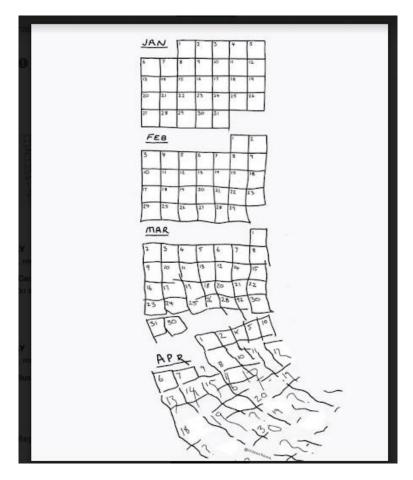


Minnesota WoodTurners Association

A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS



Mini Newsletter No 7





Instant Gallery

Jane Hilary



2 of my latest segmented turnings. The turning on the left is a cremation urn for my sister who likes Southwest type designs. She is alive and well, she just likes to be prepared!!! The turning on the right was just me experimenting.



Instant Gallery (cont'd)



My first 6-piece nested set of an ash crotch. It was dry so I didn't need to have it thicker to allow for warping. Largest with heart is 14 1/2". Now the difficult part, finishing the rough bowls.



Mike Rohrer

Instant Gallery (cont'd)







The advantage of being a woodturner. My wife said we had lost the top to this silver drink mixer (gift from her sister). In less than an hour I had a nicer, maple top.





*For those who don't know George, he is a blind since birth contractor, woodturner who used to belong to our club. He recently moved from California to Tennessee where he has remodeled a building into a woodshop, sales area and living quarters.

Mike Hunter

Instant Gallery (cont'd)



These two boxes were turned in a Richard Raffan style. Fine Woodworking published an article by Richard Raffan detailing the process to make these boxes in 2007 (see page 7).







Instant Gallery (cont'd)

ven after 35 years as a professional wood turner, I never tire of making lidded boxes, perhaps because they still offer infinite design challenges.

I find inspiration for boxes everywhere I look, in natural and man-made things. The box shown here is very architectural, a small, round, walled structure topped by a roof, or lid, with an overhanging lip and a cupola for a knobby handle. However, boxes can be almost any shape and size, from highly decorated to very simple. The walls can be monumentally thick or ultrathin. And it is not mandatory that the internal form reflect the exterior shape.

No matter what design I pursue, I always follow the same procedures to ensure that the finished piece is visually balanced and of high quality. I turn the box first, then refine the lid in relation to it. This project requires

Turn the bottom

Mount the blank for the box on a screw-center chuck. Turn the blank to a straight cylinder and then finish the base. Make a recess with angled sides for the four-jaw dovetail chuck to grip later. Finally, sand and apply a finish to the base surface only.



O Drill a center hole in the workpiece. Use a drill bit of a slightly smaller diameter than the screw projecting from the chuck.



2 Mount the turning blank on the lathe. A plywood spacer prevents the center screw from driving too deep into the



3 Begin at the bottom. After smoothing the blank into a cylinder, cut a 3/32-in.-deep recess in the base. It not only looks nice, it gives the chuck a place to grip.

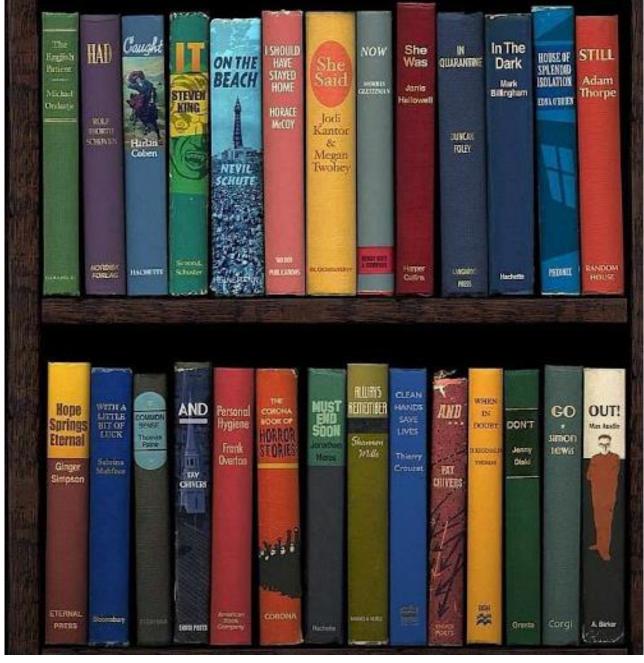


O Finish off the base. Add a few details with a shallow gouge, then sand and finish.

Photos: Matt Berger; drawings: Rodney Diaz



Read the titles from top left onward.



Arranged by a librarian. Simply brilliant!



Member Mini-Class

Reprinted from the December '18 newsletter

Shop-Made Sanding Butter & Sanding Abrasive by Danny Judd

Many woodturners use various lubricants (including water) with their sandpaper as part of their finishing process. It reduces heat, carries away the grit from the surface, and helps keep the sand paper from clogging up. Taking it a step further, many turners use a product such as EEE-Ultra Shine or Yorkshire Grit as a final sanding step.

Typically applied with a rag or paper towel, these products are a fine cut and polish to remove any micro scratches remaining after the previous sanding grits.

Typically, these cost at least \$25 per 8 oz container.

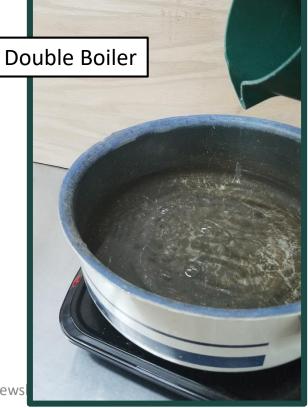
You can make both of these products yourself quickly, easily, and for a lot less money than they cost if you went out and bought them. (Plus this smells better and softens the skin on your hands.) What follows is how I made approximately 16 oz of each, in less than an hour, for a total cost of \$8.22.



To be very clear, this is far from my original idea, ingredients, or process. I've seen many internet recipes, YouTube videos, and print articles about this. There are various formulas and ingredients. This is simply what I chose to do and what works for me. Your personal experience may, in fact, be different.

To get started you'll need a few things. First of all, you'll need a way to slowly heat the mixture you are going to make. Your current living relationship and desire to keep it intact, may factor into what you use for this purpose. An old slow cooker or crock-pot would work great.

I didn't have one that my wife wanted to donate, so I made a double boiler out of a couple old pans the grandkids used in the sandbox. A large pan of water on a hot plate works great. Heat the water and put your ingredients into a second pan that sits in the water. The key is to heat slowly and not burn your mixture.



You'll need some type of scale capable of measuring ounces to at least one decimal place. A postal or candy scale work. I already have one I bought somewhere along the way that I use to weigh out resin. I found it handy to measure out the ingredients I needed into plastic cups prior to starting to cook.

You'll also need the ingredients. The primary ingredient is bee's wax.
While you could get this from various places, I got mine from our very own club member Greg Renstrom. I bought a one pound brick for \$8, but used less than half of it.



It will be to your advantage to cut or grate the wax into small pieces ahead of time. This will make it melt much faster when you begin the cooking process. I used an old potato peeler to grate mine.

The other ingredients are mineral oil and diatomaceous earth. I bought two 16 oz bottles of mineral oil at Walmart for \$1.98 each. I didn't use it all, but after spilling some there wasn't a lot left over. Diatomaceous earth is used for many things. It is sold as an insecticide, an ingredient in toothpaste, and many other things.

It is food safe, but contains silica so you shouldn't breath the dust. It contains the same tripoli abrasive found in all of these abrasive products. I got mine at Home Depot. A 4 lb bag was \$8.47. Since I only used 2 oz, I have a lifetime supply unless I am overcome with roaches.



I made my sanding butter first. You can make any quantity, but want to maintain a 1:4 ratio of wax to mineral oil. Since I planned to make 16 oz of sanding butter, I measured out 3.2 oz of the wax I previously grated. (16oz x 20% = 3.2oz). When you measure out the mineral oil, keep in mind that this recipe is by weight rather than fluid ounces



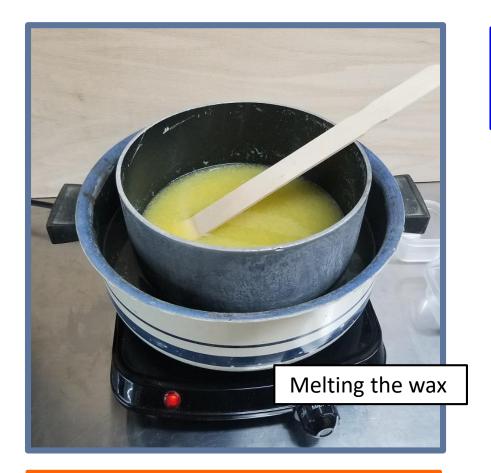
One fluid ounce of mineral oil weighs about 1.188 ounces. That said, I used 15.2 oz of mineral oil. (16oz x 80% = 12.8 Fl oz and 12.8 fl oz x 1.188 = 15.2 oz)



Heat your water in the double boiler and then add the mineral oil. Let that warm, but certainly not boil. Nowhere along the way do you ever let the mixture get hot enough to boil. You are simply heating enough to melt the wax and dissolve the ingredients together.



Add the grated wax to the warm oil and mix slowly.



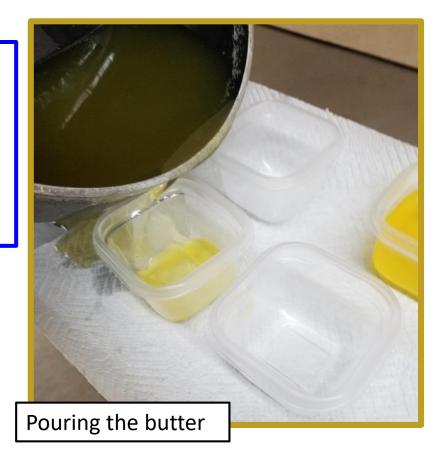
Adding the grated wax to the warm oil and mixing slowly.

The oil and wax mixture should be clear and the chunks gone when it is done.



Pour the melted mixture into whatever containers you choose to use. I used smaller disposable Ziplock tubs. One tip here . . . place newspaper or paper towel under your containers BEFORE you pour. It can get messy if your pan doesn't have a pour spout.





16 oz. containers of sanding butter



Creating the abrasive sanding paste is really the same process. The recipe is similar, but slightly different. To make 16 oz, I used 2oz grated bee's wax, 2oz diatomaceous earth, and 12oz mineral oil.



Mix the ingredients in the same manner.





Stir thoroughly and make sure your mixture is completely dissolved. You want to pour into containers right away so that none of the abrasive settles out to the bottom.









16 oz. abrasive containers

Roughly an hour after starting to mix and cook everything, I had 16 oz of sanding butter and 16 oz of sanding abrasive for \$8.22 total.





Thank you, Danny. I am sure this Mini-Class will give many of us the knowledge and self-confidence to make these materials for ourselves.

Ask A Turner

Segmenting Question

This question was posted in Mini Newsletter #6

I'm just getting involved in segmented turning. Using Jim Jacobs' Super Simple Segmenting System there is no problem getting the complete circle of segments absolutely accurate. I never even check them; I just cut them and glue the segments into a circle. Where I'm having my problem is truing up the flat surface of the segment circle. How do you do it, on the lathe, on a sander, by hand? With the different grain directions I'm afraid to send it through the thickness planer.

Novice Segmenter



Denny Dahlberg

I use my drum sander to flatten them. I feel that works great. Before I had the drum sander, I would flatten one side on the disk sander and true up the other side after I had it glued onto the prior ring. I would <u>never</u> use the thickness planer.

Pete McMurry

I use a drum sander, which works beautifully.

Joe Zwirn

- 1. I use a 16-32 drum sander with 100 or 120 grit belts. The low grit makes a good bonding surface and I run it at slow speed so it does not melt the glue. I've never had a problem with a correctly adjusted drum sander.
- 2. Thickness planer. I've used a thickness planer once. It worked but you have to take thin cuts. It still tears the segments when they go thru and if your blades are not real sharp you may end up with snipe. Not recommended.
- 3. Another method is to mount a ¾ piece plywood to a face plate. Center your ring and hot glue it to the plywood. Use just enough glue to hold it. Flatten your ring with a bowl gouge. I would not recommend a scraper for fear of a catch.
- 4. A method that can be used as a cheap planer is to build a flattening box. This can be seen on YouTube. Look up flattening boards with a router. This will give you a good basic idea, but you can make modifications.



Jane Hilary

After lots of trial and error over about a 3-month period I finally came up with a method that works for me but is kind of time consuming. I originally tried my belt sander (left dips), surface planer (left chips), and disc sander (removed what little I had left of fingerprints).

Before you start flattening glued up discs it's a really good idea to make sure the wood you are using is straight and flat and all the same dimensions. If not, the segments will not glue up properly and the disk will not be anywhere near flat (personal experience) once you take the clamps off. Also, after you have tightened clamps part way, tap or press each segment to ensure that they are all aligned and flat. Wipe off glue on both sides so that glue bumps don't interfere with flatness.

Make a disc out of stiff, flat plywood that is large enough to handle the size rings that you are likely to make. Also draw some circles on it to help center the rings. Chuck it up on your lathe and make sure the disk runs true with no wobble. Set aside for the time being.

Continued on next page



Jane Hilary (cont'd)

Segmenting Question

I usually start my segmented projects with a sacrificial block on a faceplate. Flatten the sacrificial block with a gouge or a scraper. Check for flatness with a straight edge and then sand with a sanding board just to be safe. My sanding board is about 14" long and 5" wide with 80 grit sandpaper glued to it. Glue the wood that you are using for the base to the sacrificial block and flatten with gouge and sanding board just like you did the sacrificial block.

I only have one lathe, so I remove the base assembly from the lathe and chuck up the plywood disk. I fasten a glued-up ring to it with a couple pieces of 2-sided tape or a little hot glue. Just be careful not to make a bulge on the back which could interfere with flattening. Just like you did on the base, flatten with a gouge or scraper, check for flatness with a straight edge and sand lightly with sanding board. Run the lathe at a slow speed so you don't launch the disk across the room (yes, more personal experience).

Once the ring is flat on one side, glue the flat side to the base you flattened previously and flatten the other side on the lathe. Treat each ring the same way, flat glue up, flatten one side on plywood ring, glue flat side to the rings you have already assembled and flatten the other.

After I made 3 or 4 segmented projects using the above method, I went out and bought a SuperMax 16/32 drum sander. Works great . . . and fast. Buying a \$1300 drum sander to make a \$100 bowl. Makes sense to me.



Jim Jacobs

Because I don't have a drum sander, I flatten my rings on the lathe. I use a plywood disc mounted on a faceplate. Next, I draw a circle as the lathe is slowly running; this helps me center the ring. I then use a scrap piece between the ring and tailstock to hold it in position. Now I put small dabs of hot melt glue around the ring. Note the black spot in the picture.



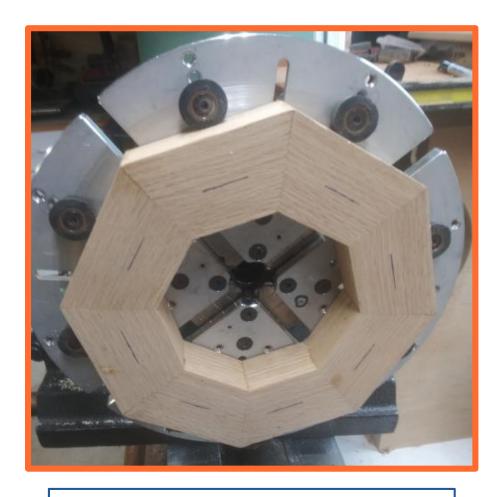
1innesota WoodTurners Association Coronavirus 2020 Mini Newsletter.7

I do this 4-6 times around the segment. I then "face " the ring. All turning must be done TOWARDS the headstock, NOT towards the center. A bottom feeder gouge works well. A scraper works well too. Remember scrapers cut on center of the wood. I do not have "negative rakes" on my scrapers. I like to tip the scraper by lifting the handle just a bit. The cut must be on the center of the wood.



Tip: I sharpen my scrapers upside down; this puts a burr on top. I use an 80 grit CBN wheel. Yes, they are not cheap . . . yes, they do put a better edge on your tools . . . yes, this does lead to less sanding!

Another tip: Don't use cheap tools. Woodturning tools have really advanced in the last 15 years or so. Early tools were carbon steel or chrome vanadium steel. These are very "soft" and will not hold an edge. The minimum steel should be High Speed Steel. You may see HSS stamped on the tool. A sharp tool "wants" to cut; a dull tool resists the wood and is also dangerous. The "stamped" ferrule is another giveaway to soft steel. Use these tools for digging potatoes!



Another technique: grip the ring in the jumbo jaws. This can be external grip as shown or internal.

Ask A Turner

Greg Just

Segmenting Question

In my experience, no matter how careful I am in gluing up segmented rings, flattening of the surfaces is always required. To accomplish this, there are a few options; some relatively inexpensive and others much more expensive.

To start, getting the rings as flat as possible in the beginning is key to minimizing the effort later. This can be done with a ring press, something like this (not my design).

Once the glue dries, you could flatten the surfaces with a drum sander (my personal choice). I also have a thickness planer but was never comfortable using it to flatten rings.



Mounting Question

For the next newsletter:

My question involves various ways to mount wood to the lathe. We know Lyle Jamieson only uses a faceplate but there are lots of options.

As a beginning/intermediate turner, I'd like to know what different ways members of MWA mount wood to the lathe. I'm sure members use different methods for different situations. I'm too new to have a feeling for different ways and the reasons for the different ways of mounting.

Please send your comments on the hows and whys of different mounting methods to:

Mike Rohrer, Editor mdrprof@gmail.com



Ask A Turner

Rosewood Finishing Question

For the next newsletter:

I have a salt & pepper set and a pepper mill out of Bolivian rosewood and no matter what finish I put on them the finish is TACKY. I first finished them like the other mills and applied Deft Sanding Sealer and sanded to 500 grit. I then applied my "beloved" Formby's Tung Oil. The other 14 did fine but the rosewood remained sticky or tacky. I tried a second coat and had the same results. I wiped it with mineral spirits, and it seemed fine. I added another coat and the surface was back to sticky/tacky. I wiped with mineral spirits again and sanded to 500 grit. I tried sanding sealer and wiped the surface smooth then applied Formby's; same results. I wiped with mineral spirits then tried spraying with lacquer, again same sticky/tacky; same results with spray-on shellac. I cleaned with mineral spirits and tried MinWay Tung Oil; same results. I cleaned again and tried wipe on poly; same results. In the meantime, I finished the other 14 mills with no problems. Any comments would be appreciated. Tom Sciple

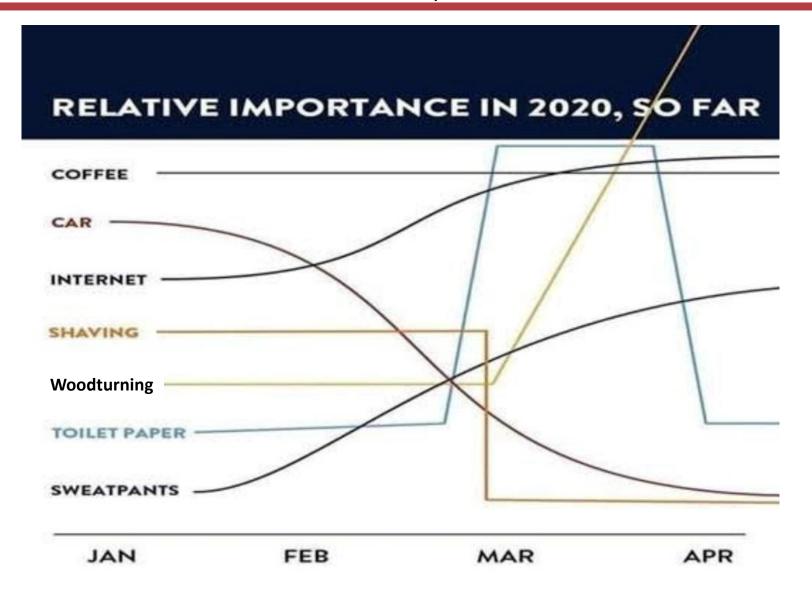
Woodsbytom@gmail.com

Please send your comments on the failure of finishes to cure on rosewood to:
Mike Rohrer, Editor

mdrprof@gmail.com



Corona Virus Influence on Importance of Activities





Contact Mark Kelliher emailto:

markandkathy007@comcst.net



FOR SALE

- •Guidelines: Short description, price, seller's contact information, one photo in .jpg format. Submit to mdrprof@gmail.com
- •The ad will run in one newsletter only; if it needs to be run again it will have to be resubmitted for the next newsletter.
- •The ad must be submitted by Wednesday the week before the monthly MWA meeting to be in that month's newsletter.

Nova 1624 II lathe with 1.5HP 120V motor. Excellent condition, machined parts cleaned and waxed after every use. 2 1/2 years old.

Only used for about 18 months. I built a heavy bench for it (with drawers) on lockable wheels. The bench also includes solid leg stands at each end that lift the bench off the wheels.

Price: \$600 for the lathe, with original legs/stand, original centers, faceplate, and manual.

\$150 for the bench

Russ Loucks mailto: russ@loucks.email



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 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 ▼	<u>Email</u>	Areas of Turning	Location
Mike Rohrer	612-276-9556	mdrprof@gmail.com	bowls, boxes	South Mpls
Steve Miller	715 821-8726	ssmiller920@gmail.com	all types, light on segmenting	River Falls, WI
Lee Tourtelotte	612-670-1874	leetourtelotte@icloud.com	all types, beginner, advanced	South Mpls
Warren Gerber	651 403 2883	xlwalleye@gmail.com	Bowls	Mendota Heights
Jim Jacobs	651-437-1309	woodmanmn@aol.com	beginner/advanced, segmenting, skews	Hastings
Dick Zawacki	507-744-5748	dickzawacki@gmail.com	general, bowls, wood carving	Northfield
Mike Lucido	651-738-2551	mike.s.lucido@gmail.com	general woodturning	Woodbury
Bill Campbell	715-338-2634	wm.e.campbell@uwrf.edu	general woodturning	River Falls, WI
Mark Kelliher	651-636-8678	markandkathy007@comcast.net	general woodturning	Arden Hills
Todd Williams	651-274-4658	toddwilli@comcast.net	general woodturning	Lake Elmo
Bob Meyer	651-483-6187	rimbobco@comcast.net	bowls,ornaments, sharpening, gen'l.	Lino Lakes
Dick Hicks		rbhicks@rbhicks.com	platters, spindle work, bowls	Zoom from shop
Steve Mages	952-544-5286	smages@juno.com	general woodturning	Minnetonka
Neil Robinette	763-639-1085	northsideturners41@gmail.com	sharpening, tool control, turning vs budget	Brooklyn Park

Goodbye from Tom



As some of you may know, Nancy and I moved from Tennessee to Minnesota on April 1, 2016 to help out our daughter and see our grandchildren (4) grow up. Never did I expect to be associated with the best Woodturning Club in the country and meet some of the best turners I know of. Well, our grandchildren have grown (only 1 left at home) and our daughter has met a wonderful man and has a very successful career with Medtronics and it is time for us to move back to the mountains and the warm sunny South.

We spent 60 years in Mobile, Alabama then 11 years in the Smoky Mountains (4 different woodturning clubs) and the last 4 years here in the cold winters of Minnesota. I don't know if we will get to have another club meeting where I can personally say THANKS and shake your hand and tell you it has been a privilege to have met and learned from you - God speed, stay safe and healthy and keep in touch. I look forward to keeping up through the best newsletter in AAW.

Tom Sciple

Woodsbytom@gmail.com



Editor's Notes

This is the seventh of the mini newsletters to be published during the coronavirus emergency when we will not be having regular or sub group meetings.

- •Instant Gallery. We all want to see what each other is doing during our mandatory shop time. Please send 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.
- •FOR SALE. We're going to try a FOR SALE section for the newsletter. During the duration of the "mini newsletters" they'll probably run for a couple of weeks.
- •Please consider a QUESTION or an ANSWER to ASK A TURNER. Please more suggestions on FINISHING. Send me your tips to the feature, TURNING TIPS. This is especially important because we're not meeting as groups.
- •Stay healthy. Follow all guidelines. A majority of our members are in the high-risk category.

Mike Rohrer, Editor mdrprof@gmail.com