

Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild

415 - 1st. St. #101
Snohomish, WA 98290



The Cutting Edge

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The Cutting Edge

Since 1993

May 2007

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A Big Win for the Little Guys

by Donna Quezada

Have you ever started a carving and had the wood seem to fight you, then you run into wood rot and had to change the sculpture almost completely in order to salvage the piece? Well, that could be said for what happened in working to change the Specialized Forest Products RCW 76.48.

Since the last publication, the House and the Senate both passed their respective bills, but not the same bills with which we started. (Oh, no! Wood rot!) The Senate Bill died in the House due to an old political insult. So the Senate wrote a Striker Amendment reducing the House Bill to the addition of an affirmative defense clause, the establishment of a work group to study the issue between June and December of 2007, and added rules concerning the picking and storage of huckleberries that the House and



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Sculptures carved by Matt Hambrook

Picture by Gabe VanLelyveld, This Old Stump

**Letter from the Editor
by Jack McEntire**

The summer season is upon us once again. For most of us, after X-mas it's our busiest time of the year. Our customers are getting spring fever and want to dress up their homes. In addition the carving shows/competitions are getting into high gear.

I learned an important lesson heading home from my first show this year, the Sequim Log Show. Like always the guys were sharing, fun to be with, and full of energy. (Often times, after a show it occurs to me that, compared to carvers, most people are effectively dead.)

After dropping a 4' diameter Redwood in a residential area the truck broke down, requiring several trips to the parts store. Fixed, we headed out only to go several blocks when the car breaks down. We all piled into the truck and head to a motel to lick our wounds-my cracked rib, sprained ankle, and bruised ego. The motel was one of those where you don't want to inspect the sheets too closely and only hope your vehicle doesn't get broken into.

In the morning we get a truck to tow the car home, some 150 miles, and head over the mountains ahead of the tow truck. Getting to the middle of the forest the truck blows its' engine and the tow truck passes us by. We call the tow company-they tell us they already have our car. We tell them it's the truck this time. After the next tow truck arrives, with room for only one of us, marvels at the load of wood and leaves me and my daughter to 'camp' in the woods, the wisdom of this lesson settles upon me.

ALL CARVERS SHOULD HAVE AAA, OR THE EQUIVALENT FROM THEIR INSURANCE COMPANY. In our case a tow bill of more than \$1,100, the loss of 2 vehicles, and a load of redwood were covered for \$13/month. This is as useful a tool as a new saw.

Look forward to seeing more of you as the summer goes on!

The Cutting Edge

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Jack McEntire - Coeditor

The Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild exists to foster support for the art and craft of chainsaw carving by encouraging communication between carvers through every means possible, including newsletters, websites, forums, meetings, demonstrations, mutual support and the preservation of our history.



Steve Backus & his "Bear with the Biggest Wiener" Sequim Log Show
Picture by Gabe VanLelyveld, This Old Stump

**Message from our
President**

Hello fellow travelers, just like Huey Lewis and the News said, "The futures so bright I got to wear shades"! I reckon we reach a point, and I suppose its true in any industry, that you can become as busy as you want to be, that can be exhausting, huh? As the guild moves forward with all the hard won experience of twenty-four years, there are still oceans to cross, and mountains to climb, so lets get to it!

...President again, Steve Backus

Tasmanian Adventure -- by Susan Miller

It was still dawn and from the bridge, ten feet below me, swam a platypus. I walked along the frosty path to the carving area and several more of the little animals were visible, first as a series of bubbles and ripples, then as the entire creature. The previous day we all had a chance to go on a forestry tour, and to see that the Pacific Northwest is not the only place that has unbelievably large trees. "Wow, here I am, in a place I've dreamed about all my life, seeing real live Tasmanian animals!" It was hard to believe. This was Geeveston, Tasmania, and the event was the 2007 Geeveston Forest Heritage Festival. Carver Eddie Freeman was in charge of getting the wood and inviting the eight competitors. A number of other fine

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"Tasmanian Devil"

Deborah Lloyd

(Continued from page 2)

people from the town and forestry center had worked hard all year to see that everyone was well taken care of. Echo saws provided not only all the saws for the competition, but also several people to keep them sharp and running well. Each carver had the use of a couple of sizes of saw, and there were more than enough saws with carving bars to go around.

