

THE CUTTING EDGE

Since 1993

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VOLUME VIII ISSUE 3

May/ June, 2001

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, 2001

Listings in this calendar are free and offered for your information.
Listings on this page do not imply endorsement
of Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild.
To list an event, contact susanm@hupoi.com or (503) 755-2508.
Or write Susan Miller, 71233 Hwy 47, Mist, OR 97016 by the 15th of the month.

June 9, Ocean Shores, WA

Carving get together and picnic
Call Don Etue at 360 537-6850
737 SR 109, Ocean Shores, WA

June 26-27,

Ocean Shores, WA

Sand sculpture Competition
Call Bert Adams at (360) 574-2378

June 15-17, Reedsport, OR

Tidewaters and Time, Competition
Call Bob King at (253) 845-2115
THIS CONTEST DONATED \$1170
TO THE CUTTING EDGE.

June 22-24

Ocean Shores, WA

Story/Totem Pole Competition
Call Steve Backus at (360) 579-3574

July 2-5,

Sedro Woolley, WA

Loggerdees, limited spaces available
Call Rocky MacArthur at (360) 858-1476

July 4-7, Ocean City WA

Carving event and Auction
Call Boaz Backus at (360) 289-3273

Sept. 27-30,

Voorheesville, NY
2nd Annual Normanskill Fields Folk Arts
Carving Event and Auction
Beverly Butcher at 765-3869

July 6-7, Iisalmi, Finland

Chainsaw Carving
Harri Leinola, Iisalmi Stadstunstburo
Kauppakatu 22, Finland

July 7, Castle Rock, WA

Mountain Mania Days
Call Kerry Hargand (360) 425-5924
1413 S. 4th, Kelso, WA 98626

Aug. 2-5, Westport, WA

12th Annual International
Chainsaw Carving Contest,
THE BIG ONE!
Call Steve Backus at (360) 579-3574
THIS CONTEST DONATED \$1000.
TO THE CUTTING EDGE

Oct. 11-14,

Crescent City, CA

Carving for Kids
Call Feather at (707) 464-2250

Oct. 12-13, Clarksville, Tx

Octoberfest Contest
Call Robert Gwinn, 1-800-814-4591
300 E. College Ave, Clarksville, TX 75452

Oct. 18-21, Ft. Bragg, CA

Northern California Chainsaw Sculpture
Championship Competition
Call Nyal Thomas at 541-097-9295

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time you read this, I will be traveling, this time in Finland and Sweden. I plan to bring plenty of photos and Pictures of wood carvings and sculpture back with me.

This newsletter is a group effort. Mike McVay and Cindy King are getting it from the printers and labeling and mailing it to you.

When I get back home in July, I hope you all will have sent me news about whatever carving adventures have come your way.

Be good to your friends.
Carve nice stuff.
Have a great summer.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(And RENEWING MEMBERS)

Jerry Chilcole	Dave Westberg
Jen Watson	Dick Mason
Billy Sullivan	Rodger Lamareaux
Richard Freed	Dave Willard
Robert Geide	Tracy Chastain
Fred Bero	Gordon Burns
Mr. Ed	Dan Winner
Wayne de Moranville	
World Famous Treehouse	

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

Seymour, King's Park, Saturday, 17th and 18th of February, fifteen chainsaws roared into life, and the Stihl National Chainsaw Carving Competition was underway for 2001.

Over the two days of the weekend the Seymour Alternative Expo reverberated to the sounds of creativity at work, as the six feet pine logs were whittled away to reveal the Masterpieces within. Nine hours of competition time later, with carvers using *only* chainsaws, a staggering array of work confronted the judges.

Demonstrating a much maligned power tool, this event allows audiences to view the wider range of capabilities than the saw's normal "cutting" mode. With sculptors cutting, planing and boring the pine, the 15 pieces finally emerge: a seahorse, dolphin, birds, human figures, mythology, and even a utilitarian letter box.

I can think of only the "Bobcat Ballet" and Chainsaw Carving where entertainment, operator skill, and art showcase a common power tool to the masses. And the people love it! This is evident from the large crowds watching, particularly during the two lunchtime speed carves.

"Risky", you say? Brian Bettles, chainsaw instructor at the National Industrial Skills Training Centre, Wodonga, was Safety Marshall on site and ran the competition with an iron hand. Star pickets and hazard tapes secured the site, and spacing of carvers allowed for safe comfortable work areas. Safe work practices are paramount in a public arena, so carvers were briefed beforehand about bad habits such as "drop starting" machines, and they could be disqualified for unsafe practices. (Brian has even had compliments from the Workcover inspectors, for his supervision of the event.

