



San Diego Woodturners

Proud Founders of the Turn-Around-for-Vets (TAV) Program



Volume 2026 Number 04

April 2026

1220 Rosecrans St. #233, San Diego, CA, 92106

www.sdwt.org



This month at **SDWT**:

Ernesto Aquino

Saturday: 18 April, 2026

Time: 9 AM - 12

(In-Person & ZOOM)

“Ogee Bowl”



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Larry Szafraniec

SHAVINGS

from the Prez . . .

Hi everyone,

I sure hope everyone enjoyed last month's meeting and demo. Motoko gave a very impressive lecture and demo. Learning new techniques is what this is all about. She broke it down in simple terms that we could understand. **Thank you, Motoko.** I think it's great to highlight our members' work and their unique talent at these meetings. We really do have some of the most talented turners around, and they are here in our own club.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Finial challenge for the instant gallery. It was nice to see the beautiful work that was brought. This month, we will again test your skill level with turned items made from wood by-products. These include, but are not limited to, seed pods, pine cones, and even spectra ply and plywood. Bring something unique.

April's demo will highlight another club member, **Ernesto Aquino.** He will demo on turning an ogee designed bowl. This is an interesting design bowl profile that I think everyone will enjoy watching his process. I know that classes will be offered to learn and make this style of bowl in the days following the Saturday meeting.

There are some positive changes coming to our club in the near future; don't miss the meeting to learn more.

Lastly, there are only a few spots left to sign up for the fair; don't miss out. So keep the chips flying.

Larry



SDWT Demonstration/Event Schedule for 2026



I hope you are all staying well. We are blessed to have such a wonderful pastime to keep us busy.

Our program schedule will continue to provide a variety of demonstrations to enhance your skills and maybe offer something you haven't tried before..

On the horizon for our schedule in 2026: **May:** Don Owen; All things Resin. **June:** Annual Picnic. And more demo's to follow and announce as we progress in the year to include a couple of notable demonstrators/classes that we will announce as we get closer.

Jeff & Roy

For our April demonstration another of our club members, **Ernesto Aquino** ([Warrior Oak Woodturning](#)), will present and discuss turning an ogee style bowl. Unique in bowl design takes a little bit of finesse in cutting the curve to provide that ogee curve on the outside of the bowl. An ogee is a distinctive S-shaped curve formed by the combination of a concave and convex line, representing a serpentine shape. Ernesto will discuss this and other bowl turning aspects when turning such as preparing bowl stock, making a tenon, base to rim ratio, bowl gouge sharpening, how one gages bowl wall thickness and depth when turning, sanding, and of course finishing. A great refresher for experienced turners and a definite introduction to ogee bowl turning for those looking to improve their skill and technique. Mark your calendar for this demonstration as a Not To Miss.

Also, Ernesto is holding a class at his shop in Fallbrook following the demonstration to reinforce the techniques shown at the demo. Sign-up today (members Only tab of the SDWT web site-Class Sign-ups).





Turn Around for Vets (TAV) is a critical program of the San Diego Woodturners Club. All TAV activities are carried out by a dedicated, unpaid group of volunteers so that 100% of donated funds, designated for TAV, are used to purchase supplies and equipment and to support the program.



Dan Waldburger

This Month's TAV Update: TAV In Transition to New Leadership

The TAV transition team is taking place, with multiple volunteers taking on various responsibilities as I turnover the TAV responsibilities.

Frank Clark will be the new coordinator/leader of TAV, using his delegation and organizational skills to lead the group of volunteers.

Sally Ault. will be the new Torrey Pines Gift Shop liaison.

Brian Saunders. will cover TAV material/supplies order management.

Each **site lead** (or their appointee) will have access to the storage unit to obtain necessary supplies for their location. The exception is Jon C. (Pendleton), who will receive his supplies during the monthly SDWT meetings.

Derrel Finefrock. will be the point person for delivering lathe setups to the various Aspire graduates as well as any participant who would like to make a donation in exchange for a used lathe.

Earth Day at Torrey Pine Gift Shop: Torrey Pines Gift Shop is hosting an open house on Saturday, April 25th (9:00-1:00) in celebration of Earth Day. **Deanna Samillo** has volunteered to lead and coordinate this event. Bill Broderick has volunteered his truck for lathe delivery and Derrel and Richard will demo and talk to the crowd about our relationship with TPGS and woodturning in general. **We still need 1-2 additional volunteers to assist - please consider volunteering.** Contact Deanna if you are able to volunteer.

Vista Strawberry Festival: It is with great sadness that we learned of **Paul Simpson's** passing. Paul was a wonderful person and a great volunteer for TAV and Vista Strawberry Festival leadership. He will be greatly missed.

We need someone to take over in Paul's place if we are to participate in the Festival this year. Please consider taking (or sharing) this effort and contact Frank Clark if you are able.

Thank You to all our Volunteers supporting TAV!!

Dan



Top prep continues this month as I just received a shipment of dowels in the mail. I still have plenty of top blanks needing dowels so your help at this month's **April "Drop-In"** would be much appreciated to wrap up this task. Our last effort in Feb was amazing.

Next is focusing on turned tops. A number of members have picked up prepped blanks for turning tops. I'll collect at the April & May meeting forthcoming.

Having Tops prepped and turned prior to the Fair helps in having plenty of tops on hand for donation and other events the guild supports during the year.

Need help in turning a Top, we may have a couple of members at our next meeting demonstrating on how to turn a top with an opportunity for some hands on to learn. For sure, assistance in turning a Top at the April Drop-In. Break out those spindle gouges and turn a few for practice to get back in the swing on turning a top and adding some embellishment.

Reminder that time slots are still available for turning at our Fair Booth (2026). Go to our SDWT members website members only Tab/Fair Sign-up Schedule tab or contact me for signing up.

Lastly, I too encourage many of our members to enter a turned item into this year's Design In Wood event. See page 7 for details. We have some excellent turners in SDWT. Show off your work and let's show off what SDWT is all about and having on display various turned items.

Steve Frick (SDWT Fair Coordinator)



Entry Deadline:

May 4, 2026, 8:00 PM PDT

Set Up:

May 5 Staff only

Layout Floor Plan, Start Chair Shop Setup
Deliver Scissor Lift, Install lights.

Unload Fairground storage trucks into south side of building

May 6, Fair Laborers (7 AM ?), Volunteers

Setup Turners, Mariners, Carvers Demonstration Booths.
Place Platforms, install Walls, install Display Cabinets

May 7, Staff & Volunteers, Fair Laborers.

Finish walls display cabinets. Set up Scrollers booth

May 8 - Split the building

Booth Schedules

May 8, 2026, all booth schedules due

Delivery of Entries:

May 20, 2026: 12:00 noon – 8:00PM

Judging:

May 22, State Judging, starting at 9:00AM

May 23, Sponsors Judging, starting at 9:00AM

Photography

May 24, Photography & Videography Photo Shoot 8:00am

Show Dinner/Open House

June 6, at Fairgrounds Turf Club – 6:00PM-9:00PM

Dinner 6:30PM

Open House to follow

Fine Tune Show

May 30 – June 9, 2026

Award Ceremony

Awards ceremony – June 3, 7-9 pm Members Shop

Fair Dates: June 10 – July 5

June 10th, 2026, Fair opens; 11:00AM-Closes -10:00PM.

July 5th, 2026, DIW may close at 10:00 PM

Fair is closed on all Mondays and Tuesdays.

Take Back Day

July 7th, 2026, Take Back Day- 12PM – 8:00PM

Take Down Exhibits & Pick Up Entries:

July 6, 2026 - Set up take-back tables, Empty Cabinets, Remove Ropes and Stanchions,

July 8, 2026 Start Shop Tear Down, Pack up chairs and tools. Take Down Scrollers Booth, Pack-up mail-ins, hang tarp, Pick up lathes.

July 9-Complete Teardown – Pack up Platforms, walls, shadow boxes and Display Cases. (Fair Laborers)

Load rental truck & take to storage. 3PM -Load Trailers. Mariner's and Carver's booth pack-up



San Diego County Fair - Del Mar, CA

June 10th to July 5th, 2026 (Key date for on-line Entry Registration is 4 May, 2026. Entry Delivery is 20 May.

Time to be working on/creating your annual entry's for the up coming SD County Fair - Design in Wood competition!

You are invited and encouraged to participate in this years (2026) Design in Wood competition.

Monetary awards and ribbons for each category awarded. **And** you are able to sell your turnings if you so desire.

There are 4 categories for you to consider (also sample pics below):

Woodturning - **Facework** - grain perpendicular to the ways of the lathe

Woodturning - **Center work** - grain parallel to the ways of the lathe

Woodturning - **Embellished / mixed media**

Woodturning - **Laminated/Segmented**

For details, please check out the website @ sandiegofinewoodworkers.com/design-in-wood

When executing your special turned object for entry, please keep in mind the following areas of judging criteria:

Overall craftsmanship – including difficulty, special techniques, size, details, etc.

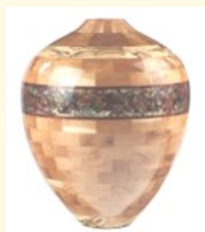
Understanding and use of materials – including wood figure, grain, etc.

Appearance and quality of finish – appropriate for type of wood, intended use, etc.

Design integrity – proportions, intended use, etc.

Use of form and color – eye appeal, etc.

Wishing you good luck.



More Info at sdfair.com (Arts and Crafts Competition/ Woodworking tab that then takes you to the Design in Wood competition and entry info Tab). Follow the instructions there in.

“Drop-In Saturday”



The idea behind “Drop in Sessions” for Members is to set up a shop environment of collaboration and a place to receive assistance in answering your turning questions or help with a technique.

[Bring your own tools and project material along with your PPE.](#)

Our days are typically on a select **Saturday of the Month. 8:30 am to 12:00 pm**

San Marcos, Nottingham Arts Center.

Drop-In April 25th at Nottingham

“Sharpening demo by Chad (40/40 Grind) and Top Prep with Steve”

Participants must be members of San Diego Woodturners Club (SDWT) in good standing. Members under the age of 18 years may participate with parental permission and a parent or guardian must be present.

Safety is ALWAYS a Priority!

Questions: Email at Dropin@sdwt.org



Membership

Hello San Diego Woodturners

To All: **2026 Annual Membership Renewal Reminder**.....

Membership: Checks for membership (made out SDWT (note annual Dues \$50) and mail to our address at **SDWT, 1220 Rosecrans St #233, San Diego, CA 92106** or provide your check at our next meeting.

Alternative and Preferred: Renew on-line in the SDWT website “Members Only” go to “Annual renewal.....link.

Quick Note: Many of you have renewed your membership for 2026. Thank You! The “Members Only” portion of the SDWT website is password protected. **The password has changed.** Those that have renewed for 2026 will receive the new password. If you have not renewed, you will be unable to access that portion of the website or obtain other membership benefits. So Please renew now, if you have not already done so. Although we try to be perfect, if you do not recv the new password and have renewed, please email our membership team at “Membership@sdwt.org and let us know when you renewed, and if possible, method of payment (e.g. paypal, check, cash).

Similarly, If you’re already a member of AAW Great! If not, consider joining AAW, if you think our resources are great, you will no doubt benefit from their pool of knowledge. Check them out at www.woodturner.org

Remember that as a paid member, you have access to the [SDWT Members facebook group](#) I hope you decide to join the group, it’s a very simple way of interacting with other members of the club.

If you have any questions or you think you might be missing club emails. Let us know either in [SDWT Members](#) or info@sdwt.org

Thank you,

Questions: Contact at Membership@sdwt.org or speak with Don Wolfe/Jim OGrady (new membership committee co-chairs).





Membership Form

SDWT membership is \$50.00 per calendar year. To become a member, complete this form and send a check to SDWT. Send to the address below or bring it to any SDWT meeting, go to (www.sdwt.org) for our meeting time and location. If you have any questions, please contact us at (info@sdwt.org)

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Our membership allows our club to hold monthly meetings, enjoy refreshments, watch expert demonstrations and participate in classes. As a member, you will have access to woodturning supplies, video library, wood resources and mentorship.

Check out our website at www.sdwt.org

San Diego Woodturners
1220 Rosecrans St #233
San Diego, CA. 92106

From the SDWT WEBMASTER

If you are short of time or looking for specific information, be sure to check out the "Timestamps" in the description area of all Zoom meeting videos. They allow you to quickly click and jump to the specific topics.: Plate

You will find all of this on the password required "[Members Only](#)" page under "Zoom Recordings" Latest Recordings as follows:

Motoko Smith: Nantucket Weave Box Lid Embelishment

Larry Szafraniec: Thread Chasing

Oskar Kirsten: Bowl Coring

Tom Wirsing: Platters

Christian Brisepierre: Off–Center Scoops

Jeff Neff: Sphere Bowl

Doug Schneider: Basket Illusion

Joe Fleming: Air Brushing

Sally Ault: Bird Houses

Pete Campbell: Embellishment

Don Owen/Carolyn Jones: Flowers & Reindeer

Joe Fleming: Turning Chess Pieces

Mike Mahoney: Bowl, Pepper Mill & Platter

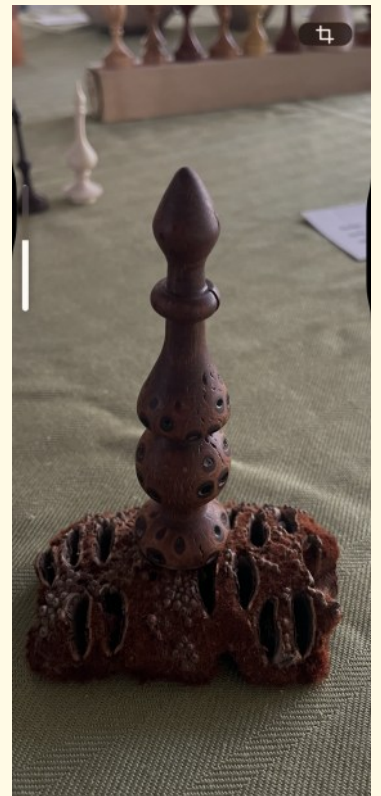
Jeff Neff: Natural Edge Bowls



March SDWT Instant Gallery



March SDWT Instant Gallery



March SDWT Instant Gallery





As members of the San Diego Woodturners, you may come across an opportunity for us to add to our wood inventory and made available to our membership at nominal cost.

If you hear of anyone needing to move wood off their property please give me a call **Chad LaVoi** (see members only tab (membership directory for contact info or send an email to GotWood@sdwt.org) .



Wood Resource Update: .

. I am looking forward to new opportunities in 2026. It is the Club and its members who benefit in having wood resources available at a nominal cost. Always needed, but a need none the less towards help in this area for hauling wood when it becomes available and/or helping in the wood lot. Let me know if you can assist in this manner.



Chad

Stacking Wood. It's an Art form

Raffle



Thank You to all the members who participate in the monthly raffle.

New this month: A big shout out and thank you to Carter and Sons for their San Diego Woodturners Raffle Sponsorship. This month they have graciously donated gift certificates along with their new Wooden Handle Adapters. These adapters allow you to marry the Carter and Son tool line up with your own wooden handle. Also included is a free adapter to size down the handle to match your tool.

We look forward to working with our latest club raffle sponsor Carter and Son Toolworks (www.carterandsontoolworks.com).



If you would like to see some particular item(s) included in the raffle program, let me know and I will see if I can work them in.

Be safe.

Marshall Geller - Raffle Committee Chair.

StarBond Products (with a Club Discount) at SDWT



STARBOND CA product will be available at our **April** meeting. STARBOND has offered guild **chapter** discount on their products whereby you the members of SDWT will reap the benefit of the discounted price (approx 30% discount). Thin, Med, Thick CA along with Aerosol, and Black & Brown Filler CA will be on hand.

Mentoring Program

Our mentoring program is one of the unique benefits of our club. Our mentors can help with basic to complex turning and teach safety along the way. This is a great way to start out or hone your skills with complex tasks taught by turners skilled in specific areas of turning. Our mentors are volunteers and are dedicated to sharing information on all facets of woodturning.

Rest assured however, that all of our mentors are easy to work with. Most often the mentor opens his/her shop to the applicant at a mutually agreed upon time and schedule.

A list of mentors and their specialties are listed within our Mentor Tab of our SDWT.org website (**go to About tab and pull down menu, go then to Mentors**). Phone numbers for the Mentor you have particular area of interest is listed in the (members only area of the web site).. Upon making contact, arrange a time and place. If you have any questions, email me at the below address..



Jeff Neff – Mentor Committee Chairman (MentorChairman@sdwt.org)

“Mentors do not give you a shortcut, but they streamline the process. They invariably had their own great mentors, giving them a richer and deeper knowledge of their field. Their ensuing years of experience taught them invaluable lessons and strategies for learning. Their knowledge and experience becomes yours; they can direct you from unnecessary side paths or errors. They observe you at work and provide real-time feedback, making your practice more time efficient. Their advice is tailored to your circumstances and your needs. Working closely with them, you absorb the essence of their creative spirit, which you can now adapt in your own way.” From the Book - *Mastery* by Robert Greene



Resources

Tropical Exotic Hardwoods

2270 Camino Vida Roble site "B"
Carlsbad, CA 92008 (760-434-3030)

North County Tools

955-A Rancheros Drive
San Marcos, CA 92069 (760-743-2004)

Enviro-Safety Products (No discount)

516 E. Modoc Ave.
Visalia, CA 93292—7630
(800) 637-6606

Rockler

8199 Claremont Mesa Blvd
San Diego, CA 92111 (858 268-1005)

The Hardwood & Hardware Co

8849 Complex Dr
San Diego, CA 92126
(858 - 536-1800)

Woodworker West

PO Box 452058
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 216 - 9265

Tool Depot

3464 Pickett St
San Diego, CA (619) 220 - 7111
1655 Broadway #13
Chula Vista, CA (619) 585-800

SD Urban Timber

922 Industrial Blvd
Chula Vista, CA 91911
619-20 7-4084 (sdurbantimber.com)

American Furniture Design

Ben Matte Tung Oil can be purchased here

2243 Mountain View Dr.
Escondido, CA
(760) 743-6923

Bennett Crone Lumber and Plywood, Inc.

1202 Piper Ranch Rd
San Diego, CA 92154
619-661-0667
(Bennetcrone.com)

A Thought to Ponder



M. Saban-Smith Woodturning ✓
39m · 🌐

The Accumulation of Hours

Someone asked me recently how long it takes to get "good" at woodturning.

I don't have a number. But I do know this: it's about accumulating hours at the lathe. Not reading about turning, not watching videos about turning, but actually turning. Hands on tools, eyes on wood, body learning what the brain can't teach.

Malcolm Gladwell's 10,000 hours theory has been debated endlessly. But the principle holds: sustained, deliberate practice over time produces competence. There are no shortcuts.

The good news? Every hour counts.
Keep showing up. Keep making shavings.

AAW



For AAW members: You should have recvd in the mail your copy of the AAW American Woodturner Journal.

For non-members: Consider joining AAW and recv your copy of the Journal. Published approx every other month with a wealth of information on turning events, symposium, and how to articles along with pictures and stories on woodturning artisans and their work. It's a Great publication.

More info and membership sign-up at (woodturner.org)



June 4-7, 2026. More info at (woodturner.org).

“Virtual Registration now open w/Discount thru 30 April)

2026 SDWT Board Members and Committees

SDWT BOARD MEMBERS

President

Larry Szafraniec pres@sdwt.org

Vice President

Jeff Neff/Roy Ulrich vp@sdwt.org

Secretary

Ruth Cook

secretary@sdwt.org

Treasurer

Frank Clark/Rob Irving

treasurer@sdwt.org

Members at Large

Chad LaVoi, Annette StHilaire

Andy Boyer, Steve Frick,

Dan Waldburger, Ray Brooks,

Jim O'Grady, Hal Gorss,

Contact Information for Club Officers, Board and Committee members is available on the SDWT.org website within the Members Only Area. (Membership Directory) and above email addresses.

COMMITTEES

Newsletter

Dave John NewsletterEditor@sdwt.org

Audio/Visual

Andy Boyer, Hal Gorss, Jerry Aarestad

Raffle

Marshall Geller

Mentors

Jeff Neff MentorChairman@sdwt.org

Del Mar Fair

Steve Frick, Jon Chernow

Programs/Classes

Jeff Neff/Roy Ulrich ProgramChair@sdwt.org

Membership

Don Wolfe/Jim O'Grady membership@sdwt.org

Wood Resources

Chad LaVoi (GotWood@sdwt.org),

Refreshments

Steve Frick

Instant Gallery

Steve and Ruth Cook

Host Facility

Terry Sullivan

TAV

Dan Waldburger TAVchairman@sdwt.org

Site Leads: **NMC:** Howard Katz, **Aspire** Brian Saunders

WWBN CPEN: Jon Chernow / Dan Lyle

VA: La Jolla: Larry Szafraniec

Sunshine Committee

Mavis Porter

Webmaster

Roy Ulrich webmaster@sdwt.org



The Last Page - “Cutoffs”

(Odds and Ends)



Get Ready! SWAT 2026 Aug 28 -30th

If there weren't already a million reasons to mark your calendars for the Best Woodturning Symposium ever, SWAT is ramping up the value with an additional rotation at 8 AM on Friday morning. That means you have more demos to choose from!

This year's lineup is made up of outstanding regional demonstrators and Lead Demonstrators of national and international renown.

This Years Lead Demonstrators are

John Beaver

Trent Bosch

Andy Chen

Jason Clark

Rebecca DeGroot

Mike Jackofsky

and Colwin Way

[More Info at swaturners.org](http://swaturners.org)

NOTTINGHAM ACCESS

For access to the Nottingham Arts Center contact Terry Sullivan via e-mail (go2tms@outlook.com). Include the day and time you wish to arrive as well as the purpose of your visit. Access must be cleared with Terry with email and on-site rep, Jessie Martin.

Do not enter the Nottingham facility or grounds without prior approval or without the project leader present.

San Diego Woodturners (SDWT)

A Nonprofit Corporation

A Chapter of the AAW

1220 Rosecrans St. #233

San Diego, CA, 92106



22 April, 2026

Next Event

April 18th, 2026

“Ernesto Aquino”

9 AM until 12 (Approx)

Nottingham Arts Center, San Marcos