

Debbie Watson

Debbie Watson – IRO Communications Team Member and Wood Carver

As your newest Communications Sub-Committee member, I'll be one of the people writing and/or editing the "One of Our Own" articles. It seemed fitting that I should introduce myself in my first article.



I retired from Intel in 2007 after 23 years at Intel. The first 16 years were spent in various engineering groups, primarily doing project and program management. Eventually I moved over to Human Resources and managed small service groups. Since retiring, I've been involved in the Intel Retiree Organization with a passion towards helping to improve the Intel retiree experience.



The same month that I retired from Intel, a friend convinced me to join her in a beginning carving class. I was concerned about my lack of artistic talent, but the instructor assured us it would not be a factor. Right...

At that first class, I carved a small folk art style Santa Clause with a quilt over his arm. The instructor carved the face and helped throughout, but the end product was mine to keep! I felt in love with the sound a sharp tool makes as it swishes through the wood. I was hooked! I began attending weekly classes and now attend classes twice a week from two different instructors.

Since then, I've carved caricatures like the pictured cowboy, lots of wildlife including this grizzly bear, and combined carving with wood burning to create a pretty realistic duck.



In addition to carving, I enjoy RVing with my husband Allen. We take our motorhome to the Oregon coast every year where Allen fishes for salmon and I enjoy the company of the other "regulars." I love to kayak, and manage to find a few rivers and lakes to satisfy my sense of adventure.



If any metro area Oregonians are interested in taking up carving, feel free to send me an [email](#) and I'll get you hooked up with an instructor.

Finally, if you have an interest in sharing your story with other retirees by being the subject of a "One of our Own" article, we would love to hear from you. Our retiree group is very diverse and it is amazing to hear the stories of how they have either moved into completely different vocations, are working with non-profits, have taken up some interesting new hobbies, are traveling the world, or have transitioned from a full time job to full time retirement. We have created a [template](#) that will help you write your article and then we will work with you to edit and finalize it. I look forward to serving the Intel retiree community as we share our post-Intel adventures!