a drake American Wigeon duck head, learning the basics of brush use, layers and washes and iridescence.

Register with Ted Muir at 181 Birchdale Avenue, Winnipeg, R2H 1S5 or email tedmuir@shaw.ca (237-1385). Fee \$75 (payable to Prairie Canada Carvers Association). A list of required paints and details will be provided to registered carvers. Workshop limited to 12– first come first served.



Jean instructing at an 08 painting workshop organized by PCCA as Doug Carson, Doug Danell and Rusty Rutherford look on.



Beluga whales by Bonnie Trodden- 2nd Best of Show (novice) 2008

PCCA Sponsorship Valued

Sponsors Needed: Annual events like the Prairie Canada Carving Championship are expensive undertakings, costing in the range of \$15,000. So it is no surprise that PCCA has relied upon sponsors to remain financially viable. In this we have been very successful as noted by the impressive array of organizations/individuals that sponsored your show and competition in 2008 below. However sponsors come and go, so if you know of individuals or organizations that potentially could support your show please contact Ted Muir at 237-1385 or e-mail tedmuir@shaw.ca. PCCA will do all the approaching if need be, but we need your help in identifying potential sponsors.

2008 Sponsors/contributors

Gold: Oak Hammock Marsh Conservation Centre

Silver: Dremel Tools, Jim Richardson, Manitoba Hydro, Morgan Whiteway

Bronze: Artists Emporium, Canadian Woodworker, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Dominion Construction, Freedom Tools, Lee Valley Tools, Les Gens de Bois, Manitoba Pork Council, Manitoba Wildlife Federation, Razertip Industries, Ross Gage Investment Counsel, S.I.R. Mail Order and Turnbull Whitaker Insurance.