

# Minnesota WoodTurners Association

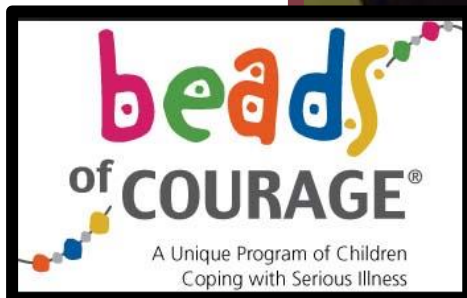
A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

**AAW** | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF WOODTURNERS

Mini Newsletter No 14

## We're not frightened enough to eat TOFU!





Diane and Bob Puetz direct this program for the Minnesota Woodturners Association. 3 members have gone above & beyond for BoC donations this month.

Ron Majerus





Generous member





Jay Schulz & a generous member

# Instant Gallery

John Campbell



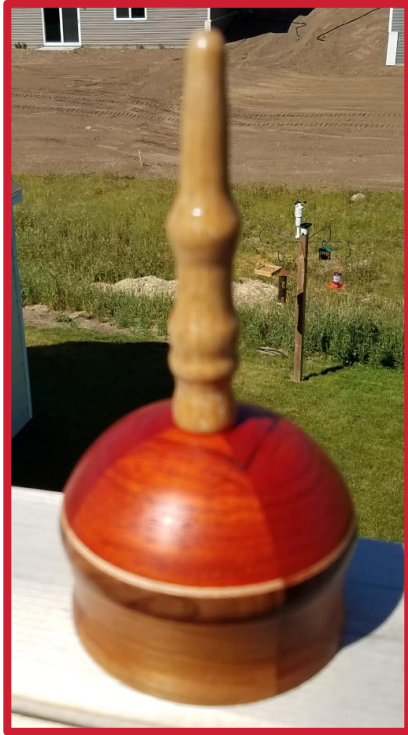
My version of a Robin Costelle's bell. Turned from birch, walnut, purple heart, and red oak with a red oak handle. Veneers are mahogany and maple.



Bowl from bell turning scraps, walnut, purple heart, and red oak with mahogany and maple veneers. Both are finished with homemade Danish oil.







All made with padauk, walnut, alder, with maple and mahogany veneers. The bell has a red oak handle. Bowls have quarters inlaid with JB Weld quick-set, clear, two-part epoxy. Epoxy will scrape to level and sand lightly; mineral spirits on a rag removes sanding dust. Epoxy does not polish. Finished with Doctor's Woodshop High Build Friction Polish. Handle finished with CA.

## Instant Gallery (cont'd)

2 Beads of Courage  
boxes from Jim  
Jacobs kits

Ken Hallberg



Cherry, maple and mahogany



Walnut, maple and cherry





## Instant Gallery (cont'd)

Beads of Courage box  
from Jim Jacobs kit

Jay Schulz



Cherry and walnut with maple accents





## Instant Gallery (cont'd)

Beads of Courage box  
from Jim Jacobs kit

Mike Rohrer



Cherry, maple and walnut



Mahoney's Oil Finish







The darker ones are cherry burl; the rest cherry, 5"-12". Steve started these last week. The middle ones need another coat of finish, that's why they aren't as shiny.



**Instant Gallery  
(cont'd)**

Steve Miller



## Conservation Status By Penny Boxall\*

Least concern	More than you could shake a stick at
Near threatened	Enough for you to shake a stick at
Vulnerable	I wish you would put that stick down
Endangered	Can't see the wood for the trees
Critically endangered	What is the sound of a tree falling
Extinct in the wild	What is the sound of no trees falling
Extinct	What is a tree

\*POETRY  
July/August 2020



# Tips For Turners

Mike Rohrer

## Opening Those Pesky Containers

Observing the gray hair at the MWA meetings, I'm sure many of the MWA members have the same trouble as I do, opening many of the containers for materials we use on a regular basis in our shops. My arthritic finger joints get worse by the month and many things, which were easy to do my entire life, get more difficult. I notice this especially when trying to open containers. The safety tops on containers of liquids such as denatured alcohol, lacquer thinner, etc. are especially difficult.





## Tips For Turners (cont'd)

Mike Rohrer

A few years ago I realized I would never open one of these tops with my bare hands and even opening them with a pair of pliers was difficult to impossible



I decided to convert the dreaded top to something I could grasp with my entire hand



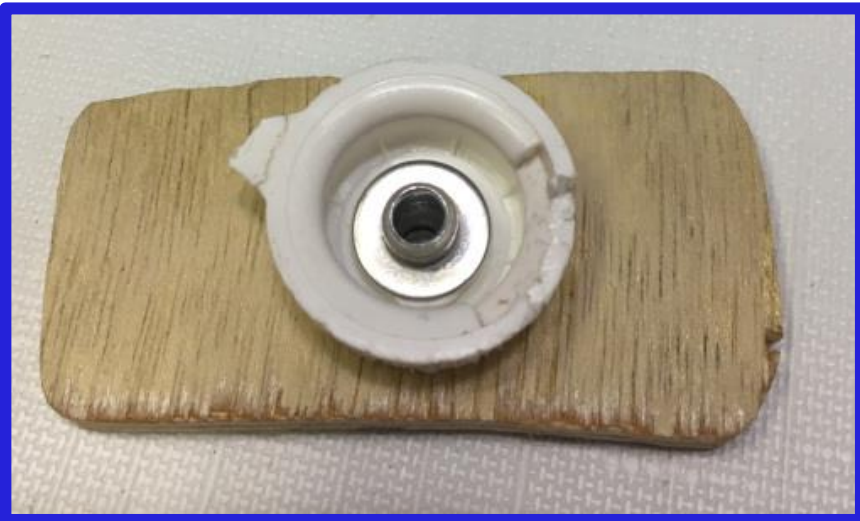
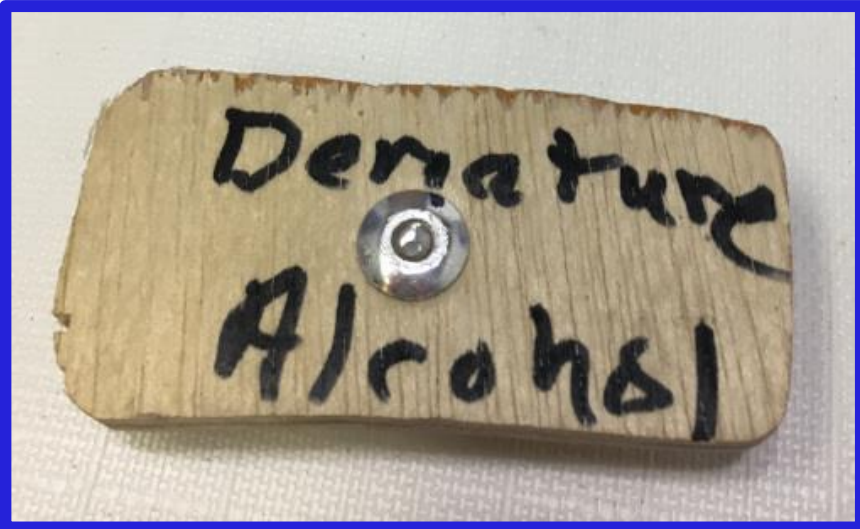
The 1<sup>st</sup> step is to separate the top from the can; the 2<sup>nd</sup> step is to attach it to a thin piece of wood. I used hot glue for my first attempts and it generally worked well.



## Tips For Turners (cont'd)

Mike Rohrer

Some tops fit so tightly that the hot glue wouldn't hold, so I used pop rivets



## Tips For Turners (cont'd)

Mike Rohrer

Occasionally screw-on tops will get extremely difficult to open by hand due to the liquid, such as a finishing material, solidifying in the threads.



These containers are now simple to open because of the leverage I can exert on the piece of wood with a larger part of my hand rather than trying to grasp and squeeze with my arthritic fingers



## Tips For Turners (cont'd)

John Campbell

At the Tuesday Tune Up a question came up about using epoxy. Here is a link my son sent me about epoxy resin for filling voids.

<https://www.mattcremona.com/ask-matt/filling-voids-cracks-and-defects-in-wood-with-epoxy-ask-matt-19?cntxt=date>

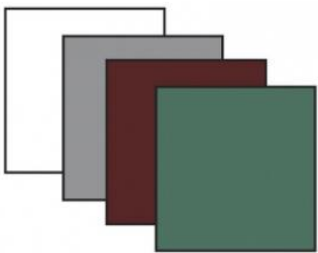


I think of my grandfather's  
workshop bench –  
the Folgers cans full of  
screws in odd sizes,  
wing nuts and rusted bolts,  
hinges nostalgic for doors.

A stanza from the poem “Castaways”  
by James Armstrong



Non-woven abrasive hand pads have high utility for finishing working products. There are numerous manufactures of the hand pads including 3M Scotch-Brite™, Norton Abrasives, United Abrasives, etc. There are many grits available to address various substrates, types of finish and stages of finishing. Most hand pads are composed of a blown fiber web (polymer strands) with a resin coating that either includes an abrasive or is later treated with an abrasive (aluminum oxide for course grit equivalent and silicone carbide for finer grit equivalent). Some cautions: 1) be aware that coarseness color codes can vary between manufacturers and 2) even though they shed less during use, these products all shed debris in use so take time to wipe your product with a tack cloth after sanding/polishing steps. Many of the hand pads are color coded for their coarseness or grit. Wood magazine published an abbreviated color chart versus grit in their 'Tips section' at the following link; <https://www.woodmagazine.com/materials-guide/sanding/color-holds-the-key-to-abrasive-pads>



(figure & text from Wood Magazine, link above)

“A white pad is extra-fine, approximately equivalent to 600-grit sandpaper; gray compares to 220-grit; maroon, 150-grit; and green, 100-grit.”

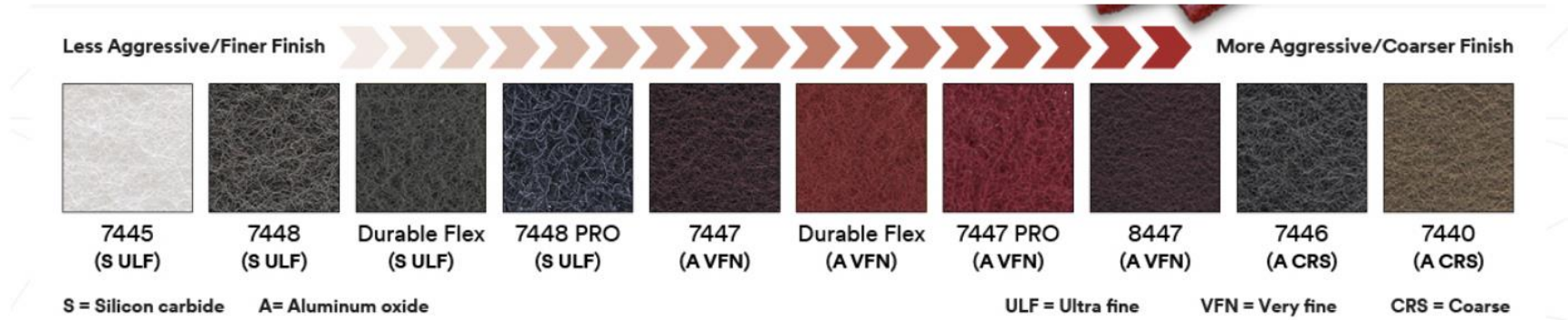


## Tips For Turners (cont'd)

Jay Schulz

- Other manufacturers provide coarseness guides on their sales or technical websites such as the 3M guide below;

[https://www.3m.com/3M/en\\_US/metalworking-us/products/flat-stock/hand-pads/](https://www.3m.com/3M/en_US/metalworking-us/products/flat-stock/hand-pads/)



- The area of surface preparation and finishing has been dynamic for the past decade. Recently the technology is being applied to a varied array of substrates from traditional paper to discs, hand pads, etc. The most current area of product development includes flexible abrasives (flexible or conformable paper, polymer films, sheets and foams). These newer products have micron dimensioned surfaces that are either abrasive in their own right or are impregnated with abrasives. They are very durable, reliable and typically marketed for auto finishing, metal, paint and polymer finishing application areas but are spectacular in woodworking. An example of this technology includes 3M Cubitron™ and Cubitron II™ abrasives. I personally have found these products to be long lasting, low loading and very useful for both bare wood surface prep and between coat finishing.



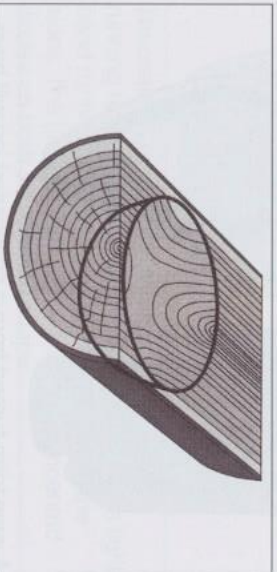
## Tips For Turners (cont'd)

Dan Larson

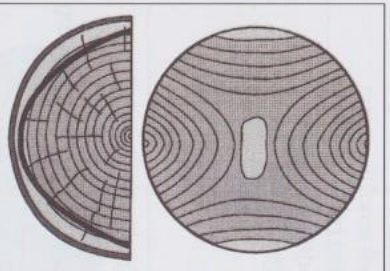
I had interest from some readers regarding the diagram in Dan Larson's bowl turning demo regarding "Vessel Orientation." Dan was happy to send me a view that is clear enough to print. If you print the next page it should be satisfactory for your notebook.

Mike Rohrer, Editor

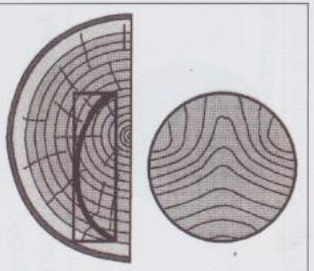




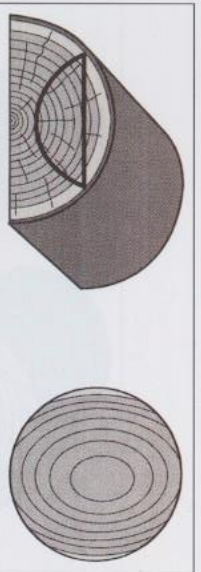
An open form turned with the pith at the rim will display a hyperbolic pattern inside.



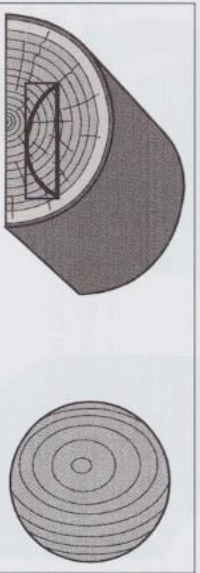
A bowl form in which the rim and bottom cut into the sapwood will show white patches at those points.



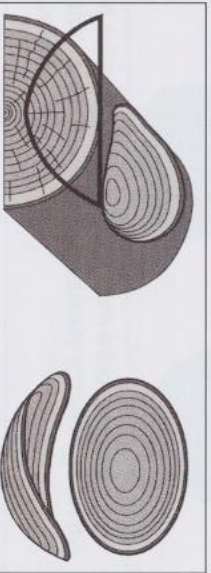
Boards in which the rings are not centered will have the pattern shift toward the pith side.



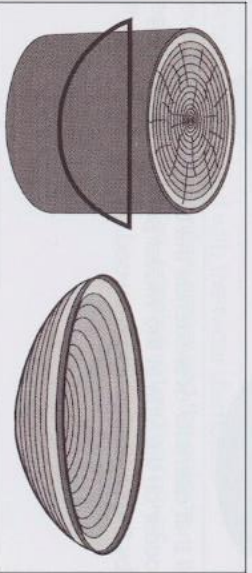
Open bowls turned with the pith at the bottom will display a concentric oval pattern. The outermost rings will be broken because of the flat rim being cut through them. If the edges cut into the sapwood, a sapwood streak will show at each edge.



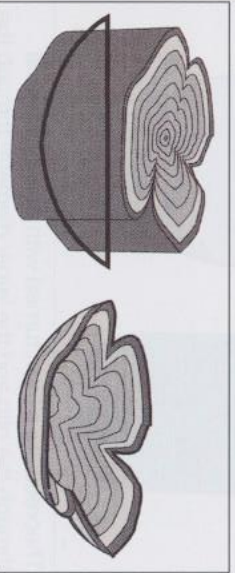
Bowls turned from boards where the pith is off-centered will create an off-centered pattern.



By extending the open form through the bark, an oval-shaped bowl with an undulating natural rim will be produced. All the rings will be whole because none of them was cut off by the flat rim.



An open form turned from the whole log with the pith at the bottom will have a concentric circular pattern. If the form extends beyond the bark, there will be a natural-edged bowl.



If the log is convoluted, the bowl form will have a scalloped edge.



I have a question for "ask an expert". I branded, sanded and applied General Finish - Wood Bowl Finish to this bowl, about 4 coats. After I add finish to the branded area, I get what you see below. I have already tried sanding between coats with no success. Is there something else I should be doing?

**Martin Young**



## Answer: Russ Loucks

Hot iron branding cooks the oils/resins in the wood. Some of this is released as vapor as you perform the branding. Some settles back into the grain of the wood next to the branding, basically sealing the wood fibers inhibiting any sort of finish to hold. That's the 'halo' effect you're seeing.

I tried to replicate your situation with my branding iron. I don't have any of the new General Finishes Wood Bowl Finish, but I do have some of the Salad Bowl Finish and used that for my tests. I think they're similar.

For my test, I branded some flat stock - black walnut and red oak. I sanded both pieces to 600 grit and then branded them. For two brands on the right of both pieces, I went back and sanded with 320 grit and then 600 grit again before applying finish.

I then applied 4 coats of GF Salad Bowl Finish with light sanding using synthetic steel wool in between coats.



You'll see a light halo effect in the left brand. The right brand (sanded before finish applied) showed no halo effect.

Ways to reduce the halo effect:

- 1) only hold the branding iron on the wood for a couple of seconds vs. the 3-5 seconds as recommended. Sometimes, however, this results in an incomplete brand. I typically practice with some flat stock of the same species that I’m branding to get just the right image.
- 2) Sand with coarser grit after the branding to remove the cooked resins better.
- 3) I was told by the branding iron maker that having ‘vapor release points’ in the iron helps to dispel the resin vapors which reduces the halo effect. We modified my design slightly to have these vapor release points on the sides of the iron. I’m not sure what your iron looks like.



Steve: Did you have some finish on it first, then add finish again after branding? Does this happen all the time? Looks like the bottom has a shallow concavity to it. Some irons have some heat near the letters and letting it sit too long or push a little too hard you bruise the fibers near the letters. That little bit of heat would also seal the wood and not accept the finish the same way. Sand the area around the letters before finishing, and you should get that surface the same as the rest. Darker woods can be tricky and show any faults easier. Did you buff the finish?

Martin: Thank you for the feedback. I might have branded the bowl after the first coat of finish, but I sanded it after it was branded. I also sanded between coats. Do you think that would affect the following coats?

Steve: Do you have the same issue with light colored woods? Sand the area with a coarser grit after branding, then finer grits up to what you used on the rest of the piece. Then finish. The fibers most likely got compressed.



I have the most trouble sanding and finishing end grain on red cedar pieces. The surface stays dull for numerous coats of finish. I recently looked at a bowl that I thought I had finally gotten satisfactorily finished with wipe-on poly a couple of months ago. I was surprised to see patches of sticky material that appeared to be uncured varnish that had bled out. With other species I have tried acetone-based wood hardener on the end grain, and it seemed to work. I've used slightly diluted lacquer on end grain and let it dry for a short time before continuing to sand. Any suggestions for difficult end grain, especially on red cedar?

**Mike Rohrer**



## Answer: Steve Miller

On red cedar I've had that look on items after rough turning when the wood was partially wet. Red cedar has a lot of sap in them even when harvested in the winter.

Evergreens retain moisture year-round and are softwoods like other pine trees. Even with end grain sealer the sap comes through and will crystallize. Was your vessel totally dry before applying finish?

I have applied 3 coats of Watco Danish Oil to the bowls; no crystallization. For the vases I have used 3-4 coats of Antique Oil Finish and no crystallization. The wood was totally dry.





June 23, 2020

Show 'n Tell

## MWA "Tuesday Turner's Tune Up"



Lee Luebke showed a series of rings he has been working on and one of the jigs he finds very helpful



John Campbell showed a couple of his rings and a "home-made" jig



## MWA "Tuesday Tune-Up"



Linda Ferber shows 2 of her recent platters



Dan Ernst showed several pieces including this burl wing bowl and a calabash bowl

## MWA "Tuesday Tune-Up"



Lee Tourtelotte & Dick Zawacki's collaboration "Bridge Over Trou-BURLED waters"



Rolf Krogstad has been active in the Zoom meetings since joining MWA last month



Paul Laes – Japanese locust bowl



Dick Zawacki – walnut bowl





## MWA "Tuesday Tune-Up"



Tom Hodgson Celtic knot pen and maple pistachio bowl



Jay Schulz Beads of Courage bowls and natural edge walnut bowl



## MWA "Tuesday Tune-Up"



Jim Jacobs and a chatter tool he made  
(can't see the tip in this picture)



Jim made a wagon with a removable  
shape-sorting top for a grandchild



He, of course, made all the pieces to  
go through the shape-sorting holes



## MWA "Tuesday Tune-Up"



Mary Allen used her turning and carving skills to make this cup



Can you figure out how she did it?



Steve Mages turned this buckthorn root ball





## MWA "Tuesday Turner's Tune Up"



Steve Miller has been busy making all sorts of bowls and vessels

Pres. Lee Luebke has sent out an email to MWA members with a schedule for the Zoom **Tuesday Turner's Tune Ups** for the next couple of months



## More Covid-19 Thoughts

Breaking News: Wearing a mask inside your home is now highly recommended. Not so much to stop COVID-19, but to stop eating.

Not to brag, but I haven't been late to anything in over 14 weeks.

**The spread of Covid-19 is based on two things:**

- 1. How dense the population is.**
- 2. How dense the population is.**

Putting a drink in each room of my house today and calling it a pub crawl.

THANKS TO FRED SCHMOLL



# MWA Demonstrations Since July 2017

Warren Gerber suggested that I incorporate an easy way to locate a previous demo that has been documented in the newsletter since July 2017. As a trial format, I will list them chronologically and include this list in the newsletters. Let me know what you think.

Mike Rohrer, Editor

<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Demo</u>	<u>Demonstrator</u>
July 2017	Hollowing for Embellishment	Gary Mrozek
Aug 2017	Turning & Decorating a Platter	Jeff Luedloff
Sep 2017	Bowl Coring	Neil Robinette
Oct 2017	Natural Edge Bowl	Bob Meyer
Nov 2017	From Tree to Bowl	Dan Larson
Dec 2017	Turning Ornaments	Jim Jacobs
Jan 2018	Making a Pendant	Alan & Lauren Zenreich
Feb 2018	Spindle Turning/Milk Paint	Linda Ferber
Mar 2018	Chain Saw Safety & Techniques	Steve Hagen
Apr 2018	Lidded Boxes	Steve McLoon
May 2018	Hollow Forms & Platters	Trent Bosch
	Platters & Bowls	Mike Mahoney
June 2018	Travel Mug	Greg Just
July 2018	Log Preparation & Sawmill	John Enstrom
Aug 2018	Squarish Platter	Mike Hunter
Sep 2018	Pens	Ed Mielech & Rick Auge
Oct 2018	Safe & Comfortable Turning	Eric Lofstrom
Nov 2018	Finishing	Mark Palma
Dec 2018	Finials	Steve McLoon
	Lefse Sticks	Jim Jacobs
	A Shop	Todd Williams
	Handles	Tim Heil

<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Demo</u>	<u>Demonstrator</u>
Jan 2019	Scandinavian Inspired Bowls	Dan Larson
Feb 2019	Segmented Turning	Curt Theobald
Mar 2019	Peppermills	Tom Sciple
Apr 2019	3-Legged Stool	Keith Gotschall
May 2019	Baby Rattle with Captive Rings	Gary Mrozek
June 2019	Spheres & Embellishments	Steve McLoon
July 2019	Wood-Mizer Portable Sawmill	John Enstrom
Aug 2019	Finial Box	Cindy Drozda
Sep 2019	Spalting	Seri Robinson
Oct 2019	Rings True to Life	Phil Holtan
Nov 2019	Be More Creative	Beth Ireland
Dec 2019	Holiday Ornament	Bob Meyer & Mike Hunter
Jan 2020	3-Pointed Vase/Box	Tom Sciple
Feb 2020	Long-stem Natural Edge Vessel	Rudy Lopez
Mar 2020	Hollow Form	Lyle Jamieson
May 2020	Shop/Multiple Topics	Mike Mahoney
Mini # 11	Bowl Turning. Part 1	Dan Larson
Mini # 12	Bowl Turning. Part 2	Dan Larson
Mini # 13	Christmas Bell Ornament	Robin Costelle
Mini # 13	Irish (Glenn Lucas) Platter	Dick Hicks





# Walnut for Charity

I recently picked up a huge pile of walnut. The contractor who donated it would like it used in a charitable way. I will be making some bead box kits from it. These are available for \$25.00 which includes shipping to your door. These are intermediate level kits.

The other option is come pick up what you want and make a donation. The money will go to the Salvation Army who let us hold meetings at their headquarters in Roseville for several years. Walnut is in Hastings. Call or text Jim Jacobs 651-497-1309.



# Wood to Share with Turners



I have gotten a fair amount of wood that needs to be shared with fellow turners. It was cut last winter. I have buckthorn, oak, walnut, cherry, hickory. All about 4" and bigger.

Please call Ben Pawlak at 952-938-6452.



# For Sale



I am now offering a new style bead box kit.

These have the body and top assembly ready to go on the lathe. Designed for the intermediate wood turner.

Total cost of \$25.00 includes shipping to your door.

Can accept checks or Pay Pal.

Contact Jim Jacobs

[woodmanmn@aol.com](mailto:woodmanmn@aol.com)

or 651-497-1309





# Member Help Line

The club is setting up a "Member Help Line", the purpose of which will be to answer questions /give advice/ and help educate our membership. Maybe you're a beginner looking for advice on what to buy. Maybe you have questions on chucking. Maybe you have sharpening questions.

We would like more members to volunteer for our Member Help Line. If you would like to be "on call" please contact Mike Rohrer at [mdrprof@gmail.com](mailto:mdrprof@gmail.com) with your phone #, email address, area where you live, areas you'd be willing to help with, and your name will be added to the list.

Mike Rohrer	612-276-9556	<a href="mailto:mdrprof@gmail.com">mdrprof@gmail.com</a>	bowls, boxes	South Mpls
Steve Miller	715 821-8726	<a href="mailto:ssmiller920@gmail.com">ssmiller920@gmail.com</a>	all types, light on segmenting	River Falls, WI
Lee Tourtelotte	612-670-1874	<a href="mailto:leetourtelotte@icloud.com">leetourtelotte@icloud.com</a>	all types, beginner, advanced	South Mpls
Warren Gerber	651 403 2883	<a href="mailto:xlwalleye@gmail.com">xlwalleye@gmail.com</a>	Bowls	Mendota Heights
Jim Jacobs	651-497-1309	<a href="mailto:woodmanmn@aol.com">woodmanmn@aol.com</a>	beginner/advanced, segmenting, skews	Hastings
Dick Zawacki	507-744-5748	<a href="mailto:dickzawacki@gmail.com">dickzawacki@gmail.com</a>	general, bowls, wood carving	Northfield
Mike Lucido	651-738-2551	<a href="mailto:mike.s.lucido@gmail.com">mike.s.lucido@gmail.com</a>	general woodturning	Woodbury
Bill Campbell	715-338-2634	<a href="mailto:wm.e.campbell@uwrf.edu">wm.e.campbell@uwrf.edu</a>	general woodturning	River Falls, WI
Mark Kelliher	651-636-8678	<a href="mailto:markandkathy007@comcast.net">markandkathy007@comcast.net</a>	general woodturning	Arden Hills
Todd Williams	651-274-4658	<a href="mailto:toddwilli@comcast.net">toddwilli@comcast.net</a>	general woodturning	Lake Elmo
Bob Meyer	651-483-6187	<a href="mailto:rjmbobco@comcast.net">rjmbobco@comcast.net</a>	bowls, ornaments, sharpening, gen'l.	Lino Lakes
Dick Hicks		<a href="mailto:rbhicks@rbhicks.com">rbhicks@rbhicks.com</a>	platters, spindle work, bowls	Zoom from shop
Steve Mages	952-544-5286	<a href="mailto:smages@juno.com">smages@juno.com</a>	general woodturning	Minnetonka
Neil Robinette	763-639-1085	<a href="mailto:northsideturners41@gmail.com">northsideturners41@gmail.com</a>	sharpening, tool control, turning vs budget	Brooklyn Park



## Editor's Notes

This is the 14<sup>th</sup> Coronavirus Mini Newsletter. I know when we began this unprecedented situation none of us knew what the future held.

Documenting the Zoom meetings is tough. The quality is not what I'd like for the newsletter. The only way I can get a picture is to do a screen dump.

1. The quality of the image depends entirely on the image from the member's device they're using to access Zoom
2. Nobody is thinking of holding their piece "just right" for the camera in their device. I often have a fraction of a second to get a reasonable shot and very frequently miss it.
3. A screen dump is not a quick process. On my iMac I must simultaneously press the SHIFT – 4-COMMAND keys and drag the cursor from one corner of the picture to the diagonally opposite corner. If someone knows a faster way for me to do this, please let me know.

We need more Instant Gallery contributions and TIPS. Send me pictures of what you're turning!!

Stay safe; have fun isolating yourself in your shop.

*Mike Rohrer, Editor* [mdrprof@gmail.com](mailto:mdrprof@gmail.com)

