

Shuswap School of Carving and Arts – September 18-23, 2016

Held at Sorrento Retreat and Conference Centre, 1159 Passchendaele Road, Sorrento, BC V0E 2W0 www.sorrento-centre.bc.ca/
Registration Forms are available at www.bccarvingschool.com or can be obtained by emailing Kathy.Les@telus.net or phone at 250-573-2277

KNIFE & CHISEL CARVING: A WHOLE LOT OF WHITTLING with Rick Wiebe

\$390 for five 7.5 hour class days, or \$88 for single day(s)

Learn to carve with knives and chisels as well as tool sharpening techniques. Each day of this class is designed as a stand-alone project and students may choose to participate in only one, or all, of the projects offered. It is possible for week-long students to participate in all of the projects and to complete examples of them all. Assistance will be provided along the way for whatever project a student chooses to work on. Space permitting, students will be accepted for single days if they are unable to register for the whole week. This class is intended for the beginner carver, but all levels are welcome.

Monday: Walking Stick or Cane with Personality. Learn to carve a hiking stick or cane that is more than just a stick – it will be a work of art, a conversation piece, and a faithful walking companion for years to come. These can be fairly simple and quick to do, or much more elaborate and time-consuming, depending on whether you want to decorate just some or all of the stick with carvings. Participants will learn to carve a human head/bust on the stick, or an animal bust such as a wolf, bear, bison or eagle. The walking stick, or several, could be a carver's project for the entire week, or for the majority of it, with forays into some of the other projects listed below. Birch or Aspen blanks - \$10 each; Rocky Mountain Juniper blanks – \$35-\$50 depending on the individual stick. Weather permitting, students may opt to participate in a field trip for about three hours which will involve getting out to see how wood for walking sticks, twig and treen carving is foraged.



Tuesday: Fan Carving of Birds, Angels, Flowers. Fan carving will be the focus of the day, though students who are carving walking sticks will still be assisted in their work. Instruction will be given on making a simple fan, with lots of practice on splitting feathers; then a simple bird and, after practice on that, more complicated projects such as peacocks, angels and flowers. Instruction and demonstration will be provided on acquiring and preparing the wood. The basic materials fee is \$20. Extra blanks may be purchased for \$2 each. Some may wish to continue fan carving on the next day or some other time during the week.



Wednesday: Carve Wood Spirits or Santa Ornaments in Cottonwood Bark or Pine. Students may use cottonwood bark or 2x2" white pine blocks to learn to make caricature Wood Spirits and/or Santa busts suitable for hanging on the tree. A very simple design will be used for the first of these, with a more difficult one with detailed eyes and more advanced hat for the second one or for those whose skill level indicates that they start right in on the more difficult project. Examples of some possible variations will be shown to stimulate creativity. \$2 per blank.



Thursday: Carve Wooden Spoons, Ladles, Cups and Bowls out of Green Wood. Treen (means small objects derived from a tree) carving will be the focus of this day, though students who are carving other projects will still be assisted in their work. Treen students will learn how to make a functional and stylish spoon using a band-sawn birch blank that will be of use in the kitchen



for many years. Elements of design will be covered, and various techniques that can be used to come to acceptable results. Demonstration and discussion will take place on accessing and processing wood using simple tools (not band saws). Opportunity to make more spoons, ladles, kuksas (cups) and bowls will be provided as well. Spoon blanks are \$5 each, ladles \$8, kuksas \$8, half birch logs \$10.

Friday: Unfinished Projects and/or Rooster Twig Whittlin'! Learn how to make roosters from forked twigs using just a knife - lots of practice on shaving tail feathers! This includes instruction on gathering and preparing material (will touch on that during the field trip on Monday, too.) Finishing and mounting the completed project will be covered. Participants will have a completed display when done.



Tools & Supplies: Rick sells carving tools, knives, sharpening gear, etcetera - so those needed to do the work will be available to buy, and some will be available to borrow and try. Otherwise, you should bring: knives, gouges and sharpening gear (sharpen ahead of time if possible, though sharpening help will be available); if you wish to finish or paint your carvings, assorted acrylic paints/stains/oil and brushes, paint palette, water containers, paper towel, tape; if you have a woodburner and pens, bring them as these can be used with great effect (Cam Merkle, who designs and sells wood burners will be an instructor at the School and will have some available to purchase); table light and extension cord; comfortable adjustable chair if you have space to bring one (it's a long week). **If you have questions, or would like tools or a special wood blank for your project, Rick can be reached at rick@woodcarvingbiz.com or 250-768-0518.**

About the Instructor: Rick Wiebe has been carving for almost as long as he can remember (60+ years) and teaching both children and adults for 25+ years in a wide variety of locations throughout BC, Alberta and the US. His carvings are in private collections worldwide, and his students are active on at least three continents. Rick has won caricature carving ribbons in BC, Washington and Arizona, has been a judge for competitions in BC and Arizona, and taught and/or demonstrated carving in eight different countries. Rick has been published in several magazine articles in *Carving Magazine* and *Woodcarving Illustrated*, and has self-published one book, *Adventures In Fan Carving*, and another recent release with Linden Publishing of Fresno CA, *Whittling Flutes and Whistles*. Human caricatures are Rick's favourite subjects, though he carves and whittles many other items. He is tremendously inspired by the work of the *Caricature Carvers of America*, and their ability to make any observer of their art smile.