

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter July, 2019

Vol 57

GCW Newsletter Brief:

The July 9th meeting was well attended with 37 members in attendance including 2 new members. The new members are Ray Alvarado and Melynda Kassis. Welcome Melynda and Ray we hope you both find that the club meets your expectations. The topic of the night's presentation was "Small Shop Organization". The presentation was prepared by Homer Rail, John Roberts Bruce Hall and Mark Butzler and presented by member John Roberts. For July's Show-N-Tell we had 10 members presenting their numerous projects and woodworking tips with a special one by Sam Garcia. Again, we had a number of members contribute items to the night's raffle. The club appreciates your support.

President's Message:



Gold Country Woodcrafters

July's meeting was well attended and was highlighted by a presentation on small shop layout by Homer Rail, Bruce Hall and John Roberts. There were several great ideas for tool, bench and storage layout that would work in any size shop. Thank you, gentlemen, for a well thought out and enlightening presentation.

Congrats to Sam Garcia for winning two ribbons at the El Dorado County Fair for his segmented bowl and Flag. Sam is producing beautiful and intricate projects as one of our youngest members. We are all excited to see him continue to grow!

I will unfortunately be missing the August meeting, my last meeting as President, so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during my term as President of Gold County Woodcrafters. It has been a very rewarding experience and so pleasurable working with the Executive team for continuous improvement on the club. Tim Bynon will be leading the meetings until the next President is announced very soon. I look forward to continued participation as a general member.

Thank you all!!

Until I See You Again,

Happy and Safe woodworking!

Jim Hunt

GCW President

Small Shop Organization Presentation:

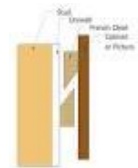
We had an organized and informative presentation for the July meeting addressing “small shop organization”. It was put together by John Roberts, Bruce Hall, Homer Rail and Mark Butzler. Bruce Hall and John Roberts presented in turn showing a number of slides depicting their respective shop setups. John also included some of Homer Rail’s shop showing tools storage options. Each of the shops included in the presentation were basically the size of a one car garage or less. One of the considerations during the presentation was, how really to define a small shop. Most of our members have come to know that you can always use more space whether we have a large shop or not. We woodworkers tend to accumulate tools and material and then try to figure out how to make it work in the space available to us. No matter what size our shop is, if we don’t work to use space efficiently, organization, space and productivity will suffer. This presentation brought out numerous ideas that could be used in improving our shop and doing projects regardless the size of your shop. Just a few are highlighted here.

We saw a number of slides showing larger power tools on mobile bases. Mobile bases allow tools to be moved aside to be able to utilize the floor space for other activities or move the tool where it can be used more efficiently in a project. A further improvement shown, was how making your own mobile (or stationary) tool base can create additional storage using shelves, drawers, etc. Most commercial stands are mostly air and large space wasters.

Wall space in most shop shops is a premium. Hand tool and clamp storage is a big issue and in many cases they end up on a wall. Creating storage cabinets can help solve the hand tool issue. Example, Homer and Bruce both have created battery charging and storage w/cordless drill stations to address battery and tools storage. John showed how he uses the rafters in his shop to store his many clamps. Lacking wall space there are clamp racks that can be made or purchased commercially.

Material storage is an issue even in the largest shops. We tend to accumulate and horde cutoffs making it even worse. The best solution is to clean house. We will create more cutoffs.

A handy tip for a way to mount cabinets or tool storage platforms is to use is to use a French cleat (photo on right) instead of hardware. It is cheap, simple and a strong mounting method.



