

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter February 2018

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GCW February NL Brief:

The February 13th club meeting lasted about 1 hour 40 minutes. We had a large turnout with 50 members plus guests in attendance. The presentation planned for this night was on the Art of Intarsia. Who better to give us an introduction to this woodworking craft than Ed Woodards. Ed did not disappoint. The members were able to get a good look at what Intarsia is all about and how they could implement it. Jim Hunt presented his next installment of woodworking Tips-N-Tricks. We had a number of members respond and offer additional tips and alternatives to those presented. Our ever popular show and tell had a great turnout this month with 10 members presenting their ingenuity and craftsmanship. The raffle included a number of great items including donations from members. No items are listed in the Exchange Corner this month.

Presidents Message:



Gold Country Woodcrafters

Wow, that Ed Woodards knows how to draw a crowd. Fifty members plus guests were in attendance at Tuesday's meeting. Ed treated us to a fine Intarsia presentation. What a great combination of art and woodworking. Thank you to Ed for a great presentation and to all you members who were able to attend.

There were some fascinating show and tell projects as well. Thank you to participating members who were willing to share their talents.

Tim Bynon has a great lineup for this year's presentations, so mark your calendars now. Thank you all, again, for an enjoyable and entertaining evening.

Until next time, Happy and Safe woodworking!

Jim Hunt

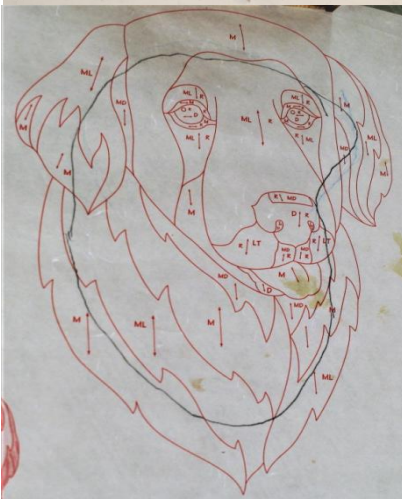
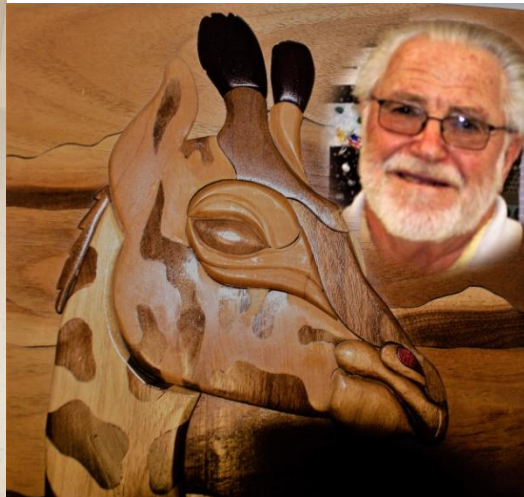
GCW President

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Intarsia Presentation by Ed Woodards:



Well we know now how to draw a crowd. Just have Ed Woodards give a presentation on one of his many woodworking talents and they will come. Normally attendance is around 33 or so. Ed attracted 50 of our members. This meeting the members were treated to a very informative and upbeat presentation on Intarsia. In the short time available he was able to define Intarsia and provide the varied techniques he uses to create his Intarsia art projects. He began by defining Intarsia as a mosaic picture with depth. He went on to say that the art form has been around, at least, since the 13th century.

He brought in a few examples of his work and also passed around a picture of an “advanced design”, showing various birds. This design has 548 pieces, 18 types of wood. See picture below.

Now, we have seen a number of Ed’s parquet projects in the past with one of his really neat ones being a clock he entered in a project challenge a few years ago. With Intarsia being a mosaic art form it was a natural progression for Ed to take it up. As you can see from the pictures above he has definitely mastered the art of Intarsia.

Examples of Ed’s work are shown above. The picture above left shows an Intarsia inspired by his departed pet and best friend along with the pattern. This one has 35 pieces with the primary wood being oak. He had to pay special attention to the grain orientation and shading to obtain the desired effect. The giraffe and tiger were special requests from family members. The giraffe has 85 pieces and took about 2 months to make. It contains a number of contrasting woods including tiger wood. The tiger required 110 pieces, so many he lost track of the type of woods used. The pattern for the tiger was very complex and incorporates numerous small



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parts. He must have good eyes. Besides eyes, one obviously needs to have lots of patience to be successful at this woodworking art form.

