

The Colorado Carver



www.ColoradoCarvers.org

February 2026

President's Corner

*Wind, Wind go away -
Come out snow- -
I want to play!*

It's 67 degrees on January 15 – enough already! I'm longing to watch snowflakes fall while carving at the dining table. But I do have to say, working on the patio enjoying the warm sun is pretty hard to beat. I just didn't expect to be doing it in January!

We had a great meeting on the 10th. It's fun to see our Club continue to grow. The first meeting with your new Board produced good ideas to improve Club activities. **David Tjarks** is co-chair for this year's community service project. It's something we've been "toy-ing" with and will be a lot of fun. More at our February meeting. After discussion and in an effort to support the Pikes Peak Club, the Board voted to change the October meeting date from the 10th to the 3rd. This allows our carvers to participate in the Pikes Peak Show without missing a meeting. If you haven't been to their show before it's a lot of fun. Like us, they have wonderful carvers and a wide variety of talents on display.

I'm excited about 2026. Thanks to you it's going to be a good year for our Club.

Amy Eha

Meeting Dates



2nd Saturday of the Month

9:00 to 11:00 Open Carving & Seminars
11:15 Show & Tell, Business Meeting

2026 Meeting Dates:

February 14
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 12 - 17 CITR
July 11
August 8
September 12-13 Annual Show
October 10
November 14 - Book Sale
December 5 - Christmas Party (1st Saturday)

Location

Maple Grove Grange Hall
3130 Youngfield St., Wheat Ridge, CO

REGISTRATION OPEN!!

Registration is now open for the **35th Annual Creede Woodcarvers Rendezvous**. It takes place **July 11 - 15, 2026** in the beautiful location of Creede, Colorado. If you've never been there - it's breathtaking.

For information on instructors and cost, go to creedewoodcarvers.com

January Minutes

...from Secretary Carolyn Vigil

Colorado Carvers Club Minutes – January 10, 2026

President Amy Eha asked for approval of the November minutes. **Ralpy Gilley** moved to approve minutes and **Ben Kembel** seconded. Minutes were approved. There were no December minutes due to Christmas party and ornament exchange.

The meeting began with Show and Tell at which time **Seminar Organizer Jan Skuderna** encouraged members to bring in their completed projects carved in seminars. She shared several of her seminar projects.

Karen Stalman worked the new carvers table to help beginners. **Amy Eha** asked for volunteers to help new carvers during future meetings.

Librarian Celia Schefe reported that she received new books. She also asked members to please bring small jelly jars to her.

Vice President Dave Tjarks was thanked for teaching the “Uncle Sam” seminar which had a good turnout.

Jan Skuderna announced that **Alice Geyer** from Pikes Peak Whittlers will be teaching painting techniques at the February 14th meeting. See February Seminar for more information.

Jan Skuderna requested that members cut out patterns for soap carving kits. Each pattern page has several patterns which will be put into the 50 soap carving kits being put together – 1 PAGE PER kit. Pattern pages were provided for members to take home to cut out.

Dave Tjarks reported on the website – www.coloradocarvers.org – which will include a tips and patterns page, a section about carvers in the news, as well as announcements from people using the websites.

There were two requests on the website:

1. A lady wants a carver to carve in the trunk of a tree she had cut down.
2. A carver would like to sell tools on consignment to members. It was suggested that we have him set up a table at our annual show. He could advertise in the newsletter with prices.

Under new business, **Kathy Reinhart** announced that Carving in the Rockies (CITR) will be held June 12-17, 2026, with setup on Friday night. There will be classes on Sunday this year to accommodate those members who work during the week.

Doug Reinhart asked for names of suppliers of wood, especially bass wood.

Amy Eha asked for volunteers to clean up the kitchen after the meeting since **Carolyn Vigil** is now the secretary and must be available to keep minutes for the Board meeting which is held immediately after the regular CCC meeting.

The next meeting will be Saturday, February 14, 2026.

Meeting was adjourned.

***“In the cookie of life,
friends are the chocolate
chips.”***

—Unknown

Library News

from Celia Schefe...



We will continue to see books new to us from **Bob Luckwitz**. Thank you, Bob! Hope you all are managing to stay warm.

January Seminar

...from Seminar Coordinator —
Jan Skuderna

Alice Geyer from the Pikes Peak Whittlers Club will host our February seminar titled Jo Sonja Specialty Paint and embellishments for wood turning, jewelry, pyrography, and carvings.

Cost \$1 for supplies. Tools needed paint brush, pointed tweezers, small wire cutters, and exacto knife.



February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Duane Chamot
February 2

Denise Davis
February 25

Mike Davis
February 3

Doug Reinhart
February 28

Frank Pillow
February 16



Mike & Denise Davis
February 14, 1980

Note about birthdays & anniversaries

On our Carvers Club application, we ask for you birthday (with no year indicated) and your anniversary (if applicable) with the year indicated. We do this so we can honor your event in this newsletter.

If we don't have that information, we either overlooked it or it was never provided. Please contact the editor of the newsletter, **Polly White**, if you would like your birthday and/or anniversary information included and the date of the event: **pollywhite@comcast.net**. We would love to include your information.

“Please don't retouch my wrinkles. It took me so long to earn them.”

— **Anna Magnani**

CITR Donations

Those of you who have attended our Carving in the Rockies events over the years know that **Jan Skuderna** has set up some very impressive raffles for our carvers.