A much more diverse range of quite accomplished work, reflecting the backgrounds and experience of today's carvers has replaced the crude pieces of earlier times.

This year's competition had a number of sculpture students, sculptors, a chef-ice carver, tree workers, tradesmen, and a professor of psychology. The competition was not limited to males, as two of the carvers were females.

Prizewinners:

This year's winner was Keith Gall from Gympie in Queensland with a very stylish carving of a girl with a bunch of flowers, leaning forward holding a windblown dress.

Second place won by Kevin Gilders: Bushman leaning on a post, was a fair representation of the "Heritage Figures", for which he is well known.

Third place went to Dune Nunn, for his carving of two beautifully animated tree frogs.

*Story and photos from Kevin Gilders, Clayton, Victoria, Australia
(Kevin was recently in the states carving in the Reno Competition)*



Keith Galls winning carving
Girl in a Windblown Dress
Seymour Australia,
February, 2001

SHARP TIPS

HOLD IT!

PAT SAYS: Cram your small weirdly shaped carvings into a spare tire to hold them in place while you are working on them.



MORE AUSTRALIAN PHOTOS



Above: Dune Nunn, Third place winner: Frog

Left: Kevin Gilders, Second place winner: Bushman



Below:
Mother and Child
By Diana Polglaze

Above: Mermaid,
By Rod Sheehan



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MEMBER NEWS AND LETTERS

GOLD SAGA

A Poem by carver Ellen Keeland
 In a parking lot at the very front
 Of the glittering, gold, and gilding,
 Thirty-six chainsawers carved beside
 A tall twenty-seven story building.

"Carving For Kids," read the marquis
 Of the Reno Hilton Hotel.
 "2001!" The carvers have come
 With Wind blowing pell mell.

With their shirts covered with redwood dust,
 A din arose from the lot,
 Of happiness, horns, and "Pass the oil!"
 The saws were mighty hot.

Debbie passed the orange juice,
 The Airforce dispensed ice water,
 Lori and the mess sergeant gave out the meals
 And the competitors did what they ought'er.

The sculptures took form in spite of the warm,
 The flapping Stihl flags and Mr. Weather.
 And guiding them all, the big and the small,
 Was sunstroked Mr. Feather.

Elvis emerged from a redwood log,
 And so did a frontier man,
 And somehow Feather got his snoot in the grog,
 And got in a wrestling match with a guard
 and security van.

A burglar was defeated and really run off
 By heroic Mr. Nyal.
 A big "Thank you" came from all,
 Especially Bud from Ohio.

The Reverend Sandoval blessed the equipment
 (Which of course, was only right)
 Enabling Echoes, Huskies, Homo, and Stihls
 To run and gnaw 'til night.

Yes, Conrad won 'em all
 With a guardian angel and a bad kitten,
 But the Michigan man carved a raccoon and more
 Rather than a mitten.

Montana brought a dragon to life
 New York, and eagle, both husband and wife.

The Australian carved a kangaroo,
 The Pennsylvanian carved a wizard,
 So the wish to get to Reno came true
 Because carvers have a lot of Gizzard.

From Selah, WA

Susan,
 Recently, a couple of things happened that made me
 reflect on how much we all really must get off on what
 we do. One of them was I had cancer, had surgery,
 radiation and all. The Doctor told me I couldn't lift
 over 20 pounds for 3 weeks, or do heavy work for a
 few weeks after that.

Well, six days after I couldn't stand it- figured my small
 saw only weighed 19 pounds, chainsaw carving
 wasn't really work, my wife could lift the wood onto my
 stump, and I started carving. I didn't bust a stitch, and
 had a good time

Earlier, getting wood in the mountains I started getting
 stung by bees. I had to fill a log truck the next day.
 Shake/shingle guys had been getting cedar in the
 area, so I wasn't going to leave it.

I'd go back, make some cuts till I'd been stung 3 or 4
 times. Then I'd run through the forest 'til I'd lost them,
 regain my courage, and sneak back. This went on for
 a few rounds 'til I was finished. I felt more like a bear
 going after honey than a carver going after wood.

I sure love what I do. You guys are the best. Get all
 the honey you can and keep up the good work.

Now at the start of the day the body can rebel
 Just what the day will bring is hard to tell.

The motion wakes my body and reminds me of the dance.
 Soon the meeting of saw and wood has me in its trance.

With the saw in my hand my mind is always clear.
 Only when I put it down, do any doubts appear.

