



CHIPS & Chatter

AAW award-winning newsletter!

WWW.SVWOODTURNERS.ORG

THE SILICON VALLEY WOODTURNERS

COMING UP!

Meeting
Regular meeting
October 5th.

The Woodworking
Show at San Mateo
Expo Center, Octo-
ber 28-30th.



Sept., 2005 INSIDE

Feature Story	1
Pres Sez	2
Turning Out	3
Club Notes	7
Contact Us	7
Guest Artist	8
Profile	11
Shows	12
Out and About	13
Staff Reports	14
Calendar	15
For Sale	15
Ironman	16

September's meeting was all about finishing, and four members presented their individual approaches.

Tony Bryhan led the evening's presentation with a discussion of sanding. He emphasized the importance of using sharp sandpaper, like sharp tools, to cut fibers without smearing them. He showed a

fruitwood bowl that he'd sanded to #1000 and finished with tung oil. Because the sandpaper was new and sharp, there's clarity and depth to the finish.

Tony uses nonwoven abrasive ("Scotchbrite") disks for finishing carved pieces that don't have flat surfaces. He showed a carved walnut bowl as an example,

Go to page 5



This month's Challenge:

Deliberately Altered—hmm. What does he mean by that? Got any ideas yet? I've got one I would like to share.

I have just completed a bunch of craft shows including the H & G show. I sold a lot of inventory, to the point that I do not have enough for my next

show, less than two weeks away. So with that thought, I grabbed a few things so I could make more stuff when it was my turn at the lathe. Best plans just don't seem to work out sometimes. I broke out my turning stuff and chucked a piece of wood on the lathe, just as a man and his daughter looked through our safety glass. Big eyes, amazement and looks of discovery! "What are you doing?" she asked. Dad jumped

in of course and said "This is a lathe and he is going to make something out of wood". There was not any room for me to get in this conversation so I finished getting ready to turn.

I roughed the wood to a cylinder, then grabbed the next tool and put a point on the little block. Now the EYES ARE REALLY HUGE with amazement watching this transformation. Next I went to the other side of the point and removed some more wood. Sneaking a look at the little girl I could see I really had a captive audience. I broke out the chatter tool and altered both sides of the point on this little block. Lookin' up, I see a bunch of people out there. But the little girl is at front row center and is not going to move.

I finished shaping and cleaned up my cuts, then turned off the lathe and grabbed my colored felt pens. I asked the girl to pick out five different colors. I used them to color the finger top I just made. You would have thought I had created a miracle.

I parted off the top and gave it a spin on the bench. The oh's and ah's just made my day, and I handed the top to the little girl.

This was one "Deliberately Altered" piece that was worth "my" weight in gold.

Look at Dad and his daughter

For me, this sharing makes it all worthwhile.

So what "Deliberately Altered" project are you going to do?



Next month...

Join us Wednesday, October 5th at 7 P.M., for our next meeting at Rich Johnson's Woodturning Center in San Jose.

Rich's Center is located behind his home at 14979 Joanne Ave., San Jose. From Hwy. 680, take the McKee Road exit East about 1.5 miles to Toyon Ave. Turn left and go 0.6 mile, turn right onto Joanne Ave.

Bring your chair and items for Show and Tell. We all learn together.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE: DELIBERATELY ALTERED

Rich

President's Challenge and Show & Tell



WITH HANDLE

Phil Roybal brought in a pair of narra salad servers finished with Mahoney's walnut oil, and an ultra-narrow, mahogany-handled chisel finished with Minwax Antique Oil.

Craig Thorson showed a magnifying glass and two letter openers for which he'd turned walnut handles finished with Hut wax.

Dick Pickering presented a marking knife for which he'd made an oak handle with copper ferrules. The handle was dyed with spirit dyes and finished with Deft.

Steve Rosenthal showed off a mallet of oak and (maybe) cherry, finished with Wipe-on Poly.

