

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June/July, 2018

Vol 45

GCW NL Brief:

As some may have noticed, there was no June newsletter. As a result this newsletter will contain information relating to both June and July. The June and July meetings had good turnouts averaging about 32 for attendance. We gained 2 new members at the July meeting, Susan and Steve Settle. Welcome to the GCW club Susan and Steve. Both meetings had informative presentations. The June presentation topic was on shop safety and was presented by member Bruce Hall. The July presentation featured John Roberts and Ron Sexton trading off to cover tips and methods in making intricate model toy. A sum of 10 Show and Tells were presented at these meetings. We have an article contribution for this newsletter "BIG TOOL CHEATS" authored by our very own Tim Bynon.

June Vice Presidents Message (June Meeting):



Gold Country Woodcrafters

We had a very good turnout for the June meeting with about 28 members + 2 guests in attendance. The night's presentation was on Shop Safety and was presented by member Bruce Hall. His presentation was full of good info and prompted lots of Q&A. I think a refresher course is good every now and then to remind us to be careful. I passed around a signup sheet for members to make Memory Boxes and I was very pleased to have 10 people sign up to make them. I called on Ken Merrill to see if he was willing to donate more wood and he came through in a big way. The meeting started at 7pm and was concluded about 9. It was a very lively meeting with lots of interaction among the members.

Ron Sexton

GCW Vice President

Presidents Message (July Meeting):



Gold Country Woodcrafters

Tuesday's meeting was another huge success thanks to a presentation on miniature truck and equipment modeling by Ron Sexton and John Roberts. The model semi-truck and earthwork excavator were intimately detailed, down to actual reflective mirrors, Plexiglas windshields and working tracks on the excavator. These two gentlemen are true craftsmen. Thank you for sharing your talent and innovative thinking with our members.

Please mark your calendars for our annual fall picnic on Saturday, Oct 6 from 2:00 to 5:00 at the Park Community Church. Would love to see you all there!!

Until next time, Happy Woodworking!

Jim Hunt

GCW President

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July Toy Model Making (Ron Sexton and John Roberts):



In July we had a great introduction into toy model building. Ron Sexton and John Roberts each presented a toy model and went over what they did to craft their project. Ron has just completed his first wooden model while John has lost count of the number he has built. John has shared numerous models at our club show and tells and been included in numerous newsletters.

For their presentations Ron brought his recently

completed Kenworth truck tractor and trailer to aid in describing how he fabricated and assembled his project. John brought in a model steam shovel which fit nicely on Ron's truck trailer. They discussed plans and

pointed out that they often are missing dimensions, fabrication and assembly details. In Ron and John's case they are interested in plans for excavation, hauling, service, truck and construction equipment models.

Most plans require expertise in using power tools, must be studied carefully and require a degree of creativity. The task often requires the engineering of special jigs for fabrication and glue-ups. Many of the fabricated mechanical parts are functional such as the articulated arms of the power shovel. Gluing can be a challenge and often requires special clamping jigs. John mentioned a glue that he uses that resists slippage. It is called "Molding and Trim glue (does not run)". It is available at, where-else, Woodcraft.

The detail/innovation incorporated into these types of projects is dependent on the craftsman and their satisfaction with a particular task. For example, Ron wanted functional side mirrors, so he incorporated polished aluminum from a Pepsi can into each. Also, he made his own wheels, 25 for this project.

Thank you, John and Ron, for sharing you knowledge and model building passion with us. If any of our members are planning on attempting wooden model building projects, it is highly recommended that you consult with John or Ron. Their insight into model building would be well worth looking into.

