



***Santa
Wood Carvings
Book Three***

*Step-by-step instructions for
carving in wood.*

Includes eleven patterns

Russell Scott



Santa Wood Carvings

Book 3

Written by Russell Scott
Photography by Russell Scott

Acknowledgments

I'd like to thank those who collect and keep old vintage Christmas cards. They inspire me.

Also, thanks to fellow wood carvers who have purchased my previous book and videos and have sent me photos of their projects. I like to post them on my ScottCarvings.com web sit for other carvers to see and become inspired. I love to see your results and variations. Keep up the good work.

- Russell Scott

Visit my web site at:
ScottCarvings.com
[Pinterest.com/rscott56](https://www.pinterest.com/rscott56)
[YouTube.com/ScottCarvings](https://www.youtube.com/ScottCarvings)

Check out my rough-outs at: www.scottcarvings.com/scott-carvings-rough-outs

2016 Copyright Russell Scott

Table of Contents

Santa #1	8
Santa #1 Steps	10
Santa #2	26
Santa #2 Steps	28
Santa #3	34
Santa #3 Steps	36
Santa #4	38
Santa #4 Steps	40
Santa #5	42
Santa #6	44
Santa #7	46
Santa #8	48
Santa #9	50
Santa #10	52
Santa #11	54

Introduction

I create family heirlooms that descendants will be arguing over for generations.

I am Russell Scott, a wood carving artist from Saint Paul, Minnesota. I have a passion for wood carving and a desire to bring out the beauty that lies in each piece of wood. I have been carving since 1999. I inherited my interest in wood working from my father, Bob, who spent many hours designing and building wooden model airplanes from scratch and from my ancestors who were involved in the logging industry in northern Wisconsin. I also have artistic interests in drawing, photography and fly tying.

I carve mainly in basswood, butternut, Honduras mahogany, walnut, pine, and cedar. I carve cottonwood bark into wood spirits, Santas, Native Americans and Nome houses.

I focus mainly on carving human figures, including holiday figures, cowboys and females. My carvings have received awards at carving shows, county and state fairs, and national carving contests. I am a member of several professional carving organizations, local and national.

I teach woodcarving classes and as a result have developed instructional DVDs, YouTube videos, books and rough outs.

I have showcased some of my work and invite you to visit my web site at **www.ScottCarvings.com**

Philosophy about woodcarving

My passion for woodcarving is all about the search for the mystery of what can be found in a piece of wood. What's really possible and what is worth the search? There is a genuine treasure that lies deep in the wood. I like to dive as deep as I can to reveal that precious treasure.

Each one-of-a-kind carving is a reflection of the eternal spirit that lies in the wood. I use chisels and knives to bring out the wood's own quiet personality. Woodcarving is a slow, tough process; each carved piece presents unique challenges. I can't make multiple prints or cast additional pieces to recreate the uniqueness of an original woodcarving.

Each carving is done entirely by hand, carved free form from a model that exists only in the mind of the creator. After carving each character, I paint it with colors that enhance the image my tools have begun.

Scott Carvings

Russell Scott

1238 Edmund Ave.

St. Paul, MN 55104

rscott56@netzero.com

ScottCarvings.com

[Pinterest.com/rscott56](https://www.pinterest.com/rscott56)

[YouTube.com/ScottCarvings](https://www.youtube.com/ScottCarvings)

Vintage Santa Claus Woodcarvings

Books 1 and 2

I have created a set of vintage Santa Claus woodcarvings, with patterns, along with an image gallery. These representations of Santa Claus span through the era of the second half of the 1800s to the early 20th century. Illustrator Thomas Nast helped form the image of Santa Claus with his depiction of a round Santa for the Christmas issues of Harper's magazine from the 1860s to the 1880s.

There are many variations of Santa, some with reindeers, sleighs, Christmas stockings and rooftop visits down the chimney. The rosy cheeked, pot-bellied, jolly Santa Claus that we are so familiar with in America was popularized by a Coca Cola advertisement in 1931.

During the earlier era, Santa Claus appeared as an old white-bearded man, but he could be fat, thin jolly or sometimes scary looking. He wore either an overcoat or a bishop's robe that ranged in many different colors. Some images have found Santa not only in red or white or green coat, but also in blue, brown and even purple. Santa would arrive to deliver presents through windows, doors, or down chimneys, having traveled from different countries with horses, goats, donkeys, reindeer or just walking with a staff through forests. By the early 20th century technology became available to Santa and he used cars, biplanes and hot air balloons to make his arrival. His gift giving travels not only happened on Christmas day, but also on Saint Nicholas Eve on the 6th of December.

He was not always known as Santa Claus but had different names depending on the country and culture he came from, including Saint Nicholas, Tomte, Sinterklaas, Pere Noel, Kriss Kringle, Father Christmas, Grandfather Frost, Joulupukki, Old St. Nick and many more. He is still known in Europe and throughout the world by different names.

Pictures of Santa Claus can be found in old books or old penny postcards of the late 19th century. These images show the vintage Santa Claus as he was all over Europe before he became our modern day American version. Vintage postcards were the inspiration for these designs.

Santa Wood Carvings - Book 3

As a Santa carver and collector I enjoy dreaming up new designs for the big guy. I imagine him in different situations. I look through the internet, magazines, old books, and photos for inspiration. This book contains some of my latest creations; A cowboy Santa delivering a stick pony, Santa enjoying a glass of milk and a cookie during one of his stops, a northwoods Santa with a plaid cap and an axe as he goes out to chop down a Christmas tree, Santa going down the chimney and Santa putting an old record of Bing Crosby's White Christmas on the high fi. I hope you become inspired to create one of your own. And do keep carving, After all, there's always room for one more Santa on your Christmas shelf.

Other Wood Carving Instructional Books and Videos

**Vintage Santa Claus I & II - Carving Native American Faces
15 Woodcarving Patterns - Carving Women Caricatures - Small
Club Projects**

Check out the ScottCarvings.com website for new rough -outs and books.

Scott Carvings

Russell Scott

1238 Edmund Ave.

St. Paul, MN 55104

rscott56@netzero.com

ScottCarvings.com

[Pinterest.com/rscott56](https://www.pinterest.com/rscott56)

[YouTube.com/ScottCarvings](https://www.youtube.com/ScottCarvings)



Scott Carvings



Wood Carving Safety

For Hand Carving...

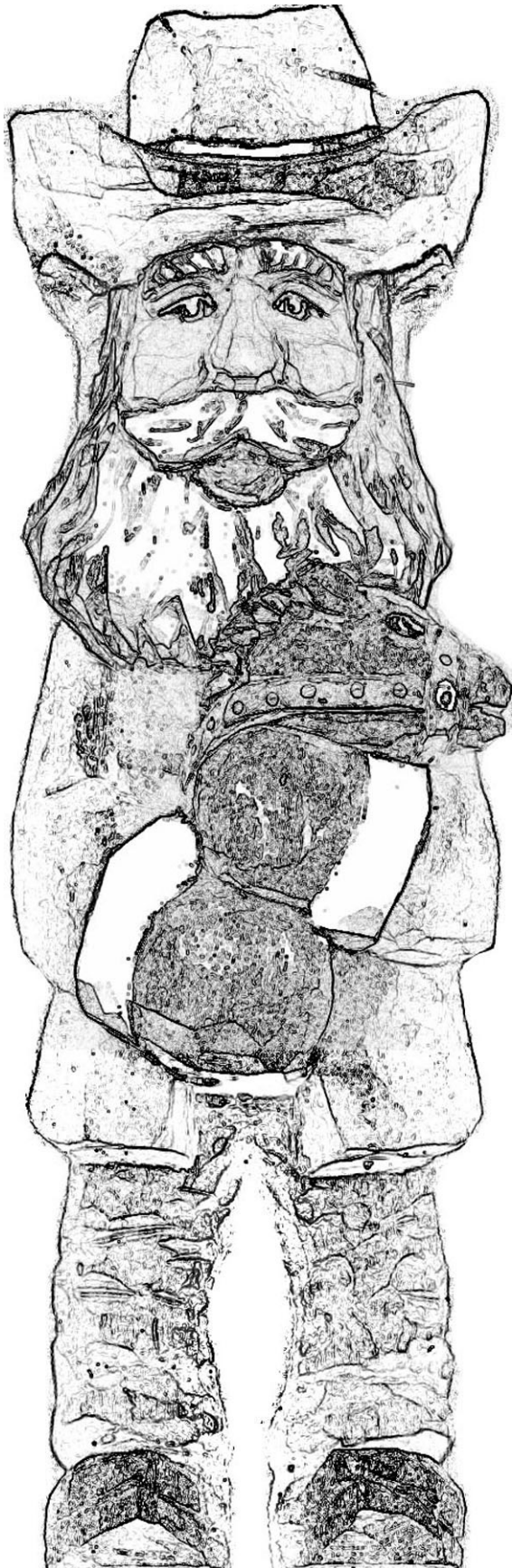
- **Safety Glove** – Kevlar threaded gloves are necessary when holding small wood carvings to help prevent cuts to the hands or fingers. Leather gloves are useful when using the knife, chisel or while handling power tools.
- **Leather Finger Tabs** – Useful when working with knives. A thumb tab is worn on the hand holding the knife.
- **First Aid Kit** – To be used for minor injuries. Include bandages, gauze, and tweezers.
- **Work Aprons** – Heavy duty cloth is acceptable for carving operations and to protect the arms and legs during power and chain saw carving.
- **Vinyl Gloves** – For handling paint, oils, turpentine or mineral spirits. Latex gloves sometimes produce skin reactions.

