

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter September 2026

Vol 141

GCW Newsletter Brief:



We had a good turnout for September with 29 present, including 1 guest. The President's Challenge was to carve something. We had 4 members step up to the challenge. For the Show-N-Tell, we had an additional 8 presenting their projects. The break time and raffle plus silent auctions were, again rewarding for our members.

Sections To Visit

- **Messages For Our Members:** Page 2.
 - **December meeting information (new date).**
 - **October Project Challenge:** A box or make something using one tool.
 - **2026 Meeting Schedule:** October-December
- **Tools available for sale.** Page 2.
- **September President's Challenge:** Page 3.
- **September Show-N-Tell:** Pages 4, 5.
- **Break Time:** Page 6.

President's Message:



Dear Fellow Woodworkers:

Thanks to all who attended the September meeting. There was pretty good attendance and it was an informative, fun meeting. The President's Challenge was to carve something or include jewelry. Gail Brooks won the \$30 President's Challenge prize. If you participate, that could be you. Again, there was some very nice work shown at this meeting's challenge and Show-N-Tell. Thanks for bringing all the projects in. For those that did not bring a project we would really like to see your work. The October challenge is to make a box or something using just one tool. The presentations generated some good conversations with some good questions being asked. Keep asking those questions. One can learn a lot from doing something different. So come on everyone join in and bring something in so we can see what you do. You also get a raffle ticket for your Show-N-Tell. The club, also, has quite a few tools for sale. A link to the GCW tools catalog is provided in this newsletter. If you have anything you would like to donate for the raffle, be sure to bring it to the meeting. Reminder, when presenting, talk into the mic and look at the audience. See you at the October meeting. Thanks to all that help set out and return the tables and chairs.

My motto: if you're not making mistakes, you're not trying hard enough and you're not learning. Until next time, enjoy your Zen moment in your shop.

David White

GCW President

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter September 2026

Vol 141

Messages For Our Members:

- **December meeting information (reserve the date).**

The December meeting this year is on **Friday Dec. 11th**. The new date is due to a church scheduling conflict. As in prior years, this meeting is a Bring Spouse/+1, Pot Luck, and Gift Exchange. It is suggested (not mandatory) that members participate in the President's Challenge and make something for the gift exchange. We encourage all, including guests, to participate in the gift exchange as it is a lot of fun. The current plan is to start at 5PM starting with social time, then pot luck and gift exchange (remember there will be stealing going on). This is an RSVP required meeting. More details will be provided later.

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

- **October, Monday 12th:** President's Challenge, a box or make 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 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, 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.

GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter September 2026

Vol 141

President's Challenge:

The President's Challenge for September was for members to make a project with carving or including jewelry. We had 4 members participate in this challenge. Gail Brooks won the \$30 challenge prize. Where's the jewelry??? Photos by Rich Schwerin and Gail Cone

Gail Brooks

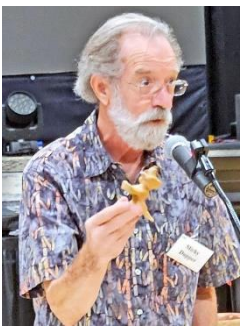


Gail showed 2 carved pieces. The Pepper Wood burl bowl, shown here, produced lots of cool texture when dried. The starfish were, believe it or not, hand

carved on the blank with 3 more added separate at the inner edge. The fish "number 2" was driftwood from her "secret" beach. She believes it to be Myrtle wood and she did carve the scales.



Micky Dupper



Well, what do you do with that section cut off from a Walnut turning blank that you just can't part with? Abstract wood art for the President's Challenge answered the question. Makes for a great talking piece on the mantle. The carved dogs, shown, have character plus. Micky showed them doing

tricks. They were carved from rough shaped blanks provided by Roy Carter (Now 99.5 years young).



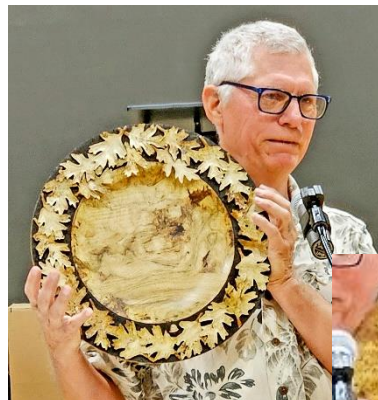
Don Lawson



Don brought a duck carved from Manzanita firewood. He also brought in an example of a decoy duck like the one he used to carve. From these he carved them from Basswood. They all have realistic glass eyes.



