

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter May 2023

Vol 103

GCW Newsletter Brief:

We had a great turnout for the May meeting with 34 in attendance. This included 2 guests and one new member. The new member is Bob Brown. Welcome to the club Bob. The focus for the May meeting was a presentation on chemical safety by Chris Perini. For the Show-N-Tell portion of the meeting we had 9 members show their projects. 4 members submitted project contributions for this newsletter.

Topics to Visit:

- Announcements and News: Badge Etiquette reminder, yet again.
- Announcements and News: Upcoming meeting Topics
- Member Message: Boys N Girls club information.
- May presentation: chemical safety by Chris Perini.
- Meeting Show-N-Tell Summary.
- May Project Newsletter Submissions.

President's Message:



Dear fellow GCW Members.

Greetings. In writing this I feel somewhat handicapped due to my absence from the May meeting. However, in talking to those who did not "play hooky", the meeting went exceptionally well. "Thank you" to those who stepped up to keep the meetings going.

Getting away to visit siblings in the great state of Kansas/Oklahoma did seem to reinvigorate my enthusiasm to get busy in the shop. A chess board project started several months ago has been waiting on the application of resin. During that time I watched a number of YouTube videos related to that project and realized that the right resin, a set of scales and warmer weather would be needed. That resin was applied yesterday and I'm happy to say all went well (other than some last minute leveling issues). The intent is to take it to Hughes Hardwood for sanding in about two weeks. The challenge of turning a chess set is tempting and would definitely improve my turning skills. The question is, do I want to spend the summer doing that, or a more preferred project? Stay tuned.

Happy crafting:

Basil Borkert

GCW President

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Announcements and News:

Badge Etiquette Reminder --- Badges “to the bucket”: Please wear your badge prominently, so they can be seen, during meetings and at the end of the meeting put-em in the “badge bucket”!

Upcoming meeting topics:

- June 13th meeting topic. Tentative activity for this meeting will be a couple of short videos with follow up discussions on the topics/projects presented.
- September 12th Woodworking Tips and Tricks: Our members should be thinking and collecting contributions for Tips and Tricks for this meeting.
- October 10th Fall GCW Project Challenge: Theme to be determined
- November 14th Round Table Discussions. Our members should be thinking on what woodworking related themes we should have at each of the tables. Objective would be to have 5 or 6 tables, each with a host, topic focus, and examples.
- Suggestions for topics for future meetings are encouraged and are welcome. Topics for July, August, and December are, still to be determined.

Member Message Section:

Gail Brooks: Last month I offered some information on the Boys and Girls club Heroes Night fundraising event to be held in January 2024. Here is some additional background information on the Boys and Girls club of the El Dorado County Western Slope.

Their door is open every day to the kids of El Dorado County at Clubhouses across the slope in Georgetown, Placerville, and Pollock Pines. They provide one-on-one mentoring and education assistance. Healthy, homemade meals are provided daily free of charge to the kids who attend the Club as well as the kids who don't. Each and every day the staff are there for our kids, doing Whatever It Takes to ensure that they have a GREAT Future. After School Program Hours Are 2:00-6:00pm

Venues:

The **Placerville Clubhouse** located at 2840 Mallard Lane has a full-size gymnasium, commercial kitchen, computer lab, music room, art room, game room, teen room, outdoor patio, and a huge backyard! On average, 220 kids make use of this facility daily where they participate in national, locally-developed, and youth-led programs that enrich their after-school experiences.

The **Pollock Pines Clubhouse** is located on the campus of the closed Emigrant Trail School (next-door to Sierra Ridge Middle School) and is housed in five classrooms. The Club has a game art room, game room, computer lab, and teen room plus members have access to the playground and the gym. On average, 70 kids make use of this facility daily.

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The **Georgetown Clubhouse** has moved into the newly renovated 100s wing of Georgetown Elementary School. This facility has a game room, art room, computer lab, teen room, and program room. On average, 75 kids make use of this facility daily.

A **Cool Clubhouse** is also being developed. I'm sure it will indeed be cool.....

The fundraiser:

We are asking our GCW members to think about what they could contribute to the January 2024 fund raiser effort. Please let Roy Carter or me know if you have questions. Also you can refer to the April GCW newsletter for further details.

May Presentation by Chris Perini:



Our guest speaker for our May meeting was Chris Perini. Chris has an extensive background involving the handling of chemicals plus chemical safety with the State. Chris is the current president of SAW (Sacramento Area Woodworkers) and he kindly offered to share with us information that could be of use in our handling of the chemicals we use around our homes and shops. Much of the focus was on items we all have around the house that can be potentially dangerous.

