

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter January, 2020

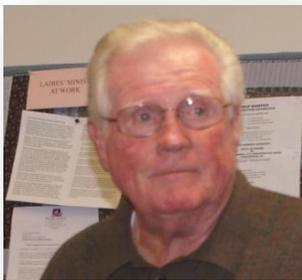
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Happy
New Year!

GCW Newsletter Brief:

January 14th marked the first meeting of the New Year and it's hard to believe that we are already marking 20 years into the 21st century. With the founding of the GCW, in September 2007, we are now 12 years old and still going strong. Our first 2020 meeting had 38 members in attendance, including one new member, Mr. Casey Keller. Welcome to GCW Casey (already a Show-N-Tell). We also had a number of guests present who appeared to enjoy the meeting's events. The Show-N-Tell had 14 presenters, yes a whopping 14 members showing their woodworking creativity. The focus of the meeting this time was an interesting and informative presentation by Carl Fickle, a Segmented Wood Turning craftsman who regularly displays his work at the Gold Country Art Gallery in Placerville. He brought numerous examples of his work and provided insight into what inspires him to create his works of wood art. The night's raffle included a number of donated items from our members that were greatly appreciated. One of our newest members, Nick Pesola, brought a large cash of wood, Patagonia Cyprus. The members decided to split up the wood into 3 bundles and have a separate raffle to distribute it. The raffle was a success, with a number of members purchasing raffle tickets.

Presidents Message:



Gold Country Woodcrafters

The January meeting provided a great kickoff for the New Year with 42 members and guests in attendance. Our members continue to amaze me as there was an impressive turnout for the night's Show-N-Tell with 14 members participating. Another one of the highlights of this meeting was a presentation by a local wood-artist, Carl Fickle. His narrative covering his work in segmented turnings and bird carvings was impressive and very well received. As a former school teacher, he was an excellent speaker and we all enjoyed his beautiful workmanship. I announced that

we have experienced some staff changes on the GCW Executive Committee. Our Vice President, Tim Bynon, will be stepping down just short of his term expiration date in March. We certainly owe Tim a big thank you for his past service to our club. Also, our Secretary and Recorder, John Cassidy will be out for an indeterminate amount of time due to medical issues. We certainly wish John a speedy recovery. This leaves our 7 member committee 2 down. I would like to ask our members to please consider volunteering for the committee to help us continue our excellent programs and camaraderie.

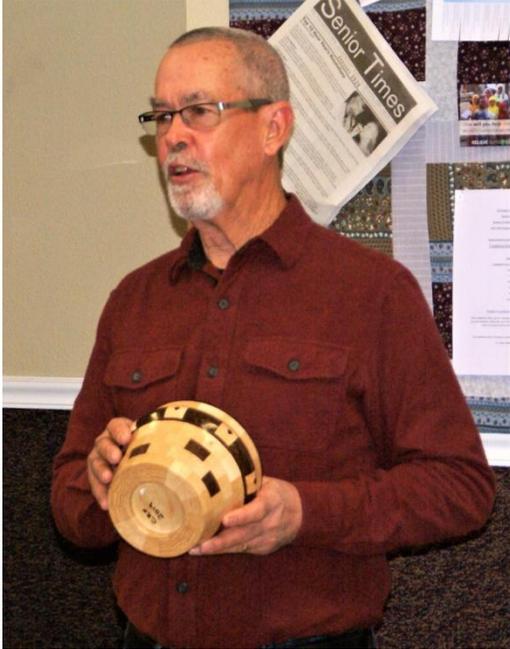
Warm Regards:
John Brideson
GCW President

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January Meeting Presentation:



The featured speaker for the January meeting was Carl Fickle. Carl is a local wood artist who specializes in segmented turnings, Christmas ornaments and bird carvings. He is a retired teacher that has been woodworking for many years. Carl displays his work regularly at the Placerville Gold Country Art Gallery located near the Bell Tower in Old Town Placerville.

During his presentation he showed a number of his pieces and described how he progressed in his woodworking from large items, including furniture, to turning and then to segmented turning. From there he continued to expand his repertoire to include bird carvings and Christmas ornaments. As to how he got started segmenting, it was when he realized that in segmented work he didn't have to deal with large dimensioned material.

His turned pieces regularly incorporate 1-3 feature rings, open segmentation, spacers, etc. For the finish on his turnings he uses a friction polish applied at high speed, normally applying 3 coats (he uses Shellawax). For the bird carvings he uses Basswood and incorporates Bondo, driftwood and turned bases into the design.

