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# ◆ The Cutting Edge ◆

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Volume II Issue III

A Bi Monthly Publication

July 1994

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## 2nd Annual Maple Valley Days Contest a *Terrifying* Hit

By: Jessie Groeschel

Maple Valley, Washington is your normal, quiet neighborhood. But on June 13, 1994 thirteen carvers invaded their sleepy town to create a Jurassic Park of their own. Maple Valley's Second Annual Carving Contest. It was a sight to behold watching these artists transform a six foot log into a creature from eons ago. After the chips stopped flying the judges named Steve Backus as the winner. Who wouldn't pick Steve. He had the king of all dinosaurs backing him the terrifying Tyrannosaurus Rex clutching a smaller dinosaur. This piece was titled "Eat at Joe's" John Peralta of Ollaia created a piece that was worthy of Second Place. A cave man with a huge club scaling some rocks in search of some pterodactyl eggs. But little to the cave man's knowledge, momma Taradactyl was ready to swoop down and protect her unborn babies. Let us not forget third place: An angry King Kong himself on top of the Empire State building ready to do fierce battle with Godzilla waiting impatiently for him at the bottom. This piece was created by Don Etue, Ocean Shores, WA. Fourth place was won by Dexter Lewis, Whidbey Island, WA. Dexter created the gentle brontosaurus coiled around a jurassic tree, eating the leaves at the top.

This was truly a terrifying experience. Dinosaurs and mostsers coming to life. I can't wait for next years contest.



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The Cutting Edge is published by the Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild  
7371 S. Holst Rd., Clinton, WA 98236  
206/ 579-7811

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# Calendar of Events

## JULY

July 9, 10 - 5th Annual Northeastern Regional Chainsaw Carving Championships, Tupper Lake, NY. Contact Hal MacIntosh, Route 214, Lanesville, NY 12450, 914/688-7875.

July 16, 17 - Idaho City, Idaho. Carving contest. Contact Rae Bennet, PO Box 164, Idaho City, Idaho 83821. (208) 392-4416.

## AUGUST

Aug. 5, 6, 7 - 5th Annual Nautical Carving Contest, Westport, WA. Contact Steve Backus, 4524 Glendale Rd., Clinton, WA 98236. (206) 579-3574.

Aug. 6, 7 - Tall Timber Days Festival, Grand Rapids, MN. Carvers invited to carve on the 5th and 7th with the contest on the 6th. Sign up deadline is July 1. Contact Tall Timber Days Festival, Lilah Crowl, PO box 134, Grand Rapids, MN 55744. (218) 326-5618.

Aug. 19, 20 - Idaho City, Idaho - carving contest. Contact

Rae Bennet, PO Box 164, Idaho City, Idaho 83821. (208) 392-4416.

## SEPTEMBER

Sept. 16, 17 - Idaho City, Idaho. Carving contest. Contact Rae Bennet, PO Box 164, Idaho City 83821. (208) 392-4416.

## OCTOBER

Oct. 1, 2 - 2nd Annual Carving Contest, Oyster Festival Weekend, Shelton, WA. Contact Charlie Hubbard, E. 1161 Mason Lk. Rd. 2, Shelton, WA 98584. (206) 426-3038.

Oct. 8, 9 - 1st Annual Shelton Days Carving Contest. The Putting zoo, Shelton, WA. Contact Todd Whited 206/ 862-4614, or Mike Stanzel 206/ 863-6310.

## DECEMBER

2nd Annual Christmas Carving Contest - Puyallup, WA. Contact Tim Cox, c/o SAMCO, 13922 Canyon Rd., Puyallup, WA 98373. (206) 537-1157.

## NEW MEMBERS

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Richard Haneysett | Lilliwaup, WA    |
| The Putting Zoo   | Puyallup, WA     |
| Dennis Chastain   | Forks, WA        |
| Tall Timber Days  | Grand Rapids, MN |
| Merling Rasmussen | Auburn, WA       |
| Jackie Woods      | Kilmichael, MS   |
| Roy Jackson       | Lakebay, WA      |

# 1-800...

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| <b>Lab Safety &amp; Supply</b><br>Safety equipment     | <b>1-800 356-0783</b> |
| <b>Van Dyke's</b><br>Taxidermy supplies, eyes, etc.    | <b>1-800 843-3320</b> |
| <b>Husqvarna</b><br>Chainsaws                          | <b>1-800 438-7297</b> |

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| <b>Stihl</b><br>Chainsaws | <b>1-800 43 Stihl</b> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|

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| <b>Grizzly Tools</b><br>Tools | <b>1-800 541-5537 West</b><br><b>1-800 523-4777 East</b> |
|-------------------------------|--|

