

# Prairie Canada News

December 2008

## Workshops Aplenty

### Championship Workshop Overview

Carvers interested in taking a Prairie Canada Carving Championship workshop or seminar are encouraged to enroll early as space is limited and workshops are expected to fill up quickly. Herbert, Hajny and Robblee workshop/seminar fees and completed forms must be sent to Doug Danell— see registration form. Drechsler fees must be paid to Lee Valley Tools starting February 5— see registration form. A copy of the form is enclosed in this newsletter or can be downloaded from [www.prairiecanadacarvers.com](http://www.prairiecanadacarvers.com). Please note that Herbert and Hajny workshop dates shown in the rules forms circulated in early October were in error. Our apologies for the mistake— see correct dates below. *The fish seminar offered by Carl Robblee as outlined in this newsletter is a new feature that was organized to afford carvers an opportunity to hone their carving/painting skills. All fees include the cost of materials. All registered carvers will receive further instructions and a list of required supplies.*

### Desiree Hajny- Grizzly Bear Sow and Cub Carving Workshop

**Fee: \$265 Times and dates:** 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; March 17 to 20, 2009

**Location:** Place Des Meurons, 400 Des Meurons Street, Winnipeg

Using knives and gouges, workshop participants will carve a 12 inch grizzly bear sow and cub. Throughout the four day workshop students will 1) develop an understanding of bear anatomy and learn how to transfer bear shape to a carving and 2) learn how to carve, texture, wood burn and paint a piece. Each of the steps will be demonstrated by Desiree along the way. The workshop is geared for carvers who have intermediate to advanced carving skills. Advanced beginners would also find the workshop rewarding.



Desiree Hajny is regarded as one of North America's finest three-dimensional realistic animal carvers. She has authored six books on carving animals and is a regular contributor to most of the North America carving magazines. She was voted the 2003 "Woodcarver of the Year" by *Woodcarving Illustrated Magazine* and has exhibited her work nationally and internationally. As of 2005 she has won 17 Best of Show honors, more than 75 first place awards and six People's Choice awards. Desiree and Bernie Hajny reside in Blue Hill, Nebraska. Desiree and Bernie will be making a special illustrated presentation at the Saturday night awards banquet on her animal carvings featured at the new Animal Kingdom Theme Park at Disney World.

**Grizzly bear workshop accommodations:** Out of town carvers may wish to stay at the nearby Travelodge Winnipeg East Motel for the discounted rate of \$ 82.99 a day. To achieve this rate carvers must book a room by March 1 and reference Prairie Canada Carvers. Call toll free 1-877-991-4440 or 204- 255-6000 . The motel is located off Fermor Avenue on 20 Alpine Avenue, Winnipeg.

### Competition/Workshop Accommodation Bookings

The 2009 Prairie Canada Carving Championship will be held at the Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, March 21 to 22, 2009. To book a room call (204) 786-4801; toll free 1-877-842-4667 ([www.vicinn.com](http://www.vicinn.com)). A bank of rooms will be held in the name of Prairie Canada Carvers for the discounted rate of \$109 per evening up until February 20. Please reference Prairie Canada Carvers when booking a room.

**Prairie Canada Carvers' Association: [www.prairiecanadacarvers.com](http://www.prairiecanadacarvers.com)**

## Del Herbert– Rudy Turnstone Airbrushing Workshop

**Fee \$265 Times and Dates:** 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; March 18 to 20, 2009

**Location:** Artists Emporium, 1610 St. James Street, Winnipeg

The three day workshop will begin with a discussion on developing patterns. Students will then finish carve, seal and set eyes in a rough-shaped blank. The next two days will be spent painting the piece—encompassing sessions on colour theory, formulating a paint scheme, mixing colours, feather layout, and finishing techniques using brushes and an airbrush. Students taking the course should have a modest level of skill in working an airbrush. Artists Emporium can supply a limited number of airbrushes, but students with airbrushes should bring their own.



Del Herbert is considered by many north American bird carvers to have pioneered the use of an airbrush in painting carvings, especially shorebirds and service class decoys. Del began competing in wildlife art shows in 1985 and since then has won over 200 blue ribbons, 75 Best of Show awards and the 1998 World Championship Shooting Rig. His 1999 rig of three Aleutian geese has been juried into the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institution and is currently on display in the Donald Reynolds Centre for American Art.

Del is a regular contributor to *Wildfowl Carving Magazine* and has produced for sale a set of DVD's on carving and painting an American avocet. Del resides in Chula Vista, California with his wife and travels the continent offering workshops.



Rudy turnstone workshop steps

## Dennis Drechsler– Killer Whale Carving Workshop

**Fee \$275 (plusGST) Times and Dates:** 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; March 23 to 25, 2009

**Location:** Lee Valley Tools, 100-1398 Ellice, Winnipeg

Workshop participants in three days will power carve and paint a 12 inch male killer whale. The piece will be painted with brushes and an airbrush (on the saddle of the whale). The painting of the saddle is very basic (no experience required) and can be accomplished with one or two class airbrushes. *Participants must register for this workshop through Lee Valley Tools-workshop programs after February 5, 2009. Contact Jill at 204-779-7467.* The fee includes lunch for each of the three days.



Dennis Drechsler is a professional woodcarver who specializes in whales, sharks and dolphins. Dennis is one of Canada's foremost marine mammal woodcarvers and has won numerous ribbons and six Best of Show awards for his realistic depiction of Cetaceans in competitions throughout the Pacific Northwest. His carving of a gray whale mother and calf won a best in division for aquatic vertebrates at the Ward World Championship in Ocean City in 2000. His work has also been exhibited in wildlife galleries in Victoria, Duncan and Ottawa. Dennis has written articles for several national carving magazines and offers regular carving courses in colleges and schools in Alberta and British Columbia.

