

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter May, 2019

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GCW Newsletter Brief:

The May 14th meeting was well attended with 33 members and a few guests in attendance. We have one new member, Terry Heart. Welcome to the GCW club Terry. The focus of this meeting was demonstrations of track-saw systems by Tim Bynon, John Roberts and Victor Larson. For May's Show-N-Tell we had 8 members presenting their numerous projects and woodworking tips.

President's Message:



Gold Country Woodcrafters

Tuesday's meeting was highlighted with a demonstration of track saw systems presented by Tim Bynon, Victor Larson and John Roberts. Thank you gentlemen for the informative presentation.

I'd also like to thank our hosts for the Shop Tour Saturday May 11th. Nelson Exum, John Roberts and Basil Borkert did a great job of showcasing their individual shops. It was an enjoyable and educational morning culminating in a nice BBQ, compliments of Basil and his wife.

As I have mentioned before, the true value of our club is in sharing of experience, knowledge, questions and ideas from, and amongst our members. I encourage all of you to make this your individual contribution at every meeting. Much of what I have learned about woodworking came from our members. Please help make every meeting a learning experience for you and for fellow members by actively participating.

Until next time,

Happy and Safe woodworking!

Jim Hunt

GCW President

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Track Saw Demonstrations:



We had demonstrations of various track-saw systems at the May meeting. Because of the space requirements and possible dust issues the presentations were held outside. The track-saw solutions included those purchased and those shop made, with some able to accommodate both saws and routers. The presenters were Tim Bynon, John Roberts, and Victor Larson.

Tim brought three types of track systems to show: First was a traditional wood guide for routers

using a 1/4" Baltic Birch ply layer cut to requirements upon first use. That results in an exact line that can be set on the cut line from then on. The second was an Empire 8' 6" All Purpose Cutting Guide for a circular saw. He had added a plastic base to slide the saw along. Only needs a 1/8" saw kerf in a plastic base to fit to track. The third he brought, as he said, was just for fun. It demonstrated a "power feed" system used with a diamond blade for cutting stone countertops. It incorporates a simple variable speed gear motor with a pulley that winds up a cable to pull the saw. In addition it includes a router style speed control to adjust the feed rate and a Swanson 100" Cutting Guide.

John showed his system for cutting large material using a Veritas Power Tool Guide. His setup demonstrated how he accomplishes long cuts using a set of saw-horses and inexpensive sheets of foam insulation as a backer. The setup allows him to make cuts without having to have a large dedicated area. When done the saw-horses break down easily for storage. The insulation sheets are light and easy to store also. He was able to demonstrate his system with actual cuts. The [Veritas Power Tool Guide](#) is quite versatile and can be purchased through Lee Valley Tools.

It was getting cold and the light was fading but Victor was able to give a demonstration of a Festool saw and guide system. His setup featured a Festool dust extractor (aka vacuum), Festool guide rail and a Festool plunge cut saw. He was able to demonstrate some of the saws features, especially its plunge cutting ability and the adjustable blade depth adjustment. Also noted was that it has a tilt capacity of 50 degrees. The guide rail can be placed on the line to be cut, no offset measurement needed. The guide is secured to the work piece by under mount sliding clamps. The saw cuts dust free when hooked up to the on demand vacuum. He was able to make some brief cuts before our light and time expired. Victor used this system mostly in his work to cut sheet goods, strait edging large 8/4 and 10/4 timbers for counters and tables and occasionally to make on site dust free cuts.

The editor would like to thank all 3 presenters for their contributions to this article.

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May 11th 2019 Shop Tours:



Shop of Nelson Exum



Shop of John Roberts



Shop of Basil Borkert

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Our 2019 shop tour event was held the morning of Saturday May 11th. We had a fair turnout with about 20 members visiting each of the 3 featured shops. The tours were a great way to see how some members have setup their shops, get to know fellow members and pickup woodworking ideas. Plus there was ample time to enjoy our favorite pastime, shoptalk. The 3 shops featured, were those of Nelson Exum, John Roberts and Basil Borkert. The first tour began at 8:00 am at the shop of Nelson Exum. John Roberts hosted members at his shop from 9:30 to 10:30. Basil Borkert hosted from 11:00 till noon. The event concluded with a BBQ graciously put on by Basil and his Wife. If you missed out on the tours this year you should really plan to attend the 2020 tour. There was so much to see and experience that this article could not do it justice. I picked up a number of ideas and I'm sure the other attendees did also. We would like to offer our appreciation and thanks to Nelson, John and Basil for hosting this year's GCW shop tours. I'm sure their shops are always that clean and organized..... Also, a special thanks goes out to Bruce Hall for donating Walnut gun-stock blanks to each of our shop tour hosts.