But, with the mind awake the spirit can soar.
 Now I'm back in that place I do so adore.

Jack McIntire

National Recognition for Venango, Pennsylvania Carver

Chainsaw artist Brian Sprague was featured last April on the WTBS "Man Made Movie" in a segment filmed in Woodstock, GA.

This is a weekly movie that features, during commercial breaks, the construction of what is billed as the ultimate man's house. It will eventually be used as a getaway for the Atlanta Braves.

Sprague says, "The idea is to be fun and creative. They are giving big emphasis on the manly part of the "Man Made Movie."

This film featured Arnold Schwarzenegger brandishing a chainsaw. For his role, Brian Sprague fired up a chainsaw and carved a likeness of the show's host, Chad Taylor. He had only met Taylor once, briefly, and then was given a drawing to work from.

The only thing wrong with the wooden host was that he seemed a little heavy, so Brian "gave him a chainsaw diet," and everyone was happy.

Sprague, who works full time for a gas drilling company, was selected for the job when producers saw his Web site, and is pleased with the national exposure. He has done frogs and other animals, a monk, and a six-foot alligator. He's hoping his appearance on the "Man Made Movie will bring more opportunities.

"It can't hurt things," he says.



Brian Sprague and Friend



Brian Sprague: Horse head

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CARVING IN PUBLIC?

In the good old times past, it was oh so impressive to see a carver carving heedlessly, barefoot perhaps, with no apparent thought to safety.

Eye protection? For sissies!

Ear protection? What? Huh?

Chaps? Steel toed boots? Never heard of 'em.

Oh, the carefree life of the artist!

But now we live in a safety conscious society, and one where lawsuits are a big part of life. Many of our sponsors, or the folks whose saws and equipment we use, cringe when they see us doing unsafe things.

What's to stop Joe Public from trying to emulate the carvers he sees? And when he gets hurt, he's as likely as not going to try to sue the tool manufacturer or the place where the carver was carving.

It's hard to follow all of OSHA's guidelines, but it won't hurt to set a safe example. Use barriers between yourself and the folks watching you. Use safety equipment to protect your eyes and ears. Carve safe. It's good for business, good for your sponsors, and probably good for you, too.

S Miller



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WANTED: SAW PARTS for 020T STILL

Worm gear: part # 1129 640 7102

Sprocket: part # 1129 640 2151

These parts are to enable me to use quarter-pitch chain on my 020T chainsaw. They are available in France and possibly Canada, but are no longer sold or distributed in the USA. If anybody had the parts or can get them, please contact Mike McVay:

PO Box 873460
Wasilla, Alaska 99687
Phone (907) 232-6989

E-mail mmcvay@mymailstation.com

Web site <www.whidbeystore.com/mikemcvay>



**The Lusty Life of
LOON LAKE LLOYD**

Stories of a WWII Marine, Logger and Resort Owner

It'll tell you how to solve all your situations: work, police, dogs, chainsaws, deadbeats and unruly customers. Chainsaw Guild member Ellen Keeled, inspired by the ruggedness and humor in her husband's amazing accounts, captured the stories in his own words, and illustrated them with pen, brush and ink. 207 stories about otters, cows elk, deer, bears raccoons and mink, sandwiched in with stories of fits, fights, floods, and shootings (mostly at Lloyd! All part of the folklore of the Northwest.

One reviewer said, "Lloyd's stories remind me of the yarns told by Mark Twain and Will Rogers."

After a hard day of carving,

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Western Red Cedar

Theme is "Tidewaters and Time." This could be anything pertaining to rivers, streams sea, or estuaries and the humans, ships, historic activities and creatures real or imagined. Extra consideration is given for the portrayal of water in the design.

CASCADE CHAINSAW SCULPTORS GUILD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Write and tell us a little about yourself, how long you've been carving, what kind of work you do.

To avoid confusion, send dues to our treasurer:

Bill Clingan, CCSG
P.O. Box 1239
Westport, WA 98595

The CCSG

The Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild is a nonprofit organization devoted to the advance of chainsaw sculpture since 1984.

We exist to foster an exchange of ideas and information among Chainsaw sculptors everywhere.

Membership is \$20.00 a year and includes a subscription to The Cutting Edge and The Wedge.

This newsletter is the voice of The Chainsaw Sculptor. We want your stories, photos, letters, and technical expertise. We even want your opinions! Send it all to:

Susan Miller
71233 Hwy 47
Mist, OR 97016
susanm@huppi.com

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Below: Conrad Sandoval: **The Last Supper**
 Carved last fall from one very large old growth redwood log

