
◆ The Cutting Edge ◆

Volume II Issue V

A BI Monthly Publication

September 1994

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Summer Contests Results

**Importance of Multi- Sponsored
Contests**

**A letter from Chip Chats own Roy
Colbert**

And our usual stuff...

Tales from The Cutting Edge

Cover Photos: Westport 1994 by Todd Foreman



**DON ETUE'S - SEA CAPTAIN - WINNER OF
CARVER'S CHOICE, PEOPLE'S CHOICE AND
2nd IN JUDGES CHOICE**



JOHN PERALTA, OLALLA, WA - UNDERWATER SCENE



**WALRUS - WINNER OF CARVERS COICE - NOVICE DIVISION, BY
CARL CHASTAIN OF FORKS, WA**

Calender of Events

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 -1st Annual Slice of Sumner Carving Contest. The Putting Zoo, Sumner WA. Contact Todd Whited 206/ 862-4614, or Mike Stanzel 206/ 863-6310

Oct. 8, 9,2nd Annual Carving Contest, Oyster Festival Weekend, Shelton, WA. Contact Charlie Hubbard, E. 1161 Mason Lk. Rd. 2, Shelton, WA 98584. (206) 426-3038.

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



Summer is almost ready to close her book on us. It's amazing when you're having fun, how fast time flies. Ahhh well such are the mysteries of life.

The Westport contest YO WHEW WOW WEEEEEE UMMMMM HMMMMM - what a contest!!!! I was overwhelmed by the ability of all the carvers to carve such wonderful works of art. It was the best contest I've been to where the consistency of the work by all the carvers was phenomenal. Each year it gets better. I'm amazed at the new carvers that always seem to show up out of nowhere. You think you've seen the best but then a new face always seems to show up just when you think you've seen it all. A refreshing perspective. But this message is a cry for help. We need more people to get involved with the production of this event, like helping put posters up, watching the guild booth, giving out information - all the little things. Usually I get stuck with all the stuff and most of the time it's not a problem but with the magnitude of the Westport Contest, we need several people to help. I like to thank Nanette Backus and April Etue for all their help. They're really cool people. without them life at Westport would not have been possible.

Til we meet again.



Gary Villa of A-1 Sevice & Sales in Tampa has informed us that there will not be a carving contest this year at the Florida State Fair due to non sponsorship. Carvers are welcome to carve at the fair this year. For more information on that please contact Dave Watson - 608/ 253-3890

Thanks again Gary for all your hard work in the past.

THE CUTTING EDGE

The Cutting Edge is published by the Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild
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Letters To The Editor

NEW MEMBERS

I really enjoyed the competition at the Irrigation Festival at Sequim.

*Dennis Chastain
Forks, WA*

Looking forward to being a member of your guild for years to come. Enclosed is a money order for \$30.00, \$20 for membership dues and \$10 for a tee-shirt. Thanks a lot

*Jim Taylor
Tell City, Indiana*

I really like hearing about the contests and events! It's really nice to know that there are other real chain saw carvers alive and well. I hope to be able to attend some events some day. Keep up the good work!!!

*Gary Thompson
Waldport, Oregon*

I'm looking forward to being a part of this organization. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

*Robert DeGenova
Smith River, California*

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the North East Chainsaw Carvers for a great time and a Special thanks to Frank Bono and Donna Healy of New York for their special care. Their hospitality was great!

*Don Erue
Ocean Shores, WA*

WESTPORT RESPONSE

We would like to thank everyone in the guild for allowing us to participate in the Westport Nautical Carving Championships

We could only begin to imagine the hard work and hours (weeks) you all put in, to make this a great success. It was an honor to be a part of such a well planned competition. We learned alot and were overwhelmed at the helpfulness and friendliness of everyone in the guild as well as all the carvers who competed