Where she gets the items to raffle are from YOU! If you have tools you no longer use (hand tools, dremels, foredoms, etc.), wood and roughouts you have collected over the years you think you may never get to... please contact Jan for a donation pickup.

Items can be anything to do with carving. Jan's email is: janskuderna@comcast.net and her phone number is: (303) 908-3409.

Clean out that workshop and give Jan a call!

Dues are Due

Heads up that the annual club dues for 2026 need to be paid by January (2026).

This is only \$25.00 per year for the entire year for your entire family. That - is a really good deal!

Please make checks payable to the Colorado Carvers Club. You may pay them at the January Club meeting or mail them to our PO Box.

COLORADO CARVER'S CLUB
P.O. Box 19171
Denver, CO 80219-0171



Woodcarving Tips

What finish should I use on my carving?

Every carver will have a different answer to this depending on the level of shine, color and protection they seek. Some may not have a go-to product and adapt their choice to the project. When using a new finish, try testing it out on a bit of scrap to make sure that you like the look before you accidentally ruin a piece. Some common options are: tung oil, boiled linseed oil, Danish oil (which is a mix of different oils, additives and sometimes varnish), shellac, wax and varnish.

What finishes are food safe?

In general most fully cured finishes are perfectly safe, but beware that it can take months for some finishes to fully cure. It's also worth using more caution for items like spoons which will be in hot liquids for extended periods of time. The safest finishes for utensils are:

Tung oil. Fully cures after about a month, leaving a hard film surface. Beware that some tung oil contain additives which help it cure faster. These are toxic until fully cured. Look for 100% pure tung oil with no other ingredients.

Walnut oil, Mineral Oil, cutting board oils. Like tung oil these are safe to ingest in small quantities. However, unlike tung oil, they do not cure. This means you'll want to reapply every month or so to maintain protection and appearance.

Beeswax/cutting board wax. Creates a small film finish which can help prevent food or water from seeping into the pores of the wood. Commonly used in addition to a non-curing oil and will also need to be reapplied. Not recommended for objects which will be exposed to lots of heat.

January Meeting



January Meeting



Northern Colorado Woodcarvers

Club meetings the second Thursday of the month at 6pm at the Woodcraft Store in Loveland, CO
Contact: Richard Bandy 970-587-9681

Open Carving

Thursdays 9-12 noon
Broomfield Community Center,
280 Spader Way, 303-464-5500
Silver Sneakers accepted

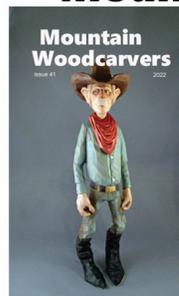
Pikes Peak Whittlers

Club meetings second Saturday every month at Redeemer Lutheran Church
2226 N. Corona St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
Contact: pikespeakwhittlers@gmail.com

Club Sponsors

Carolina Tupelo
Chipping Away
Dockyard Tools
Fan Carvers World
Flexcut Tools
Mountain Woodcarvers
Proxxon
Rams Products
Razor Tip

Mountain Woodcarvers



**Your Hobby
Your Source**

**Tools, Books &
Supplies**

Call us 800.292.6788

www.mountainwoodcarvers.com

Clements Center

1580 Yarrow St, Lakewood

Open Carving Wednesdays 9am - 1pm
\$3.00 drop-in fee

Windsor Gardens Crafters & Carvers

Contact: Howard Fistell
Howard@totalspeed.com
303.667.6000

Longmont Woodcarvers

WHO: anyone interested in carving
WHAT: carving & fellowship
WHEN: every Friday 8am - 11:30am
WHERE: Longmont Senior Center
910 Longs Peak Ave.
Longmont, Colorado

ADVERTISEMENTS

Would you like to drum up more business? Run your business ad in our club newsletter.

The price is as follows:

CLUB MEMBERS:

Business size ad - \$25 for a year run.

1/4 size ad - \$45 for a year run

1/2 size ad - \$100 for a year run

For personal ads that might only run one or two months, prices are as follows:

CLUB MEMBERS:

Free of charge. Just notify the editor.

NON-CLUB MEMBERS:

Will be \$10 per month. (However, the editor will need to be notified by the treasurer that the payment has been collected first.)

Club members may take 1-3 lines to advertise classes and club services at no charge.

The Colorado Carver

The *Colorado Carver* is a monthly publication of the **COLORADO CARVERS CLUB**, a registered, nonprofit organization. Unless otherwise stated, meetings will be held on the **SECOND** Saturday of each month, **11:15am** at the Maple Grove Grange Hall, 3130 Youngfield St., Wheat Ridge, CO. Open carving and instructional carving is held on the **SECOND** Saturday of each month, **9:00 till 11:15am**. Annual membership dues are \$25.00.

Visit our website at www.coloradocarvers.org.

Direct **articles** for the newsletter to:
Polly White
Phone: 720-256-3816
Email: pollywhite@comcast.net.

Club Officers

President - Amy Eha
303-564-0262

Vice Pres. - David Tjarks
303-241-8402

Secretary - Carolyn Vigil
303-985-3724

Treasurer - Al Vigil
303-985-3724

Board

Jordan Francis - 214-649-2203

Terry Koger - 303-838-6135

Kimberly McKoy - 303-204-0289



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FIRST CLASS
RETURN REQUIRED