

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter April 2025

Vol 124

GCW Newsletter Brief:

For the April 2025 meeting we had a good turnout with 25 members and 1 guest in attendance. Better weather does make a difference as March was a challenge for some members to attend. The Presidents Challenge for this meeting was to make a serving platter or tray. Six members responded with there version of a serving platter or tray. For the Show-N-Tell portion of the meeting we had 4 members present their latest projects. Thanks to Basil Borkert we had another Truck Load Wood Dive at the end of the meeting. Basil is helping a friend close a shop. After the meeting the wood, again, magically dissapered. See the section on that event later in the newsletter. As usual, Rich Schwerin had some cool raffle prizes lined up for our raffle. Again, a special thank you to all thoses who continue to donate items for the raffle and purchase tickets.



Newsletter Sections to Visit

- Messages For Our Members: Page 3.
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 - **2025 Meeting Schedule:** May 12th. President's Challenge is to make something using 2 Board Feet of material.
 - **Mentors List:** Deferred
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President's Message:



Dear fellow woodworkers:

I would like to thank all who attended the April meeting. It looked like we had a good turnout. The show and tell and the presidents challenge had good participation. Again, I encourage others to join in. I'm sure all of us would like to see the work of others. Impressive work. Remember, while presenting, don't forget to talk into the mic and look at the audience while speaking. The next meeting is Monday May 12th. The Presidents challenge for May is make something from two board feet of wood. We hope you can bring something to show. Thank you for helping set out and returning tables and chairs.

Until next time, enjoy your Zen moment in your shop.

David White

GCW President

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Messages For Our members:

- **2025 Club Dues are due:**

We still have a number of members that have not paid the 2025 dues. The club depends on dues to pay the rent for the meeting room. If you haven't paid your dues, it's that time. The 2025 dues are still \$25. You can pay at any club meeting (check or cash) or send a check to our new treasurer, Bob Brown. Make checks payable to Gold Country Woodcrafters. Send checks to:

Bob Brown

8256 Mercer Way, Fair Oaks, Ca. 95628

Please note on the envelope ATT: Gold Country Woodcrafters.

- **2025 Meeting Schedule:**

May 12th: President's Challenge, make something using 2 Board Feet of material. BF = thickness" x Length' x width" divided by 12". Example: 1(Inch) x 12(Inch) x 2(Feet) /12 = 2 Board Feet.

June 9th: President's Challenge, make a spinning top or flower vase.

July 14th: President's Challenge, make a clock or mirror.

August 11th: President's Challenge, make a music box or jewelry box.

September 8: President's Challenge, make a band saw box or furniture piece.

October 13th: President's Challenge, make a cutting board, charcuterie board or rolling pin.

November 10th: President's Challenge, make something with a fall/winter/holiday theme.

December 8th: The December Holiday meeting will again be a bring their Spouse/Plus-One, Pot Luck and gift exchange meeting. President's challenge is to make items for the gift exchange.

We are asking our members to think on what topics they would like to see covered at our meetings. This always is a challenge for the club's Executive Committee to come up with presenters and topics for our meetings. This is your club so your input matters. Please help us out. If you would like to give a presentation to share your woodworking expertise let us know. If you come across an outside topic/presenter let us know.

- **Mentors List:**

The mentors list will be put on hold for a while. We've seen little interest in members volunteering to be mentors or for that matter seeking help from mentors. Until we see more interest, this effort will be put off until a later time. Possibly until our membership grows enough to support it.

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Remembering Jim Gott:



At the April meeting we informed our club members of the passing of Jim Gott, March 31. Jim joined GCW in 2019 and was very active in club meetings and was a member of the GCW Executive Committee. He loved the Gold Country Woodcrafters Club where he made a lot of friends. Our members benefited from his extensive knowledge in woodworking. When Jim presented his projects in our Show-N-Tell sessions it was clear he loved woodworking and loved sharing the technical detail on how they were created. He also shared his woodworking knowledge in special presentations. The most recent was last November when he gave a presentation on sharpening planner blades including an introduction to hand plane usage. That presentation will go down as one of the best presentations we have ever had. While on the Executive Committee, Jim was our club meeting topic and presentation chairman. Examples of his dedication to the task were our last two December Holliday meetings where our members and guests were treated to great times through Jim's efforts in planning and then being a great Master of Ceremonies. Jim's great wisdom, dedication and friendship will truly be missed by all.

There will be a Celebration of Life for Jim, Saturday June 21 from 12:00p to 4:00p at his home, 2058 Riesling Way, Cameron Park. There will be food, wine and non-alcoholic beverages. All Gold Country Woodcrafters are welcome. Please RSVP Pat Gott: text (408) 218-1483, or email pg491x@aol.com. Please include number in party.