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Announcements and News:

- 1) **Opening for GCW Club President:** As has been announced, some members on the Executive Committee are terming out, come the end of August. Two of the positions have been filled however the club is still looking for someone to fill the president position, currently held by Jim Hunt, to help guide our club going forward. The new president's term would begin the 1st of September 2019. For more information on what this involves just contact any committee member at the August meeting. Also, copies of the club's Bylaws are available for the asking. Just send the request to the same email address distributing this newsletter.
- 2) **October 8th GCW Project Challenge:** Rich Schwerin announced the theme for the October 2019 Project Challenge. The objective will be to make something from a Walnut Gunstock blank or make something from a single construction 2x4 (Douglas Redwood, etc). The club will supply the Gunstock Blank at the July and August meetings. So be thinking on what you can make for this fun event. Non-wood materials may be incorporated in project construction, but are limited to trim and construction techniques. The 2x4 option may be of pine, hemlock, fir or redwood. You can find ideas on line on Etsy, or by searching "Woodworking Challenge Projects" (review the Canadian club's entries at Suncoast Woodcrafters Guild). A \$25 raffle for participants will be held and plus all entrants will receive a certificate suitable for framing.
- 3) **Letter from Keaton Child Cancer Alliance:** I hope the summer has been treating you well and that you and your families are all doing well. I am reaching out with a unique request: We are creating a section in our office where kiddos can relax and engage in activities. One of the activities will be a chalk board that we are currently in the process of creating. The big favor that I would like to ask is if one of the woodcrafters would be willing to create an eraser holder for the chalkboard that we are making. If this is something one of your woodcrafters are willing to help with please let me know and I can provide more details. I would like to thank you in advance for considering this request. I am looking forward to hearing from you soon! Sincerely, Sarah Perry Childhood Cancer Family Navigator. Sarah.Perry@childcancer.org direct 916.757.6040
- 4) **From the floor:**
 - a. Jim Hunt presented a number of ideas/suggestions for shop tune ups. He suggested that a good time to do it is in the winter months when a lot of us are spending more time indoors. Just a few are listed here.
 - Add a vortex dust collector to your shopvac to increase efficiency.
 - Oil those moving tool parts that have been neglected and have gummed up dust.
 - Organize/replace and charge all those batteries for our cordless tools.
 - Purge those wood scraps that have been accumulating. There are more to come.
 - Clean the glue from clamps, etc. Suggestion is to use white vinegar to soften the glue.

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5) Meeting Topics for 2019:

August 13th: Members Wesley Aring and Tim Bynon will be showing four YouTube videos on different aspects of woodworking. As some of you may know, Wesley has created 151 videos over the last 3 years and currently has over 18,000 subscribers. To review them just type in Wesley Aring on YouTube's search line. A complete list is being developed to give you some of the better YouTubers. Their videos vary from complete project instructions to simple tips and tricks. There is a world of info out there.

September 10th: John Roberts on Tips and Aids for continuing to do woodworking when you are not 100%.

October 8th: Fall GCW Project Challenge. The project focus is to be determined.

November 12th: Round Table- We will be having our ever popular round-table meeting. There will be discussion topic tables with demonstrations/examples.

December 10th: Back by popular demand. December's meeting will be "bring your spouse/special guest night". This special event, marking the holidays, will feature extended show and tells, treats-refreshments, and a special raffle as well as the regular raffle and much more. So mark your calendars so the date stays open.

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 club members participate in sharing knowledge, the more proficient we all become at our common interest, woodworking.

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Show-N-Tell (10 members):

Ray Alvarado (New member)



Ray came to the meeting being a guest and left as a member. Welcome Ray we hope you enjoy being a member. Ray listed his woodworking ability as “beginner”. The carving projects he brought to show speak otherwise. The relief carving depicting a flower and branch is well done with dark accents. I believe Ray said that the small carvings, bird and alligator, are meant to be toys for some special kids.



Both show great carving skills. The fish relief, above, I understood to be a work in progress. We look forward to seeing more wood-art from Ray.

Rich Schwerin



Like many of our projects this quilt rack Rich created was requested by his wife. She belongs to a quilting club and they are in need of quilt racks (so I understood). He used Cherry to craft this one. It is about 5 feet long (estimated). He had some issues trying to get the stain right but prevailed. Much to his chagrin after completing the project he was asked why he didn't just paint it! Paint Cherry!



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Harvey Myers



Making unique wood turnings is not a new endeavor for Harvey. He brought this unique bowl turned from an oak crotch. I think he said it took 9 tries to get it right? Turned out great, pun intended. He used tung-oil for the finish. A number of members noticed the danger of turning items with wings. Hurts like hell when you get your hands wacked. Keep the first-aid kit handy.

Bruce Hall



Bruce turned this bowl from Myrtle Wood. The block was obtained through Cook Woods of Oregon. They have lots of cool woods, including exotics and rare species. Have your wallet handy though.



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Don Lawson



Don has brought a number of his turnings to share. This one, I believe, is the most unique. He named it "Space Sculpture". The primary woods are Birds-Eye Maple and Ebony. Notice the inlaid strip for accent that gives the piece a sense of motion. He mentioned the high degree of difficulty in turning the Ebony finial and pedestal. Oh, and this is a turned lidded box. The top finial is the lid handle.



Tony White



Tony brought a number of pens he recently turned. The unique ones on the left are cigar pens. All pens were finished using CA. He mentioned the fine work Jim Terrill does in pen turning and finishing and the challenge of reaching his level of expertise. Tony and Jim are both members of the Norcal Woodturners as well as GCW.

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Jim Hunt



Jim brought in his latest project, a jewelry box. The primary woods used are Beech and Mahogany. All were stained using

Mahogany stain. For this

project he took on the challenge of implementing a “Fine Finish” on the lid. He described the challenges he faced as this was his first venture into creating a fine-finish. It required numerous coats of finish (lacquer). The reason being, to obtain the nice flat lustrous finish, one has to rub out the surface using progressively finer abrasives. Having plenty of finish material

laid down ahead of time reduces the chance of rubbing through the finish into the stained wood. The legs he acquired from Hobby Lobby. He told us that Hobby Lobby has a large selection of legs to choose from.

Susan Settle



Susan showed us a keep-sake box last month that she made for her daughter. Well she decided to make an addition to it. Here she shows an organizer insert for the box, top left. She also brought in two more of her desk organizer wood art pieces, top right. Oh, then there is the “Bolt Man” on the right. Yet another super hero? She has been busy.



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Ron Sexton



Ron brought in another of his fine pyrography art pieces. This one he described as mostly free form. It appears the young lady in the picture is trying to rescue a small animal. He uses acrylic pencil for the coloring and finished it using spray lacquer from a rattle can. Ron as, we know, prefers to use lacquer on his projects. The rattle can lacquer was an experiment, as he does have his own spray system. He used Watco Lacquer he found at Walmart and commented that it appears to be heavier than others he has tried. He also mentioned that he is not sure that he is happy with the finished product and may sand it down and start over. I think that we would all agree that this is a fine piece and it should stay as is.

Show-N-Tell continued on next page

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Sam Garcia



Thin Blue Line 50 Star Flag

Sam ended up coming late to the July meeting and the actual Show-N-Tell due to other commitments. We have to say, we are extremely glad he did make it. This young man is becoming an excellent woodcraftsman. He's not afraid to take on challenging projects and to try new things.

The two projects he brought in to show his fellow woodworkers this time were quite special. Both required well thought out project planning and execution. He submitted both projects to the El Dorado County Fair crafts exhibit winning top prizes for both.

The segmented turning on the left won **First Place**. His "Thin Blue Line 50 Star Flag" wood-crafted project shown above won "**Best-In-Show**".

It should be noted that the segmented bowl is his first segmented project. He used Purple Heart, Walnut and Maple segments. The inspiration for the bowl

came from a request to create a "Wedding Gift" bowl. The memorial flag project was created to honor the police officers killed in the line of duty. He used Walnut, Maple and Purple Heart. He used Purple Heart to represent the blue strip as it was the closest thing he could think of for that purpose.

Sam got a grand ovation from the club members when he presented his projects. Congratulations Sam on your awards at the fair. We look forward to seeing more of your projects. I'm sure his parents are extremely proud of his accomplishments as are we.



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Businesses that support GCW:

Be sure to stop by Woodcraft Supply Sacramento, Pro Builder Placerville, The Paint Spot*, Churchill Hardware Cameron Park*, or the Rockler Woodworking* store in Rocklin. Please let them know how much Gold Country Woodcrafters appreciates their support. **places offering GCW members discounts.*

Membership Dues:

For those members wishing to renew their membership for the 2018-2019 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



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 making 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.