

**Maine Wood Carvers Association
Annual Board of Director's Meeting
April 1, 2006, Augusta, Maine**

Twenty-five people were in attendance

President Loyd Clark called meeting to order.

First order of business: MWCA bird collection stored in different locations and some of our original birds appear to have been lost. Originally, just members could borrow birds but some non-members have borrowed our birds. A three month loan period was proposed. How does the board feel about loans and setting a time frame? Some questions about collection: Is there inventory of birds? Yes, inventory will be posted on the website. Can schools and educators borrow birds? Loyd – Birds can be used for educational purposes and our permit must be renewed periodically. During discussion, Wayne Edmondson said that Ed Hawkes had to fight to retain permit and birds. Birds must be used for educational purposes and shown 3 - 4 times per year. Joyce Lawrence feels that it is a benefit of membership to have study skins and birds.

Kathy Webster said to be legal, the birds must be returned to curator and signed out from curator. Kathy suggests we feature a bird a month in newsletter. Wilma will put list in newsletter.

Dave Brown suggested Marie Arnold keep & publish log periodically in newsletter. Wayne Edmondson suggested setting a \$5 fee to borrow and deposit to be returned when bird is returned. Marcia Berkall will put on MWCA website – www.mainewoodcarvers.org.

Pat Cornwell read Secretary's Report and it was accepted as read. Pat will remain as Treasurer until another Treasurer can be found. Carol Durgin will take the Secretary position. Thanks were given to Carol, Pat, Marcia and Wilma for their work.

Kathy Webster passed out info on our annual show. She gave Gary and Pat Cornwell a thank you for the booklet they presented to the Show Chairman, as it is the basis for the show planning. We went over the proposed annual show expenditures.

Two of the last items on the agenda dealt with seminars. All seminars should be brought before the Seminar Committee and then to MWCA Board of Directors before being offered to membership. All members need to be informed about seminars. A subsidy not to exceed \$10 was voted in.

If the seminar presenter needs to have overnight accommodations for a multi-day seminar, etc., it was moved that \$100.00 be given to the host to cover room and board. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H. Durgin, Secretary. MWCA

The **Carver Street Carvers** Report arrived a bit late, but before final printing.

We have a new member of our group and he wants to join the Wood Carvers of Maine. He has some experience in carving. He will be a welcome addition to our group.

I have finished the wood duck, finally! It isn't too bad, everyone says it looks like a wood duck so that's a plus! Five of us are carving white tail deer at the moment.

That's all for now. Talk to you next time. Loretta Rabassa

Joyce Lawrence of Ducktrap Bay Trading Company, Inc. Camden, Maine

Joyce brought a collection of about 15 birds to help illustrate how she prices and markets bird carvings. She has about 40 years in the retail business and her talk dealt basically with the marketing and mentality.

It's difficult to set a price on the time spent creating the birds. She refers to the enjoyment of carving as "soft hours". This makes it difficult for artists to charge enough for their carvings. The artist is really selling themselves rather than just a product. She defined customer as someone who trusts the artist and wants to return for more of their work and the buyer as a one shot deal. Quality and pricing need to be equitable.

If she accepts a piece on consignment, she will get 40% of the sale. The advantages to the artist include retaining ownership until the piece is sold, and the ability to take pieces out for shows. The disadvantages are the possibility pieces will get damaged and some places don't pay until the end of the season.

If the artist is paid ahead of time, the price should be lower to the retailer because the retailer has to wait to sell the piece to recoup money.

If the carver creates the pieces for a livelihood, they must be aggressive - do shows, get their name and their work before the public. The ultimate price reflects the cost of galleries, advertising and other expenses.

Also, the carver needs to educate the people selling their work by providing info about the wood, paint and a short write-up stating their honors, shows, etc.

When choosing a gallery the artist needs to ask questions, such as:
When is the gallery open?
What seasons?
What hours?

During her talk, Joyce held up carvings and pointed out certain features. She mentioned size, type (detailed, slick) paint. The pieces she brought ranged in price from \$100. - \$13,000. Another point to consider is habitat. Birds need to be displayed in an appropriate size habitat for display and shipping.



When people want to start collecting, Joyce advises them to buy "what makes their heart tick". Her passion is birds and she has a collection of her own. People need to ask themselves if they want to collect a certain artist or type of bird - songbird, decoys, waterbirds, prey birds, etc. What type of finish do they like - detail, slick, natural wood?

Joyce was interrupted by the Chinese version of "Happy Birthday", which she laughingly said was her cue to stop. She closed by saying that carvers are just the nicest people. She would like to see more people begin carving at an earlier age. We need to do whatever we can to encourage people to carve.

A big "thank you" to you, Joyce, for bringing your marvelous birds and your informational, inspirational presentation. We love our eggs from Ducktrap Bay Trading Company.

Submitted by,
Carol H. Durgin

67th Eastern Maine Sportsman Show Carving Competition
sponsored by
Penobscot County Conservation Association
and the
Maine Wood Carvers Association
March 17 – 19, 2006

AWARDS

**Best of Show
Sportsman's Choice**

**Ed Hawkes
Ed Hawkes**

**Woodcock
Woodcock**

Novice:

Mike Butler
Ken Brooks

Landlocked Salmon
Ruddy Turnstone
American Goldfinch

1st
2nd
2nd

Intermediate:

Paul Gorman

C: Snipe
Mourning Dove
Eagle Figurehead

2nd
2nd
2nd

Open:

John Mitchel
George Gilpin
George Snedding
Dick Perry

Black Duck - Working Decoy
American Kestrel
Brook Trout
Bald Eagle
Mountain Man

1st
1st
2nd
-
1st
2nd

Walt Simmons

Common Eider Decoy
Red Breasted Merganser - Decoy HM

2nd
2nd

Jerry St. Clair
Edwin Hawkes

Mallard Drake
Common Loon
Sanderling
Loon
Woodcock

1st
1st
1st, **Best of Show &
Sportsman's Choice**

Frank Solari

Owl Screech
West. Sandpiper
American Crow
Hooded Merganser
Yellowlegs – stick
Curlew – stick
Roothead – stick

1st
2nd
1st
1st
2nd
1st
2nd

Terry Stanley

Pileated Woodpecker
Canada Goose – flying
Harlequin Duck – decoy
Goldeneye – decoy

2nd
3rd
HM
3rd

Harry Lord

Avocet – stick
Canada Goose – Antique
Red Breasted Merganser – Drake
Red Breasted Merganser – Hen
Canvas Back – Antique
Brant – Antique
Canada Goose – standing
Ruddy Turnstone – standing

1st
3rd
3rd
HM
2nd
1st
2nd
3rd

Gary Tyler
Richard Caron

Eider – Decoy Antique
Min. Snowy Owl

1st
2nd

Thanks to all who competed in the PCCA/MWCA Carving Competition and to those who helped at the show. A special thanks to the Flewellings for helping with the judging.

Ed Hawkes, MWCA Show Coordinator

**This is the report submitted by Julie Babb as she passed the Bird
Curatorship from herself to Marie Arnold. This report was published in
the May, 2005 *The Maine Carver***

To all members of the Maine Woodcarver's Association: First of all, I'd like to thank you all for the opportunity of having served as your Curator of Birds for the past few years -- however, after the freezer failure (and realizing that I need the storage space!), I am turning the job over to a very capable and responsible new member of the club, Marie Arnold. I have known Marie for quite a long time now, as we attend the same church and share similar interests. Although she is not a carver or painter, Marie is an environmental educator, and will put the birds to good use, as her field opens up many doors that we, as carvers, don't have access to. She will be taking over very soon (hopefully within the month). Her phone number is 586-5111, and she lives at 38 Chase Farm Road, Newcastle, ME 04553. I will let the Club know for sure when she is official!

I've also been asked to supply all of you with an updated inventory since the Great Freezer Failure, so here it is:

Study Skins:

Scarlet Tanager
Broad-winged Hawk
Evening Grosbeak
Flicker

Catbird
Blue Jay
Hairy Woodpecker
Grouse
Veery

(According to the list compiled by Ed Hawkes in 2000, we also have a Baltimore Oriole and a Woodcock.... see note at end)

Mounts:

Great Horned Owl
Barred Owl
Saw-Whet Owl
Loon
American Crow

Immature Great Blue Heron
Kingfisher
Grouse (2)
Bobwhite (2)

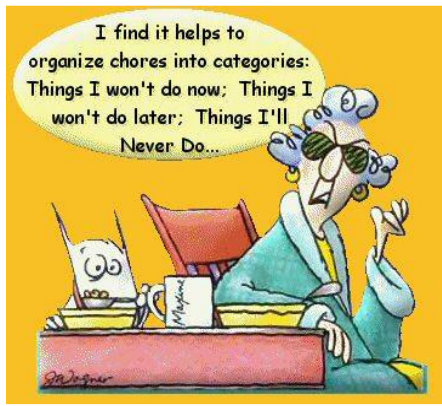
(Again, according to the 2000 list from Ed Hawkes, we also own a Pileated Woodpecker, another Barred Owl and an Osprey...see note at end.)

Note: This inventory consists of the birds that I actually have in my home as of this writing. Those birds that I've mentioned parenthetically in the above lists I have never seen nor have I had them in my care. So, would you please look around your shops, homes, etc. and see if you've borrowed them and if so, please return them ASAP to the new Curator (or to me)! Five years is a long time to keep a specimen out of circulation --- I know of several people who would like to see some of these birds, myself included!!

Thank you all very much --- I appreciate the privilege of having been the Curator and I hope that you will all welcome Marie into the fold and make her glad that she is willing to take on the job.

Sincerely,
Julie Babb

Editor's note. At the Downeast Show, September 2005, a mounted woodcock and a mounted partridge were donated to the collection. Anyone who currently has a bird/study-skin on loan, PLEASE contact Marie Arnold (see page 11) to confirm your possession of the bird and arrange for eventual return. It has been on the "honor system" up to now...now it's a matter of honor.



- If you let a smile be your umbrella, then most likely your butt will get soaking wet.
- The only two things we do with greater frequency in middle age are urinate and attend funerals.
- The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.
- Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos and belly button rings.
- Drinking makes some husbands see double and feel single.

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Please submit all material for *The Maine Carver* before the 25th of the month for the next month's publication.

Membership Fees: Individual Member: \$15 annually; Family \$22.50 All membership fees are due and payable by September 1.

The *Maine Carver* accepts advertisements without making any guarantees implied or otherwise as to the quality of products or services advertised, or delivery of these products/services. The Maine Wood Carvers Association shall not be held accountable for typos and other errors appearing in *The Maine Carver*.

This publication has attempted to include something for everyone. Errors are strategically placed through the document because some folks get a great deal of enjoyment in finding mistakes.

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**2006 DOWNEAST
SHOW COMM.**

April 29

**The Governor's
Restaurant
Lewiston
11:30 am**

CURATOR OF BIRDS

Marie Arnold
38 Chase Farm Road
Newcastle ME 04553
(207) 586-5111 – marnold@gwi.net
Bird studies available for loan to members.

RESOURCE LOAN PROGRAM - If you would be willing to loan books, magazine articles, video tapes, study casts or anything else related to carving and painting, send your list to browndd@adelphia.net

NEW & IMPROVED!! MWCA web site
address:
<http://mainewoodcarvers.org>