

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

GCW December NL Brief:

The December 12th club meeting lasted about 1 hour 45 minutes. We had a fabulous turnout with near 60 members plus guests in attendance. Also, we signed up 2 new members, Mr. Eric Bickford and Sam Garcia. Welcome to the GCW club Eric and Sam. This meeting was our, now annual, GCW Holiday Special meeting. Members were to bring their spouses or special guests to celebrate and share in club activities. The night's festivities featured: presentation on club history, list club activities, member recognitions, slide show, project Show and Tells, raffles and great refreshments/treats. We had 9 members bring in projects to show our members and guests. No items are listed in the Exchange Corner this month.

Presidents Message:



Gold Country Woodcrafters

What a great way to ring in the Holiday season; a wonderful evening with our spouses and special guests.

We had a great turnout for the meeting with an awesome display of treats, courtesy Ken Welch and his amazing "staff", a very nice presentation by several members for show and tell, presentation of our toy drive projects and of course the regular and special guest/ spouse raffles.

Thank you Ken for your pleasant and entertaining MC services, John Brideson for a nice presentation on the history of our club and of course to Gail for the slideshow highlighting the "year in review" and to all our members and spouses who were able to attend and make this such a special evening.

As we close out another year, let's not forget to give thanks for all our good blessings, no matter how big or small, and enjoy the best season of the year.

I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you in 2018!

Until next time, Happy and Safe woodworking!

Jim Hunt

GCW President

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Annual December Holiday Meeting



Our December meeting had a great turn out and was a very festive occasion. Our December meeting is special in that it is the meeting where we bring our spouse or special guest to help celebrate the holidays and the woodworking year.

To start things off Jim Hunt welcomed the attendees and then turned over the forum to our master of ceremonies, Ken Welsh. As usual Ken was entertaining and put all in a festive mood. In addition to being our MC, Ken volunteered to provide the refreshment for this occasion. He had a bit of help and thanked his staff for their fine work. Ken went on to describe why he enjoys our club so much. He explained that is because the GCW club allows members to participate in an open forum where other clubs enforce a strict protocol and agenda.

Ken then introduced John Brideson who gave an overview of our club's history. John told of the humble beginning in 2007 with just a few woodworkers sitting around a table and how it has grown to what it is today with over 60 members. He listed the presidents the club has had in the 10years of its existence: himself, Hank Wilson, Gail Cone and now Jim Hunt. It is obvious that he is very proud of the club he started.

The floor was then turned over to Jim Hint who thanked all those that helped prepare for the December meeting and gave a brief description of the night's planned agenda. He explained that after the opening ceremonies we would first have our Project Show and Tell, second we would provide time for attendees to mingle and look at Show and Tell items up close plus enjoy the refreshments, then would come the member and guest raffles. Next Jim gave an overview of numerous activities the club is involved in throughout the year including those where we try to help our community. He mentioned the GCW Shop Tours, Tools Swaps, Fall Picnic, Newsletter, Toy for Tots program, Keaton Foundation memory boxes.

To start the activities off Jim held up a number of wood species and asked our quests to identify them. Correct responses were rewarded with an additional raffle ticket. Jim turn over the proceedings to Rich Schwerin who guided us through the Show and Tell. Later he would oversee the member and guests raffles.



Greetings, Sign-in and Name tags
Lets buy those raffle tickets



Taking a closer Look at Show and
Tell projects

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Enjoying And Making Friends



GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Toy for Tots



Dale Gamble shows some of the toys created by our members this year for the Toys For Tots program. The toys included train sets /with animal figures, chick-n-egg action toys, airplanes, cars and pull ducks to name a few. There were 22 train sets. Those participating in this year's effort were: Dale Gamble, Larry Gross, Rob Larson, Harvey Myers, Bob & Judy Prichard, Homer Rail, Gail Cone, Ron Sexton, Bill Meronek, Mick Dupper, Roy Carter and Mark Butzler. This was an excellent program this year with lots of toys made and a large participation by our members. We need to give Dale a big round of applause for his efforts to make this GCW sponsored program a great success.

Guest Raffle

The guest raffle this year included a number of chocolate gifts and a heated throw cover. There were 9 lucky winners.



GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Show and Tell: (9 presenters)

John Brideson



John brought in one of his favorite clamping jigs to show. He discovered that a number of members were not aware of its unique features so he brought it in to show what it can do. He described the jig as a 4 way clamping system. This clamping jig helps keeping glue-ups, like cabinet shelves, flat as well as keeping adjacent surfaces level while applying the needed pressure, for the boards glued edges. The hand crank allows the

woodworker to apply pressure horizontally and vertically at the same time preventing warp. The clamps are available at Woodcraft Supply for around \$32. Note: John is planning to give a presentation on the Acra-Jig and its use at the January meeting.

Ed Woodards



Ed brought in 2 of his many art projects. The mirror on the left he entered into one of the club's Project Challenges a few years ago. The leafs around the edge were cut from a piece of burl his wife found laying out somewhere.

Ed regularly dives into the challenge of crafting intarsia pieces. This is not a task for

those that don't have infinite patience. 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 requested by his daughter. The project required 110 pieces. He lost track of what type of woods he used. We can see how that could happen. Note: Ed has agreed to give presentation on the art of crafting intarsia images. Keep tuned for scheduling.

