

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## GCW Meeting Brief:

The June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting lasted about 2 hours. There was a great turn out plus we gained 2 new members. There was very informative presentation by Mr. Steve DePue a professional artist woodturner and a former shop teacher. There was a briefing by Jim Hunt on the results from the night's GCW Executive meeting. Our ever popular Show and Tell segment had 7 members showing their craftsmanship. Included in this newsletter is a special section covering the GCW participation at the 2016 El Dorado fair June 16-19. There is one listing for the exchange corner this month.

## Presidents Message:

Fellow Woodcrafters,

Great June meeting! Our guest speaker, Steve DePue, had an amazing presentation and so much information on wood selection, turning tips and techniques for bowl turning. Thanks again Steve!

The year is going so fast! We are half way to December already. And speaking of December, We will be hosting our first Spouse/special guest night for our December meeting so let your spouse/special guest know to mark their calendar now for this special fun-filled, informative evening.

We've had some great, well attended meetings this year and are looking forward to the summer and fall schedule including some interesting main program presentations, the fall project challenge, toy drive and of course the always fascinating show and tell.

Looking forward to seeing you all in July.

Happy Woodworking.

Jim Hunt



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## Presentation by Gene DePue:



Our night's feature presentation was given by Steve DePue a woodworking artist and professional woodturner from Greenwood, Ca. Steve came to our attention when he was featured in the Mountain Democrat April 8 2016. Steve gave a very informative and clear presentation of his woodturning art, creating beauty and function in walnut. His presentation included turning bowls, segmented turning, turning procedures and tips. The name of his company is Walnut Woodworks. Steve is a former

woodshop teacher and his early start in woodturning was just one of the many woodworking directions he pursued. His second passion is bike riding where he rides all over the US in organized events.

Most of his turning work is with English walnut and black walnut. He explained that you can identify English walnut by its long dark stripes. It grows fast and exhibits lots of sapwood. English walnut is typically grafted onto black walnut root stock because black walnut is disease resistant.

He obtains much of his wood from orchards in the valley where trees are being removed and for a nominal cost. He cuts his own turning blanks from the logs he acquires but before cutting he spends a good deal of time studying the log. He endeavors to work around the ever-present heart check.

Many of his finest pieces are turned from the graft area of the walnut tree which is his specialty. The graft area shows a definite contrast of the English and black walnut and results in a beautiful bowl as shown in the example below right.

Generally his bowls are green turned to a consistent thickness about  $\frac{3}{4}$ ". He uses a faceplate with #10 or #12 screws to secure his turnings on his Nova lathe. After turning he dries and stores them until the rough turned bowls are ready to be turned to their final thickness. This takes up to 5 years in many cases. The picture below shows several rough turned bowls that have been drying for some time. Steve measured the diameters around some to show the amount of warping that has occurred since they were turned, over  $\frac{1}{4}$ " in many cases.

Also discussed was the drying process in some detail, mentioning issues with other varieties of wood. Examples were almond wood that is very difficult to dry and madrone that warps quite easily. When drying wood there are 2 moisture levels to consider, free water and cell water. It was pointed out that free water is that water that exists between wood fibers and takes much less time to leave the wood.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

His segmented bowls are generally made using cutting board layouts. The cutting board layouts are made from several contrasting wood species laminated together. An example of one of his segmented bowls is shown in the example below left.

His finish of choice is Salad Bowl finish by General Finishes. This is a polyurethane finish and is food safe. He generally applies 3 coats.

Steve's contact information is Phone 530-748-9276, email [stevedepue@gmail.com](mailto:stevedepue@gmail.com).



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## Announcements/news:

### 1. Executive committee report:

- a. Oct. Project Challenge. The committee determined the theme for the October project challenge. Harvey Myers reported that several project themes were discussed and again there will be 3 options. They are: puzzle, a game, or a What Not Box (keep sake box, etc). Again the only rule is that your project must be constructed from wood. A special drawing will be held for the project entrants with a single \$50 prize.
- b. Toy program was discussed. The effort will be kicked off in July. A budget of \$200 was approved by the committee. Dale Gamble will be setting up a kickoff work session for July 16<sup>th</sup> in a shop yet to be determined. Those members interested in participating in this year's Toys for Tots effort should contact Dale. His email is [rndgamble@comcast.net](mailto:rndgamble@comcast.net).
- c. The GCW meeting topics for the balance of the year were discussed and generally settled on. Ron Sexton presented a calendar of GCW topics to the committee. Refer to the section "2016 meeting topics" later in this news letter. The calendar of topics will also be updated on the GCW website.
- d. Shop tour discussion: The May (spring) shop tour was discussed and it was determined that it was an overwhelming success. It was decided that our GCW club should organize a shop tour for next spring.
- e. December's Spouse night: The agenda for the Spouse Night was discussed. It was determined that there will be a special raffle for Spouses/special guests on that night besides the regular raffle. In addition there will be a special slide show showing some events and member's projects presented at Show and Tell throughout the year.
- f. Club T-Shirts: The idea of having club T-Shirts was discussed. All believed it to be a good idea. All want it to have a pocket. Target price is \$18. Members will be asked to sign-up and pay for shirts before club submits the first order. Need a chairman for this activity to define a logo, determine vendor, take orders, etc. Jim Hunt will ask for a volunteer to head up this task. A name was suggested. Warren Wyllie accepted the task at the night's meeting. Thank you Warren! Jim asked for a show of hands at the regular meeting to see how many members would be interested in obtaining a T-Shirt. Most of those present raised their hands.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## 2. Reminders:

- a. November our GCW meeting will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday as the church is a voting precinct on our regular meeting night.
- b. December is *bring your spouse/special guest* month. So mark your calendar Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>.
- c. GCW Toys for Tots program kickoff in July. Be sure to sign up to participate in this GCW signature program. Contact Dale Gamble [rndgamble@comcast.net](mailto:rndgamble@comcast.net).

## 3. From the Floor:

- a. Gail Cone suggested that we introduce the members of the GCW Executive Committee. 6 of the members were present and were introduced. Those were Jim Hunt (Pres), Ron Sexton (Vice Pres.), Bill Hatwig (Sec), Harvey Myers (MAL), Dale Gamble (MAL, Homer Rail (MAL). Steve Cabrol (Treasurer) is on vacation so was not present. MAL: Member At Large.
- b. John Cassidy put out another request for additional Memory Boxes. Boxes can be simple or complex, hinged or not. Dimensions should be roughly 13.5" L, 11" W, 3.5" H. If there are any questions please contact John Cassidy [johnny60176@gmail.com](mailto:johnny60176@gmail.com), phone 916 983 4160. For those who would like more information on the Keaton Raphael Foundation, the website is <https://childcancer.org/about-keaton-raphael-memorial/team/>.
- c. Roy Carter reported on a source of wood. The Sawyer for the Sacramento Tree Foundation (STF) is available on Saturdays to cut wood to your desired specifications. His name is Fred Bulert and his contact phone is 916-995-7901. He will cut turning blocks and boards with raw edges or cut 4 sides (S4). It is recommended that you call first before making the trip to find out what wood may be available and set a schedule. Fred works out of the City Wood Yard of Sacramento. It is located at 191 Lathrop, Sacramento in an industrial park on the N. side of highway 80. If you need more information feel free to call Roy at 530-919-5019. To find out more about the Sacramento Tree Foundation (STF) visit their website to <http://sactree.com/news/137>. The April GCW newsletter has an article on the STF foundation.

**GCW supporters: The Paint Spot, Churchill Hardware, Woodcraft Supply, Pro Builders, Aura Hardwoods** (they offer GCW discounts), and the **Rockler Woodworking** Store in Rocklin (offers 10% discount). Be sure to visit these establishments for your supplies and services and be sure to thank them for supporting the Gold Country Woodcrafter club.



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## 2016 Meeting Topics:

<i>July 12<sup>th</sup></i>	Wood Preparation and Finishing. Ron Sexton
<i>August 9<sup>th</sup></i>	Latest model WoodSmith machine demo. John Brideson and John Churchill
<i>September 13<sup>th</sup></i>	Video Night. Topic(s) to be determined.
<i>October 11<sup>th</sup></i>	Fall Project Challenge Night
<i>November 15<sup>th</sup></i>	(3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday) CNC presentation. Steve Cabrol
<i>December 13<sup>th</sup></i>	Spouses Night and Toys for Tots presentations

## 2017 Meeting Topics:

**To be announced.**

If any of our members would like to give a presentation or have ideas for a presentation please contact Ron Sexton ( hewpvl@directcon.net) or one of his committee members David Boutcher (WE2Wheelers@sbcglobal.net) or John Brideson (jkbrideson@sbcglobal.net) and let them know. 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.

