

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter March 2017

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GCW Meeting Brief:

The February 14th meeting lasted 2 hours. We had a good turnout with 34 members plus one guest in attendance. This month we had a special presentation by Basil Borkert on creating unique cutting/bread boards. If you missed Basil's presentation you missed a lot of good information on how to get started making your own. Eight members brought in items for the show and tell and we had our usual raffle with a number of great prizes. No items are listed for the Exchange Corner this month. Be sure to check out a new newsletter section, "Member's Corner". We encourage members to submit short articles on a woodworking related topic for this new section.

Vice Presidents Message:



Gold Country Woodcrafters

Jim Hunt still has his finger in the dyke at Oroville Dam, but he's hoping to be on board for our April 11th meeting. I'm sure the club will be happy to see Jim back at the helm.

We have the GCW shop tours coming up May 13th. The shops that will be visited are those of Steve Cabrol, Roy Carter and Tim Bynon. The shop tours are a lot of fun and there are usually good snacks on hand at each shop, so be sure to mark

your calendars.

We had a great presentation this month by Basil Borkert on making breadboards, so I expect to see more of them turning up in our future show & Tells.

Don't forget our next meeting April 11th is the "shop organizer" challenge. I hope you are already working on your project. See you all in April! Until then, Happy and safe woodworking!

Ron Sexton

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Cutting Boards Presentation by Basil Borkert:



A number of months ago after Basil had shared a number of his cutting board projects, Basil was asked if he would be willing to give a presentation on the art of creating cutting boards. He graciously accepted the challenge and we are glad he did.

During the presentation Basil showed a number of his designs plus several YouTube videos on cutting board layout and fabrication. So much information was presented it would be impossible to cover it all in this short article. However, most if

not all the information Basil presented can be found by viewing some of the YouTube videos shown during the meeting (links provided below). Basil gave us a really good overview during the presentation of the various design options and procedures for creating your own cutting board projects.

A take away from Basil's presentation is that the sky's the limit when it comes to possibilities for your cutting board layout. Another is that there are many helpful resources available when considering creating your own cutting board project. This includes an aid Basil uses, a cutting board design and layout program that can be downloaded free (link below).

It was brought out that there are a number of decisions that must be made when setting out to create your showpiece. These include the planned usage (utility vs art), patterns, wood species, use of end-grain or long-grain, type of glue, and the type of finish. A note on end grain orientation: During one of the discussions it was noted that end grain designs hold up to use much better than long grain designs. Reason is that the wood fibers have less chance of being cut and damaged. Also, applying new coats of finish tend to restore an end-grain board quite well.

Numerous questions were posed by members. One topic brought up was the toxicity of some woods that may be considered when formulating your design. The conclusion of the discussion was that it was a very minor issue because the likely hood of food contamination would be limited because the wood is sealed by glue and finish. The real issue is that of dust control during the fabrication process.

Notes from the presentation:

1. Use packing tape during fabrication to prevent glue from sticking to surfaces.
2. Use lots of glue to insure a reliable bond.
3. Use TiteBond III to improve moisture resistance.
4. TiteBond Extend glue can be used if longer working times are needed.

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5. Popular finishes are salad bowl finish and mineral oil with or without beeswax.
6. Restrict woods to those with closed grain. Example: Cherry, maple, walnut, purple heart, etc.

Links

- 1) [Coolest Cutting Board Ever with Scotty Lewis - YouTube](#) 3-D Board Tutorial
- 2) [How to make a wood end-grain cutting board - YouTube](#) Making an end grain cutting board with the aid of a computer program (CBdesigner). Demo version application is free. Full version is \$10.
- 3) [Making a "Brick Wall" end grain cutting board - YouTube](#) 11 min long, Start at 3 minutes
- 4) <http://lumberjocks.com/poroskywood/blog/10833> Drunken cutting board, article w/slides
- 5) <http://lumberjocks.com/McLeanVA/blog/18432> Zig-zag board tutorial diagrams
- 6) [Making a 3D end grain cutting board #3 - YouTube](#) Example of what a minimal effort can do to really change a board.
- 7) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0K98U_v6PMo Concave/ Convex Illusion Board.
- 8) Link to cutting board application software, CBdesigner: <http://www.lastalias.com/cbdesigner/>

Announcements/news:

1. **Wood Carver's Show Participation:** Ron Sexton announced that GCW will not be participating in this event this year.
2. **Shop Tours in May:** We are planning to have shop tours again this year. The tour day is Saturday May 13th. Steve Cabrol, Tim Bynon, and Roy Carter have volunteered their shops to be part of the tour. All members participating in the tours last year had a great time so be sure to sign up in April to participate and see these 3 great shops. Schedule and maps for this event will be available by the April 11th meeting.
3. **Project Challenge April:** Harvey Myers (Project Challenge chairman) reminded the members that April is our project challenge month. Time is running out so, April 11th is the date! The theme is to build a shop organizer project of some type. Suggestions include organizers for tape, sand paper, battery chargers, etc. So get your imaginations revved up for this event. A drawing for \$50 will be held for all those who participate.
4. **Mentor's List update:** Gail Cone reported that the mentor's list is current. No changes were indicated by members at the February meeting. To access the mentor's list, go to the club website woodworking links page and search down to locate the link to the mentor's list. [Mentor's List link](#)
5. **Member Contact Information:** Like all good things nothing is forever. 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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6. From the floor:

- a. Paul Velk brought in an antique “tachometer” to share. It has a number of internal gears plus an indicator pointer. Using a stop watch and monitoring the pointer, one can determine the speed of a rotating shaft.
- b. Harvey Myers described how he solved a problem when using his power carving tool. Every time he would use it, shavings would get lodged in the power switch until he was unable to turn the tool off. He described how he created a shroud to deflect the shavings and prevent this problem.
- c. Warren Wyllie described how the wagon wheel fabrication video presented in February created interest at home. Knowing that creating this kind of project is a significant effort he did some research and found, believe it or not, that Nature Wood Furniture in Ranch Cordova carries wagon wheels. Go figure!
- d. Tim Bynon described to the members his experience in rebuilding a table saw. The challenge was to find reliable bearings for the saw arbor. Tim was kind enough to provide a short write-up with the details for this newsletter. To see the write-up go to the “Member’s Corner” section below.

2017 Meeting Topics:

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| April 11 th | GCW Spring Project Challenge Night. Theme, some type of shop organizer. |
| May 9 th | Millwork and installation for cabinet work. Presentation by Dale Gamble. |
| June 13 th | Applying CA (cyanoacrylate/super glue) finish on pens, etc by Gail Cone. |
| July 11 th | Demonstration of a portable lumber mill by Steve Cabrol. |
| August 8 th | Cabinetry and dovetailing presentation by Tim and Melody Bynon. |
| September 12 th | The Saw sharpening with some history presentation by Ken Welsh. |
| October 10 th | GCW Fall Project Challenge Night. Theme to be announced. |
| November 14 th | Tool talk night. Members round table discussions on latest tools, etc. |
| December 12 th | Spouse/Special guest night. 2 nd annual event. |

Members that would like to give a presentation or have ideas for a presentations please contact Ron Sexton (hewpvl@directcon.net). 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.

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Show and Tell: (8 presenters)

John Cassidy



John continues to use his Craftsman Router Crafter to create unique items. Last month it was a candle stick, this month he presented this very stout cane. He turned it from a piece of red oak then added the barley twist. The Handle is Rosewood and he finished it with 4 coats of polyurethane.

Mark Butzler



As we are quickly finding out, Mark loves to create jigs. Here he shows 2 of his latest. The one on the left, he said, is his favorite and handiest jig to date. It is a bench vice made to mount on the top of his workbench. It uses a pair of inexpensive pipe clamps and can be positioned on his bench to fit his needs. The one on the right is a tenoning jig. It features a micro adjustment for setting the width to exact dimensions. He hasn't had a chance to use it yet. However, you can be sure it will do the job for him.

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Bob Pritchard



Bob decided to venture into the CNC world with this project. It's a cane with, what else, a "Hammer Handle". The handle is machined from a piece of walnut and required 4 router bit changes. The cane itself was made from Poplar. The CNC program was modified some to accommodate the desired cane dimensions. A prototype was created in order to refine the design and is shown in the picture inset.

Note: Bob and his wife Judy are both members of GCW and SAW. In addition, Bob is now the president of SAW. Can we say they like to keep busy?

Steve Cabrol



Steve turned this really fine chip/nut serving tray. He had a glue-up given by a friend some time ago and decided to create something from it on his lathe. Well, this project did not come off without running into problems. While cleaning up the bottom, he accidentally sanded through. Who hasn't done that? So, he added an accent piece to repair it. Guess what? Sanded through again... Then one more time using a piece of burl was a charm. He finished it using the Beall Buffing system. In the end it really turned out (no pun intended) nice. Steve noted that despite having some setbacks, he did have some really good luck. The glass bowl shown was not planned for. The piece was done and then he went to the kitchen and found a bowl to fit.

