

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## GCW November NL Brief:

The November 14<sup>th</sup> club meeting lasted about 1 hour 40 minutes. We had a good turnout with 33 members and 1 guest in attendance. The scheduled activity for this meeting was for members to break up into focus groups to discuss woodworking related topics. This was the first time we have tried this concept and it appears to have been well received. Also, the GCW members presented the Park Community Church with the “Center Pieces” our members made for their meeting room tables. The night’s Show and Tell featured a large number of projects by our members. Our usual raffle featured a number of great items including items donated by members. Thanks again to those that contribute items to the raffle. Don’t forget that the December meeting is our second annual “GCW Holiday Special” meeting. Don’t forget to bring your Spouse or special Guest to this very special event. See the Announcements/News section for more information. No items are listed in the Exchange Corner this month.

## Presidents Message:



Gold Country Woodcrafters

We had a great meeting and a great turnout for the November meeting. Thank you to all who attended and participated. The table discussions on tools, jigs, methods, etc was very popular. We owe a big thank you to Tim Bynon for organizing the topics and discussions. We are looking forward to implementing lessons learned and hosting that type of main presentation more often in the coming year.

Please mark your calendar for our December 12th spouse/guest meeting. We anticipate an equally pleasant and enjoyable evening as last year. We will host desert style treats, refreshments, and a show and tell featuring member projects from 2017, plus member and spouse/guest raffles and also a sampling of our Toys for Tots projects and more. I hope you can all make it!

Until then, Happy Thanksgiving and looking forward to seeing you next month!

Until next time, Happy and Safe woodworking!

*Jim Hunt*

*GCW President*

## Note from the GCW newsletter editor:

The editor of this newsletter needs your help. It takes a fair amount of time to generate the GCW newsletter each month. It would really help if members would please wear their badges and guests have name tags. Also, please sign in. It would be great if the editor could remember all, almost 70, member names. But I’m afraid that will never happen. Also, if you would like more detail to be published about your show and tell project please submit a brief paper to the editor. Thank you for your cooperation.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## November Meeting topic “Tool Talk”:

The November meeting presented the members with a unique opportunity to share and learn. The idea was for members to have a number of round table focus group discussions on topics of woodworking interest. In short it was advertised as “Tool Talk Night”. Before things got started, Tim Bynon, our presentation chairman, gave a brief description of how the members should break up into small focus groups to discuss topics such as tool issues, joinery, saw blades, finishing, jigs, etc. After the regular meeting break members went about forming a number of focus groups and began “talking shop”. Members were able to share their knowledge and learn from others. Members were free to move about to participate in topics of interest to them. It was obvious that they enjoyed this program as they were able to ask questions and share knowledge without the time constraint they normally encounter during meetings. The activities were aided by a few members bringing in items to help start things off. After the session, Tim Bynon asked for a brief report from a few of the groups. It was reported that there were lots of great discussions, and information exchanges relating to subjects like frame construction, sharpening, turning, picture frame construction, making push sticks, and saw blades, just to name a few. A show of hands indicated that this was a popular event with the members. This was the first time that this concept has been tried by GCW and it looks like it won’t be the last, so stay tuned. Oh yes Olive, a special guest, really enjoyed participating in the activities.



## Announcements and News:

1. **December meeting:** Be sure to set aside December 12<sup>th</sup> 7PM for our GCW meeting. This is a special event, as it is the second Annual GCW Holiday meeting. Be sure to bring your spouse or special guest to join in on the festivities. There will be refreshments, treats, a slide show of member’s projects from 2017, project show and tells, member raffle and plus a special raffle for spouses/guests. We would like to ask all members be sure to bring their favorite project to Show and Tell. This is a great time to show off the wide range of all our member’s talents.
2. **GCW T-Shirts:** Warren Wyllie reported that we will have the shirts available at the December meeting for members who have signed up for them. He added that there will be a few extras for anyone that would like to still get one. Because of the number of members that have requested shirts the price has dropped to \$20. For those that deposited \$22 the club will refund the \$2 when you pick up your shirt(s).
3. **Toys for Tots Program:** Dale Gamble reported that he already has received a number of toys for this program and expects to receive more for the December distribution. He plans to bring samples of the toys to the December meeting to show our members and guests. If you have any questions on this effort or would like to drop off your toys, give Dale a call. Phone: 530- 363- 3297 Email: [rndgamble@comcast.net](mailto:rndgamble@comcast.net). The toys will be distributed to local organizations.
4. **From the floor:**
  - a. John Cassidy reminded members that there is still a need for memory boxes for the Keaton Foundation. He noted that the general requirements and dimensions were published on page 4 of November’s newsletter.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## Church Table Center Piece Project Presentation:



As reported a previous newsletter, the Hills Community Church asked if our GCW members could possibly create some Auto/Truck themed center pieces for the tables in the meeting room. Our members thought this would be a good way to show our appreciation for allowing us to use their fabulous facilities. John Brideson took up the challenge to lead a team of volunteers to define and execute this effort. Last month John reported that designs had been defined and that he had enlisted volunteers. His volunteers were Mark Butzler, Warren Wyllie and Basil Borkert. They were able to make a number of center pieces and these were presented to members of the church at the November meeting. The picture at the top shows the members from the Hill Community Church and our GCW members who participated in making the center pieces. From left to right: Sandy Shoemaker (church pastor), Cindy & Randy Altsen, John Brideson, Mark Butzler, and Warren Wyllie. Basil was unable to make the November meeting but we would like to thank him and the rest to team for making this project happen.

## Upcoming Meeting Topics:

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. December 12 <sup>th</sup>    | GCW Holiday Meeting, Spouse/Special guest night. 2 <sup>nd</sup> annual event. |
| 2. January 9 <sup>th</sup> 2018 | Presentation and demo of the Incra Jig by John Bridesman                       |
| 3. February 13 <sup>th</sup>    | TBD  |
| 4. March 13 <sup>th</sup>       | TBD  |
| 5. April 10 <sup>th</sup>       | Spring GCW Project Challenge   |

May through August TBD *Members that would like to give a presentation or have ideas for a presentation please contact Tim Bynon [steamglidertim@yahoo.com](mailto:steamglidertim@yahoo.com). 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.*



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## Show and Tell:

### Mick Dupper



Mick is one of our many members participating in making toys for the GCW Toys for Tots effort this year. Here he shows 2 items he has made for this effort. On the left is a “White Elephant Puzzle” and on the right is “The Chicken and Egg”. Well in this case we know which came first, well the chicken, of course. When the chicken is moved forwards or backwards the egg rocks around. Very clever Mick!

### Jim Hunt



Jim showed off his latest “Wood Art”. In this case it is a segmented turning using Ash and Walnut. He described the problems he encountered while turning this project. There were 2 primary challenges. The first was the density of the woods used differed significantly sanding tended to affect the uniformity of the surface. The second issue was excessive vibration while machining the upper portion of the vessel. In many cases you need to machine the lower segment rings before adding more rings. He asked for suggestions to help mitigate both issues. On the sanding, it was suggested to try very sharp scrapers including cabinet scrapers with a light touch and very light sanding with fine paper. For the vibration problem, it was suggested to use a damping device (these

are rollers mounted on an adjustable “Y” frame mounted on the lathe). Also, he could possibly use a progression of padded disks of expanding diameters held in place by the tail stock as he worked toward the top. To explain, in a segmented turning it is necessary to generally develop the inner and outer shape to enable the craftsman to align the next segment ring accurately. As a result the shape is defined from the bottom up rather than the top down in solid turnings.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## Rob Larsen



Rob decided to take the plunge and dive into a cutting board project. Here he shows the cutting board he crafted plus a set of salt and pepper shakers. The shakers were turned from Mahogany and finished using a friction polish. Note, Rob and his wife just recently started turning and it looks like their work is “turning” out great. Sorry about that... The cutting board was crafted using Walnut and Maple. The pieces were aligned with end grain showing in this project. He finished this project using a “Salad Bowl” finish. He described the issue he had with the applied finish. The finish tended to darken the maple and thus reduce the contrast he was hoping for. He asked for suggestions on how this could be alleviated in future projects. Suggestions included, thinning the finish being used, and or sealing the wood with a cut (thinned) sealer before finishing. Sealers suggested included shellac lacquer.

## Sam Garcia (guest)



Sam is in the formative years of his woodworking efforts. He chose a project that sounds simple, but from having attempted to make a set of knife handles myself, it can be a real challenge. This, seemingly simple, project challenges a new woodworker to develop skills

in planning, layout, fabrication (cut out, shaping, sanding, drilling), assembly and finishing. Did I mention patience? This knife handle was made using Manzanita and finished using polyurethane. He said that he acquired the knife blade from Amazon and used a thickness sander plus lots and lots of hand sanding to complete this project. I'd say he did a real fine job. He should be proud of it. Sorry, didn't get a picture of Sam.



