



# CAPITOL WOODCARVERS

July 2021

NEWSLETTER

[capitolwoodcarvers.org](http://capitolwoodcarvers.org)

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## **President's Message**

Is that light at the end of the Covid tunnel actually getting brighter? I'm optimistic enough to say it is and that we can actually make some definitive "in person" plans. For sure, mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. That's our annual potluck picnic in Bush's Pasture Park. This traditional Club event is a great way for members, family and friends to get together and rekindle the camaraderie we enjoy so much. We're on tap for showcasing our artistry at the Oregon State Fair with our Club display tables and project entries in the Creative Living Gallery.

We are shooting for our first regular Club meeting at Center 50+ the Last Tuesday in September. We will once again have our artwork on display at the Keizer Art Association Gallery, the month of October. We'll have to scramble to pull this off with a Show as good as the last one, so strop those knives, make some chips, dip some paint brushes and get some pieces ready. We'll be doing the Polk County Holiday Ornament sale, so...more chips and paint please. Later this month we will be introducing some Veterans to woodcarving with a class coordinated through Project Able.

I'm delighted that we can honor Mary Davis, our Featured Carver in this newsletter and in the Virtual Show on our website. Mary's recognition was shortchanged when our 2020 Show was bumped due to the Pandemic.

Watch for further details in this newsletter, in "Club News" on the website: [capitolwoodcarvers.org](http://capitolwoodcarvers.org) and check your emails for updates.

I'm very excited about the future of our Club and look forward to seeing you all very soon. Stay Chipper, Don Fromherz

## Oregon State Fair



The State Fair will be back this August! One of the ways Capitol Woodcarvers showcase what we do is by entering items in the Creative Living Gallery. Now, I know many of you aren't into being judged, so just ignore the ribbon part of the whole thing and focus on displaying our art form. Don and I met with the State Fair Committee this week. While they are working with a very limited budget, and category cutbacks this year, they love woodcarving, and have bent over backwards to include our craft while having to drop others.

Don and I entered projects in the last Fair and found it to be surprisingly easy.

The State Fair committee will have all the rules, categories, and entry forms ready soon. So, just like with the Keizer Gallery Show and our club's Virtual Show, don't be shy. Enter a few things in August. Details will be covered in a future email, the next newsletter, and the website.

The public loves the magic of woodcarving. Seeing our artistry on display will inspire new interest in our club! Be thinking about several items you can contribute.

*Submitted by:*

*Barb Fromherz*

## Friday Lunch in the Park

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The next Friday lunch will be at Woodmansee Park, 4629 Sunnyside Rd SE. Park information and directions are at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/woodmansee-park>. We will be trying other parks throughout the summer. See you Friday at 12:00. Don't forget to bring lunch and a chair.

## What We've Been Working On - Laurie Ladd

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Laurie Ladd has been busy carving and attending safe carving events and classes.

This cute bear and curious frog were recently completed by Laurie. She said she enjoyed working on these carvings and suggested that others give them a try.

The bear was such a good project that Laurie shared step-by-step instructions:

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Draw a center line around the blank
2. Draw a big nose in the center of the larger flat area
3. Cut in the side of the nose
4. Shape the muzzle under the nose
5. Narrow the head on both sides
6. Form the ears and shape the back side of the ears
7. Use a small veiner on the top of the nose to create area for the eye. The bridge of the nose comes out to create the eye space
8. Draw in mouth and undercut to create lower lip
9. Draw in the eyebrows and undercut each
10. Shape the neck
11. Use eye-punch for the eyes
12. Create the hair with v-tool or power tool



**What We've  
Been Working  
On – Everett  
Koontz**

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## What We've Been Working On - Everett Koontz



Everett completed this North West Eagle Mask at a recent Ron Lunde class. The class was hosted by Everett at his home studio. The lower part of the beak is articulated and can close and open.

Everett hosts several classes in his studio. If you wish to register for an upcoming class please contact Everett.

**Ornament Sale**

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## Christmas Ornament Sale

Our annual Christmas Ornament Sale is taking place this year. As usual the sale will be at Polk County Fairgrounds in Rickreall. This sale is hosted by the OSU 4H Extension Program. All proceeds from our table go directly to our Club.