He covered some hazards of mixing chemicals. One example he offered was mixing chlorine bleach and ammonia containing products. This should never be the case as this combination creates chloramine gas which is quite toxic to humans and animals and can lead to death. Mixing of chlorine bleach should be with laundry detergents.

During his presentation he discussed the proper containers, labeling, and methods of storing chemicals we use in our shops. Primary recommendation is to keep all chemicals in a metal cabinet. Preferably it should be located outdoors. He has his storage locker set up to allow fire suppression through an access hole.

He had a placard available depicting the numerous chemical warnings symbols we see on containers and vehicles. He explained the meaning of each symbol on the placard during which he explained the basic difference in products rated as acids/caustics and poisons.

During his presentation there were many questions and discussions with our members. The information here is just a short summary of the many points of the topics Chris covered. It would have been good to record this presentation for, newsletter information, review and possibly for a showing at a later date.

As a follow up, Chris offered guidance for disposing of quantities of chemicals in his president's message for the May SAW newsletter. Here is the Link to the SAW newsletter: [SAW May newsletter](#).

We would like to offer our appreciation to Chris for dropping by to share his expertise on this topic. Our members, I'm sure, will benefit from his visit to our club.

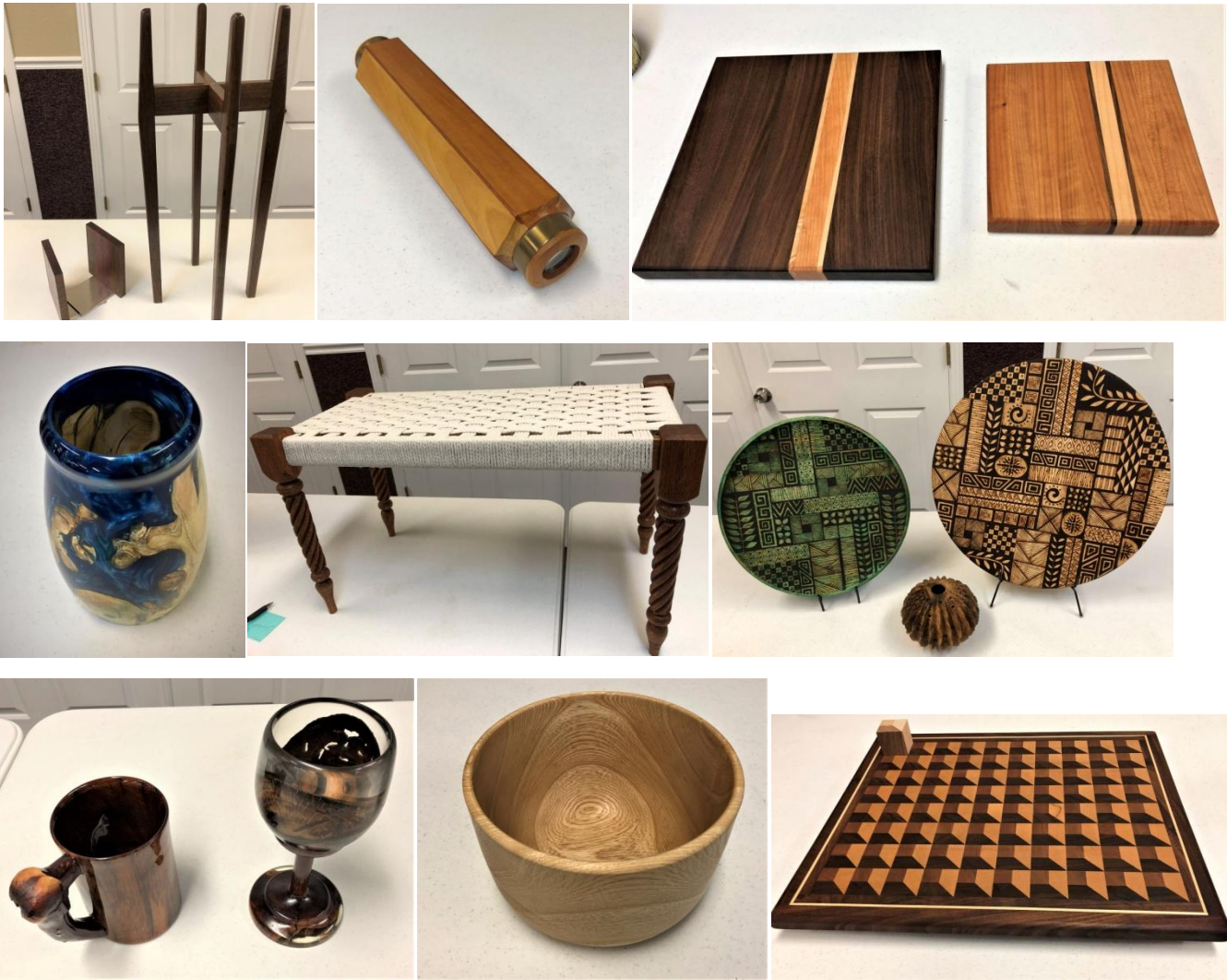
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May 2023 meeting Show-N-Tell Summary:

For May we had 9 members presenting their projects in the Show-N-Tell. Mark Butzler managed the session as usual. Show-N-Tell presenters: **Bill Meronek**: Plant Stand and Book Ends, **Paul Velk**: Kaleidoscope, **Jim Gott***: 2 Cutting Boards, **Gail Cone***: Resin Vase, **Jim Hunt***: Woven Bench, **Gail Brooks***: 2 Turned Pyrography Platters, **David White**: Resin Wine Goblet and Mug, **Oscar Wittrock**: Turned Bowl, and **Marcel Vital**: 3D Cutting Board. Those members with an * contributed to this newsletter. Thumbnail pictures are shown in order of presentation.



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May Newsletter Project Submissions (4 Members):

Jim Gott



Here are my show and tells from the May meeting. I made these 2 cutting boards for a friend. One is 10x10 and one is 7x7. The woods are Walnut, Maple, and Cherry. Both are 7/8" thick with the woods arranged in quarter sawn orientation. Both are finished with mineral oil and beeswax.

Jim



Jim Hunt



Hi all, here is the woven bench with Oak "Barley Twist" legs and frame that I showed at the May meeting. I used approx 600' of chording in two 300' lengths for woven seat. The wood is finished with Odies oil.

Jim



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Gail Brooks



Here are 2 of the pieces I showed at the May meeting. After designing and penciling in the design on these platters, I burned in the design. One was colored with Tim Holz alcohol ink a bit diluted with isopropyl alcohol. Both pieces were sealed with Osmo oil.

Gail B.

Note from the editor:



I and my wife had a chance to go to the El Dorado Hills Art, Beer and Wine festival this last Saturday. Gail Brooks had a booth there and had many of her fine wood art pieces on display to offer for sale. The booth was near the end of a row and was 10'x20' so it was easy for everyone to appreciate her work. In a follow up correspondence she indicated that the heat

turned out to be a real challenge and took much of the desire to be there.

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Gail Cone



My Show-N-Tell for the May 23 meeting. Well, what do you do with a Fruitless Mulberry Tree root? Simple answer, make a vase out of it, right? The process involves cleaning all the rock and dirt out of it (well most of it anyway). Wait a couple of years till it is good and dry and cracked up. Then more cleaning plus turning it to some reasonable size. Put it in an old protein powder container “the mold”, pour epoxy resin with pearl mica power colorant mixed in over it (almost 1.5 liters) and let it cure in a pressure pot for 3 days, then remove from container (mold). Ignored it for almost 2 months (really had spring cleaning and other tasks to do) until resin is really cured! Ok, now the fun begins. Let’s turn it into a vase. Put on the safety gear (respirator and goggles). Oh, and the turning coat. Turn on the dust collectors!!!!!!

This is not a task for light hearted. Be ready for the mess, patience and cleanup. This vase required turning to the wood and resin character to preserve the array of root features plus

highlight the resin coloring, thus the resulting vase contours. The turning required mostly carbide tools. The hollowing process involved the use of my large steady rest and deep hollowing jig. The cutters were again carbide. To get a consistent wall thickness, of approx. .25”, a laser light was used with the deep hollower. Resulting dimensions: 7”h x 4.75”diam.

This vase was sanded from 80 through 2000 grits plus abrasive pastes and then polished inside and out. Overall a very fun project and the best one to date!

Gail C.



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

Membership Dues: Our annual GCW club dues are \$25 and are due January of each year. Dues for new members joining throughout the year are prorated based on the month they join. You can pay the dues at any club meeting or send a check to our treasurer. Make the 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.

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 and makes 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.