

Gold Country Woodcrafters

Newsletter December 9, 2014

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GCW Meeting Brief:

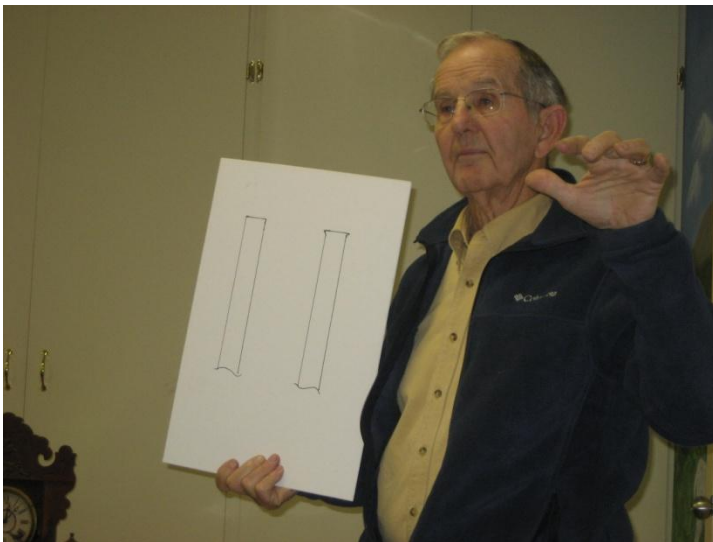
The December 9th GCW meeting lasted about 1 hour 45 min. We had 21 members present, 2 guests, present. One of our guests Gary Gerve joined the GCW at the meeting. Welcome to the GCW Gary. This was to a "Bring your Christmas gift projects" meeting. However we had just 2 that did. But that said, we had more than enough content for this meeting. Besides the 6 show and tells (including gift projects) and GCW Executive Committee report we had a presentation by Homer Rail on how to sharpen scrapers. After Homer's presentation we showed a video on another method for sharpening scrapers and 2 more on how a router blade can be sharpened. Links are provided to the videos are provided below.

A special Note: Be sure to check out the Upcoming Meeting section. January will be a great one so don't miss out.

Note from the President: I and all the GCW Executive Committee and members wish you and yours a very merry and joyous Christmas and New Years holiday season. Be safe and warm and we will see you all next year.

Presentation:

Homer Rail gave a great presentation on how he sharpens his scraper blades. The key, as he explains, is to flatten the sides and edges of the scraper. He uses 2000 wet dry w/water on a glass plate. First he flattens the sides then he flattens the scraper edges. He uses a 90 degree block to keep the scraper perpendicular to the sandpaper. Uses just enough passes to get the edges flat. He uses a marker to color the edge before this step. When all the edge marking has been removed he knows he has completed the edge flattening process. With the scraper in a vice de then uses a burnishing tool (hard steel rod) to role the scraper edges over into a hook. Homer says he angles the burnishing about 45 degrees when drawing



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the burnisher across it. He demonstrated the process and showed the results by scraping a piece of cherry. In addition he showed a scraper flexing jig he made to make it easier on ones hands and fingers when scraping.

Video Links:

Here are the links to the videos shown.

[Scrapper Sharpening](#) , [Router Bit Sharpening](#)

Announcements/news:

1. GCW Executive Committee meeting report.
 - a. Jim Hunt gave a short report on his efforts to have a feature article covering our club in the Mountain Democrat. He reported that a reporter wanted to come to one of our future meetings to get information for an article. **NOTICE: Since Jim's report he has informed us that a reporter from the Mtn. Democrat will be at our January meeting. Please read the information in the Upcoming Meetings section below.**
 - b. I reported that an email inviting the 20+ contacts obtained at the Nov. woodworking show to our meetings had been sent out.
 - c. We discussed possible topics for our April GCW Project Challenge. Warren Wyllie had prepared a document giving some suggested topics to go over. Warren was not able to attend but the members present had a discussion and we will report to Warren before announcing the Project Challenge topic in January (90 day lead requirement for April).
 - d. Roy Carter presented a rough estimate for the cost of materials for the Toys for Tots effort. In August the committee budgeted \$200 for materials. Roy indicated that the budget was exceeded by \$100. To make up the deficit the committee decided to ask the members for donations to fill in the gap.
 - e. I brought up that it has been suggested by a number of members that the club create an "Expert Resource List". This list would provide contact information of those members that would be willing to share their expertise with members needing help on a particular woodworking subject. I told the committee that we needed someone that would be willing to head up this effort. Homer Rail volunteered to take on this task. He was ready to start immediately.
 - f. Lastly, the laptop that the club now has (thanks to John Roberts) is in need of Microsoft Office. The committee agreed and \$150 was budgeted for this purpose.

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2. Roy Carter gave a report to the members on the GCW Toy for Tots program. First Roy thanked his toy making volunteers: David Boutcher, Warren Wyllie, Neil Knutsen, Ron Sexton, Harvey Myers, Basil Borkert, Jim Hunt, Homer Rail, Gail Cone, and Jim Terrill. In addition a number of members supplied materials to this effort.

The finished total toy count far exceeded last year's 200 with more than 230 this year. Toys included: Ducks, Bat Cars, Pinky Cars, Small Trucks, Big cars, Sport cars, Butterflies and doll buggies (w/dolls and blankets). A few pictures are included later in the newsletter.

We asked the members to donate a few dollars to cover the extra cost of materials (some leftover materials: wood, wheels, etc will be used next year). John Brideson passed around the "Collection basket" at the meeting. The members donated exactly \$100. Thank you members for making this happen.

Again Roy has gone above and beyond on the GCW Toys For Tots effort. Thank you again Roy for leading this program and for all your hard work and that of all the hardworking volunteers to make this Christmas a little brighter for many little ones.

The Toys are to be distributed to the following organizations: Salvation Army, Marine Corp Toys for Tots, Women's Shelter, Shepherd of The Hills Church.

3. Ron Sexton reported that the El Dorado Historical Society is giving an award for the restoration of the **vintage caboose** for the Society's museum in the name of Gold Country Woodcrafters to honor the volunteers from our club. The award will be given out at the El Dorado Historical Society Award Luncheon on Dec 20. Ron Sexton will be receiving the award on behalf of the GCW club. The Mountain Democrat is planning to attend and cover this event so the GCW club may possibly get some welcome exposure. A few members that were involved in the caboose project plus myself will be attending the event.
4. It was reported that we gave a donation to the Shepherd of The Hills Church this year of \$350. We greatly appreciate the church letting us use their recreation room for our club meetings.
5. There was a question from the floor. Paul Velk asked for guidance on whether to wax or not as a finishing step. Great question Paul. This is a question many of us have pondered. The consensus was that it is advantageous to wax to increase protection from wear and moisture. Ron Sexton offered that application using 0000 steel wool and a good carnauba wax is a good

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way to go. The very constructive discussion lasted for several minutes and was very informative.

Maybe we could prompt/talk Ron into creating a short write up on this topic for our members.

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Upcoming Meetings:

January 13th 2015

We now have a topic for the first meeting of 2015 and it is planned to be a very special one. This is the text sent out in a special email to our members on Dec. 15th.

The Gold Country Woodcrafters are to be featured in an article in the Mountain Democrat. It is planned that a writer from the paper will attend our January meeting to see what we do, interview, take pictures, etc.

Please plan to bring in your favorite project for display at the Jan. meeting even if you have brought it in before. It would also be great, for those that wish, to speak on how the club has helped them with ideas, woodworking methods and anything else that you think would help promote the club in the Mountain Democrat article.

This meeting should be a lot of fun and offers us the chance to give our club it's much deserved publicity so plan to attend.

A special thanks goes to Jim Hunt (our publicity chairman) for contacting the Mountain Democrat and working to publicize for our club.

February 10th

Topic not determined.