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| <b>Cascade Carvers Supply</b><br>Carving Tools | <b>1-800-828-5576</b> |
|--|-----------------------|

## THE CUTTING EDGE

Jessie Groeschen - Editor  
Pat McVay - Assistant Editor

### OFFICERS

Steve Backus, President, 4524 Glendale Rd., Clinton, WA 98236 (206) 579-3574. Charlie Hubbard, Vice President, E. 1161 Mason Lk. Rd. 2, Shelton, WA 98584 (206) 426-3038. Dan Whited, Vice President, 2917 Reeves Rd., Longbranch, WA 98351 (206) 894-9534. Susan Miller, Treasurer, 71255 HWY 47, Miss, OR 97016 (503) 755-2508. Carla Gandy, Secretary, 13922 Canyon Rd. E., Puyallup, WA 98373 (206) 537-6263.

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Steve Backus, 6178 S. Maxwellton Rd., Clinton, WA 98236 (206) 321-4973. Tim Cox, 13922 Canyon Rd. E. Puyallup, WA 98373 (206) 537-1157. Jack Livingston, 19740 Coal Rd. S.E., Tenino, WA 98589 (206) 264-4540. Pat McVay, 7371 S. Hubel Rd., Clinton, WA 98236. Judy McVay, 6178 S. Maxwellton Rd.

*Letters To The Editor*

**NEW MEMBERS**

I am very interested in your newsletter and Calender of events. Plan to become a full time. Have retired early from A.T.T. but another company recently contracted me to do communication work for them. I have been traveling for 3 years and have carved everywhere I go and at home as well. I love it! Thanks for this newsletter you sent in my wife's name. She is an artist and we travel and carve together. She is my biggest supporter and "critic".

*Jackie Woods  
Kilmichael, MS*

**WONDERING CARVERS**

Two old woodcarvers who were wondering wheter heaven was a good place for them. (They had no doubts about where they'd go.) So they made a pact: Whichever one who died first would try to get a message back to the other on the heavenly conditions. Of course one died, and the friend waited for a message for months. Finally one day his phone rang and it was his dead friend. His report was: "It's a special favor from St. Peter that I can call you. He only let me do it because we made a pact and because we're carvers.

There's good news and bad news for you. The good news is that there are alot of carvers and carving going on here all the time.

The bad news is that you're scheduled to conduct a seminar up here next Tuesday.

Sent to me by E.J. Tangerman - (writes for Chip Chats)

Tangerman and I write to each other about every week or two. He's 87 yrs young. A very sharp man.

*Fran Vanaken  
PalmerLake, Colorado*

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**SOS**

Save your sculpture by registering it with this non profit group. SOS locates and inventories accessible outdoor sculpture to increase public awareness of the value of outdoor sculpture and the need for responsible long range plans to care for these works. In Washington State contact Paula Wolf, Washington SOS! Project Coordinator, 519 North Bowdoin Place, Suite 6, Seattle, WA 98103, 206/ 547-7041. Out of Wash. State. Contact local SOS Chapter

**SYMPOSIUMS**

7th Annual Stone Sculpture Symposium - Camp Brothehood, Wash. July 8th-July17th. Contact Vic Picouat 206/ 772-6130

Focus on Fire - sculpture on glass, metal, and clay August 19-23. Contact Bellvue Community College, Focus on Fire Conference 206/ 641-2263.

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**WESTPORT'S**  
5TH ANNUAL  
**NAUTICAL CARVING CHAMPIONSHIP**  
AUGUST 5, 6, AND 7

It's that time of year to sign up for the biggest chainsaw carving event in the world!

This contest will be three days. You have fifteen hours spread out over three days to carve on log that's maximum 3 feet in diameter and 6 feet long. If you get to the contest a day early to help set up the wood, you can have your choice of several shapes of wood for your contest piece. These cuts will be full round, half round, quarter sawn, diagonal cut, tall or short. We will be carving Sitka Spruce butt cuts.

#### REQUIREMENTS, RULES, AND OTHER STUFF

Carvers will have three days to complete their carvings. The main tool used is the chainsaw, also use of any other tool desired. You may also finish your piece in any manner you wish.

The theme is nautical. It can be anything to do with the sea and those who inhabit or travel it. You must carve a nautical piece. If you don't you will be disqualified.

**Entry Fee:** You must be in the 45 minute quick carve mini competition held each day. You will be carving Pacific Red Cedar. These mini competition carvings will be auctioned off. The carver who's carving has the highest bid will win the mini competition. If you are not interested in giving up your mini competition carving the cost of this 3 day contest is \$150. If you are unable to carve in the mini competition or don't want to, you may donate a small finished carving to the auction each day. These donated carving won't be eligible to win prizes.

## PRIZE MONEY

#### Main Contest Judges Vote

|        |           |
|--------|-----------|
| \$1500 | 1st Place |
| \$ 750 | 2nd Place |
| \$ 500 | 3rd Place |
| \$ 350 | 4th Place |
| \$ 250 | 5th Place |
| \$ 200 | 6th Place |
| \$ 150 | 7th Place |

#### Main Contest

##### People's Choice

\$200 plus chainsaw w/ carving bar 1st Place

#### Main Contest

##### Carvers Choice

\$200 plus chainsaw w/carving bar 1st place

#### Mini Contest

*A 45 minute mini contest will be held each day*

\$150 plus a chainsaw 1st Place

If you place 1st in the judges, people's, and carvers vote you will win \$1900

#### Novice Division

\$100 plus a chainsaw w/ carving bar 1st Place

**westport's  
CARVING SCHEDULE**

| <u>FRIDAY</u>            | <u>SATURDAY</u>          | <u>SUNDAY</u>     |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 9:00 START               | 9:00 START               | 9:00 START        |
| 11:00 BREAK              | 11:00 BREAK              | 11:00 BREAK       |
| 11:15 QUICK CARVE        | 11:15 QUICK CARVE        | 11:15 QUICK CARVE |
| 12:00 LUNCH              | 12:00 LUNCH              | 12:00 LUNCH       |
| 1:00 CARVE               | 1:00 CARVE               | 1:00 CARVE        |
| 3:00 BREAK               | 3:00 BREAK               | 3:00 END          |
| 4:00 CARVE               | 4:00 CARVE               | 3:15 JUDGING AND  |
| 6:00 STOP                | 5:00 STOP                | AUCTION           |
| 6:00 QUICK CARVE AUCTION | 6:00 QUICK CARVE AUCTION | 4:30 AWARDS       |

There will also be a barbecue on Saturday night for the carvers.

**Get your creative juices flowing and reserve your spot for this totally exhilarating, mind blowing, carving experience.**

**PLEASE CONTACT:** Carla Goudy at Samco 206/ 537-6263. Also mail in the card included with your newsletter to: Attn. Carla Goudy, Samco, 13922 Canyon Rd. E., Puyallup, WA 98373

**MORE INFORMATION**

Westport, WA is located on Washington's central coast. It is approxiametley 2 hours from the Seattle Tacoma Airport.

Hotel rooms are filling up fast at Westport. For more info. on lodging contact Carla.

For those of you who are flying in, we are working on a van pickup at the airport. More information on that later. Although a rental car would give you greater mobility to see the beautiful Puget Sound Region and the rugged Washington Coast.



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**THE PUTTING ZOO**

# CARVERS

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**Excellent Location**

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Call or Write  
Mike Stanzel  
The Putting Zoo  
16206 64th St. E.  
Sumner, WA 98390  
206/ 863-6310

## A Message From The President

Hello Folks,

Thanks for getting this newsletter. Well, Westport draws near. I'll tell you what girls and boys, it's gonna be a big one. In fact to date, it's the biggest one on the big blue marble that hangs in space. We got wood, we got money, and most importantly a little respect.

What we are doing at Westport and elsewhere is proving that by working together on a common cause and combining faith with action there can and will be results from the carvers end. A lot of folks helped; phone calls, visits, letters, etc.

I would also like to say a little something about getting up and going somewhere. Dwayne and Marsha Hall of Kentucky did just that in early June. (Their trip was a story in itself) They made it out here. They carved and participated in two contests. Made new friends. Learned more in three week's than carving at home by himself. What I'm saying is if you can travel with your art do it. It's real simple to stay a big fish in a small pond but quite another to go out to the big pond and see some real big fish. Every carver needs a lesson in humility, builds character. Oh well, I'm long winded enough. Gotta go. My respect to Marsha and Dwayne. Fun folk's who are willing to learn and do. Dwayne is our new ambassador to Kentucky. If he can get a contest going there, we will back him.

Steve Backus  
President

## Tales From The Cutting Edge

THE PENNSYLVANIA CHAINSAW MANICURIST

By: Pat McVay

Maybe you saw this on ESPN. Recently Brian "Don't try this at Home" Ruth of Hartsville, PA did his nails for national TV, in May.

Using a felt tip pen, Brian marked a line on the end of his fingernails on one hand and then using his other, he proceeded to trim the marks off with his chainsaw!

The steady handed sculptor is thinking of haircuts or even brain surgery - But he lacks the patients.

