



## 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 513

October 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.

| <b><u>CARVE OUTS</u></b>                     | <b><u>SEMINARS</u></b> | <b><u>MEETINGS</u></b>                      | <b><u>ACTIVITIES</u></b> |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| October 29 - 30, 2025                        | 9 am – 5 pm            | John Engler painting seminar - \$75 per day |                          |
| Nov. 8, 2025 – Carve Out and Monthly Meeting | 9 am – 3 pm            | Finalize Show Plans/Decorate Tree           |                          |
| November 22, 2025                            | 9 am – 5 pm            | Annual Show and Sale                        |                          |

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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 October 11, 2025**

**Meeting called to order by President** Wilbur Coffee. Those present: Wilbur Coffee, Sue Bergman, Don Whalen, Linda Benson, Janet Hopkins, Gary Meyer, Darla Stewart & Brodie, John Reynolds, Kaylee and Lori Hammond, and Paul Hund.

**Membership:** 26 paid members.

**Treasurer:** Money deposited was \$1,112; a payment of \$700 to Sue Berman for seminar and \$25 to IBEW for Bergman seminar.

**Sheltered Living Tree:** The tree topper is being completed by John Reynolds. He is looking for a tree to purchase and he has the skirt. Numerous ornaments have been completed. The stars still need to be drilled and painted before assembling with the beads for the garland. He registered our tree as a "Star Studded Traditional Christmas Tree". John will add "wood burned" to the tree description in the contract which needs to be delivered by October 20, and the decorated 4' tree is expected at the Fairlawn Mall on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Gary Meyer will help John deliver the tree that morning. Wilbur Coffee suggested we sell any ornaments that don't fit on the tree.

**Carve Outs:** Sue Bergman will lead a Christmas tree carve out in December that could be appropriate for beginners. Plan to showcase it at the show to encourage new carvers to attend to try out carving.

**Seminars:** Sue Bergman's bark carving seminar was a success with 10 carvers. (See photo below) John Engler's painting class will be on a Wednesday and Thursday this year on October 29 and 30. Currently, there's 10 enrolled. We will need to have table coverings for this seminar to protect tables from paint.

Future seminars: John Engler in May 2026 and Van Kelley has indicated he would return for a seminar.

**Kaw Valley Woodcarver Show:** Janet Hopkins will obtain hot dogs and buns, buns for pulled pork, chips, cookies, coffee and condiments for the rest of the meal offerings except the pop and water. Carol Beck will get the pop and water from Sam's. Linda Benson is donating brownies to sell at the show. The menu prices were approved and Kaylee Hammond will create a menu sign.

We will be able to set up the tables in the hall around 3:00 on Friday afternoon the 21<sup>st</sup> of November. Currently have 25 exhibiting tables. Lori Hammond is in charge of the Silent Auction table and will provide the bidding sheets. Bring in donations on Friday evening so that she can get them organized. John Reynolds is going to get with Linda Benson in November to discuss pricing on items recently donated to the club.

Need to have judging schedule and entry forms for each exhibitor table. Randy Landon will be our judge. Wilbur Coffee will create the name inserts for each exhibitor's table and Linda Benson will create name tags for each KVW member. Amy Miller has agreed to be our photographer again for the show.

Linda Benson put the raffle packets together for everyone and distributed them to members present and mailed the others. The raffle prize is a beautifully carved box donated by Georges Boujakly.

Wilbur Coffee and Carol Beck will be on WIBW on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 and on KSNT/FOX on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Eight yard signs need to be updated with current show date.

Don Whalen said Brewster is allowing a bus to bring up to 20 people to our show. In exchange, Brewster is inviting us to attend their bazaar in the Evergreen Bldg. on November 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 4.

We will set up a memorial table for Jim Beck 12-17-2024; Gary Lady 1-2025; and Nelson Pratt 7-4-2025. David Butts will contact Nelson's widow for some of his carvings. Linda Benson will ask Carol Beck if she would take responsibility for setting up the Memorial table.

Setting up tables on Friday: Wilbur Coffee, Gary Meyer, George Steele & Paul Hund

Judging help: Bruce Coffman and Sue Bergman

Selling tools, Comfort birds and crosses & ornaments: Gary Meyers

Kitchen: Kaylee Hammond and Don Whalen

Silent Auction: Lori Hammond

Admission table: Kari Benson and Janet Hopkins

Floater: Wilbur Coffee, Linda Benson, Paul Hund and John Reynolds

Extra table coverings are needed for admissions/raffle, memorial, tool/ornament selling.

**Please pay your membership fee of \$20.00 for a family 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.**

**Show and Tell:** Darla Stewart brought 3 softballs she had carved – a Christmas tree, a dog laying in a bed and a hollowed out container. She said she had to use a Dremel, because hand tools didn't work. Paul Hund brought a chip-carved star he'd just completed. Well done!

**Next Meeting: November 8, 2025**

**Motion to adjourn** was made by Janet Hopkins and seconded by Gary Meyer.

Janet Hopkins, 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

**Sue Bergman Bark Carving Seminar 9/28/25**