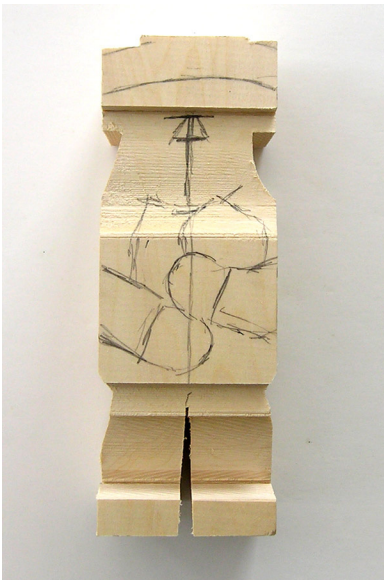
For Power Carving...

- **Eyewear** – Face shields are required for all grinding and power carving type operations. Safety glasses with side shields provide protection for the eyes but leave skin unprotected. Prescription glasses are not sufficient. Use safety goggles while handling liquids.
- **Respirator** – Used while sawing or power carving wood. Minimum requirement for particulate masks is the governmental standard, N95.
- **Ear Plugs or Muffs** – Extensive work with equipment producing noise levels above 85 dB can cause hearing loss.
- **Shoes** – Heavy duty work shoes are advised when working with power equipment or sharp hand tools.
- **Room Ventilation** – Ventilation to 8-10 air changes per hour is desired. When locating these units consider work activities and location of HVAC ducts. Don't forget to periodically check, clean or replace filters.
- **Fire Extinguisher** – Type A,B or A,B,C
- **Electrical Cords** – Always use cords with a grounded plug. Do not use cords that have been taped. Frayed cords should be replaced.
- **Safety Guards** – Make certain equipment safety guards are in place and securely attached.

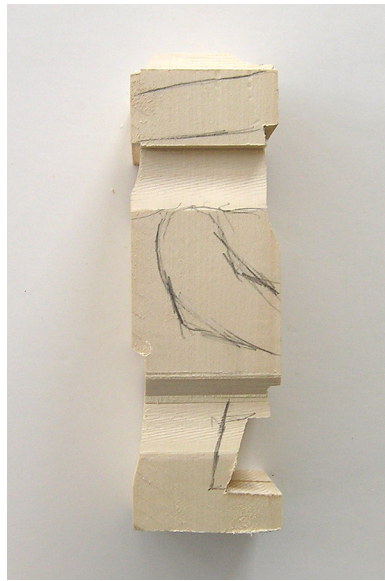
Santa Project #1



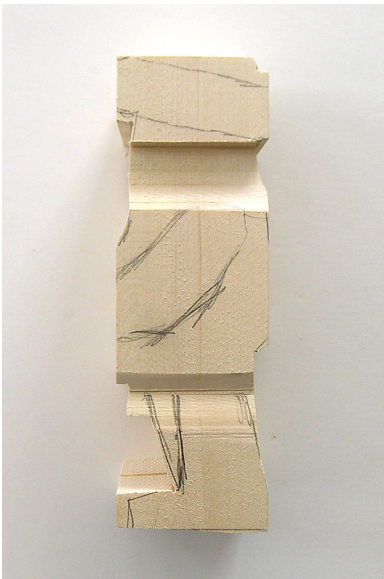




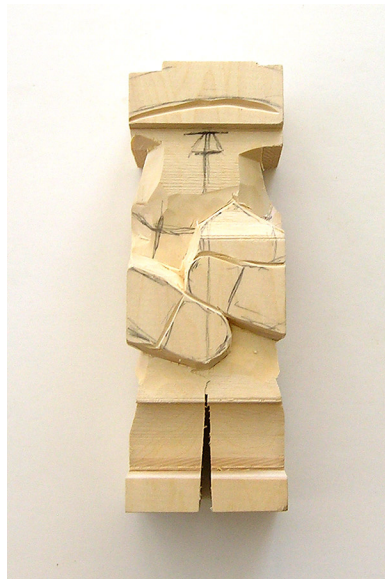
1. On the cutout, draw in the center line and arm lines.



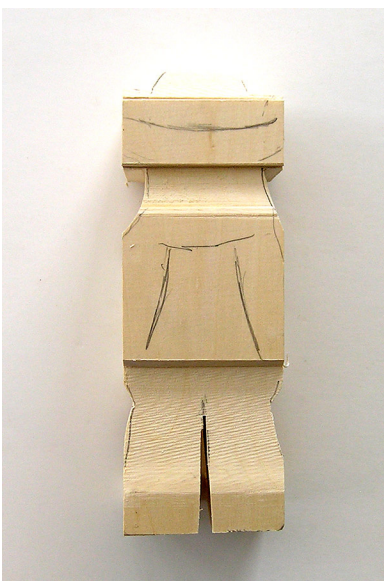
4. Draw arm lines on the right side.



2. Draw arm lines on the left side.



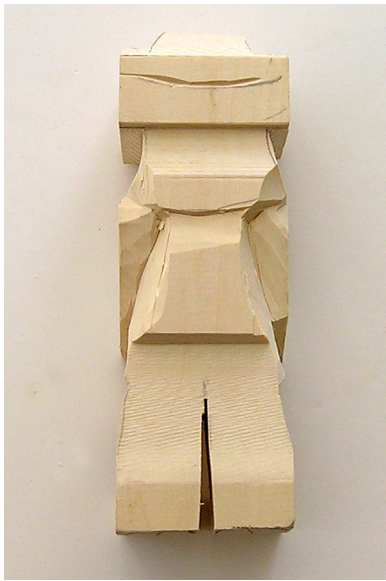
5. Block out the arms and horse head using chisel or knife.



3. Draw arm lines on the back side.



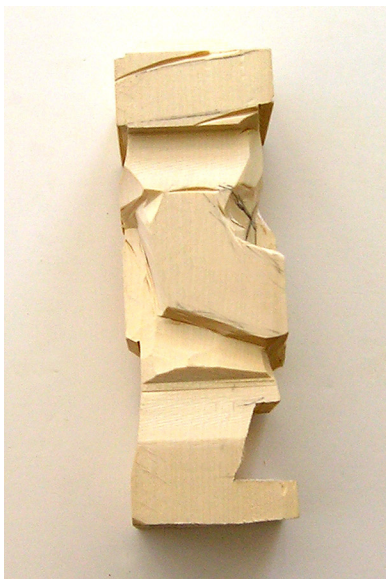
6. Block out the left arm.



7. Block out the arms in back.



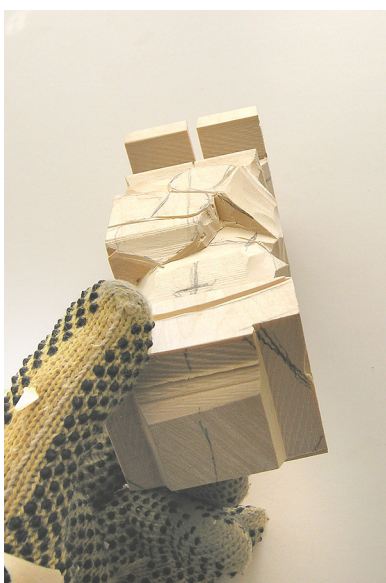
10. Cut out the forearm from elbow to wrist.



8. Block out the arms in front. (Cut down and across on both sides of the arm.)



11. Front view.



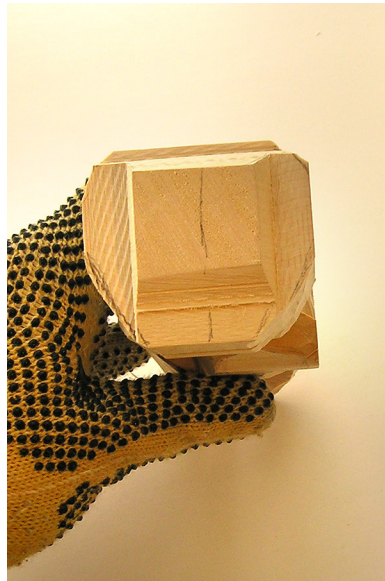
9. Cut out the forearm from elbow to wrist.



