

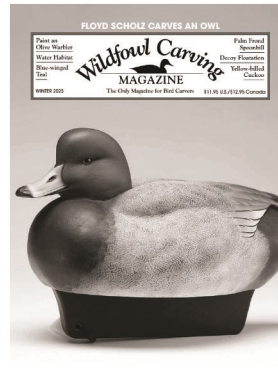
Wildfowl Carving MAGAZINE

The Ultimate Resource for Wildfowl Carvers!

Decoys, songbirds, raptors—WILDFOWL CARVING MAGAZINE covers them all. Don't miss the opportunity to subscribe to the first and only magazine devoted exclusively to bird carving.

Here's just a sampling of the information you'll get in every issue:

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- Exclusive patterns
- In-depth reference material
- Detailed painting instructions



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SPECIAL OFFER FOR IWCA MEMBERS

Get a subscription for only \$29.95 USD. That's 42% off the newsstand price of \$51.80 USD. To take advantage of this offer, call our toll-free numbers: (877) 762-8034 (U.S.) or (866) 375-7257 (Canada).

Give the code IWCA23, or order online at www.Wildfowl-Carving.com/IWCA23

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INTERNATIONAL WILDFOWL CARVERS ASSOCIATION



2023 IWCA

**RULES
SHOWS
PROGRAMS
DIRECTORS
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

History of IWCA

International Wildfowl Carvers Association, better known as IWCA, is the outgrowth of a group of carvers from all parts of the country who met in 1986 to find a way to establish competition rules and procedures that would be uniformly fair for all carvers.

The organization was officially formed in 1988 with a mission to promote development of wildlife art and the uniquely American art of the decoy. In 1999, the rules were expanded to include fish carving. In 2001, canvas decoy rules were added and in 2002, working decoy rules were adopted. In 2007 an IWCA Style Shorebird Championship was added and in 2009, the first IWCA Young Guns Championship was held. In 2016, the IWCA passed rules for a new Division, Working Shorebirds.

The goals of the IWCA continue to be:

- ♦ **Maintenance of uniform standards, procedures and records.**
- ♦ **Support of carving competitions for wildfowl and fish.**
- ♦ **Development of educational programs related to wildfowl and fish art.**

For the better part of a quarter century the IWCA has been a defining force in the wildfowl carving world. With the goal of a dynamic set of IWCA Guidelines & Rules reached, the IWCA continues its dedication to the promotion of wildfowl carving through its various affiliate shows and sponsored events.

The IWCA also focuses on introducing new carvers to decoy and wildfowl carving, with an accent on youth, through its educational programs and grants.

Through the use of technology and the Internet, the IWCA is employing a new approach in management and communications to reduce operational costs and more effectively network with its membership.

Be sure and visit the IWCA website at www.iwfca.com for up-to-date news regarding the IWCA Affiliate Shows, IWCA Championship events, and Competition Rules. You will find competition results & winner photos, a carvers gallery, how-to articles, reference materials, and much more...

IWCA on the Web!

<http://IWFCFA.com>

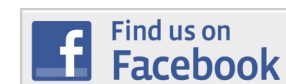
Check out the IWCA website showcasing our IWCA Affiliate Member Shows , show results, and show photos! The website is also filled with useful news and carving information. Much of what we post on the site comes from our affiliate member events and individual carvers.

Check out the IWCA's website to see what it has to offer.

The IWCA website includes features like these, just to name a few...

- ♦ **Photo Gallery** shares photos of carvings at various shows.
- ♦ **Gallery of Carvers** shares photos of carvings submitted by carvers.
- ♦ **How-To articles** on carving techniques and materials submitted by carvers.
- ♦ **Contest Rules** contains the latest version of all rules for various divisions along with judging guidelines.
- ♦ **Reference Gallery** contains photos of various species in a variety of poses.
- ♦ **Links** to other sites for carving supplies, other shows, and publications.

Check out the latest IWCA Show Results and IWCA News on the website. Be sure and submit your news, articles and your own carvings for display in the Gallery of Carvers and the Photo Gallery today!



<https://www.facebook.com/IWFCFA/>



2023

IWCA BOARD MEETINGS

Please check the website for more information regarding board meetings and their scheduled dates.

<http://IWCA.com>

IWCA President, **Monty Willis**, may be contacted at

**207 Harbor Drive
Morehead City, NC 28557**

**252-342-4150
willisdecoys@gmail.com**

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2023 Message from the President

I am very glad to report that all of the IWCA affiliate clubs were able to provide a place where our exhibitors, competitors and the crowds of supporters who attend year after year make it all possible.

It appears we are back in business for 2023 and look forward to another great year doing what we enjoy most.

There are a couple of issues that need to be addressed in reference to volunteers both at the club levels and as officers on the IWCA board. If you are available to help, you can contact me or the local club in your area, it will be greatly appreciated.

I urge carving competitors to continue supporting the IWCA Championships and the youth carvers of the future!

All in all I want to thank each of you that have continued to support the International Wildfowl Carvers Association throughout the years!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Reilly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

IWCA President

IWCA MISSION STATEMENT

The International Wildfowl Carvers Association is a 501 (c) (3) non profit charitable organization that promotes wildfowl and fish art including the art of traditional wildfowl carving.

IWCA GOALS

IWCA seeks to complete its mission through the following goals:

- ◆ Support of carving competitions for wildfowl and fish.
- ◆ Development of education programs related to wildfowl and fish art.
- ◆ Development of uniform standards, procedures and records keeping for carving competitions for wildfowl and fish.

IWCA MEMBERSHIP

1. Club membership \$250.00 annually.
2. Sponsor membership \$100.00 annually.
3. Individuals \$15.00 annually, \$60.00 for 5 years, and \$125.00 Life members.

