



# Finger Lakes Woodturners

## A Chapter of The American Association of Woodturners



### From The Chair – September 2013



**Mark Mazzo**  
**FLWT President**

From The Chair – September 2013

Here we are again at the start of another FLWT season. We have a great season of events lined up for you including beginning at our September meeting by hosting our first National Speaker – actually, International in this case!

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 20th and 21st and 22nd, FLWT will host

national speaker Liam O'Neill (www.liamoneill.com) from Ireland. Mr. O'Neill is probably best known as the person who introduced the Irish Side Grind Bowl Gouge to David Ellsworth – who eventually promoted its use throughout American woodturning. Liam is known for a variety of turned work including bowls, hollow forms and lidded containers. In addition, his most recent work is made up of large outdoor sculptural objects. You can see some of the details of Liam's work in the photos above as well as on his web site.

Mr. O'Neill will speak at a **special Friday night club meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup>**. During this talk, Liam will discuss his work with the membership, he will talk about the Irish Side Grind bowl gouge and he will do a bit of turning demonstration. **On Saturday, September 21st, we will hold a demonstration** where Mr. O'Neill will demonstrate a variety of turned objects and special techniques, including details on how he best uses the Irish Grind bowl gouge. He will also show a specialty technique where he uses an electric chainsaw with a special fixture to turn work at the lathe! These demonstrations will cover many things and will be of interest to turners of all skill levels. We are also holding a **hands-on workshop with Mr. O'Neill on Sunday September 22nd**.

--Mark

FLWT meetings are held from 6:45 to 9:00 PM (pre-meeting Show and Share starts at 6:00 PM) on the 3rd Thursday of

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Here's a look at the rest of our season:

October: Jim Echter – Production Turning  
 November: Brian Effinger – Turn a Birdhouse Ornament  
 December: Dave Gould – Thread Chasing for Boxes & Hollow Forms  
 January: Bill McColgin – Turning Crotch Wood for Figure  
 February: Gary Russell – Turn a Bowl  
 March: Bob Rosand – National Speaker (Friday night meeting, Saturday demo) see www.rrosand.com  
 April: Ralph Mosher – Turning a Goblet  
 May: Jeffery Cheramie – Spirals

As you can see, we have a great planned. I look forward to our future meetings and all of the great and interesting turning topics we will cover.

**September Challenge Project**  
**Barb and Charlie LaPrease with Woodturners Marbling and Finishing Techniques**



Barb started her talk discussing the setup for marbling. This includes the mordant bath, sizing bath, drying, and the type of paint that one should use.

(COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS ARE AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER— Thanks Barb)

Barb talks about the required sizing needed to accomplish marbling. The item that is going to be marbled is put into mordant solution comprised of alum and water and then dried.

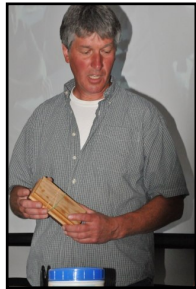


Next the paint is placed in the bath of methyl cellulose and ammonia with vinegar added after the solution has solidified.



Depending on the paint colors and how they are swirled different marbling effects can be accomplished.

The paint in the bath can be removed by collecting with a new paper and discarded. The bath may be reused. The marbled item is then dried.



Charlie presented many finishing methods and tips for woodturner. His handout can be found in the notes section

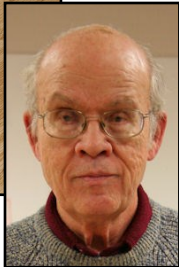
FLWT PICNIC~JUNE 1st AT KINGS BEND PARK

A great time at a great place with great people and with good food





**Members Show and Share**



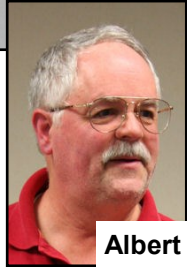
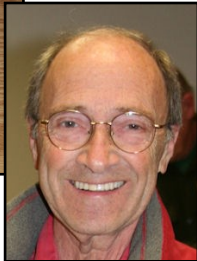
**Erwin A. Tschanz**



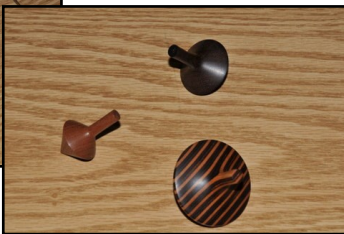
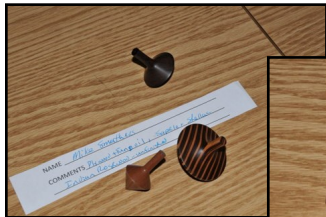
**Frank Corrado**



**Marty Chatt**



**Albert Filo**



**Mike Smathers**



**Bruce Trojan**



Members Show and Share (con't)



Sam  
Tischler



Ralph Mosher



Dave Rutherford



Roger Coleman



Harry Beaver



## LIBRARY NEWS



I hope everyone had a great summer. With all the rain we had, I would think this may have given you some time to spend in the shop turning great things. I, myself, have been turning some really nice Boxelder given to me from one of our members. I hope to be able to bring it in for show-and-share. Anyway, back to Library news.