We are looking forward to seeing you all next year

*Frank Bono & Donna Healey
E. Northport, New York*

NEW MEMBERS

Robert De Genova	Smith River, CA
Jerry Muir	Leggett, CA
Gary Thompson	Waldport, OR
Marvin Howard	North Plains, OR
Skip Roth	Old Fort, NC
Stephen Hodgeman	Plummer, ID
Edith Croft	Quebec, Canada
Frank Bono Jr.	E. Northport, NY
Carl Chastain	Forks, WA
Dennis Chastain	Forks, WA
Josh Blewett	Concrete, WA
David Baenhart	Yakima, WA
Aaron Van Zandt	Seaview, WA
Dale Lloyd	Tacoma, WA
Rocky MacArthur	Sedro Woolley, WA

A LETTER FROM ROY COLBERT

Thank you for inviting me to judge at the Westport Event. I really enjoyed the opportunity to examine the fine work that the carvers are doing.

It was very interesting to see the way the chainsawn pieces are evolving, reminds me of how woodcarving changed from the edge carvers to the popularity of power. When I first started writing for Chip Chats I ran into the 'old school,' and received quite a number of things for advocating acceptance of such a thing as power carving. One fellow even quoted the bible stating that I was degrading a Holy tradition. But look how the 'Realistics' picked up interest in woodcarving and now all carving styles are profiting from the renewed general interest.

I see that some of your carvers are trying, and doing a great job, of displaying more fine sculpture to the pieces. I saw two schools of art at the event. The traditional and the more finished styled pieces that leaned more toward a wood sculpture aspect. I was also interested in the way the carver's choice and the people's choice votes went. Although I am never impressed with the unsupervised public vote because of the double dipping for a friend or relative, the carver's vote indicated that the old traditions are still foremost. The closeness of the top choice shows the mixed acceptance. The turtle was, in my opinion, more sculpture than what is conceived as chainsawn. One of the most artistic pieces, that did not place, was the breaching dolphins (Ken Williams). All the requirements were there, the S curves, the simplicity of form. Another fantastic piece that placed quite low was the breaching whale, (Pat McVay) and the pirate was on his way (Dennis Chastain) - to bad the rain washed out more finishing and detail. Even the turtle suffered as the carver told me he intended a smooth back. Maybe, if you want to encourage this trend, is that you should have a different category to accommodate this style of work.

Something that bothered me was that a good share of the carvers never cleaned up their pieces. Sawdust and wood chips were not brushed away and almost everyone left some sawdust and wood chips in the low spots. If you are going to work in judges from other style of woodcarving then I am sure they will begin to mark down such pieces. Even if a piece is not done it still should be presented at it's very best.

Again, thank you, and with my very best wishes.

*Roy Colbert
Bothell, Washington*

SOS!

Register your outdoor sculpture. Washington SOS! is beginning the last quarter of its term to complete the survey of Washington's publicly accessible outdoor sculpture. This is being done to help preserve our national heritage of outdoor art. For more information call or write: SOS!, Save outdoor Sculpture, Paula Woolf, 519 N. Bowdoin PL. #6, Seattle, WA 98103, 206/ 547-7041 or the National Address is: SOS! National Headquarters, 3299 'K' St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007, 1-800-422-4612

5TH ANNUAL NAUTICAL CARVING CHAMPIONSHIPS ATTRACTS 39 CARVERS!!!!!!

The 5th Annual International Nautical Chainsaw Championships came and went on August 5, 6, and 7. Many businesses supported and donated to this event, Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, Poulan Chainsaws, King Arthur Tools, Samco Nursery, Chain Bar Repairing, Red Apple and many others. This event is undoubtedly the largest of its kind in terms of prize money and competitors in the world. The crowds estimated at 3,000 to 4,000 a day despite the rain. The town of Westport declared this their best weekend ever.

It was a sight to behold 39 logs standing on end some logs 5ft in diameter and 8ft in height, it took up two city blocks. 39 carvers from around the nation and Canada competed for the \$4800 in cash and \$2500 in prizes. This years winner based on the Judges award was first time participant Jerry Muir of Leggett, California. He also won the quick carve competition each day. The carver gets 45 minutes to carve anything. An auction is held. The creations that goes for the highest bid wins the first prize which was a chainsaw donated by *Poulan Saws* and \$150. Jerry Muir carved a small running bear each day that the crowds just loved. The highest bid going on the last day for \$450! The carvers had a choice of paying \$150 to be in the competition or carve each day in the quick carve. This paid for their entry fee.