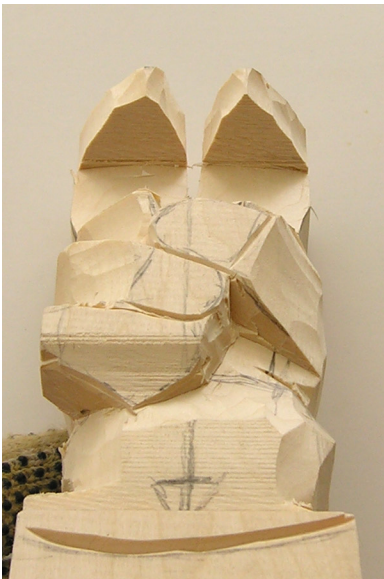
12. Draw the legs.



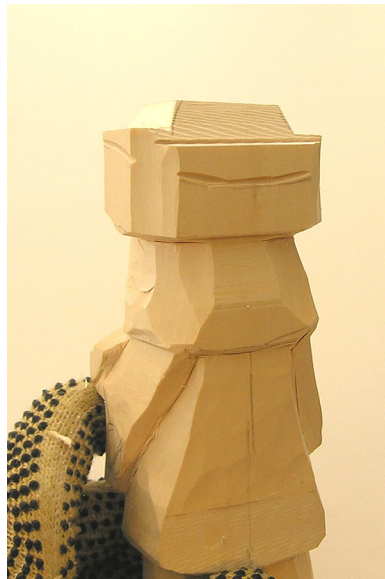
13 .Cut out the legs



16. Shape the hat.



14. Cut the boots to a point.



17. Shape the back of the head



15. Round the legs.



18. Shape the bottom of the hat. Draw a line down the center of the head. Cut the head to a 90 degree angle. Draw in the lines shown here.



19. Cut out the bottom of the nose as shown.



22. Carve out the eye sockets down to the eye line.



20. Draw dots for the eyeballs on the eye line.



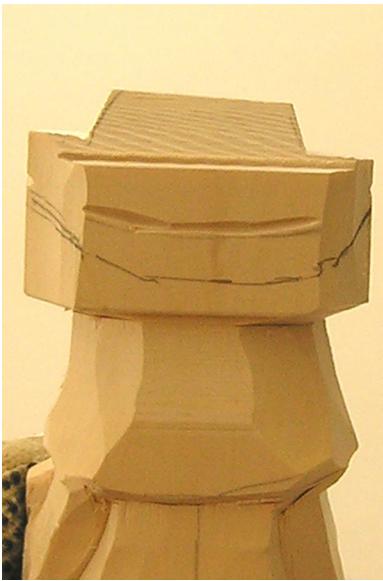
23. Draw in face and mustache line.



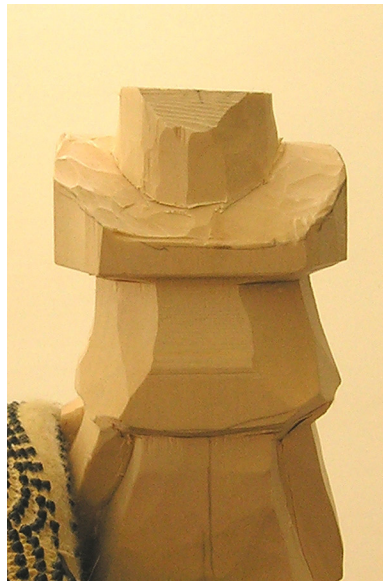
21. Make chip cuts as shown on the side of the nose to the eye socket.



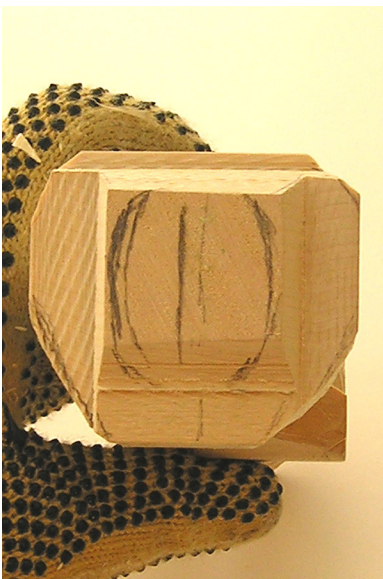
24. Return to the hat. Draw a drooping line as shown.



25. Draw a drooping line on the back of the hat.



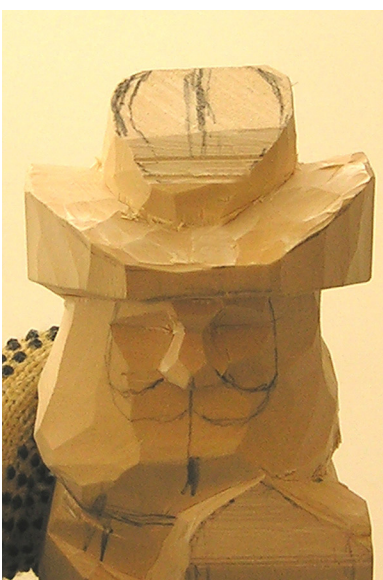
28. Back view.



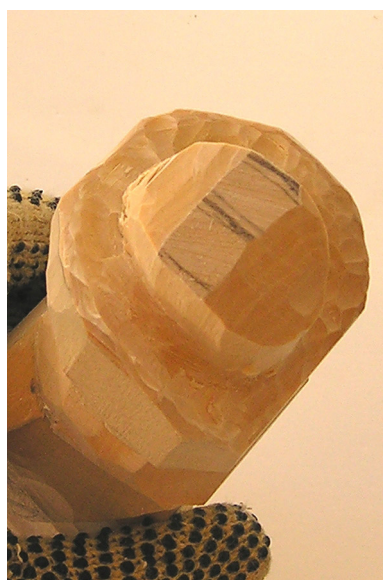
26. Draw lines to round the top of the hat.



29. Side view.



27. Round the top of the hat.



30. Gouge around the center of the hat to bring up the brim..



31. Round the brim of the hat.



34. Draw and V cut a section for the ear.



32. Front view.



35. Cut around the ear segment as shown.



33. Use a large gouge to put dents on the front and top of the hat.



36. Draw the shape of the ear.



37. Draw a line to separate the beard from the hair.



40. Carve the front base of the ear down past the sideburns



38. Cut to separate the beard from the hair.



41. Under cut back of the ear.



39. Cut the forward part of the ear slanting the ear forward.



42. Draw a V on the ear base level with the eye line



43. Cut down on the upper V line and scoop up towards the top of the ear.



46. Draw a 'C' line near the edge of the ear.



44. Cut down on the lower V line and scoop up towards the bottom of the ear.



47. Use a V-tool and gouge out the 'C' line.



45. Round the triangle.



48. Draw in the horse head features as shown



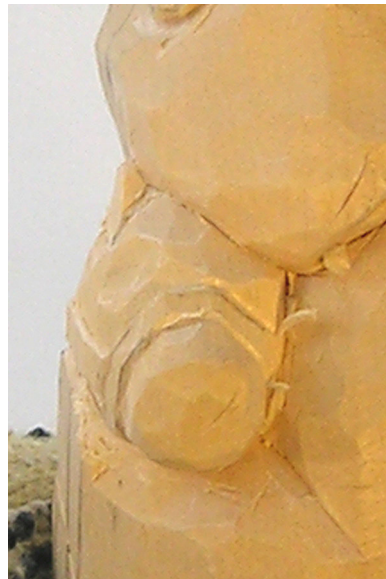
49. Draw a center line on top of the horse. Cut the nose to a point



52. Use a V-tool to cut in the harness and ear line. Use a knife to cut down the head and bring out the ear and harness.



50. Round the nose and forehead



53. Another view.



51. Re-draw the harness.



54. Shape his mane.



55. Use a V-tool and put in the hair, eye, mouth and nostrils.



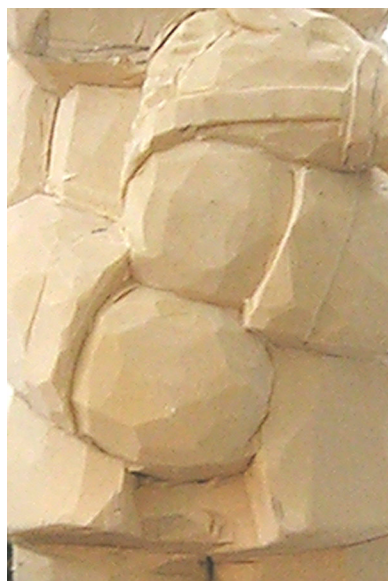
58. Separate the pants and the coat bottom.



