

THE CARROUSEL COURIER Jr.

HERSCHELL CARROUSEL FACTORY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

just for kids



WOODCARVERS

BY MR. IAN SEPPALA

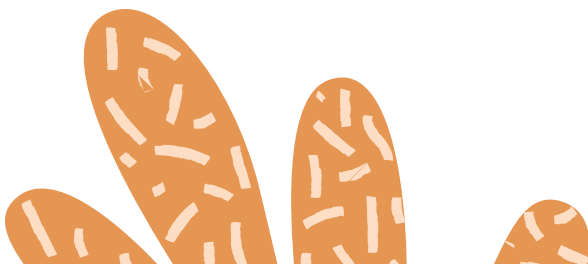
Did you know that most of our woodcarvers spoke English as a second language? According to our records, most of the Allan Herschell Company carvers were from Prussia and spoke German. Other carvers were first generation Americans, who grew up speaking a language other than English at home. These carvers had learned carving skills from their family members, who carved objects like spoons and decorated furniture in their home country. The woodcarvers at the Allan Herschell Company used various gouges and chisels to get the desired designs. Today, volunteer woodcarvers carry on these traditions at the Herschell Carousel Factory Museum.

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INTERVIEW WITH A WOODCARVER

BY MR. IAN SEPPALA

Mr. Doug Bathke is the volunteer curator and a board member of the Herschell Carousel Factory Museum. He has been woodcarving for over 55 years, and teaches the woodcarving courses at the museum. Why are you interested in carving? Carving is a very relaxing hobby that challenges me to sculpt people, animals and nature in a very realistic manor and to create decorative relief scenes or designs on wooden objects.

Q: How did you get into carving?

A: When I was thirteen years old, I met a wonderfully talented carver named Anna Hitzig. She was in her 70's and we would get together every Saturday afternoon to carve while I was in high school. She inspired me and got me on the path to a very enjoyable lifetime of carving.

Q: Share with us a memory of when carving made you happy?

A: The first time I carved a person, I carved a little girl holding her doll. She was fairly crude and I had a lot of laughs with my family over the years because of the way she looked.

Q: What advice do you have for a child interested in woodcarving?

A: I would suggest you start working with clay, as that is easy to form. Then I would advance to carving that clay model in soap. It is easy and fun to work with. The tools that you would use to work these materials (wire, plastic knives and spoons, small dull metal knives) are safe to use. Once you acquire skill with these materials, then you can advance to sharper knives and gouges to carve in wood. I used a very sharp pocket knife under the guidance of Mrs. Hitzig. I used that knife



for 10 years before I advanced to more complicated tools.

Q: What life lessons have woodcarving taught you?

A: I learned to be patient. I learned to take my time on each project. Most of all, I learned to respect the need for safe use of and care for my tools. They will then last a lifetime. Some of the tools I use were made in the 1800's.

Q: What is your favorite thing you have carved?

A: I have two items. I love putti, and carved a replica of a statue carved in 1495 of the Christ child. The other is a sculpture of the Virgin Mary, done in black walnut, from a piece of wood that I rescued from my friend's firewood pile. I carved her body and when I got to the face, the eyes and mouth were already there in the grain of the wood.

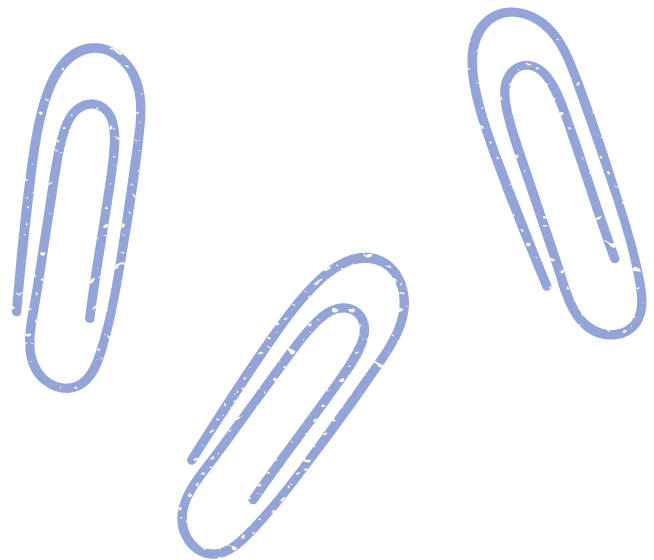
Q: What kind of tools do you use?

A: I use old and new chisels, gouges and knives that are made in Germany, Switzerland, England and the USA. They are professional carving tools.

PLAYING WITH FLEXIBILITY

BY MS. JENNA CURRAN

When engineers are working on a design, it is important to know what materials they will be working with and if that material is right for the job. A series of tests are usually conducted to see if a material is right for the job.



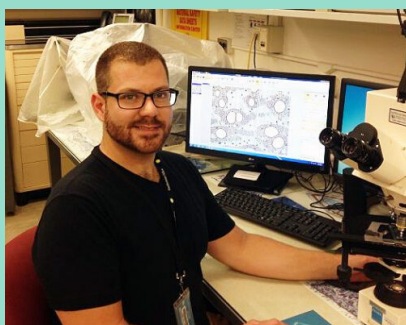
If you need something to be able to bend, it needs to be **flexible**. **Flexibility** means something is capable of bending without breaking. A paperclip is a perfect example of an object that is flexible. We can move it into a position and it will not break. A coffee mug on the other hand would definitely break into pieces if we tried to bend it like a paperclip. This is what we call rigid. Rigid means unable to bend or be forced out of a shape. In other words; not flexible. So what about something made of rubber? We can bend and stretch these objects, but they go back to the way they originally were. Unlike the coffee mug and the paperclip, these objects are elastic. Elastic means the object is able to suddenly return to its originally shape after being flexed.

