



# CHIPS & Chatter

THE SILICON VALLEY WOODTURNERS' NEWSLETTER



**The December Program  
will be:  
Christmas  
Dinner Party!**

## Patnude on Pens

Gordon Patnude is one of the key players/instructors in the Santa Clara High School woodshop turning program and the driving force behind the annual "Turn for the Troops" pen drive. He presented the November meeting program, appropriately enough, on Pen Making. Gordon has collated his experiences gained through turning numerous pens and penned a storyline on the subject, which is followed by students in the pen turning class.

He begins his build by cross cutting the pen blank on the bandsaw utilizing a purpose-built sled. The two pieces are marked at the sawn ends to maintain grain orientation.



The next step is drilling the two blank pieces to accommodate the brass tubes that form the actual internal body of the pen. While several methods are commonly employed by pen turners at this stage, Gordon prefers utilizing the lathe to bore the holes. The spur point drill of appropriate diameter is secured in a tailstock mounted Jacobs chuck and one of the blanks is mounted in a pen chuck, not to be confused with a pin chuck, a common misunderstanding I am told. This method virtually assures that the hole will be drilled concentric with the length of the blank. The operation is repeated on the second blank.



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# John's Message

Congratulations to next year's officers, Paul Rygaard will be our new President, Mile Lanahan Vice President, Greg peck will continue as Secretary and Tom Schmida will be our Treasure.

We are still looking for some other positions to be filled. Joe Martinka has accepted the Social Chairman position. We still need someone to take over Outreach Chairman and we need a Librarian. Gordon Patnude will be our new Membership Chairman. Look at the end of this newsletter for positions we currently try to staff and if one of them appeals to you let our officers know.

There was a wood event at my house this month and 18 people attended. \$275.00 was raised for SVW General fund along with \$225.00 for the SVW school fund. Thanks to all who attended.

This year's Christmas party will be at Mama Mia's restaurant in Campbell. This will be the first time at this place. I am looking forward to it and hope you are too. We have 33 people signed up. The room will be set up for 40 and we will be able to accommodate some last minute additions. Hope to see you all there.



# 2016 Calendar of Events

<b>January</b> Meeting: Wed. the 6th President's Challenge: Spindle Program: Mike Sooder 3M Abrasives	<b>February</b> Meeting: Wed. the 3rd President's Challenge: Bowl Program: Jim Rodgers Treaded Boxes Feb 20, Eric Longstrom	<b>March</b> Meeting: Wed. the 2nd President's Challenge: Lidded Turning Program: Jon Sauer Ornamental Turning
<b>April</b> Wood Fest @ Dennis' 4/02/16 Meeting: Wed. the 6th Pres's Challenge: Goblet Program: Dennis Lillis Hollowing Ashley Harwood April 10	<b>May</b> Meeting: Wed. the 4th President's Challenge: Natural Edge Program: Phil Roybal Turning a Top	<b>June</b> Meeting: Wed. the 1st President's Challenge: Top/Toy Program: Everyone! Top Night
<b>July</b> Meeting: Wed. the 6th President's Challenge: Plate/Platter Program: Bob Gerenser Hollowing DIY Visual Aids Sharon Doughtie Demo & Workshop	<b>August</b> Meeting: Wed. the 3rd President's Challenge: Hollow Form Program: Brian Havens Therming	<b>September</b> Meeting: Wed. the 7th President's Challenge: Craft Item Program: Josh Salesin Vacuum Kilns Picnic Sept 17
<b>October</b> Meeting: Wed. the 5th President's Challenge: Artsy Program: Bob Bley Fractal Burning Oct. 29 Brad Adams WBW	<b>November</b> Meeting: Wed. the 2nd President's Challenge: Ornament + Favorite Program: Gordon Patnude Pen Turning	<b>December</b> Meeting: Wed. the 7th President's Challenge: Favorite Program: Christmas Party

# Meeting Minutes - November 2, 2016

**Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by our President John Whittier**

## **Visitors/New Members:**

Visitors - Visitor from England, visiting his brother in San Jose - Peter Davies

New Members - Jay Perrine & Gordon Levine



Greg Peck

## **Staff Updates:**

- Santa Clara High School Silent Auction Results
  - From bowls donated by SVW members, Jason reported that the Silent Auction (on Parents Night at the school) raised \$1,400 for the school. That actually did not include all the donated bowls. High School Parent's Night
- Election of Officers
  - The nomination / election of Officers was held tonight and results were as follows:
    - President — Paul Rygaard
    - Vice President — Mike Lanahan
    - Treasurer — Mike Schmida
    - Secretary — Greg Peck
- Christmas Party
  - Christmas party will occur on Wednesday evening at Mama Mia's, 200 E. Hamilton Ave. Campbell.
- Demo by Brad Adams was last Saturday at the Bridges Community Church, 625 Magdalena Ave.
  - It was a great demo and Brad gave the attendees some great tips.
- There is a display at San Mateo City Hall featuring turned items by those turners from West Bay and SVW clubs. **Great exposure!**

