

Mystic Carvers Club

*P. O. Box 71
Mystic, CT 06355*



JULY 2021

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.

Our next monthly meeting will be on July 25th, 2021 at the Quianbaug Fire House 50 Old Stonington Rd. Stonington, CT. The Fire House will be open at 9:45 AM for anyone working on his or her project or wishing to carve along with the Project leader.

The club's show and tell table is set up each month so bring your carvings to share with others.

Check out our Web Site. @ www.mysticcarvers.com

Hello Fellow Club Members.

Hello Fellow Carvers,

We are meeting again at the fire house. At our June meeting we had about 20 members show up and carve.

Dennis Tormey did a Santa star ornament for the novice project. Thanks Dennis for doing the project on such a short notice. We appreciate your help.

Elaine Clark is in charge of asking carvers to help with the novice program so please see her if you can help with a project. Thanks Elaine.

At our meeting we were honored to have Chuck Larkins and his Wife Claire join us and share the following information and presentation with us:

Thank you both for such a lovely thing you did in honor of all our Veterans.

Hello everyone, welcome.

I am Chuck Larkins and this is my wife Claire.

To all our veterans, “Thank you for your service”, and for our Vietnam veterans” Welcome home”.

I’d like to tell you a little bit about the Quilts of Valor Foundation.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation began in 2003 when Catherine Roberts' son Nat was being deployed to Iraq. When Catherine went to sleep she had a dream, literally a dream, according to Catherine. The message of her dream was to make a quilt, because Quilts = Healing. So, she turned to her sewing machine and made her first Quilt for Soldiers.

Catherine took that First Quilt to Walter Reed Army Medical Center where she met Chaplain John Kallerson. He assisted her because his wife Connie also happened to be a quilter and she impressed upon him how comforting quilts can be. He blessed that quilt and it was presented to a young soldier from the upper midwest who had lost his leg in Iraq. He saw the value of awarding quilts to the veterans because of the message they carried, “That someone cares”.

John then told Catherine we need to continue to do this.

The Foundation has grown from Catherine Robert’s home in Seaford, DE in 2003. The movement spread across the nation and beyond. First through word-of-mouth, then via the Internet, and now electronic/social media.

There are now QOV organizations in all 50 states, Canada, England, and Australia.

As of today, QOVF has wrapped over 273,353 veterans touched by war.

Just a footnote it takes about 10 yards of fabric to make a quilt so add a zero to that number and that is how much material we have used to date. In the beginning you couldn’t find any service related fabric but today you can buy all the services and a whole lot of patriotic fabrics.

What is a Quilt of Valor?

Catherine said a Quilt of Valor had to be a quality-made quilt.

It takes a team:

First consisting of a quilt-topper, the person who takes large pieces of fabric cuts them into small pieces, joins them with other pieces then sews those pieces back together to form the quilt top.

Second Catherine said a Quilt of Valor had to be quilted, which means either by hand or machine quilting. Today most quilters use a “longarm” quilting machine to create the beautiful machine quilting.”

Third Catherine said a Quilt of Valor would be “awarded,” which is why we are here today.

Fourth Catherine said a Quilt of Valor would say unequivocally, “Thank you for your service, sacrifice, and valor”.

Catherine wanted the “points of contact” to be volunteers throughout the world which identify recipients and often facilitated the actual awards ceremonies.

The Evolution of the Foundation’s Name

The first name of the organization was Quilts for Soldiers. Catherine Roberts' son was in the Army, so she thought all military service members were “soldiers.” She didn’t understand that different branches have different names for their members. Fortunately, a Marine straightened her out one day by telling her “Sorry Mam I am not a soldier I am a Marine” and Quilts for Soldiers became Quilts of Valor.

“The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with the comfort and healing of a: “Quilts of Valor.”

More information is available online at www.govf.org please check it out if you are interested.

Presentation of quilt to Jack Costello:

After Chuck told about the Quilts of Valor Foundation he called Jack Costello (Mystic Member) up to the front of the hall and Chuck and his wife, Claire, wrapped the quilt around Jack. Chuck made this quilt himself!!! (What a great job Chuck did on this quilt)

Jack, this quilt comes with prayers and a sincere thank you for all that you do. Your quilt was pieced in North Branford and long armed in Branford, CT. As the quilt is planned, cut out, sewed together, ironed, layered and quilted our thoughts have been focused on you. We will continue to lift you in our prayers.

Without you, we would not be here today.

I thank you all for coming.

Peace and Blessings from Chuck Larkins and Jane Dougherty June 27, 2021



Wrapping Jack with the QOV



Carvings from the show and tell table.

Membership Dues:

Hilaire Cote, membership chair, asked me to let all members know that it was decided to forgo (not pay) 2020 dues however they need to pay 2021 dues. Dues are still \$10.00 per year. They can mail a

check payable to Mystic Carvers Club, P.O. Box 71, Mystic, CT 06355 or of course pay at a club meeting.

NOTE: Members can pay for more than one year as well in order to help stay current.

Thanks to all who attended our first meeting after a long year and a half away due to Covid 19. Let's continue to see more members attend future meetings.

See you on July 25th at our next monthly meeting.

Stay Safe, Stay Well!

The Mystic Carving Club would like to extend our sympathy to the families of the following members who passed away during the past year and a half while we were not meeting: (If I missed anyone please accept my apology and let me know).

Marty Sprock, Carl Jerard, Bill Welsh, Ritva Audio, Tony Baccalari, Pat Rukowicz, Bob Smith, Roger Chabot, "Old Don" Burgdarf (instructor who has taught at Mystic in the past) and Tony Teta, a carver from Long Island who came to one of our retreats in R.I.

Carving Groups: (I don't know which clubs are meeting until the Covid precautions are lifted.) Check with your club.

Mystic Woodcarvers Club: Last Sunday of each month, 10 to 1 or 1:30. At Quiambaug Fire House, Old Stonington Rd. (off Route 1) Mystic, (See web site at: www.mysticcarvers.com) Carol Roffey croffey@comcast.net 860-603-2449

Danbury Group: Hat City Carvers - Thursdays 12:30 to 3:00, 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 860-639-9802

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

Rockville Fish and Game Club: Cut ups. Club House on Fish and Game Road, off of CT Rte.31, Vernon/Tolland Ct line- near exit 67 off of I-84 They meet 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. . erteled@yahoo.com

Canterbury, CT Finnish American Heritage Society: Route 169 (North of Route 14) Wednesday Afternoon, 1-4 PM Contact John Harris John.Harris@snet.net

Columbia Carvers: Senior Center carving groups: Carving group meets weekly at the Columbia, CT senior center every Tues, 9:30am-11:30 - No age limit and 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, Fridays from 10-12: Contact Dave Freese 860-673-2154 dbfreese@aol.com

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 Mansfield Senior Center. 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

The Following people have volunteered to keep the club activities moving along:
The club members thank you for your endless dedication and help!

President-Carol croffey@comcast.net 860-603-2449

Vice President –Alice Mellor-carveral@sbcglobal.net 860-337-0194

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

Secretary-Dennis Tormey-dtormey5519@earthlink.net 860-337-0053

Carving Coordinator: Recruit members to lead a carving project at each monthly meeting: ensure back up plan is in place if needed.

Monthly Project Coordinator-Elaine Clark clarkbr9@aol.com

Show Chairman: Provide leadership to ensure the May Show is run successfully.

Show Chair – Sheryl Popowycz, Carol Roffey, spopowycz@gmail.com

Retreat Coordinator: Provide leadership to ensure that the October Retreat is run successfully.

Retreat Coordinators -Dennis Tormey dtormey5519@earthlink.net 860-337-0053
& Carol Roffey croffey@comcast.net

Library Custodian: Maintain club's library by monitoring current inventory, look for additions and see that inventory is maintained properly.

Library Custodian –Bob Arpin 860-884-2535

Mail Man: Collect mail from Post Office and bring to monthly meeting.

Mail Man – Ben Anderson

Newsletter Distribution: On a monthly basis see that the club Newsletter is written, copied, addressed and mailed to those not receiving via email.

Newsletter Editor & Distribution- Alice Mellor (860-337-0194) carveral@sbcglobal.net

Membership Chairman: Look for opportunities to increase membership, eg. Have apps and table set up at Show and Retreat., Maintain Membership list. See that new members are welcomed and engaged in club activities.

Membership Coordinator– Hilaire Cote (860-599-5722) nsduckhouse@yahoo.com

Keeper of Members names and email address: Maintain members names, addresses and email addresses. Warren Blessing: (860-742-3253)

Website Coordinator: Dennis Tormey & Carol Roffey croffey@comcast.net

Equipment Coordinator: Maintain club's equipment (sharpening and lights) are in safe operating condition, repaired if needed. Ed Ertel

Novice projects:

July-Wayne Smith-Love Spoon

August-Steve Kensel-Maple Leaf Tray

September-

October-

November-Hilaire ?

December-