

# FIVE (5) NEW MEMBER CARVING PROJECTS

TRIAD WOODCARVERS CLUB

Revision: February 3, 2023

[CARVING INSTRUCTORS: Carol Adair, Will Crawford, Charles Griffin, Stewart Hodges, Tom Mock, Tim Trudgeon]

## INSTRUCTOR TIPS AND TECHNIQUES:

To join, complete *New Member Information Sheet* and turn it in to the Treasurer with dues payment. If Treasurer is not available, see the Secretary or another club officer. New members receive a membership card and a TWC sticker (Large or small—their choice).

***NOTE: Only members may use TWC carving tools!***

Instructors cover safety, basic knife cuts (stop, push, pare or pull, stab), gloves, thumb guard, types of knives, strops, strop compound, types of wood (where to buy, etc.), and advantages of being a TWC Club member (10% off at Klingspor Woodworking Shop, etc.).

---

## PROJECT #1 (material furnished) *Learning about the grain of the wood*

By working with the grain training “wave” the student learns how the grain affects carving. After receiving directions, student completes project to the satisfaction of the instructor. Student takes completed project home.

---

## PROJECT #2 (material furnished) *Carving the mushroom.* Student uses his/her imagination (or looks at book images) to carve a simple mushroom from a rectangular block. Instructor teaches student how to correctly strop a knife using the Dunkle Strop and Dunkle compound and guides student on the best way to start the carving. Student works on mushroom in class, but can take the project home and continue to work on it until the next session.

Student continues to work on the mushroom until completed and passes approval of instructor. Once completed and approved, student moves onto next project.

---

---

**PROJECT #3 (material furnished)**

***Carving a Star.***

After receiving directions from the instructor, student marks guide lines on carving media [Basswood in this case]. Instructor guides student through each step and insures accuracy after each step. Upon completion, instructor covers painting or finishing techniques.

---

**PROJECT #4 (material furnished)**

***Learn to carve a Comfort Bird.***

After receiving directions, student begins the comfort bird project. Instructor monitors carving of the bird and offers advice and answers questions as requested.

[NOTE: *Completed comfort birds may be kept by student or donated to Ronald McDonald House via Carol Adair. There is no charge for material if the student donates finished projects to the Ronald McDonald House; however, additional Comfort Bird blanks for personal use are \$3 each payable to the Treasurer*]

Student continues to work on the comfort bird until completed and passes approval of instructor. Once completed and approved, student moves onto next project.

---

**PROJECT #5 (material furnished)**

***Learn to carve a cowboy boot.***

After receiving directions, student begins the cowboy boot project. Instructor monitors carving of the boot and offers advice and answers questions as requested. [Hint: The boot may be used as a toothpick or stick match holder]

Student continues to work on the cowboy boot until completed and passes approval of instructor. Once completed and approved, student has finished the five (5) basic TWC teaching projects. New member can then select another project from the suggested list below (or another of his/her choice).

---

***New members are encouraged to make a name tag. Tag blanks and magnets are available free upon request and may be made either before, or during, the carving projects.***

### \*\*\* Suggested additional carving projects might include: \*\*\*

[Basswood is usually available for purchase from the Club for most projects]

- *Carving a Simple Santa.* Instructor explains how to mark the wood and begin the carving project. This is one of the simplest Santa's and is highly recommended as your first carved Santa. Instructions are also provided on the Club website, *triadwoodcarvers.com*.
- *Carving an Angel of Hope (material charge—free if donated to the Ronald McDonald Project).* Cut outs are available from Triad Woodcarvers inventory.
- *Carving a Love Spoon [Club gouges are available for use on this project].* Instructor explains the origin of the love spoon and shows examples of different types. Usually blanks are provided at a nominal cost by the instructor. After receiving directions from the instructor, student selects a spoon pattern and transfers that to the carving media [Basswood in this case]. Instructor guides student through each step and insures accuracy. [INSTRUCTORS: *Vince and Ruth McHenry*]
- *Carving the Perfect Ball.* After receiving directions on the principles of carving a ball from a square piece of Basswood, student learns to follow the basic step-by-step example blocks. Instructor guides student through each step and insures accuracy after each step. Upon completion, instructor tests roundness by rolling ball down the table. [INSTRUCTORS: *Tim Trudgeon, Tom Mock*]
- *Chip Carving Project.* After receiving directions on the principles of Chip Carving, student learns to select a suitable pattern and transfer it to a media such as Basswood. Instructor discusses the types of knives used and the holding techniques. Instructor monitors project and offers advice and answers questions as requested. [INSTRUCTOR: *Allie Hutchison.*]

- *Carving a Santa (From a triangular block)*. This is a more difficult Santa and requires close supervision by the instructor. A triangular block of wood is usually readily available at a nominal cost from Triad Woodcarvers inventory.

[INSTRUCTORS: *Tim Trudgeon, Tom Mock, Charles Griffin*]

- *Other Suggested Ideas*

1. Carving a Wood Spirit
2. Carving a hiking stick
3. Carving an 8 or 12 point star
4. Carving a small chain
5. Carving jewelry
6. Carving a pumpkin with a face
7. Carving a simple bear
8. Carving a simple owl
9. Carving a frog or toad
10. Carving a snowman
11. Carving a simple fish and using the burning tool to make the scales

I'm sure there are many others that could be listed. Instructors need to be available if possible at every meeting to offer assistance to new carvers. Our library is a great source of carving ideas—books may be checked out and returned via the “sign-out” booklet located in the library.