Use the worksheet on pg. 4 to conduct your own flexibility test with items found in your home. Be sure to get an adult's permission before experimenting on your objects!

When you feel an object could break STOP. You know it is either flexible to a point, or rigid. There is no need to break any object!



Hop on over to the Carrousel Courier Jr. Blog later this week for a fun wood bending craft to try at home! Remember to share your projects with us using **#HCFM**



MARCELO PACE IN HIS OFFICE AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

WHAT IS A WOOD ANATOMIST?

A **Wood Anatomist** identifies and researches the structural features of wood! Marcelo Pace [left] is a **wood anatomist** who works at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC.

According to the article Rigid yet flexible: Anatomy of woody vines has its grip on botanist Marcelo Pace by Theresa Le; "There is a delicate balance that vines must strike between being rigid enough to carry out functions such as transporting nutrients, and flexible and in some ways delicate enough to wrap around various objects." WOW!

You can read the full artical for free and other great Earth Science news on www.insider.si.edu.



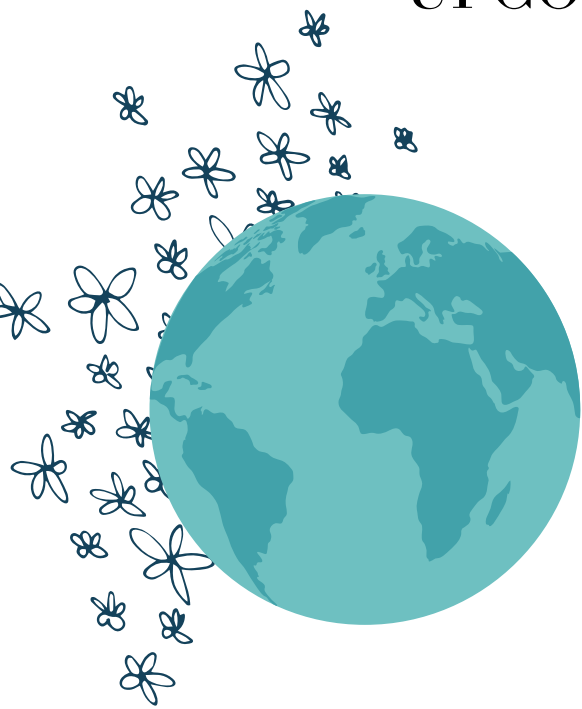
IS IT FLEXIBLE!?

A CARROUSEL COURIER JR. EXPERIMENT

The Object:	Does the object bend? If yes, describe how it bends! Was it easy?	What else can you observe about the object? Color, Size, Smell, Texture...	Which is the object: (Circle one)
			Flexible Rigid Elastic
			Flexible Rigid Elastic
			Flexible Rigid Elastic
			Flexible Rigid Elastic

WHAT ARE SOME OBSERVATIONS YOU WERE ABLE TO MAKE?

UPCOMING EVENTS



EARTH WEEK

APRIL 20TH - 27TH

ON FACEBOOK LIVE @ 12:30

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum will be hosting facebook live events Monday April 20th - Friday April 24th each day at 12:30pm. These range from 10 minute crafts & STEM activities to healthy planet tips for the whole family to enjoy. We hope you will be able to join us!

Don't worry if you can't make it each day at 12:30pm, all resources and activities will be shared on the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum's Carrousel Courier Jr. Blog for you to enjoy anytime.

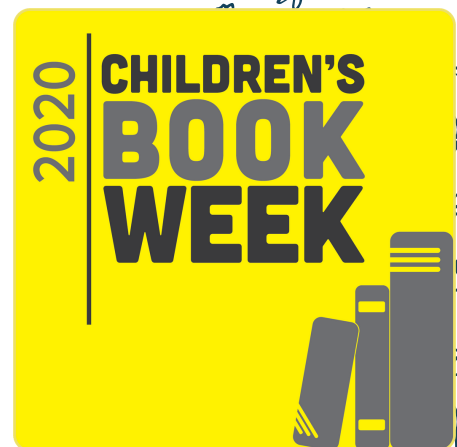
CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

MAY 4TH - MAY 8TH

ON FACEBOOK LIVE @ 12:30

Join us and the organization Every Child A Reader along with other local libraries, bookstores, museums, and schools as we celebrate Children's Book Week using the #HCFM and #BookWeek2020atHome .

Tune into our facebook about for a storytime Monday - Friday followed by a craft inspired by some literary greats! On May 6th a special edition of Carrousel Courier Jr. will also be released with more reading fun and games for the whole family and a special treat for the next time you get to visit us at the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum!



YMCA STEM SUMMER CAMP

@ THE HERSCHELL CARROUSEL FACTORY MUSEUM

JUNE 29TH - AUG. 7TH

The Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum and the Ken-Ton YMCA have joined forces this summer for an epic STEM Summer Camp. You can stay up to date on the latest STEM Summer Camp news on either www.carrouselmuseum.org or www.ymcabuffaloniagara.com .

Questions about STEM Summer Camp? You can contact our Outreach Coordinator at Outreach@carrouselmuseum.org

LAST WEEKS PUZZLE ANSWERS

SIMPLE MACHINE MATCH

DRAW A LINE TO MATCH THE IMAGE TO THE WORD

PULL

PULLEY

INCLINED PLANE

SCREW

WHEEL & AXLE

WEDGE

LEVER

SIMPLE MACHINE MATCH GRAPHICS FROM GENERATIONGENIUS.COM