Announcements and News:

- 1) **President Terming out:** Jim Hunt announced that he will be terming out as GCW president at the end of August. So we are now looking for someone to consider stepping up/in and help lead the club forward. For more information on what this involves be sure to see Jim at the next meeting. Also, a copy of the club's Bylaws are available for the asking. Just send the request to the same email address distributing this newsletter.
- 2) **From the floor:**
 - a. Need for Memory Boxes: John Cassidy asked the members to consider making memory boxes for the Keaton Raphael Memorial Foundation. Unfortunately they are in great need of more boxes. These memory boxes are given to parents of children lost to cancer. They are filled with mementoes of the child. If you can, please participate in this very worthwhile endeavor. For more information contact John Cassidy johnny60176@gmail.com. If you would like plans send a note to the email address distributing this newsletter. Ron Sexton offered to supply material for anyone wanting to make boxes.
 - b. Burnmaster Woodburner: Bruce Hall has an extra Burnmaster Woodburner unit available at a very reasonable price. If interested contact Bruce at pipedoc1028@gmail.com.
 - c. Pyrography mentoring: Ron Sexton announced that he is available to provide pyrography mentoring. If interested contact Ron at hcwpvl@directcon.net.
 - d. Leveling a drill press table: Jim Hunt offered a tip on leveling a drill press table. He suggested taking a metal rod bent at approx 4" at about a 30% (give or take) angle and mounting it in the drill press chuck. Raising the table and adjusting the table tilt so the end of the rod just touches the table corners then locking the table down. A number of

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members offered similar methods. Ones using a hanger (wire) another using a magnetic level (like the ones used to set table saw blades).

- e. Aura hardwoods: It was reported that Aura hardwoods is having a difficult time finding specific hardwoods to stock their store. If you are looking for something specific it is suggested you call first. Note, Aura offers discounts to GCW members.

3) Meeting Topics for 2019:

June 11th: The presentation team is currently working to have a presentation on creating band-saw boxes.

July 9th: Homer Rail will present ideas on how to make the most from a small shop space. Mark Butzler and Bruce Hall will also be contributing. Homer would also like other members to bring up ideas that helped make their shop spaces work.

August 13th: We are hoping to have more outdoor demonstrations. Details will be forthcoming in the coming months.

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 (8 members):

John Roberts



“Do Nothing Toys” Yep, that is what John calls them. Why would one want to make “Do Nothing Toys”, besides the obvious joy of doing so? Well, John is expecting a visit from 5 grandkids this summer, ages 8 and under. Please note, they will all be there at the same time! His challenge, as we all know, is keeping them busy and out of mischief. Best of luck Grandma and Grandpa.

Dave Boutcher



Dave created this tray for his wife to help organize her sewing room. The primary wood is Oak. He used his corner doweling system to complete the corner joinery. He had shown us the doweling system at a previous Show-N-Tell. He added a nice touch by using contrasting dowels and camphering the corners to expose the dowels.

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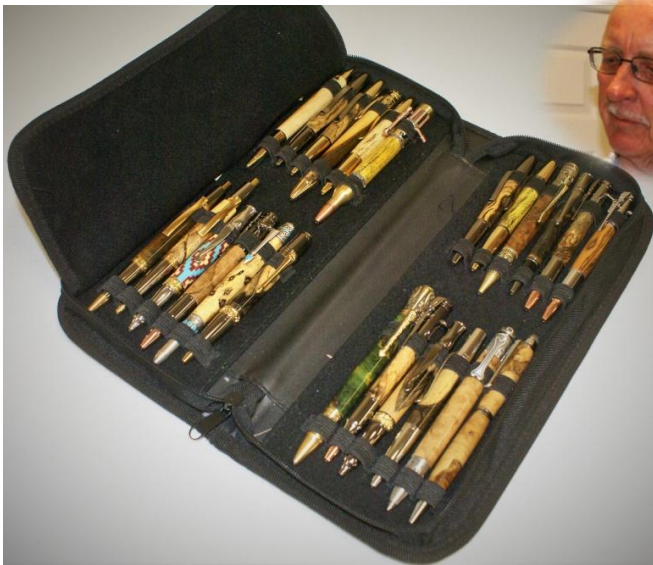
Rich Nielson



