

Rio Grande Valley Woodcarvers 2026

40th Annual Judged Competition Show

Judges: Rich Wetherbee & Roger Stegal

Category levels from Beginner to Expert – Public Invited

Saturday January 24, 2026, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday January 25, 2026, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

COMPETITION SHOW information/registration forms, VENDOR or display space contacts & CLASS information/registration forms go online to:

Website: www.rgvwoodcarvers.org

Email: rgvcarvers@rgvcarvers.org

This EVENT will be held at: (** Note NEW LOCATION)

PALM VIEW COMMUNITY CENTER

3401 JORDAN RD W,

MCALLEN, TX 78503

DONATION: \$5.00

Children Under 12 Free with Adult

ACCOMODATIONS

Several RV Parks, Hotels and Motels located conveniently near the site of the Show & Rally. Food and snacks will be available on site during the Show & Rally. There are also several restaurants in the area. Vendors will be selling a full line of tools, roughouts, pyrography equipment & tips along with many other fine wood artworks!

Club Contact Information

Rio Grande Valley Woodcarvers, Inc. PO Box 4918 Mission, Texas 78574

Website <http://www.rgvwoodcarvers.org>

Email: rgvcarvers@rgvwoodcarvers.org

COMPETITION SHOW CHAIR: Robert Rangel

1712 Whiterock St, Penitas, Texas 78576

Email: robthewoodcarver@yahoo.com Telephone: (210) 669-3181



Rich Wetherbee

Rich has spent his entire life in Colorado carving and sculpting. Having had no formal or informal training, he has designed thousands of pieces both commercially and one-of-a-kind sculptures out of many mediums including wood, clay, and bark. Rich is one of the Charter members of the Caricature Carvers of America. Rich is splitting his time up now between studio design and teaching his skills to others around the United States. Rich and Bethy have taught in 35 states ...Only 15 to go!



Roger Stegal

Roger began carving at age 11, making toy guns for his friends, because the “store-bought” ones weren’t quite right! As a hobby, he continued to whittle and carve while raising a family and working as a letter carrier for the US Postal Service. After 32 years of delivering mail, he retired and is now enjoying his first love—woodcarving. He is designing, carving and finishing his many “friends” — Ozark Hillbillies, soldiers, cowboys, mountain men, Native American Indians, Santa’s and many others.

In the early 70’s he met Harold Enlow at Dogpatch and found out there were carving tools (not just the pocketknife he had been using!) Roger’s work is influenced by Harold Enlow, Pete Engler, Bob Robertson and Steve Brown.

He is a founding member of the Central AR Woodcarving Club, has taught at the Arkansas Arts Center and offers seminars and carving classes throughout the country. He has been an instructor in Indiana, Kentucky, Florida, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Missouri, Tennessee and of course Arkansas. Roger will be returning for the third time as an instructor at the Renegade Woodcarvers Roundup in Lebanon Tennessee in October 2020. He was a member of the Ozark Crafts Guild and has had pieces in the Smithsonian and on the White House Christmas Tree.

Roger is a “guest carver” at the Woodcarving shop in Silver Dollar City and is a regular caricature instructor at the Peter Engler’s Design/Pete’s Place in Downtown Branson MO. Through the years, Roger has received many awards, ribbons and recognition from both the Caricature Carvers of America and the International Woodcarving Congress.

**TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY WOODCARVERS
2026 JUDGING RULES**

1. Novice – have less than two (2) years of carving experience. Intermediate – HAVE BEEN CARVING FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) YEARS. Open – have received a Best of show at ANY Woodcarving Show or is an instructor.
2. Registration of carving for judging will ONLY be accepted Friday starting at 4 PM to 5PM January 23, 2026, and Saturday January 24, starting at 7AM to 9AM. NO CARVING WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS TIME FRAME.
3. Carvers are RESPONSIBLE to select THE PROPER category and Division for their entries. They may be reclassified at the Competition Chair's and/or Judges' discretion. ONCE JUDGING START NO ENTRIES WILL BE RECLASSIFIED.
4. Entry forms for the judging competition will be available in the entryway at the Shrine Club. FORMS MUST BE FILLED OUT PRIOR TO CHECKING IN AT THE JUDGING TABLE.
5. Items to be judged must be made by the carver NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) YEARS PRIOR to this show. Competition Chair may remove a carving from competition if is found not to be in accordance with show rules.
6. COMPETITION DISPLAY OF CARVINGS – A. Multiple pieces MUST BE CONTAINED ON A SINGLE BASE. B. PORTRAITS, WOODBURNING, RELIEF, ETC WILL BE LAID FLAT ON THE TABLE UNLESS THE CARVER BRINGS A DISPLAY STAND. C. CANES INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE.
7. Any name, initials or signature on the carving MUST BE COVERED.
8. No more than two (2) entries in a category.
9. Mentored/instructor assisted must be entered in the appropriate Instructor Assigned Category (600-606). This includes working with an instructor outside of a class setting. **Instructor assisted carvings are NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BEST OF DIVISION OR BEST OF SHOW.**
10. All entries in the competition MUST BE LEFT ON THE JUDGING TABLES FOR THE DURATION OF THE SHOW. You will need your claim ticket to pick up you're carving at the end of the show – DON'T LOSE IT!
11. NO 3D OR LASER ENTRIES ALLOWED.

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AWARDS

Best of Division will be awarded in the Open, Intermediate
and Novice categories.

Best of Show will be chosen from awards in all categories.

Carvers Choice & People's Choice will be awarded.

Don't forget to register EARLY for the
RALLY ON THE RIO CLASSES

100	Animals Realistic,	any finish
101	Animal groups,	any finish, attached to a single base
200	Birds Waterfowl,	(single base or multiple birds on a single base)
201	Birds Shorebirds,	(single base or multiple birds on a single base)
203	202 – Birds of Prey	(single base or multiple birds on a single base)
203	Birds Songbirds,	(single base or multiple birds on a single base)
204	Birds Upland Game Birds,	
300	Canes,	
301	Walking Sticks,	
400	Caricature Animal,	in the Round
401	Caricature Human Figure,	in the Round
500	Carousel Animals,	In the round, single animal or multiple animals, any finish on a single base
600	<i>Instructor Assisted Animals,</i>	any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
601	<i>Instructor Assisted Birds,</i>	any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
602	<i>Instructor Assisted Chip Carving,</i>	any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
603	<i>Instructor Assisted Human,</i>	any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
604	<i>Instructor Assisted Miscellaneous,</i>	any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
605	<i>Instructor Assisted Relief,</i>	any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
606	<i>Instructor Assisted Pyrography (Woodburning),</i>	any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
700	<i>Fish, Any finish</i>	
701	<i>Aquatic,</i>	Creatures, Amphibians, Reptiles (wet things)
800	<i>Flowers,</i>	Any Subject, any finish
900	<i>Cottonwood Bark</i>	
901	Found Wood,	Cypress Knees, Dry wood, Limbs, etc.
1000	<i>Human Realistic,</i>	any finish, single figure
1001	<i>Human Bust,</i>	any finish
1102	<i>Human Group,</i>	any finish, single base
1100	<i>Jewelry Carved,</i>	any subject, any finish
1200	Chip Carving	
1201	Incised	
1300	Miniature,	Small Carvings that must fit in a 2” cube
1400	Misc. Carvings	do not fit anywhere else
1401	Misc. Other	Antlers, Intarsia, Fretwork, etc. (not eligible for Best of Show)
1500	Mythical Santa’s,	to include Elves & Snowmen
1501	Mythical	to include Kachinas, Trolls, Gnomes, etc.
1600	Shallow Relief,	less than ¼” deep
1601	Deep Relief,	more than ¼” deep
1602	Intaglio	
1700	Religious figures	and other spiritual subjects, crosses, etc.
1800	Stylized Human and Non-Human	(NO DISCERNIBLE details)
1900	Woodburning Painted	Any subject
1901	Woodburning Unpainted	Any subject
1902	Woodburning Significant Carving,	Any subject, painted or unpainted
2000	Wooden Toys 75% Carved Collectibles, airplanes etc. No Kits	vehicles, such as tractors, farm equipment, cars, trucks,
2100	Woodturning NO carving,	any subject, any finish (not eligible for Best of Show)
2101	Woodturning Carved 75%	Any subject, any finish
2102	Carved spoons,	any finish
2103	Gourds Any subject,	carved non- carved or painted
2104	Bowls Carved,	not turned

RIO GRANDE VALLEY WOODCARVERS – 2026 SHOW

JUDGED ENTRY REGISTRATION FORM

SHOW DATES: Saturday January 24, 2026, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Sunday January 25, 2026, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

REGISTRATION: 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM FRIDAY JAN 23, 2026

NO CARVINGS WILL BE ACCEPTED DAY OF THE SHOW

NUMBER OF CARVINGS PER CLASS – CATEGORY NUMBER – AGE OF CARVING(S)

- 1) You may enter **NO MORE THAN TWO (2) CARVINGS** in any category (e.g., 100, 500 etc.)
- 2) Mentored/instructor assisted carvings must be entered into the appropriate **Instructor Assisted Category (#600)**. This would include instructor assistance outside of a class. **Category (#2100) Woodturning & Category (#600) Instructor Assisted are NOT eligible for BEST OF DIVISION or BEST OF SHOW.** For assistance in determining the proper category number, use the Show Categories form provided in the RGVWC Show/Rally Booklet or online at our website <http://www.rgvwoodcarvers.org> to find the Category Number for your carving.
- 3) Entered carving(s) must have been carved **NO MORE than Two (2) YEARS** prior to the show. **Note: Show personnel have the right to REMOVE a CARVING which does not adhere to show rules. REMEMBER TO COVER YOUR Name/signature or initials and bring your own display stands.** This will allow the judges to make decision without bias.

ENTRY DIVISION BASED CRITERIA BELOW: ENTRY DIVISIONS

DIVISION	ENTRY TAG COLOR	CARVER QUALIFICATION
NOVICE	YELLOW	Two years or less carving, less than 2 Blue Ribbons at any carving shows. May compete in any Division but not in multiple
INTERMEDIATE	RED	More than two years carving, not received Best of Show at any woodcarving show
OPEN	BLUE	Carver has earned Best of Show and/or is or has been a woodcarving instructor or professional carver

Check the question(s) below which best describes your carving experience:

- _____ Have less than two (2) years of carving experience
- _____ Have received a Best of Show at any Woodcarving Show.
- _____ I am a paid woodcarving instructor.
- _____ I am a professional carver.

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY WOODCARVERS
RALLY ON THE RIO-2026 SHOW
ENTRY FORM**

Palm View Community Center

3401 Jordan Rd W, McAllen TX,

Jan 24 - 25, 2026

**REGISTRATION FRIDAY JANUARY 23,
FROM 1PM TO 5 PM ONLY**

Name (Please Print) _____

Division: **(Please circle one)** Novice Intermediate Open

2 FREE Entries per Table, please list your TABLE NUMBER _____

\$5.00 Donation for all other entries

CATEGORY NUMBER	CATEGORY NAME	ENTRY DESCRIPTION	DONATION
e.g. 100	e.g. Animal Realistic	e.g. Raccoon	\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

I CERTIFY THAT THE ENTRERED CARVING(S) HAVE BEEN CARVED NO MORE THAN TWO YEARS AGO BY THE UNDERSIGNED. I will not hold the Rio Grande Valley Woodcarvers, Inc. or the Palm View Community Center responsible for injury to me (us) or for damage or loss of my (our) work. I (We) agree to observe to all show rules.

SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

MUST BE A RIO GRANDE WOODCARVERS MEMBER AND PAID EVENT REGISTRATION FEE TO PARTICIPATE.