## **November President's Challenge and make-ups —**

- *See the Member and their work in the President's Challenge photo section of this Newsletter.*

## **Show and Tell —**

- *See the Member and their work in the Show & Tell photo section of this Newsletter.*
  - Pete Zavala recently turned some items for a lady that he got wood from. She insisted on paying him for his work (as usual I am sure Pete did a fabulous job) but he refused to accept the payment. This person then gave him a check for \$500 which Pete then gave to SCHS wood shop fund.

## **Break**

**Presentation - Gordon Patnude gave a pen turning demo**

**Meeting adjourned.**



# Patnude's Pens Continued



Using a pair of previously glued up pen blanks, Gordon goes on to demonstrate his procedure for trimming the ends flush and perpendicular to the brass tubes. He again gives a nod to the lathe for this step and chucks a barrel trimmer in the Jacobs chuck, but this time the chuck is mounted in the headstock. Gordon uses a specialized hand clamp to hold the pen blank for trimming and uses the tailstock ram to precisely advance the blank for trimming.

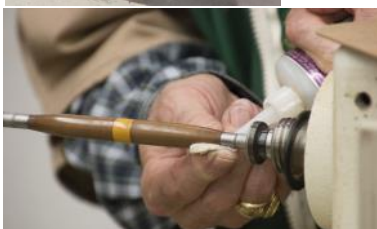


At this juncture the two blanks are mounted on a pen mandrel in the correct orientation. The mandrel is inserted in the headstock and the revolving tailstock is brought to bear. Gordon rough turns the blanks and then glues a square of contrasting wood in

place of the center bushing, to the cap end of the pen. He now finish turns the pen and sands it in preparation to finishing.



Gordon's "go-to" finish for wooden pens is CA&BLO; Cyanoacrylate adhesive and boiled linseed oil. He prefers medium viscosity CA and applies it and the BLO with a wee bit of paper towel. Multiple coats are applied to the pen whilst the lathe is spinning at a good clip. And quicker than who shot Bob, a durable high quality is achieved.



For the final step of assembly, Gordon eschews the lathe in favor of a dedicated pen press. With a few well practiced strokes of the lever he mates the pen parts and the story is brought to an end.



# President's Challenge "Ornament + Favorite"



**Barbara Jones**

Small sea urchin and ebony ornament, and acrylic bowl. No finish



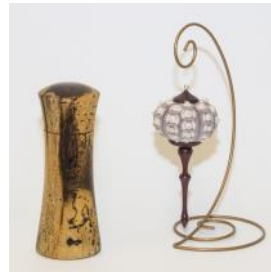
**Dick Westfall —**

1. Nov - Redwood and maple ornament / poly finish
2. Dec - Walnut, cherry and ? compound segmented



**Bob Gerenser —**

1. Beech & Mahogany segmented Crossing Ring Ornament, and mahogany, w/ WipeOn Poly.
2. Mahogany, maple veneer., spalted maple pierced and lined box w/ WipeOn Poly and shellac



**Mike Lanahan —**

Sputnik urchin ornament w Purple Heart finial, and Pheasant wood pepper mill w/ mineral oil & bees wax finish.



**Keith Towe—**

Forest Oak & Holly ornament, and Silky Oak, Blackwood & Holly ornament.

(From the Australian C&C news desk)



**Jim Gott —**

1. Nov - Sputnik ornament w/ finial dyed red w/ Sharpie.
2. Dec—Sweetgum natural edge bowl w/ Poly finish



# President's Challenge "Ornament + Favorite"



**Gary Keogh —**

1. Nov—Urchin ornament w/ manzanita finial. Finish w/ Mylands friction polish.
2. Dec— NE ash bowl w/ Salad Bowl finish.



**Gordon Patnude —**

- Nov—TREES!
2. Dec— Salad bowl



**Mark Koenig**

—  
Top, ornament,  
pen, bowl



**Jerry Galli —**

BBQ brushes and  
Show & Tell cypress bowl



**Johnny Alias —**

Apple & walnut ornament , and  
Favorite - Modesto ash bowl





# President's Challenge "Ornament + Favorite"



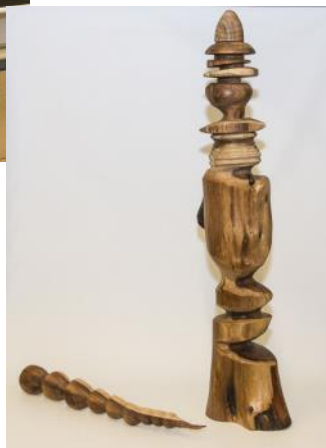
**Jim Donovan —**  
Urchin ornament



**Paul Rygaard —**  
1. Nov .Urchin ornaments  
2. Dec .Walnut bowl



**Milton West —**  
Artsy — Acacia multi-axis  
Ornament—Acacia icicle.



**David Brown —**  
Platter - July makeup



**Marcus —**  
Curly Koa Cocobolo  
crochet hook



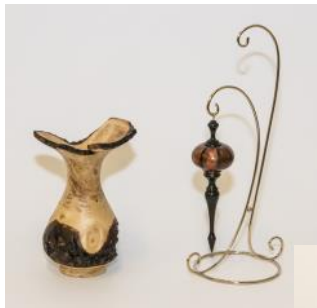
**Oscar Whittrock —**  
Christmas ornament,  
and Show & Tell bottle stopper





# President's Challenge

## "Ornament + Favorite"



**Pete Zavala —**

1. Oct — Artsy vase
2. Nov — Christmas ornament



**Brian Havens —**

- Hollow form / Thermed vase
- Nov - Urchin ornament
- Dec— Thermed pens



# Show & Tell

**Scott Landon —**

Plate and Wall art



**Bob Gerenser —**

Laminated Red Oak,  
Maple Ornament  
stand.

No finish



**Pete Zavala —**

Redwood planks square



**Brian Havens —**

Thermed Pen Jig



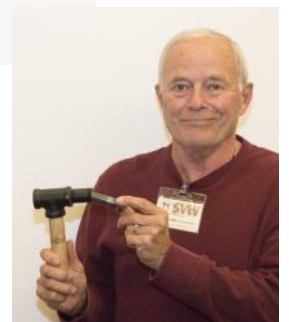
**David Brown —**

Fractal burning setup  
(homemade)



**Gary Keogh —**

Jig made from  
plumbing pipe



# A “Sound” Idea!

by Bob Heltman, CMW, AAW

God Bless the Irish, and especially the March 2008 Journal of the Irish Woodturners’ Guild, and even more to the point the work and article “Sounding Bowls” by Tobias Kaye. Tobias has been putting phosphor bronze guitar strings across wood bowls, making them into a sort of musical instrument, for over 20 years. Actually, his bowls have been bought on 4 continents and used in hospitals, clinics, care homes, special education settings, and for private meditation. Plucking sounds warm the heart! See his website: [www.sounding-bowls.com](http://www.sounding-bowls.com)

I got so excited I just had to try making one. Since my musical talent approaches zero, I visited my local Tempo music store, described my general plan, and bought 3 different strings. They gave me two violin tuning pegs, but I planned to make my own. It also struck me that using pegs is a bit ancient and maybe there was another way. Next I visited my Hobby House store, figuring that some of the small rigging devices used in model airplanes might work. As you can see from the picture below, Photo 1, this amounted to quite an assortment of wiring, small (2-56) nuts and bolts, threaded couplers, blind nuts, swivels, rods, tubes, etc. The kit on the left was mine.



**Photo 1. Assortment of things needed to convert the bowl into a sounding bowl.**

Back in my shop/studio I found a damaged walnut bowl about 7” dia. x 3” deep, and finished it with a thin spray of lacquer. Next I turned 2 pegs out of purpleheart. At the one end, with grain running in the direction of the strings, I drilled small holes just below the rim through which the strings would be threaded. Tobias uses copper tubing to line these holes, saying it gives a brighter tone and stops the strings from cutting into the wood. The first string went in the center; one end of each string comes with a stop-ball to hold it in place.

Tobias holds the ends in place with small turned wooden pegs like on an old fashioned Spanish guitar, after first removing the stop ball, purely for an improved appearance. I used a blind nut in a hole opposite and turned in a long screw. Clipping the string to length I crimped its cut end into a small electrical connector, turned up the end and placed it behind a nut at the screws end. With heart pounding I slowly tightened the screw, using pliers to keep the nut and connector in place, and plucked the string until it was tight and produced a pleasant sound. IT WORKED and the bowl resonated wonderfully. (A pretty knob could be turned and glued over the screw.) This method worked like a charm, kept its tune, and was easy to adjust. It could be quite well hidden under a recessed rim.

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**Photo 2. The author's Sounding Bowl with three strings.**

Tobias tells me it would sound even better if I perfected the spiral section curve that he uses to give the richest resonance. His kit contains instructions on shaping this curve. You might invent other methods for holding and tuning strings. Tobias uses specially made stainless steel threaded pins like you might find on a dulcimer, but with knurled tops for wooden thumb grips rather than keyturned square heads. Again, he says that this is a visual issue, feeling that his pieces should look as beautiful as they sound. (These special pins are available from Tobias as part of a kit that includes step-by-step instructions and the fine copper tubing mentioned above.)

On thin walled bowls, threaded couplers or rigging couplers soldered to the string wire, etc. might work too. BUT, be careful as “too thin” could mean breaking the bowl as strings are tightened. You can Google “violin making” and the like for more ideas.

While a violin peg has a 2 degree taper, I simply drilled the peg holes and twisted the rotating drill to make a tapered hole fitting my pegs. In these cases the strings ran over the bowl's rim into small holes in the pegs. Again, tightening and plucking gave me 3 different and pleasing notes. They do calm the soul and relax a person!

Visit Tobias' websites for more information on copyrights, to contact him for a kit, etc. You can make a better sounding bowl than this first fast try of mine! Have fun and improve your meditating. (It is OK to make a bowl for yourself, but not to sell. Give credit to Tobias Kaye and send commercial business his way like a good sport.)

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With permission of Tobias Kaye, the World Master of Sounding Bowls, here are photos of some of his remarkable pieces of work with captions supplied by Tobias:



**Photo 3. This Holly Sounding Bowl, about 10" diameter by maybe 4.1/2" has red and green pegs to reflect the leaf and berry color of the tree. A wider fan would have given a better tuning but the shape arising as the wet wood dried is very pleasing to me, Tobias Kaye.**



**Photo 4. Wild grain gives a better resonance as well as better looks. This one in Ash shows the carved underside that is randomly rippled by hand leaving five little feet. 9"x2"**



**Photo 5. The strings pass over the wall at one end only in the simpler models. The steel tuning pins have maple thumb heads fitted shaped and stained so that the tuning system is part of the overall sculpture of the piece.**



It is fitting to close with the following feedback from just one of Tobias' many purchaser/users:

*"The (multiply handicapped) children I work with can respond to the Sounding Bowl and even initiate musical sounds in a way that is impossible with nearly any other instrument. When I first got the Sounding Bowl one of the boys who had not responded to anything else before spent the entire session touching, feeling then playing the Sounding Bowl." - Julie H. music therapist, Warwickshire. Using a 12 string cross strung style.- Julie H. music therapist, Warwickshire. Using a 12 string cross strung style.*

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# CLUB NOTES

## Officers, Staff, Volunteers, and Contacts

<b>President</b>	John Whittier	(408) 379-3722	<a href="mailto:turninghands@yahoo.com">turninghands@yahoo.com</a>
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<b>Outreach Chair</b>			
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<b>Property Mgmt.</b>	Gary Keogh	(408) 281-9054	<a href="mailto:gkeogh@sbcglobal.net">gkeogh@sbcglobal.net</a>
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	Greg Peck	(408) 281-9156	<a href="mailto:gkeogh@sbcglobal.net">gkeogh@sbcglobal.net</a>
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<b>Yahoo Groups</b>	Howard Cohen	(408) 378-9456	<a href="mailto:howard687@yahoo.com">howard687@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Owner</b>			

## SVW NEEDS YOU!

It takes more than the officers and program chairs to make our club function at its best. If your name's not in the column at right, we still need your help in other ways to manage some of the club's activities. This is a HELP WANTED ad, and we need you to respond. There are always things that need doing. In particular, we need:

- Volunteers for shop tours
  - Volunteers to present/demonstrate at meetings
  - Members to write up their profiles for the newsletter
  - Short articles or Tips & Tricks for the *Chips & Chatter* newsletter
- Please contact Mike Lanahan to volunteer

## Sharing Knowledge

**MEMBERS:** Please contribute your expertise to our newsletter. The editor will help you get your article ready if need be. Deadline is one week after our club meeting.

**OTHER WOODTURNING CLUBS:** You may use materials in this newsletter for the benefit of other turners. Please credit Silicon Valley Woodturners and the newsletter month and year for any material you use, and mention our web site: [www.svwoodturners.org](http://www.svwoodturners.org). Note that if we've flagged an article as having been reprinted from another source with permission, you must secure that same permission in order to use that material.

### Volunteer Instructors / Mentors

The turners below have graciously offered to open their shops to help members who want to learn to sharpen, try something new, or master a technique that just doesn't seem to be working. We all love to share. You just have to ask. Willing to help? Contact Mike Lanahan to join this list.

**Gordon Patnude,** [gppatnude@comcast.net](mailto:gppatnude@comcast.net), (408) 267-6789 Pen Turning

**Jim Gott,** [igtimp@aol.com](mailto:igtimp@aol.com), (408) 265-9501 sharpening, design, natural edge bowls, boxes, goblets, tool control, you name it. Anything but segmenting.

**Mike Lanahan,** [lanahan.mike@gmail.com](mailto:lanahan.mike@gmail.com), (408) 926-9330 Pepper Mills, Segmented, and Shaving or Makeup Brushes.

**Dennis Lillis,** [denjlillis@gmail.com](mailto:denjlillis@gmail.com), (408) 353-3821 Hollowing, sharpening, and coring



Ironmen are those who successfully complete all 12 President's Challenge projects for the year. Those who meet the challenge are awarded coveted and distinctive IRONMAN name badges. A blue bar in the accompanying chart means that person has completed the project for the month indicated. You needn't be a great turner, you just need to participate. Make something in our Challenge theme and bring it to the next meeting.

## Editor's Note

If I've somehow overlooked your President's Challenge entry, send me an e-mail at [bob.gerenser@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bob.gerenser@sbcglobal.net)

President's Challenge 2016	January Spindle	February Bowl	March Lidded Turning	April: Goblet	May Natural Edge	June Toy/Top	July Plate/Platter	August Hollow Form	September Craft Item	October Artsy	November: Ornament	December Favorite	Picnic: Redwood Challenge
Alias, Johnny													
Baulsbaugh, Steven													
Bley, Bob													
Bonnett, Don													
Brown, David													
Donovan, Jim													
Gallis, Jerry													
Gerenser, Bob													
Gott, Jim													
Havens, Brian													
Jones, Barb													
Keogh, Gary													
Koenig, Mark													
Kreug, Glenn													
Lanahan, Mike													
Landon, Scott													
Lillis, Dennis													
Mackenzie, Colin													
Martinka, Joe													
Moody, Marcus													
Patnude, Gordon													
Peck, Greg													
Rygaard, Paul													
Schmida, Tom													
Sealy, Ard													
Thomas, Larry													
West, Milton													
Westfall, Dick													
Whittier, John													
Wittrock, Oscar													
Zavala, Pete													

## To All Ironpeople Participants

This is your last chance this year to check your posted status for accuracy. If I have omitted a challenge you have completed please let me know at: [bob.gerenser@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bob.gerenser@sbcglobal.net) and I will consider correcting the omission.

## IRONMAN Rules

- There are twelve challenges listed for the year and in order to qualify for Ironman you must show, by the end of the year, that you have completed all twelve challenges.
- Challenge entries should be shown at the meeting corresponding to the challenge schedule.



# FOR SALE

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## Join Silicon Valley Woodturners

Want to join a great group of turning enthusiasts in an atmosphere of sharing and camaraderie? Become a member of Silicon Valley Woodturners. We meet on the **First** Wednesday of each month. See page 2 for details. Drop in at any meeting and check things out. To join, contact John Whittier (see contact list), or just complete the application form below and mail with check to Grant. Learn more about our club on the web at [www.svwoodturners.org](http://www.svwoodturners.org).

### Silicon Valley Woodturners Membership Application

Please print and mail with a check payable to SVW for \$35\* individual (\$45\* family) to:  
Paul Rygard, 255 Prince St. Los Gatos, CA 95032

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone(s): home: \_\_\_\_\_ mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Lathe(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Current Member of AAW? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Member-ship*	Renewal	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter April - June	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter July - Sept.	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Oct. - Dec.
Individual	\$35	\$25	\$20	\$10
Family	\$45	\$35	\$30	\$15