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Announcements and News:

- 1) Memory Box Team:** Ron Sexton is heading up a team of about 10 volunteer members to create Memory Boxes. Unfortunately, there is still a great need for Memory Boxes, so if interested in participating in this worthwhile effort, please contact Ron at Ron Sexton hcwpvl@directcon.net. A thank you goes out to Ken Merrill, a former member, for his contribution of a significant amount of wood for this effort.
- 2) Annual club picnic:** This year's GCW picnic is scheduled for Saturday October 6th 2 – 5PM. It will take place at the Park Community Church picnic area, 3901 Wild Chaparral Dr. Shingle Springs, Ca. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.
- 3) Annual Toy for Tots Effort:** Dale Gamble provided an update on the plan for this year's Toys for Tots effort. He plans to have a kickoff at his place in September so members can pick up parts and plans. Date to be determined.
- 4) October Project Challenge:** Rich Schwerin added that this year the October project challenge theme will be to create a toy or toys that can be included in the December toy program. As before there will be 2 challenge participation categories. Category 1 will be for show and tell and participants will be entered into a raffle for a \$25 prize. Category 2 requires a \$5 entrance fee to be added to the \$25 prize pot. Members will vote to determine the winner of the category 2 prize.
- 5) Pinterest Demo (Jim Hunt):** Jim gave a demonstration of the features and capabilities of Pinterest. Jim uses this website to research project ideas, fabrication tips, and get inspiration. The site has endless contributions of projects and ideas on numerous topics; in our case woodworking is of interest. You can build your own album of items of interest and even contribute projects. Give it a try at, <https://www.pinterest.com/>

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6) Meeting Topics:

- a. August 14--- Mark Butzler, Rob Larsen and Jim Hunt will be covering segmented turning. They will show special jigs for the table saw to make the cuts and how they are varied for different effects. Many variations are possible and will be discussed.
- b. September 11--- A special guest from the Sutter's Fort Coopers Shop, David Stare, will give a presentation on traditional coopering as done at the fort in it's early years. Much work has been done by volunteers to keep this shop alive. Daily life and trade required expert coopers to scratch build both standard custom wine barrels. You can also see this wonderful shop on the fort's visiting days.
- c. October 9--- Is Project Challenge night. This month the members are asked to make toys for our Christmas giving. Please bring the toys you make and show them to the crowd. There will also be further time to make more toys for later in the year, but this challenge is to get it all started and get us excited about designs and techniques. If you have made toys for your own family, bring them also for our inspiration. Should be fun.
- d. November 13th --- The plan is to have a Round Table night. The Round Table activity will be for members to break up into focus groups to discuss woodworking related topics. The club had this event last November and it turned out to be very informative and great fun for our members. More information will be provided as plans firm up and topics are chosen.
- e. December 11th --- We will again be having our “bring your spouse/special guest” meeting. There will be an expanded show and tell featuring the year’s projects, refreshments and guest raffle.

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 club members participate in sharing knowledge, the more proficient we all become at our common interest, woodworking.

Article Contribution:

BIG TOOL CHEATS by Tim Bynon

In the past I often had to come up with work-a-rounds when project sizes exceeded my tool capacity. This led me to think that there are always limits on whatever tool you may have. Some of you may have only a few modest electric portable tools. With a little work you can exceed the size projects that could stump the largest shop. They would need to come up with a similar work-around. Being retired I am considering reducing my shop size again making it more appropriate for my projects rather than my clients. This got me thinking about how I might occasionally need to work on the large project.

I had been thinking about how handy an oscillating drum sander would be to add on to the shop, with future model making coming to mind. I had always used a drum in the drill press when needed, but this is not good if frequently needed. A dedicated drum sander would help on my more frequent model making projects. In the past, for large curved pieces I had put a 2" sanding drum in my Portalign and moved it around the edge of the piece. But why did I have a big piece to work on to begin with?

Many of us have band saws where the throat depth limits the cut. A large shop may have a larger bandsaw but even they have limits. Perhaps they also have the rarer right hand column and can switch saws without having to flip the piece over and redraw the pattern again; but still there is a limit. So it's time to pull out the saber-saw "our unlimited throat bandsaw". The edges can be cleaned up with the drum sander solution.

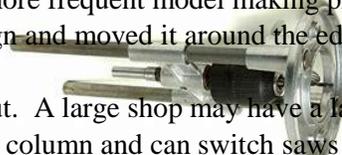
We have been fortunate to have members bring in router jigs to show how you can joint and plane odd sizes or shapes. These set-ups allow piece sizes that may exceed their planer width but more frequently would exceed their jointer width.

