

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter January 2026

Vol 133

GCW Newsletter Brief:



For the first meeting of 2026 we had a good turnout with 25 members and 3 guests in attendance. The President's Challenge for the night was to make something using a single construction grade 2x4. We had 3 members show their creative challenge project. For the night's Show-N-Tell we had 8 members bring in their latest work that prompted numerous informative discussions. Member Gail Brooks reported that this year's Boys & Girls club fund raising auction will be Saturday March 14th. Anyone wishing to donate projects for this event can bring a project to the March meeting or let Gail know and she can pick them up. There was a general discussion on shop safety prompted by David White. Our members responded with a number of safety suggestions and tips. Gail Cone shared that he had a battery caused small fire in his shop. It was an aftermarket battery pack (for leaf blower) that caught fire creating extensive smoke/soot damage. David White announce that the club is planning a shop tour event and asked for anyone wanting to volunteer their shop to let him know. If you missed this meeting, you missed out on a lot of good information. Be sure to check out the tools for sale section for some great deals..

Sections To Visit:

- Messages For Our Members: Page 2,3.
 - **February Project Challenge:** Make something with a heart theme.
 - **GCW 2026 Dues:** Due in January.
 - **2026 Meeting Schedule:** January-December.
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President's Message:



Dear Fellow Woodworkers:

Thanks to all who attended the January meeting. Another good meeting. 25 people with three guests is not bad. Three people participated in the 2x4 President's Challenge. Rich Schwerin won the gift card. It could be you next time if you bring something for the challenge. The president's challenge for February is something with a heart. So put your heart into your work and bring it in next month. Some very nice work for the show and tell. We would really like to see your work. One can learn a lot from doing something different. So come on everyone join the challenge and also bring something

in so we can see what you do. 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.

If you're not making mistakes, you're not trying hard enough and you're not learning. Thank you for helping set out and returning the tables and chairs.

See you at the next meeting.

David White

GCW President

Messages For Our Members:

- ***GCW 2026 Dues reminder:***

Dues are due in January. They are \$25 (Best deal in town). Pay at any meeting or send check to our treasurer, Bob Brown. Address at end of newsletter.

- ***GCW 2026 Meeting Schedule:***

- **January 12th 2026:** President's Challenge, make whatever you can dream up using the material from one 8 foot construction grade 2x4. Pine, Redwood, Douglas Fir, etc.
- **February 9th:** President's Challenge, make anything incorporating a heart shape (Valentines Day Theme).
- **March 9th:** President's Challenge, an accessory of some kind for your home.
- **April 13:** President's Challenge, a bird house or something with flowers.
- **May 11:** President's Challenge, 2 person team work project. Can be anything.
- **June 8th:** President's Challenge, a project incorporating 3 or more woods.
- **July 13:** President's Challenge, something using recycled wood or multimedia.

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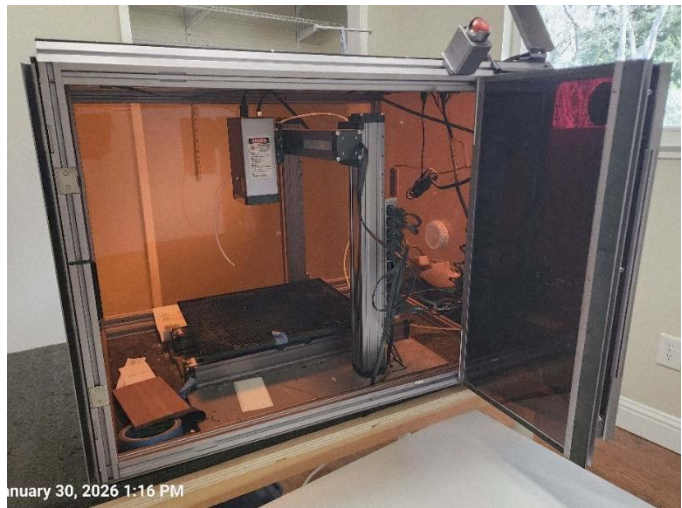
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- **August 10th:** President's Challenge, something with multiple colors or abstract art.
- **September 14:** President's Challenge, Project with carving or pieces of jewelry.
- **October 12:** President's Challenge, a box or something using 1 tool.
- **November 9th:** President's Challenge, a seasonal item (fall/winter/Holiday).
- **December 14th?:** Challenge is to make something for the gift exchange.