The wood was all pretty close to the same size, a bit over six feet tall and around three feet diameter, a nice size and hardness for the nine hours carving time. We used chainsaws only, which has its advantages: if no one has access to an arsenal of grinding tools and bits, it puts all the contestants on the same footing.

Coming in at first place was Deborah Lloyd, from New Zealand. Her carving was a Tasmanian Devil, bent on mischief. He held a flaming match behind his back, ready to set fire to a pile of logs. The carving was an amusing subject, and the chainsaw finish was impressively smooth and refined. I believe a Maori influence was detectable in the fierce style of the face and stylized stance. It was an impressive carving. Andreas Martin from Germany came in second, with a complex piece called "Bush Telegraph" and Glenn Smith, from Victoria, Australia won third with a black cockatoo in flight. This event was part of a larger logging show, and the limited time allowed for the carving enabled all the contestants to see some of the events and equipment displayed over the weekend. Steam logging equipment, draft horses, competitive logging skills. All very entertaining. After leaving Geeveston, I was able to spend three more eventful and unforgettable weeks in Tasmania before returning home.



"Bush Telegraph"
Andreas Martin



"Black Cockatoo" -- Glenn Smith

Senate had already vetoed.

The House could accept the affirmative defense and the work group, but adamantly opposed the huckleberry regulations, which put citizens at risk of arrest. They asked the Senate to "recede from their amendments," and our bill "hit a nail:" the Senate refused. This went back and forth behind the scenes until the bill was about to be killed.

This is when we sent out emails asking for letters. They came in from a lot of carvers, turners, wood workers, and even small saw mills and forest owners. This revved-up the already fueled Governor's office. They let the Senators and Representatives know that no matter what, they wanted our bill on the Governor's desk for signing. On Tuesday, May 18th Joaquin and Donna Quezada met with Representative Ed Orcutt, Senator Pam Roach, Howard Thronson of the DNR, and two people who worked on the huckleberry legislation, to witness Governor Gregoir signing House Bill 1909.

The new law goes into effect in mid-July. For now: get the permit. After July, a permit is still necessary, but if you don't get one and get arrested (stopped by an officer) you will be able to defend yourself with a bill of sale or other proof that you had the wood with the permission of the original owner, and if you prove your ownership, the charges should be dropped. We are not giving legal advise, but at least get the information that is required on the permit.

Our carving is not yet finished. We will participate in the work study group and are looking for someone from a tree service to join us. If you know someone that has a tree service and would be willing to represent that industry, please contact us at cwsemail@hughes.net. We are refueling our saws and sharpening our chains, then we will be back in the fall to start once again to preserve our legal right to possess and transport the woods of our trade without the threat of prosecution.

In the meantime, you can go to Washington-wood-laws.org for more information on the new law and what you need to do to comply. If you are in Washington and wish to help or be kept informed via email, please write to cwse-mail@hughes.net and we will keep you posted.

Ridgway 2007 -- by Bruce Thor

The artisans of the new renaissance surround me in a swirl of snow and sawdust. United in a creative frenzy unlike any other on the planet. This is the chainsaw carvers rendezvous in Ridgway Pennsylvania. In its 8th year, the Boni's and town go all out in a lodging and logistics frenzy that only 250 plus chainsaw carvers from around the world can bring on. They handle it all with a warm smile and family feel that makes even the coldest day warm. I saw 4 degrees one morning as I came out for breakfast at the American Legion. It's a great place to meet and fuel up for the days creation. And create we did, from the pro's with the know, to new guys learning on the go, an unbelievable show and place to grow. You won't be the same after you go. The energy continues after great meals to the dance floor, where we relaxed some more. There was so much fun, that when it was done, your mind would still run. After a week or more our creations were done, and good homes for them found, this years auction set records all around. With our spirits full and ready for a new year, we head our separate ways with a hug and a tear, knowing that if we don't see ya before then, there's always next year.



