



# **Chips & Chatter**

Newsletter for the Silicon Valley Woodturners

February 2025

---

## **Table of Contents**

[President's Turn](#)

[Announcements](#)

[2025 Membership Dues](#)

[Oregon Woodturning Symposium](#)

[Events Recap](#)

[Ironman Awards](#)

[Chip In \(Employee of the Month\) Award](#)

[February Demo - Offset Bowls](#)

[President's Challenge](#)

[Show and Tell](#)

[Mark Your Calendar!](#)

[2025 Ironman Tracker](#)

[Sponsors](#)

[About Us](#)

# President's Turn

When to begin? Apparently the answer is “early”.

The mentoring session we had for half an hour before the ‘official’ start of our February meeting was quite the success! There were many questions answered, much advice given, and even a few tools sharpened! The feedback was so overwhelmingly positive that we've decided to continue with this format for the foreseeable future. So while our General Meetings (business, demo, show & tell) and the Zoom call will still start at 7:00 p.m., we'll have a mentoring session before each meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. Please come early with questions, a project (or tool) you've been having trouble with, or with your expertise to share with other turners.

When to end? Apparently “when the lathe rocks uncontrollably” answers that question.

Brad Bond gave us a great demo on off center bowl turning. He showed a creative method for getting both a mortise and a tenon, on different centers, onto the bottom of a single blank. He then used those mounting points to shape a basic bowl, and put a variety of artistically angled off center facets on the bowl.

Unfortunately, the final step of hollowing the off-center bowl at full turning speed was too much for the lathe as it was set up on the event room carpet. Without skipping a beat Brad graciously (and wisely) ended his demo there and moved on to Q&A. Thanks, Brad, for handling that so well, and thanks, Dennis and Tom, for looking into how we can better stabilize the lathe in the future. See elsewhere in this newsletter for more details of Brad's demo, and a link to his YouTube video on the topic.

When to continue? Always when participation is concerned! :-)

I've been pleased with all the entries in the monthly President's Challenges and Show & Tell. Keep them coming! The club works best when we have the chance to see and learn from each other. I've also mentioned before how volunteer help from members in all areas is what keeps this club running so smoothly. Thanks to everyone for helping out. And, sometimes a special thanks is in order so in that spirit, I'm proud to announce we plan to periodically acknowledge exceptional contributors. See below to learn why the board has chosen Angela Gunn as the

initial recipient for our “Chipping In” special recognition award. Thanks again Angela!

Keep on turning,  
Kevin

# Announcements

## 2025 Membership Dues

Remember to pay your 2025 membership dues, if you haven't already. Dues are \$40 for general membership, and \$50 for a family membership. Dues can be paid by cash or check at any of our meetings, or by sending a check to our treasurer **Tom Stutz**.

Or pay by PayPal to Silicon Valley Woodturners. (If using PayPal, please include a note about what the payment is for.)

**Members who haven't paid by the end of February will be dropped from the roster.**

---

## Oregon Woodturning Symposium

The Oregon Woodturning Symposium will run from March 14 to March 16. It will be held in Albany, Oregon at Linn County Expo Center.

<https://www.oregonwoodturningsymposium.com>

For SVW club members interested in traveling together to the symposium, please contact **Jerry Galli**.

---

## Anchorseal

We will be purchasing another drum of Anchorseal soon so that members can purchase up to two gallons per year at a club discount. The discounted member price may need to be adjusted depending on our final purchase and shipping cost.

# Events Recap

## Ironman Awards

Congratulations to the men and women who completed all 12 President's Challenges for 2024!

They received a beautiful "iron" medal for their achievement. The medal was made by Steve and shown to the right.



George, Dennis, Felicia, Jerry, Jim, Steve, Kevin (James not shown)

# Chip In (Employee of the Month) Award

This is a new award series that the Board has started to recognize members for their contributions and achievements. The first award starting with February went to **Angela Gunn** in recognition for her contributions as the club photographer, having helped reboot the club activities post-covid, and organizing the ice breaker activity at the holiday party. As the inaugural winner, she has naming rights and hence forth these will be called the Chip In Awards. Congrats Angela!

But also! We pointed out that Angela was mentioned in the **American Woodturner Magazine** for her work with the Women in Turning organization. You can check it out in the February 2025 edition on page 55.





# February Demo – Offset Bowls

Presented by Brad Bond on February 5, 2025



At the meeting, Brad demonstrated how to turn a multi-axis or offset bowl. He set up his bowl with multiple mortises on different turning axis – as you can see from the picture showing the bottom of his finished bowl. This allowed him to carve out the interior in a non-concentric location – as can be seen in the top view of his bowl. Note that the embellished sample was premade.



Bowl bottom with two non-concentric mortices.



Brad displaying the top view of his bowl.

## Steps:

1. On your blank, start with two holes for your wood worm screw. The holes should be offset – one in the center and the other 3/4 inch away. This distance must be less than the radial difference of the two chucks you will use. In this demo, Brad used a 4 inch chuck (2 inch radius) and a 2 inch chuck (1 inch radius).



2. Using the center hold, roughly smooth the exterior of your blank into a cylinder. Then create your 4 inch mortise. Note: do not make your second mortise until step 5.

**Tip:** Make your mortise grip stronger by making it deeper than the wall of your bowl.

3. Continue to turn the exterior of the bowl.

**Tip:** Sanding is encouraged at this point. Sand at every opportunity you have. With many of these bowl positions, you may not be able to recreate the position later to sand effectively.

4. Use the mortise to make a facing cut to clean the top of the bowl.
5. Use the second worm hole to create the second mortise. This mortise will be offset. **You are advised to use a low speed for non concentric cuts.** This picture shows the smaller 2 inch chuck mounted on the non-concentric mortise.



6. At this point, Brad stopped the lathe for the demo for safety and continued the rest of the explanations verbally.
7. Use the non-concentric mortise to hollow out the interior of the bowl. Then use the concentric mortise to shape the top of the bowl.
8. Sand and finish.

#### **Alternative Approach for Smaller Bowls**

For smaller pieces, you may not have space to fit multiple mortises. So a different approach is to make the tenon longer and angle the bowl to make an asymmetric shape.



For more info, you can view Brad's presentation on Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjzEUI5upHY>



# President's Challenge

In January, Dylan demonstrated turning twig pots. Here are the twig pots that members completed for the February Presidents Challenge.



Steve



Jerry



Sang



Vic



Angela



Edy



Felicia



Cat



Dennis



George



James



Kevin



# Show and Tell

Member submissions from the February Meeting



Dean



Jerry



Sang



Felicia



Vic



Dennis



George



Brad

Gallery style photos may be posted to the website later.

# Mark Your Calendar!

Date	Event
March 5	<b>General Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Challenge: Offset Bowl</li><li>- Demo: Beads of Courage - Mark Wig Stand - Angela</li></ul>
March 14, 15, 16	<b>Oregon Woodturning Symposium</b> Albany Oregon at Linn County Expo Center 3700 Knox Butte Rd. OR 97322
April 2	<b>General Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Challenge: Wig Stand or Beads of Courage</li><li>- Demo: Coring - George Mathew</li></ul>
April 12	<b>Pro Demo:</b> Scott Hampton
April 30	<b>Board Meeting</b>
May 7	<b>General Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Challenge: Twins: identical or fraternal (scaled)</li><li>- Demo: Tool Presentation - Brian Havens</li></ul>
May 10 (TBC)	<b>Sawdust Session:</b> Finishing (polyurethane)
June 4	<b>General Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Challenge: No Sandpaper</li><li>- Demo: Thin Stem Goblet</li></ul>



# 2025 Ironman Tracker

2025 Iron Man Status												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Joel Bauman												
Brad Bond												
Edy Chung												
James Craig												
Steve Dahout												
Jerry Galli												
Angela Gunn												
Girish Kalele												
Jim Koren												
Kevin Lee												
Dennis Lillis												
Jim Loney												
George Mathew												
Dylan McVoy												
Vic Mitnick												
Kat Napolitano												
Sang Park												
Felicia Preston												
David Vannier												
Milton West												
John Whittier												
	Name Badge	Weed Pot	Offset Bowl									

## Sponsors

We would like to thank the following for their support of the Silicon Valley Woodturners Club:

Thanks to [Craft Supply](#) for the gift cards used in the Chip In Award!

# About Us

Silicon Valley Woodturners Inc. is a non-profit [501\(c\)\(3\)](#) organization dedicated to education and having fun. Every position in the organization is held by volunteers. The dues we collect and the donations we get go towards teaching the members the art and craft of wood turning.

We are a local chapter (in the Bay Area of California) of the [American Association of Woodturners \(AAW\)](#).

President: Kevin Lee

Vice President/Program Dir/ Pens For The Troops Coordinator: Jerry Galli

Treasurer: Tom Stutz

Secretary: Felicia Preston

Member at Large: Dennis Lillis

Newsletter:

Photos provided by Angela Gunn.

To submit announcements or articles for an upcoming newsletter, please contact [Sang Park](#). Newsletters will typically be published 2 weeks after each general meeting.

---

[www.svwoodturners.com](http://www.svwoodturners.com)

(C) Copyright 2025 - Silicon Valley Woodturners Inc - All Rights Reserved