Steve Dahout brought in a brick hammer for which he'd made a firewood handle, turned on three axes and finished with tung oil.

Ard Sealy turned a handle for a pepper mill out of black oak. He finished it with 50% Deft.



Clockwise from top left: Phil Roybal, Steve Rosenthal, Steve Dahout, Ard Sealy, Dick Pickering, and Craig Thorson.

Continued on page 4.

Challenge continued from page 3.



Michael Wiley turned a hard maple handle for a P&N roughing gouge.

Jim Gott turned a handle for his favorite ice cream scoop. It was rosewood with a copper ferrule, finished with poly.

Rich Parfitt brought in a small drum beater of cocobolo, which he finished with wax.

Al Gore showed off a chalice of pepperwood, finished with Arboroil.

Rich Johnson made a small mallet of pink ivory, as well as a collection of honey dippers. He also showed a handful of small tops.

Mike Rude made a collection of yarn winding sticks in a variety of woods, but sold them before the meeting so we have a picture of the products but not of him with them.

Show & Tell continued on pg. 10.



Clockwise from top left: Michael Wiley, Rick Parfitt, Al Gore, Rich Johnson, Mike Rude's yarn winding sticks, and Jim Gott.





Left to right: Tony Bryhan shows his high-torque sanding head, Rich Johnson applies a wipe-on lacquer, Mike Rude applies friction polish to a spindle.

replete with knobs and bumps that a flat sanding disk would have taken off.

Tony doesn't polish on a lathe. He uses a 5000 RPM, high torque, "L" model Foredom rotary tool with a 2" sanding pad holding 5" disks. This allows him to sand at low speed with a lot of control. The large disk effectively softens the edge of the sanding surface to minimize dig ins. As he sands, he looks at the orientation of the marks he wants to remove, and applies the disk so its scratch marks are perpendicular to the ones he wants to remove. He also uses smaller disks, cutting their edges so they'll tuck around the sanding pad and follow inside curves. Use a light touch and let the sandpaper do the work.

Keep the sandpaper clean. Tony cleans his disks with a crepe stick, and he uses Abranet pads which he can clean with detergent when they load up. He particularly likes the Fein vacuum sander for pulling the dust out of the pads before they load up. He also uses foam backing pads to soften the disk surfaces so they're less likely to load up with soft finishes.

Tony uses Lee Valley Tung Oil sealer (low viscosity) as his primary finish. It hardens to a low gloss, powders when he sands it (for easy repair), and is durable.

Rich Johnson took the stage next to talk about using wipe-on Deft Lacquer Sanding Sealer and Deft Clear Gloss Wood Finish.

Rich's applicator is a 100% cotton, white tee-shirt. Other materials don't work. He finish sands a piece, cleans it, and mounts it on the lathe. He has sanding sealer ready in a plastic squeeze bottle. He pours some onto the bowl, then wipes it onto the piece, getting all the way around the bowl before the coat dries. He tries not to touch the bowl during this process, but turns it by the headstock handle. As soon as he gets a coat over the whole piece, he turns on the lathe and burnishes it with the tee shirt, which dries it. He repeats the process until there are no dry spots or streaks.

Rich's next step is to apply Deft Clear Wood Finish, cut 50% with lacquer thinner. Rich repeats the above process with this mixture. He applies one or two coats and burnishes after each coat.

Once the coats are dried, Rich might buff the piece with Tripoli and wax if he wants a glossy coat. The resulting finish is quick, resists water, and is repairable.

Rich passed out sample cans of Deft for everyone who wanted to try it, along with marketing flyers on the

product. He feels that once the finish is dry, it's food safe. He's seen some of his pieces used as salad bowls for several years and the finish has held up.

Mike Rude took over next to demonstrate friction polish. He mounted a walnut spindle on the lathe and set out Hut wax, Mylands High Build Friction Polish, Behlen's Master Woodturner Finish, Shellawax, and U Beaut Polishes' EEE Ultra Shine.