56. Draw a line to show where the pony stick will go.



59. Draw lines to bow his legs.



57. Round out the mittens.



60. Cut the lines to bow his legs.



61. Draw a line to separate the boots from the pants legs.



64. Round the boots



62. Cut into the boots to let the pants legs drape over the boot.



65. Carve in heels on the bottom of the boots as shown.



63. Use a knife to cut in pants leg folds.



66. Draw in lines for the soles of the boots.



67. Use a V-tool to gouge in the soles of the boots.



70. Use a knife to cut out the side of the face as shown



68. Use the knife to carve folds in the boots.



71. Press down on the side of the nose with a medium size #9 chisel to form the nostrils.



69. Use a V tool to gouge in the mustache.



72. Remove the cut wood from the nostrils.



73. Use the same #9 chisel to shape the base of the nose and round the upper lid of the eye socket.



76. Use a V-tool to chisel out the bottom of the mouth. Make a cut deep under the mustache and make a hole for the mouth.



74. Use the same #9 chisel to round the lower lid of the eye socket.



77. Use a knife to gouge out the hole in the mouth.



75. Draw a small semi circle under the mustache for the mouth.



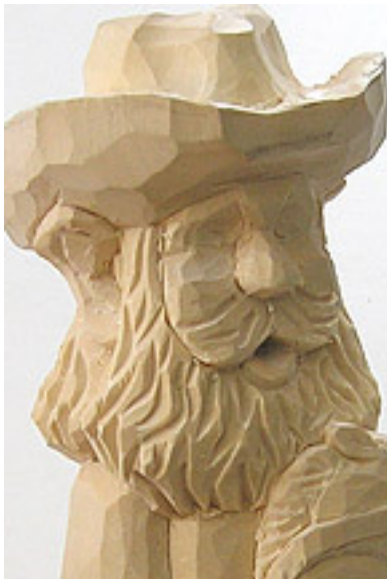
78. Round the back.



79. Use a large chisel to make gouge marks in the beard.



82. Use a knife to make straight cuts drawn by the pencil.



80. Use a V tool to finish the beard.



83. Make chip cuts on both sides of the eyeball.



81. Re-draw the eye line. Make equal marks the same width as the base of the nose for each eye width.



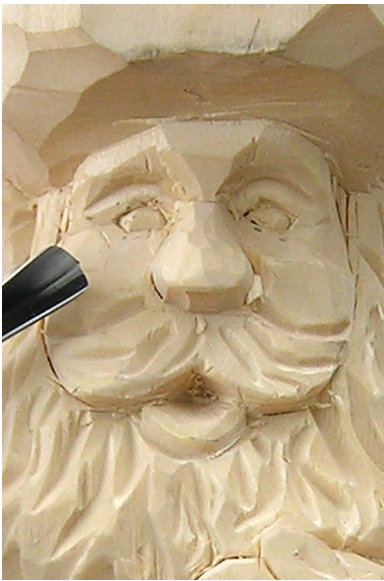
84. Round the upper eye ball.



85. Round out lower the eyeball.



88. Use the tip of your knife to dig a sharp V cut to bring out the eyelids.



86. Use a V-tool to chisel out the eyelids.



89. Use the same #9 chisel to press down on the forehead for the eye brows.



87. On the side of the eye, make a stop cut under the eye lid and cut up to that stop cut.



90. Use the same #9 chisel on the bridge of the nose up to the hat.



Cut away any wood from the eyebrows



81. Draw in a band for the hat. Use a V tool and other chisels to bring out the band.



Round the eyebrows up to the hat.



82. Use a V tool down the pants legs as a seem



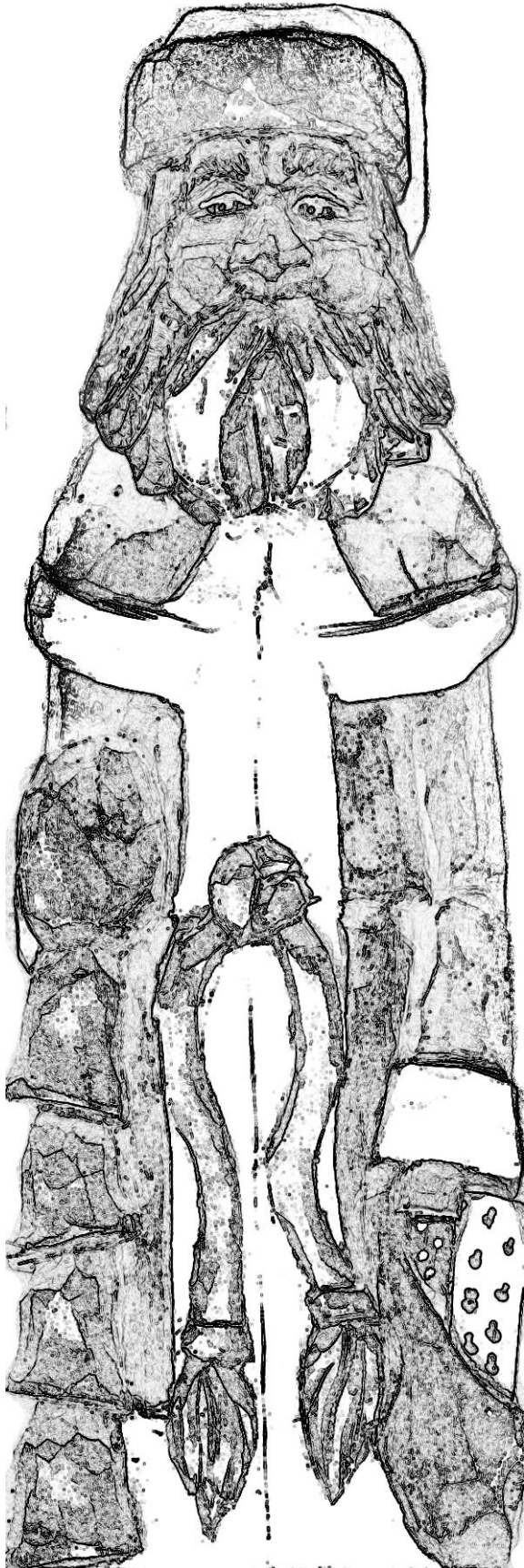
80. Use a V tool to put in his eyelash eyebrows.



83. Drill a hole on the bottom of his right hand and place a dowel for the pony stick. I used a 3/16th inch stick.

Santa Project #2



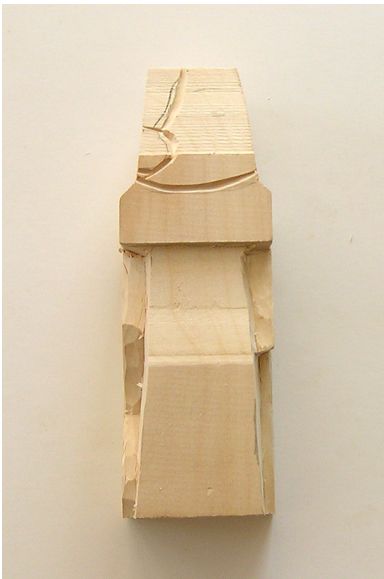




1. Block out the arms in front. (Cut down and across on both sides of the arm.)



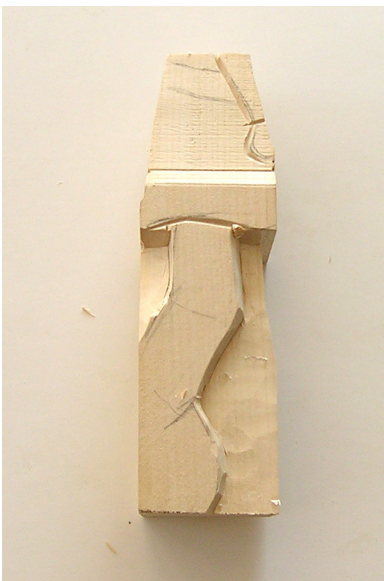
4. Block out the right arm and collar.



2. Block out the arms in back.



5. Draw a line down the center of the head. Cut the head to a 90 degree angle. Draw in the lines shown here.



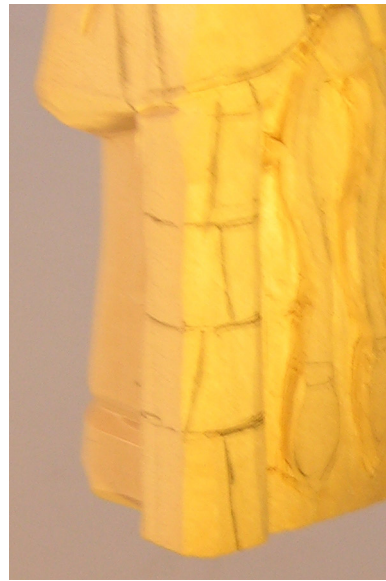
3. Block out the left arm.



