



Turn Around for Veterans

(TAV)

A Program of San Diego Woodturners a non-profit 501c(3) organization



TAV Locations p2

Vets Turning p3

TAV Supports p7

TAV Events p8

Supporters p9

Contact Info p12



Turn Around for Veterans is a program designed to provide basic woodturning skills that will have therapeutic value to disabled veterans. The program provides instruction, materials, and safety equipment for veterans (and accompanying spouses) use at no cost. Project work includes learning to turn pens, turned boxes, and bowl type items.

Turn Around for Veterans was founded by retired Nurse Nan Bushley and orthopedic surgeon and former Navy Officer - Dr. Kenneth Roth. Both understood how a devastating injury can create a feeling that life - as previously known - is over, and they believed that learning to turn wood would help these courageous servicemen to heal in ways beyond the physical.



A Marine female veteran (left) turning a pen from her wheelchair using one of the specially modified woodturning lathes provided by TAV.

An Army veteran (right) who lost his dominant right arm but has learned to use woodturning tools and has made various pens, bowls, and boxes.





Turn Around for Vets (TAV)

Operating Center Locations:

The SDWT TAV program operates at three locations: Naval Medical Center, San Diego; Wounded Warrior Battalion, Camp Pendleton; and the Veterans Affairs Care Center Near Old Town - San Diego.

1) Naval Medical Center San Diego, CA

The TAV program began in a hallway at the Naval Medical Center (NMC) in San Diego, with five Delta Midi-lathes and an assortment of turning tools. To accommodate the wheelchair-bound, two of the lathes were modified to tilt. As success became evident, the program was rewarded with its own building, now designated as “The Wood Turning Center at NMC.”



2) Wounded Warrior Battalion - Camp Pendleton, CA

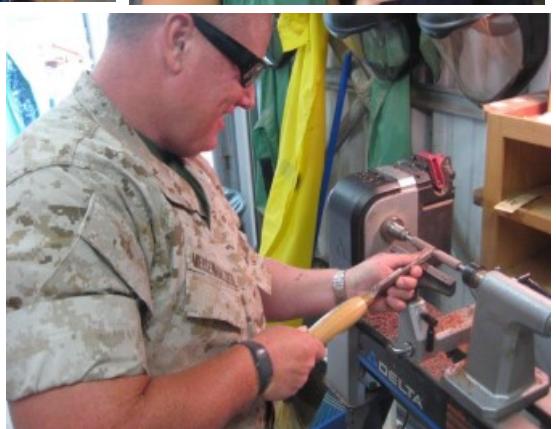
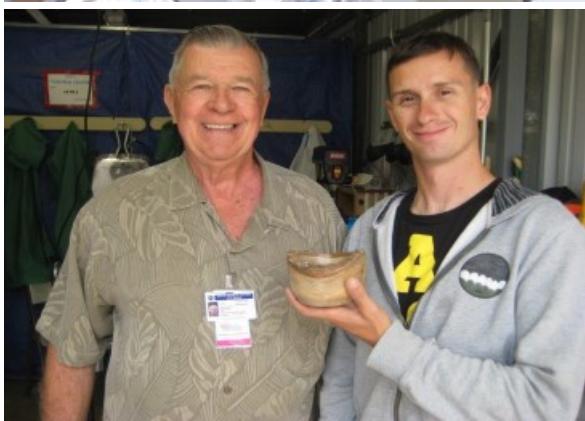


3) Veterans Affairs Center near Old Town, San Diego, CA





Veterans Turnings & Carvings





Veterans Turnings & Pens Completed

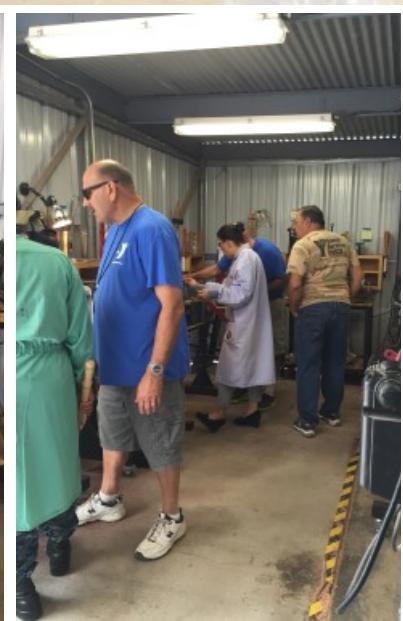




Veterans Turnings & Pens Completed



Veterans Turnings and Carvings





Aspiring Woodturning Vets

Veterans who demonstrated a keen interest in woodturning during their tenure with TAV and with a follow-on goal to pursue the craft, were supported with donated lathes and equipment.