Participants in all IWCA competition divisions MUST be current members. Dues are payable January 1st and are current through December 31st of each calendar year. Mail membership checks to:

**I.W.C.A., C/O Monty Willis
207 Harbor Drive
Morehead City, NC 28557**

The IWCA's Governing Body - The Board of Directors

The IWCA is run by and for carver members and shows. Each Affiliate Member Club provides one board member with one vote. Representatives from commercial ventures related to wildfowl and fish carving may also be invited to serve on the board as advisors.

Proposals and suggestions for change, new programs, or concerns, should be directed to Monty Willis at willisdecoys@gmail.com.

Membership updates and membership questions should be directed to Pam Morris at pamdmorris@coresound.com

IWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Chairman of the Board:

Bob Sutton

Posthumously

President:

Monty Willis

252-342-4150

207 Harbor Drive
Morehead City, NC 28557

willisdecoys@gmail.com

Vice President:

Gary De Cew

714-401-9234

722 S. Priscilla St.
Anaheim, CA 92806

grdecew@gmail.com

Secretary:

Pam Davis Morris

252-269-5020

PO Box 556
Harkers Island, NC 28531

pamdmorris@coresound.com

Treasurer:

Monty Willis (acting)

Membership:

Pam Davis Morris (acting)

252-269-5020

PO Box 556
Harkers Island, NC 28531

pamdmorris@coresound.com

IWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AFFILIATE MEMBER CLUBS

Catawba Valley Wood Carvers:

Alvin Woody

828-404-2825

1908 Sipe Road
Taylorsville, NC 28681

alvindwoody@yahoo.com

Core Sound Decoy Carvers Guild:

Davis Springle

252-342-9811

172 Ingram Road
Beaufort, NC 28516

adspringle@gmail.com

Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center:

Pam Davis Morris

252-269-5020

P. O. Box 556
Harkers Island, NC 28531

pamdmorris@coresound.com

Feather & Quill Carvers:

Randy Martin

503-351-3423

48140 SE Linhart Butte Rd.
Sandy, OR 97055

whatdoggersdo@gmail.com

Ohio Decoy Collectors & Carvers Association:

Brad Falkenburg

440-937-9113

1682 Pine Drive
Avon, Ohio 44011

bradfalkenburg@yahoo.com

Wildfowl Carving Championships

Laurie McNeil

952-913-1647

5549 Morningview Terrace
Minnetrista, MN 55364

contact@wildfowlcarvingchampionships.com

Wisconsin Waterfowl Association:

Bruce Urban

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8495 Van Dornick Rd.
Pulaski, WI 54162

burben@netnet.net

ADVISORY MEMBERS

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Minnetrista, MN 55364

iwfcaweb@gmail.com

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720-344-2460

3627 Serenade Road
Castle Rock, CO 80104

d.e.miller1@att.net

Industry Representative - Wildfowl Carving Magazine:

Mark Allison

847-51-6057

3400 Dundee Road
Northbrook, IL 60062

mallison@amprycp.com

2023 IWCA AFFILIATE MEMBER SHOWS

Ohio Decoy Collectors and Carvers Show

March 18-19, 2023

Contact: Jim Brace

E-Mail: bracedecoys@gmail.com

Independence, Ohio

513-477-8483

ODCCA.net

Wisconsin Waterfowl Association's Decoy Carving Competition and Exhibition

August 25-26, 2023

Contact: Bruce Urben

E-mail: burben@netnet.net

Oshkosh, Wisconsin

262-968-1722

WisDucks.org

Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show

September 22-24, 2023

Contact: Jerry Harris

E-Mail: grich912@aol.com

Astoria, Oregon

503-884-7905

columbiaflywaywildlifeshow.com

Catawba Valley Woodcarvers Show & Competition

October 20-21, 2023

Contact: Steve Robertson

E-mail: steverobertson29@gmail.com

Hickory, North Carolina

828-612-4716

catawbavalleywoodcarversclub.webs.com

Core Sound Decoy Festival

December 2-3, 2023

Contact: Davis Springle

E-Mail: adspringle@gmail.com

Harkers Island, North Carolina

252-342-9811

DecoyGuild.com

JOIN THE IWCA AFFILIATES TODAY!

Does your club or organization have a Wild fowl or Fish Carving related competition and show? If so we'd love to have you as an affiliate member...

Your show doesn't have to be big to be a BIG part of the IWCA. The benefits of membership outweigh the annual membership fee of \$250 and include:

- ◆ Current set of standardized rules for both Wildfowl and Fish Divisions
- ◆ IWCA membership mailing list
- ◆ An Affiliate Member position on the IWCA Board of Directors
- ◆ World-wide advertising in Wildfowl Carving Magazine
- ◆ IWCA website promotion including a webpage promoting your event, posting of show results and show photos
- ◆ Opportunities to host IWCA Championship events, including various awards
- ◆ Opportunities to apply for Educational Grants and Seminars

Grow Your Event As An IWCA Affiliate!

**Contact IWCA Membership - Pam Morris (acting)
pamdmorris@coresound.com**

2023 IWCA CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

2023 IWCA Style Shorebird Decoy Championship

Date: October 21, 2023

Location: Catawba Valley Woodcarvers Show & Competition, Hickory, NC

1st Best of Show - \$300

2nd Best of Show - \$200

3rd Best of Show - \$100

Contact: Steve Robertson

E-Mail: steverobertson29@gmail.com

Website: catawbavalleywoodcarversclub.webs.com

MAIL-INS ACCEPTED

2023 IWCA Young Guns Championship

Date: October 21, 2023

Location: Catawba Valley Woodcarvers Show & Competition, Hickory, NC

Contact: Steve Robertson

E-Mail: steverobertson29@gmail.com

Website: catawbavalleywoodcarversclub.webs.com

MAIL-INS ACCEPTED

.. Open to all carvers 17 years old and under.

.. **Three age Groups: 11 and under, 12-14, and 15-17**

.. Entries must be carved and painted by the entrant. Entries may be made of wood, cork, or stretched canvas.

.. Decoy Categories will be judged for simplicity, durability and practicality. No fragile parts. Decoys will be floated and must self-right except in the 11 and under group.

.. Bench Category will be judged as Decorative Non-floating including waterfowl, songbirds, shorebirds, birds of prey, game birds and fish. Habitat is not required.

.. Judges may not judge the carving of a student or relative.

There is NO pre-qualification required for the IWCA Style Decoy, the IWCA Working Decoy, the IWCA Style Shorebird Decoy, or the IWCA Canvas Decoy Championship Competitions.

Any IWCA member of all carving levels may enter.

2023 IWCA CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

2023 IWCA Style Decoy Championship

Date: September 22–24, 2023

Location: Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show, Astoria, OR

**1st Best of Show - \$300
2nd Best of Show - \$200
3rd Best of Show - \$100**

Contact: Randy Martin

E-Mail: whatdoggersdo@gmail.com

Website: ColumbiaFlywayWildlifeShow.com

MAIL-INS ACCEPTED

2023 IWCA Working Decoy Championship

Date: August 25–26, 2023

Location: Wisconsin Waterfowl Association's Decoy Carving Competition and Exhibition, Oshkosh, WI

**1st Best of Show - \$200
2nd Best of Show - \$100
3rd Best of Show - \$50**

Contact: Bruce Urben

E-Mail: burben@netnet.net

Website: WisDucks.org

MAIL-INS ACCEPTED

2023 IWCA Canvas Decoy Championship

Date: December 2-3, 2023

Location: Core Sound Decoy Festival

**1st Best of Show - \$200
2nd Best of Show - \$100
3rd Best of Show - \$50**

Contact: Davis Springle

E-Mail: adspringle@gmail.com

Website: DecoyGuild.com

MAIL-INS ACCEPTED

2023 IWCA CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

IWCA Novice & Intermediate Decorative Carver of the Year

Results are based on points accrued at IWCA Affiliate Shows from January 2023 through December 2023.

1. Novice and Intermediate Decorative Carver of the Year contests include all IWCA decorative divisions including fish.
2. Awards will be given for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place carvers with the highest cumulative points for entries in IWCA sanctioned shows.
3. The highest number of points an entry wins in each show will be recorded.
4. Points will be awarded as follows:

Best of Show 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (40, 35, 30 points)
Category 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (20, 15, 10 points)

5. **Carver must be a paid IWCA member at the time of entry to be awarded points.**
6. The IWCA decorative rules will apply when judging.
7. The official show results from each IWCA show will be used to compile the points awarded.

**The 2023 IWCA Novice & Intermediate
Decorative Carver of the Year Awards
will be announced in January 2024
on iwca.com**

YOUTH INSTRUCTOR GRANTS

Individual member donations have allowed the IWCA to provide Youth Instructor Grants annually. These grants are intended to help underwrite the cost of providing carving and painting instruction to our youth. Successful applicants will receive up to \$200.

For more information
Contact Monty Willis
willisdecoys@gmail.com
252-342-4150

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

The IWCA provides funding for three total seminars annually. Affiliate Member Clubs may apply for funding: one seminar per year, not to exceed \$200. Funded seminars must be FREE to participants.

Seminars may include carving (wood, cork, other materials) and painting techniques.

For more information
Contact Monty Willis
willisdecoys@gmail.com
252-342-4150

**The IWCA is grateful to its
Sponsors, Donors, and Supporters
for enabling the fulfillment
of our mission in 2023.**

Sponsors (\$200 or More)

Donors (\$100 -\$199)

Supporters (Up to \$99)

*Glenn Alexander
Edward Bednar
Thomas Plummer*

YOUNG GUNS DONORS

*Randy Dunbar
Charles W. Ray*

THANK YOU!

IWCA One Thousand Dollar Club

In 2011, the IWCA established the "One Thousand Dollar Club", for those members who might consider contributing in a bigger way.

The IWCA is very much in need of funds so it may continue offering the programs which have become so popular amongst carvers over the decades. The "One Thousand Dollar Club" is a way to support the art form you have enjoyed and benefited from over the years.

This is how it works. You can make a one-time donation of \$1,000, or you can make a commitment to reach the goal of \$1000 in contributions within a given number of years within your own timetable. Whether it is a one-time contribution or a incremental donation over time, the IWCA is so grateful to receive it!

For those who have already been making yearly donations, you will start with a credit amount toward your goal of \$1000. If you would like to join the club, we will look up your donations and credit the donation amount toward your "One Thousand Dollar Club" contribution.

For example, if you have contributed \$400 over the past four years, the balance required for you to become a One Thousand Dollar Club Contributor would be an additional \$600, which can be spread out over time to make it easier for you to participate.

Like many other non-profit (all volunteer) groups, we continue to exist only through your interest and generosity. Remember, we are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, and your contribution is not only appreciated, it is also tax deductible.

Fulfilled \$1000 Members

**Gary Joe Bryan ~ Judy Caldwell ~ Walter Gaskill
Keith Levoir ~ Thomas Lenweaver ~ Bob O'Neill
Pacific Southwest Wildlife Art (PSWA)
Keith Rogers ~ Neal Stoneback ~ Bob & Beverly Sutton
Monty Willis**

2023 Contributing \$1000 Club Members

Mike Kessler

INTERNATIONAL WILDFOWL CARVERS ASSOCIATION
GUIDELINES AND RULES
FOR WILDFOWL AND FISH DIVISIONS

Approved September 2016

IWCA will conduct a review of competition rules annually.

