

Mystic Carvers Club

P. O. Box 71
Mystic, CT 06355



March 2017

The purpose of this organization is to: stimulate interest in carving as a hobby or a profession and as an art form. Our goal is to provide instruction in carving and to aid others in the practice of carving.

The next carving session and regular meeting March 26, 2017 at the Quiambaug Fire House, 50 Old Stonington Rd. Stonington, CT. The Fire House will be **open at 10:00 AM** for anyone working on his or her project or wishing to carve along with the novice leader (see schedule). The club's show and tell table is set up each month so bring in your carvings to share with others. **We are all interested in seeing your work.** If you have anything you'd like to share with your club members, please let Dennis know and he will set it up. **Check out our Web Site. @ www.mysticcarvers.com**

Greetings from sunny Florida!

I was not at the last meeting so I don't have much news to share with you.

John Harris will be the March Novice leader.

Request: Please bring single dollar bills to class so leaders will not have to make change. Thank you!

Dennis did let me know that we will not be having an October Retreat this year. Sadly! Here is the email that Dennis sent to me:

Hello Mystic Carvers Club Members,

We have bad news regarding our annual retreat.

The URI liaison, Linda Fraunfelter, who we have been working with for years has " abruptly retired ".

She has been replaced and Carol Roffey and I met with her replacement, and a business manager, in Rhode Island yesterday (Weds. the 7th) to plan for this year's retreat.

Or so we thought.....here's what they told us:

- The cabins will no longer be available to us as their original intent was for children only and will no longer be available to adults. This was obviously non-negotiable, we tried, they denied.
- We could not be there on Friday...or Monday...of Columbus Day weekend as they have children's groups scheduled for those weeks...we could only be there Saturday and Sunday.
- Food prices have gone up.
- The Educational Education Center (main building with classrooms) would be closed to us after 9 p.m.
- They have lost money over the years running that facility (even though we paid them over \$13,000 for the weekend last year.)

We objected strongly to their comments and proposals, but it really didn't do us much good. I think it's obvious that they do not want us there anymore so they are offering us an unacceptable alternative.

To see what that was, read the attached email from Maria Disano. The price is steep and the dates are mid-winter when many of the usual crowd will not want to travel. I had asked for non-winter, non-prime time season for 2017 AND 2018 when we could actually be there Friday - Monday and that is what they offered us.

Note that their figure does not include the costs for putting up the instructors, which would also have to be shared by paying carvers....which would put the bill up over \$400 each for the weekend.

As we could no longer sleep in their cabins, the prices below are for staying overnights at their sister facility, Whispering Pines (two beds per room, TV's in each bedroom, bathrooms in all but two of the bedrooms.)

We would still use the Environmental Education Center classrooms, and meals would still be served at the usual dining room, but we would return to Whispering Pines to sleep.

So, I think that this year is out as far as having our retreat. Anybody have any ideas for other places to have it?

Dennis

Email from Maria:

Hi Dennis

Prices for a four day package are detailed below.

3 Breakfasts

3 Lunchs

3 Dinners

3 Evening Snacks

3 Overnight Accommodations (at Whispering Pines \$50 pp, double occupancy, off season)

Total \$318.00 per person

Admin Fee \$33.60

Tax \$16.13

Total Before Facility Fee per person \$367.73

Facility Fee \$250 X 3 = \$750; assume 25 participants = \$30 per person

Total = \$397.73

PLEASE NOTE We only have availability December 1-4, 2017 and December 8-11, 2017. Schools go on break in December so we have those slots open. Please note that the Environmental Education Center now closes at 9 pm each evening. .

Regards

Maria

SEMINARS FOR 2017

Mike McCarthy February 11, 2017(snow date Feb 18th)

Mikes class was great as usual. We had a wonderful time. Some folks finished their birds and had started on a second one. Mike brought his lovely wife Jenn, this time. She was a big help to Mike and a very sweet and pleasant lady. I hope Mike brings her back next year. I hope folks will bring their completed birds to share at the next meeting.

