

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter August 2026

Vol 140

GCW Newsletter Brief:



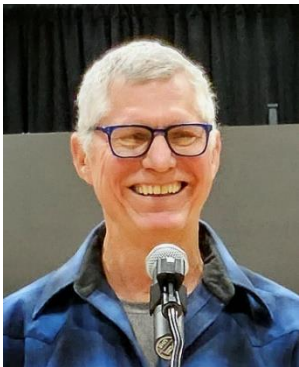
We had a good turn out for the month of August with 25 members and 2 guests present. The President's Challenge for this meeting was to make something using multiple colors or abstract art. We had 6 members step up to

the challenge. For the Show-N-Tell, we had an additional 6 members presenting their projects. Besides taking photos for the newsletters, Rich Schwerin manages the raffle, providing a large array of items for raffle prizes, donations, and free stuff.

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President's Message:



Dear Fellow Woodworkers:

Thanks to all who attended the August meeting. We had a little better attendance this time around and again it was a good meeting. The President's Challenge was colors and abstract art. The challenge prize was \$30 and it went to Micky Dupper. Join the Presidents challenge and maybe get paid for your talent. There was some very nice work for this meeting so thanks for bringing it in. We really like to see your work. The presentations spawned some good conversations plus good questions being asked. Keep asking those questions. The challenge for September is to carve something, and or make some jewelry. One can learn a lot from doing something different.

So come on everyone bring something in so we can see what you do. For participating in the Show-N-Tell get a ticket for that night's raffle. The club, also, has quite a few donated tools for sale. 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. I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting. 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.

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

David White

GCW President

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Messages For Our Members:

- ***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 (Valentine's 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 project (fellow member preferred). Can be any type of project.
- **June 8th:** President's Challenge, a project incorporating 3 or more woods.
- **July 13:** President's Challenge, something using repurposed wood or multimedia (wood, resin, clay, acrylic, glass, etc.).
- **August 10th:** President's Challenge, something with multiple colors or abstract art.
- **September Monday 14th:** President's Challenge, Project with carving or pieces of jewelry.
- **October Monday 12th:** President's Challenge, a box or something using 1 tool.
- **November Monday 9th:** President's Challenge, a seasonal item (fall/winter/Holiday).
- **December Friday 11th:** Bring Spouse/+1, Pot Luck, Gift Exchange. President's Challenge is to make something for the holiday gift exchange.

Tools Available for sale.

The Gold Country Woodcrafters club has been receiving generous and anonymous woodworking tool donations. A number of items have now been sold. Items still available: Jet Dust Collector, 3 pneumatic nail guns, wet tile saw, Craftsman belt and disk sander, Grizzly 18" drum sander, bench top 6" jointer,

Rocker clamp rack (clamps offered separately), HVLP sprayer, numerous clamps, shop supplies, Craftsman 14" Drill Press, and a power saw tenoning jig, etc. Some of the smaller items Rich Schwerin will be bringing to upcoming meetings. For details about the power tools please refer to the following link: [GCW Tools Catalog](#). Note: items in the catalog may be marked as sold if not available. If you are interested in acquiring any of the available items, please contact David White at whited56@hotmail.com.

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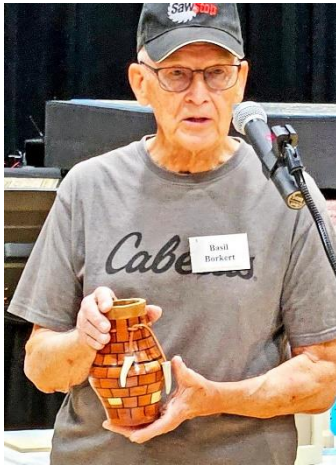
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President's Challenge:

The President's Challenge for August was for members to make a project containing multiple colors or abstract art. We had 6 members participating in this challenge. Basil Borkert won the \$30 challenge prize. Photos by Rich Schwerin and Gail Cone

Basil Borkert

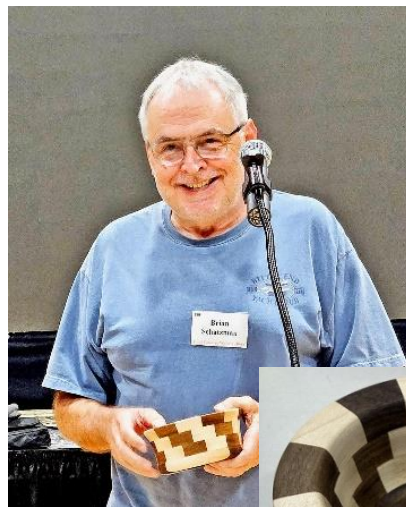


Basil showed some of his turning craftsmanship. He presented a turned segmented vase featuring gapped segments. The woods used were Walnut and Cedar. He included and artistic element

made up of a cord with antler tips.



Brian Schatzman



Brian is extending his venture into turning by creating his first segmented piece. For this bowl he used Walnut and maple.



Gail Cone



Gail showed a platter that was a collaboration with his wife, Karen. The platter is about 10" and is Myrtle wood. Karen formed the accent ring using an art called quilling. Basically, quilling is the use of thin strips of varied color paper

placed in various geometric form. After the quilling placement, lacquer was used as a finish.



Casey Keller



Casey created this small bowl using Parkway Elm. The accent rings were wire burned and the finish is buffed wax.



