



# NORTHERN VIRGINIA CARVERS

Web: [www.NorthernVirginiaCarvers.org](http://www.NorthernVirginiaCarvers.org)

**March 2022**

**Issue 2022-3**

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**PHIL SIMPSON**

Hello Carvers

Well March is finally here, and we are still without a carving in person place except the Packard Center once a month and Colvin Run, when classes are scheduled (see Joyce for that information).

March 1 is (was) National Pig Day in the U.S, especially in the Midwest, so have your pigs ready for display..

Reminder: March 9th is the tool sale of your own tools. This will be an opportunity to sell unused or no longer needed tools of your own, and maybe to pick up some new to you tools from fellow club members.

The tool raffle (give away of tools donated from Gary Lewis) will be April 13, 2022

Phil Simpson  
[eightb1045@aol.com](mailto:eightb1045@aol.com)  
President Northern Virginia Carvers

PS Keep your tools sharp and have fun.

### Club Volunteering Opportunity

One aspect of the Northern Virginia Carvers is to give back to our community. There is going to be another session developed for a series of classes. I am looking for volunteers. The calendar for public open carving demonstrations is still in the planning phase.

The Place:: Colvin Run Mill

Day: Sundays

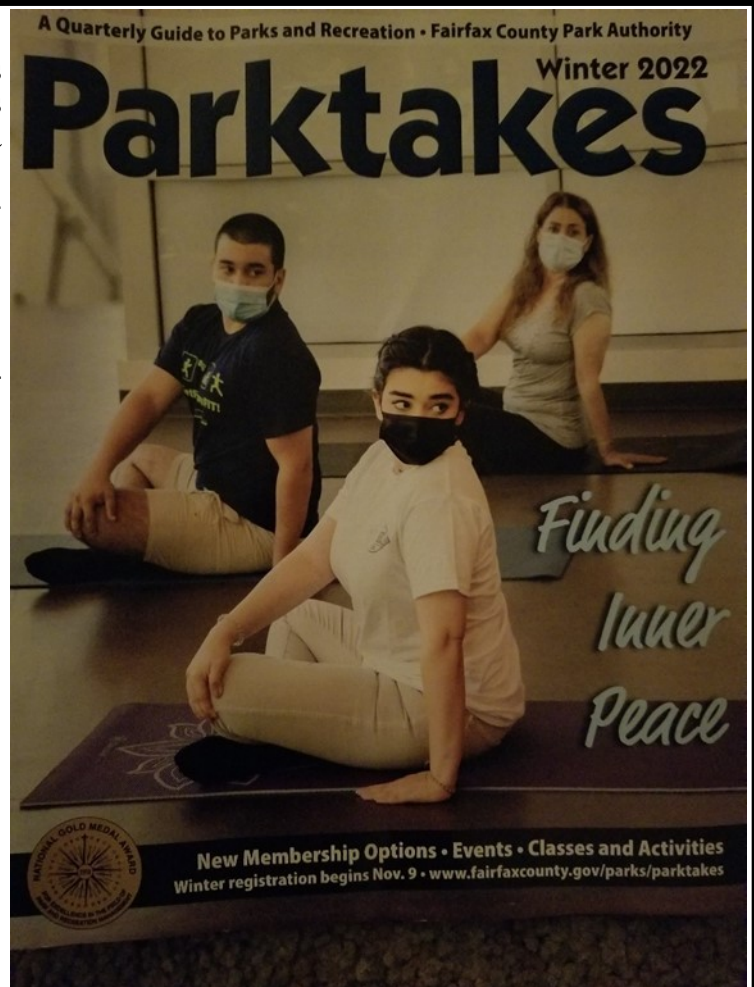
Time: 1-4 pm

Dates: TB established according to volunteers' schedule.

Student Ratio preferred: 1 carver to 2 students

Let Joyce (703-915-3239) know your interest level. If you can volunteer but need to commit in the future let me know. You can e-mail

Joyce as well. [Moonbeam4mj-carver@yahoo.com](mailto:Moonbeam4mj-carver@yahoo.com)



## Colvin Run Mill Classes a Success

By Joyce Spieler

When Covid-19 disrupted the Northern Virginia Carvers (NVC) ability to meet, our safest place to meet was outside the barn at Colvin Run Mill. As restrictions changed we were able to move inside. Thank goodness for that, especially when the weather turned rainy and cold.