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## Roy Carter

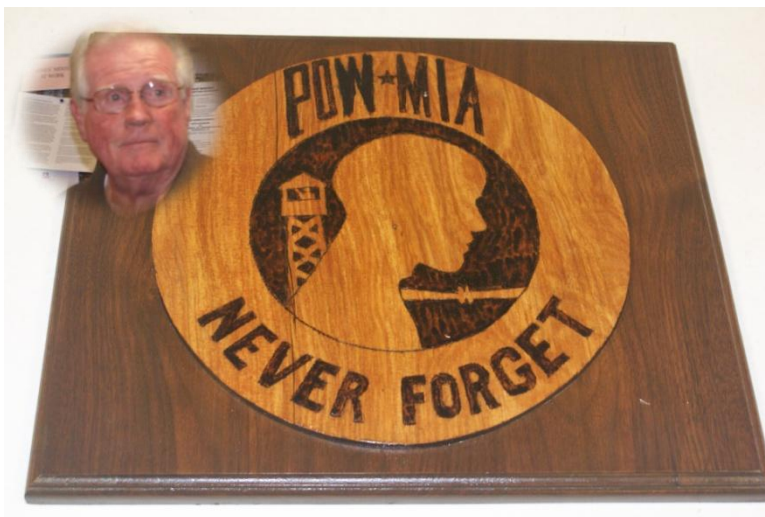


Roy's love of birds obviously goes beyond carving them. Now he wants the world to feed them. In this end, he has recently made a number of bird feeders. I believe he said the number was 20! He plans to give some to family members and to donate a few to the Boys and Girls club of Placerville for their fund raising efforts, a favorite charity of his. He came up with this general design from a magazine and made a number of improvements. It features a top that opens up and brass tubing bars to keep the squirrels out. The wood used is Incense Cedar.

Editor's note: Roy continues to excel in the giving department. He is a great asset to our club and to the community. He recently finished making 2 mobile chicken coops that he plans on

donating to the Boys and Girls club for their fund raising events. I still need to get pictures of the coops to show off his work. You may remember an article, published in a GCW newsletter earlier this year, featuring Roy and the Gypsy Cart he created. Again, he donated it to the Boys and Girls club of Placerville. That one brought in almost \$7000. The next time you see Roy be sure to let him how much his efforts are appreciated.

## John Brideson



A friend had asked John to make a plaque commemorating those that became missing in action while in the service of our country. He responded by creating this beautiful Philippine Mahogany plaque. He used pyrography to create the imagery and a stain to darken the frame area. I believe he used Poly as a finish. Nicely done John.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## Ed Woodards



We have seen a number of intarsia projects by Ed over the years and each one seems to try to outdo the previous. This one of a Tiger was, I believe, requested by a daughter. He took up the challenge and ended up using so many wood species that he lost track of what type he used. With 110 pieces, I can see how that could happen. He showed us the pattern for this project. Holy cow, his eyesight must be better than mine.

## Paul Velk



rolling pins so they would not be rolling off the counter.

Since Mark Butzler showed us a rolling pin incorporating the Celtic Knot pattern, we have seen a few Celtic Knots popping up in projects. Here Paul took up the challenge to make a couple of rolling pins incorporating the Celtic Knot design. He found that alignment during the table saw cuts and subsequently assembly is of paramount importance. It takes a little trial and error to get it just right. His first attempt, he said, is a little off but you have to really look at it to see the error. He ended up using CA glue to reduce problems with slippage during assembly. He turned the pins on his lathe. Take note of the holders he made for the



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## Ron Sexton



The Memory Box program received another contribution with the creation of 3 more memory boxes by Ron. You may remember that he with other GCW members came together a while back and made a number of Walnut boxes for this program. In these he incorporated Black Oak, Walnut, Koa, and California Manzanita. It features a ribbon handle and spline reinforced corners. The lid to box joinery is created using the table saw. Ron gave a brief on how to accomplish this effort with precision. We need to get Ron to write this process down and submit it for publication in the newsletter. The finish is lacquer.

## Gail Cone



The Toys for Tots trains needed some circus flavor so we found some non breakable animals and added some color. There are 20 cars in all. The animals range from gorillas, alligators, zebras, giraffes, etc.

## Toys for Tots



Here is just a small sampling of the toys created by our GCW members for the Toys for Tots effort so far this season.



# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

## 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.           | Dale Gamble   |
| 2) 5' Piano Hinge                             | Steve Cabrol  |
| 3) 5 pieces of 3/4"x3/4" Curly Maple          | Warren Wyllie |
| 4) Large blocks of Oak                        | Ed Woodards   |
| 5) Digital Angle Gage                         | Larry Gross   |
| 6) Digital Calipers                           | Roy Carter    |
| 7) Craftsman Molding Head Set (for table saw) | Larry Pfost   |
| 8) Multimeter                                 | John Cassidy  |
| 9) Trim Router (Porter Cable)                 | Ken Welsh     |
| 10) Angle Grinder                             | ?             |

## Wood Humor:



Submitted by Ron Sexton

**Tool Exchange Corner:** There are no items this month.

**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.

# GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter November 2017

Vol 38

**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.

**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



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

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