



San Diego Woodturners

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



Volume 2026 Number 10

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

October 2026

www.sdwat.org



**This month at
SDWT:**

Tom Edwards

Saturday: 17 Oct, 2026

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM

(*Holiday Turnings*)



October 2026

Newsletter

“Keeping you updated on highlights of club activities and events of the San Diego Woodturners.”



Larry Szafraniec



Hi everyone,

I know that this doesn't come to us as any surprise, but the Holidays are here. Time to start making plans, hosting family events or traveling across the country to visit friends and family that we don't see very often. It can be a very crazy time of the year. We are all fortunate to have woodturning in our lives to destress, create and bridge the gaps. Our instant galleries are now focused on the holidays with September being teen ware, **October** children's toys followed by **November's** holiday ornaments and gifts with a holiday theme. Please try to participate by sharing your work in these instant galleries. Any items that you bring that are in line with the instant gallery theme will receive one free raffle ticket.

I would like to thank member Hal Gorss for stepping up and filling in for a demonstrator that canceled on us. Hal's demo was very professional and on point. With a very short time to prepare he put together a great presentation. If you ever wondered about segmented turning, this demo answered all your questions.

This month's demo will be with club member Tom Edwards. Tom will discuss and make the items you need for the holidays. What those items are, only Tom knows. Get ready for a fun and informative time in October, because if you know Tom, he is always full of surprises.

You will start seeing more changes around Nottingham, in our meeting room and the grounds that surround it. These changes are long overdue and a welcome change for the better. So, with that said, be a part of the change and not just a bystander. This is your club; your help is really needed and appreciated.

Our membership is now nearing the 240-member mark. Please welcome these new members and show them what a great organization this really is. It was great to see the junior members at the last meeting; they are the future of our club. This club has a wealth of knowledge among our veteran turners. New members can always ask them for advice. The best way for a new member to become involved is to attend our, free for members, drop in Saturday's events. Check the newsletter for times and dates.

We have a volunteer opportunity coming up soon. November 14th and 15th our club will be manning a booth at the Mission Trails holiday fair. This is a important fund raiser for our club which generates much needed income for our various programs and replacing ageing equipment. Ray Brooks is the man in charge this year. He needs volunteers to help set up and take down, man the booth, and yes, we need turned items to sell. I hope to see you all at the meeting, until then,
Keep the shavings 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: **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 will be tailored toward turned items for the holiday season that is just around the corner. Tom Edwards will be demonstrating how to turn various ornaments and figurines, knick-knacks, and small gifts that you might consider in your next turning project and something for the holiday's.

Angels, trees, snowmen, birdhouses and more. He will continue until he runs out of time. Stand-by for a whirl-wind of holiday item turnings and how-to with Tom.





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:



We continue to make progress updating equipment at the four TAV sites. The last four lathes are on order for Camp Pendleton. The transition to Jet 1221 lathes will be completed by the end of October.

This upgrade 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.

The Jet upgrade has been relatively smooth although recently we have experienced E7 (motor speed sensor errors) at three sites. We are actively working with Jet warranty and technical support services. Some of the parts are on back order and will not be available until early December. Fortunately these errors are intermittent and have not disrupted operations. More to follow as this situation evolves. The picture (R) is the motor speed sensor.



ASPIRE Center: The ASPIRE Center site lead is Brian Saunders, brianneo858@gmail.com TAV at ASPIRE occurs every Wednesday morning (8:30-12:15). The Jet lathe upgrades at Aspire are complete.

TAV has been active at the ASPIRE Center for more than 10 years. During this period Brian Saunders has completed more than 1000 hours of volunteer work. 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.

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.

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, franx.sdwat@gmail.com, or one of the TAV site leaders.

Camp Pendleton: The site lead for Camp Pendleton is Jon Chernow, bald1943@yahoo.com. 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. The Jet lathe upgrades at Camp Pendleton will be complete by the end of October.

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 is a long process. Please be patient.

NMC Balboa (Navy Medical Center): The site lead for NMC Balboa is Howard Katz, Howard.hak50@gmail.com, and they meet every Thursday from 10:30 to 1:30. The lathe upgrades at NMC are complete. Each week between 15-20 individuals participate in making pens, bowls, plates, and ice cream scoops.

VA La Jolla: The site lead for TAV at the Veterans Administration Hospital (VA) is Derell Finefrock, dfinefrock@sbcglobal.net. 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. The Jet lathe upgrades at the VA are complete.

Torrey Pines Docent Society: Sally Ault is currently away on vacation, and the Torrey Pines gift shop is closed for renovations. This is an opportunity to bolster our inventory of donated Torrey Pine bowls. These bowls make great gifts and souvenirs which sell out quickly. 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.



“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 October 24th, 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, Festival's, 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

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

Joe Fleming: Turning Chess Pieces

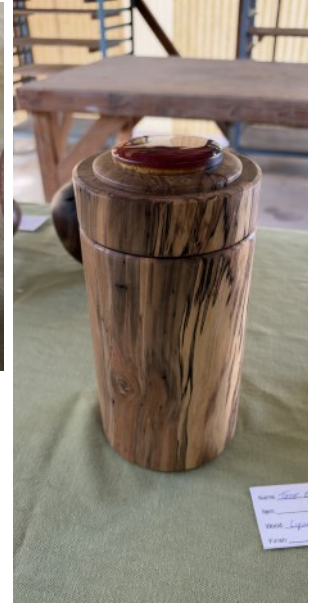
Mike Mahoney: Bowl, Pepper Mill & Platter



September Instant Gallery Items



September Instant Gallery Items



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.

A big **Thank You** to **D-Way tools** for their SDWT Raffle Sponsorship. This month they are donating \$15 gift certs for our monthly raffle. D-Way carries a full line of detail gouges, scrapers, beading tools, parting tools, handles and accessories. (D-Waytools.com) ck them out today or call with ques-

tions (360-689-4541).

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 continue to be available at our Oct 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)



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

Annette St Hilaire

Andy Boyer, Steve Frick,

, 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

(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)



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



Halloween - 31 Oct, 2026

Next Event

October 17th, 2026

“Tom Edwards”

9 AM until 12 PM

Nottingham Arts Center, San Marcos