



CHIPS & Chatter

AAW award-winning newsletter!

WWW.SVWOODTURNERS.ORG

THE SILICON VALLEY WOODTURNERS

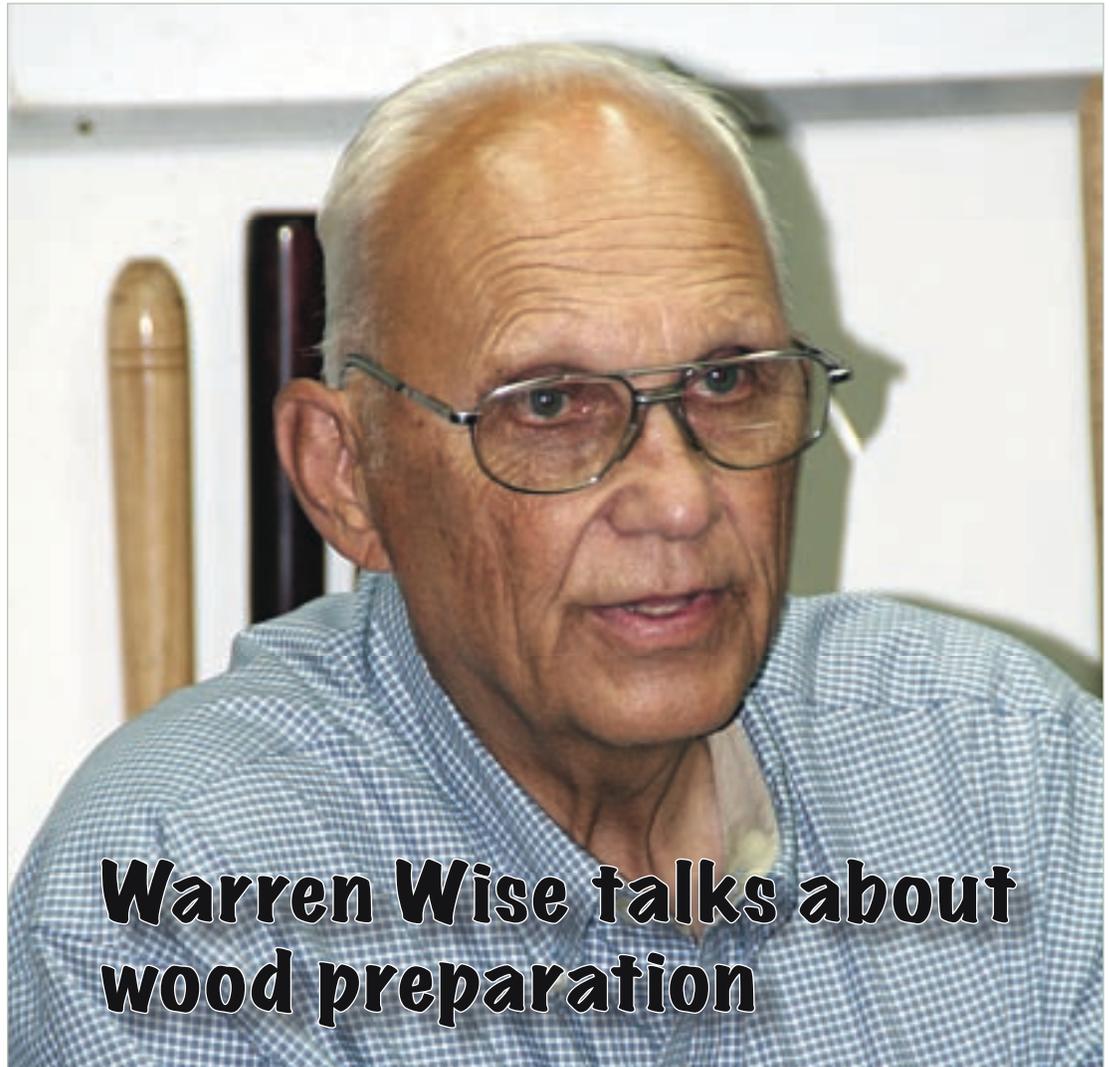
COMING UP!

Monthly Meeting:
September 6th

Santa Clara Home &
Garden Show
September 8-10th

Stuart Batty demo
September 10th

Rocky Mountain
Woodturning Sym-
posium
September 16 & 17



Warren Wise talks about wood preparation

August, 2006 INSIDE

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Warren “The Woodsman” Wise from Stockton came to talk to us about selecting and preparing wood. Warren made his living for many years by milling and selling stock for turning and cabinet making. He’s winding down his business now, and shared with us some of the things he’s learned about selecting and drying wood.