I am looking for ideas for new purchases. If you have seen something you think would be good for us or there is a technique or project specific instruction you would like to see, please let me know. I am not sure what exactly there is in the budget for this year, but the Club has been pretty generous in the last couple of years, so I'm sure I will have something for new purchases. As always, I am accepting donations. The membership has been pretty generous in the past. As such, our little fledgling Library has grown to a very nice collection of materials - Books, DVD's, and Magazines. In fact, the magazine collection has grown so large that I no longer list it in the database or keep track of it. I just bring a bunch to the meetings for good faith loaning.

There have been no changes to the Library policies (all specifically written down in my head). Materials are loaned out for a month at a time. New materials are only loaned out for a month and only one at a time (except for those that are a set) to allow all members convenient access. Older materials may be renewed; in-person at a meeting, by e-mail ([cngrussell@gmail.com](mailto:cngrussell@gmail.com)) or by phone (227-8527). I know a number of people have not done this in the past, but it sure does help me keep track of things. If returns become a big issue, we may then have to initiate fines. I have lost one DVD to a non-returning member which is a big disappointment. An up-to-date list of materials is on our website. Members who have utilized the Library have said that it is very useful. So if you want to learn a new technique, improve an old technique, get some fresh ideas or simply see what the Masters are doing, avail yourself to this fine resource. It's free to members and a really nice perk. This alone is worth the membership dues.

I am still looking for someone who can convert some VHS tapes into DVD's. We have about a half dozen really worth converting. No one seems to be interested in borrowing these tapes and I'm sure that if we convert them, they would be very desirable and useful. So, if you can help, please let me know.

*By Garry Russel*

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## “ASK WOODIE”

Dear Wood Meister,

There's something wrong with my band saw. I was cutting some green wood for a bowl blank, but the wood started to steam. The blade got so hot it even melted the tires on my wheels. Do I need a new band saw?

-Steamed



Woodrow (Woodie)  
Turner

Dear Steamed,

You *have* to be making this up.... Wait, wait, I know you! Or rather, I know of you and heard that this actually happened. Otherwise, I might have wondered if you were using a dull blade or one with no set. I might have ventured that your blade was gummed up with pitch or that you were forcing the wood. In fact, though, you were using the completely wrong blade.

Your blade, sharp or not, had way too many teeth per inch (tpi), 10 tpi was it? Green wood requires a blade with enough space between the teeth to clear out the wet sawdust. Otherwise ...well, you know. A good, general recommendation for cutting green bowl blanks would be a 3/8" wide, 3 tpi, skip-tooth blade. (A 1/2" width would be ok for larger diameter blanks.) Such blades are readily purchased or you can have them made up. One should cut your green bowl blanks with ease and no steam.

A note on safety: There's a lot of exposed blade when you're cutting a bowl blank. Think what your butcher does with a band saw and remind yourself of that whenever you use yours. Make sure your blank is stable so it doesn't tip while cutting and cause the blade to bind and perhaps break. And when the blade gets dull and doesn't feed easily, *stop*. Replace the blade. I'll bet it's cheaper than your copay.

-Woodie

## ***Don't Forget Dues Are Due for your Membership***

### **From the Publisher**

*Dan Meyerhoefer*

◆ This is my first newsletter and for those that sent me material I thank you. Ralph did an extraordinary job in keeping this publication vibrant. To continue to make this an informative publication I need your continued support by making contributions to the newsletter.

### **Calendar of FLWT Woodturning-Events 2013**

Date	Event	Location / Time	Pre-Mtg. Show & Share	Challenge	Demo / Topic	
Sept 2013	Fri 20th	FLWT Turning Mtg.	Isaac Heating & Air Conditioning Classroom 6:00 - 9:00	6:00 -6:45	Finish- ing and Marbling	Liam O'Neil International Turner
	Sat 21st	FLWT Turning Mtg.	Isaac Heating & Air Conditioning Classroom	9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	None	Liam O'Neil International Turner Demonstration
	Sun 22nd	FLWT Turning Mtg.	Isaac Heating & Air Conditioning Classroom	9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	None	Liam O'Neil Hands on workshop 8 participants More to follow
	24th	FLWT BOD Mtg.	TBA 7:00 - 9:00			

### **Classified**

Rockwell (Delta) 14" band saw, model 28-243, with 1/2 hp motor, open stand, and three new blades. Excellent condition. \$375.