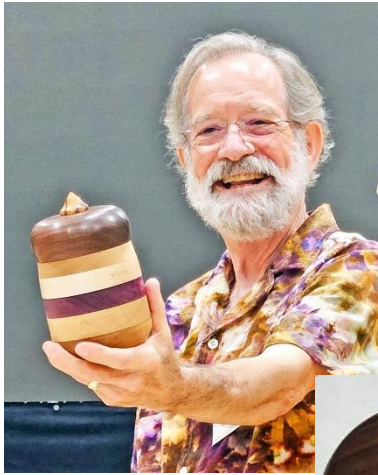
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President's Challenge Continued

Micky Dupper

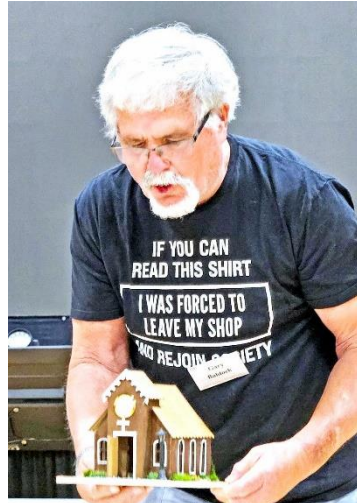


Micky and his wife Gayle must spoil their fir kids with lots of treats. He presented, yet, another turned lidded treat jar. We suspect there was some guidance from

Gayle. This one has layers of Zebra Wood, Birch, Maple and Purple heart. It was finished using coats of Danish Oil. I'm sure the fir kids appreciate it.



Gary Baldock



Gary has come a long way mastering his skills using his laser engraver in his project endeavors. His latest is this church that he created all the pieces for. Most of the material is 1/8" Basswood. This is no small effort as it

requires a lot of geometric pattern creation using the laser software. The photo does not do it justice.



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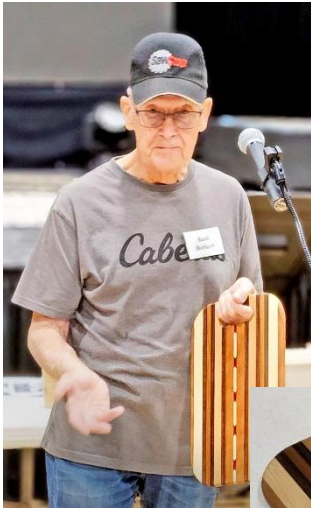
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Show-N-Tell:

The August Show-N-Tell had 6 members showing their latest projects. Photos by Rich Schwerin and Gail Cone.

Basil Borkert



Basil presented another in his line of cutting boards. He has become a master in the art of creating cutting boards. This one, he claims, is just a simple one using scraps from around the shop that includes Maple, Walnut, Cherry, and Purple Heart. He used

and oil and wax to provide the finish.



Oscar Wittrock

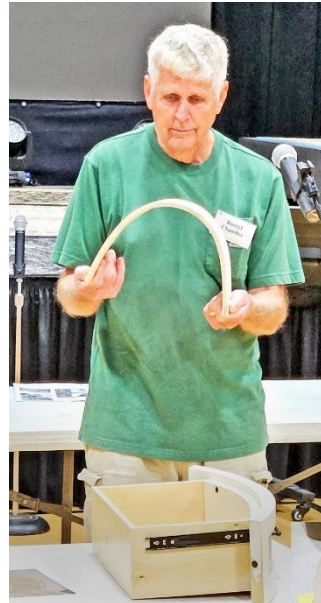


Oscar turned a fine small vase from Olive. He finished it with

sanding sealer.



Darryl Chandler



Darryl brought in a drawer from a corner cabined project he's be working on. Of course this is a wife inspired project. The interesting aspect is the curvature of the front and the drawers that help make it up. We expected him to tell how he created the curved area by grooving a board

multiple times to allow bending. Nope, instead he showed us the "Whacky Wood". A wood product that bends easily and has a "smooth" surface. It comes in 4x8 sheets, yet. Gee, can you roll it up to bring it home??



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Show-N-Tell Continued

Lou Rain

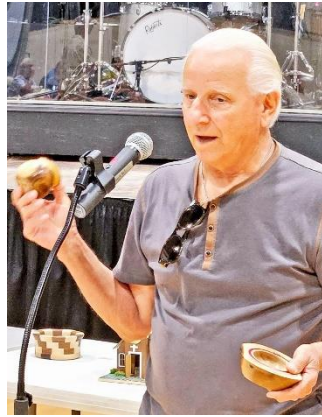


Lou shared a face-frame assembly technique he tried out recently. It is a way to attach face-frame components but still be able to break them down again. The system is called the Lamello Camex S20. The Lamello cutter is \$1500 so Lou used a standard

#20 biscuit cutter to create the slots for the Lamello actuated cam lever biscuits. The face-frame attaches but it didn't work as well as Lou hoped. Back to using good old wood biscuits.



Bob DeRoss



Bob is a returning member. For his comeback he showed 2 turned bowls. One is from a neighbor's Acacia tree. The second is from an

Oak limb and features an accent ring made with resin. Finishing included sanding 100-320, rubbing it out with pumice stone & mineral spirits. Adding a shellac finish and buffing with carnauba wax.



Dave White



Dave was asked by a friend to make him an urn. This can be a challenge for many reasons as we know. Dave took on the challenge and used his favorite wood, Manzanita. It required significant filing using

Manzanita strips and then coffee grounds for cracks while turning to shape. The base is Padauk with carved feet. The top is attached using limited threaded ABS sections to prevent friction. He used Osmo Oil for the finish. His friend's name is engraved on the bottom.



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Break Time:



Our break time continues to be a favorite time at our meetings. The time offers us a period to relax and catch up with our fellow woodworking friends. It also allows us to ask details relating to the many projects brought to share at the meeting. Oh, and we are able to buy raffle tickets to win that special item donated by our generous members or tracked down by Rich Schwerein. Be sure to give Rich a big thank you for his hard work making the raffle a success.

Smile everyone! Candid 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.