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Ron Sexton



Ron brought in 3 projects to share with members and guests. On the left he shows his latest project, a spice cabinet modeled/scaled after those commonly used in the 18th and 17th

century. In the day spices were highly valued as they were difficult to come by resulting in the need for secure storage method. The primary wood used was Black Acacia. The Picture is pyrographic art incorporating a relief of a covered bridge. The canvas is wood that had just the right stain features representing clouds. The bridge siding was taken from old fence planks. The third item, Ron said, satisfied a desire he has always had to have a “Tall Case Clock”. Not having the space to house the real thing he scaled one down to set on his desk. He incorporated a pocket watch for the time element.

Basil Borkert



A lot of our projects are triggered by the need to get organized or reduce clutter. Basil brought in a project that fits that bill just fine. The project he shows here provides a place for keys, sunglasses or whatever else would have previously been deposited on the kitchen counter when he came in from the

garage. He said it is now hanging by the entry door, and is doing a stellar job at keeping his wife happy. The wood species used in this project are Beech, Walnut, Zebra and Sapele⁽¹⁾. The vertical piece was made by his wife's father for her as a key holder.

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Mark Butzler



Mark does seem to have a “not so hidden agenda” in this project? Here he shows off the rolling pin he made not so long ago. It features the classic Celtic Knot design that he says is “not so hard to make”. It’s rumored that he has already reaped some rewards from this project. Pies anyone?

It should be noted that since Mark showed this project a few months back a number of projects have been showing up incorporating Celtic Knots.

Bill Meronek



Bill took the plunge into making wooden serving utensils with the intent of giving them as Christmas presents. Here he shows off 3 sets (spoon & fork) from the 6 sets he recently completed. He said that the tools used included a router, and some jigs. He said the challenge was the spoon concave portions. I’m sure it also required a bit of carving and lots of sanding. The woods used were Cedar, Zebra, and Granadillo⁽²⁾. He used the mentor services of Harvey Myers, Steve Cabrol, and Paul Velk.



GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Harvey Myers



We all know Harvey has an eye for the art hidden in wood. Some of us work with wood from the outside in or concentrate on form and function. Harvey looks to what is inside the wood and tries to bring it to the surface for all to see.

On the left he shows that he found when he cut a “plain” piece of oak down the middle. His plan was to carve an oak spoon. What he found was a design in the wood fiber of a perfect spider web. Now his task is to try to incorporate this attribute into a project.

Harvey brought in 2 of his other art pieces one a unique box. Yep a box, made from and old rotted fence post. The other piece shown, above, is a Manzanita sculpture abstract carved from a large section of weathered Manzanita. Did I mention he sees potential in any piece of wood? Sure is good to see Harvey back doing what he loves.

John Roberts



We all know that John enjoys making toy trucks and machinery. Now he has expanded his efforts into making very large interactive toys. He just completed this “Marble Maze”. It uses really large marbles and has 2 separate tracks for the marbles to travel. The wood is old growth pine he salvaged. Large portions of the tracks were created as continuous sections and then cut down and fitted to create the 4 sided track configuration. Some of the curved sections had to be refined from the original plans to improve/increase the momentum of the marbles or they would stall. He demonstrated how to launch the marbles and recover them when stuck in the top, as in the bottom picture. Sorry John....

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

Jim Hunt



Jim brought in a very unique chess set he recently completed. He said that he made it for a young Grandson who has taken up chess. The primary wood for the table portion is Baltic Birch plywood. The pedestal is turned from oak. For the coloring he used dye stains and finished it using lacquer. The chess pieces are made from various nuts, washers, bolts and

sprayed with metallic paint. The color choice of green and blue results from the fact that his Grandson favors the Seahawks football team. Much to his dismay. The rope design on the pedestal was created using the, now very rare, Craftsman Router Crafter. He got many of the nuts and bolts components from *Blue Collar Supply of Sacramento*.

WOOD SPECIES REFERENCE

1. **Sapele Wood:** Sourced in Africa, Sapele is a prince among exotic hardwoods. While Sapele boasts many of the characteristics prized in both Utile and the Mahoganies, it comes with a lower price tag. Popular uses for this premier lumber species include cabinetry, flooring, door and window frames, and even some musical instruments.
2. **Granadillo (Mexican Rosewood):** From Mexico and Central America. This exotic wood takes a high natural polish works easily, finishes smoothly, and responds well to hand tools. It glues, nails and screws well, and is rated highly durable. Frequently used for fine furniture and cabinetry, decorative veneers, flooring, musical instruments, turnery, joinery and specialty items such as violin bows and billiard cues Granadillo is an excellent substitute for Rosewood or Cocobo.

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2017

Vol 39

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. | Harvey Myers |
| 2) Set of British Scrappers | Robert Garlick |
| 3) Shave hook Set | Dale Gamble |
| 4) Large Screw/Cabinet Clamps (2) | Steve Cabrol |
| 5) Block of Maple 8"x6"x24" | Bruce Trescott |
| 6) Ear Protectors w/music | Roy Carter |



Wood Humor:



Submitted by Ron Sexton

Tool Exchange Corner: No items this month.

Upcoming Meeting Topics:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. January 9 th 2018 | Presentation and demo of the Incra-Jig by John Bridesman |
| 2. February 13 th | TBD |
| 3. March 13 th | TBD |
| 4. April 10 th | 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. 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 December 2017

Vol 39

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 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

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