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April Show-N-Tell:

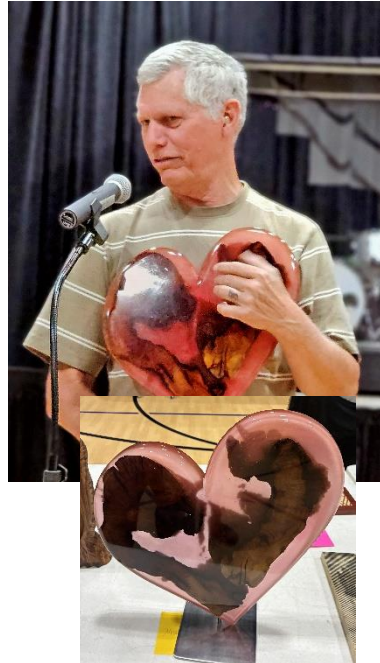
We had 4 members presenting their fine craftsmanship at the April meeting. Numerous discussions were triggered by these presentations. That made for an interesting meeting. Photos by Rich Schwerin/Gail Cone.

Gail Brooks



Gail was hoping we would all see a heart somewhere in this piece of wood-art. We had fun with this one. Came from a beach somewhere! Only Gail knows.

David White



Dave is a little late for Valentines Day for this project, but maybe it is for next year. Here he shows a Resin with Burl wood core heart + stand. There was a discussion on various ways to create a form for this project.

Basil Borkert



Basil showed off this unique bird feeder. He used Red Oak, Walnut and plexiglass in its construction. Finished with polyurethane.



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Show-N-Tell Continues

More Gail Brooks



Gail showed off another wood art piece. This is a Punky Burl from, again, a beach somewhere. She spent 29 hours carving out the holes. Patience, she does have!

More Marcel Vital



Marcel created this grey scale picture on a CNC machine. He used a small V-Carving bit. The grey scale is enabled by the depth of cut the bit makes. He then paints and sands to bring up the image. It takes considerable time for the CNC to create this type of image.

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April President's Challenge

For the April President's Challenge members were to make a serving platter or tray. We had 6 members responding to the challenge. Photos by Rich Schwerin/Gail Cone.

Rich Schwerin



Rich was busy taking photos so no candid of him. We'll have to fix that.

Here he showed a serving tray he made from a class he took. The corners are reinforced using splines. The compound corner angles were a challenge.

Marcel Vital



Marcel presented a lattice design sushi serving tray. Missed what woods he used.



Gail Brooks



Gail shows off her "driftwood platter". She sand basted it to clean it up and remove loose debris. She had to do some refinishing using dyes and stains to obtain the look and warmth she wanted.



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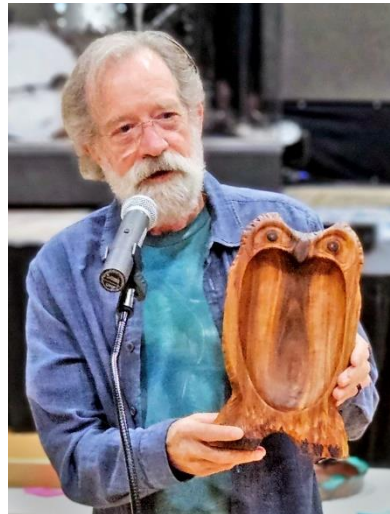
Challenge Continued

Dave White



Dave brought in a resin and Mandarin plater about 14" or so in diameter. This project prompted discussions on methods to polish and finish a resin piece.

Micky Dupper



Micky continues to show his love of Owls. This time he carved a small serving tray using an Owl as his inspiration. A nice section of Apple wood finished using tung oil was his palet. Fun facts he brought up

were that owls feet have 4 toes, they can rotate their heads 270degrees, and they regurgitate pellets.

Richard Nielson



Here Rich shows us a serving tray. It features Red Oak and Walnut. It is finished with stain and varathane.



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Break Time Everyone!



Why do we all look forward to breaktime? Well, it gives everyone a chance to catch up with friends and, most of all, get a closer look at the projects presented during the President's Challenge and Show-N-Tell. This is where we can talk one on one with the project creators and exchange ideas. This time goes by so fast!

April Truck Load Wood Dive:



It was Christmas in April (actually in February and March as well) with Santa bringing wood for all. At this point in time I am trying to write this message from Clearlake with a computer and a broken mouse. Using the touch pad on the computer keyboard is not my thing and the frustration is reaching a dangerous level with my patience. So.....this will be short, I think I hear a bass calling my name.

Thank you guys for your patience in getting the lumber off the truck after the April meeting. What little was left over was picked up by a neighbor who is also interested in joining our organization. Unfortunately I will be traveling during the next GCW meeting.

As things stand now there will be another "Christmas" in June with longer and wider boards. YEAAA!

Basil Borkert

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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. Don't forget to ask for your Gold Country Woodcrafters discount at the checkout counter.*

Membership Dues: Our GCW club dues are \$25 and are due in January. Dues for new members joining throughout the year are prorated based on the month they join. You can pay at any club meeting or send a check to our treasurer. Make the check payable to Gold Country Woodcrafters. Send check to:

Bob Brown

8256 Mercer Way, Fair Oaks, Ca. 95628

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 Monday of each month unless otherwise notified and are held at the Foothills Church Auditorium. Address is 2380 Merrychase Dr. in Cameron Park, Ca. off exit 34 on Highway 50. A map is provided on the home page of the GCW website. No endorsement by Foothills Church is implied.

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.