6. Block out the robe rope tie.



7. Block out the packages in the pouch.



10. Draw lines to separate the four bells. Make angled center lines for each bell



8. Another view.



11. Draw in the bells at separate angles



9. Cut out the robe lines. Use a knife to cut creases on the back of the robe.



12. Another view.



13. Make the first cuts to separate each bell.



16. Use a V-tool to shape the thumb, then use a knife on the hand to bring out the thumb.



14. Shape each bell.



17. Draw the fur trim in front.



15. Make V cuts for the sleeve coat trim.



18. Draw in the knot.



19. Cut out the coat around the fur trim. Cut out the knot. Draw in the end of the robe rope.



22. Draw in the eye and nose lines as shown. Cut out the bottom of the nose.



20. Use a V-tool to cut out the fray of the robe rope end. Round out the rope.



23. Use a knife to cut out the eye sockets. (More details on page 14).



21. Draw and use a V-tool to cut out the upper robe collar.



24. Draw and use a V-tool to bring out the face and mustache.



25. Cut towards the nose from the top of the eye corner down to the nostril to complete the chip cut.



28. Use the same #9 chisel to shape the base of the nose and round the upper and lower lid of the eye sockets.



26. Round out the stocking hat and ball.



29. Draw the eyes as shown.



27. Press down on the side of the nose with a medium size #9 chisel to form the nostrils.



30. Use a knife to make straight cuts drawn by the pencil. Make chip cuts on both sides of the eyeball.



31. Round out the eyeball.



34. Under cut the tips of the beard to bring the beard out.



32. Cut out the beard as desired. Use a knife to carve very deep cuts.



35. Use a V tool to put in his eyelash eyebrows.



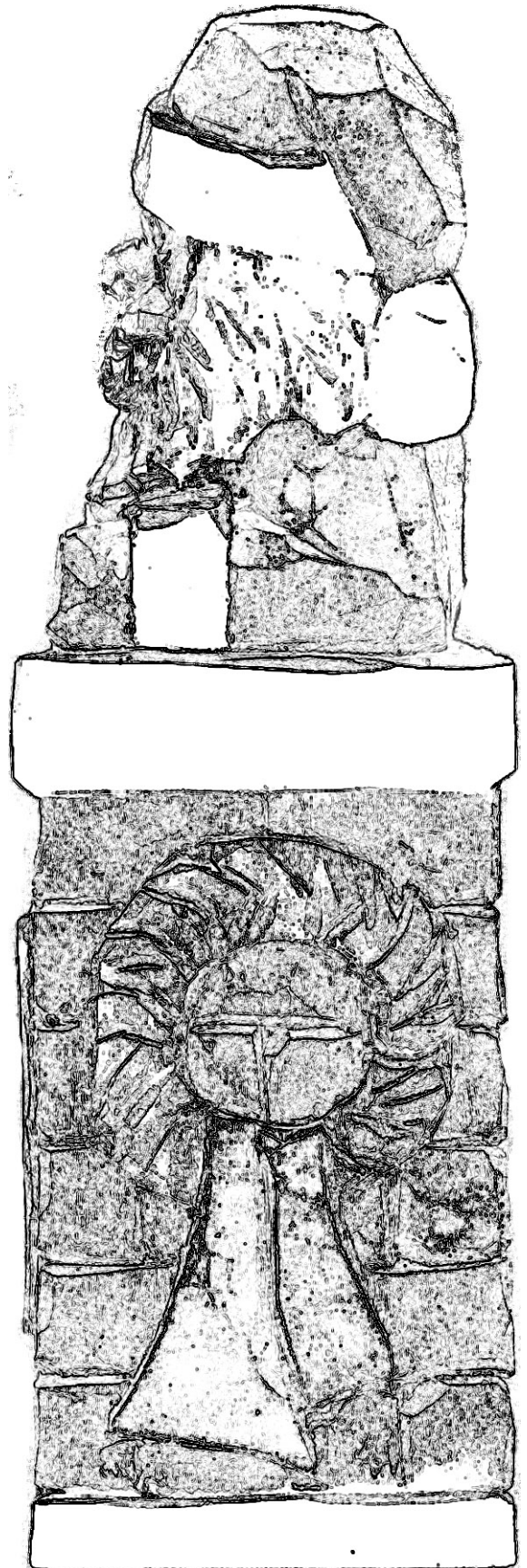
33. Use your knife to scoop the beard as desired.

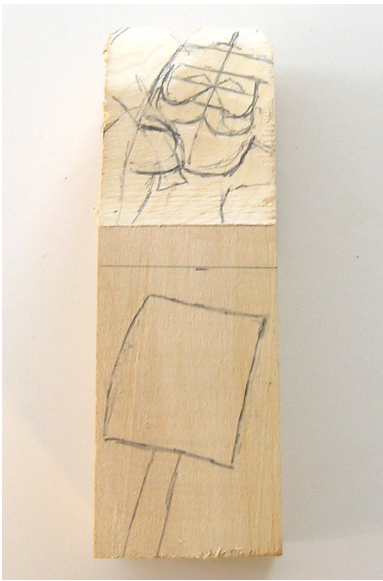


36. Finished.

Santa Project #3







1. On the cutout, draw arm lines.



4. Block out the back.



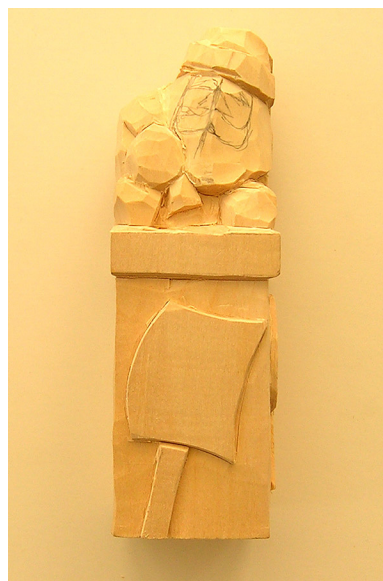
2. Block out the front.



5. Block out the right side.



3. Block out the left side.



6. Draw a line down the center of the head. Cut the head to a 90 degree angle. Draw in the lines shown here. (More details to carve the face and head start at page 14.)



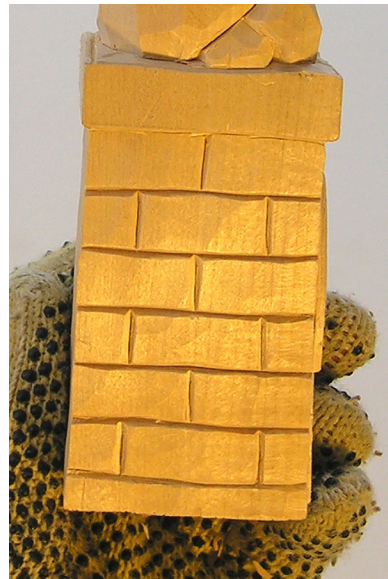
7. Shape the arms and hat.



10. Draw in and use a V-tool to shape the bricks of the chimney.



8. Back view.



11. Use the knife to sharpen the separations of each brick.



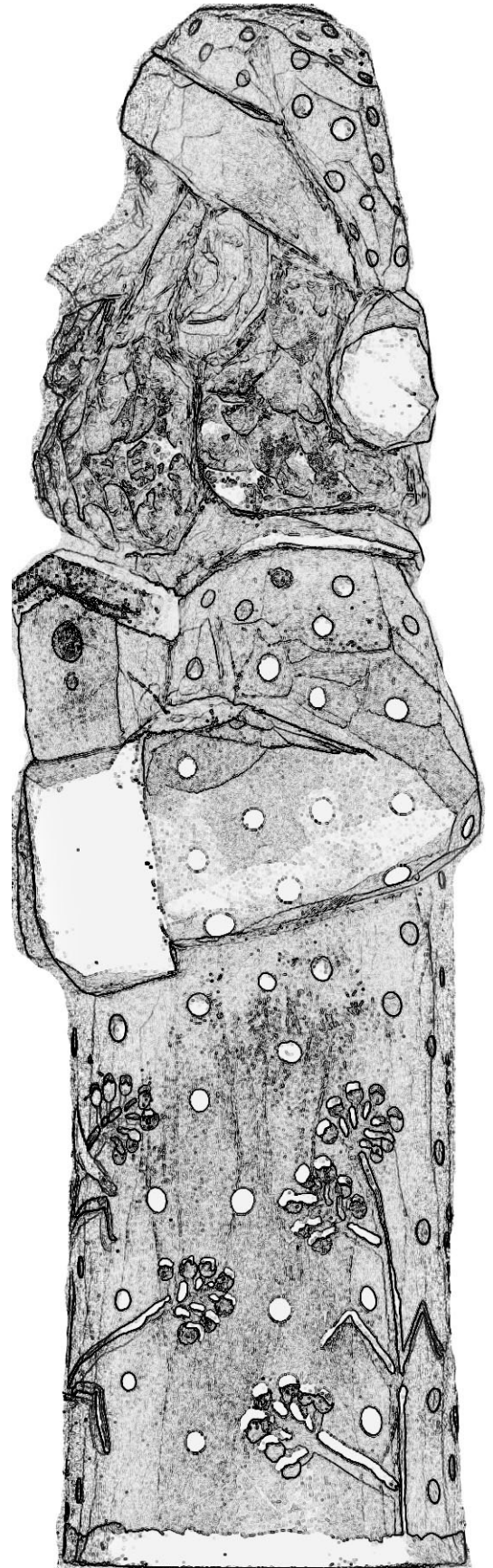
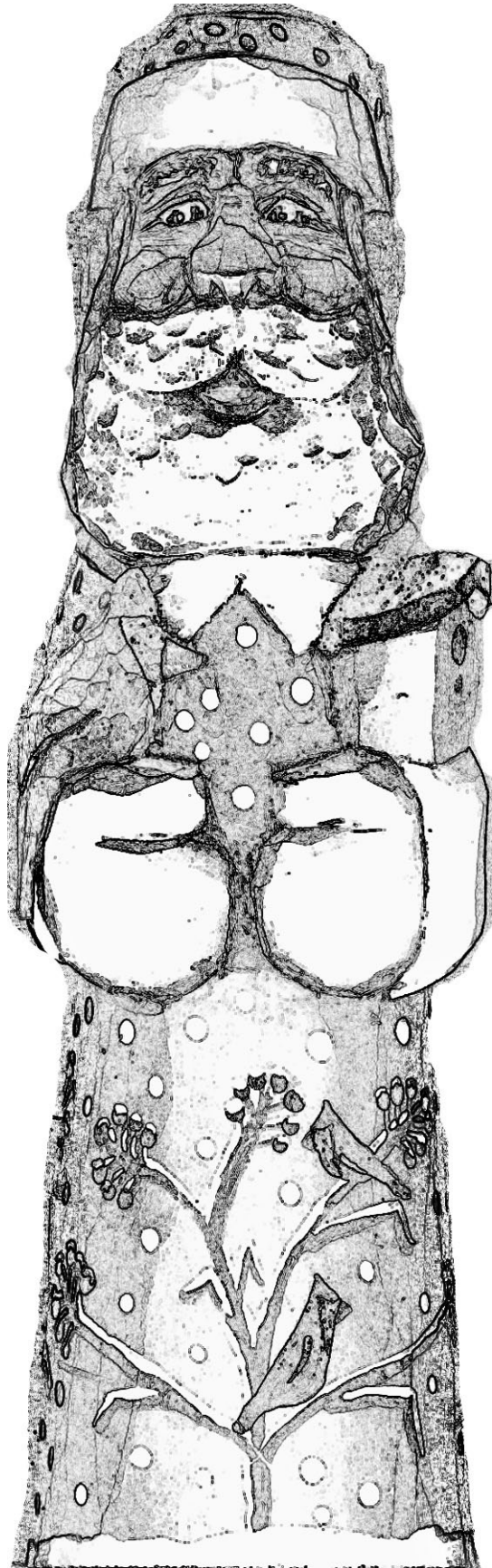
9. Side view.



12. Use a knife and chisel to make each brick imperfect.

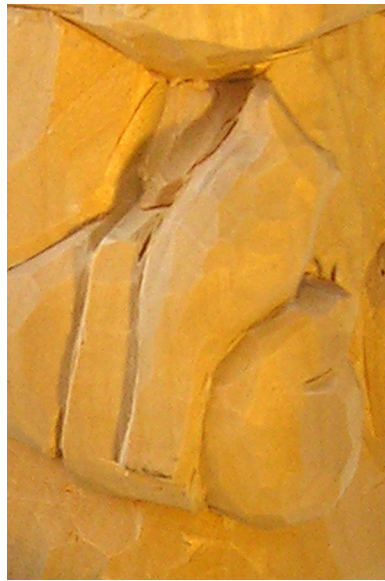
Santa Project #4







1. Block out the carving around the cardinal and bird house. Draw a line down the center of the head. Cut the head to a 90 degree angle. Draw in the lines shown here.



4. Shape the cardinal. Shape the mitten and thumb.



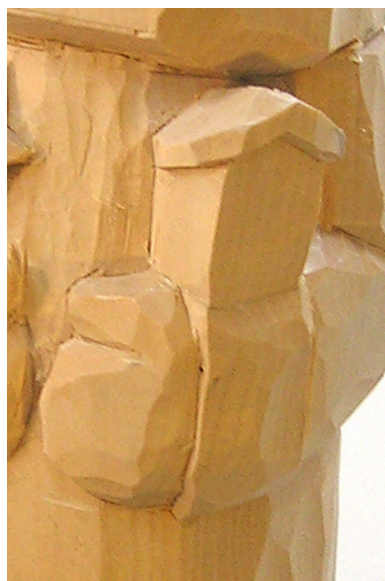
2. Draw a center line down the cardinal's back. Shape the tail.



5. Draw in the bird house and mitten.



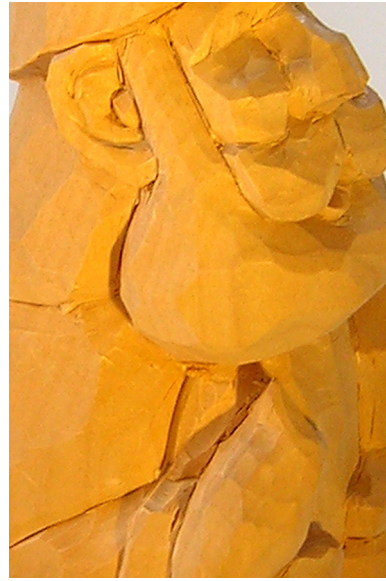
3. Shape the cardinal. Draw in the mitten and thumb.



6. Shape the bird house and mitten



7. Draw in and use a V-tool to bring out the ear. (More detail on the ears start on page 15.)



10. Cut to separate the beard from the hair.



8. Cut the forward part of the ear slanting the ear forward.



11. Use a large chisel to make gouge marks in the beard.



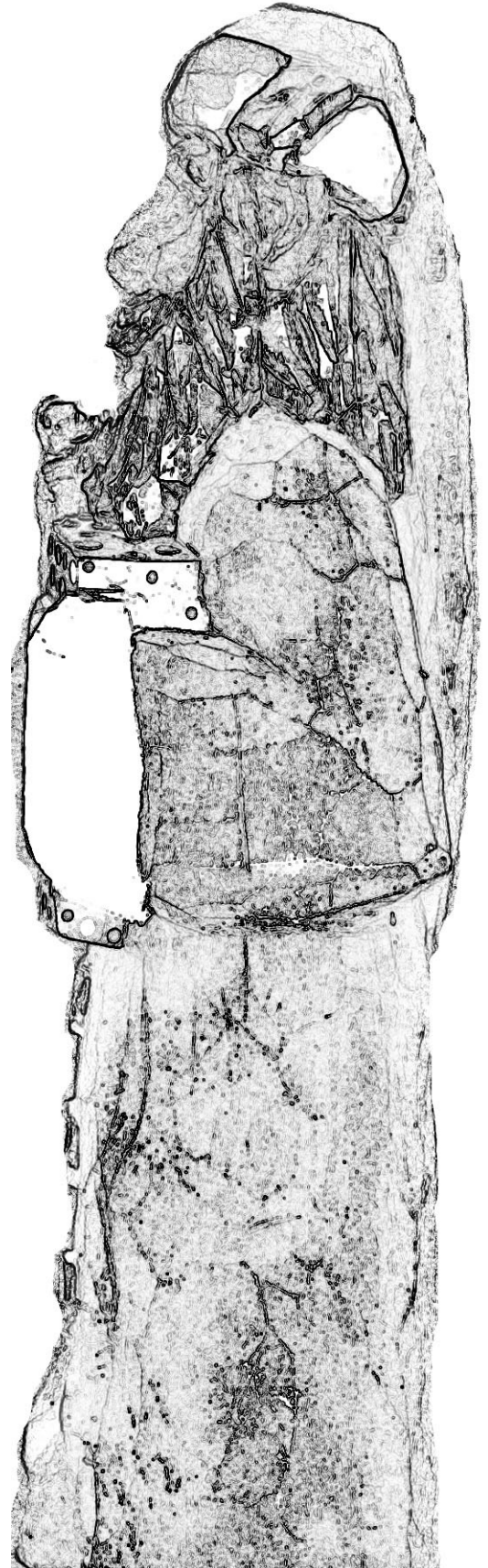
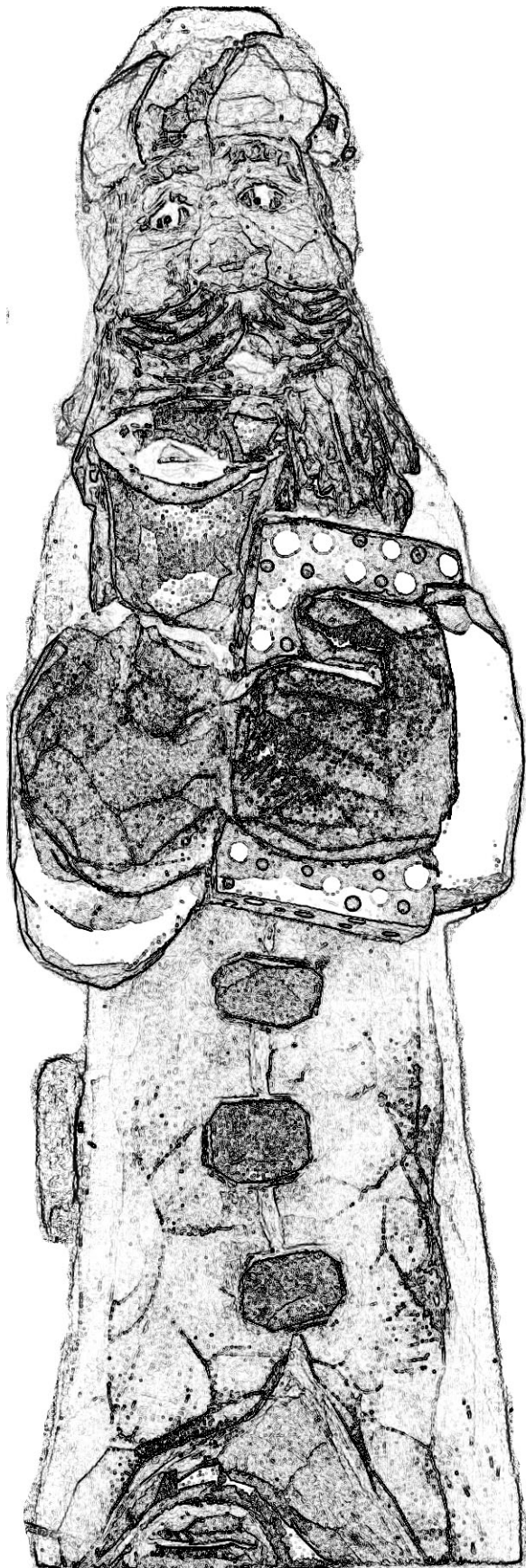
9. Shape the ear to side. (More detail on the ears start on page 16.)



12. Use smaller chisels to refine the hair and beard.

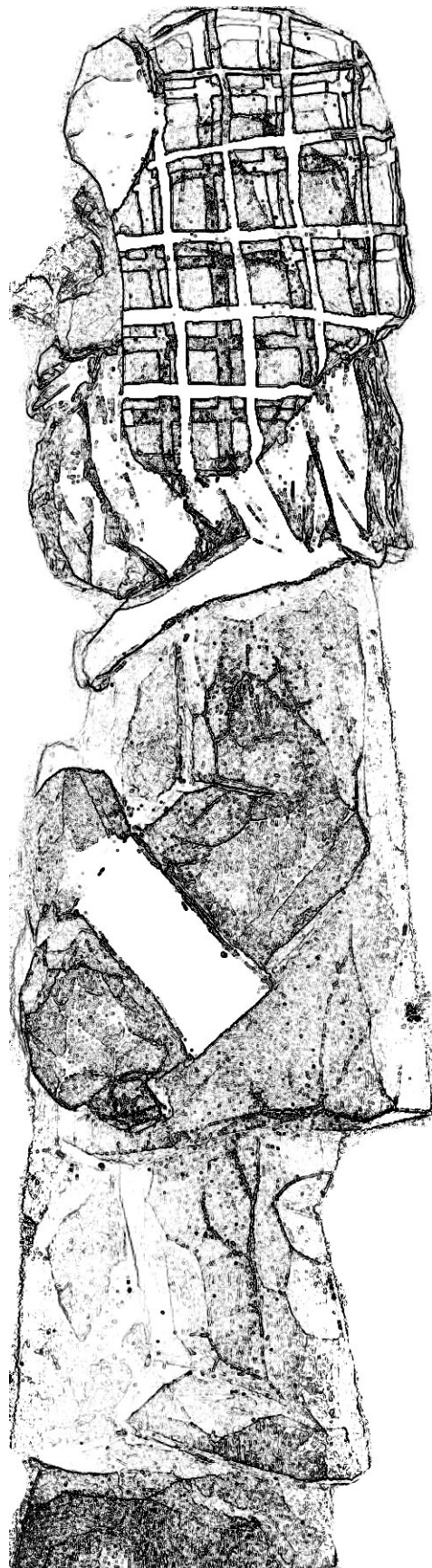
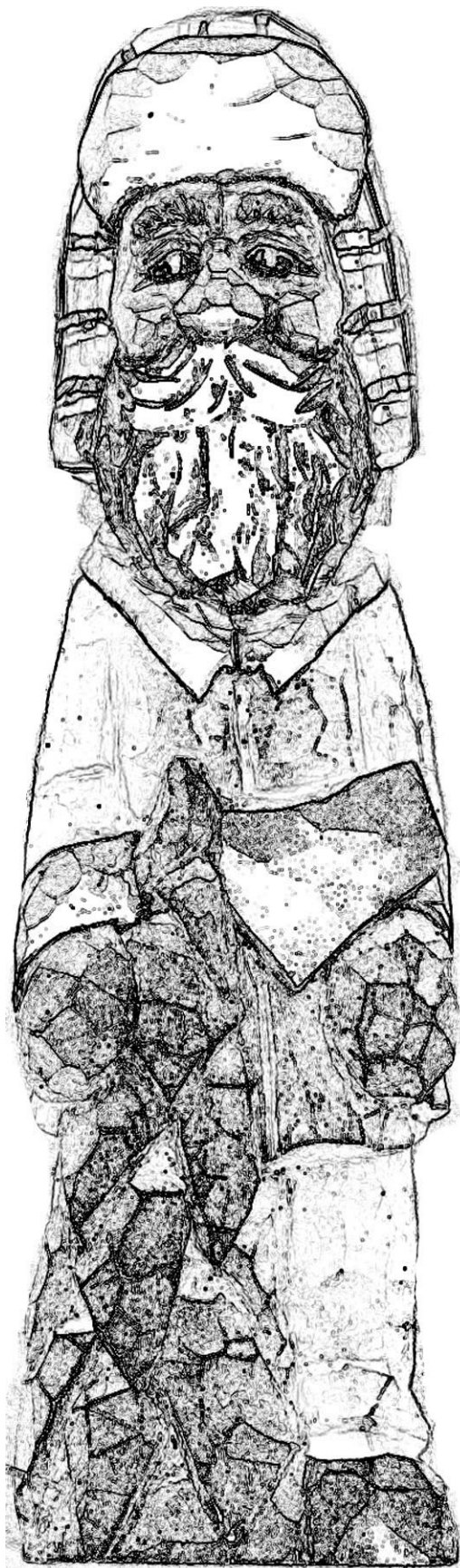
Santa Project #5