Section 1. IWCA Competition Levels

- 1.1. **Junior** - Carvers 17 years of age or under.
- 1.2. **Novice** - Carvers who have not won two Best of Shows in the Novice level in any participating IWCA Competition.
- 1.3. **Intermediate** - Carvers who have won two Best of Shows in the Novice level in any participating IWCA Competition.
 - 1.3.1 Carvers who have won two Best of Shows in the Intermediate level in any participating IWCA Competition may not enter at the Intermediate level after the end of that calendar year.
- 1.4. **Amateur** - For shows electing to combine the novice and intermediate levels, the term amateur level may be used.
- 1.5. **Open** - Carvers who have won two Best of Shows in the Intermediate level at any participating IWCA Show or Competition.
 - 1.5.1. "Open" may also refer to a division open to carvers of all levels. Typically, these divisions have no Novice or Intermediate levels and are not subject to advancement rules.

Section 2. Advancement Rules

- 2.1. Carvers who win two Best of Shows in the Novice level at any participating IWCA Show or Competition will be advanced to the Intermediate level at the end of that calendar year. Two Best of Shows only applies when there are 10 or more entries in the division.
- 2.2. Carvers who wins two Best of Shows in the Intermediate level at any participating IWCA Show or Competition will be advanced to the Open level at the end of that calendar year.

- 2.3. Carvers may elect at any time to move up in level. Once a carver has voluntarily advanced to the next level of competition, that carver may not re-enter at the former lower level.
- 2.4. IWCA will review a challenged carver's level and may revise the assigned level as a result of that review.
- 2.5. Carver's levels are the same for birds and fish.
- 2.6. For Decoy Carvers (non-decorative): Decoy carvers that have attained the Open level in decorative carving or won two best of shows as an open level decoy carver, may not drop down a level when competing in the decoy divisions (IWCA Style, Working, Canvas, Shorebirds). However, a decoy carver who has not attained decorative open class or is an open decoy carver, may elect to enter at the Novice, Intermediate, Novice / Intermediate, or Amateur divisions. Once two best of shows have been won, the carver must advance to the next level.
- 2.7. Carvers may submit a request to IWCA asking to be set back one level, if the carver feels he/she has been advanced to a level in which he/she feels he/she is not qualified to compete. The IWCA determination will be final.

Section 3. IWCA Categories & Species

3.1. General Guidelines

- 3.1.1. If there are three or more entries of the same species in any category, where they are not specified as a class, a separate class will be opened to judge these entries.
- 3.1.2. Each show will retain the right to establish species classes under the categories.
- 3.1.3. Ribbons will be awarded in all advertised classes.

3.2. IWCA Categories

- 3.2.1. **Puddle or Marsh Duck**—Includes all species of mallard, black duck, pintail, widgeon, gadwall, teal, wood duck, and shoveler.
- 3.2.2. **Diving Ducks**—Includes all species of canvasback, redhead, scaup, ringneck, golden-eye, bufflehead, ruddy duck (summer or winter), and hooded merganser.

- 3.2.3. **Sea Ducks**—Includes all species of smew, long-tailed duck, scoter, eider, harlequin, red-breasted merganser, and common merganser.
- 3.2.4. **Geese and Swans**—Includes all species of geese, including brant and swans.
- 3.2.5. **Confidence**—Includes all species of gulls, loons (summer or winter), coots, gallinules, and all others.
- 3.2.6. **Songbirds** (Decorative)—Blackbirds, buntings, chickadees, creepers, crows, cuckoos, dippers, finches, flycatchers, gnatcatchers, goatsuckers, grosbeaks, hummingbirds, jays, kingfishers, kinglets, larks, nuthatches, orioles, parrots, pipits, shrikes, sparrows, starlings, swallows, swifts, tanagers, thrashers, thrushes, titmice, vireos, warblers, waxwings, woodpeckers, wrens.
- 3.2.7. **Shorebirds and Wading Birds** (Decorative and Decoy)—Avocets, cranes, curlews, dowitchers, dunlins, flamingos, godwits, herons, ibises, knots, limpkins, oystercatchers, plovers, rails, sandpipers, snipe, stilts, storks, turnstones, whimbrels, willets, yellowlegs.
- 3.2.8. **Seabirds** (Decorative)—Auks, boobies, cormorants, frigates, grebes, gulls, jaegers, pelicans, petrels, puffins, shearwater, skimmers, terns, tropic birds.
- 3.2.9. **Upland Game Birds** (Decorative)—Doves, grouse, pheasants, pigeons, quail, turkeys, woodcock.
- 3.2.10. **Birds of Prey** (Decorative)—Eagles, falcons, hawks, owls, vultures.
- 3.2.11. **Waterfowl** (Decorative) — Ducks, geese, swans
- 3.2.12. **Saltwater Fish**—Classes may include up to four types of saltwater fish.
- 3.2.12.1. **Tropical Reef Fish**: Includes wrasses, butterflyfish, angels, damselfish, squirrel fish, groupers, eels, and other primarily reef-dwelling species.
- 3.2.12.2. **Offshore Game Fish**: Includes bluefish, dolphin, mahi mahi, mackerels, tunas, dorades, jacks, and bullfish.

- 3.2.12.3. **Coastal Game Fish:** Includes striped bass, bonefish, tarpon, permit, redfish, sea trout, weakfish, snook, and bonita.
- 3.2.12.4. **Miscellaneous saltwater fish:** Includes all sharks, rays, flounder, halibut, billed fish, seahorse, etc.
- 3.2.13. **Freshwater Fish**
 - 3.2.13.1. **Game Fish:** All bass, pike, muskie, walleye.
 - 3.2.13.2. **Panfish:** Sunfish, crappie, perch, bluegill.
 - 3.2.13.3. **Trout/Salmon/Char:** Brown, rainbow, brook, cutthroat, golden, grayling, chars, and all salmon species.
 - 3.2.13.4. **Miscellaneous Freshwater Fish:** Includes all other freshwater fish not classified elsewhere including such species as gar, sturgeon, carp, catfish, paddlefish, shad, etc.

Section 4. IWCA Judging Criteria

- 4.1. The following criteria will be used for all levels of competition and, unless specifically restricted elsewhere, in all divisions. All four criteria are important because they overlap and build on each other. In order for a piece to reach its fullest potential, it must succeed in all four areas simultaneously.
- 4.2. Craftsmanship refers to the technical skills involved in bird carving: sculpting, painting, and finishing techniques. The execution of craftsmanship will be looked for in the subject, any habitat, accessories, and the base itself, if there should be one. Good craftsmanship should be consistent throughout the entire piece.
- 4.3. Accuracy involves the correctness of a piece from a scientific perspective. Size, shape, color, pattern, location, number, are the concepts important here. Anything accompanying the subject must be given the same scrutiny. Accuracy involves the natural history of the whole piece, all of its components, and the appropriateness of those components together.
- 4.4. Essence of the Species involves capturing the “jizz” or “gestalt” of a species. It involves a thorough knowledge of one’s subject and the ability to capture an attitude in

wood. Capturing the essence of your subject and giving it the spark that brings it alive.

- 4.5. Artistry of a piece refers to its design and composition. This is where presentation, innovation, and creativity all come into play. There should be beauty in the concept apart from the beauty of the bird itself. Line, form, content, color, mass, and movement should all be working together to create an integrated whole.

Section 5. IWCA Carvers Code of Ethics

- 5.1. Carvers are responsible for knowing and understanding all rules of the contests entered.
- 5.2. Carvers are responsible for registration of their carvings at the appropriate level of competition (Open, Intermediate, Novice) and must move from level to level as the rules dictate. Carvers who deliberately violate this advancement rule will be declared ineligible to enter any IWCA-affiliated show for a period of one year.
- 5.3. Carvers shall address any questions or problems to the Show Chairman and/or IWCA Show Representative.
- 5.4. Carvers shall not communicate with the judges at any time during the judging process.
- 5.5. Carvers shall not display or have a carving critiqued by a judge prior to being evaluated by that judge in competition.
- 5.6. Carvers who solicit a judge to critique his/her carvings after they have been judged will accept the judge's comments and criticisms courteously.
- 5.7. Carvings should be the sole work of the contestant.
- 5.8. Classroom entries are allowed at the Novice level only.
- 5.9. Cast parts are allowed at the Junior, Novice, and Intermediate levels only.
- 5.10. Carvers should not enter carvings to be judged by instructors or taxidermists from whose work the carving was created.
- 5.11. Carvings can be entered in any one show or competition one time only.

Section 6. IWCA Judges Code of Ethics

- 6.1. Judges must have a copy of, have read and understand, and judge by the published rules of each IWCA Show.
- 6.2. Judges will examine all entries hands-on before making their selections.
- 6.3. Judges will not communicate with anyone other than assigned judges, clerks, show chairman, and / or an IWCA representative while in judging area.
- 6.4. Judges are not allowed to enter a carving in the level he or she is judging.
- 6.5. Judges will not allow personal feelings or personal contact with the carvers to influence their decision during the judging procedure.
- 6.6. Judges will be fair and objective.
- 6.7. Judges will not judge a relative's carvings or students' carvings which he or she has hands-on work experience or given instruction.
- 6.8. Taxidermists cannot judge carvings done from the taxidermist's mounts.

Section 7. IWCA Best of Show Judging Procedure (All Divisions)

- 7.1. Judges select Best in Category from the first place carving in each species within that category (Marsh, Diver, etc.) When the judges select Best in Category, it will be removed and replaced with the second place carving from the same species, if there is a second.
- 7.2. Judges will then select Second in Category from the group of remaining first place (species) carvings and this second place (species) carving. If the second place (species) carving is selected as Second in Category, it should be removed to the winners' area and replaced with the third place winner from that same species.
- 7.3. Judges then select Third in Category from the remaining first place carvings (species) and this third place (species) carving.
- 7.4. A simple method of judging for the Best of Category is to always replace the carving selected with the next place winner from the same species.

- 7.5. Once the judging is completed by categories (Marsh, Diver, etc.), judges consider the first place carving from each category. They will pick Best of Show from one of these carvings and move it to the winners' area.
- 7.6. They will replace it with the second place carving from that category, and so on. Again, remember to always replace the carving selected with the next place carving from that same category.
- 7.7. It is the responsibility of the Show Chairman or the IWCA Representative to make sure a judge/chairman meeting is held to familiarize the judges with the rules.
- 7.8. It is recommended that the show competitions make reference material available for judging of all divisions. The use of field guides, smart phones, iPads and tablets to access reference materials is acceptable.

Section 8. IWCA General Guidelines (All Divisions)

- 8.1. **All entrants must be current members of IWCA.**
- 8.2. Carvings may not be entered in the same show twice. EXCEPTION: carvings may be entered in an IWCA Division and an IWCA Championship at the same show.
- 8.3. IWCA Judging Procedures and Code of Ethics will be in effect.
- 8.4. Unless a show competition includes novice, intermediate, or amateur, the competition is open to all carving levels.
- 8.5. IWCA advancement rules apply if show competition includes novice, intermediate, or amateur levels.

Section 9. IWCA Style Decoy Division

- 9.1. Decoys must be made of wood, cork, or stretched canvas.
- 9.2. Texturing will be allowed by rasping, chip carving, combing, scratching, stippling and flocking.
- 9.3. No wood burning except as a cutting tool.
- 9.4. Stoning or carving (no burning) will be allowed on the crest, tuft, or hood of any species of waterfowl with a crest, tuft, or hood as long as it remains sturdy and functional.

- 9.5. Undercut areas, wingtips, tails, and necks must not be fragile.
- 9.6. Feather groups may be simply carved (back, side-pockets, rump, and breast).
- 9.7. Only primaries, tertials, scapulars and tail feathers may be individually carved.
- 9.8. Detailed carving of the bill is allowed.
- 9.9. Inserts may be used to strengthen weak areas such as bills, tails, and crests. Open bills are allowed.
- 9.10. Feather splits may be carved.
- 9.11. Decoys must have a facility for an anchor line. Keels and weights are not required.
- 9.12. Decoys will be placed in the tank with their bottoms up, pushed down to just submerged, and then released. Decoy must self-right. Test may be performed two(2) times only. Swans and geese must self-right from the side.
- 9.13. There will be no restrictions on painting of IWCA Style Division decoys. The carver is allowed to create expressive poses to capture the many attitudes of waterfowl.
- 9.14. A decoy that checks, splits, takes on water, and/or has paint deterioration at any time prior to the completion of all decoy judging will be disqualified and forfeit any awards said decoy was awarded. All decoys in the disqualified decoy's species and category would be re-ordered, so as to move up one place, i.e., second becomes first, third becomes second. There will not be a third place decoy ordered up since the species would have to be re-ordered as well as the whole category re-judged.
- 9.15. There are no restrictions as to the number or gender of the entries.
- 9.16. Decoys must have no visible markings that will identify the carver and/or painter. All such marks must be covered with tape.
- 9.17. Judging for essence of species, anatomy, coloration, attitude on the water, flotation, and how well the decoy projects must be evaluated from a minimum of twenty feet.

Section 10. IWCA Working Decoy Division

- 10.1. Decoys must be made by the carver and may be made of any carving material, foam or stretched canvas.
- 10.2. Decoys will be judged for simplicity, durability, and practicality.
- 10.3. A decoy that checks, splits, takes on water, and/or has paint deterioration at any time prior to the completion of all decoy judging will be disqualified and forfeit any awards said decoy was awarded. All decoys in the disqualified decoy's species and category would be re-ordered, so as to move up one place, i.e., second becomes first, third becomes second. There will not be a third place decoy ordered up since the species would have to be re-ordered as well as the whole category re-judged.
- 10.4. No detailed bills, carved nostrils or nails are allowed.
- 10.5. Slight mandible separation is permitted.
- 10.6. No fragile parts.
- 10.7. Primaries may be undercut as long as they are not fragile.
- 10.8. Painting schemes must be simplistic.
- 10.9. Combing, stippling, brushing, ragging, scratching, blending, flocking and use of burnt cork are allowed.
- 10.10. No feather splits or definitions other than outlining may be used.
- 10.11. No wood burning or stoning.
- 10.12. Texturing by means of paint or paste is allowed.
- 10.13. Decoys must have a facility for an anchor line.
- 10.14. Decoys will be placed in the tank with their bottoms up. When the decoy is released, it must self-right with the exception that geese and swans must self-right from their side. Final judging will be at a minimum distance of 20 feet with pre-qualification prior to the birds being placed in the water. The judges will do both final and pre-qualification judging.
- 10.15. These rules may apply to singles, pairs, and rigs.
- 10.16. Working decoys will be judged in hand (at the tank) for sturdy construction, durability, practicality of keel

and ballast weights, anchor line attachments, self-righting, and flotation. Decoys that do not pass minimum structural and/or flotation requirements will be disqualified at this time.

- 10.17. The judges may return to the tank from the twenty feet distance but must make their final decisions from twenty feet or more.

Section 11. IWCA Canvas Decoy Division

- 11.1. Entries must be durable in construction and able to hold up under hunting conditions.
- 11.2. Decoys will be placed in the tank with their bottoms up. When the decoy is released, it must self-right with the exception that geese and swans must self-right from their side. Final judging will be at a minimum distance of twenty feet with pre-qualification prior to the birds being placed in the water. The judges will do both final and pre-qualification judging.
- 11.3. A decoy that checks, splits, takes on water, and/or has paint deterioration at any time prior to the completion of all decoy judging will be disqualified and forfeit any awards said decoy was awarded. All decoys in the disqualified decoy's species and category would be re-ordered, so as to move up one place, i.e., second becomes first, third becomes second. There will not be a third place decoy ordered up since the species would have to be re-ordered as well as the whole category re-judged.
- 11.4. Decoys must have a facility for an anchor line.
- 11.5. Painting will be simple in style. Combing, stippling, brushing, ragging, scratching, flocking or blending is allowed.
- 11.6. Texturing by means of paint or paste is allowed.
- 11.7. Eyes are optional.
- 11.8. No restrictions on the bill.
- 11.9. No fragile parts allowed.
- 11.10. The body, excluding the bottom, must be completely covered with canvas or other material. The tail on Pintails and Long-tailed Ducks only may be left uncovered.

- 11.11. The body must be constructed of canvas over wire frame or canvas over wood slat frame. No Styrofoam bodies.
- 11.12. Workmanship is a major factor in this division, e.g., tight material covering with as few seams as possible.
- 11.13. Decoys will be judged in hand for workmanship and durability. Final judging will be from a minimum distance of twenty feet for essence of species and how well they float and project.
- 11.14. Categories for judging will be as follows: Puddle ducks, diving ducks, sea ducks, geese and confidence. Species level will be at the discretion of individual shows.

Section 12. IWCA Style Shorebird Division

- 12.1. Decoys must be made of wood or cork. Bills can be made of any material.
- 12.2. Decoys are to be carved life-size and must be full-bodied. No silhouette decoys will be allowed.
- 12.3. Feather groups may be simply carved (crest, cape, plume areas, scapulars, tertials, primaries, tail and etc.)
- 12.4. Bills may be detail carved and its fragility will not be considered in judging.
- 12.5. Texturing will be allowed by rasping, chip carving, combing, scratching and stippling.
- 12.6. Decorative stone texturing individually carved feathers will not be allowed. Inserts may be used for bills, tails, crest and head plumes. Open bills are allowed
- 12.7. No wood burning except as a cutting tool.
- 12.8. Realism and creative postures, including legs, feet and creative bases are allowed.
- 12.9. Painting to the artist's highest ability is allowed.
- 12.10. Final judging for projection and likeness to species will be evaluated from a minimum distance of eight feet.
- 12.11. IWCA Style Shorebird Categories
 - 12.11.1. Curlews, godwits, and whimbrels

- 12.11.2. Willets and yellowlegs (both)
 - 12.11.3. All plovers
 - 12.11.4. All sandpipers including dunlins
 - 12.11.5. Turnstones, knots, and dowitchers
 - 12.11.6. Avocets and stilts
 - 12.11.7. Other shorebirds
 - 12.11.8. Wading birds
- 12.12. If there are three or more entries in a category that are the same species, a separate species class may be opened at the show's discretion.

Section 13. IWCA Working Shorebird Division

- 13.1 Decoys must be made of wood or cork. Bills can be made of any material.
- 13.2 Decoys are to be carved life-size full-bodied or silhouette.
- 13.3 Decoys will be judged for simplicity, durability, and practicality.
- 13.4 No detailed bills or carved nostrils are allowed. Slight mandible separation is permitted.
- 13.5 Crests and plumes must be simply carved and be of sturdy construction. No fragile parts.
- 13.6 Primaries may be raised if of strong design.
- 13.7 Painting schemes must be simplistic, such as: combing, stippling, ragging, scratching, blending, and the use of burnt cork are allowed. Elementary nostril painting is acceptable. Texturing by means of paint or paste is also allowed.
- 13.8 Decoys must be mounted on a detachable dowel and base for display. Base and dowel (leg) are not considered when judging.
- 13.9 Final judging for projection and likeness to species will be evaluated at a minimum distance of twenty feet.
- 13.10 IWCA Shorebird Categories (refer to Section 12.11).

Section 14. Decorative Life-size Floating Division

- 14.1. Subject must be made of wood.
- 14.2. The entry will be judged in the tank from the water line up.
- 14.3. They must float with life-like attitude, but do not have to self-right.

Section 15. Decorative Life-size Non-floating Division

- 15.1. Subject must be made of wood.
- 15.2. Must be full-bodied except when part of an environmental composition.
- 15.3. Feet and legs must be hand carved or constructed by the carver in Open level only.

Section 16. Decorative Miniature Division

- 16.1. Subject must be made of wood.
- 16.2. Maximum subject size must be one half life-size or less, not to exceed eight inches from tip of bill to the tip of tail, along the length of the spine.
- 16.3. Entries must be full-bodied except when part of an environmental composition

Section 17. Decorative Life-size Fish Division

- 17.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 17.2. The entry will be judged using the live fish as a model.
- 17.3. Any fish that may be too large to carve may be carved at a reduced scale. For example, a 12-foot, 600-pound marlin or a 6-foot, 80-pound Chinook salmon would be carved at an appropriate reduced scale so that the minimum size is 18 inches with no maximum size. The reduced scale carvings compete as life-size and reflect the mature anatomy of the life-sized fish.
- 17.4. All carvings must support the total wood carving concept. Those entries composed solely of wood, or those that contain as little non-wood materials in the habitat and fish carving, will have an advantage over

those entries that contain authorized substitute materials listed below.

- 17.5. No resin or plastic water is acceptable because of the toxic nature of the materials involved.
- 17.6. The use of resins, silicones, or plastics in any form is limited to the construction of artificial teeth, eye sculpturing, joint construction, and inserting fins and tail only.
- 17.7. Allowable items include: artificial eyes, fishing line, fish hooks, and metal for strength and support.
- 17.8. Items not allowed include: plastic, silk, manufactured plants; cast objects such as rocks, wood, bugs, plants, fins, and gills; real rocks, sand, or manufactured lures. Gravel made with wood/plumber's putty is allowed up through the intermediate level.
- 17.9. Commercial blanks and rough-outs are allowed in the novice and junior levels only.
- 17.10. Judges will place strong emphasis in their evaluations when all elements are carved of wood, however, the following is allowed: (a) In the novice level, found, real driftwood may be used. (b) In the intermediate level, reworked found, real driftwood may be used. (c) In the open level, all facsimile of driftwood can be carved from dimensional or non-dimensional wood.
- 17.11. All components used to create the habitat for decorative entries must be made by the carver from wood (or metal where allowed when required for strength and support.)
- 17.12. Carved habitat may be coated with paint or paint additives for texturing.
- 17.13. Any carving found to contain non-approved materials will not be eligible for ribbons or awards.
- 17.14. Any method used to emboss, burn, engrave, or carve scales in wood is permitted.
- 17.15. Glass cases or domes must be removed for judging.
- 17.16. The carving must contain the carver's name and date marked on the carving. (The name will be covered with tape at registration.)

- 17.17. The fish carving entry consists of three elements. The base, habitat and the fish. The habitat and fish shall be carved from dimensional or non dimensional wood. The base element can be manufactured or carved from any material. ie. Stone, metal or Plexiglas. Where the base and habitat are one in the same the rules for habitat apply. This rule applies to all classes/ categories and sub categories of fish carving entries.

Section 18. Decorative Life-size Wall-mount Fish Division

- 18.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 18.2. Must be judged mounted on wall.
- 18.3. Must have attachments for hanging.

Section 19. Decorative Miniature Fish Division

- 19.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 19.2. Entries must be one-half life-size or less with a maximum subject length of eight (8) inches.
- 19.3. Entries must be full-bodied carvings.
- 19.4. The live fish will be used as a model for judging.
- 19.5. Unlimited painting and texturing will be allowed.

Section 20. Natural Finish Interpretive Fish Division

- 20.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 20.2. These entries reflect the carver's concept of movement, design, and composition. Ideally, the entry will be carved out of one piece of wood. Entry can be a carving that represents a fish, regardless of how realistic or imaginative it is. As long as at least one fish is used in the entry, other animals may also be incorporated.
- 20.3. Only transparent stains and clear finishes may be used.
- 20.4. No opaque paints will be allowed with the exception of eyes, where opaque paints may be used in place of glass eyes.