He began with a demo of Hut wax, rubbing a coat of the abrasive-filled wax onto a portion of his spindle as it spun at the fastest speed of which the lathe was capable. He held a rag against it, applying a lot of pressure to generate heat and brought up a shine on the piece. He works the rag over it until he no longer sees a change in the surface as he goes. Then he repeats the process with a Hut finishing stick (which has finer abrasive). This left a finer polish. Finally he applies a Hut wax stick with no abrasive, and repeats the process the third time. The result is a thin, glossy finish, typical of the finish seen on pens.

Mike's next demo uses EEE-Ultra Shine, applied to two sections of the spindle. He applies it with a paper towel, then buffs it with a rag. It gives a slightly darker color than the Hut products. Then he applies Shellawax Cream over the Ultra Shine with a paper towel and buffs it at speed with

Continued on page 6.

a rag. He runs the rag back and forth until he no longer sees lines forming as the piece spins. The finish looks mellower than the Hut because it penetrates better.

Mike finishes his part of the demo with Mylands High Build Friction Polish, using the same technique as above. At the end, all the finishes looked similar and provided good fingerprint protection. The finishes are easily repairable by applying another coat of the same material.

These finishes are quick and very good for work which can be spun fast enough to generate the necessary buffing heat.

Phil Roybal wrapped up the evening with a discussion of oil finishes. He explained that pure oils, Danish oils, and varnishes are all drying oils plus varying percentages of resins. He showed pictures of oils that range from almost clear to deep amber, and



Phil Roybal talks about Danish oils.

color the wood accordingly; then he distributed a handout that gave colors, surface protection factors, penetration, and other facts about dozens of oils. There's a copy of the handout in the Files section of our Yahoo site.

Phil demonstrated his finishing approach, which is to flood the wood with oil, wipe it dry, and let it polymerize for a day. Then he wet sands in a second coat of oil with #400 sandpaper, wipes it off, and waits a day. Finally he repeats the process with #600 sandpaper. The process is slow, but leaves a deep, lustrous finish that feels good.

Phil passed around a sample board that compared the appearance of six different oils, ranging from about \$7 to \$23/qt. He also showed a sample that compared the appearance and sheen of a Danish oil with a spray lacquer. Finally, he showed a birdseye maple sample that compared the appearance of oil finishes with and without a dye stain to enhance the grain.

Phil's used Watco Danish Oil for decades, but now is favoring the new Minwax Wipe On Poly, which was also the top pic of Chris Minick in his recent Fine Woodworking article.



Pear bowl, turned by Rich Johnson and decorated by his sister-in-law.

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 smaller 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 here.

Please volunteer to Rich Johnson and help make our activities happen.

Sharing Knowledge

MEMBERS: Please contribute your expertise to our newsletter. The editor will help you get your article ready if need be. Deadline is the 12th of the month.

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. 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

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 Phil Roybal to join this list.

Rich Dege	(408) 272-8122
Jim Gott	(408) 265-9501
Rich Johnson	(408) 254-8485
Phil Roybal	(408) 255-4789

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 Rich Johnson (see listing at the right).

Learn more about our club on the web at www.svwoodturners.org.



SVW Contacts

President

Rich Johnson (408) 254-8485
latheart@pacbell.net

V.P./Program Chair

Ayman Sayed ((408) 623-6961
asayed@cisco.com

Treasurer

Craig Thorson (650) 341-7550
RPS@wwdb.org

Secretary/Editor

Phil Roybal (408) 255-4789
prmguard-svweditor@yahoo.com

Sunshine Chairs

Lloyd & Becky Frisbee
408 978-6219
bigguy95124@yahoo.com (Lloyd)
lfrisbee@pacbell.net (Becky)

Photographer

Jim Gott (408) 265-9501
jgtimp@aol.com

Apparel

Bob Bowers (408) 972-1684
rbbwrs1@cs.com

Ways & Means

Steve Dahout (408) 981-6183
sdahout@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Steve Rosenthal (408) 923-6562
sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net

Librarian

Al Gore (650) 254-1173
allan_gore@peoplesoft.com

GUEST ARTIST

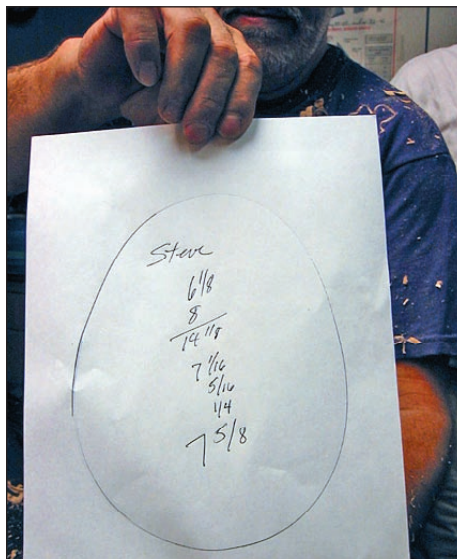


JOHANNES MICHALSEN

Renowned hat turner Johannes Michalsen spent an August day demonstrating his technique to club members and others in Tony Bryant's shop. One lucky attendee walked out with a new hat.

We began with a drawing to determine who would get the hat Johannes was to turn, as it is made to size. Steve Rosenthal won the draw and sat in the hot seat as Johannes measured his head. Then Johannes faceplate mounted a large chunk of green wood on Tony's VB-36 lathe and turned the outside of one of his "Range Rider" hats, leaving a very thick pad at what would be the crown of the hat.

With the outside turned and sanded, Johannes mounted the blank onto a second faceplate at the thick crown, and, inch by inch, hollowed and thinned the hat. He positioned a lamp behind the area he was working on, and achieved the right thickness



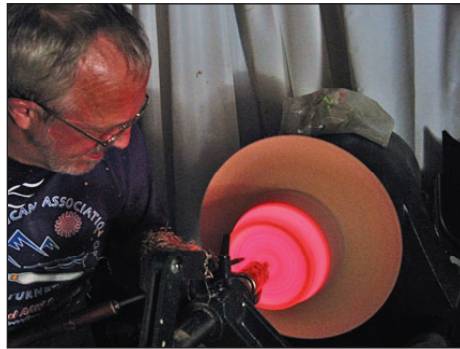
Clockwise from top left: Johannes talks about hat design, turning the outside of the hat, turning the brim to final thickness, turning the walls of the hat, beginning to turn the underside of the brim, and the measurements of Steve's head that launched the demo.

Continued on page 9.

by turning away wood until he saw an even glow of light through the walls.



Once Johannes had finished and sanded the inside of the hat, he removed it from the lathe and fed a lamp on a long tube through the headstock. He positioned the lamp inside a jam chuck and carefully remounted the hat on the lathe, holding it in place with the tailstock. Then he turned away the thick crown, again using the glow



of the lamp to determine the correct crown thickness. He also colored the "hat band", pressing sticks of ebony and padauk against the spinning wood to transfer red and black bands to the hat.

Finally, Johannes removed the hat from the lathe and clamped it into a shaping fixture he's designed, which develops the oblong interior profile and compound curved brim that characterize this style of hat. As the hat dried over the next day, it gradually assumed the intended shape.

Thanks to Johannes for a great demo, to Tony and his wife, Nayla, for their hospitality, and to Ayman Sayed for organizing the event.



Clockwise from top left: the lamp inside the jam chuck, turning the crown to thickness, shaping the hat in the drying stand, the hat on its proud owner, power sanding the crown, and the hat held in place on the jam chuck.

Show and Tell

Jim Gott showed a natural edged bowl of red bark eucalyptus, finished with 50% Deft.