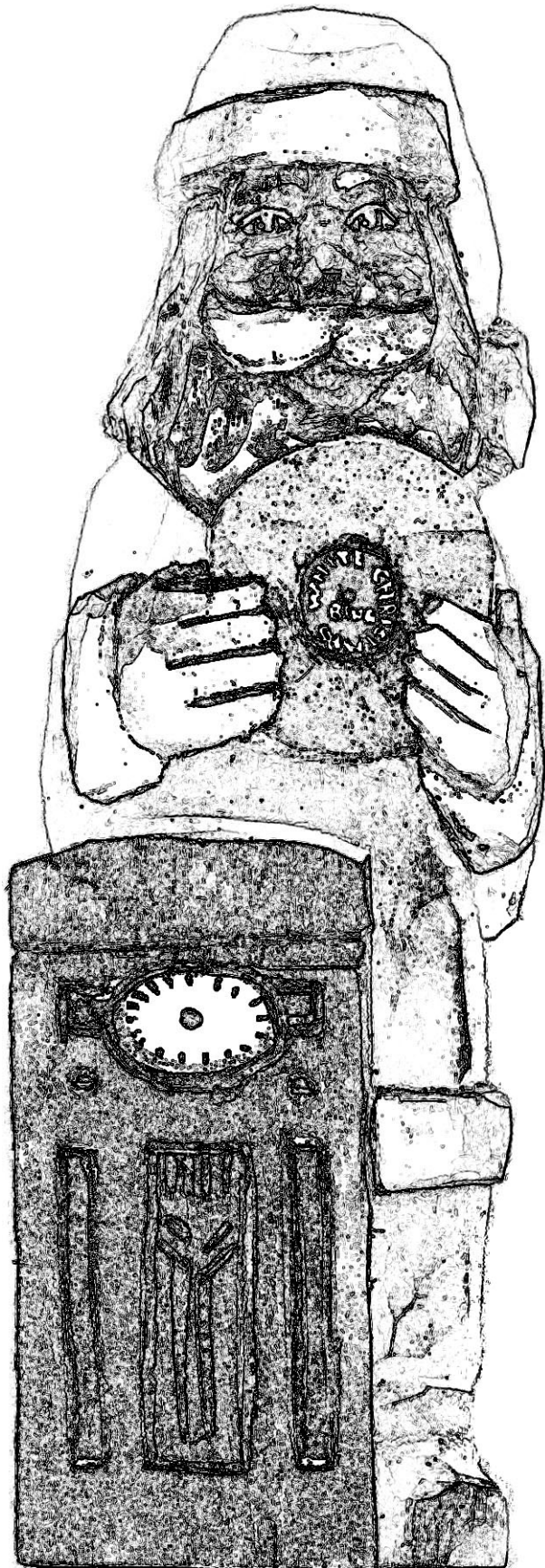
Santa Project #6





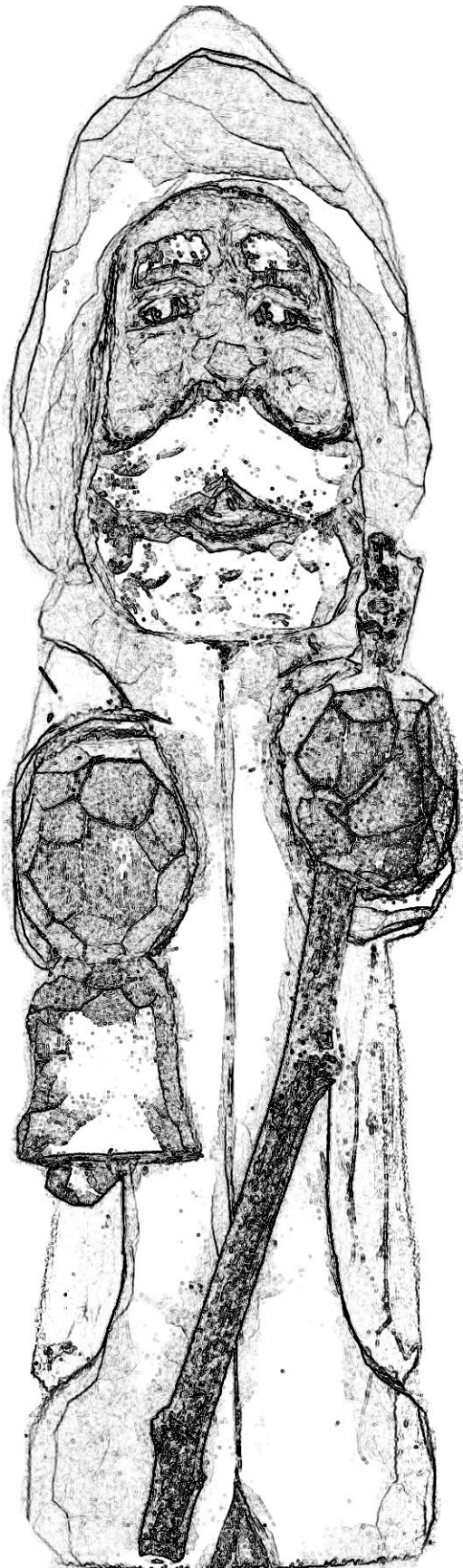
Santa Project #7



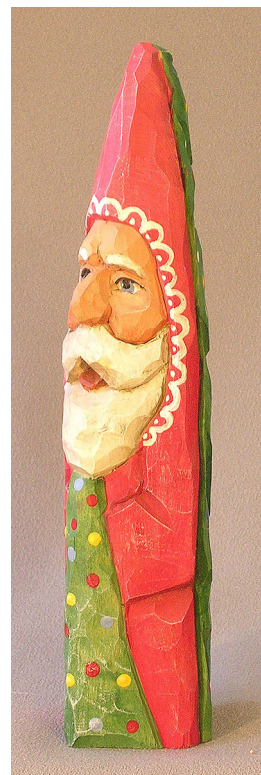


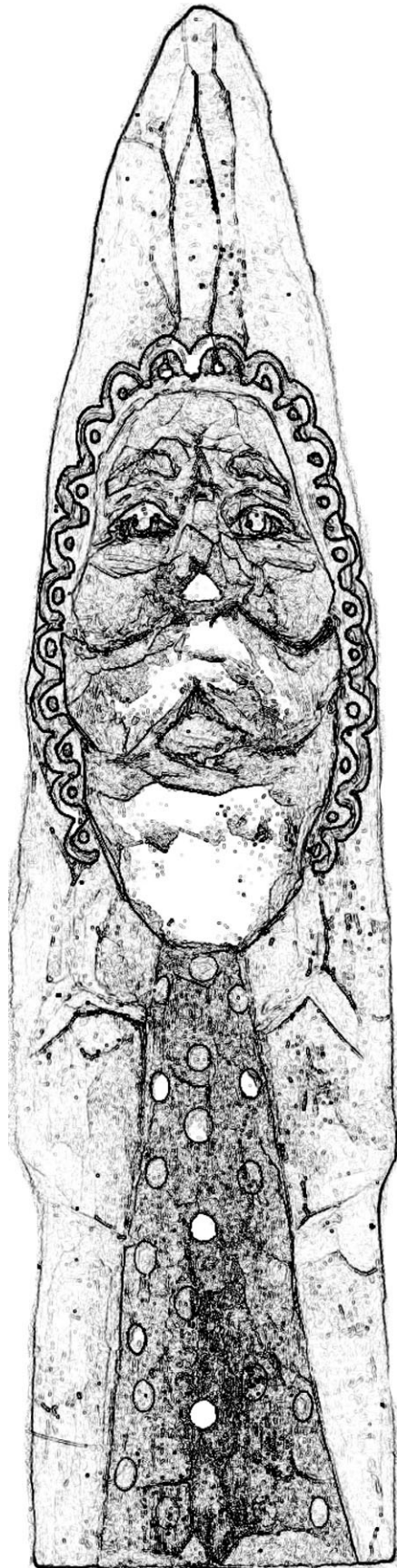
Santa Project #8





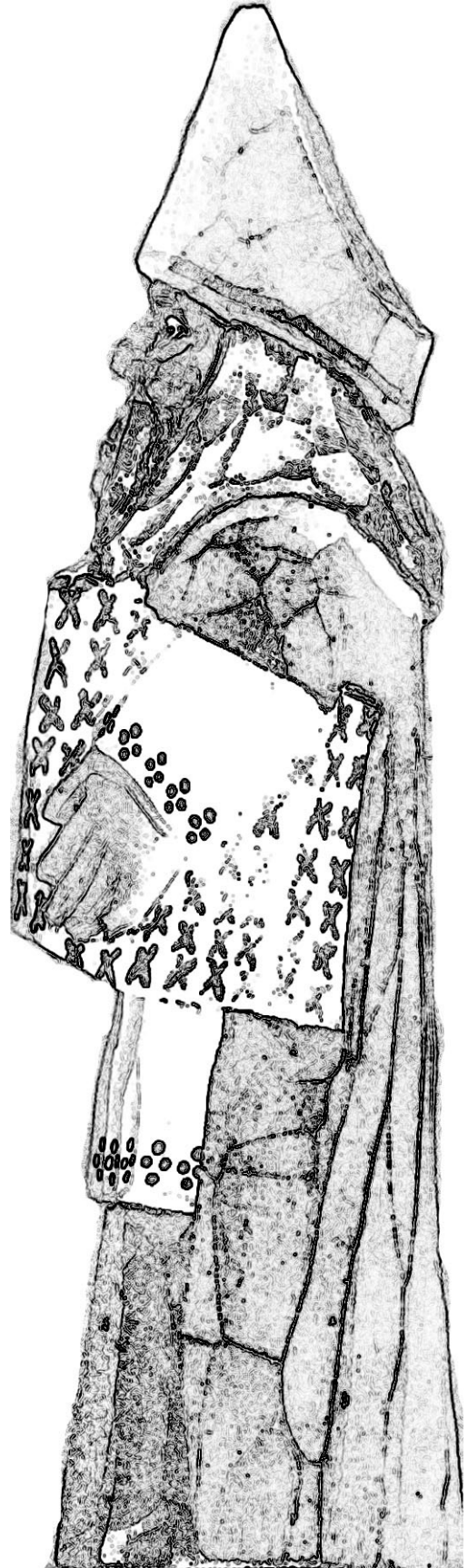
Santa Project #9





Santa Project #10





Santa Project #11





Santa Wood Carvings

Book Three

Written and Photographed by Russell Scott

I create family heirlooms that descendants will argue over for generations.



In 1999 Russell Scott took a community education woodcarving class and immediately fell in love with the art. In that first 8-week class he carved six different items using six different types of wood with a single carving knife. It was intense training as he worked his way from carving a simple weasel to a complex cowboy. As a result he received broad exposure to woodcarving. From there he took classes from many other master instructors and sought to learn as much as he could from each. He continues to take classes today and has become a woodcarving instructor who loves to teach.



Russell specializes in carving human figures, especially Santa Claus. He creates new original pieces each year. He has written seven how-to-books with step-by-step directions on how to carve Santas, females, Native Americans, and a host of other human figures. He also has produced woodcarving instructional videos at www.YouTube/ScottCarvings.



He recently added rough outs to his website for other woodcarvers to use to re-create his designs. Russell sells his work through his website, www.ScottCarvings.com and through various online galleries, carving shows, and events.