Burls and quilts

Most of us love burls for their amazing figure. What makes a burl? The “suckers”

you see emerging from the trunks of trees are the ends of medullary rays: potential limbs. A million of these rays might show in a typical cross-section, but normally only one grows out at a time from a trunk section. If the tree directs many adjacent rays to grow, burl appears. Warren can recognize a burl by the sharp points all those rays leave on the surface, under the bark, as well as by the bulbous shape of the bark-covered growth area.

It’s not enough to locate the growth, how-

Go to page 6



Our ^{next} Home and Garden Show, at Santa Clara Convention Center, is only weeks away. I have the paperwork and some free tickets as well as "\$1 off" tickets. The club usually gets a 10' x 20' booth. We go to share woodturning and show the public what it's all about.

We demonstrate with our mini Jet lathe during all show hours. This is a great opportunity to pass out club fliers.

All members are welcome to join us. Not only do we get to turn, but we can sell our turnings. If you would like to sell turnings, or turn on the club lathe, or even just like to join us for this event, please put your name on the sign-up sheet on my door by my bandsaw.

Our booth needs three members for each shift, wearing club colors. (No colors no staffing! A shirt with a club patch works great.) One person mans the sales table, handling

paperwork and packaging. One is a floater, responsible for sales and talking with the public. The third turns at the lathe, turning whatever (s)he wants. Each hour, people rotate to different jobs. Everyone gets a chance at all three positions. A book of knowledge at the booth to explain how to make a sale and handle other important tasks. This just amounts to keeping track of who sold what, but it is very important. The turning artist gets a copy of the sales paperwork and a check a few days after the show. Michelle goes through the paperwork and monies to figure out who gets what.

Our booth is given to us in exchange for demonstration and donations. At the end of the show, the last shift gathers a turning from each of the selling artists for the show manager. We usually put in pieces that range from \$35–\$50. Artists designate which pieces they want to donate. If they don't, the last shift makes that decision for them. This is a very small cost for the opportunity to sell our art.

The H & G show is a great place to meet people and share woodturning. It is really fun to see their faces when you explain where a bowl comes from.

Sign up and join us.

We also have a demo scheduled on Sunday, 9/11, with Stewart Batty. This will be a great demo. There are 30 seats available. I strongly suggest going to that demo if you can.

We have a conflict!! I cannot close or staff the H & G Show on Sunday as I usually do because of the demo. Therefore, we need help. The Show shifts for Sunday are 10–2 and 2–6. Closing is at six. Our booth needs to be closed down, packed, and brought back to my shop on Sunday. Let me know if you can help.

Rich

Next month...

Join us Wednesday, September 6th, at 7 P.M., for a demonstration of pen turning, 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: WITH LID

President's Challenge and Show & Tell



HOLLOWED

Rich Johnson showed a small hollow form of silver maple with a natural edge. He also showed a tiny piece of olive, a larger piece of juniper, and a large piece of cottonwood which he decorated by burning.

Steve Rosenthal brought a pine vase and a couple tiny hollow forms, one of pine and the other of mystery wood. He finished all with Wipe-On Poly.

Bob Bowers brought a small hollowed spindle of mystery wood. He also brought a pocket watch case on a pendant chain as a makeup for last month's Challenge.

Rick Parfitt made a rattle of walnut with beads inside, and a handle of mystery wood.

Mike Rude turned a Canary Island pine vase, finished with 50% Deft.

Ard Sealy turned a tiny piece of bottlebrush into a vase, and finished it with 50% Deft.

John Overmire presented a segmented turning made from a Craft Supply kit. It included walnut, bubinga, bloodwood, maple, and was finished with Armor-Seal.

Dave Feind turned an ash hollow form which he left unfinished.

Clockwise from top left: Rich Johnson, Mike Rude, Ard Sealy, John Overmire, Dave Feind, Rick Parfitt, Bob Bowers, and Steve Rosenthal.



Continued on page 4.

Challenge continued from page 3.



Barbara Jones made a little vase of blue acrylic.

Ayman Sayed brought a natural edged bowl of beefwood, finished with lacquer.