During his presentation Ed shared with us some of the considerations and processes he uses while creating his Intarsia art. Because of the very nature of Intarsia, that is the dependence on wood contrast and texture he is always on the lookout for interesting/contrasting woods as he needs to have a significant cache of woods types available. He may find them along the side of the road, second hand shops, or wherever. His wife has been known to find some as well.

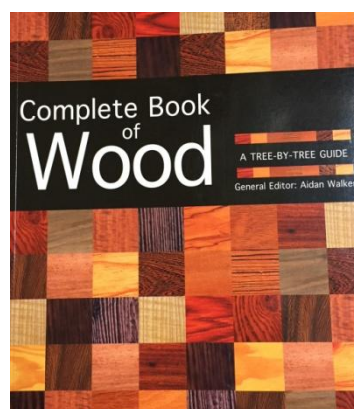
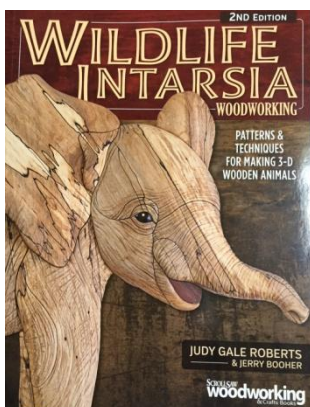
The presentation continued presenting us the following information. In putting an Intarsia piece together Ed said that the background is created first. The project assembly usually starts from the bottom and works upward. In most cases the Intarsia pieces are $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ thick, some cut individually and some are cut from layered contrasting woods. The contrasting wood layers are taped together and the pattern is applied on top. The band saw or scroll saw is used in cutting out the pattern. In most cases mating edges are sanded by hand to create the sense of depth. When planning the Intarsia layout special attention must be paid to contrast and grain alignment. In many designs the edges of pieces some features overlap previous layers to provide greater depth. During glue ups he uses wax paper to prevent assemblies from sticking to the work area. For a finish he uses a semi-gloss poly.

Ok, now the question is what will Ed tackle next? Well he showed us a picture of an eagle that he plans to do. Were in the past he has used a published pattern, this time he plans to create his own pattern. I can't wait to see the results of his efforts.

We would like to thank Ed for his great presentation. We are sure it will inspire a few members to take the plunge into this challenging woodworking art form.

We would like to note that Ed is one of our club mentors. He has offered to assist any member wishing guidance one on one with Intarsia or carving projects. His email address is: arowldge@comcast.net

Reference Books Ed uses in his Intarsia projects:



Tips-N-Tricks:

Jim Hunt provided us with a number of Tips-N-Tricks again at the night's meeting. Following are just a few of those presented. Again a number of tips prompted greater discussions among our members.

- Avoiding tear-out on table saw.
 - Make sure your saw fence is properly aligned.
 - Use a fine tooth blade, greater than 60 per inch.
 - Do a first pass with a shallow kerf cut.
 - Tape cutline bottom side.
- Prevent inaccurate measurements with tape-measure.
 - Check tape-measure hook for damage before project and repair.
- Kreg jig "pocket hole jig" usage.
 - Drill parallel to grain for maximum strength.
 - Use fine thread screws for hardwood, coarse thread for softwoods.
- French Cleat makes great hanger solution for pictures, cabinets, etc.
- Sawdust relief. Add chamfer to lower edges of table saw sled to prevent sawdust buildup.
- Framing Square uses
 - Finding Center of circle
 - Drawing circle
- Divided board into equal space without calculating by positioning ruler at diagonal and marking.
- Magnetize tools, screwdriver, etc by rubbing magnet 10+ times.
- Reduce power tool bed friction using paste wax (very light coat).
- Prevent finishing problems around nails when using filler.
 - Use tape over nail before counter sinking and filling.
 - Apply finish then counter sink and fill. Apply second coat finish.
- Draw circle using framing square and 2 nails setting diameter.

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Announcements and News:

- 1) **April Project Challenge:** The April project challenge is coming up and there will be 2 categories for the competition.

Category 1 Is open for any project to enter. Participants in this category will receive a raffle ticket to win \$25.

Category 2 Will be to make something using a construction 2x4. A \$5 entry fee will be collected from category 2 entrants to go into a prize pot. The 2x4 projects will be voted on by the club members and the winner will receive the prize pot plus \$25. The 2x4 can be any standard 8' board (Douglas fir, redwood, pine, etc). The board can be re-dimensioned/cutup as much as needed to make your project. Glue and required hardware are ok. Project wood to be limited to that of a single 2"x4"x8' board. Examples for 2x4 projects can be found at <http://suncoastwoodcrafters.com/2X4.html>. Rich Schwerin (challenge chairman) can be consulted if there are additional questions. rwmtzca@comcast.net

2) **Meeting Topics:**

March 13th Celtic Knot Project Presentation. This will be a how to on Celtic Knot projects. Mark Butzler, Rob Larsen and Paul Velk are making Celtic Knot rolling pins. They will show methods and jigs along with samples and finished rolling pins. There will be samples to show the different stages of construction and variations in design. There will be other uses for this type of design that will be brought up as well.

April 10th Project Challenge month. Make something cool with only one construction 8 foot 2x4 (Fir,Pine Redwood etc.)

May 8th Wood Boat Building. Jerry Preston will talk about the basics of why a boat is shaped the way it is. Then Tim Bynon will show an overview of different building methods. Jerry will then describe in more detail how lapstrake boats are built, with some samples of joinery. We will then take a break to see Nelson Exum's kayak he built with stitch-and-glue construction. Questions can be asked then about any of these samples or constructions.

- 3) **GCW T-Shirts:** There are about a dozen or so club t-shirts available if anyone wants one let Warren Wyllie know at one of our meetings. The price is \$20.
- 4) **May Shop tours:** The shop tours are Saturday May 12th 8-12 with 3 shops being featured. The featured shops will be those of Paul Velk, Harvey Myers and Ron Sexton. A detailed map and tour schedule will be published in the March newsletter and announced again at the April meeting.
- 5) **Rockler Woodworking Supply:** Rockler is now offering discounts to GCW club members. Be sure to tell them you are a GCW member. Just another perk for being a GCW member.

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Show and Tell: (10 presenters)



We had a great turnout for February's show and tell with 10 members showing their craftsmanship. There was a wide range of interesting projects each presented below.

Tim Bynon



Many of the projects coming to the show and tell are created to solve a unique woodworking problem. Tim has shown a number of them that he has

developed to solve a specific problem. In this case he wanted to be able to easily locate and reduce high spots in table tops. The tool he created uses a square metal tube coated with a graphite impregnated cloth. By drawing the bar across a table, any high areas are marked to identify areas that need to be leveled. This is the first time Tim used the graphite product in this way. He attached the graphite cloth to the bar using contact cement after cleaning both surfaces with acetone.

The cloth material is called graphite coated canvas. Tim has used it to replace the metal backing plates on a number of his belt sanders. It greatly reduces the heat and eliminated the tell-tale streaks that belt sanders can leave. He is considering giving a presentation in the future on this process, plus uses for specialty sanders. The material he had was at least thirty years old, left over from upgrading several belt sanders. He relocated the material online at:

<https://woodworker.com/4-wide-graphite-canvas-mssu-919-610.asp>

Sam Garcia



Sam is becoming a regular at our show and tells. He has been a member for 3 months and already we have seen 3 projects. Here he shows his first pen turning. He used Purple Heart. Great job.

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John Roberts



John resists tossing cutoffs.



John brought in his next installment to his toy making collection. You may remember the Marble Maze John showed at the December 2017 meeting. It presented a number of challenges that he felt needed some reengineering to refine the operation and allow the marbles to travel around the maze more reliably. So, in this latest unit he redesigned a number of marble pathway sections. One improvement from the original design is a redesign of the corners. This time he used MDF contoured with a radius and relief to allow the marble to travel more freely. He noted that he uses wood primarily from his scrap bin. Like many of us

Rich Schwerin



Rich definitely has an eye for the possibilities in a piece of firewood. He came across a piece of Walnut that had lots of natural insect and weather damage and decided to give it a try. He band sawed the log with the grain into a thin slice preserving the outer edges. After sanding he mounted it vertically on a Walnut base. What resulted was a unique piece that casts eye catching shadows. Needless to say, his Wife loves this project and features it in their home.

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Mark Butzler



Mark brought in a couple of his latest turnings. Both are natural edge. The one on the left is Olive and the other is Oak firewood. He noted that the Oak piece was a challenge as he managed to

break the faceplate while turning it. Both are finished using Polyurethane.

Harvey Myers



Harvey is definitely getting back to spending time in his shop. Here he shows his latest endeavors. The bowl is walnut and it appears to be the thinnest one he has brought us. He didn't discuss the

loops. Guessing they are used to mount some turned items. Be sure to ask him their purpose at the next meeting. He had fun creating the "ball face". It features bear fir for the hair. One cannot miss noticing the likeness if you dismiss the hair. He posed with his ball face but, darn, we missed getting a picture. If he

brings in the ball face again we'll fix that. Harvey showed us a piece of old oak firewood that looks somewhat like a pig's head. He noted that he plans carving it into that likeness. This has a special meaning for Harvey, as he noted, a pig's heart valve helped save his life.....



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Steve Peterson



Steve has been bringing in some of his CNC work as of late. Here he shows a candy dish he created. The lid is actually 2 pieces. He used Poplar wood and colored it using a Walnut stain. The CNC effort was done in collaboration with Bob Prichard.

Dale Gamble



Cutting boards have become a popular project of our club members. Dale, while making his, needed a way to create the juice capture trough around the outer edge of the cutting board. He created a router jig to place his cutting board in. The jig maintains the correct spacing for the router to create the trough. He did a number of passes with the router to insure a final clean cut without burning by the router bit.

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Roy Carter



OK, Roy's passion for carving birds is taking on a whole new venue. His latest endeavor is carving Totem Poles. He has wanted to try this type of project for many years now, so he decided it was time to get to it. He had some material to study and also spent time at the library researching the art and history of creating Totems. He reported that the primary reasons West Coast tribes created Totems was as a status symbol. Also, that Totem carving is a fairly recent activity, being just in the last couple hundred years or so. He has carved a couple of them now, a 5 foot one and a 3 foot. He brought in the 3 foot Totem to show. The figures are from top to bottom, a raven and a beaver. The log used was Cedar.

Robert Garlic

Robert brought a pair of Walnut ring turnings to show that are in the near stages of completion to show. We look forward to seeing the final product at the next meeting. Pictures next time...

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Raffle Results:

We use the “raffle per item” method for distributing raffle prizes. Members put raffle stubs in a receptacle associated with a specific prize they are interested in.

Member Prizes:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| 1) Woodcraft Supply \$25 gift cert. | Sam Garcia | |
| 2) Set of Spin Drivers | Greg Milliron | Donated? |
| 3) Digital Level | Robert Garlick | |
| 4) Magnetic Jointer Adjusters | Harvy Myers | |
| 5) Set of Screw Clamps | Jim Hunt | |
| 6) Rockler Gift Cert. | Steve Cabrol | |
| 7) ?? | Larry Gross | |

Members that would like to give a presentation or have ideas for a presentation please contact Tim Bynon steamglidertim@yahoo.com. Remember this is your club and the more our club members participate in sharing knowledge, the more proficient we all become at our common interest, woodworking.

Businesses that support GCW:

Be sure to stop by Pro Builder Placerville, The Paint Spot*, Churchill Hardware Cameron Park*, Woodcraft Supply Sacramento and the Rockler Woodworking* store in Rocklin. Please let them know how much Gold Country Woodcrafters appreciates their support. ***Note those marked with * give GCW members discounts.***

Membership Dues:

For those members wishing to renew their membership for the 2017-2018 year by mail here is the information you need. Make out a \$20 check payable to Gold Country Woodcrafters. Send to: Steve Cabrol 3000 Builders Place, Rescue, CA. 95672. ***Please note on the envelope ATT: Gold Country Woodcrafters.***

Notice to members:

If your contact information has changed since joining please let the club know. Just send any changes you may have to the email address used to send out the newsletter. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

Gold Country Woodcrafters Meeting Place:

GCW meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise notified and are at the Park Community Church meeting hall, 3901 Wild Chaparral Dr. Shingle Springs, Ca. exit 37 off highway 50. A map is provided on the home page of the GCW website.

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Saw and Planer blade sharpening:

For members that need some blades sharpened GCW member Ken Welsh can handle the job. Just give him a call.

WELSH'S SAW WORKS

Formerly Rocklin Saw Works

Ken Welsh

Owner

3021 Crystal View Drive
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
(Off Bass Lake Road)

Phone: (530) 677-4938

Cell: (916) 275-3388

Regards and happy woodcrafting.

Gail Cone

GCW Newsletter editor



GCW Web site: goldcountrywoodcrafters.com

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