Kathy Webster, “Calling Crow” or OWL

I will be sending out a note in April to all the members who have signed up for the class when I return home.

**May 20 & 21, 2017
Price is \$40 Class is full**

Bob Hershey, Themed Bark Carver,

September, 7, 8, & 9

Cost will be \$110 plus the cost of the Bark unless you have your own bark.

He works with themes. Bob has written a few articles for Woodcarving Illustrated. I will have pictures of his work attached to the signup sheet. He carves Halloween themed pieces, Christmas themes and now has just started doing Light Houses.

We also have asked Jessie O’Brien to return this year to teach another pyrography class. More info when I find out if she can return to Mystic this year.

If any other members wish to bring in an artist to teach a carving class please contact Alice so we can work them into our schedule. Also, if there is a certain type of wood carving you would be interested in let Bob or Alice know and we will try to find someone who teaches it.

The Following people have volunteered to keep the club activities moving:

President –Bob Vredenburg-(401-377-4615) bobvredenburg@verizon.net

Vice President Alice Mellor (860-450-9198) carveral@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer-Ben Anderson (860-536-1762) bander063@live.com

Secretary- Pat Anderson

Chairmanships:

Novice Classes

2017

March: John Harris

April: Dennis Taylor,
Faces

May: Tom Fritz

June: Alice Mellor

July: Chuck Larkins

August: Dennis Tormey

Sept: Jim Dutton/Marty
Sprock

October: Ned Wilson

November: Hilaire Cote

December: Bill Simpson

Weekly Carving Meetings:

Carving Groups:

Danbury Group: Hat City Carvers - Thursdays 12:30 to 3:00, call 203-746-1544 or contact Martin Sprock, mjsindbyct@yahoo.com, for information and directions. Meetings are held at Danbury Senior Center, 10 Elmwood place, Danbury, Ct. 06810

Enders Island Group: Meets each Tuesday from 9 to 2 Contact: Ray Johnson, wcvray@hotmail.com

Westerly Senior Center Club Group: Meets Thursdays from 9:00 AM till noon at the Westerly Senior Center. Contact Gene Good 860-599-2567.

Vernon Group: Meets every Thursday. The first Thursday of every month we start a new project. Hours are 7 to 9, we meet at the Rockville Fish and Game Club, on Fish and Game Road in Tolland (near the Vernon/Tolland line). Sessions are free and open to anyone interested (you pay for materials). For more info call Ed Ertel at (860) 875-6187.

Columbia Group: Senior Center carving groups: Carving group meets weekly at the Columbia, CT senior center every Tues, 9:30am-12 - No age limit, no fees. Call Art Austin (860-228-3395) aataustin@hotmail.com for information.

Rocky Hill: Group meets every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 in Rocky Hill. It is Located at 961 Old Main St. in the Town Hall. Call Warren for info 860-742-3253.

Farmington Valley Carvers: Farmington Community and Senior Center, meetings every Monday from 10 to 12. Located on New Britain Rd., Unionville, 860-747-6348 CT. Contact Ray Seymour. Fridays from 10-12: Contact Dave Freese 860-673-2154

Nutmeg Wood Carving Club Wethersfield Art League, 193 Wells Rd., Wethersfield, CT at the Red School House, Thursday from 1 to 3:30 PM Call Mary-Grace Larke: 203-248-4143

Mansfield Misfit Woodcarvers: Meet Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 Contact Emile Poirier, 860-487-2685 poirieremile@yahoo.com

Ellington Sr. Center, 40 Maple St. (CT RTE 140) Ellington, CT, (across from the High School). Wednesdays, 9:30- 11:45 they will start a new project the 1st. of every month-cost of materials only. New comers welcome. Contact: ED Ertel- 860-875-6187

CWCA Ct Forest & Park, Middlefield, CT (old rte 66) 10 to 2, 1st. Sundays
Contact Leo Hein, Pres. 860-675-5473