No love, no friendship can cross the path of our destiny without leaving some mark on it forever.

- Francois Mauriac

Online Resource for Carvers -- by MiltonLowden

There is a great resource online available to all carvers. If you have been wanting to have some of your carvings online this is a great way to do it! It's also a great way to get connected to other things valuable to a carver. Here is what the site owner has to say about what they have to offer:

This site is an information site for all carvers. Explore our index and have a learning experience in the chainsaw carving world. We are here to share, promote, preserve, teach and upgrade the art of chainsaw sculpting, and to be of service to those who carve, those who wish to carve, and the community. Visit our forum links and hear what other carvers around the world are discussing. We also provide chainsaw sculptors galleries for the Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild and United Chainsaw Carvers Guild members without a website. We are also open to all chainsaw sculptors, even if they have a site of their own, or are members or not of UCCG or CCSG. Members can promote their sculptures for sale or show.

We also have step by step chainsaw carving instructions and totem pole information for chainsaw sculpting. Members can register for any of our other available benefits free of charge. There is also an arts & crafts galleries for members. Membership is free but any donations are welcome to keep this site open.

Each member wishing a chainsaw sculpture, or arts & craft gallery, will get their own gallery page. We also offer members a free storefront to sell new and used tools in the country outpost. In your gallery you will be able to list your name, e-mail, phone number, and address to help promote your CHAINSAW carving.

Milton Lowden
243 North Hill Road
Iron River, Michigan 49935
Phone (906) 265-9599

Point your browsers to:

www.chainsawsculptors.com

The Scotty, from "Seven Easy Pieces, a collection of chainsaw carvings you can do in less than thirty minutes," by Mike McVay

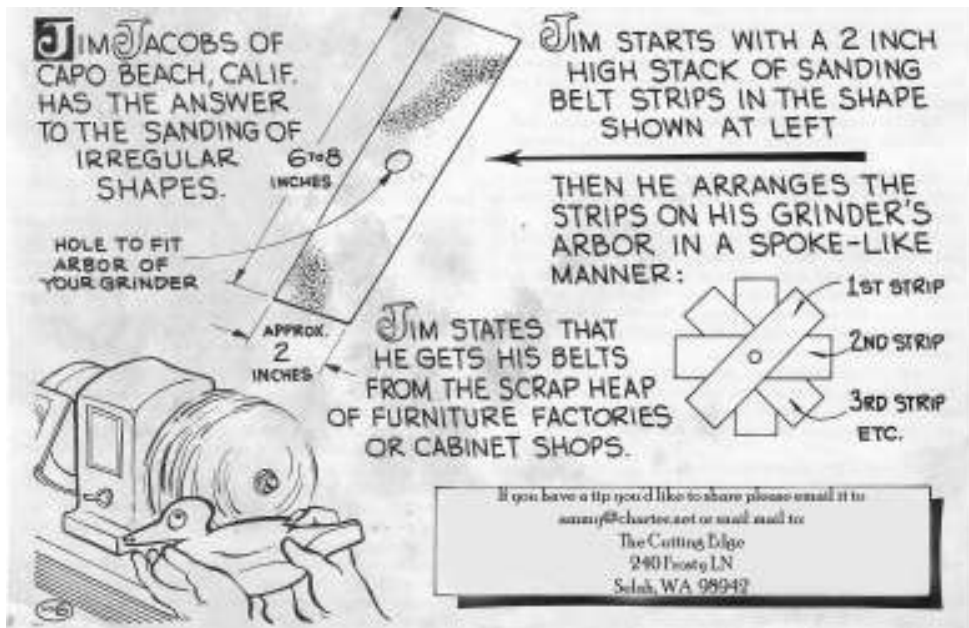
When I started making public carving appearances, one big tiki would always guarantee a crowd, but it was never enough to keep people around or to get anyone to buy something. So, I'd take requests, some of which did nothing to put dinner on the table. "Hey, do you think you could carve up a watermelon? Is that a real chainsaw? Can I have these scraps? Whaddaya do when you make a mistake? How many scars have you got? How'd you know where to cut? I didn't see any lines on that log. Is that hard to do? What is that? Is that a real log?" All those questions carvers still hear.

