

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CARVER

June 2006

Issue 2006-06

June Program

Ric Berard will lead an open forum discussion on creativity in wood sculpture. At some point in your carving career one desires to do something original or different from the suggested patterns in books and magazines. Our open forum will allow members to discuss how they come up with creative ideas. This should be a wonderful opportunity for members to offer each other approaches to creating something unique. Please come and share your experience or come and learn from more experienced carvers.

Last month Hap O'Brien showed some of the clay sculptures he did in Arizona, following up with a demonstration on modeling a face in clay. He created a rough model of the head and reviewed the critical proportions and layout of the head and face. See photos on this page. (Since Hap is writing this) he hopes everyone found the demonstrations helpful.

Next Meeting

Third Thursday of month
Thursday 7:00 P.M.
June 15, 2006
GMJS High School
Route 7 & Haycock Rd
Falls Church, VA

Activities at the Carving Center

Our first session at Colvin Run Mill went well. We had a good group of instructors on hand and an enthusiastic, though small, group of carvers. There were a lot of lookers who came to the park to see the Civil War encampment and re-enactment. Many said they will return another time to carve. Our next teaching day is June 18th, Father's Day. This usually a busy day so if you can join us for part of the afternoon, please do.

A contingent of NVC members decided to return to the Branson Carving Rendezvous June 4-10. Hank Cloutier, Pete Ward, Ric Berard, John Sullivan were missed at the Carving Center this past week.

May Meeting Demonstration



Photos: Hap O'Brien displaying clay sculptures created this past winter while in Arizona. He is discussing how he modeled clay sculptures from sketches made over the past few years. Below Hap is demonstrating the

process for creating a clay sculpture that can be used as a model or fired as a finished object. He emphasized the layout of the face, an area most carvers have trouble with. *Photos by Bob Marshall.*



Activities at the Carving Center (Cont)

Hopefully they will come back with some tall stories of their exciting carving experiences last week.

At the Center, Hap O'Brien started the first Sculpting the Head in Clay class on June 8th. We started with four students as the other four were in Branson. Hap will plan to arrive at GMJSHS Center meeting day early (by 5 PM) so those that want to start earlier can do so. The class will need to be interrupted for the monthly meeting from about 7-8 PM.



Photos: Views of Joy Burks, Pam Bozzi, Jim Ernst, Bill Wallentiny busy at work in first sculpting the head in clay class. They made excellent progress in the couple hours we had. Lots of discussion and very good challenging questions arose. At this beginning stage Hap kept emphasizing getting the structure for the side and front profiles as right as possible. The last minutes were spent on initial face layout. Participants are learning to focus on getting the general structure first and trying to ignore detail. Hap says he learned a lot trying to show the group what he knows.

Carving Wood Available

Ken Sheehan reported that Bill Snead has carving wood available:

"... I have about 35 pieces of wood ranging from small blocks to a couple of red aromatic cedar beams that are 4"x6"x4-5ft. All these are free, as long as no one is taking them for resale. ..."

He also has a number of pieces of butternut, aromatic red cedar, walnut, white cedar, heavy mahogany, and local cherry for sale at prices he paid in the 90's.

Bill lives in Vienna and can be contacted at 703-242-2206.

Colvin Run Mill

June 18th is our next Colvin Run Mill session of carving classes. Please come help out by setting up, instructing, assisting at the welcome table, tear down, or just morale support.

Mark your calendars for the 1st and 3d Sundays in June, July, August and plan to come and help out or seek additional mentoring. Specific dates are:

June 18th
July 2d and 16th
August 6th and 20th

NVC Woodcarving Show

At the last committee meeting Ric Berard presented the latest update of plans for the Show that were distributed at the May meeting. All comments received to date were incorporated. We still haven't gotten an instructor for the carving class planned the week following. Most nationally known carvers are booked over a year in advance. Several new leads are still being pursued. We will treat the class as a separate activity and not part of the show.

The show date of October 7th is firm so we decided to go ahead with submitting announcements to carving magazines and Woodcraft newsletters. As reported before we plan to use an L shaped area between the classroom and the front windows. We plan to implement suggestions made so far to relative to streamlining the registration process and better organizing the setup of table areas once pieces are registered. If you have more comments or suggestions please feel free to contact Ric Berard at [ucberard\(at\)cox.net](mailto:ucberard(at)cox.net).

The show will be here before you know it. Better start planning that next masterpiece that you plan to enter in the show. If you are not competitive, just plan on displaying some of your pieces. It is amazing how much attendees enjoy the ideas, creativity and talent exhibited in your carvings.

NVC Calendar of Events

Weekly

Thursdays, 3:30-9:00 PM Carving Centers Open to all Members

Monthly

3d Thursday, 7:00 PM Membership Meetings at School Carving Center

Classes

Jun 8-29 Modeling the Head in Clay by Hap O'Brien

Directions to the Carving Centers

Woodcraft — Concord Shopping Center, 6123 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22150, 703-912-6727. From I-495 take Braddock Rd East; turn right on Backlick; turn left on Cumberland which tees at Concord shopping center. If traffic is not bad (shorter but not always faster) from I-495 take I-95 South and take 1st exit at Old Keene Mill Rd; follow signs to Backlick. Concord Shopping Center is between Commerce and Cumberland across from Mike's American Café.

George Mason Junior-Senior High School—From I-495 take I-66 East, take 1st exit on to Rte 7 (East), Falls Church; Turn left at 1st light onto Haycock, then take the next left, and find parking in one of the lots to the left. **Carving Center is in Room (G024).**

NVC Contacts

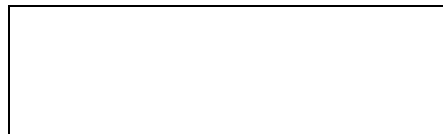
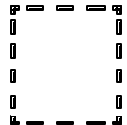
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Center Coordinator	Hank Cloutier	Manages Carving Center - Runs NVC Library	hankusaf(at)verizon.net	703-430-1222
Treasurer	J. C. Evans	Manages finances and Collects Dues	birdsnfish(at)comcast.net	703-743-1321
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Show Chairman	Ric Berard	Supervises and Coordinates Annual NVC Carving Show	Ucberard(at)cox.net	
Newsletter Editor	Hap O'Brien	Edits and Writes for NVC Newsletter	hapob2(at)yahoo.com	703-425-8703
NVC Web Site		www.nvacarvers.org	nvc@nvacarvers.org	

Please Help the Editor

Hap O'Brien is planning to spend the next couple months up on the Canadian border working on sculpture and woodcarving among other things. He will continue to do the newsletter but input is needed. It would be very helpful if members pass on news and/or articles to Hap via email. Don't worry about editorial correctness as Hap will rewrite or edit as necessary. It is very difficult to prepare the newsletter without input, so please contribute. We need to give a big thank you to Bob Marshall for helping with the newsletter by copying, folding, stamping and mailing and mailing.

!!NOTE Memberships and Renewals — Membership to NVC is from Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2006 If you wish to join or renew please check our website (www.nvacarvers.org) for an application and send \$20 to JC Evans, 13526 Norwick Place, Gainesville, VA 20155-1391.

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Address Correction Requested