The judges this year were local hand carver Irv Herman, Ocean Shores local painter and carver Buck Brant, Puyallup's Samco Nursery and Woodcarving Shop owner, Tim Cox, and nationally renowned columnist for "Chip Chats" Roy Colbert.

Jerry Muir's winning entry was a highly detailed sea turtle, exactly how you would picture it swimming in the great blue sea. He won a stunning \$1500. 2nd Place was Don Etue, Ocean Shores, who carved a sea captain at the wheel of a ship with his first mate - this earned him \$750. 3rd Place was Charlie Mitchell Olympia, WA. \$500 - he carved an octopus with anchor and chain. 4th Place - Dennis Chastain of Forks, WA -he carved a pirate so real and scary it was enough to hide your children.. This earned him \$350. 5th place Pat McVay, of Clinton, WA. He carved a Humpback whale breaching with two sea kayakers in it's way - \$250. 6th place Dexter Lewis, Clinton, WA for his seals with pelicans flying overhead - \$200. Finally seventh place went to Dave Barnhart of Yakima, WA- \$150 for his school of dolphins

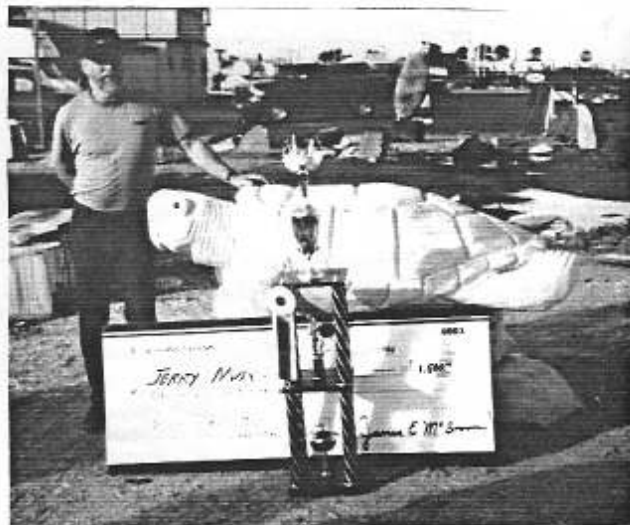
There was also a *People's Choice Award* and a *Carvers Choice Award* with a cash prize of \$200 and Poulan Chainsaw and Chain Bar Repairing carving bar

for each category and that went to Don Etue for his burly sea captain who so far is this year's highest point earner for carving competitions.

Novice Division Winners - Judges choice went to Kerry Hargadan for his mermaid. Hargadan earned \$100 in cash plus a chainsaw from *Poulan Saws*, a carving bar from Bill Davenport, of *Chain Bar Repairing*, \$25 gift certificate from *Cascade Carvers Supply*, and a 1st Aid kit from *Bailys*. The *Carvers Choice* novice division winner went to Carl Chastain of Forks, WA for his whimsical walrus.

Special recognition must go out to Frank Bono who flew out from New York and due to airline problems missed the first day of the competition but he was still able to turn in an outstanding performance. Also Edith Croft who is from Quebec, Canada traveled from Vancouver, BC to participate in this year event. Edith showed up with her electric chainsaws but after she saw the size of the wood decided to switch to gas. She also said "you guys carve wood like we carve snow". Edith participates in the International Snow Sculpture Competition held each year in Quebec.

And so another successful contest has ended. Each year the contest gets bigger and better. The date has been set for next year's contest August 4th, 5th, and 6th in 1995. Plans are in the works from more carvers, more prizes, and more perks for the carvers - ahhh, it would be nice to have an on site massage therapist - HmMMM could be interesting. Thanks needs to go out to Boaz Backus who did a wonderful job of auctioneer and MC. He has a good gift of gab, he kept the crowd involved and in good spirits even when it did rain. Also to Steve Backus who spent many a long hours, days, months, getting this thing ready. See you next year!!!



JERRY MUIR'S WINNING ENTRY

Northeastern Regional Championships Results

Tupper Lake, New York, July 9,10

The results are in, the winners of the 5th Annual North Eastern Regional Chainsaw Carving Championships are for

Judges Choice last years champion Dennis Beach of Wapwollopen, Pa and for *Carvers Choice* - Don Etue of Ocean Shores, Wa.

Special thanks to Hal MacIntosh for putting on such a fine contest each year.



1st Place Carvers Choice - Don Etue



1st Place Judges Choice - Dennis Beach

THE IMPORTANCE OF MULTI - SPONSORED EVENTS

BY: *Pat McInay*

"Chain Saw" sculpture is combination sculpture and performance art. Not all carvers are fast, but the public loves seeing it created. It draws a crowd. With the advent of new tools we have become the "race car drivers" of sculpture. We put tools through a years worth of use in about a day or two.

When you are carving in public, consider yourself entertainment. Music, theater, sports, etc. all have sponsors. Many sculptors are sponsored as well. Many are not - this doesn't matter - But when you want to put on a big event you need sponsors & the more the better.

I've carved in quite a lot of events over the years beginning in 1981 at the 1st "World Championship" Totem carving contest at the Western Washington Fair, up to this years 3 day Nautical Carving Contest in Westport, Wash. In between, I've been to several in Minnesota, Florida, Idaho, and many in Washington State. I missed the one in Arizona last year and still hope to get to the New York one. I've watched the art improve over the years and have always enjoyed the get togethers. Of course, in order to make these things work, the bottom line is always how much money there is available. The bigger the purse, the better the draw.

Most of the events I've been to have been sponsored by just one sponsor. I've seen this come from saw companies, shopping malls, theme parks, state fairs, beer and soft drinks companies, tools shops and resorts. Some events have provided gift certificates and cash from local individuals and merchants. Chambers of commerce have also used grant money which promotes tourism.

Most events go along amicably, but on several occasions I've seen the "single sponsor" act as Lord & Master over the sculptors - a sort of "power trip" (one sponsor in Arizona wouldn't let the carvers use the bathroom and even locked the door because someone forgot to turn out the light!) No more contests for him!

Mults - Sponsorship can raise more money to make the event possible, and the control of the event remains with the carvers. If you're thinking of promoting and event, look to a lot of different sources for support. It doesn't always have to come in the form of cash, either. Hard working carvers need to eat, sleep, and drive. Donations in those areas help greatly as well. Tools are always welcome too. Few companies have a big budget for this sort of event, multiple sponsors greatly ease the burden and pressure of sponsorship. No one person or company feels as if they have to come up with everything. Plus a little here and there often adds up to alot more in the end. By the way thanks to all our sponsors who have helped in the past.

A Message From The President

Hello Guys & Dolls

Well, summer draws to a close and the fast pace that it represents, tapers off to a jog for some, and a crawl for others. Time to start making plans for next year.

The contest at Westport came off with a roar. Big wood, big money, and big ego's, makes a good show. Some outstanding work was created. It could not have happened without the cooperation of a lot of folk's within our guild and within the town. A lot of folks who may not have normally worked together did just that. Thus, we had a great show. Our guild prides itself on being a group of professionals who can work together. We don't have to like each other, but we do for the most part. Next year is in the works. Any of you carver's who were in it if you would like to write a letter to the editor, feel free. Let's hear from you

Steve Backus

Tales From The Cutting Edge

The poem was first written in the '60's during the heyday of the logging in the Pacific Northwest. Judy McVay is one of the 1st women ever to carve with a chainsaw. She started her career in the chainsaw world in the early 70's.

BY: Judy McVay

Now when I married it was just my luck to hook a guy
with a logging truck

And now I'm weeping over my ills and have not a cent
to pay my bills

I've sweep with a broom - no vacuum to ease and I
scrubbed the floor on my hands and my knees

I've ownd not a dress and t'was britches I wore and I
washed on the board til my fingers were sore

I rose out of bed at four in the morn and I lost so much
sleep that I'm wrinkled and worn

I packed hundreds of lunches and caught tons of hell
and to think - that into this trap I deliberately fell

My mother once told me "a womans' sad woes the
conciot of men as husbands and not as beans but I didn't
listen and in best bib and tuxs - grabbed off this nut
with a logging truck

The grand attitude of my Hearts Desire is: "after me,
you first. if I don't need a tire"

There's reaches, and binders, and fit hooks and scales
and broken rear ends and motors that failed

There's a gas bill, a tow bill, a bill from McGee and
what's left, will be grabbed by the PUC

It's a losing game, I can plainly see, for never a penny
is left for me

I just left the market with a mere bag of beans and
drooled as I passed a big rack of greens

But there's payments to make and winter to buck, for my
husband owns a logging truck

The bill collectors are beating a trail to my door and the
sheriffs department is sure getting sore

They've taken the stove and the kids ain't been fed and
the old man he's hiding under the bed

Now, I've got a daughter who's starting to roam and
soon she'll be draggin a son in law home

But my rolling pin is ready and by GOD he better duck
if he brags that he owns a damn logging truck!



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growing collection of
chainsaw wood sculpture
in the Pacific Northwest.

Consign your carvings today!!!

Samco Landscaping & Nursery is located 2
miles south of HWY 512 on west side of
Canyon Road E., Puyallup, WA. Look for
wood carvings.

The Dictionary Game

BY: Lex Icon

One of the following answers is correct. Can you figure
out the right one?

ERGASIOPHOBIA

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| A). Fear of work | D). Fear of saws |
| B). Fear of gas | E). Fear of elevators |
| C). Fear of wood | F). Fear of elephants |

Answer on back cover

The Putting Zoo

Presents

The 1st Annual Putting Zoo Chainsaw Carving Championships

in conjunction with the "Slice of Summer"

OCT 1ST AND 2ND
AT
THE PUTTING ZOO

located in beautiful Sumner, WA
Just off of HWY 410

This contest is limited to 12 carvers
anything goes
no theme

To sign up contact Todd Whited at 206/ 862-4614

2nd Annual Carving Contest

at
Shelton, WA

Oct. 8th & 9th

no theme
anything goes

To sign up contact Charlie Hubbard
at
206/ 426-3038

GET YOUR T-SHIRT NOW!!!!

The Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild has a few T-Shirts left.

The design is of an eagle's head with the words CASCADE CHAINSAW SCULPTORS GUILD underneath it. A real striking shirt. DESIGN BY DON EYRE

The cost is for guild members \$10.00 plus \$2.00 for shipping

*"I bought a guild shirt and my life improved immediately!
My carvings got better and I felt happy about myself. I look so
sharp in my new shirt. My friends returned and made nice comments
on my new wardrobe. Thank you for selling me this shirt."*

GET YOURS TODAY!!!!

In Extra Large there's gray. In Large there's gray and green and in Medium there's light blue.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Size: _____ Color _____

Please pay \$12.00 check or money order to The Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild and mail payment to 7371 S. Hold Rd., Clinton, WA 98236

ANSWER
TO
PUZZLE
IS
A

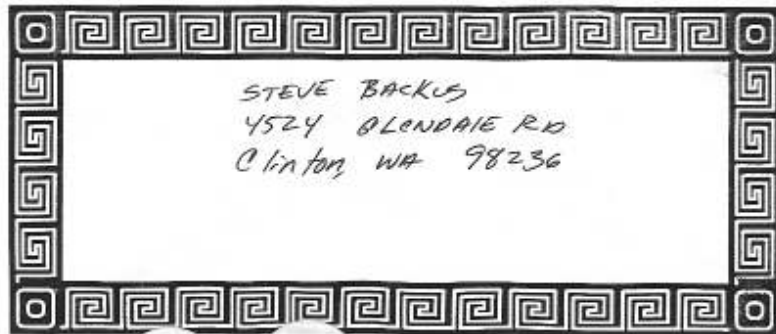


"WESTPORT CARVERS 1994"



The Cutting Edge

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