Rich decided to give abstract wood sculpture a try. For this piece he laminated 3 boards, looks to be Walnut. When asked how he was able to create the cutouts without using a bandsaw or scroll-saw, he said he used a hand held jigsaw and rasp. He obviously likes to challenge himself and it turned out great. Suspect it will be displayed prominently in his home.



James Terrill



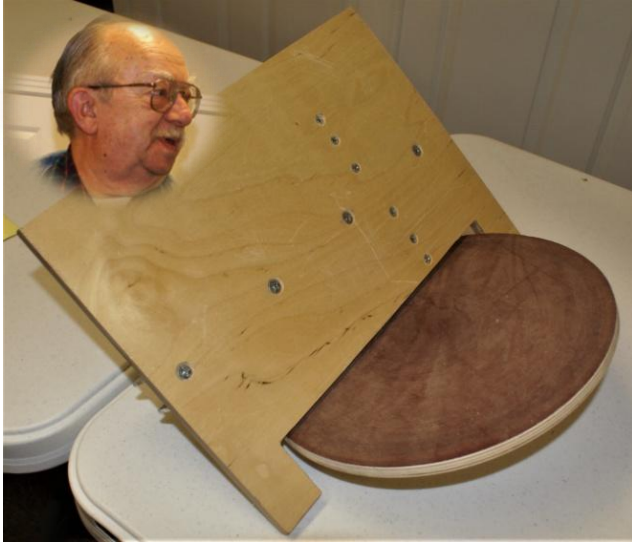
Pens anyone? Jim showed a collection of pens he makes and sells at craft shows. These are headed to a Reno based craft fair. He also mentors at Nor-Cal Woodturners on the art of making pens. For the lidded bowl he used Walnut gunstock material. He took advantage of the cracks that showed up while turning the lid by inlaying powdered turquoise. He uses CA glue to fix the inlay powder. The Beall Buffing finish came up nice on this piece.

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Bruce Hall



Bruce needed a disk sander in order to true up segmented rings for some turning projects. He created one for his lathe. He used Baltic Birch ply for both the 12" disk and the table. The table mounts in the lathe banjo (that's the tool rest thingy). He lucked out on the disk having very little runout.



The vase on the right he brought in to show a fellow member who was interested in how Bruce makes his tall flower vases. We have seen his work in previous Show-N-Tells. He uses the special jig, shown, on a table saw to cut the taper and mating joinery surface in one pass.

Warren Wyllie



Warren entertained us with a great winter tale. He explained that the paddle thermometer is a replacement. The original that lasted many years, surviving many winter storms and failed suction cups, this year found its way into a snow bank by the house. The picture on the right is what the paddle looks like after going through the snow blower. In the believe it or not category, the thermometer itself was not damaged at all. So it found its way onto a new "Paddle Thermometer".

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Susan Settle



Susan brought in her latest wood art. With the project on the left she not only found a use for all those random cutoffs but also created a unique desk organizer.

Ok, now for the guy on the right.



This carved piece is only around 2" high but is larger in character. One of the hardest things to accomplish in art is to capture or create personality in a piece. This creature's eyes and nose features are capturing. The eyes are actually small snail shells but seem to be staring right at you.

Ron Sexton



It appears that Ron has mastered yet another woodworking challenge. Last month he showed us what was to be a practice carving piece for carving in the round, a buffalo. It was to help him develop the carving skills and setup needed to accomplish the "real thing". The wood he chose was Pine, as it is soft and fairly easy to carve. He uses some knives but relies primarily on power rotary carving tools. Ok, here we are a month later. The picture on the right shows a completed buffalo carving. Yep, it is the "practice piece". The horns are carved from Sugar Maple. For the eyes he used Shellac Stick, both amber and clear. To achieve the desired coloring Ron mixed up his own dye using red and green.

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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. *offer 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.