## GCW at the 2016 El Dorado Fair

We had 6 GCW members that participated in this year's fair. The request to the fair management was for our projects to be presented together along with our banner to showcase our club. But, that did not work out. Our banner was not displayed as it was in 2015 and our name tags didn't even have the club name printed on them. Projects were spread around the Corker Building room with no association to our club. That said, we still would like to thank those that participated. The way the fair chose to present our projects still could not diminish showing the excellent workmanship our members possess. Participating members were Jim Hunt, Warren Wyllie, Gail Cone, Robert Garlick, John Cassidy, and Ed Woodards. Jim Hunt's vase took 1<sup>st</sup> place and Best in Show, Robert Garlick's walnut clock took a 1<sup>st</sup> place, Warren Wyllie's curio cabinet 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Gail Cone's knitting bowls took 3<sup>rd</sup> place. I was able to take a few pictures however somehow I missed Ed Woodards mirror project. Sorry about that Ed. See pictures on the next page.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## Show and tell (7 presenters)

John Roberts



John created this Dremel storage chest in order to keep all the many accessories from drifting off as we know they will do. Note the dust collection drawer in the above picture. At the meeting several

people asked where he got the plans for the Dremel tool storage cabinet. After the meeting he hunted them down and found them in ShopNotes Vol. 21 #124, July/August 2012, page 24. He will lend the magazine to anyone who would like to borrow it if needed.

Ron Sexton



As of late Ron has been making finger rings using various elements to see what he can create. Shown here are 5 unique rings he made recently. In addition he crafted the pendant shown on the right. He used copper wire in for inlay on a couple of the rings. The woods used were walnut and black acacia.



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

Jim Terrill



Here Jim shows off another fine example of the many pens he crafts. This one incorporates died maple and is finished using CA.

Paul Velk



Paul went about creating this cutting board for his niece. In this one he used cherry and maple. He had to redo the finish as the first time the cherry faded and the contrast he expected was not acceptable. After sanding and reapplying the finish all was well.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## Ed Woodards



Ed brought in his latest piece of art, this intarsia piece representing a departed best friend. It 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 pattern for this project is shown above.

## Harvey Myers



Ok, one day, Harvey wondered what he could do with an old lawn mower blade. Well of course it should be pounded and welded to become a carving tool head, what else? Think he called it and “azz”. Got to be careful with that one. Now he can carve out those bowls like a pro. Hope his aim is good!

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

Rich Schwerin



Did Rich know he was working on a WIP (wife inspired project)? Well he was. Here he shows the fine quilt rack he created. He used walnut won in the club raffle. The finish is a wipe on polyurethane.

Jim Hunt



Jim must have been an Aztec in his last life. Where else would the inspiration for this mean looking tool/weapon come from? A tree limb, a saw blade, and waxed twine is all that it takes and you have a tomahawk. Oh, and a bit of artwork. Your shop is safe now.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## Raffle Results:

We now 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.

--- Woodcraft Gift \$25 certificate  
--- Drill Press tool tray  
--- Kreg Pocket Hole Jig  
--- Bench Buddys  
--- Finish Nailer

John Roberts  
Neil Knutsen  
?  
?  
Max Lee

Donated by ProBuilder Placerville

## Saw and Planer blade sharpening.

A number of members have asked about who we know that sharpens saw and planer blades. Well 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**

## 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.*

**Membership Dues:** For those members wishing to renew their membership for the 2015-2016 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.**



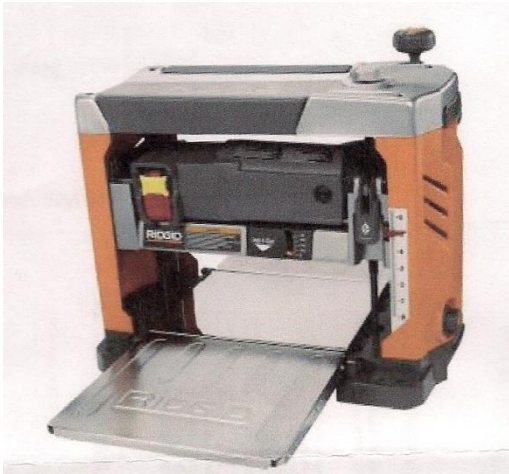
# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Vol 21

## The GCW Exchange Corner: 1 this month.

Ridged 13" Thickness planer. This is a lightly used planer that is in near new condition. It is less than 8 years old. Asking price is \$200. If interested contact Warren Wyllie [resting@cal.net](mailto:resting@cal.net).



Regards and happy woodcrafting.

*Gail Cone*

GCW Newsletter editor

GCW Web site: [goldcountrywoodcrafters.com](http://goldcountrywoodcrafters.com)



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