In order to expand our community presence, Fairfax County Parktakes was the answer. Parktakes is Fairfax County Parks



and Recreation offerings of so many activities and classes throughout the county. We developed a three class session for the New Year of 2022. There was an eight student (sixteen years old and older) capacity for the package of classes.

Seven students signed up! Yahoo! With the combined efforts of NVC volunteers (Todd Andre-Colton, Jack Edwards, Michael Wine and Joyce Spieler) we developed the program for the sessions. Since, this was a beginners' class the age old, tried and true carving a ball on a stick provided a fantastic first learning project. I thought of a little twist to this project. We carved a snowman ornament. Three round forms... a great practice in carving in the round.

The otter letter opener was introduced next. The choice of projects included were purposed for a useful end result. The students embraced carving skills with vigor. Of course, carving safety guidelines were shared and followed by all. Carving and Covid inclusive. The second class, the students carved the push/pull oven rack squirrel. This provided more carving skills as to forming curves, concave and convex. The squirrel added the bonus of a kitchen helper in the making.

During our classes the volunteers brought many different carving tools, supplies and carved examples for the students to see, feel and use for more carving exposure.

The sky was the limit. We did have a guest carver come visit. Phuong-Anh Nguyen, a wonderful carver, who produces realistic historical oriental carvings. She recently had a book published of her gorgeous carvings. It was a pleasure to have her as a guest at the Mill.

To round out our session, the last project was a stylized Santa. This project was a challenge because the students started with a rectangular piece of wood and the ability to proportion the final carving to their own vision. Michael Wine headed this project up in the class. He was so enthusiastic, that he also brought and demonstrated making custom eyelet hangers. This went well for the snowman and the Santa carvings. Since the student carvers had so much enjoyment in the carving project, the eyelet making will have to be done another day. Michael, thanks for sharing some of the eyelets for the students.

Everyone felt the program was a success. From the NVC volunteers to all the students. We are in the process of developing more class sessions and open demonstrations to be offered at Colvin Run Mill. Make sure you follow Fairfax County Parktakes and Colvin Run Mill schedules for future carving adventures.

You can also call Colvin Run Mill for confirmation of dates and times. 703-759-2771. but, also remember there are other presentations and events at the mill. Throughout the year blacksmithing, grain flour production, mill events, maple syrup making and visits with Santa are happenings at various times of the year.

Thank you to all that made this carving project come to fruition. Especially Pam, Mary, Julie, Steve and Dawn. If I have missed mentioning you please know You were in my thanks as well.

## CONEWAGO CARVERS WOODSHOW

### Michael Wine

Back in October of 2021 I had the pleasure of attending the Conewago Carvers Woodcarving and Art Show & Sale event in Pennsylvania.

The ride to East Berlin was very pleasant. The drive to East Berlin on October 30th proved to be very scenic, as the leaves weren't completely gone. There were patches of color left in parts of the mountains here and there.

This area of Pennsylvania is loaded with carvers! The Lancaster Club, as well as the Conewago Carvers, has a number of notable carvers too! As you can see by the pictures, there is no shortage of very good work.

I made the rounds, isle by isle, table by table. The trip took forever, it seemed. Every table contained wonderous carvings... caractatures, scenes, realistic people and realistic animals.

As I visited each table, the carver introduced themselves and a lengthy discussion ensued. Don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining!!

I met folks there such as Jim Hiser, Bob Hershey and Jim Feather, all of CCA fame. Each carver shared their work, told stories, and even shared carving tips and techniques.

Breakout sessions along the day allowed a glimpse into topics such as carving in the round and woodburning. Believe it or not, I even bought a knife there! (Imagine that!)

This March the Lancaster show is March 12-13 in Millersville, Pennsylvania... Just a stone's throw from Lancaster.

My advise, from experience; stay the night and take two days to soak it all in. It is worth the drive, and well worth the time. You might even consider joining these clubs! I did, and in April when the carvers start teaching courses, I'll get a discount! Ya can't beat that with a ... uh... stick!

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**Michael Wine**  
**703.819.5011**











**TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Northern Virginia Carvers runs from January to December. Please bring your dues, which are \$20.00 for a single membership and \$5.00 for each additional family member, to the Carving Center or Packard Center on Thursday nights, give to or mail to Robert Simoniz, Membership Chairman, 6819 Rock Creek Court, Alexandria, VA 22306. Make check payable to NVC.



The NVC Board would like to have your suggestions for future topics at the Packard Center and also classes or workshops you would like to see offered. Write your suggestions on the renewal form or email to Les Thomas, Lmthomas1264@gmail.com email address if you can receive the newsletter by email. This will save the club a great deal of money. Some clubs are now charging members who get mailed copy a higher amount for dues. NVC does not currently do this, and does not wish to start, but we do try to keep the mailed copies to a minimum.

If you have changed your email, please let us know. If you used to get the newsletter by email, but recently have received mailed copies, then something is wrong with the email address we have on file for you, and your email copy bounced back. Please contact Bob Simoniz at [rsim2193@verizon.net](mailto:rsim2193@verizon.net), so he can correct

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA CARVERS  
RENEWAL  
FOR JAN-DEC 2022**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Receive Newsletter by E-Mail?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fees Per Year:

Single \$20.00  
Family: \$20.00 + \$5.00  
each additional member

Additional members names:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for Programs or Classes

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO NVC  
AND MAIL TO:**

Robert Simoniz, Membership  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CARVERS  
6819 Rock Creek Court  
Alexandria, VA 22306

**DEADLINE FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: THURSDAY MARCH 31**

**DIRECTIONS:**

**American Legion Post 176 (carving classes)**— 6520 Amherst Avenue, Springfield, Virginia 22150. **From Springfield driving East** on Old Keene Mill Road to Springfield Blvd. just past Veterans Bridge, turn right and proceed to the Post parking lot on the right. **From Springfield driving West** on Franconia Road, passing under I-95 to Bland Street just past Shoney's Restaurant, turn right onto Bland Street and proceed to Amherst Avenue. Turn right onto Amherst Avenue and proceed over Veterans bridge. The Post is on the right, before Kay Jennings Toyota at the foot of the bridge.

**Packard Center (2nd Wednesday of each month) (THIS IS ON A TRIAL BASIS THIS YEAR), 3:30-9:00 PM, meeting at 7:00** — 4022 Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003. From I-495 take Little River Turnpike East and turn left at the first light onto Hummer Road. Just past the small shopping area less than 1/4 mi on the left will be signs for the center. Turn left into the drive and bear right when it forks. The evening entrance for meetings is on the side of the building on the parking lot side. The meeting area is in the conference room in the basement.

**NVC Contacts**

President	Phillip Simpson	Chairs General Meetings and Board Meetings	eightb1045@aol.com	703-360-9875
Vice-President	Grace Mock	Vice Chair of General Meetings and Board Meetings	gracemock@gmail.com	703-451-4473
Treasurer	Pete Ward	Manages Finances		571-236-3958
Secretary	Mark Tranchemontagne	Keeps Minutes and Maintains NVC Archives	mgranch@yahoo.com	703-531-9912
Past President	Joyce Spieler		Moonbeam4mj-carver@yahoo.com	703-915-3239
Colvin Mill Coordinator	Joyce Spieler	Coordinates Carving Instruction Program at Colvin Mill Park	Moonbeam4mj-carver@yahoo.com	703-915-3239
Show Coordinator	BJ France	Coordinates the Annual Show & Competition	BJinARL@aol.com	703-538-4143
Membership Chairman and Newsletter Editor	Bob Simoniz	Maintains membership database and collects dues Edits and publishes NVC Newsletter	rsim2193@verizon.net	703-768-1087
Program Coordinator	Mike Connors	Develops New Programs for the Club	Mikecarver66@gmail.com	703-486-9635
NVC Web Site	Joyce Spieler	www.northernvirginiacarvers.org	Moonbeam4mj-carver@yahoo.com	703-915-3239
Patches & Pins	Bob Simoniz	Sells patches & pins	rsim2193@verizon.net	703-768-1087
Member-at-Large	Jerry Donahoe		jrdsridding@aol.com	703-327-4022
Member-at-Large	Michael Wine		mdwine55@gmail.com	703-368-2282

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**Alexandria, VA 22306**