The success of this event is dependent on the generous ornament donations provided by our members.

Please start thinking about carving and donating an ornament. The sale will take place in November. Bob Curtis will be asking for volunteers to man our table. All donations are much appreciated.

**Veteran's  
Carving Class**

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## Veteran's Carving Class

Capitol Woodcarvers has been asked to conduct a carving class for Project Able. Instruction will be provided for ten to fifteen Veterans. We are excited about this event and are hoping it turns into something we can grow into a regular offering for new carvers.

Several of our members have volunteered to conduct this initial class. Carvings will likely consist of a heart and/or a comfort bird. The first class will take place in Salem or McMinnville July 23. More information will be posted as it becomes available.

**What We've  
Been Working  
On - Don  
Fromherz**

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**What We've Been Working On - Don Fromherz**



Basswood Fish on Butternut Base.

Carved from a Ron Lunde band saw cut out.

Original design, inspired by a Ron Lunde Class on NW Native American Art carving.

**What We've  
Been Working  
On - Denis  
Miller**

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**What We've Been Working On - Denis Miller**



**Featured Carver  
2021 – Mary  
Davis**

## 2021 Capitol Woodcarvers Featured Carver



It is Capitol Woodcarvers privilege and distinct pleasure to honor Mary Davis as our Featured Carver for a second year in a row. Mary sees herself primarily as a bird carver, although she also enjoys carving other wildlife and caricatures.

Mary started her carving career in 2010 when she took a class in Mt Angel from Kenny Wilson on Saturdays. She talks about that wood duck project as, "going on forever." She was too afraid of "messing up" to take any chances. Finally, she grew weary of the pace and really started carving it on her own, and clearly has never looked back.



Mary's First Carving, a Wood Duck, is shown here.

Mary's finesse in finish-painting is renowned. When asked about her background in painting, she first notes that her mother was a porcelain/china painter of great skill. Mary took one class on painting technique in the 1970s and then was largely self-taught in the folk-art movement of the time. Her intricately detailed, pie box is an example from this phase of her artistry.



When asked about her ability to craft anatomically correct birds, Mary mentions that her brother used to raise and train a variety of hawks. As she helped him feed them, she would observe the raptors' form. She also studies many images of her birds as she carves them.

Collaboration is an approach that Mary finds valuable. Carvers getting together with other Carvers, discussing and learning from each other, is of great importance in her process when available. Needless to say, she, like all of us, can hardly wait until classes and carving sessions can begin again.

## Art Found in Wood



If Mary were to give advice to a beginning carver, it would be, "Don't be afraid to make a mistake. Jump in. It's just a piece of wood. If you mess up, there's always another piece where that came from."

To see more of Mary's carvings, go to her 2021 Virtual Show Table on the Capitol Woodcarvers website:

[capitolwoodcarvers.org/MaryDavis.php](http://capitolwoodcarvers.org/MaryDavis.php)

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## Art Found in Wood, October 2021

Capitol Woodcarvers had an exceptional Show at the Keizer Art Association Gallery just before the pandemic closed everything down. The show was well attended and the carvings on display were outstanding representations of the talents of our Club members. We will be having this show again in October. Planning is underway and the intent is to have even more carvings on display than at the last show.

Please plan on participating. There is no cost to enter and participate. KAA will provide Gallery docents to watch over the display and meet and greet visitors. As a participant you only have to drop off your carvings, attend the optional reception and awards ceremony, and then pick up your carvings after the show.

It really was a good show last year and everyone involved enjoyed it a lot. More information, such as dates, will be posted.



**Coming Back Strong**

## Coming Back Strong

# Capitol Woodcarvers 2021 Virtual Show Coming Back Strong

<https://capitolwoodcarvers.org>

## Club Supporters

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Capitol Woodcarvers Appreciates all of these supporters including Center 50+ who have supported our Club for many years and continue to do so during this pandemic.



## Club Supporters

**(Please check out our supporters. They really help in making our annual show a great success)**