But sometimes someone would take me seriously and ask about a duck, or a cat, or a dog. I always took them seriously and would carve whatever they wanted. If I did a reasonable job on the piece, it usually meant they would ask that most important question: "How much do you want for that?" and I would have been thinking of an answer to that all the time I had been working. It couldn't be too much or they'd shrug and walk away. "\$10? No, I'd say to myself. More than that! Is it worth \$20? Maybe. Will they pay \$20? I'd blurt out, "You can have it for \$10!!" And they would say "Is that all? I thought it would be more." I'd sigh, take the money, they'd smile and take the cat/dog/bear/owl or turtle home with them. Happy me when I could take home cash instead of carvings.

Things cost a lot less then. Gas sold for twenty-five cents a gallon, so ten carvings that sold for ten bucks added up to a hundred dollars by the end of the day. Not a bad take, and beer was a dime, so I couldn't drink it all up either, although I gave it a good try.

Not everything was a success, of course, and some were complete bombs. The finish often didn't fit the subject. This was before the small hand sanders and die grinders. This was before the carving bar and quarter-pitch chain. This was the day of big teeth and beavertail bars, of big kickback, bad gouges and lots of cusswords. That blue air around me wasn't just from the smoking saw.

So it came to pass that one day, a nice lady with an agreeable demeanor and a pointy-tailed, pointy-eared, black dustmop on a leash came by. She watched for a while and asked if I could carve her dog. It turned out to be the most natural shape for a carving among all the dogs. There were no feet and it had flat sides without definition and lots of straight lines. It quickly became a crowd favorite among the quick-carves, and after fifty years, it's still one of mine. The agreeable lady paid me twenty dollars for that first one and said, "Thank you. I thought it would be more."



It's shown here in a side view with some of the primary blocking cuts marked in straight lines. I'll have other views on our CCSG website as part of my on-going "Seven Easy Pieces" project. Before you start, cut out a 16"x24" block about 10" wide and sketch in the shape. If you can enlarge this drawing, you can make a pattern. Leave the head wide, round off the muzzle back to the eyes, separate the ears, round out the neck and back, center the tail, add texture for hair and you have a black dustmop dog: The Scotty. A good twenty minute quick-carve. So have a good time with it. Thanks and so long. I'll be back with another quick carve project in the next issue of *The Cutting Edge*.

Mike McVay

The Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild is Back Online!

You can now find us online at:

www.theccsg.com

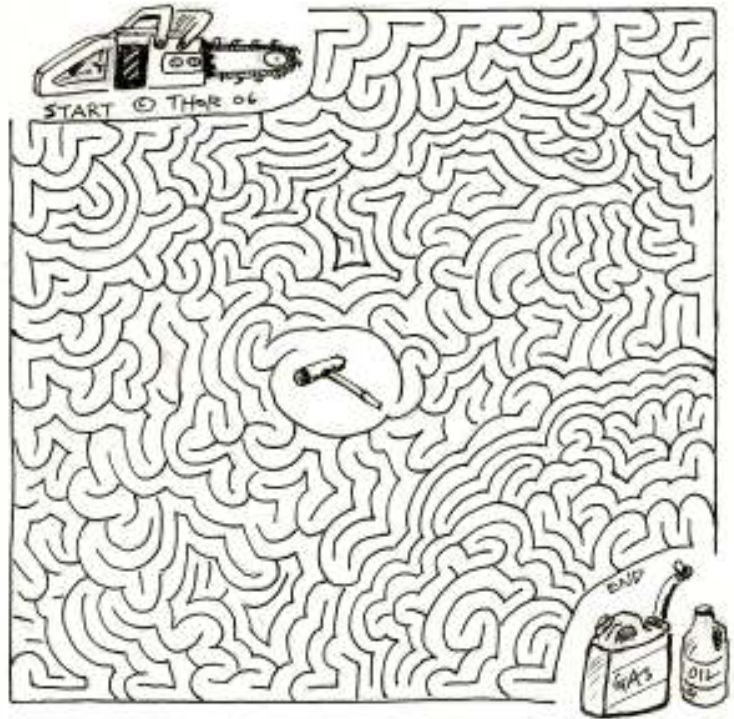
On our website you can find:

Listing of Officers, Adopted By-Laws, Complete Details on Upcoming Events, copies of the newsletters plus much more to come...

Make sure to bookmark us!

The CCSG's Forum can also be found at:

<http://www.network54.com/Forum/249381>



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Rendezvous Magic -- by Angie Polglaze

Once again the Ridgway Chainsaw Carvers Rendezvous was a magical and memorable event of outrageous proportions. In it's 8th year the 'Vou's' attracted just short of 250 chainsaw carvers from 9 countries and 38 states across the USA. This being my 5th year in attendance, there were a lot of familiar faces, and plenty of new ones. One carver new to the 'Vou's' was Steve Willett from Maine. In fact ... Steve (or Cookie Carver as he is fondly known on the forum), is new to the art of chainsaw carving but has an overwhelming desire to create. He just knew that he had to attend this truly life changing event, so much so that he showed up in town earlier than most during a virtual blizzard (and he was one of the last to leave). Nothing was going to stop him. For Steve, the 'Vou's' represented a plethora of firsts. It was the first time he had carved in public. He sold his first carving. It was the first time he had met carvers from all over the world. His life has been changed forever ... and he knows it. As the Rendezvous proudly states ... it truly is "Life Exceeding The Dream".

Every year I look forward to the 'Vou's' with excited anticipation as I know that the ripple effects of this incredible event, and the wonderful creative energy it encourages, will stay with me for a very long time to come. We all feel the effects of the 'Vou's' in some way, even if we don't attend. The Carving Post Forum (where I initially found the international carving community), was established by Joe King after discussion with the Bonis, to act as a vehicle to promote the 'Vou's'. Over time it

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Carving by Mick Burns of Scotland
Photo by Angie Polglaze



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Picture of Lynn Backus and her 'bare a** bear' taken at Ridgway by Angie Polglaze

Rendezvous Magic -- by Angie Polglaze

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has become much more than that, and many similar forums have been established, but once again the 'Vous' has touched the life of every single individual that utilizes the forums. The 'Vous' has changed the world of carving by bringing artists from all over the world together in one place. It is through the 'Vous' that I have met so many incredibly creative individuals, been introduced to so much culture and different approaches to the creative process, and then to be invited to make art in countries all over the world due to these meetings is a miracle to me. I am truly blessed. And I'm not the only one. As the larger than life Steve Backus says on the Carving Post Forum post-vous ... "It is a highlight of our year. It seems I add more life-long friends every year, which is all part of my life plan! I wanna make sure I got enough buddies to carry the coffin". It is quite simply "Life Exceeding The Dream".

When the Boni brothers decided to have a little carving get together, it was never in their minds that their little Rendezvous would become the biggest and best event of it's kind in the world. In many ways the 'Vous' has taken on a life of it's own and the Boni's have become it's caretakers. That said ... I have arrived early these past couple of years to help out where I can, and I am well aware of the immense amount of work and energy that goes into making this event happen ... for all of us !! And so I take my hat off to the entire Boni crew, and especially Liz who works around the clock in the lead up to the event to make sure that all the carvers are catered for, made safe, warm and OK. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. This is a magical life journey we are all on. It is "Life Exceeding The Dream".

When we are dreaming alone it is only a dream. When we are dreaming with others, it is the beginning of reality.