Maybe a spay or neuter clinic for cats and dogs?



## THE 2ND ANNUAL IRRIGATION DAYS CARVING CONTEST

Congratulations to Charlie Hubbard of Shelton Washington for winning the second annual carving contest in Sequim, WA. Charlie Hubbard carved an Indian medicine man. He won \$500 for his efforts. Steve Backus, Clinton, WA, and Don Etue, Ocean Shores, WA got 2nd and 3rd. They both received Husquarna Chainsaws provided by the local co-op.

Special thanks goes to Dennis Doran for putting this contest together. He's looking forward to next years contest, it will be the 100th Anniversary of the Irrigation Days.



Charlie Hubbard poses with his winner

Results from the  
Washington Coast Championships  
"Ocean Shores"

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1st Don Etue         | \$750, Oceanshores, WA |
| 2nd Dan Whited       | \$400, LakeBay, WA     |
| 3rd Steve Backus     | \$200, Clinton, WA     |
| 4th Charlie Mitchell | \$100, Olympia, WA     |



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- Operates in both clockwise and counter-clockwise directions
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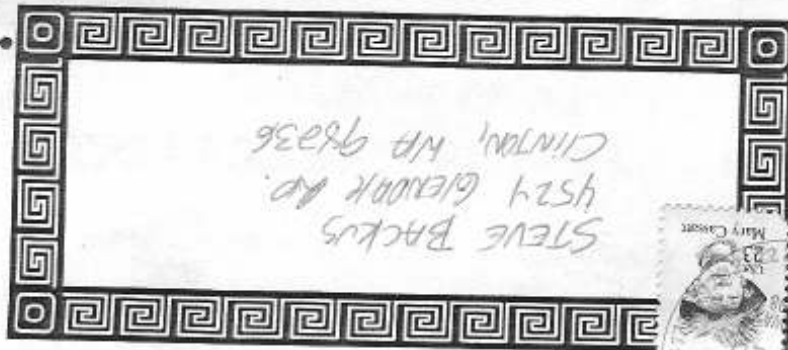


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# The Cutting Edge

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If you have any comments, letters, suggestions, tips, articles, or any information you want in the newsletter, please contact:

Jessie Groeschen  
7371 S. Holst Rd.  
Clinton, WA 98236  
(206) 579-7811

Sept. newsletter deadline is,  
AUG 25, 1994

**AD'S**  
Business card size, Type Ready \$20 per issue. Bigger AD's please call for prices



# HELP!

## A NOTICE TO CHAINSAW CARVERS

My Wife and I are in urgent need of a production chainsaw carver who is willing to come to Canada on a temporary basis and assist us in developing the industry in this neck of the woods. Here's our story...

In December of last year we discovered chainsaw carving for the first time while taking the kids on their annual pilgrimage to Disneyland. The carvings turned our heads and after much research, we decided to take a chance and to invest in a business that would promote the industry north of the border. Compared to the United States, the Canadian market was virtually untouched and we were willing to take a chance in the hope of building something that would make us proud.

We were successful in securing an ideal site beside a section of highway bordering Shuswap Lake, a well-known Canadian tourist mecca. In October alone, some 300,000 people will pass our site to see the world's largest salmon run a mile up the road and it is our hope to tap into these tourists.

In April, we hired a husband/wife carving team but as luck would have it, their personal lives were less than normal and at the last minute, they took us for a ride. Typical artist types!!! We had arranged for 240 bus loads containing 12,000 tourists to stop at the site and to be blunt, our carvers left us with egg on our face.

With the season only weeks away, we decided to hire an artist from Nova Scotia who had only done a few previous carvings. Though James had little experience, he had a lengthy history as an artist, showed a wonderful willingness to learn, and so we took a chance that he could develop his talent in quick order.

We opened our doors in early July and within hours, people started flooding in. We knew we had an excellent location - but not that good! After the first day, sales were five times my most optimistic projections and within three days, we were out of carvings.

I'm very proud of ourselves but we need urgent help from a production carver who is willing to carve and teach James at the same time. He is very slow and needs to learn the tricks of the trade from someone willing to share their knowledge.

If you are interested, we would be willing to discuss several options including paying transportation, lodging and providing 100% commission on your works. We are an honest, hard working family and wish only to find a solution that benefits both parties.

Please call Stephen or Laura Conway in Chase, B.C. at 604/ 679-5414.

**5th Annual Nautical Carving Championships  
Aug. 5, 6, and 7**

I \_\_\_\_\_ will  
participate in the 1994 Nautical Carving Contest at  
Westport.

This card will reserve my spot.

Deadline July 31, 1994

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_