Tools For Sale:

John Roberts: Laser Cutter, CNC, 3D Printer Combo. I have over \$3000 invested in it as I have upgraded it to the latest hardware. I am asking \$1500 for it and will include rollers of filament and thin boards for laser cutting
It is a Snapmaker 2.0 with a laser proof enclosure. It is a real bargain.
Phone 530-903-0732

Email johnroberts1946@yahoo.com



Silicon Valley Woodturners member, Gary Keogh, selling off shop tools: (Currently lives in Lincoln, Ca) moving to Wyoming and downsizing his shop. He is highly motivated to sell off his shop before he moves. Great deals available. Contact Gary directly if you are interested in purchasing any of the equipment. Sorry no delivery available! Contact information: 2149 Prairie View Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648 408 316-0299
gkeogh@sbcglobal.net

WOOD SHOP AND TURNING EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

1. Delta Lathe 1642 variable speed (0 – 3200 rpms)
2. Jet 14" band saw w/extra blades
3. Large Baffled Dust Collector with piping and gates
4. 10" table saw
5. Large tabletop drill press on a 2x4 stand.
6. Some turning tools purchased and some hand made
7. Jamison deep hollowing setup
8. Various other miscellaneous things too many to mention

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President's Challenge:

January's President's Challenge was to make something using a single construction grade 2x4. We had just 3 members showing their projects. Cool projects can be made using simple materials. Photos by Rich Schwerin and Gail Cone.

Rich Schwerin



Rich showed what you could do with a single 2x4. Here are his bench seat and stool. I believe he said the 2x4 was Douglas Fur.

Gail Cone



Gail brought in a 2x4 project he created a few years back. He used a single Redwood 2x4 to create a chicken whirly gig. It is fully animated using gears (fan tail, head, feet). Gears were also fabricated using Redwood. A website that provides a gear generator aid is listed on the GCW website woodworking links page.

Micky Dupper



Micky continues to show his creative side. He made 2 stars, one 5 pointed and one 8 pointed. He found the planes on a site called [Savvy Build](#).

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Show-N-Tell:

For our first Show-N-Tell of 2026 we had 8 members showing their latest projects. The project diversity and our members ingenuity continue to impress. Photos by Rich Schwerid and Gail Cone.

Casey Keller



Casey continues to develop his bowl crafting talent. Here he shows an Elm bowl with a burnt rim accent. There was a

crack that he filled using Black CA glue.



Don Lawson

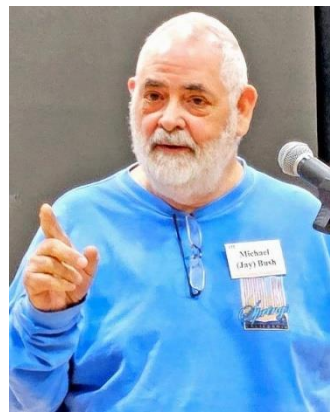


Don has been turning for a long time and even sells his work at craft fairs. Here he shows a

Walnut Globe with an Ebony stand and finial lid. The accent inlay band is wood.



Michael Jay



Michael told us a story with a lesson. Be careful what you tell a child. His young Grandson, who spends time in the shop with him, got the idea that the cost of making a pen was \$2. Somehow the Grandson committed to giving his classmates each a

pen. Actual cost, with kit, is around \$20. You had to be at the meeting to hear the details and outcome. Be sure to ask Michael how he makes his pen blanks.



Mike Mideiros



Mike has made a lot of pens and needed to create storage for them. So he made a Pen Storage Chest with 3 drawers to meet his needs. He used Cherry and some thin plywood for drawer bottoms.



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Adam Fritz



Adam wanted to make a dice tray for his son. The game he plays uses a 20 sided die. He wanted to have an image, using laser, put on the tray bottom.



With the help of Gail Cone and his laser he made it happen. The tray corners are reinforced using splines.

Gary Baldock



Ship ahoy. Gary presented his ship in a bottle scrolling work. The wood is Basswood and it is made up of several layers. Used a pin nailer to hold it all together.



Basil Borkert



Basil brought in his latest, "a banjo" he made. He even strummed a bit for us. He purchased the hardware components. The banjo rim is

Maple, the neck is Paduak.



David White



Dave showed 2 more turned art pieces. #1 a Manzanita Root vase with copper & aluminum twisted wire making accent rings, shellac finish. #2 Spalted Oak vase

with accent rings, Waterlox finish. Both have dry kelp flare with



color.



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Break Time:



Yay, it's break time. Grab those great cookies and talk with friends about the interesting projects presented, or just enjoy being with fellow woodworkers. Or, we could talk about wooden chicken innards or wood snakes. Can't get any better.

Photos by Rich Schwerin.



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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](http://www.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.