I've had to drill holes on surfaces that far exceed the throat depth of any drill press. The afore mentioned Portalign could easily handle this job, especially if you doubt your ability to hold a drill at 90 degrees to the surface. But what about needing to use a forstner bit or rosette cutter? Metal workers have pricey magnetic drill presses that clamp to steel. We don't. To solve this problem I took a little 8 inch drill press, ground away the ridge at the drill head that stops it from sliding down the column. This allows the drill head to slide down to the right height above the work surface for my desired bit.

If you have crosscuts that exceed the stroke of your chop saw or radial arm, you can use a circular saw (a quality thick kerf carbide blade is a great upgrade) to cut a little oversize and follow up with a router guide to give the final edge. Sliding table saw jigs can easily be made to expand you crosscut max.

Table saws can cut any length, but what if you exceed the fence width. Nowadays there are many companies making specialty guides and tracks that can be used with circular saws, routers, etc. Alternatively you can make you own guides. Before specialty tracks became available I bought an 8 foot level to use for its straightness as a guide (many brands mill their levels to a high tolerance considering the price). Now there are many quality track saws that are made special for these jobs. One extreme example is Mafell that has a track saw that power feeds itself to the end of a cut! The high cost makes looking at DIY solutions more than enticing

So if you feel restricted by size or budget, ask around and you will find there are lots of options for reaching the results you want.



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Show and Tell:

June, 6 entries

Ron Sexton



Ron shows off his first active model toy Kenworth truck tractor rig. The primary wood is Brown Maple. Ron made the 6 wheels using the home made wheel lathe chuck. He brought in the wheel jig for last month's show and tell. The truck side mirrors have a reflective surface made using polished aluminum from a Pepsi can. The plans for this truck cover 9 pages 18"x20". There were lots of dimensions missing from the plans so he had to use the actual 1:1 layout and story sticks to dimension and locate parts. The finish used was lacquer.

Homer Rail



Homer showed his circle jig he uses on the band saw. He is able to set desired radiuses by sliding & clamping the slider with the circle center pin. This jig must be clamped to the band saw table with the blade gullet even with the center pin.

Tim Bynon



Tim brought in this antique cove plane to share. The blade in this one is actually a file ground to the appropriate shape. Oh, the good old days... Now we hang these items on a wall.

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Harvey Myers



Harvey shared his latest creative projects. From top left, clockwise; turned bowl (green Malberry), carved spoon bowl (Maple crotch), and turned bowl (2nd half Maple crotch). The Malberry bowl he called his Robert bowl because of the lath mounting issues encountered mush like Robert Garlick encountered last month. Finish is lacquer over sanding sealer.

John Roberts



John took a break from his toy making to craft these candle sticks. All feature Celtic knots. The hardware was obtained from PennState catalog. The finish used was shellac.

Rob Nelson



Rob took on the Celtic Knot challenge making the rolling pin and the napkin ring. The rolling pin holder was created using a parallelogram jig on the table saw. This can be a challenge as it requires many passes over the saw blade at an angle. A little sanding and you have a nice wide cove. Gee Rob, how about a demo.

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July, 3 entries

Jim Hunt



Jim brought in his latest tool acquisition, a Incra Miter Gage. With this tool Jim is able to set precise angle cuts on his table saw. He turned the segmented vase, on the right, after making the segmented rings using his new miter gage. We should hear more about this next month as Jim, Mark Butzler, and Rob Larsen will be discussing segmented turning.

Ron Sexton



Ron brought in an example of a recessed lid joint box. Included were examples pieces with the groove layout required to have a successful lid to box to bottom fit. A project from Woodsmith "Ribbon Box handle" that uses this box top to bottom jointing method is attached to the email distributing this newsletter.

Jerry Preston



Jerry showed off his French Style rolling pin featuring a Celtic Knot. Celtic Knots are definitely here to stay it seems.

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Micky Dupper



Micky has access to quantities of used wine barrels. Well what should we make? Fences of course. Take the barrel staves and interlace them. Very creative Micky.

Exchange Corner:

Maple Rounds available, green. Still available! Great turning wood (with color and figure). If interested contact Gail Cone at gpcwoodwk@gmail.com. Will help cut them into blocks if needed.



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.

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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

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Regards and happy woodcrafting.

Gail Cone

GCW Newsletter editor



GCW Web site: goldcountrywoodcrafters.com

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