



San Diego Woodturners

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



Volume 2026 Number 09

September 2026

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

www.sdwtd.org



This month at SDWT:

Hal Gorss

Saturday: 19 Sept, 2026

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM



Segmented Turning

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Larry Szafraniec

SHAVINGS

from the Prez . . .

Happy September everyone, and yes, it is that time of year again. So, to mark the rapidly approaching holiday season our instant galleries will spotlight these events. Starting with this month's challenge, please bring your best treen ware, bowls, plates, goblets and stemware, kits and anything else used in the preparation of food and presentations. If you can eat off of it, drink out of it, or items that are used to prepare food, we want to see it. A free raffle ticket for anyone who brings any of these items.

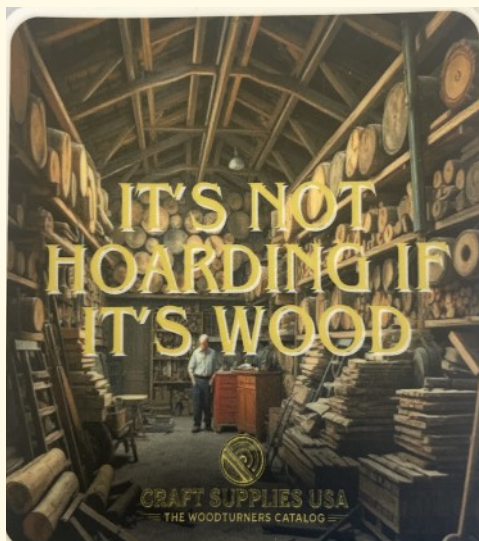
I would like to thank Jeff Neff for a great demo and class last month. A copper lidded bowl is not something you see every day. I know that it sparked a renewed interest in bowl making for me to attempt a few of these. What a great gift idea! Next month will feature another club member Hal Gorss. Hal will show and discuss segmented turning. This unique art form takes small, segmented pieces of wood assembles them and turns them into intricate pieces of art. If you have ever wondered how this is done come out and join us at the September meeting. Hal said that he will also bring some of his work to look at and check out.



A big thank you to Chris Eader (a non-member) for his generous donation to our club. Chris recently gave our club a Vicmarc VL-300 lathe, turning tools and a Jet dust collection system. These items will be put to use at club demos and classes. Thanks goes out to the number of people who helped me load this equipment and bring it back to Nottingham. Thank you to, board members Jeff, Roy, Frank and club member Maryann. Also, thank you to Caroline for her help in cleaning all the equipment and tools and for organizing all of it. You all make this club a great place to be associated with.

Lastly, our new vendor profile this month is on Tallahassee 100% Tung Oil products. This is product made in the USA from tung tree farms grown along the gulf coast. Their tung product does not contain additives like synthetic resins, solvents and or drying agents. They sent us a very generous sample of their beat products for our raffle this month. So, buy your raffle tickets. Hope to see you all at the meeting in September. Until then, keep the shavings flying,

Larry



SDDWT Members at this years SWAT Symposium

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: **Oct: Tom Edwards, Nov: Rudy Lopez, Dec: XMAS Party**, and more demo's to follow in the new year with notable demonstrators & classes.

Jeff & Roy



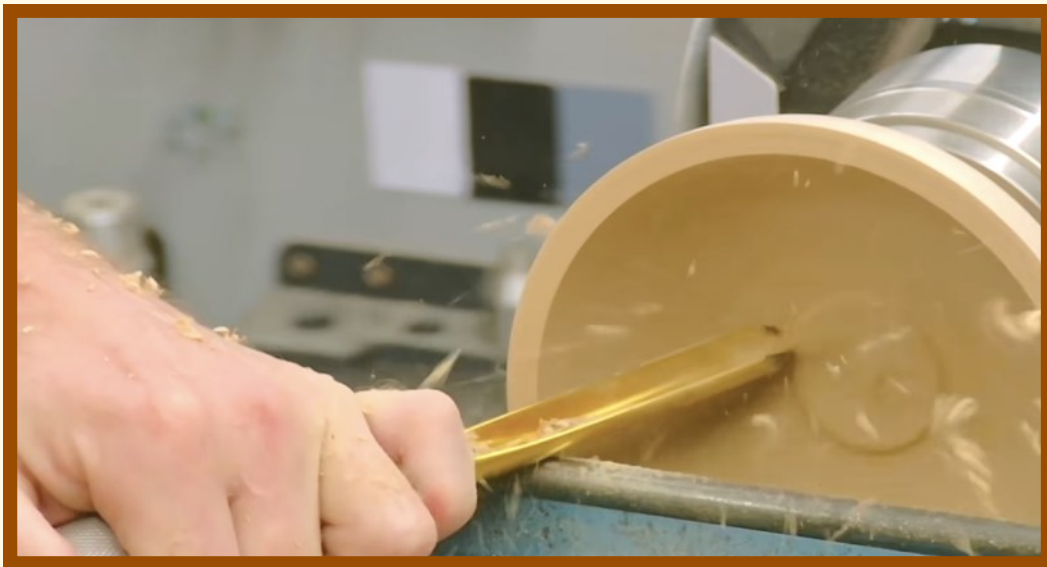
This month's demonstration is by **Hal Gorss**. Long time member of SDWT. Hal supports the club behind the Audio/Visual table each month providing the AV support along with other AV team members. **Thanks Hal!** for your dedication in this supporting role for the club.

In addition, Hal is a notable turner in his own right and has ribboned at the annual Design in Wood competition with his segmented pieces. Hal's demonstration this month will be walking us through the preparation and process on segmented woodturning. Challenging and extra steps required in preparing wood material for turning that Hal will show us.

Segmented wood turning is fascinating and creativity in this type of turning is an art in itself and limited only by one's imagination. Join Hal at this month's demonstration on segmented woodturning.



Class Pics with Jeff



**“Experience the intense focus of
woodturning where time seems to stand still”**



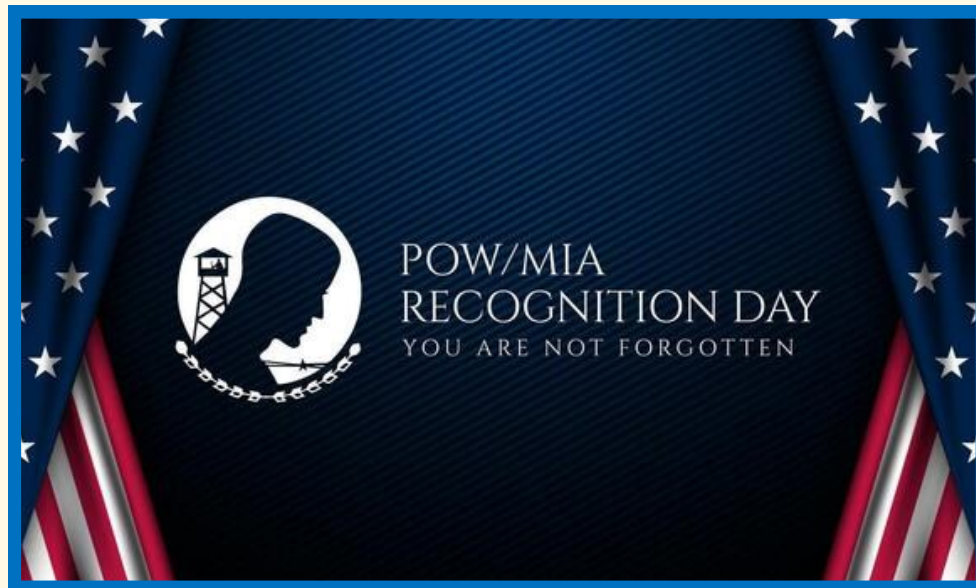
Turn Around for Vets (TAV) is a critical program of the San Diego Woodturners Club. All TAV activities are carried out by a dedicated, unpaid group of volunteers so that 100% of donated funds, designated for TAV, are used to purchase supplies and equipment and to support the program.

Frank Clark

This Month's TAV Update:



TAV Remembers:



18th September, 2026

(Nationally, Celebrated on the third Friday of September each year)

We continue to make progress updating equipment at the four TAV sites. I expect all sites will have updated lathes by the end of the calendar year.

The transition to VICMARC VM-100 chucks at all four sites is now complete. This represents a step forward toward a safer-tuning environment. A big thank you to all the donors that make this equipment modernization possible.

This program would not be possible without volunteers and donors. Please consider volunteering at one of the TAV sites, you will find it quite rewarding. If you can't volunteer, donations are also greatly appreciated.

(Continued next page)



ASPIRE Center: The ASPIRE Center site lead is Brian Saunders, and has been very busy in August. TAV at ASPIRE occurs every Wednesday morning (8:30-12:15).

TAV has been active at the ASPIRE Center for more than 10 years. Staff and participants are very welcoming and consider the program to be very beneficial. The ASPIRE Center is an inpatient facility and participants frequently stay at the center for 6 to 9 months. During this time several participants have become very accomplished wood turners.

SDWT staffs TAV at the ASPIRE Center with a small and dedicated group of wonderful volunteers. We work outdoors on a second-floor patio and WOW has it been hot this summer! Despite the heat, good things are happening! Participants begin by making pens. Pen blanks are prepared by our volunteers and are ready to turn so that participants can complete a nice product in one session. Pen turning teaches lathe safety, tool control, design concepts, brings out creativity and results in a finished product that participants are justifiably proud. And we make a lot of pens - with very creative designs! We make a lot of other things too. Recently, participants have turned ice cream scoop handles, vases, weed pots, small bowls, potpourri bowls, custom center bands for pens and a unique cell phone holder/sound amplifier. (See attached photos). (Photos courtesy of Ruth Cook).



Participants who demonstrate interest and skill, who will reside in the area after discharge, who have space for a lathe and tools are offered a year of membership in SDWT and may be eligible to receive a mini lathe and basic tools from the club. Recently 4 participants have received lathes and tools from this program.

We have completed the switch from the Laguna Lathes to Jet Midi Lathes. Our existing chucks have been replaced with Vicmark chucks with an expanded variety of jaws. We are constantly looking to safely expand the range of possibilities that are available to participants and are frequently amazed by the range of their creativity.

In all of the years that TAV has been at The ASPIRE Center we have never had to end a session early for any reason. We are able to work in the rain because the balcony is covered and prevailing winds blow the rain away keeping us dry. However, we had to shut down early on Wednesday, September 2, because of a sprinkler leak in our work area. It began as a slow trickle from one sprinkler head and progressed along the rafters to cover an expanding area where

we work. On site engineering staff began working on it, but it seems that the problem involved a pipe going into the building. With no hope of fixing it quickly we shut down - a first time for everything! We hope that it is fixed for next week.

Volunteering is a wonderful experience and helps to make us better turners. TAV can use volunteers at all sites so there will be a site convenient to where you live. Please consider volunteering, you won't regret it! Please contact TAV Chair, Frank Clark, or one of the TAV site leaders.

Camp Pendleton: The site lead for Camp Pendleton is Jon Chernow- Camp Pendleton has eight volunteers. Although the population of the Wounded Warriors barracks is currently low, the average attendance at the wood-turning session on Wednesdays (9:30-1:30) is approximately twelve, ranging from privates to senior officers.

Jon Chernow and his volunteers participated in the Camp Pendleton's battalion's back-to-school event on August 7th for the Marines and their families. There were over 50 vendors, job counselors, plus back to school items for the children. TAV participated by providing five lathes, tools and instruction to offer pen turning to all comers.

Camp Pendleton has changed the force protection rating for the base. This means extra hoops to jump through to retain base access. We are hoping to reduce the red tape to get on base but this in itself is a long process. Please be patient.

NMC Balboa (Navy Medical Center): The site lead for NMC Balboa is Howard Katz, and they meet every Thursday from 10:30 to 1:30. The lathe upgrades are nearly complete.

Every week we have new turners who express thanks and appreciation for both the program and the volunteers. This month we had a new experience; a new turner actually took the time to write two of our volunteers very nice thank you notes. She also brought them Starbucks presents. Most times just seeing students walk away with a smile on their face gives the volunteer a good feeling, but this was a little special.

VA La Jolla: Derell Finefrock, is the site lead for TAV at the VA. TAV takes place at the VA on Tuesdays from 10:00-1:30. Derell is also the lead logistician for TAV. He makes sure that the right equipment gets to the right place on time. Thank you, Derell, for all your hard work.

Torrey Pines Docent Society: Sally Ault has informed me that the Torrey Pines gift shop is rapidly selling the Torrey pine bowls. The shop sells these bowls and then makes a significant donation to SDWT. These donations contribute to SDWT operating expenses. There is plenty of Torrey pine wood at the club. Please consider making a bowl and donating it to the cause. Every bowl helps to generate revenue for SDWT that benefits all club members.

(Site Leads and TAV Chair Phone numbers and email address can be found in the Member Directory of the SDWT website - Members Only Link)



“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.

Returns Sept 26th, 2026

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: Membership currently stands at **234** members.

Reminder:



Badges

Badges

Everyone is encouraged to always wear their name badges at our meetings and when we are demonstrating at the San Diego County Fair, Vista Strawberry Festival, and other events. Our club provides a name badge to every new member of our club. Replacement name badges may be purchased for \$7.00. If you have lost the magnet for your badge we can give you a replacement for free. At every meeting we take a board with new name badges mounted on it, so be sure to get yours and wear it!

Please see Jim O'Grady or Don Wolfe to take care of your name badge needs.

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:

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

Jeff Neff: Copper Lidded Boxes

Don Owen: Resin

Ernesto Aquino: Ogee Bowl

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



August Instant Gallery Items



August Instant Gallery Items



August Instant Gallery Items



August Instant Gallery Items





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@sdw.org) .



Get Your wood for your next project at the wood lot

Wood Resource Update: .

. 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. .



Stacking Wood

Raffle



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

The raffle program is **self-supporting** with your support and all of the proceeds from the raffle are reinvested in future raffles and never used for any other purpose.

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



Price Changes: STARBOND CA product will continue to be available at our **Sept** meeting.

STARBOND provides our guild an AAW **chapter** discount price on products. Prices, however, have gone up slightly but members of SDWT will still reap a discounted price (approx 20-30% discount vs. retail).

Attention Members!!

Abranet prices have increased by 20% since my last order, along with purchases dropping at our meetings. With the combination of these two factors, I will not be restocking Abranet. With the remaining inventory, except for 240 grit, there should be enough supply for the next 4 to 6 months. Would welcome any leads on Abranet rolls at or below \$115 for 4 ½" x 25 yards. Hopefully, we'll see if prices come down.

- Roy

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 and make 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 suite "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
(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

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)-207-4084 (sdurbantimber.com)

American Furniture Design

Ben MatteTung Oil can be
purchased here
2243 Mountain View Dr.
Escondido, CA
(760) 743-6923

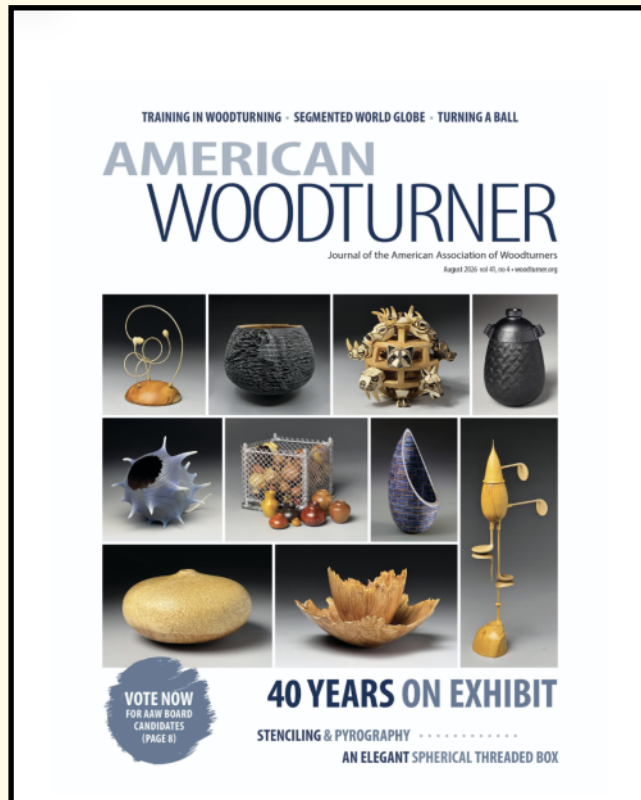
Bennett Crone Lumber and Ply-wood, Inc.

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



Texture Embellishment Design with Sorby
Texturing Tool/Wheels

AAW



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

For non-members: Consider joining AAW and receive your copy of the Journal. Published approximately 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.

For more info and membership sign-up at woodturner.org.

The 2027 American Association of Woodturners (AAW) International Symposium will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at the Oklahoma City Convention Center from June 24-27, 2027. Mark your calendars for this annual event with AAW.

More info at woodturner.org.

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 St Hilaire

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

TAV

Frank Clark TAVchairman@sdwt.org

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

WWBN CPEN: Jon Chernow / Dan Lyle

VA: La Jolla: Derell Finefrock

Sunshine Committee

Mavis Porter

Webmaster

Roy Ulrich webmaster@sdwt.org

The Last Page - “Cutoffs”

(Odds and Ends)

Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium



SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2026 **LOVELAND, COLORADO**

More info at rmwoodturningsymposium.com



OREGON WOODTURNING SYMPOSIUM

March 19-21, 2027

Albany, Oregon

More info at <http://oregonwoodturningsymposium.com>

San Diego Woodturners (SDWT)

A Nonprofit Corporation

A Chapter of the AAW

1220 Rosecrans St. #233

San Diego, CA, 92106



First Day of Fall

22 September, 2026

Next Event

September 19th, 2026

“Hal Gorss”

9 AM until 12 PM

Nottingham Arts Center, San Marcos