TAV lathe donation (right) to Marine Veteran Josue Maldanada who was on his last couple of days on active duty at the time of this picture. Providing the Lathe on behalf of SDWT/TAV is Maury White and Dan Lyle.



The RIKON lathe pictured left was donated by Sally Ault to TAV as a result of winning the lathe at the 2017 Utah Woodturning Symposium - Pen Turners Rendezvous this past May.

TAV in-turn has donated the lathe to Sam Goodwin a Navy Corpsman, who is on staff at the Navy Medical Center - Balboa, San Diego.

Through **TAV**, SDWT member Dwight Kraich assembled all the equipment Josh (a Marine Vet-right) needed to set up his shop and surprised him. A lathe was donated by SDWT member Fred Thompson and a bandsaw donated by USS Midway Maintenance Element at North Island NAS.



TAV delivered a new lathe to wounded veteran Toran Gaal (left) at his home in Valley Center. Mrs. Sandy Houston, who is an ardent supporter of philanthropic causes in the San Diego area, heard of Toran's needs by way of Ernesto Aquino. Mrs Houston donated funding for the purchase of the lathe and ALL the associated equipment Toran needed to do woodturning at home. Toran, a double amputee, recently completed extensive treatment at the VA Aspire Care Center where he learned woodturning.



SDWT Activities Supporting TAV

To help support the TAV program with lathes, tools, material, and upkeep of the TAV equipment, SDWT sets up a booth at the Del Mar Fair annually. The booth is supported by SDWT members typically turning Tops and Pens for fund donation. In addition, booths are set up at various outreach program events such as at the Torrey Pine Museum Gift Shop and San Diego Botanical Garden. Donations on sale of SDWT member turned items go towards TAV.

Del Mar Fair Booth (Jun/Jul)



Annually, SDWT demonstrates woodturning craft skills at the Del Mar Fair turning wooden Tops and Pens to solicit for donations that support the TAV program.



SDWT at Torrey Pines Museum Gift Shop

SDWT invited to the Fall Festival, San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas.

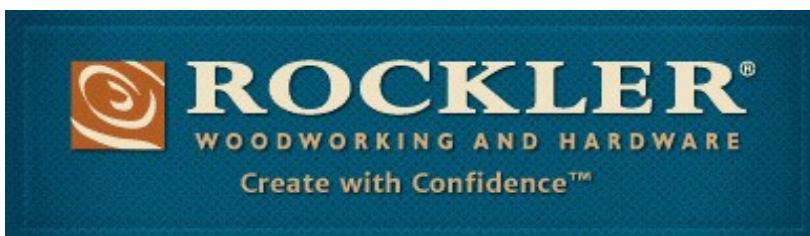
Gift Shops: Area gift shops such as at the Torrey Pine State Reserve Museum and Gift shop; Naval Medical Center and Naval Air Station - North Island gift shops support the SDWT TAV program and allow sales of turned items provided by SDWT members. Proceeds from the sale of these items go towards support of the TAV program.

Turn Around for Vets

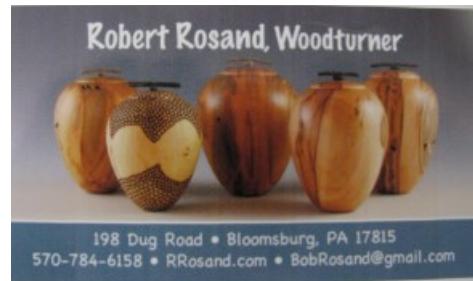
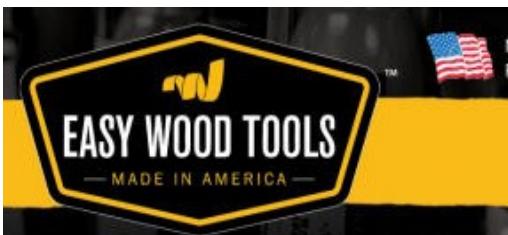


Supporters and Donating Organizations

Turn Around for Vets is pleased to recognize and thank the following business organizations who have provided support, donations, and discounts for the TAV program of San Diego Woodturners. Tools, books, equipment, sandpaper, and other woodturning material that all goes toward the TAV program and our Veterans.



Riverside, CA



A special Thanks to the numerous individuals, various civic and church groups, Veteran organizations, along with Rotary and Lions Clubs of the greater San Diego area, who have made separate donations of funds for procurement of equipment and supplies. In addition, fund donations are provided from the Armed Services YMCA and Navy Officers Spouse Club of San Diego.

Thank You to All for your support of TAV!

Special Recognition of Supporters



Presentations to Ms Ann Rockler (left) Owner and President of Rockler and Mr Ron Hornbaker CEO of Rockler from Rockler Corporation, Medina, Minnesota (Aug 2015)



Special Recognition to the Rockler Corporation - Medina, Minnesota on the continued and steadfast support provided to the SDWT TAV program



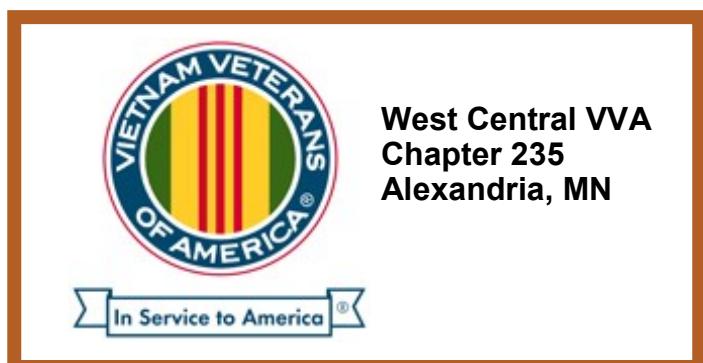
Mike Durlak (cntr with Tom Lightner (TAV Chair) and Ms. Nan Bushley (President of SDWT) (Jun 2015) (left). Photo of Plaque presented to Mike (right).



Special Recognition to Mr. Mike Durlak - Manager of the Rockler Store of San Diego, whose continued support of San Diego Woodturners and its TAV program has been Outstanding.



Special Recognition to Jeff and Tim Jensen (left) from Door Systems in San Marcos, CA for their donations of hardwood for making insignia plates for our Vets. (Mar 2015)



Special Recognition to West Central VVA Chapter 235 for their support to TAV and wood material provided for pens, small turnings and carvings. (2016) (www.facebook.com/VVA235MN)

Special Recognition of Supporters



Mike Davis (Center left) President , San Diego Fine Woodworker Association, presents a check for **\$1020.00** to Mike Durlak (R) ROCKLER, San Diego. Check is result of equipment donated by **ROCKLER**, San Diego, and raffled at the SDFWA fall seminar held 15-17 September 2017.

Joined by Ed Gladney (FL) SDFWA and Tom Lightner (FR) Turn-Around-For-Vets (TAV)/San Diego Woodturners. Funds are used to procure writing pen parts used to help prepare our heroes for return to duty, or separation from the military by teaching woodturning skills during their therapy programs, run by volunteers of the Turn-Around-For-Vets program.

"100%" of all donations are used by Veterans.

This is a wonderful example of two woodworking associations in San Diego working together for a common cause--helping our Veterans!! And TAV is most grateful for this support!!



Special appreciation to the Rockler Store in Torrance, CA for their pen kit contributions to TAV. Shown in the picture to the right with TAV Chair, Tom Lightner is Lou Barcelo (Left) and Store Manager Roger Davis (Right). TAV greatly appreciates the support from the Rockler Store family.



Contact Us

Cash or material donations to support TAV are welcomed and are tax deductible. Funds received go directly in support of the SDWT TAV program. Checks can be made out to San Diego Woodturners (SDWT) and denoting in the left hand corner of the check "For TAV."

A letter and/or receipt from our SDWT Treasurer will be provided to acknowledge the donation as a tax deductible item, if otherwise eligible under current tax laws.

We can be contacted at:

Turn Around for Vets
c/o San Diego Woodturners
9984 Scripps Ranch Blvd #198
San Diego, CA 92131

We can also be contacted at:

info@sdwt.org



The members of the San Diego Woodturners and its Turn Around for Vets (TAV) Program.....Thank You!

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