Herb Green brought two hollow forms of maple burl. One, in the shape of a bottle, was dyed and had holes filled with epoxy. The second piece was shaped as a small vase. Both were finished with Krylon clear spray.

Michael Wiley brought a small hollow form of redwood, finished with lacquer.

Harry Levin made a vase of redwood burl with a blackwood collar adorned with chatterwork. It's finished with spray lacquer.

Jim Gott turned a natural edged form of pepper tree, finished with lacquer and Scotchguard.

Becky Frisbee created a small hollow form of fruitless mulberry, with an amboyna burl collar. It's finished with CrystalCoat.

Lloyd Frisbee made a tiny hollow form of the same mulberry, finished with 50% Deft.

Continued on next page.

Clockwise from top left: Barbara Jones, Harry Levin, Jim Gott, Becky Frisbee, Lloyd Frisbee, Michael Wiley, Herb Green, and Ayman Sayed.





Dick Pickering turned a vase of silver maple, finished with 50%

Visitor Pascal Oudet turned a tiny form of chestnut, finished with liming wax.

Phil Roybal turned a vase of mystery wood, finished with Wipe-On Poly and decorated with a Turk's Head knot collar.

Mike Rude and Harry Levin won the President's Challenge raffle.



Show and Tell

Becky Frisbee turned a lidded box of mulberry, with a slip fit lid. She finished it with CrystalCoat.

Michael Wiley turned red oak handles for three new hollowing tools.

Ayman Sayed brought a series of bowls which he's preparing for the Tapestry show. One was of claro walnut, and several were of black acacia, the largest being 17 inches in diameter. All are finished with oil.

Tony Bryhan brought in a couple bowls, both of carob. The larger was finished with Scotchguard and the smaller with tung oil. He also showed off his Fein 8" sander, modified to drive a flex shaft for sanding.

Bill Daniels blew up a tiny hollow form of birch. He brought in half of it.

Mike Rude showed an Airmate filtered air helmet battery that he'd rebuilt.

Steve Rosenthal showed a pine vase, finished with tung oil.



Clockwise, from top left: Dick Pickering, Michael Wiley, Ayman Sayed, Tony Bryhan, Bill Daniels, Steve Rosenthal, Becky Frisbee, Phil Roybal, and Pascal Oudet.

Continued from page 1

ever. You have to cut it properly to get the best figure. If you cut into the burl across the tree trunk, you see the medullary rays. If you cut along the trunk, as if you were shaving the burl off the tree, you'll get the traditional burl figure. Commercial veneer makers boil the trunk containing the burl, then chuck it in a veneer mill and slice off sheets with that familiar burl figure.

Warren showed quilted boards of Douglas fir, maple, and redwood. One had a bit of bark left. You could recognize that the wood was quilted by the soft, wrinkled appearance of the skin; but this didn't show through the bark, so he had to peel the log to find it. He



Top to bottom: Burl cut across the trunk shows medullary rays. Trunk section with a buried ring of nails.

also showed us a piece of walnut with a basketwork figure, the grain reversing in rectangular patterns along the length and width of the board.

Milling

Warren often mills backyard trees, and these may have embedded nails, bullets, and other metal. During World War II, when zinc was hard to get but galvanized nails were available, farmers sometimes drove the nails into trees that were deficient in zinc. The trees grew around the nails, which waited like time bombs inside the wood for a saw blade to come slicing. Working such wood, Warren slabs the trees with a WoodMizer mill, and encounters about 60 pounds of metal during a year's milling. When he first got his saw mill, he started eyeing every tree he saw. He learned "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's tree".

Drying

Warren tries to dry his wood to 10% moisture content before offering it for sale. But this process is fraught with perils. For one thing, successful drying is species dependent. Woods such as olive grow with physical structures that are naturally prone to cracking. Valley oak, a tree that grows straight and seems full of promise, is often hollow and full of water. It checks badly during drying.

Wood with heavy medullary rays radiating out from the pith tends to split along those rays as they dry. He showed us two pieces of wild cherry. One, left to air dry, split along the rays so badly as to be unusable. He'd cut the second piece from the same tree in half through the pith, and wound up with two useful pieces of lumber. The drying shrinkage had pulled the cut surfaces apart, but the cutting relieved

enough stress that the rest of the wood stayed sound.

When drying your own wood, assume 1"/year of drying rate. However, the time compounds with thicker pieces, and the rate of compounding is different for different species. A 5"



Top: Quilted board with a bit of bark left. The figure is not evident through the bark.

Bottom: a rare checkerboard figure in a piece of walnut.

piece might take 11-15 years to dry on its own. You may be able to force the process, but drying wood quickly can build in stresses that cause the wood to warp and spring apart when cut. This is less of a problem for turners

Continued on next page.

CLUB PICNIC!

Members gathered by the pool at the Johnsons' house last month for SVW's annual Picnic/Instant Gallery. Attendance was lighter than in some previous years because several members had conflicts. Still, a congenial group relaxed beneath the blazing sun.

The Instant Gallery/Turning Contest is usually the high point of the event. This year there were some fine entries in nine different categories. First-, second-, and third-place ribbons were awarded. Additionally, Ayman Sayed took the "Best of Show" award for his lidded maple burl vessel.

You'll see several pictures of the picnic on this page. The winners of the Instant Gallery/Turning Contest appear on the next three pages.



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than for cabinetmakers who need flat wood to work with. Warren paints the end grain of his lumber with latex paint, which he feels does a better job of slowly passing moisture than the wax mixtures most turners use.

Warren uses a vacuum kiln for exotic woods. It holds a lot of wood at 9' x 8' x 40'. It's solar-powered, reaches

140° F, and takes 6 months to dry a typical load.

Warren's beginning to close down his business in Stockton. He will sell off his eleven truck trailers of wood, then the mill and other tools. If you're interested in some of his stock, this is probably a great opportunity.



Warren shows a trunk section which has split along medullary rays as it dried.

Picnic Turning Contest Winners

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
<i>Goblets</i>	 <p><i>Cherry Natural Edge Goblet</i> <i>Jim Gott</i></p>	 <p><i>Acrylic lime Green Goblet</i> <i>Herb Green</i></p>	 <p><i>Bubinga lidded goblet w.</i> <i>captive ring</i> <i>Ayman Sayed</i></p>
<i>Bowls</i>	 <p><i>Osage Bowl</i> <i>Josh Salesin</i></p>	 <p><i>Maple Bowl</i> <i>Ayman Sayed</i></p>	 <p><i>Redwood Burl Bowl</i> <i>Ayman Sayed</i></p>
<i>Plates and Platters</i>	 <p><i>Bloodwood w. lacquer finish</i> <i>Michael Wiley</i></p>	 <p><i>Beefwood w. lacquer</i> <i>Glen Vaughan</i></p>	 <p><i>Elm Plate w. tung oil</i> <i>Mike Rude</i></p>

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
<i>Segmented</i>			
	<p><i>Buckeye Burl with ebony segmented collar</i> <i>Ayman</i></p>		
<i>Craft Items</i>			
	<p><i>Mickey Mouse Nutcracker</i> <i>Dick Pickering</i></p>	<p><i>Pendent</i> <i>Rebecca Frisbee</i></p>	<p><i>Acrylic with Mica Pen</i> <i>Mike Rude</i></p>
<i>Natural Edges</i>			
	<p><i>Box Elder Burl</i> <i>Jim Gott</i></p>	<p><i>Beefwood</i> <i>Ayman Sayed</i></p>	<p><i>Redwood bowl set</i> <i>Mike Rude</i></p>

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
<i>Hollow Forms</i>	 <p><i>Walnut</i> <i>Jim Gott</i></p>	 <p><i>Amboyna Burl</i> <i>Lloyd Frisbee</i></p>	
<i>Spindle</i>	 <p><i>Olive Rolling Pin</i> <i>Rick Parfitt</i></p>	 <p><i>Magnifier</i> <i>Becky Frisbee</i></p>	 <p><i>Ebony Pen</i> <i>Mike Rude</i></p>
<i>Lidded</i>	 <p><i>Lidded Birdseye Maple w. Ebony Finial</i> <i>BEST OF SHOW</i> <i>Ayman Sayed</i></p>	 <p><i>Black Limba/ Cocobolo Box</i> <i>Rich Horton</i></p>	 <p><i>Cocobolo Box</i> <i>Becky Frisbee</i></p>

GUEST ARTIST



SOREN BERGER

New Zealand turner Soren Berger spent a day with us in July, demonstrating interesting turning techniques in a variety of areas. It was a blisteringly hot day, but he had nearly a full house.

Many of us try to accumulate a wide range of turning tools, but Soren recommends finding a gouge we like and getting three of them, each ground to a different angle, from 40–80°. Such a set of gouges can handle just about all combinations of walls and bottoms we encounter in bowl turning.