- 20.5. The wood grain must be visible through the finish.
- 20.6. Carved eyes are preferred, however, glass eyes will be allowed in novice and intermediate levels only.
- 20.7. Natural finish fish carvings are to be composed as to enhance the natural beauty of the wood being used.
- 20.8. The carver will be allowed to decide which category best suits the piece.
- 20.9. Bases may be painted or stained.

Section 21. Natural Finish Realistic Fish Division

- 21.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 21.2. These entries are natural finish carvings that closely resemble recognizable fish and contain more details. The entries can be single or multiple carvings, and composed in an artistic setting. The carver may use separate pieces of wood for fins, grass, etc., but all finishes must be natural.
- 21.3. Only transparent stains and clear finishes may be used.
- 21.4. No opaque paints will be allowed with the exception of eyes, where opaque paints may be used in place of glass eyes.
- 21.5. The wood grain must be visible through the finish.
- 21.6. Carved eyes are preferred, however, glass eyes will be allowed in novice and intermediate levels only.
- 21.7. Natural finish fish carvings are to be composed as to enhance the natural beauty of the wood being used.
- 21.8. The carver will be allowed to decide which category best suits the piece.
- 21.9. Bases may be painted or stained.

Section 22. Fish Spearing Decoy Division

- 22.1. All entrants must be current members of IWCA.
- 22.2. Fish decoys are fishing lures designed to be jigged through a hole in the ice to lure fish within range of a spear.

- 22.3. All carvings must be made of wood, carved and painted by the carver entering them, and may not be entered in the same show more than once.
- 22.4. All decoys will be judged in the water. Line-ties are required. Fins, line-ties, eyes, and ballast may be of wood or other material appropriate to the task.
- 22.5. Decoys must be of sturdy construction and have durable paint or finish. Those that split, check, lose paint or show other faults in construction while judging will be disqualified.
- 22.6. No castings, kits, or machine duplicated carvings in whole or in part will be allowed.
- 22.7. Maximum size is 24 inches.
- 22.8. The judges and the show committee will reclassify any entry that is considered to be entered in the wrong class or division.
- 22.9. If there are not three or more entries in a class, the entries may be consolidated with other classes within the same division for judging. If a class has ten or more entries, it may be divided by species or size for judging.
- 22.10. A junior class will be established in each division for carvers 17 years of age or younger at the time of registration.
- 22.11. Any carver who willfully or knowingly cheats may be banned from IWCA competition for up to one year.
- 22.12. Although fish spearing competitions are normally conducted at an Open level only, the show may offer additional competition levels.
- 22.13. A show may open additional classes within a division or add other divisions to fit local or regional interests.



IWCA APPLICATION NEW & RENEWAL

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

1 YEAR ____ \$15 5 YEARS ____ \$60 LIFETIME ____ \$125

1 CARVE: WILDFOWL DECOYS _____ SHOREBIRDS _____

SONGBIRDS / GAMEBIRDS / BIRDS OF PREY _____ FISH _____

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

IF RENEWAL, CARVER NUMBER (IF KNOWN) _____

SIGNIFICANT GIFT GIVING

FOR THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE MORE TO THE CARVING COMMUNITY, IWCA HAS ESTABLISHED THE **ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR CLUB**. THIS PROGRAM GENERATES ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO SUSTAIN CURRENT IWCA PROGRAMS AND DEVELOP NEW ONES TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE CARVING COMMUNITY. THE *ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR CLUB* IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO SUPPORT THE BENEFITS ENJOYED BY OUR MEMBERSHIP.

IT IS EASY TO PARTICIPATE, HERE'S HOW: 1. SIMPLY MAKE A DONATION OF \$1,000 OR 2. MAKE A COMMITMENT TO REACH THE \$1,000 GOAL IN A SPECIFIC NUMBER OF YEARS, YOU PICK THE TIME TABLE. FOR THOSE MAKING ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS, THAT AMOUNT CAN BE CREDITED TO THE \$1,000 GOAL. FOR EXAMPLE, A PERSON WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED \$400 (ABOVE MEMBERSHIP) IN THE PAST CAN DONATE AN ADDITIONAL \$600 SPREAD OVER THE NUMBER OF YEARS OF YOUR CHOICE AND BECOME A MEMBER OF THE *ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR CLUB*.

ALL *ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR CLUB* MEMBERS, IN-PROCESS AND FULFILLED, WILL BE LISTED IN THE ANNUAL IWCA RULEBOOK THAT EVERY CURRENT MEMBER RECEIVES AND WILL BE RECOGNIZED ON THE IWCA WEBSITE. NON-PROFITS, SUCH AS THE ALL-VOLUNTEER IWCA, DEPEND ON THE INTEREST AND GENEROSITY OF ITS MEMBERS AND OTHER CONCERNED INDIVIDUALS. DONATIONS TO THE IWCA ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS DETERMINED BY US FEDERAL TAX CODE. PLEASE REFER TO YOUR TAX PREPARATION ADVISOR.

JOIN THE ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR CLUB: _____ \$1,000 PAYABLE NOW OR
\$ _____ PER YEAR OVER THE NEXT ____ YEARS

SUPPORT IWCA PROGRAMS WITH THE FOLLOWING DONATION: \$ _____

SUPPORT THE YOUNG GUNS CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM: \$ _____

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: IWCA

MAIL CHECKS TO: IWCA C/O MONTY WILLIS; 207 HARBOR DRIVE; MOREHEAD CITY, NC 28557

** PARTICIPANTS IN ALL IWCA COMPETITION DIVISIONS MUST BE CURRENT MEMBERS.
DUES ARE PAYABLE JANUARY 1ST AND EXPIRE DEC 31 OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR,
REGARDLESS OF DATE DUES ARE PAID.*

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