

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter December 2023

Vol 109

GCW Newsletter Brief:

For December meeting we had a great turnout with a total of 37 members and their guests in attendance. This was our special holiday meeting and featured a pot luck, a special guest raffle, a president's challenge and a gift exchange. 8 members answered the President's Challenge with a fine array of Christmas ornaments.

Topics to Visit:

- President's Message
- **Message** from the GCW Executive Committee.
- Message from Jim Gott: December meeting acknowledgements.
- Upcoming Club Meetings: 2024
- December Holiday meeting article.
- President's Challenge: Christmas ornaments article.
- Member messages: (2) Black Walnut slabs available for sale, Boys & Girls fund raiser.

President's Message:



Dear fellow GCW Members.

Wow! Are there some good cooks out there or what? That Christmas "feeding frenzy" (potluck) at the December meeting was way beyond outstanding! A big "THANK YOU" to Jim and Pat Gott and his team including Mark and Judy Butzler, plus the always dependable Rich Schwerin and Mickey Dupper for the meetings success. There were plenty of prizes for the guest raffle. Roy Carter was unable to attend but I heard rumors he donated four boxes of Sees candy. We missed you at the meeting Roy. Gail Cone donated a number of very cool shop made (CNC) Christmas ornaments as well. I think Santa came early for him this year.

Congratulations to Harvey Myers for winning the Presidents Challenge to make a Christmas ornament. Harvey won the raffle for the free year's membership to GCW! There were a number of outstanding ornaments in the challenge. Rich Schwerin took great pictures for the newsletter.

As all of you are aware, the cost of everything is going up and our meeting room "rent" is no exception. Starting in January GCW will be paying more each month for the meeting room which does stretch our budget some. However, we are going to hold membership dues to \$25 for 2024. Which reminds me GCW DUES are due in January.

Well, "Happy New Year" everyone. I can only hope and pray that 2024 will bring about resolution to so many issues that plagues our nation and the world at the end of 2023. That said, we do have a lot to be

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thankful for in the good old USA. As my term of GCW President ends this month I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone on the Executive Committee, those supporting the meetings and the membership in general for the cooperation and camaraderie which made my job so pleasant. Thank you all. See you next meeting, January 9th.

Happy Crafting and may 2024 be the best NEW YEAR ever! 

Basil Borkert

GCW President

Message From the GCW Executive Committee.

Headline:

David White has stepped up to join the Executive Committee and fill the position of GCW President. This is something new for Dave but we have no doubt he will do a great job. Let's all offer a big thankyou to Dave for taking on this new role in the club.

Treasurer Needed. We still need to fill the position of GCW Treasurer. This is an important position and we need to find someone willing to take on this function soon. If you can help, please let one of the committee members know or just respond to the newsletter email.

Background:

Your GCW Executive Committee met just prior to the October regular club meeting. One of the agenda items was a review of the current committee members terms status. Each of the current members with terms ending at the end of this year (Dec. 31) were asked if they would be willing to serve for another 2year term. Your current members are Basil Borkert (Pres), Gail Cone (Vice Pres), Mark Butzler (Sec), Steve Cabrol (Treasurer), Jim Gott (MAL) and Rich Schwerin (MAL). Those with terms slated to end this year are Basil, Gail, Mark, Steve and Rich. Jim Gott's term ends next year. The committee members opting/volunteering to serve another 2year term were Gail, Mark, and Rich. With David White joining the committee that leaves the Treasurer position to be filled.

Remember THIS IS YOUR CLUB. You can help the club grow and prosper, please contact one of your committee members to get more information.

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Message from Jim Gott (GCW Meeting Activity Chairman):

On December 12, in lieu of our regular club meeting we had a potluck dinner with gift exchange and President's Challenge (ornament or holiday decoration). We had about 40 attendees and lots of great food. Lots of gifts in the exchange, too, including a special gift raffle for the guests. From what I observed, I think it's safe to say that a good time was had by all. I want to thank all those who helped me in pulling this off, and a special thank you to Judy Butzler for her efforts and guidance.

On another topic, as we enter into the new year, I would like to have suggestions from club members on what programs you would like to see at meetings. I need input from you to help me come up with ideas for entertaining and enlightening topics.

Please call or text me (408) 218-1484 with your suggestions. The club works best when we all work together.

Thanks!

Jim Gott

Upcoming club meetings:

2024

- January 9th 2024 Presentation by Woodcraft Staff on shop safety.
- February 13th TBD
- March 12th TBD
- April 9th Spring GCW Project Challenge
- May 14th TBD
- June 11th TBD
- July 9th Summer break. No July meeting planned
- August 13th TBD
- September 10th TBD
- October 8th Fall GCW Project Challenge
- November 12th TBD
- December 10th Holiday meeting

Suggestions for topics for future meetings are encouraged and are welcome. The 2024 calendar has not been set as yet, so suggestions are encouraged. Please see Jim Gott if you have a topic in mind.

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December Holliday Meeting:



Our December meeting was a grand success. We counted 22 members and 15 guests attending this special holiday even. From the feedback received the attendees truly enjoyed dinner, visiting and participating in the night's activities. The activities for the night included a pot luck, a president's challenge, a gift exchange, and a guest raffle. For the Pot Luck we had lots of great food. From my count, we had over 25 contributions including Appetizers, Salads, Main Dishes and Desserts. There was something for everyone. A big thank you goes out to all who contributed to the Pot Luck. After the Pot Luck we had 8 members show their President's Challenge Christmas ornament(s). Then came the gift exchange. 13 people brought gifts to exchange. The gift exchanging was a lot of fun with a wide range of items exchanged. Steals were allowed and 4 people did just that, including yours truly. Then just for the guests, there was the raffle with 11 winners. The prizes included 4 Christmas displays, 4 boxes of candy, Lighted Glass Block, and 2 StarBucks Tumblers (with \$40 gift cards). The prizes were donated by Gail Cone, Roy Carter, Karen Cone, and the GCW club respectively.



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December President's Challenge:

This was our first GCW President's Challenge. Our President, Basil Borkert wanted to have something special for our members to show at this holiday meeting. What could be more appropriate than to make and show a Christmas Ornament. We had 8 members participating, Casey Keller, Basil Borkert, Mark Butzler, Micky Dupper, Gail Cone, Harvey Myers, J.R. Law and Jim Gott. Each presenter received a raffle ticket to win free 2024 GCW dues and a Woodcraft Supply shop apron. Harvey Myers was the lucky winner.

Closeups of the ornaments presented shown on the next page. Rich Schwerin again took great candid photos of ornament presenters plus close ups of the projects. Thank you Rich, your efforts make my newsletter task much easier.



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President's Challenge Ornaments:



Ornament creators in order of pictures: Basil Borkert, J.R. Law, Harvey Myers, Gail Cone, Mark Butzler, Casey Keller, Jim Gott, and Micky Dupper.

Member Message Section:

- 1) **Basil Borkert:** Good news from Nor-Cal Woodturners. They have black walnut slabs available 4" -6" thick and 4' long, priced from \$60 to \$150. Call Ernie Buda, M-Sat. 8:00AM-9:00PM at 916-761-3802 to check on current inventory and to make an appointment.

Basil

- 2) **Placerville Boys and Girls Club Update:** Auction this coming March:

The Fund Raiser month has been changed from January to March. Don't forget to work on your project(s) to donate to the Boys and Girls club fund raiser this coming March 2024. For more information talk to Gail Brooks or Roy Carter.

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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 2014 GCW club dues are \$25 and are due January. 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.