David White



Dave brought in his latest turning with leaves carved into the same blank. The platter is Oak burl. He bleached the piece to gain

the desired contrast before using pyrography to darken the background areas front and back. For carving his primary tool was a rotary carver. The finish he used was polyurethane.



GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

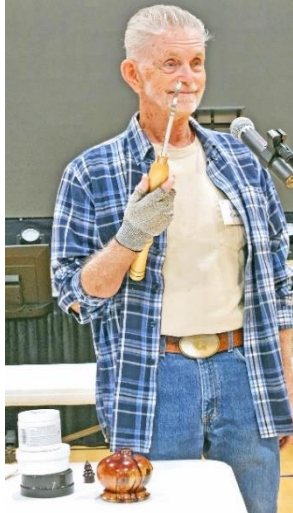
Newsletter September 2026

Vol 141

Show-N-Tell:

The September Show-N-Tell had 8 members showing their latest projects. Photos by Rich Schwerin and Gail Cone.

Gail Cone



Gail showed one of his latest turnings plus a story with a lesson to pass on. Why does he have a glove on holding a curved neck turning tool. The turning is a Manzanita vase with resin with a repair from a significant catch that occurred while hollowing. The tool caught while the

piece was rotating at 1600RPM. The tool also spun at 1600RPM for a short time, in his hand, creating a painful friction burn on his hand. **So, the respect between man and his tools is rekindled!**

He shared, that in his over 35 years of turning, this is his first significant injury turning. Oh, and the vase and tool went flying with the tool being slightly bent in 2 places.

Oscar Wittrock

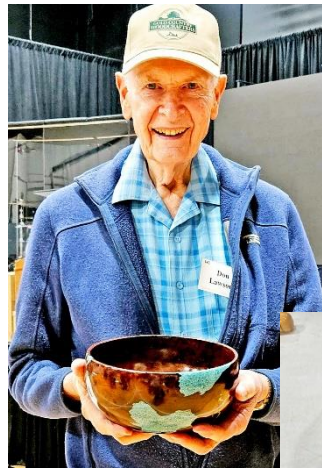


Oscar turned a set of Oak salt and pepper shakers plus a Walnut letter opener. The pepper shaker is the striped one... He asked the members, what would be a better way to



identify the pepper shaker. The general response from members was to make one out of walnut for the dark color. He made the letter opener because he was tired of tearing his mail open...

Don Lawson



Don showed a Manzanita burl bowl. Any voids were filled with turquoise in epoxy. He explained that it was a challenge to turn the Manzanita as it had a lot of small rocks in it.

Sharpen, sharpen... then repeat....



Brian Schatzman



Brian showed a tissue box he made. Heavy Duty one at that. He used $\frac{3}{4}$ Poplar.. This box will stay put when you yank that stubborn tissue out. Question is,

will it give up those stubborn tissues at the bottom?



GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter September 2026

Vol 141

Show-N-Tell Continued

Lou Rain



Walnut. The stand is attached using screws.

A friend of Lou's asked if he could make him a guitar stand. The base is made using scraps of Birdseye Maple and



Basil Borkert



Basil created this unique desk timepiece. Actually, it is way more than a timepiece. It is an instrument index with a clock, hydrometer and thermometer.



Casey Keller

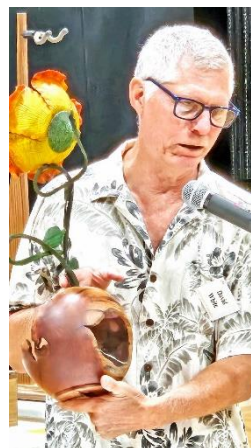


Casey brought in 2 of his latest turnings. The first is a Redwood bowl finished using abrasive paste and polish. The second is turned from something new to us.

The material is old broken skateboards laminated together. This produces a rainbow turning. The boards were obtained from a shop that repairs and sells skateboards.



Dave White



Dave brought in a turning with the hibiscus flower he showed at a previous meeting. Why, you ask? Well, it wilted!

Dave had to come up with a way to revive it. Turns out the kelp stem had absorbed moisture and failed. To strengthen the stem, he added wire wrapped to look like a vine. All better now.....



GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter September 2026

Vol 141

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 Schwerin. 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.



GOLD COUNTRY WOODCRAFTERS

Newsletter September 2026

Vol 141

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.