

# Minnesota WoodTurners Association

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

**AAW** | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF WOODTURNERS

Mini Newsletter No 10

Summer is coming



# Instant Gallery

Greg Just



Commissioned cremation urn made from cherry. It measures 8" tall and 5.5" wide





Silver maple yarn bowl



Walnut 7"- If you like sanding, cut the sides with a band saw and leave the finishing until last.

Lazy Susan 12". Black ash and walnut. The hardest part of making this is making the jigs next to perfect. It is time to make something other than bowls.





My second Gnome chess set. I will make a case with a proper board in future.

“White” pieces: maple w/ yellowheart helmets. King and Queen full four-piece Celtic knots: wenge/purpleheart. All faces are basswood.  
“Black” pieces: jatoba w/ wenge helmets. King and Queen Celtic knots: yellowheart and birch.



## Eric Koslowski (cont'd)

### Instant Gallery (cont'd)



Bishops and Rooks have two-piece Celtic knot: purpleheart/wenge. Knight has sash of same. Pawns have no embellishments because they are pawns!



2-piece knots: yellowheart/birch. I finished with beeswax and mineral oil finish. Each piece is three turnings glued with CA glue.





Jay Schulz

Instant Gallery (cont'd)

Walnut



Beads of Courage





Bird carved boxes



Nest carved box



MinWax antique oil (Menard's). With 2 coats it's looking pretty good. I may do a light buff with the beeswax stick. I rarely sand past 220 and often start at 150 then 180. Recently I have started using maroon Scotch-Brite after 220. I also use this same Scotch-Brite between coats. What I really like about this finish is the soft satin glow when done. I can't do high gloss wood.



Brazilian cherry



# Steve Miller

## Instant Gallery (cont'd)



A group of natural edge cherry bowls. On the nested set the largest is 13". These are the largest natural edge bowls, but I cored 2 more smaller bowls out of each.

6 crotch ash & 4 crotch spalted maple

With warmer weather I can apply finish in the garage. I completed the ash set I roughed out earlier. They are natural edge crotch pieces. The largest spalted maple piece is 14". Locust with the limb has a very distinctive figure in it. The soft maple is mainly creamy but has some very nice figure in it. If you haven't tried a crotch piece give it a try, just saw it making 2 Y pieces.





6 crotch ash



14" crotch spalted maple



Crotches: 4 locust, 3 maple & 3 spalted Manitoba maple



On April 30th I had the privilege of being the first person to have a remote individual session with Glenn Lucas. I asked to work on lower rim beads and undercut rims on bowls. It was time well spent. I highly recommend it!



April 30 (11 1/2" black ash)



April 30 (11 1/2" cherry)



May 1 (red elm)





May 3 (14 3/4" cherry)



May 8 (19" hackberry)



May 10-13 (9 1/2" black walnut)

# Dick Hicks

## Instant Gallery (cont'd)



May 14 (8 1/2" cherry)



May 14(10" hard maple)



May 15 (15 1/2" catalpa)



May 17 (11" catalpa)

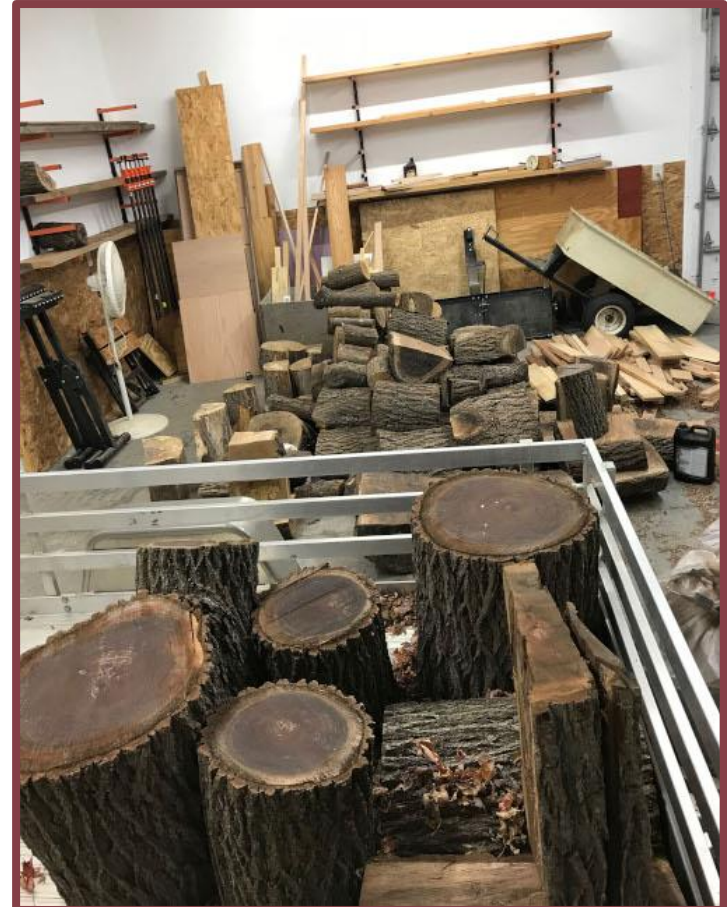






The bowls are walnut, maple, spalted birch and spalted boxelder.

The wood pile I have will keep me going for some time







Lee made the rings from wood and acrylic



## Wood Drying and Finishing Question

A friend took down a large white oak last fall and saved a 2" slab to turn into a table. They plan to finish it w/ poly but don't know if it's dry enough to do so now. I'll take my moisture meter over as soon as possible (they live a ways away) but wonder if they should just finish the top side so that it will continue to dry. I don't know--does anyone? I fear it might exacerbate cracking, but don't know. Any other suggestions?

Bill Campbell

Answers to this question from Mini Newsletter #9 follow; if you have further suggestions, submit them to the editor.





Regarding the white oak 2" slab that you'd like to turn into a table. I assume you are referring to a 2" slab that was cut as lumber and not a 2" end grain cutoff. The general rule of thumb for air drying lumber would be at least 1 year per inch of thickness with thicker wood taking longer. This is assuming the lumber was properly stickered and protected to maximize air flow and minimize water accumulation. I have had a lot of experience with white oak and it is not a very fast drying wood. To give a more accurate idea of how soon it would be table ready I would need more information such as width and length of slab. An 8' long slab will take more time than a 2' long slab for a small table. When it is dry enough to work, I would recommend finishing on both sides.

This has been a discussion topic for years. I always finish both sides as a precaution, but you do not want to apply any finish until the wood has dried sufficiently. If you are in a hurry to work the slab there are mills around that will dry it for you in a kiln for a price per board foot.

Steve McLoon

The standard formula for drying lumber is one year per inch of thickness. That formula assumes it is outside, stacked with stickers between the layers and the sides open to the wind and elements. It would be slower to dry inside. I am confident that a tree cut down last fall is not ready. My suggestion is to have it dried in a kiln. Wood from the Hood might be willing to do it for you. There are other kilns in town. Kiln drying (compared to air drying) muddies some of the natural color of wood. This is a real issue for walnut. It is not such a big deal for white oak. Good luck.



It's difficult to answer this question without knowing how the wood was cut and stored after it was cut. What I can say as a rule of thumb is that for every one inch of thickness it takes a year to air dry under proper drying conditions. Finishing a dried slab on one side will cause cupping. Finishing on both sides will prohibit proper drying

Using a two-prong moisture meter on the surface of a 2" thick slab will not tell you what the internal moisture content is.

To accurately do this you would have to cut the slab then use the moisture meter on the fresh cut wood. Cutting a thin slice off the end of the board will not work as the ends will be drier than the center of the board. Ripping the side off the board depending on grain orientation will give slightly more accurate results

Finishing on one side could cause cracking on the opposite side. The severity could vary depending on where in the tree the board came from.

There are so many variables, it's difficult to give just one answer that covers all scenarios. The 1" per year guideline is dependent on good airflow around all sides of the board. See the pictures on the following pages.





This 8" diameter blank was given to me years ago. It's sealed around the perimeter and on one face only. The bottom side is stained from mold indicating there was no airflow around the piece.



12/4 boards vertically strapped allowing no airflow between boards. Boards should be on stickers & not in contact with floor.





1/2" warp across 8"

14" diameter blanks. Only the cut edges are treated with Anchorseal. Left column lower blanks are 8/4 green elm stacked and stickered for airflow. Additional dry blanks stacked on top for weight to reduce warping. Right column bottom to top is dry cherry, hard maple and walnut. Stickers are used only on the bottom of the stack to keep the wood off the floor.



I lost several red oak trees to Oak wilt this past year. Milling them was an acceptable alternative to shredding or burying the trunks to dispose of them.

The tarp over the top is not ideal. I need to keep rain off the stack and allow airflow. On dry days I put the tarp up as seen in the photo, on rainy days I pull it down and loosely drape it over the sides.

4/4 to 12/4 boards up to 22" wide, stacked flat 6" off ground at a slight slope. Stickers placed between each layer of boards to allow for air circulation. Stickers are placed directly above each other to keep pressure on the boards beneath even and flat.

I did not hire someone with a sawmill. I used a chainsaw mill and cut it myself. Red oak 20" wide 9' long. I could do 3 cuts with a 34" bar then I'd have to change blades. Cherry and Birch are easier, but the blade fills at the same rate. White or Burr Oak - fogettaboudit. A 3' long cut in a 14" log overheats and dulls blades.

I have a Nova Comet II Mini wood lathe. After setting up a project, the tail stock moves back slightly when I turn the hand wheel to tighten. I have to put a lot of pressure on the tail stock lock handle to keep the tail stock from moving back.

Is there something I can do to the lock plate underneath? Am I tightening the project too tight? Any ideas?

Duane Betker

### Neil Robinette

This is a fairly common issue that I've experienced too. Both my Nova DVR, and Laguna 18-36 have had similar issues. In both cases I found what I now believe was my expectation that the tailstock should "lock" down once you tighten it and not move at all when you tighten the quill. Talk about opposing forces? I've learned the tailstock/quill function is an aid/insurance while turning your blank. I've heard more than once that frequently checking the tailstock hand wheel will accomplish as much as over tightening the locking handle and breaking something. And of course, check the lock plate and nut underneath the tailstock to be sure the locking handle threads don't bottom out before the lock plate is snug.





## Drying Twice-Turned Bowl Blank Question

What techniques do you use when drying a twice turned bowl? Indoors vs unconditioned shop, sitting out in the open vs box/bag, should wet shavings be added? What factors should be considered?

Grant Determan

This question will be answered in Mini Newsletter #10. Please send any answers to Mike Rohrer, Newsletter Editor, [mdrprof@gmail.com](mailto:mdrprof@gmail.com)



The question regarding the continued tackiness of rosewood after finishing with standard finishing procedures was posted in Mini Newsletter #7. A number of answers were submitted for #9 and here's another suggestion. Members are encouraged to send in other solutions they've found successful.

Bob Jensen and I use acetone. We soak a rag and basically wash the piece. We let it dry then repeat process. You may have to repeat again. I have done this several times and finished the part with poly with good results.

Joe Zwirn



# Hamburger Club ZOOM Virtual Meeting

The Hamburger Club Sub Group met “virtually” using Zoom May 21 arranged by Mike Hunter. Attendees included Dan Larson, Warren Gerber, Steve Mages, Gordon Fay, Bob Puetz, Mike Hunter, Mike Rohrer, Jim Jacobs, Paul Laes, Dick Hicks, Paul Fay, Lee Tourtelotte, Steve McLoon and Linda Ferber.

Mike Hunter announced that the AAW will have a virtual symposium July 10, 11 & 12. We were going to have Glenn Lucas at the MWA virtual meeting on July 11, but that will have to be rescheduled.

1-on-1 on-line classes with Glenn Lucas: Dick Hicks was the first person to do a 1-on-1 on-line class with Glenn (see Dick's section of the Instant Gallery section). Dan also did the 1-on-1 on-line class and talked about how it was as close as possible to being like you were in the same shop as Glenn and how much he got from it. He felt that it was very much worth the \$132 and he has a recording of the session to go back to.





## Hamburger Club ZOOM Virtual Meeting (cont'd)

Jim Jacobs discussed trying a new finish, MinWax Antique Oil. He was trying some new segmenting techniques and showed a buckthorn egg. Jim brought up a microwave drying question and a good discussion of microwave drying ensued.



Linda Ferber– looking forward to more turning and taking classes in art now that she's retiring. She brought up a lightweight filtering mask link:

<https://www.axminstertools.com/axminster-apf-10-evolution-powered-respirator-101809?fbclid=IwAR1ZBayRs1BRvTzCRSlTv7ACntW-QvTpYLSdH-dmvUmteVBX3zpWqlvxQNs>



## Hamburger Club ZOOM Virtual Meeting (cont'd)

Bob Puetz said they're still getting Beads of Courage boxes. He thanked Jim Jacobs for his new design for BoC kits. Bob also talked about people repurposing old CPAP units for light weight dust filtering systems.



Dick Hicks discusses his 1-on-1 class with Glen Lucas and showed several of his turnings. Dick has a multi-camera set-up in his shop for virtual communication with turners.



## Hamburger Club ZOOM Virtual Meeting (cont'd)

Lee Tourtelotte showed a burl that a neighbor had brought him from Michigan's upper peninsula. Everyone agreed it looked like it was from the aspen family. Lee also showed his completed Michael Mode style bowl.

Mike Rohrer showed the baseball bat and ball he has made for one of his high school graduating grandsons dyed with his school colors. He's getting the logo and signatures laser engraved and will show the results at the next meeting.

Warren Gerber told about making a vacuum chuck without ever having to go to the hardware store because he scrounged through buckets of stuff he's saved for decades.

Paul Laes discussed turning an old piece of walnut he assumed was very dry and the day after he turned it, the piece had severely warped. Several people said it was obviously not dry, even after a long time of sitting (see Ask A Turner discussion on drying wood).





# Plymouth ZOOM Virtual Meeting

The Plymouth Sub Group met “virtually” using Zoom May 19 arranged by Steve Mages. Attendees included Dan Larson, Warren Gerber, Steve Mages, Mike Anderson, John Campbell, Mike Rohrer, Jeff Luedloff, Ron Majerus, Lee Luebke, Gordon Fey and Pete Withoff.



Gordon Fey intently participating in the Zoom meeting

Jeff Luedloff discussed Trent Bosch giving virtual classes, some free, some for \$10

Jeff also led a discussion of finishes including shellac and lacquer. He showed a large, classic book on Hawaiian calabash bowls. Jeff said this book, which was formerly very expensive, is now reasonably priced.

Steve Mages showed several bowls he's been working on during Gov. Walz's "Stay At Your Lathe" mandatory time



## Plymouth ZOOM Virtual Meeting (cont'd)

Warren Gerber discussed pepper mills and the problems with pepper spilling on the table. He suggested we check out Penn State Industries; they have a couple of ideas that might work and mentioned Tom Sciples's method of including a base.

Lee Luebke discussed the methods he used to create the rings featured in this issue's Instant Gallery

Dan Larson discussed 1-on-1 on-line classes with Glenn Lucas, which he and Dick Hicks have taken. He showed his cowboy hats he's recently turned and removed a very interesting lamp shade from a lamp behind him. Dan showed how thin the wooden lamp shade had to be turned. He uses low temperature, LED bulbs. Dan also showed a sushi bowl and wing bowls he has recently turned.

Dan Larson showing his sushi bowl & wing bowl



# 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





# SENIOR TRYING TO RESET PASSWORD

**WINDOWS:** Please enter your new password

**USER:** cabbage

**WINDOWS:** Sorry, the password must be more than 8 characters.

**USER:** boiled cabbage

**WINDOWS:** Sorry, the password must contain 1 numerical character.

**USER:** 1 boiled cabbage

**WINDOWS:** Sorry, the password cannot have blank spaces.

**USER:** 50damnboiledcabbages

**WINDOWS:** Sorry, the password must contain at least one upper case character

**USER:** 50DAMNboiledcabbages

**WINDOWS:** Sorry, the password cannot use more than one upper case character consecutively.

**USER:** 50damnBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourAssIfYouDon'tGiveMeAccessNow!

**WINDOWS:** Sorry, the password cannot contain punctuation.

**USER:**  
ReallyPissedOff50DamnBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourAssIfYouDontGiveMeAccessNow

**WINDOWS:** Sorry, that password is already in use.



# 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



# For Sale or Trade



Brazilian cherry 1"thick by 2"wide by 16-30"long . . . I have a lot!! Pay what you want or trade for native wood.

This wood is used a lot for flooring - it's hard! makes great cutting boards, and it's pretty!

Contact Jim Jacobs

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

or 651-497-1309 Call or Text





# 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.

Name	Phone	Email	Areas of Turning	Location
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	651-437-1309	<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 tenth of the newsletters to be published during the coronavirus emergency when we will not be having regular or sub-group meetings. These meetings are being replaced by virtual meetings. People have been telling me the newsletters have been helping keeping the MWA members thinking about each other, different facets of wood turning and how much we all enjoy our woodturning activities and colleagues.

- Instant Gallery. Keep sending me pictures of your creations during this unique period. I know you're in the shop protecting yourself and turning.
- Member Help Line. Send me an email if you are willing to answer questions/give advice/help educate our members.
- Please consider a QUESTION or an ANSWER to *ASK A TURNER*. There are several *Ask* questions in this issue. Send me your tips to the feature, *TIPS for TURNERS*. This is especially important because we're not meeting as groups.
- Stay healthy. Follow all guidelines. A majority of our members are in at least one or more of the high-risk categories.

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