-- Dom Helder Camara

Sequim Washington Carving Show

by Amy McEntire

The Sequim carving show helped raise \$612 for the guild from carvings donated by various carvers in a silent auction held Saturday May 12th. The large octopus, pictured to the far right and carved by Jim Haskett, brought in the most.

The picture to the right shows Josh Heneeger, age 14, working on his bear. Josh states that he doesn't get a chance to carve much during the school year so he looks forward to the summer, when he can carve more often.



Pictures by Gabe VanLelyveld, This Old Stump



Upcoming Events

The events listed here are offered as a free service and are not endorsed by the CCSG. If you would like to list an event please contact the Cutting Edge at 240 Frosty LN, Selah, WA 98942, 509-697-8853, ammy@charter.net

June 1st-3rd St. Asaph, Wales North Wales
Sculptures at the Festival of Wood
 Contact: Simon Belfield, Paula Belfield, Peter Williams
 St. Asaph, Wales LL17 0LH
 Tel: 01745 585801, Fax: 01745 585801
www.woodfestwales.co.uk

June 7th, 8th, 9th & 10th Chetwynd, BC Invitational
 Contact: Chamber of Commerce, 1-(250) 788-3345

June 14th - 16th Addison, PA
Echo Carving Series Qualifier
 4th Annual National Road Chainsaw Carving Festival
 Addison's Community Park
 Confluence Lions Club, P. O. Box 21
 Confluence, PA 15424
 Tom Blair (814) 395-3469
 Don Winner (330) 769-2211
secretary@confluencelions.org
 Web Site: All details
www.carvingfest.confluencelions.org

June 14th - 17th Reedsport Competition
Echo Carving Series Qualifier
 Over \$10,000 in prize money
 Echo Sponsored Event
 Theme: "Once Upon a Time"
 Lunch, Dinner and Canopies will be provided. Contact: Cindy King @ (253) 845-2115 or Cking464@comcast.net
www.odcsc.com

June 16th Manistee, MI
Blue Water Chainsaw Carving Series Pts Qualifier
 Contact: lonnieglines@yahoo.com
 1-800-852-9869
 Register at www.mcoc.biz

June 22nd & 24th Ocean Shores, WA
Echo Carving Series Qualifier
 Sand and Sawdust Festival
 Contact: Boaz Backus or Steve Backus @ 360-579-3574,
bigshot@whidbey.com
 Register at www.geocities.com/sandandsawdust

June 23rd - 24th Meadville, PA
Crawford County Fairgrounds
 Carve and Auction and Charity Donations
 Contact: Dale Krueger dkrueger@zoominternet.com

June 27th - July 1st BC, Canada
"Transformations on the Shore"
 Driftwood-Carving Competition
 Contact: Pat Tomlinson at
patriciaftomlinson@yahoo.com
 715-Galernao Rd., Campbell River, BC, Canada V9W 1H9
<http://www.crshorelinearts.ca/>

July 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sedro Woolley WA Show
 Contact: JB Bryson, 1-800-770-8169

Tentative Competition Autumn of 2007
Hope B.C.
 Contact: Bev Ludwig at the Hope District Chamber of Commerce
 588 VOX
 ILO, Hope, B.C.
 1-(604)869-3111

July 7th Eureka, Montana
4th Annual Wood Rocks Chainsaw Carving Comp.
 10 Carver Limit
 Contact: Keri Goodwin 406-297-0197
mtsunburst@yahoo.com

July 13th - 15th Tupper Lake NY
Tupper Lake Chainsaw Carving Competition
 All Pro and Chainsaw Only Limited Space Available
 Contact: Wayne Demoranville 505-947-2393
www.chainsawcarvingman.com

July 13th, 14th & 15th
Hills to Mills - Demming, WA
 Contact: Lynn Backus 360-592-0237