Dennis and his wife live in Victoria, British Columbia.



Male Killer Whale (Orca) workshop piece

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## 2009 Purchase Awards- see rules form for full details

**Dremel:** Dremel Tools is offering a \$500 purchase award for the best realistic miniature timber wolf (s) carving.

**Oak Hammock Marsh Conservation Centre:** OHM is offering a \$1,000 purchase award for the best traditional floating hunting decoy rig of 3 birds of any species or combination of species.

**James Richardson Antique Duck Decoy:** James Richardson is offering a \$500 purchase award for the best antique style working duck decoy. The carving must be a wooden duck decoy, carved in the traditional gunning style and finished with oil paint.

**Best of Show Slick (B.O.S.S.) Purchase Award:** Morgan Whiteway is offering a \$500 purchase award for the BOSS working wood duck hen decoy. The carving must meet all the criteria of a working decoy (Division D).

**Ross Gage Shorebird:** Ross Gage Investment Counsel is offering a \$200 purchase award for the best working shorebird.

## 2009 Carving Association Awards

**Les Gens de Bois** is once again offering a \$200 prize to the carver whose carving was selected by ballot under the People's Choice Award.

### *New -Carvers Choice Award*

**Adanac Carvers Association** is offering for the first time a \$200 prize to the best human or animal **Caricature** carving selected by ballot by 2009 show competitors. Caricatures fall under Category 2 of Division H and I of the rules form.



## *New Seminar Offering*

### Carl Robblee– Fish Carving Seminar

**Cost \$30 Times and Dates:** 9:00 am to noon; Sunday, March 22, 2009

**Location:** Regency Room, Victoria Inn, Winnipeg



The seminar is designed to cover the various aspect of carving a fish, including composition, anatomic details and fin positioning. It will also highlight areas where fish carvers make mistakes and include demonstrations of award winning carving techniques. The seminar will appeal to beginner and expert carvers.

Carl Robblee has been carving for 20 years and has won a number of Best of Show awards at PCCA and a Best Overall Carving Award at the Wheat City Carving Show. Carl is a professional taxidermist and resides in Swan River, Manitoba.



2008 PCCA 1st Best of Show, Open Division trout carving by Carl Robblee

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 John Frye  
 Prabir Mitra  
 Jean Mousseau  
 Ted Muir  
 Shawn Nicol  
 Tom Park  
 Earl Quesnel  
 Bonnie Trodden  
 Don Young

## 2009 Carving Workshops/Competitions

**Bill Palmer: Joseph Lincoln style wood duck drake decoy carving workshop**– 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, January 21 to 22 at the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre. If needed, the class can run an additional day on the 24th.

The workshop fee (taxes included) is \$125 for Oak Hammock Marsh Carving Guild members; \$150 for non-members. A shop fee of \$35 will be charged to cover the cost of the blank, eyes and painting supplies. Register with Bill Palmer at 488-7619 or contact wing-bang@mts.net. Class size is limited to 12.



An interpretation of the Joseph Lincoln decoy that was sold at an auction for \$400,000 (US)- the highest price paid for an antique decoy. Joseph resided in Accord, Massachusetts and carved the piece in the early 1930's.

**Dr. Frank Baldwin: Cork Decoy Carving Workshops**- 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre. The workshop fee is \$65 (plus GST) for interpretive centre members and \$70 (plus GST) for non-members. Registration and payment is required seven days in advance of each workshop. Register early as class size is limited – call the Centre at 467-3300 to register. All materials supplied as part of the fee.



Cackling goose cork decoy

**Cackling Goose Workshop**-Sundays; January 18, 25 and February 1, 2009

**Ross' Goose Workshop**-Sundays; March 1, 8 & 15, 2009



**10th Annual Woodcarvers Weekend**– May 1-3, 2009 at St. John's College , University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. Retreat style wood-working classes with a variety of instructors from Canada and USA. College residences r motel rooms available. Contact Rick or Cathie Brereton at P.O> Box 2153, Lac Du Bonnet, Manitoba, R0E 1A0. Telephone-294-6020 or rebrereton@gmail.com

**4th Annual Wheat City Carvers Show and Competition**– April 11 &12, 2009 at the Royal Oak Inn in Brandon, Manitoba. Contact Fred Warburton at 204-727-8054 , #4, 1414-8th Street, Brandon , R7A 3Z7 or fhnotrubraw@westman.wave.ca

### Message from PCCA Chairperson– Ted Muir

The fact that the chairperson's message is squeezed into a smidgeon of space in a robust newsletter is surely the sign of a healthy active organization. In the space that is available I want to thank our directors for their outstanding service in organizing our 23 annual carving competition. I am pleased to welcome Tom Park back to the director's fold after a brief absence – check out his habitat piece in the Winter 09 issue of *Wildfowl Carving Magazine*.. As an aside Prairie Canada will be profiled again in the annual *Competition Magazine* expected in January 2009. I thank Adanac for sponsoring a \$200 carver's choice award fro the best show caricature carving. Accolades go out to Dave Koss (standing in photo along with Shawn Nicol) and his volunteers who promote carving and sell tickets most weekends at Cabela's and Lee Valley– Prabir Mitra, Larry Vanderhyde, Earl Quesnel, Bill Palmer, Doug Danell, Jean Mousseau, Bonnie Trodden, Wes Tully, Don Young, Rose Gerbasi, Al Whitfield, John Cruickshank, Gary Petriw, Larry Legrange and Larry Gwiadza. Contact Dave at dkoss@escape.ca to offer help at the Winnipeg Boat Show from February 26 to March 1, 2009.

