



## KAW CARVER

KAW VALLEY WOODCARVERS  
PO Box 19125, Topeka, KS 66619

### **NOTE our new mailing address above**

Our mission is to provide education to our members and to increase public awareness of the various aspects of woodcarving and its importance in art history.

Issue 515

December 2025

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Meetings and carve-outs will be held from 9 am – 3 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month.

Our meeting location is the IBEW # 226 1620 NW Gage Blvd Topeka, 66618

Visit us at our website: [www.kawvalleywoodcarvers.org](http://www.kawvalleywoodcarvers.org)

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**KVW Club Calendar** In accordance with state and local guidelines, KVW activities may be modified.  
Please watch your email for updates or call if you have questions.

#### **CARVE OUTS**

#### **SEMINARS**

#### **MEETINGS**

#### **ACTIVITIES**

January 10, 2026 – Carve Out  
and Monthly Meeting

9 am – 3 pm Carve various ornaments donated by  
Chris Whillock

February 14, 2026 – Carve Out  
and Monthly Meeting

9 am – 3 pm To be determined

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**Seminars:** All seminars run from 9am until 5pm daily, unless announced otherwise. All questions about seminars should be directed to Wilbur Coffee at 785-587-4903. Registration forms can be found on the website at [www.kawvalleywoodcarvers.org](http://www.kawvalleywoodcarvers.org). You **must** submit a registration form and a \$20 deposit before you are registered in a class. Seminars are held in the same location as our meetings.

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**Carve-out notes:** When participating in club carving activities and events we ask that you wear a carving glove. Our insurance will not cover an accident if you are not wearing one.

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**NOTE:** ALL carve-outs and seminars are subject to cancellation by the club or our hosting artist. If this occurs, the deposits/payments will be returned.

As a valued member, your opinions, ideas and input are very important to the club. Participate in a meeting or contact a board or committee member with your thoughts and ideas.

## **KVW Minutes of December 13, 2025**

**Meeting called to order by President** Wilbur Coffee. Those present: Wilbur Coffee, Sue Bergman, Lori and Kaylee Hammond, Steve Bietau, Larry Booe, Kathryn Hudgins, Grandin and Krishna Khemraj, Krista and Joe Probst, Don Whisler, Robbie Rosas, John Reynolds, Gary Meyer, Dan Balocco, Don Whalen, Odgers Family (Jarvis, Jebel, Elden, Arlo and Kalmon), and Linda Benson.

**Membership:** The Odgers family joined our club today, so we now have 34 memberships. We're growing!

**Treasurer:** The Show Financial Report had been distributed on December 1<sup>st</sup> with a total revenue of \$2,964 for our 1-day show compared with \$1,119 from last year's 2-day show. Current bank balance is \$7,850.13.

**Sheltered Living Tree:** Our tree sold for \$225 and it was just a 4 ft tree, so it did well. John requested reimbursement of \$121.70 for his costs of tree, etc. It was moved, seconded and passed. Thanks, John, for your leadership! We need to pick a theme for our 2026 tree, so we can begin working on the ornaments. Hopefully, that decision can be made during the January meeting. **Also, we need someone to chair this project.** John is looking to spend more of his time on classes in NOTO this year.

**Carve Outs:** Sue Bergman's Christmas tree ornament/decoration carve-out today was well received and several folks completed theirs. In January, we plan to work on a variety of ornament blanks that Chris Whillock donated to our club during the show. He was our tool vendor and he very generously gave away blanks to get people started in this art form.

**Seminars:** John Engler offered several dates for his 3-day carving class that's normally in May, but he has a conflict this year. It was moved, seconded and passed to have him here April 24-26. Wilbur Coffee will ask John what his price is this year and post the registration form on our website in January. Possible other seminars: Van Kelly roughouts and a Pyrography (woodburning) class.

**Kaw Valley Woodcarver Show:** Our show was a success on many levels: financial, attendance, new members and evaluation ratings of Excellent to Good by exhibitors. Areas where we could improve include: different method of moving tables; ring a bell before announcements to get attention; include meeting time and location on membership detachable form; move photographer table to the right of the stage to increase volume of PA system; on judging schedule, remove times, so it could move along quicker; for the silent auction, post instructions for newcomers; and some people didn't have cash to get in. There was discussion on getting a card reader, but club decided to advertise the show as "cash only event".

**Show and Tell:** Dan Balocca brought some soap carving tools he fashioned from tongue depressors.

**Please pay your membership fee of \$20.00 for a family by April 1<sup>st</sup> to continue receiving our newsletter. And come enjoy the happy group of woodcarvers each 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.....9:00 to 10:00 meeting and carving until 3:00 p.m. Some days we are quiet, others we are noisy. Help us out—we would love to see your happy faces with ours.**

**Next Meeting: January 10, 2026**

**Meeting adjourned**

Linda Benson, Acting Secretary

## Elected Officers

President -- Wilbur Coffee  
Vice President -- John Reynolds  
Secretary -- Carol Beck  
Treasurer -- Linda Benson

## Committee Chairpersons

Annual Show -- Wilbur Coffee  
Carve Outs -- Members Input  
Festival of Trees -- John Reynolds  
Group Emails -- Linda Benson  
Membership -- Linda Benson  
Newsletter -- Linda Benson  
Seminars -- Wilbur Coffee

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Kaw Valley Woodcarvers is an equal opportunity organization committed to the principle of equal opportunity in education and participation for all. This organization does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, age, national origin, or disability in admissions policies, educational opportunities, programs, and activities. Respect for the dignity and worth of others are the guiding principles for our relations with each other. Kaw Valley Woodcarvers is a 501 C-3 tax exempt organization.

Please support our Vendors whenever you can this year. They have been here for us. Consider placing an order or two with them through these tough times! Thank you!!

George Bledsoe    Loess Hills Sawmill  
Email: [loesshillssawmill@hotmail.com](mailto:loesshillssawmill@hotmail.com)

Ask about possible discount on orders  
Phone: (712) 310-4154

Van Kelly's Carvings / Carving Roughouts    <https://www.vankellycarvings.com>    Phone: (417) 844-0613