Steve Dahout made a foot roller of laminated maple with vacuum cleaner drive belts as tires.

Steve Rosenthal brought in a small bowl of walnut, finished with poly.

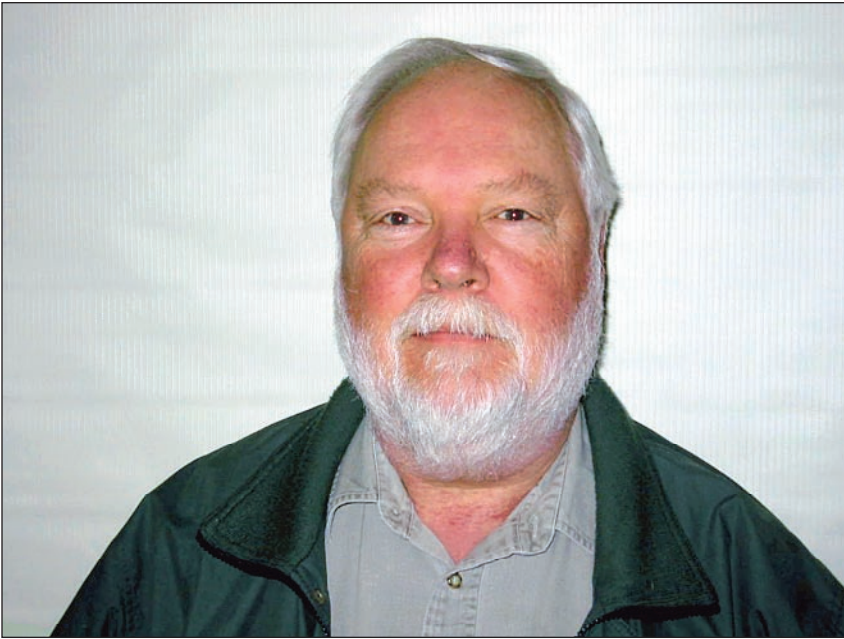
Herb Green presented a hollow form of maple, which Tony Bryhan had finished with tung oil.

Rich Johnson turned a small vase of manzanita, finished with sanding sealer. He showed a lamp he'd turned, which his sister-in-law decorated with a tree design in wood putty. He also showed a couple of other bowls which she'd decorated in similar fashion.

Clockwise from top left: Jim Gott, Herb Green, Rich Johnson, Steve Rosenthal, and Steve Dahout.



Red bark eucalyptus bowl by Jim Gott.



Herb Green (Member since 2002)

Since moving to California in 1972, I have been employed by several electronic companies. I was the engineering manager at Commodore when the Commodore Pet was in its heyday. I designed two PC cards for Apple which made their product able to run PC software. I designed a memory card for Apple's first portable which allowed people to quadruple their memory size. I was in charge of a small engineering group developing the Divx DVD players for Circuit City. There were several opportunities that ALMOST made me rich, but no cigar.

Q. What lathe do you use?

A. *I use a General 20" lathe with an 1 1/4"-8 spindle.*

Q. What do you like to turn?

A. *I like to turn hollow forms, bowls, and urns.*

Q. What is your favorite wood?

A. *My favorite wood is redwood burl.*

Q. What are your favorite tools?

A. *I like a 5/8", deep-fluted bowl gouge.*

Q. What finishes do you use?

A. *I primarily use Varathane's #66 clear oil.*

Q. How long have you been turning?

A. *I've been turning about 16 years.*

Q. What got you started in turning?

A. *I think I got interested when I saw a demo by John Jordan at a wood-working show.*

Q. Who has influenced your turning style?

A. *Various videos from the club library, as well as demos I've seen at the Utah Symposium, have shaped my style.*

Q. What would you change about the club to improve it?

A. *I'd like it if we could come up with projects that more members would participate in.*

Q. What would you like to learn?

A. *I'd like to learn more about segmented turning and surface texturing.*

Q. What would you like to see as demo subjects?

A. *I'd like to see demos on surface decorations such as texturing.*

Q. What other hobbies or interests do you have?

A. *My other interests are fishing and my four grandchildren.*

Editor's Note

If you'd like to be featured in PROFILE, fill out the questionnaire on our Yahoo site and return it to Lloyd Frisbee.



Great Home & Garden Show!

Rich Johnson

It has been quite a while since we have done this well selling our woodturnings. The Santa Clara Home and Garden Show was very successful. We even had returning customers!

I was busy with another show in Napa on Saturday so I could only participate in this show on Sunday. I arrived about noon and put a few pieces out. Within a few minutes a couple pieces SOLD! I put out more. A piece of Mikey's sold then 3 of Mike Rude's sold. Then I sold one of Steve's! By now it was time for a shift change and Mikey had to go home, so I filled in the blanks in the display with more of my items. I had the shift with Ayman and let him turn. He was having fun anyway so I tried to watch. WRONG!!

While he was busy at the lathe, one of my returning customers showed up. She and her husband purchased more pieces from us for their special collection. Then it was a feeding frenzy! I sold a bunch of items to one guy; "I'll have one of these and I'll take that, and my son wants the little hats and I'll take that too..."

I have done every Home and Garden Show and have never seen any-



thing quite like this Sunday afternoon. In just a few hours on the late shift we took in almost \$1000 with more than 15 pieces sold. "Wow!" does not cover it. I wish everyone could have seen this. I know these words do not cover it at all.

When is the NEXT ONE?



Clockwise from top left: Ace Foster takes a turn at the demo lathe, visitors look over the offerings as our banner hangs in the background, display tables laden with turnings, and Becky Frisbee arranges turnings on the aisle end of our display table.

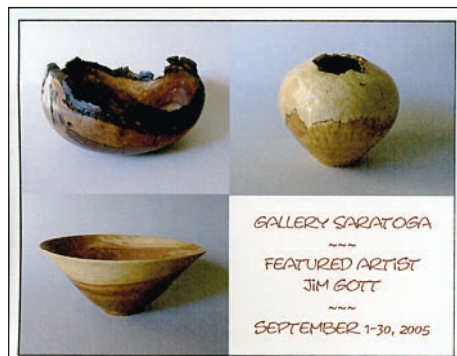
OUT AND ABOUT



Jim Gott is the featured artist this month at Gallery Saratoga, on Big Basin Way in the Saratoga Village. He was at the gallery to talk to visitors at an Artist's Reception on September 10th.

Jim's worked hard these past months to build inventory for the show. He has sold several pieces since his show opened at the beginning of the month, including one to a woman who now has 18 of his turnings! (Could there be turning groupies?)

Drop by the gallery this month if you can and see what's happening. You'll find it at 14435A Big Basin Way in Saratoga. It's open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 to 6.



STAFF REPORTS

RICH JOHNSON (PRESIDENT)

The next Home & Garden Show is in Santa Clara, Jan 20–22, 2006. San Mateo followed on Feb 24–26. There will be one in May 5–7 at San Jose.

We will have a booth in the Woodworking Show in San Mateo.

AAW's "Step up to the Plate" juried and invitational exhibit is set for Louisville, KY in June, 2006.

CRAIG THORSON (TREASURER)

INCOME

Raffle	\$23
Library	\$9
Michalsen Demo	\$450

EXPENSES

August demo	\$50
Picnic supplies	\$43.87
Picnic wood	\$59.27
Michalsen fee	\$750
Anchor Seal	\$16.23

SPENDABLE BAL.	\$779.76
----------------	----------

Save yoru Woodcraft receipts for Craig, who can use them to earn discounts for the club.

DICK PICKERING (APPAREL)

We have hats and patches, as well as iron on transfers. See Dick. Be sure to wear your SVW insignia when you work the Home and Garden Show.

AL GORE (LIBRARIAN)

Al's put a videotape organizer in the closet, along with an up to date list of library items. He's also posted a sheet describing the lending procedures. Rental period is one month, and the rental fee is \$2. You rent by finding the item you want, filling your name in on the checkout card for that item, and putting the card (and the money, if Al's not available), in the wooden box in the library. When you return an item, mark your name off the card, return the card and the rental litem to their place on the shelf. If you keep an item longer than one month, you own \$2 for each month you have the item. If you damage the item, you owe replacement costs for books, and \$15 for tapes or DVDs.

PHIL ROYBAL (SEC'Y/EDITOR)

We've got a new roster available in the Files/Member Info section of our Yahoo group site.

STEVE DAHOUT (WAYS & MEANS)

Steve put together an order for exotic woods from members who were interested in participating.

Other Business

The annual Holiday Party and Stealing Gift Exchange is set for Saturday, December 10th, starting at 6 PM. It will be at the Johnsons' house. It will be a pot luck with the club supplying the main dish. Sign up for side dishes or desserts in the DATABASE section of our Yahoo group site.



Walnut bowl by Steve Rosenthal


FOR SALE

Andi Wolfe style scrapers

*...a joy to use.
I love it!*
Ayman Sayed

1" A2 blades, steel shafts, walnut handles, immaculate finish, honed and ready to use. \$45
Round A2 blades \$15


Phil Roybal
408 255-4789
proybal@pacbell.net



Even Roy wants to know...
How did you do that?

Rich Johnson's
Woodturners' Boot Camp
Learn the basics, from chainsaw to polish. An all day class. Book available. Sign up now. (408) 254-8485.

Affordable Elegance Custom Embroidery



Deborah Bress

TEL: 408/243-6363
FAX: 408/244-0307
affordableelegance@netzero.net

FOR SALE

Sand Blast Cabinet complete with sand and gun	\$125
Jet AFS 1500 DUST Collector (Room Air Filter)	\$300
Tool Rest set 1" posts	\$100
Tool Rest set 5/8" posts	\$80

Contact Rich Johnson, 408 254-8485, or email to
latheart@pacbell.net

CALENDAR

September

17TH–18TH

Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium, Lowland, CO. www.rmwoodturningsymposium.com.

OCTOBER

5TH

Regular club meeting.

28TH–30TH

The Woodworking Show at San Mateo Expo Center.

November

2ND

Regular club meeting.

12TH

All-day demo by Chris Stott at Rich Johnson's Woodturning Center.

December

7TH

Regular club meeting.

10TH

Annual Holiday Party pot luck and gift exchange at Rich Johnson's Woodturning Center.

Ironmen are those who complete all 12 President's Challenge projects for 2005. Those who meet the challenge are awarded distinctive IRONMAN name badges.

A green bar in the chart below means that a person has completed the

President's Challenge project for the month indicated.

If you've missed a challenge this year, it's not too late to get in the game. Bring your make up piece to the next meeting and get credit for participating.

Editor's Note

If I've overlooked your President's Challenge entry somehow, email Phil at prmguard-svweditor@yahoo.com.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Bob Bowers												
Steven Dahout												
Tom Donnelly												
Ace Foster												
Lloyd Frisbee												
Rebecca Frisbee												
Al Gore												
Jim Gott												
Herb Green												
Rich Johnson												
Harry Levin												
Rick Parfitt												
Gary Petretti												
Dick Pickering												
Mike Pogue												
Steve Rosenthal												
Phil Roybal												
Mike Rude												
Robert Sakauye												
Ayman Sayed												
Ard Sealy												
Craig Thorson												
Michael Wiley												

**You don't have to be a great turner to join the fun.
Make something in our Challenge theme and bring
it to the next meeting.**

Upcoming President's Challenges include:

October Deliberately Altered
November Serving (hint...utilitarian)
December Gift