

Southwest Woodcarver's Association, Inc

April 2019 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM. Jo presented the Treasurer's Report.

Julian (Sonny) Martinez arrived as a guest but immediately became a member. He was welcomed as a club member.

There was no Board of Directors meeting this month because there was not a quorum present, therefore no BOD report.

Susan Kleismit gave the Health and Welfare Report. Bill Milligan is doing well and was present for a short period of time. Jerry and Karen Berg are both doing well on their treatments.

Friendship cane raffle tickets went on sale today. Tickets are \$5.00 each or five (5) tickets for \$20.00. It was announced tickets can be purchased from Jerry Berg (not present today), Jo Mize and Bill Mize. The winner of the Friendship Cane will be announced at our annual Christmas Party. Contributors to the Friendship Cane are (from bottom to top) Bottom) Jerry Berg, Boot – the foundation; Tricia Jennings, Eagle Head; Jo Mize, Chip Caved Square; B&B Sorenson, 4 Faces; Mark Erickson, SWA Cube; Doug Raine, Pumpkin; Joan Eerkes, Wold Head; Bob Ratterman, Light Bulb; Susan Kleismit, Weaved Stitches; Jerry Berg, Toothless; Gary Mims, Chip Carved Rose; Judith Thompson, Animals; Karen Berg, Owl; B&B Sorenson, Squatie Guy; Tricia Jennings, Turtle; Anonymous (carver's identity was requested, Old Gray Haired Guy; Anonymous, 4 Faces (Tall); and WC Mize, Jr., 8 Ball.

Mark Erickson gave the presentation of the VA Cane Project. He had an example of an eagle head mounted on a staff competed by Tricia Jennings. It was announced Lynn Smith will take the staff, complete necessary pre-finish work and apply a finish.

Brad handed out the packets for participants for the Pima County Fair and explained the contents, stressing to utilize the pink parking ticket. Use Brekke Road entrance when entering the fair grounds. We will be located in the Old Pueblo Hall Brad announced there will be People's Choice voting and solicited entries. He stated he is willing to transport entries to and from the fair and is willing to accept entries up to Saturday, 20 April 2019.

The Desert Woodcarver's Show only expense to the club was \$50.00 for two (2) club tables. Everyone was thanked for their support for this event.

People's Choice Show, Sale, Awards, & Demonstrations after action report:

What Went Well?

1) Arrangements:

- a) The new arrangement was well laid out.
- b) Inside tables afforded ample space for setup.
- c) Arrangement allowed for excellent foot traffic by customers.
- d) Specific demonstration table was well placed, allowed ample space for viewers, and did not interfere with customer foot traffic.
- e) Having a published Schedule of Demonstrations alerted the public to what demonstration was taking place, and at what specific time. This encouraged customers to ask questions and stay and watch if they chose to do so.

2) Having access for early set up was a plus.

3) Monitoring occasional visitor's conversations revealed nothing but positive comments.

What Could Be Improved?

1) Signage: We need to start early with developing additional signs and develop a strategic plan for placement, depending upon Saddlebrooke guidelines

2) Awards:

a) Not being fully aware of past policies and procedures concerning the casting of ballots proved to provide a challenge this year.

b) People's Choice Competition Entry Forms have already been revised to include whether the entry is for sale or not.

c) Entry Identification Cards have been developed to be placed with the entry when placed on tables. This cards also indicate if the entry is for sale or not.

d) Entry numbering has been simplified.

e) Categories have been reduced to six (6). **Remember**, this is a people's choice selection, entries are not being professionally judged here!

f) Having a minimum of two (2) people handing out ballots in the awards room. This can be a problem when no-one volunteers to help man the awards room.

g) Have a minimum of two (2) people counting ballots. This can also be a challenge when less people volunteer than what can be properly utilized.

h) Designated category signs were found after the show. They will be utilized for future events. Different colored table cloths will also be utilized to help separate and identify categories

3) Paid advertising is cost prohibitive. This is why non-local (outside Saddlebrooke) advertising was not utilized.

4) I did mail out Public Service Announcements (PSA's) requests to every media outlet in Tucson, Benson, Douglas, Sierra Vista, and Casa Grande. The problem with PSA's is the media is not compelled to announce them and if they do, non-profit unpaid announcements like this will usually never receive prime-time coverage.

5) Information as to the locations where SWA members can purchase food and beverages.

6) Having early access to People's Choice Competition Entry Forms might encourage more entries.

7) Allowing SWA member to complete their People's Choice Competition Entry Forms and packaging entries for transportation to and from Saddlebrooke might also encourage more participation. The only potential down side to this is the People's Choice Competition Entry Form and packaging would need to be completed and ready for transport at the meeting just prior to the scheduled People's Choice Show, Sale, Awards, & Demonstration event.

8) Provide a sign for the entrance door for the awards room.

People's Choice Show, Sale, Awards, & Demonstrations income and expense report: Income was reported as \$368.00, expenses reported at \$272.81, with a net profit of \$95.19. The fact blue and white lapel pins would most likely need to be ordered before the 2020 People's Choice Show, Sale, Awards, & Demonstrations event at an approximate cost of \$350.00 was presented.

7 March 2020 was announced as the date for the 2020 People's Choice Show, Sale, Awards, & Demonstrations event. Access to the awards room will be provided at noon on 6 March 2020.

The club thanked Mark Erickson for refreshments. Doug Raine was thanked for he letter opener class and had 10 attendees. Betty Ferrari oversaw the Club Raffle this month.

Relocation: It was announced the Point of Contact (POC) for VTAT does not have authority to fulfill verbal arrangements initially offered. It was pointed out the contract they provided does not

necessarily protect our club. In light of this information we will be staying at our current location. A general request for suggested locations was announced with the idea we cannot exceed our current budget, \$50.00 per meeting. Members were encouraged to provide their input as to the feasibility of their suggestion with an in-depth survey to be conducted by Jack Erickson and Bill Mize. Our new sponsor, Cheryl, is very aggressive on our part and issues with a storage area seem to have been resolved. THE BOTTOM LINE – we will be staying at Rincon.

Volunteer Opportunities:

We had a club member step up to volunteer to be the Club Raffle Coordinator. Their identity will be announced next month at the meeting.

A Refreshments Coordinator to recruit volunteers for every meeting, whose job would be to provide snacks of their choice and make the coffee (supplies provided), then clean up at the end of the meeting and store supplies properly.

Sign up sheets were on the front table for several events and opportunities. Please check them out and be generous with your time. We still need a chairperson for Pumpkin Carving and helpers for the club Christmas Party. Betty officially signed up to do the Christmas party again.

Show and Tell brought boxes by Gary Mims and carvings of a scarecrow, pirate, and seaman by Tom Hewitt; “Joy” Christmas ornament and bark carving by Dick Minch (Dick was thanked for his excellent services in assisting with the sale of raffle tickets at Saddlebrooke.); and various mini bark carving by Bud Chamberlain. Bill announced we have some potential People's Choice entries for the fair and Saddlebrooke 2020.

50/50 winner was Feliza Williams.

Raffle items were won by: Sally Jones (bucket tool carrier); Rich Yeager (basswood); Feliza Williams (soap stone carving kit); Gary Mims (knife); and Bill Stovall (gouge and stylist)

The meeting was adjourned at about 12:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Bill & Jo Mize, acting secretaries