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Roy Carter



Roy continues his love affair with birds and carving. We have seen a number of his birds over the years in their many forms. You may remember the bird coat rack shown at the fair and in January all the birds he carved into the Gypsy Wagon. He showed his latest installment to his flock at the March meeting. This one is really unique. The body is carved from Redwood, and the beak is Maple and Walnut. The top feathers are made from brass tubing and the eyes are glass. This one is just chirping with character.

Paul Velk



Being cutting board night Paul decided to bring in his latest creations. 3 cutting boards. 2 of which feature a herringbone pattern. All 3 are end grain Walnut. He chose boards that had sap wood in order to create the patterns in the finished pieces. The finish is food grade mineral oil. The challenge was anticipating what the pattern will look like after cutting, flipping and assembling the pieces to get the desired effect. Looks like he met his objectives.

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Jim Terrill



Jim continues to bring in his fine turned artistry. This one is a Redwood burl bowl about 7" in diameter. He used his favorite finishing process, the Beall Buffing system, to finish this piece.

Phil Johnson



Phil

created these carbide tipped turning tools using locally obtained components. The carbide tips he said were only a couple of dollars with which is a far cry from what they are online. 2 of the handles were turned from white oak and the other 2 are maple. The shafts are 1/2 inch steel. I'm sure we would all like to know where he found the cutters.

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Member's Corner:

Submitted by Tim Bynon

Finding the right bearings for my table saw.

My table saw had been getting louder lately and I determined it was time to replace bearings. The original Rockwell bearings had lasted only two years; so when I decided to replace them I made sure I got good American made bearings. Those bearings lasted for 37 years of commercial use. In selecting bearings I didn't want to take any chances in getting cheap look-alikes. I had a hard time finding out where any of the bearings I considered were being made. Most bearings were too cheap to believe the price. I finally found a place with a will-call counter where they would pull what I needed. They had NSK Made in USA bearings for \$13 each. I found that most name brand bearing companies have plants all over the world, making choosing a model very difficult. The company I selected is Motion Industries -motionindustries.com-. If you are hunting for bearings I recommend you try out their web site for info. I found that even if you know your bearing size, you will find they have so many choices it's just better to drop in and get their help. Their local outlet is at 3473 Ramona Avenue, Sacramento, 95826 (916) 455-1990 7-4 M-Fr.

Adjustable V-Belts

Over the years I had also changed the v-belt a few times and didn't like the angle the motor was hanging at, so I took this time to try adjustable link v-belts. I've been able to try different lengths and see how it affects traction and tension without needing lots of sizes. As I had heard, these belts are also a little quieter. I got my belt from Harbor Freight and you get 5 feet in the package. It's only available in 1/2" width, but has good reviews and is made in Europe.

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:

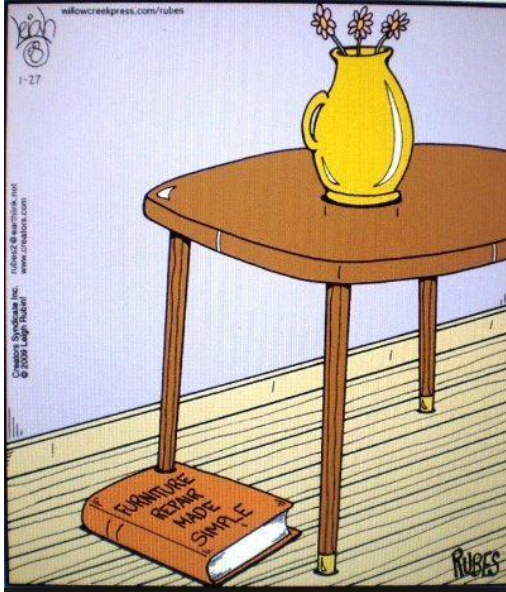
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1) Woodcraft Supply \$25 gift cert. | guest |
| 2) Screw Driver Set | Dave Boutcher |
| 3) Screw Driver Set | Phil Johnson |
| 4) Myrtle Wood Block | Harvey Myers |
| 5) Package of assorted Veneers | Jerry Preston |
| 6) Small spring clamps | Steve Cabrol |
| 7) 6 piece large spring clamps | Richard Grant |
| 8) 6 piece large spring clamps | Rich Schwerin |
| 9) Set of snap off blade knives | guest |

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Wood Humor:



Submitted by Ron Sexton



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 2016-2017 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 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.

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

Regards and happy woodcrafting.

Gail Cone

GCW Newsletter editor



GCW Web site: goldcountrywoodcrafters.com

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