

CATEGORY 32–Pyrography

Pyrography is divided into categories: Wood (painted or natural); Leather; Gourds; Paper; Misc. Non-carved pyrography can only be entered into Categories 1 (Show Theme - and **wood only**), 32 (Pyrography), 35 (Swap), and 36 (Youth). No Instructor-assisted entries allowed.

CATEGORY 35–SWAP

Any person entering a carving into the competition is eligible to enter a single carving into category 35. This category will **not** be divided into divisions or classification. The category will be judged, and ribbons will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

The 1st place winner can choose any carving, other than their own, from the remaining carvings. The 2nd place winner is next and then the 3rd place winner chooses a carving of their choice. From then on, the order will be determined by a drawing amongst the remaining carvers. Everyone will get someone else's carving. The Show Committee reserves the right to not accept carvings that are clearly unequal to the quality of the average carving entered into the category.

RAFFLE

There will be great carvings at the raffle for \$1 a ticket or 6 for \$5, etc. If any contestant attending the show would like to donate a small carving to our cause, we will gladly accept it. Just bring it to the show and give it to the folks at the raffle table during registration. The drawing will be about 2:30PM on Saturday, 24h. You do **not** have to be present to win as long as your name and phone number are written on the ticket. Winners **are required** to make arrangements to pick up their carving.

DIRECTIONS

Interstate 40 to Hickory, NC

From Statesville:

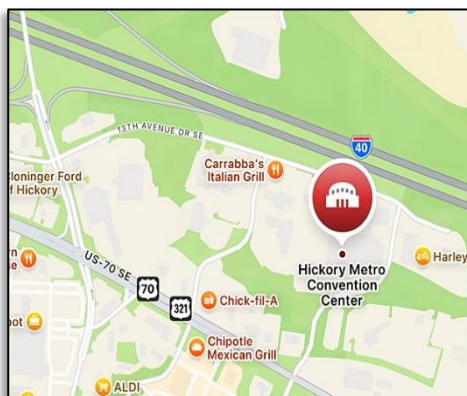
Exit 125 to Lenoir Rhyne Blvd Turn left, stay in left lane, at 2nd red light turn left and follow service road to Hickory Metro Center.

From Asheville:

Exit 125 to Lenoir Rhyne Blvd Turn right, immediately get into the left lane, at 1st red light turn left and follow service road to Hickory Metro Center.

Show Parking:

The Metro Center has a parking deck. It is advisable that you plan on a way to haul your entries to the registration desk inside the Metro Convention Center.



DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Wood Carving Basics

Chip Carving

Pyrography

Soap Carving

Basic Carving Cuts

Bird Carving

Power Carving

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

You will be given a 2"x2"x6" block to carve object of your choice.

Time will be Saturday, 10:30 am -12:00 pm.

First prize: \$50.00 gift card

Second prize: \$25.00 gift card

Third prize: \$12.00 gift card

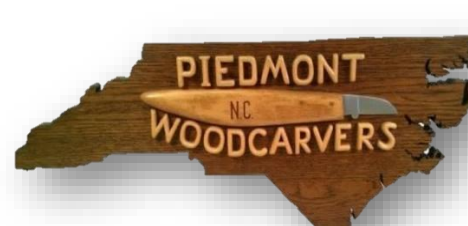


23rd Annual 2026 WOODCARVING COMPETITION and EXHIBITION

Friday & Saturday, October 23-24, 2026

Show Hours 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Hickory Metro Center, 1960 13th Ave Drive SE Hickory, NC



In Conjunction with

**Woodworking
EXTRAVAGANZA**

OCTOBER 23RD - 24TH • HICKORY METRO CONVENTION CENTER

Contact Info:

Catawba Valley Woodcarvers, P.O. Box 1073, Hickory, NC 28603

Alvin Woody • Cell: (828) 404-2825

alvindwoody@yahoo.com

RULES FOR COMPETITION

1. Entry forms must be completed for all entries.
2. **UP TO FIVE (5) CARVINGS PER CATEGORY** except Category 35 (Swap).
3. **Entries must have been completed since 1/1/2023.**
4. All entries must have been hand crafted by the person entering. Roughouts permitted only in the roughout category, and no machine created work.
5. Molded feet and glass eyes are permitted. Use of plastic, fabric or metallic additions, or any other non-carved item is not permitted. Non-wood materials are permitted on the base or habitat, provided they are handcrafted.
6. The CVWC reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed to be "not in good taste, or offensive".
7. Entries will be returned to the exhibitor at **4:00 p.m.** on the day of the show.
8. Entries are submitted at the discretion and sole risk of the entrant. CVWC will not be financially responsible for loss or damage regardless of cause.
9. **All entries must be hand delivered.**
10. Final placement of the entry into the proper category is at the discretion of the show referees.
11. Decisions of the judges are final.
12. The artist's name shall be obscured with tape. However, you are encouraged to place name cards or business cards at your carvings after all judging is completed.
13. The Show Committee has the right to add, delete, or subdivide categories.
14. Realistic - Exactly proportioned carving in the round.
15. Stylized - Fully carved with careful deliberate, flowing, curved, and oval surfaces. Simplicity, beauty, and identification with minimal natural details. Realism is not the objective.
16. Caricature - imitation of a person or animal in which certain striking characteristics are exaggerated in order to create a comic or grotesque effect. Subject must be carved in the round.
17. Habitat is not a category subject. Subjects that do not qualify within any category are considered habitat. *Example:* a dragonfly and a fish in a scene. The dragonfly does not qualify as a group since there is no insect category.
18. No CVWC blue ribbon carvings can compete unless it is entered into a higher division than previously entered.
19. Group carvings are any combination of carvings within a category. Must be mounted on a single base. For judging purposes, the dominant subject will determine the category in which the multi-subject group will be placed.
20. Pyrography entries must be 90% hand burned. Other forms of pyrography such as fractal, solar, or laser burning can only amount to 10% of the total burned area. Percentages are determined at the judge's discretion.
21. CVWC has final decisions over all competition related questions and placement.

CATEGORIES

1. **Show Theme - Spirit of '76.** (250th Anniversary). *Wood only.*
2. **Caricature up to 8"** - (Excluding base) From bottom of feet to top of head. Single subject.

3. **Caricature over 8"** - (Excluding base) From bottom of feet to top of head. Single subject.
4. **Animal Caricature** - Any single subject or size.
5. **Caricature Group** - 2 or more subjects or any combination from categories 2 through 4. (No roughouts permitted.)
6. **Caricature Busts** - Any subject.
7. **Roughout** - Any subject(s), non-instructor assisted carving carved from a roughout.
8. **Bottle Stoppers** - Any subject must be affixed with a cork and displayed in a bottle.
9. **Ornaments** - Any subject must be hanging on a stand that is made or purchased.
10. **Santas** - Full bodied, caricature or realistic, any style.
11. **Wood Spirits** - Humanlike faces carved on the surface of bark, limb, or knot, etc.
12. **Human Figure** - Realistic, proportioned, man, woman or child. Single or Group.
13. **Spoons** - Any size of subject. No groups. Decorative or utilitarian.
14. **Mythical / Fantasy** - Any genre of myths, folktales, or imaginative fiction.
15. **Songbirds - Realistic** - e.g. Robin, Wren, Woodpecker, etc.
16. **Ducks - Realistic** - e.g. All Ducks, Geese, Swan, etc.
17. **Gunning Decoy** - Contemporary and "Antique Style" judged in hand.
18. **Birds of Prey** - Realistic e.g. Hawk, Owl, Falcons, Eagles, etc.
19. **Game Birds** - Realistic - e.g. Dove, Turkey, Quail, etc.
20. **Sea/Shorebirds** - Realistic - Tern, Pelican, Gulls, Plovers, etc.
21. **Instructor Assisted** - Instructor assisted is **NOT** eligible for Best of Show or Best of Division.
22. **Animals** - Realistic, proportioned, e.g. Deer, Rabbits, Dogs, Buffalo, (includes reptiles) etc.
23. **Aquatic Animals** - Realistic, proportional, e.g. Fish, Sea Mammals, etc.
24. **Animal Group** - 2 or more subjects or any combination from categories 22 through 23.
25. **Carved Found Wood** - Wood found in its natural state: driftwood, roots, limbs, stumps, knots, etc.
26. **Stylized** - Any subject that retains identity with minimal detail.
27. **Cottonwood Bark** - Any carving made exclusively from cottonwood bark (excludes base).
28. **Walking Sticks/Canes** - Any style, any subject.
29. **Cypress Knee** - Complete knee, any subject, any size. No inserts attached or glued are allowed.
30. **Chip Carving** - Precise, regular, triangular, or wedge-shaped chips of wood to form engraved patterns.
31. **Relief Carving** - Dimensional images carved in the front of flat surface or background.
32. **Pyrography** - Uncarved art created with burning tools on Wood (32WP or 32WN), Paper (32P), Leather (32L), Gourds (32G), or Misc. (32M). Pyrography entries must be 90% hand burned. Other forms of pyrography such as fractal, solar, or laser burning can only amount to 10% of the total burned area. Percentages are determined at the judge's discretion. *(Information in the parenthesis MUST be on entry form to clarify pyro entries).*

33. **Miniature** - Any style, any subject. Carving (including base) must fit inside a 2-inch cube.
34. **Miscellaneous** - Wood carvings not listed in any other category.
35. **Swap** - Any style, size, or subject, painted or natural.
36. **Youth** - A category has been added to encourage young carvers. **Age groups are:** 11 and under / 12 to 14 / and 15 to 17. No entry fee for youth contestants. *(This Category only).*

CLASSIFICATIONS

Every category **except** 1, 34, and 35 will be divided as:

PAINTED - Any entry where pigmented finish is applied to the woodgrain. Paint or washes on any surface designate the carving as painted, e.g. stain or paint on the bill of a duck will be judged as "painted"

NATURAL - Any entry which is uniform in natural wood grain, non-pigmented clear coats, or sealants are allowed.

SHOW THEME

Spirit of '76

1776-2026



Create items that celebrate the USA's
250th anniversary of independence!!
(Entry by division)

ENTRY INFORMATION

Set up and Registration:

Friday, October 23rd - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday, October 24th - 7:00 AM - 8:45 AM

Judging begins at 9 a.m. Saturday.

**NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED AFTER 8:45 AM
ON SATURDAY.**

**No mailed in entry forms or entries
Will be accepted**

Entry Fee is **\$20** per carver. Payable to CVWC at time of registration. Check or cash **only**. Youth Category 36 will not be charged an entry fee unless carvings are entered into other categories.

Please complete entry form prior to registration.

COMPETITION DIVISIONS

You cannot enter a division lower than the highest one you previously entered in a competition.

NOVICE - Open to carvers who have been carving for less than five years and have not won Best of Novice.

Best of Intermediate, or Best of Open at any carving competition. A carver who has won Best of Novice at any carving competition must enter carving(s) in the INTERMEDIATE or OPEN division.

INTERMEDIATE - Open to carvers who have not won Best of Intermediate or Best of Open at any carving competition. A carver who has won Best of Intermediate at any carving competition must enter carving(s) in the Open division.

OPEN - Open to carvers who want to compete at the highest level at this competition.

AWARDS

First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention
Ribbons will be awarded in each category.

BEST OF SHOW THEME (Cat. 1)

Best of Novice - \$25

Best of Intermediate - \$50

Best of Open - \$75

SEPA Awards

Best of Pyrography Novice - \$50

Best of Pyrography Intermediate - \$100

Best of Pyrography Open - \$150

CVWC BEST OF SHOW

Best of Novice:

1st \$75 / 2nd \$50 / 3rd - \$25

Best of Intermediate:

1st - \$125 / 2nd - \$100 / 3rd - \$75

Best of Open:

1st - \$350 / 2nd - \$250 / 3rd - \$150

Special Prize Sponsored By
Klingspor's Woodworking Shop:

**Best of Show
\$500**



KLINGSPOR'S
WOODWORKING SHOP