Merry Christmas (or Holiday greetings, if you prefer)!

How are your gift exchange pieces coming for the Christmas party? Ready for some good chow, great company and a laugh or two? Hopefully your appetite is whetted and your pies are in the oven (or will be soon). Get ready for some fun this Thursday.

We have our judges lined up for the Idaho Artistry in Wood Show. Ted Smith and Vic Otto have agreed to be our judges this year. Let’s have a great turnout for the show and demonstrate some of the wonderfully talented artists in the Valley, Our carving members have a wide range of talents from chip carving to decoys to realistic animals and humans to caricatures to power carving to more abstract and impressionistic carvings. I for one am grateful for the chance to see what other artists are doing, as well as get some new inspiration. I know for me it is not about winning a ribbon, although that is validation and gratification for all the hard work I put into some of my creations. But more importantly, I feel the show is primarily for the public to see what our artistic talents can produce, as well as demonstrate the unique arts of working with wood, from woodworking to carving to gourd work to woodturning to scrollwork. I am always impressed in seeing how our artists interpret motion and expression in all mediums of wood. It is fascinating, awe-inspiring, jaw-dropping, and sometimes, downright intimidating to see what someone can do with an idea, a few tools and a few pieces of wood.

If you are as excited as I am for the 2013 Idaho Artistry in Wood (February 23-24), then get your tools sharpened up and get to creating something that will take our breath away or inspire us to do a better job to catch up with your talent.

We have had a fantastic 2012, and as it draws to a close, I can honestly say that I am humbled to be a part of this great group of folks who call themselves the Idaho Woodcarvers Guild. We come together not only as artists sharing the knowledge and skills of carving, but as friends who share details of our lives, the good, the bad and the ugly. We have lost a few members this year, and fondly look back on our time with them, learning and sharing. We have new members just as eager to learn, to teach and to share. I feel that 2013 is going to be a great year of learning, sharing and enjoying each others’ company. I am looking forward to a bright future with some of my closest friends. Thank you so much for making this experience as great as it can be.

Eric Owens
President, IWG
The November meeting as called to order by our venerable leader, Eric Owen, at 6:34 sharp. This meeting is marked by a memorable event—all four members of the executive committee were present.

Jane’s treasury report was first order of business. There were no expenses this month past.

Eric introduced two guests, Tony Guarino (who really wasn’t a guest but Eric hadn’t met him yet) and Steve McClasky, from Idaho Falls, here visiting Doug Rose.

The minutes from October were approved.

Excitement!! Next month’s meeting will be the Christmas party! Yay! This will be held on Dec. 13th, 6:30 to 8:30, at the Wright Congregational Church, just off Franklin and Orchard in Boise. All those volunteering for setup and chatting time, please come at 5:30. Amy will cook a ham for us (Carolyn has called dibs on the ham bone.) Cleve will cook our goose, er, a turkey for us, on the condition someone provides mashed potatoes for the gravy. Amy will make mashed taters too. Eric divided the club members last names into three groups and assigned dishes as follows: last names beginning A-G bring a salad. Last names H-R bring a side dish. Last names S-Z bring dessert. If you have a drop dead tasty dish that doesn’t fall into your category, we don’t care. Bring it!

As always there will be a rousing gift exchange. Bring a wrapped gift to participate. Any guests attending are encouraged to bring a gift and participate also. The only caveat—the gift must be handmade. (Doesn’t have to be a woodcarving though. Scarves are really nice too. Thekla.)

On to the Show! We still need to find trained judges. Eric will contact Ted Smith and Vic Otto for starters. It was suggested to seek out more regional clubs to offer invitations. Jane asked for clarification on how a carver determine at what level to enter pieces. The club had a very good discussion on this topic. If you are still unclear or need help deciding, ask Eric, Doug, Gene, or John G.

Amy asked of there was any update on our library. Not really. Eric will talk to the Woodworkers about a cabinet for the club.

Don told a great joke. Any carver would be happy to repeat it!

Then it was show and tell.

Then Frank asked for any walking staffs to go to the veterans.

Eric told us about Turn for the Troops. At Woodcraft, on November 3rd, there were 20 lathes set up, and turners made 1300 pens for the troops overseas. Our local Woodcraft
Minutes contd

has turned over 10,000 pens in 9 years—the most of any Woodcraft in the nation. A round of virtual applause!

Addendum: Carolyn attended the IAIW Show Committee meeting on Nov 12th. The show has space for vendors. If you know anyone who would like to sell, contact Carolyn or Eric. There will be a table for selling your finished projects. There will be a 10% commission, or 5% commission if you volunteer some time to work at the sales booth.

We will need pieces for the banquet table doorprizes, raffle table and auction items. Please donate!

Additional addendum: at thurs nite carving it was decided Carolyn will be allowed to do table decorations for the Carvers Christmas party. Amy volunteered to bring plastic utensils and paper plates for all, to avoid a plethora of dirty dishes to do. Thanks Amy!

Swinging the camera around at the last Thursday night Open Carving

Busy as Santa’s Elves working on Christmas Gifts

The prospectus and registration forms for wood carving entries have now been sent to the Idaho Artistry in Wood website: idahoartistryinwood.com.
Beck Beus shared a few cute cotton wood bark houses. He is carving some smaller ones and is opening the door on them to add some variety to his carvings.

Amy Linkert showed a Santa bottle stopper and a cowboy she carved at the Jamboree. In addition she said she had been carving cottonwood bark carvings.

Steve Moreno has been busy Carving gifts for his grandchildren. He brought in two brightly carved Intarsia hot air balloons, each with their name on the basket
John Brubaker shared a fork and a spoon he is working on.

Jane Eubanks showed us a bowl and seam rippers that were turned and finished by her husband. In the bowl he used a powder that sets up and looks like turquoise.

Frank Capshaw shared a cane he had carved for the VA. He also, brought in some wood for others to make canes from. Thanks, Frank.

David Sharp has been busy Carving Santas from butternut wood.
Carving Classes offered by Woodcraft

Weekly Wood Carving with Lennie Williams

Lennie teaches on Tuesdays from 6 pm – 8 pm
New students need to meet with the instructor one week prior to their first class. $30.00/class or 4 class punch-card for $99.00. Class fee does not include materials.
Call Woodcraft at (208) 338-1190 to learn how to register.

Lennie is a member of the IWG and is a great carver.