July 21st-22nd Milton Freewater, OR
3rd Annual Logs to Frogs Carving Competition
 Limit 15 Carvers
 Contact: Mike Watkins
 PO Box 6
 Milton-Freewater, OR 97862
 541-938-8236
Mike.Watkins@milton-freewater-or.gov
Muddyfrogwatercountry.com

August 8th - 12th Oshkosh, WI
Echo Carving Series Qualifier
 Winebago County Fair Room for 20 carvers
 Reg: www.loghoggers.com
 Click on Quincy tab, then fundraising/domo, then on registration

August 17th - 19th Frederick MD
Maryland State Chainsaw Carving Extravaganza
 15 Carver Limit
 Contact: Harry Free, Freespirit Productions. LLC
 5942A Meadow Rd.
 Frederick, MD 21701
 301-748-4648
harryfree2@adelphia.net
www.fredericksportsexpo.com

August 25th - 27th Manchester, England
English Open Chainsaw Carving Competition
Tatton Park Country Show
 Contact:
www.englishopenchainsawcompetition.co.uk/newsite/pages/booking_form.htm
 Event website: www.craft-show.co.uk/shows/TattonParkCountryShow

September 7th - 9th Westport, Washington
The Westport Saw N' Surf
 Pro Carvers Only 30 carver limit
 Contact: Dave Thompson beachdebris@uno.com or Don Etue
etueart@olynet.com

September 13th - 16th Quincy, Illinois
Loghoggers Invitational - Young Life
 Reg at www.loghoggers.com
http://sites.younglife.org/_layouts/ytext/default.aspx?ID=C-4830

October 5th - 7th Sheffield, PA
Johnny Appleseed Festival
 Contact: 814-730-7633 or 814-730-7633
johnnyappleseed@verizon.net

October 6th - 8th Chicago Illinois
Echo Carving Series Championship
 Chicago Zoological Society's Brookfield Zoo
 Must Qualify from previous Echo Carving Series Events to participate in this event.

October 11th - 13th Vaassen, Holland
1st Dutch International Chainsaw Carving Contest
 Veluwe Naturepark
 \$500 travel cost paid
 Contact: info@fasnacarving.nl
www.fasnacarving.nl

October 13th - 14th Forksville, PA
27th Annual Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce Fall Festival
 Mid-Atlantic Chainsaw Carving Championship & Lumberjack Competition
 Contact:
 Heath Bender
 P.O. Box 228
 Laporte, PA 18626
 PH: (570) 946-7989
 CELL: (717) 413-8959
heathcarves@hotmail.com

Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild

Membership Application for 2007

Dues are \$20 (US) or \$25 (foreign) for the year payable to the CCSG

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 I would like to receive my newsletter online

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piece. Duke always made plenty of time for friends and for his other great passion—trout fishing. Hopefully he is up there fishing right now, catching a big one!

A Tribute to Duane (Duke) Moore by Pat McVay

We'll miss a great guy, Duke Moore, 84, who passed away early this year. A prolific and talented carver for fifty years, he inspired many with a twinkle in his eye. Duke and his wife Jane ran the "Moore Mountain Village" at the foot of beautiful Mount Rainier and it was there that Duke carved and painted an entire working carousel—the first person to do so since 1890. Artists from glass blowers, blacksmiths, potters, painters and woodcarvers were welcomed on-site to do their art - in action. That was one thing that really made the village unique.

He worked large and small, using every tool from a pocket knife to a chainsaw. His shop was filled with tools, books and models. The Village was a stop for mountain climbers, tourists and locals alike. At the Village you could rent a cabin or just stop in at the restaurant for some delicious home cooked food. The outbuildings housed whimsical carvings of people, animals and storybook characters. There was also an art gallery where local blacksmiths, glass blowers, potters, printers and carvers all showed their work.

Duke was a judge at the first chainsaw carving contests in 1981 and 1982 and he put on his own competitions for fifteen years—the first contests where a carver could keep their own sculpture and use any kind of tool or finish on a



▲ Susan Miller and Duke Moore with Duke's carvings. Photo by Pat McVay.