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Toy For Tots Pictures

Here are just a few of the toys created for the Toys For Tots program by our Gold Country Woodcrafters members. All GCW can be proud of this accomplishment and for their efforts for the community.



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Show and tell:

Jim Hunt



Jim showed off his latest venture into segmented turning. It looks like he has created another masterpiece. He estimated it required at least 250 segments. Wood species used include walnut, paduak and zebra wood. Jim says it took over 40 hours to create this one.

Roy Carter



Roy shows off his hand carved mirror made of walnut. Yes there is a round mirror on the front side. We think he said it is was to be a Christmas gift. It will be a lucky girl that gets this one.

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Gail Cone



Here I am showing a scrolled napkin holder. It actually has 2 scrolled sides one side having a small clock insert. This one is made of cherry. I have made several for Christmas gifts. The 8" Pepper grinder and salt shaker were turned from liquid amber wood. I don't know why I had to show the napkin holder with napkins!

John Brideson



Here John is showing an antique clock he is restoring. He brought it in to ask for refinishing tips as the finish is in bad shape because the clock had likely been kept above a fireplace. Ron Sexton our very own expert refinisher of antique furniture is offering his advice on the process of stripping, staining and finishing.

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Ron Sexton



Here Ron is showing his latest project for his wife. It is a tambour cabinet with the primary wood being beachwood. It features a tambour door and brass drawer pulls. Ron showed the jig he used to create the door slats at our last meeting. He had to adjust the inset in each drawer for each pull by hand as the pulls dimensions were not consistent. He finished the cabinet using 2 coats sealer, 2 coats lacquer, 2 coats wax applied using 0000 steel wool.

Ryan Lawrence (Guest)



Ryan came by to show some artwork he creates for his wall art and decoration business. This one is a triangle made of reclaimed wood. It incorporates old teak, walnut, and oak. He claims he is just getting started at woodworking however it looked to us like he is well along as this is a very nice piece. He did ask for suggestions on how best to tie the large sections together more securely. Some members were ready to help as usual. He sells his work in a number of areas including Los Vega and he is thinking of joining our club.

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Treasures Report:

Our treasure Burt Stride reported club balance of \$1029. Includes 1 new member dues, renewals, raffle income and expenses. Expenses: gift cards \$50, taper jig, \$350 donation to Shepherd of the Hills Church.

Raffle Winners:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. 16 Gage finish nailer | David Boutcher | Nailer supplied by Roy Carter |
| 2. 4 piece wood chisel set | Gail Cone | Supplied by Roy Carter |
| 3. Taper Jig for table saw | Ron Sexton | Acquired from Woodcraft Supply |
| 4. Home Depot \$25 Gift Card | Roy Carter | |
| 5. Lowes \$25 Gift Card. | Ed Woodards | |
| 6. Woodcraft Supply \$25 Gift Cert. | Richard Grant | Donated by Woodcraft Supply |
| 7. Woodworking Calculator | Nathan Hinkle | Donated by Gail Cone |

The next time you visit Woodcraft Supply please let them know how much Gold Country Woodcrafters appreciates their support.

Also, we owe Roy Carter a big thank you for obtaining the Nailer and chisel set for our raffle. We would like to thank Pro Builders Supply located on Placerville Dr. for donating the items. Be sure to thank them if you visit their store.

Next meeting:

Tuesday January 13th 2015 7PM

Membership Dues:

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For those members wishing to renew their membership for the 2014-2015 club year dues by check, here is the information you need. Make out a \$20 check payable to Gold Country Woodcrafters. Send to: Burt Stride, 2391 Talon Dr., Shingle Springs, 95682. Please note on the envelope ATT: Gold Country Woodcrafters.

The GCW Exchange Corner: No items this month.

Regards and happy woodcrafting.
Gail Cone
GCW Pres. and Newsletter editor



GCW Web site: goldcountrywoodcrafters.com

If you have any comments or suggestions please send me an email.

If you wish to unsubscribe so you no-longer receive GCW emails just send me a reply with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject.