

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter October 2025

Vol 130

GCW Newsletter Brief:



The cooler weather must be helping with attendance. We had, again, a really good turnout for the October meeting with 32 members and 1 guest present. The guest, Tom Braithwaite, joined our club. Welcome to the GCW club Tom. Bob Brown, our club treasurer, gave a brief report on club finances and membership. The night's President's Challenge, to make a cutting board, Charcuterie board or rolling pin inspired 15 members to go to their respective shops. Lou Rain won the \$30 Amazon gift card. For the night's Show-N-Tell we had 8 members show their latest work. That's 23 presentations between the challenge and Show-N-Tell. That outpaced September's 18 great turnout. Be sure to visit the member messages section: Joiner/Planer for sale and black walnut needed. Again, Rich Schwerin in his entertaining style, made the night's raffle a great success.

Sections To Visit:

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 - **December Meeting:** December 12th Meeting plans.
 - **2025 Meeting Schedule:** November 10th Presidents Challenge, something with a fall/winter/holiday theme.
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 - Former Member, Roy Carter has a Joiner/Planer + Dust Collector for sale.
 - Message from Rob Scharf, hunting for some Black Walnut.
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President's Message:



Dear Fellow Woodworkers:

Thanks to all who attended the Oct meeting. Another good meeting and I think the crowd is growing. There was a really good showing for the President's Challenge and Show-N-Tell. Member participations like this fills most of the night's meeting time. There was a lot of great work presented. If you participate in the President's Challenge, raffle ticket goes in the bowl for the drawing for the Amazon Gift Card.

Our members really enjoy seeing your project work. As I've said before, one can learn a lot from doing something different. So come on everyone join the challenge and bring something in so we can see what you do. If you're not making mistakes, you're not trying hard enough and you're not learning.

If you have anything you would like to donate for the raffle, bring that in also. Don't forget, talk into the mic and look at the audience when speaking. Thank you for helping set out and returning the tables and chairs. See you at the next meeting, November 10th.

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

David White

GCW President

Messages For Our Members:

- ***Need someone to handle meeting refreshments:***

John Roberts will be unable to bring and setup meeting refreshments for the next few months. We are looking for someone to take over for him. Please let us know if you would be willing to help out. Please talk to David White at the next meeting or reply to the email sending out this newsletter.

- ***December Meeting Plans:***

The December Meeting will be on Friday December 12th at 5PM. The meeting date had to be moved because the Foothills Church has a function on Monday the 8th. This is our, bring your Spouse /Plus One event. There will be a Pot-Luck and gift exchange again this year. Rich Schwerin will be the host/master of ceremonies for the evening's events. We are asking our members to bring something for the Pot-Luck. An RSVP is required so we have an idea how many are planning to attend and what they may be bringing for the Pot-Luck. The church will be setting up tables, etc. for us so the we need to tell them how many tables are required. The Presidents Challenge for the night will be to make something for the gift exchange. It's ok if you

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have an optional gift for the gift exchange. Please wrap the gifts so they cannot be identified until unwrapped. Each guest, participating in the exchange will be given a ticket. You will pick out a gift when your ticket number is called. Each gift can be stolen 2 times, making it possible to pass through 3 hands. That should be a blast... RSVP Contact to be announced....

- ***GCW Meeting Schedule:***

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 12th: The Friday December Holiday meeting will again be, bring their Spouse/Plus-One, Pot Luck and gift exchange meeting. President's challenge is to make items for the gift exchange.

January 12th: President's Challenge, make whatever you can dream up using the material from one 8foot construction grade 2x4. Pine, Redwood, Douglas Fir, etc. Yes, there can be hardware, etc.

February 9th: President's Challenge, make anything incorporating a heart shape (Valentines Day Theme).

March 9th: TBD

Member Messages:

Rob Scharf: Black Walnut Needed

I have a friend who has asked me to turn a vase from a solid piece of black walnut. The finished piece will be about 8" diameter by 10" tall. They do want a solid piece rather than layers of thinner wood. I first tried Urban Wood Rescue as I have found large pieces of wood there before, but they did not have anything. I have no idea where I might be able to find a large chunk like this. Is there a GCW member that can help me out? Thank you

Rob Scharf 530-559-2347 NorCalRobS@gmail.com

Roy Carter: Joiner/Planer for sale.



Roy Carter is downsizing his shop. He has a Grizzly Joiner/Planer and dust collector, plus 2 sets of extra knives for sale. A new Grizzly Joiner/Planer would be around \$4,000.00. He is offering it to our club members or friends for \$800.00. He plans for the proceeds from the sale go to the GCW club. Anyone that is interested are welcome to take a look at it. The

owner's manual will be available at the October meeting.

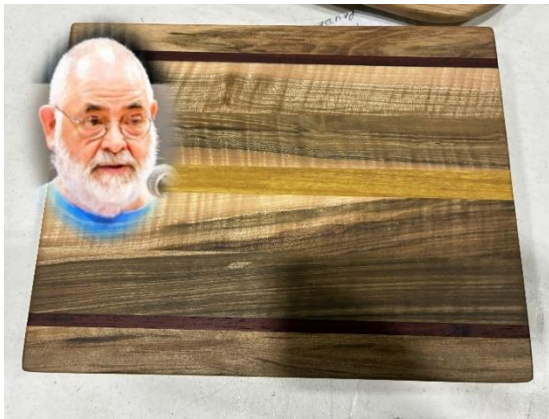
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October President's Challenge:

We had 15 presenters for the October President's Challenge. The challenge project options were to make a cutting board, charcuterie board or a rolling pin. The turnout for this month's challenge was by far our best. By my count we had 9 cutting boards, 3 charcuterie boards and 5 rolling pins. The talent and creativity of our members is to be celebrated. The President's Challenge \$30 Amazon card went to Lou Rain. Due to the number of presentations, the newsletter format has been adjusted to allowing showing all the challenge projects. Photos by Rich Schwerin and Gail Cone.



Michael Jay



Jim Higbee



Dennis Barber



Adam Fritz



Casey Keller



Micky Dupper

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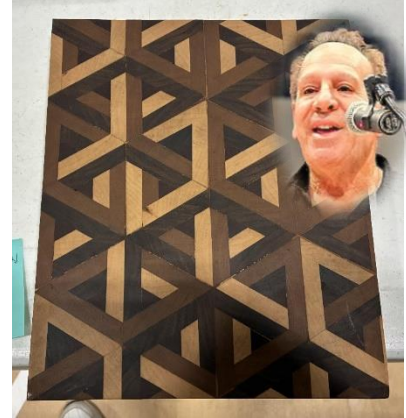
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John Gugliemino



Basil Borkert



Lou Rain



John Roberts



Keven Kaser



Dean Marietta



David White



Don Lawson

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October Show-N-Tell:

For the October Show-N-Tell we had 8 presenters. Photos by Rich Schwerin and Gail Cone.

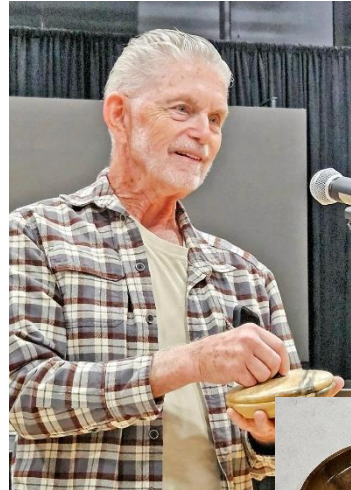
John Roberts



John showed his latest laser engraving piece. If we didn't know better, the house in the picture kind of resembles his home. The wood is reclaimed unknown.



Gail Cone



Gail brought 3 pieces to share. A Myrtle bowl with an accent band, Silver Maple clam box and a Spalted Maple vase with resin top ring. The bowl has a MinWax tung oil finish while the

clam box and vase have a Yorkshire grit and wax finish.



Dave White



Dave is definitely moving into the realm of wood-art with this turning. He found this Manzanera root in a burn area. He dug it

up and (turned) it into large vase, burn areas and all. The top garnishment is dried kelp.



Gail Brooks



Gail showed a rimed bowl featuring carved leaves and textured rim and bottom. The texturing was accomplished using rotary ball tip. Edge

and bottom were blackened using a torch. Dyes were used to color the Autumn leaves.



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Gary Baldock



One of our newer members, Gary, showed his love of making toys with a toy car carrier truck. It was made using 2x6 Pine. The truck carries 3 cars, 2 are upside down. They interlock to stay on the carrier.



Casey Keller

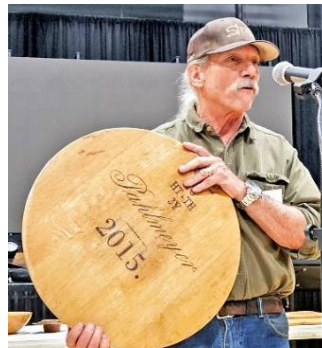


Casey brought a small Koa bowl and a larger Sycamore bowl. The Koa winged bowl was finished using Danish oil and the Sycamore had a polyurethane wipe on finish.



Rob Scharf

Ron brought in 2 quite different projects.



However, they both had wine barrel wood in them. One was a large serving tray with an barrel oak bottom and blue resin on the serving side. The other was a coffee travel mug sides are barrel stays.



Note: Ron is somewhat of a celebrity as he was a featured artist in an article in the Mountain Democrat, September

26th B section, Gold Country Artists Gallery. It describes his journey into woodworking and art. [Link to Gold Country Artists Gallery, Rob Scharf.](#)

Ron Sexton

Continued on next page.

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Ron Sexton



Ron brought a number of items to share. As most know Ron spent a number of years in the business of restoring antique and heirloom furniture. In many cases it involved repairing or replacing Wood Appliques. He gave a brief description of the products and process he used to replicate these items. It involved creating molds to cast the appliques (photo below) and subsequent coloring using dyes to replicate the original. He also brought 2 of his fine turned pieces he has presented in earlier meetings (photo below).

Ron is one of our club's original members. Over the years he has been involved in many aspects of the club. He spent a number of years on the GCW Executive Committee helping formulate the character and direction for the club. He was the prime coordinator and contributor in the effort to rebuild the 1920s caboose along with a number of GCW members. Over the years he has been a prime source for woodworking expertise and finishing knowledge, sharing it with GCW

members. His favorite thing is to share his technical expertise with anyone that asks. The number and variety of woodworking projects he has shared in Show-N-Tells over the years is impressive.

At the October meeting Ron announced that he expects to be unable to attend future meetings. The primary reason is that he needs to be home to take care of his wife. Ron has become a good friend to many of us in the club and we hope that he will be able to drop by from time to time. Don't be a stranger good friend.



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El Dorado Art Festival:

Gail Brooks Booth



Don Lawson and I had the privilege of participating in the El Dorado Hills Fine Arts Festival October 18th. The venue, weather, music and attendees made for a fabulous day! One couple bought a few acorns from me and then bought a bowl from Don in which to display them. We shared a smile about that. It sure was nice to see so many of my woodworking friends show

their support by taking the time to attend the festival. Your support means a lot to me. I just wish I had more time to visit with you. Thank you.

Gail Brooks

Don Lawson Booth



On Saturday, October 18th, 48 local artists, all members of the EDHAA, displayed a wonderful variety of amazing art at the El Dorado Hills Library. Gail Brooks and I were two of the three wood artists there, along with painters, jewelers, photographers, etc. I estimate there were about 300 visitors including several wood workers

from our own club. I was kept busy all day showing and explaining how turning on a lathe can produce something of such beauty. Fortunately, a lot of these people bought my bowls making this a successful day. A highlight was that two people asked if could mentor them.

I hope more of our members will continue to support each other in future art shows, or perhaps, even join an arts association and sell their own wood art.

Don Lawson

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Breaktime Everyone!



You can't tell from the photos that our members and guests were really enjoying connecting with fellow woodcrafters and talking about their respective projects. 😊



There were lots of topics as there were many project entries in the challenge and Show-N-Tell. Cutting boards, rolling pins, and turnings galore. There was a grand total of 23 member presentations covering at least 31 projects between the challenge and Show-N-Tell. The talent and ingenuity of our club members is impressive.

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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 still \$25 for 2026 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 our 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: [Gold Country Woodcrafters](#)

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.