Asked about his ability to sell his works, his response was that he now understands the reference to the term "Starving Artists". The challenge is to relate the work and creativity that go into creating the product to potential customers. He has been able to sell some pieces in the range of \$200-\$300.



You can contact Carl at email cfickle@sbcglobal.net.

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Announcements and News:

1) **A Note from the Treasure:** Jerry Preston would like to remind our members to take their badges from the “badge box” upon entry to each of our meetings. Then at the end of each meeting place your badge in the “badge collection bucket “. All guests will have temporary badges assigned which also are to be deposited in the “badge bucket”. If by chance, you forget to return your badge “to the bucket”, please try to bring it to the next meeting.

2) **April Project Challenge.** It was decided at the January meeting on the theme for the April “GCW Project Challenge”. The challenge is to create a “Wine Bottle Rack”. You can be as creative as you wish. Other than, it must be made primarily of wood, there are no restrictions. Small, large, 1 bottle, 100 bottles, you are the creator! It can be functional, abstract, or just art. Have fun and participate in this Spring GCW event. We asked for ideas for the challenge in the January meeting reminder email. We had one respondent, Warren Wyllie. So give him a high five at the February meeting for his suggestion for making a wine rack. Here is the picture Warren submitted. As usual, all entrants will receive a Raffle ticket for a chance to win the \$25 prize.



3) **GCW Executive Committee:** We’ve had 2 recent changes; First: We’ve been advised that Vice Pres. Tim Bynon will be stepping down from the committee. Tim has been a valued member of GCW and the committee for a number of years and we would like to thank him for his hard work and comradery during his tenure. Life has its moments and we wish Tim and his wife Melody all the best for the future. Second: John Cassidy our committee recorder is unable to continue on the committee due to health issues. We wish John a speedy recovery and would like to thank him for his dedicated participation in the club and the committee. Members may remember that John is also the chairman for the Keaton Rafael foundation memory boxes efforts. A very worthwhile effort which many of our members have participated in. We look forward to Johns return. Please consider volunteering to be on the committee. This is your club and without member participation, club excellence will suffer. There are only 4 meetings a year, please get involved.

4) **Reminder for shop safety:** Every once in a while we are reminded on how fast the machines we work with as woodworkers can change our lives. Over the years we have reported a number of instances where a short lapse of judgment or complacency can damage us. In this case, thankfully, it was relatively minor. Mark Butzler was cutting segments for a turning when flicking segments away from the table saw blade resulted in clipping off the end of his right index finger. It could have been much worse. He will be OK, however he will have a hell of a Show-N-Tell (a shorter one) to bring to the next meeting. This, again, is a reminder for our members to exercise extreme caution when creating the exceptional woodworking craftsmanship GCW members are becoming known for.

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5) Meeting Topics for 2020:

February 11th: The February meeting will feature a presentation on “Relief Power Carving Techniques and Tool Sharpening” by a long time instructor and employee of Woodcraft Supplies, Adam Panto. Adam has many carving successes in the Sacramento and El Dorado Counties including lobby displays in Eskaton Sacramento, the West Sacramento Ziggurat bldg and others.

March 10th: Topic to be determined.

April 14th: April is our spring Project Challenge. Project objective is to create a wine rack/storage project. The project form, size, wood types, etc is your choice. Members entering a project will participate in a raffle for a \$25 prize. Don't forget the most important prize, the bragging rights.

May 12th: Topic to be determined.

If you have ideas for presentation topics please let any of our Executive Committee members know or just reply to the email distributing this newsletter. Remember, this is your club. The more members participate in sharing knowledge the more proficient we all become at our common interest, woodworking.

Show-N-Tell (14 members):

Don Lawson



Don Lawson is defiantly multi faceted when it comes to woodworking. We have seen several types of projects from Don. Here he presents his latest carvings. These are Mallard decoy ducks. They may look like decoys but are actually for show. Some of the techniques used are power carving, detail carving, wood burning to create feathers (pyrography), oil paints, and some metallic paints. He estimates it required 100 hours to create one of these ducks.

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Harvey Myers



Harvey has an eye of creating wood art. Here is yet another example of Harvey's vision. This piece was created from, yes, another Walnut Gun Stock blank. The primary shape was created using a band saw. He used Watco Oil and wax for the finish. Not sure what the moniker is for this piece will be but I'm sure he will think of something. Or just "beautiful wood art".

Jerry Gerue



Like many of us in the foothills we seek solutions to keeping the wildlife out of our landscape. There are many options, however few solve the problem without obscuring the beauty of the flora. After much thought, he came up with the solution. Create a fence that protects, does not hide, however accents the landscape. The result was the rustic fence shown above made of Cedar and Oak branches. He incorporated a wire mesh to help hold off the smaller critters and soaked the timbers with water repellent. Ok, does he consult??

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Nick Pelosa



OK, before Nick explained what he had brought for the Show-N-Tell, members were wondering what this item was. Lots of conjecture.... Nick explained that it was a “oven rack puller/pusher”. He created it at the request of his wife, naturally. Hot racks can be an issue. Understandable. Now all the wives will want one... Thanks.

John Roberts



John loves to create solutions for his shop activities. Clamping is always a challenge and often requires special jigs or fabricated tools. In the case on the left John created a deep throat/reach clamp to use on a recent project. The arms are reinforced by orienting the grain of the arms at 90° when glued up.

Also, shown is a clamping jig for picture frame gluing.

Rich Neilsen



Rich and his wife are obviously wine lovers. They acquired an Artesa Winery tile with their logo some time back. Rich incorporated it into this trivet with contrasting tiles. The frame is red Oak. The Artesa Winery is in the Napa Valley. Exceptional wine, by the way.

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Mick Dupper



Micky has been trying his hand at carving. Here he shows some carved kitchen utensils. Woods used are Walnut, Maple, and Poplar. All were rubbed with mineral oil. These pieces were made as Christmas Gifts. We also know he likes the good stuff, note the blue bag in the background.

Victor Lawson



Bandsaw boxes are one of Victor's specialties. You all may remember that Victor gave a presentation and demonstration on the art of making fine bandsaw boxes to our members last June. He brought in this fine set of boxes that he had entered in into a showing sponsored by the "Sonoma County Woodworkers Association". They are titled "Little Mesas". He said that they were "easy to make" and they have no joints. The wood is Black Walnut finished using Danish Oil. Note the "Award of Excellence" certificate recognizing his fine work above.

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Jim Terrill



As you may know, Jim is also a member of the Nor-Cal Woodturners Club. Their members regularly make and donate turned bowls for the area's "Empty Bowl" charity. Jim showed 7 bowls he turned for this effort. The woods used are Black Acacia, Oak, Myrtle and Walnut. We believe he said that the Nor-Cal members have donated over 400 units so far including 17 from Jim.

John Brideson



John brought in something new, a Combo Salt Shaker & Pepper Grinder. The picture is a little (lot) fuzzy but the salt dispenses from the top. He turned this Salt Shaker – Pepper Grinder using Mahogany. Kits are available from pennStateInd.com.

Casey Keller

Casey just joined our club and he is already showing us his work. He turned this Walnut bowl and found that it had numerous defects. In the past he may have just chucked it, however he decided to take advantage of the defect areas to add an artistic accent. He used a product called Inlace to fill the voids. These products comes in liquid or dry form and is available many colors and textures.



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Ed Woodards



Ed is well known for the carvings he has brought in over the years. This time he brought in, what looks to be a stork? He found a picture, above, in an old calendar and just knew he had to do a relief carving of it. The wood used is Redwood from an old tabletop.

Bruce Hall



We believe these are the largest turnings Bruce has brought to Show-N-Tell. These vases range from about 4" to around 8" and were turned from Maple and were green turned. They all dried with little or no deformation, possible because the Maple is quite stable. The wall thickness he was able to accomplish on the larger vases was around 1/4", the smaller 3/16". He's still considering the finish to use, possibly lacquer, oil, or shellac. The cutters used were Mike Jackofsky Hollow-Pro mounted in a heavy handle. The tool handle appeared to be a OneWay Mastercut and features dual mounting for 1/2" and 5/8" tool blades.

Frank Fantino



This segmented bowl turning brought in by Frank is about 10" d by 6" h and features Padouk and Maple. Contrasting wedges really help set off the beauty of the woods. He used friction polish for the finish.

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Businesses that support GCW: Be sure to stop by Woodcraft Supply Sacramento, Pro Builder Placerville, The Paint Spot*, or the Rockler Woodworking* store in Rocklin. Please let them know how much Gold Country Woodcrafters appreciates their support. * *Businesses offering GCW members discounts.*

Membership Dues: For those members wishing to renew their membership for the 2019-2020 year by mail here is the information you need. Make out a \$20 check payable to Gold Country Woodcrafters. Send to: Jerry Preston, PO Box 187, Pollock Pines, CA 95726. *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.

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



I would like to acknowledge my Wife, Karen, for taking the time and effort to proof read the newsletter each and every month. Believe me it makes a real difference making me look good.

GCW Web site: goldcountrywoodcrafters.com

If you have any comments or suggestions please send them to me via an email. If you wish to unsubscribe so you no-longer receive GCW newsletters just send me a reply with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject.