

# *Fine Feathers.*

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April 2021

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ALBERTA WILDLIFE CARVING ASSOCIATION.

## **President's Message**

Hope this newsletter finds you well. As we begin 2021 and the battle with Covid 19 enters the vaccine phase - the light at the end of the tunnel has appeared - but is still a little blurry. We know that we will be getting back to some sort of normal but are not sure when. As of this date, our Wednesday Night Classes have been suspended until further notice and Board of Director's meetings have had to be virtual either by teleconference or Zoom.

### **Carving in the Park 2021**

AWCA's Board of Directors has unfortunately had to postpone our annual Carving in the Park Carving School for the second year in a row. Carving in the Park 2022 will be held June 7 - 12, 2022 at Whitecroft Hall in Strathcona County. The current state of Covid 19 in Alberta and other parts of the country has made it impossible to go ahead with our carving school scheduled for this June. Please check the AWCA website for ongoing updates regarding next year's show.

<http://albertawildlifecarving.squarespace.com>

### **Annual General Meeting**

AWCA held its AGM on Wednesday April 21, 2021 by a Zoom call. A total of 18 members attended and the meeting, although different, this year's AGM went very well. Many thanks to our lead directors' Ryan Puhlman and Russ Mann for facilitating the Zoom meeting. Hopefully next year will be back to normal (whatever that is)!

### **New Board of Directors**

Three board members had their tenures come to an end as of this year AGM. They were Bob Steele (President) Glenn Maber (Director) and Kathleen Norton (Past President). Both Bob Steele and Kathleen Norton let their names stand for re-election and were confirmed as members of the new Board of Directors. Elvin Smith was elected to the AWCA Board of Directors for the first time. Thanks Elvin, it is great to see another new face on our board.

Glenn Maber will be leaving the Board but will remain actively involved as a support to the Board and will continue to share a leadership role in Carving in the Park and Images of Nature Show. I wish to express the Board of Directors' gratitude to Glenn

for his work on the Board over the years and look forward to our continued work with him in the future. This is the first step in our approach to a smooth transition of leadership of AWCA over the next few years.

The Board will be finalizing roles and responsibilities at its May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting and will notify members in AWCA's next newsletter.

### **Images of Nature Show 2021**

AWCA's "Images of Nature Show" will go ahead as planned June 4/5/6 at Whitecroft Community League with the following adjustments. The show will be for carvers only and will follow Alberta Health Care Covid 19 protocols in terms of access to the hall itself and any maximum numbers based on the hall's capacity. The show will **not be open to the public** to mitigate any possibility of Covid 19 spread. We will continue to update our website <http://albertawildlifecarving.squarespace.com> and will further inform you as we get closer to the show dates. This will be an excellent opportunity for AWCA carvers to enter their Covid - Carvings and have them judged by experienced judges. Hope to see you there!

Bob Steele  
President AWCA

**AWCA Tuesday Evening**  
**Upcoming Courses for Carving Year 2021-2022**  
**Commencing October 5 2021**

**BEGINNER CLASS TBD**

## Full size Sharp-Shined Hawk

AT AMISKWACIY ACADEMY

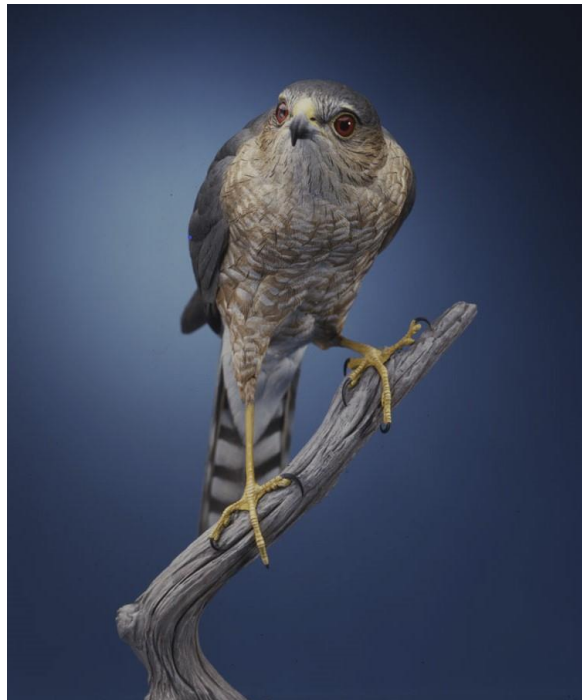
Tuesdays from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

THE ALBERTA WILDLIFE CARVING ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS FALL CARVING COURSE WITH INSTRUCTOR **GLENN MABER 780-907-0454**

Email [gmaber@yahoo.com](mailto:gmaber@yahoo.com) BLANKS, EYES AND FEET MATERIALS WILL BE SUPPLIED

COURSE STARTS OCT 5th TO END OF MAR

FEE: \$350.00 Includes class fees.



**REQUIRED TOOLS:** STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING A MICRO MOTOR POWER GRINDER I.E. TSP, NSK, FOREDOM OR SIMILAR MACHINE. Some coarse bits and some fine bits. A sharp carving knife, a pr. of calipers, a flexible ruler or straight edge, a mechanical pencil, an assortment of paint brushes #1,2,3. Dust masks and safety glasses are recommended.

## AT Country Haven Carving Studio

### COW MOOSE

Tuesdays from 10 AM to 3 PM.

THE ALBERTA WILDLIFE CARVING ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS FALL CARVING COURSE WITH INSTRUCTOR BRENDA MITCHELL 780-910-2615

Email [bmitchell2788@gmail.com](mailto:bmitchell2788@gmail.com)

BLANKS, EYES AND FEET MATERIAL WILL BE SUPPLIED

COURSE STARTS OCT 5th to the end of Dec FEE: \$350.00 Includes class fees.



**REQUIRED TOOLS:** STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING A MICRO MOTOR POWER GRINDER I.E. TSP, NSK, FOREDOM OR SIMILAR MACHINE. Some coarse bits and some fine bits. A sharp carving knife, a pr. of calipers, a flexible ruler or straight edge, a mechanical pencil, an assortment of paint brushes #1,2,3. Dust masks and safety glasses are recommended.

*½ size Willow Ptarmigan*

AT AMISKWACIY ACADEMY

Tuesdays from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

THE ALBERTA WILDLIFE CARVING ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS FALL CARVING COURSE WITH INSTRUCTOR DIANE SHARKEY

Email [dianesharkey@gmail.com](mailto:dianesharkey@gmail.com) BLANKS, EYES AND FEET MATERIALS WILL BE SUPPLIED

COURSE STARTS OCT 5th TO END OF MAR

FEE: \$350.00 Includes class fees.



**REQUIRED TOOLS:** STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING A MICRO MOTOR POWER GRINDER I.E. TSP, NSK, FOREDOM OR SIMILAR MACHINE. Some coarse bits and some fine bits. A sharp carving knife, a pr. of calipers, a flexible ruler or straight edge, a mechanical pencil, an assortment of paint brushes #1,2,3. Dust masks and safety glasses are recommended.

**Alberta Wildlife Carving** and **Country Haven Wood Carving**  
hold numerous workshops throughout the year instructed by world class carvers.  
In these classes you will learn techniques and tips that will take your carvings to  
the next level.

Below you will find the current list of classes, sign up now while there's still room!



## **COUNTRY HAVEN STUDIO**

### **REDTAIL HAWK**



**INSTRUCTOR: JEAN MINAUDIER**

**NEW SEPT. ,2021**

**6 DAYS OF CARVING FROM, 8:30AM TO 5:00PM**

**-CAMPING SPOTS AVAILABLE, CALL 780 910 2615**

**-COST: \$690, INCLUDES, LUNCH, COFFEE, BLANKS AND EYES**

**-\$50.00 DEPOSIT NON REFUNDABLE WITH REGISTRATION**

**BALANCE DUE AUG1, 2020**

**DEPOSIT AND FEES PAYABLE TO, BRENDA MITCHELL**

**COUNTRY HAVEN WOOD CARVING**

**C/O BRENDA MITCHELL**

**RR1, SITE 105, COMP.4**

**ALBERTA BEACH, T0E 0A1**

**EMAIL [COUNTRY.HAVEN.CARVING.STUDIO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:COUNTRY.HAVEN.CARVING.STUDIO@GMAIL.COM)**

## Welding Rod as a Resource

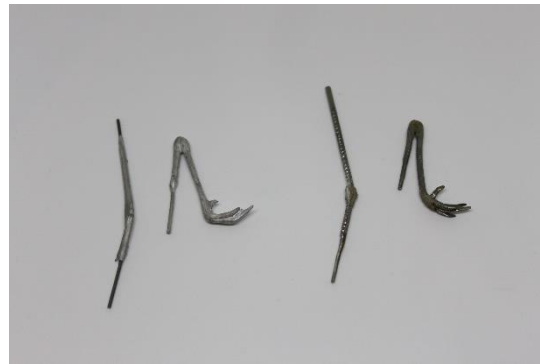
By Russ Mann

Have you found that at times a cast foot just does not hold your carving in position for a long time and either begins to sag or (as I experienced) break when the carving is being transported? I managed to break three carved legs on the swan. Each time I carved a new one, I used a stronger and denser wood, even resorting to iron wood that was imported from Mexico. No luck as I broke that leg as well. I spoke with Jean Minaudier about the problem as I knew he worked for a manufacturing company. He felt that using piano wire or welding rods might provide the answer. Fortunately, I have a Niece and Nephew in the welding business and they kindly provided some of the end cut offs of a variety of diameter of welding rods. I found that even though they were very sturdy, I could bend the rods to the desired shape and with a little patience could carve them. I was able to carve the tendon on the back of the leg and create the scales on the leg. On the Swan I had to create the webbing on the trailing foot and found that the Apoxie Sculpt adhered with no problem. Following repairing



the Swan leg, I used the welding rod again in creating the habitat for the Sandhill Crane. This photo shows that cast leg for the Swan on the left and the leg manufactured from the welding rod on the right.

Crane with the cast legs on the left ones I made from welding rod on the right. In both instances the legs appear to be very secure and unlikely to break or sag. Welding rods could also be used to create habitat of various sorts. It will just take a little creativity and patience.



This is a photo of the legs for the Sandhill and the right. be very create

## GOLD SPONSORS



## **AWCA Website**

The AWCA's most up to date information on an ongoing basis can be found in our website. The website can be reached online under "Alberta Wildlife Carving Association" or directly at <http://albertawildlifecarving.squarespace.com/>.

**Facebook:** Alberta wildlife Carving Association

**Instagram:** Albertawildlifecarving\_assoc