Soren likes turning wet wood, within 3 weeks of felling the tree. He dries his rough-turned pieces in cardboard boxes, then re-turns them. He pointed out that water primarily exits the blank at the end grain, so while

rough walls must be left thick enough to be turned true after drying, bottoms should be turned close to their final thickness from the start to minimized the stresses they impose on the walls.

Soren demonstrated his techniques for sphere turning, then turned a sphere and tenon into a small scoop. Next, he demonstrated hand-chasing threads, but applied them to 60° mating tapered surfaces. This approach has several advantages. First, both threads can be chased with a single, external chaser. Second, the tapered thread base doesn't require a relief groove (and a frantic retreat!) to keep the internal threads from hitting a shoulder inside the top. Third, a lid with tapered threads will lock or unlock within 1/4 turn. And finally,



Top: Soren completes the initial turning of a scoop and checks that the body is spherical with a small tube.

Middle: He grips the scoop in the chuck, then hollows the underside of the handle.

Bottom: He flips the scoop over, again grips in

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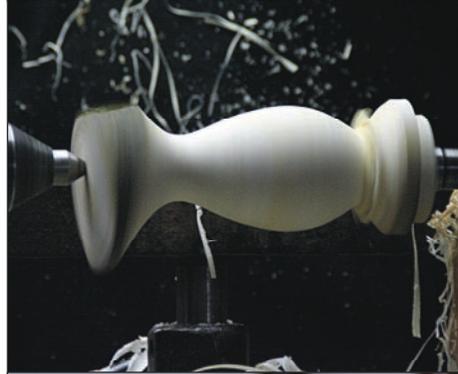
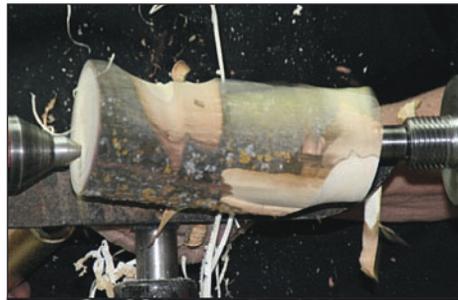
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tapered threads incorporate some long grain, so they are more durable than traditional threads, and can be cut into coarse-grained woods such as ash.

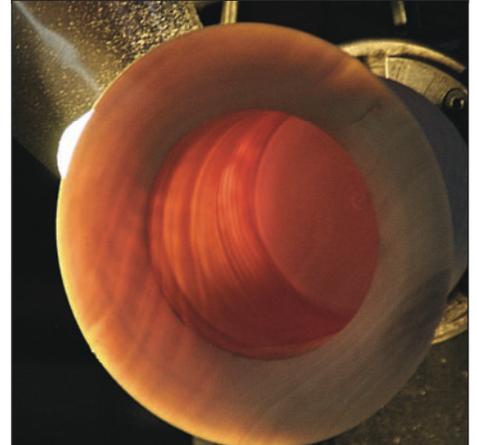
Soren's not a hand-thread purist, however. He showed us a prototype of a tool he's developed for sale that will allow us to machine threads into a turning. This tool will compete with the Klein threading tool, but it looks completely different from Klein's tool.

Soren finished up his demo day by turning a small hat, then taking questions on a variety of subjects.



Top to bottom: Soren hollows a bowl, the base of a taper-threaded shallow box, the base threaded onto the lid for finishing the bottom, and the final box.

Top to bottom: Mounting a branch for eccentric turning. Shaping the outside of a natural edge vase. Hollowing the interior of the vase.



Top to bottom: Turning the outside of a hat. Rubbing cocobolo and ebony make a hat band. Hollowing with the aid of an outside light. Removing tannin stains with a lemon.

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. In particular, we need:

- Home & Garden Show staff
- Volunteers for shop tours
- Volunteers to present at meetings
- Members to write up their profiles for the newsletter
- Short articles for *Chips & Chatter*

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, and mention our web site: 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

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.

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allan_gore@peoplesoft.com
(with Craig Thorson, above)

STAFF REPORTS

RICH JOHNSON (PRESIDENT)

Rich has been asked if we want to work with other clubs to create a California Symposium. Because he's had such poor response from local clubs to other cooperative efforts (such as multi-club picnics), he's not optimistic that the clubs can collaborate on such a big effort.

ARD SEALY (VP/PROGRAMS)

September's meeting will be on pen turning, Josh Salesin will talk about vacuum kiln drying at October's meeting, and November's meeting will be devoted to "How'd they do that?". There will be a form where you can note down something you'd like to see demonstrated, and can request a particular demonstrator if you want.

Stuart Batty is putting on a demo on September 10th. He's one turner you don't want to miss. Be sure to sign up in the DATABASES section of our Yahoo group site.

CRAIG THORSON (TREASURER)

Treasury reports are available to members. See Craig.

PHIL ROYBAL (SEC'Y/EDITOR)

We have a new roster available in the FILES section of our Yahoo group site.

DICK PICKERING (APPAREL)

Hats are now available at \$10 each. Be sure to wear your SVW insignia when you work shows such as the September Home and Garden Show as an SVW staffer.

LLOYD FRISBEE (SUNSHINE)

Let Lloyd know if a club member needs a get-well card, a new-member info packet, or some other contact from the club.

Other Business

LYLE JAMISON

Lyle Jamison has asked if he can put on a demo workshop for us in 2007. Lyle is noted for his human torso hollow forms. We need to know if enough people are interested in seeing him before we commit. If you'd like to see Lyle, put your name into the Lyle Jamison Demo Sign-up in the DATABASES section of our Yahoo group site.

YAHOO ACCESS

Some people had been having trouble accessing our Yahoo site and reading the newsletter. Ayman Sayed suggested we offer set-up help to

people who need it, and Dave Feind suggested that Rich send an electronic message with an attachment to each member, asking him or her to report back that they could read the message and attachment. Rich sent the message to all members.

We had a couple members who had problems with Yahoo membership, and those problems are now fixed. All other members reported back that they got the message, so we believe this issue is settled. If you have trouble accessing our Yahoo site, contact Phil Roybal (prmguard-svwditor@yahoo.com). Meanwhile, Craig Thorson will bring a couple printed copies of the current newsletter to meetings, just in case.



"Winner", by Lyle Jamison

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

6-inch Jointer for sale \$75
• 45-inch table

Contact Lloyd Frisbee
Cell 408-813-9214
Bigguy95124@yahoo.com



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.



Segmented turning by John Overmire

CALENDAR

September

6TH

Regular club meeting
Pen Turning

9TH

Sawdust Shop Open House
Sawdust Shop in Sunnyvale

8-10TH

Fall Home & Garden Show at Santa Clara Convention Center.

10TH

Stuart Batty demo

16-17TH

Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium in Loveland, CO.

October

4TH

Regular club meeting
Vacuum Kiln Drying with Josh Salesin

6-7TH

Woodcraft Open House
Woodcraft of San Carlos

November

1ST

Regular club meeting
How do They do That?

19TH

Bin Pho demo

December

7TH

Regular club meeting

9TH

SVW annual Xmas Party and stealing gift exchange.

All events take place at Rich Johnson's Woodturning Center unless otherwise noted.

IRONMAN

Ironmen are those who complete all 12 President's Challenge projects for 2006. Those who meet the challenge are awarded distinctive IRONMAN name badges. A green bar in the chart below 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 overlooked your President's Challenge entry somehow, e-mail Phil at prmguard-svweditor@yahoo.com.

J F M A M J J A S O N D

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Michael Batek												
Bob Bowers												
John Brugo												
Howard Cohen												
Steven Dahout												
Bill Daniels												
Rich Dege												
David Feind												
Lloyd Frisbee												
Rebecca Frisbee												
Al Gore												
Jim Gott												
Herb Green												
Rich Johnson												
Barbara Jones												
Harry Levin												
John Overmire												
Rick Parfitt												
Gary Petretti												
Dick Pickering												
Mike Pogue												
Steve Rosenthal												
Phil Roybal												
Mike Rude												
Robert Sakauye												
Carolyn Salinas												
Frank Salinas												
Ayman Sayed												
Ard Sealy												
Bob Tang												
Craig Thorson												
Glenn Vaughan												
Michael Wiley												

IRONMAN RULES

- Entries must not have been shown before.
- If you miss a month's Challenge, you may bring it to a Sawdust Session, or to the following meeting.
- If you bring a make-up Challenge to a meeting, you must also show the current month's Challenge piece.

2006 CHALLENGES

Sept. With Lid
 Oct. Altered
 Nov. With Holes
 Dec. Gift