Call for details [585-402-0967](tel:585-402-0967).



## Local and National Woodturning Events of Interest

Year/Date	Event	For More Information
April 10th- Sept. 22nd 2013	Fuller Craft Museum <i>Across the Grain: Turned and Carved Wood</i> Opening Reception: Sunday, May 19, 2013, 1:00 - 4:00 pm	<a href="http://fullercraft.org/event/across-the-grain-turned-and-carved-wood/">http://fullercraft.org/event/across-the-grain-turned-and-carved-wood/</a>

## Mentor Contacts<sup>1</sup>

Name	Day Tel	Eve Tel	Email	Turning Skills / Specialty
Doug Crittenden	924-5903	924-5903	<a href="mailto:cleo99@frontiernet.net">cleo99@frontiernet.net</a>	General turning
Ed DeMay	406-6111	924-5265	<a href="mailto:edemay@rochester.rr.com">edemay@rochester.rr.com</a>	Bowl turning, dust collection
Ward Donahue	334-3178	334-3178	<a href="mailto:wddonah@frontiernet.net">wddonah@frontiernet.net</a>	Spindle & hollow turning, coring, sharpening
Jim Echter	377-9389	377-9389	<a href="mailto:jechter@rochester.rr.com">jechter@rochester.rr.com</a>	Spindle & faceplate turning, sharpening
David Gould	245-1212	245-1212	<a href="mailto:D2sGould@aol.com">D2sGould@aol.com</a>	Bowls, plates and hollow-forms
Jim Hotaling	223-4877	223-4877	<a href="mailto:jhotaling2198@aol.com">jhotaling2198@aol.com</a>	Christmas ornaments
Ed Lehman	637-3525		<a href="mailto:elijw@rochester.rr.com">elijw@rochester.rr.com</a>	General turning
Ralph Mosher	359-0986	359-0986	<a href="mailto:2rmosher@rochester.rr.com">2rmosher@rochester.rr.com</a>	Bowl turning, Boxes, Sharpening, Tool control
Dale Osborne	(315) 524-7212	(315) 524-7212	<a href="mailto:dborn3@rochester.rr.com">dborn3@rochester.rr.com</a>	General turning
Gary Russell	227-8527		<a href="mailto:cngRussell@gmail.com">cngRussell@gmail.com</a>	General turning, bowls, ornaments, finials
Erwin A. Tschanz	271-5263 (Dec – Mar)	271-5263 (Dec – Mar)		Historical, bowls, plates, goblets, boxes, bone, antler

**1. Here's a great way for you to improve your turning skills. FLWT has award winning and expert turners who, at no cost, are willing to share their expertise one-to-one with other club members. A mentoring relationship might be as simple as getting a mentor's advice in a one time conversation. Or, it might include regu-**

**lar hands-on sessions over a lathe. The exact nature is up to you and your mentor. If you feel you could benefit from mentoring, organize your thoughts about your needs and contact an appropriate volunteer mentor above to determine if he or she is a match and available. ♦**



**(585) 546-1400**

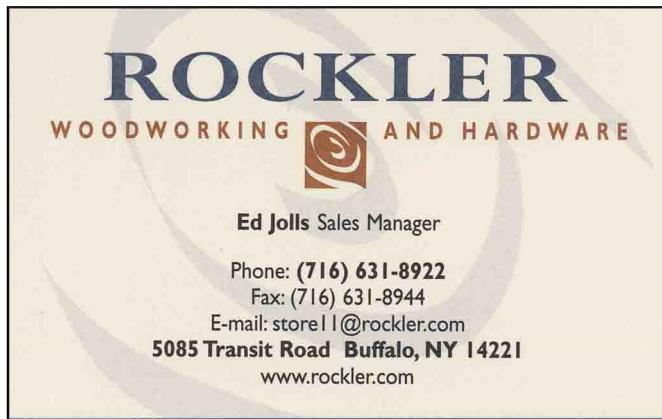
**Rheem 95% Efficient Furnace for just \$75/mo**

**0.99% interest** **+** for 48 months

**+**  
Save even more with rebates and tax credits

Certain conditions apply. Offer expires 10/31/13

**FLWT Thanks Rockler Woodworking and Hardware a 2013 Season Sponsor!**



- FLWT members (must show membership card) receive a 10% discount.
- Excludes sale items, power tools & Leigh jigs, CNC, Festool, and Rockler Gift Cards.
- Valid at Buffalo, N.Y store only.
- Not valid with any other coupon or offer. ♦

**FLWT Board of Directors 2012/2013**

Position	Name	Home Tel	Cell Tel	Email
President / Chair	Mark Mazzo	265-4002	978-1926	<a href="mailto:mark@mazzofamily.com">mark@mazzofamily.com</a>
Vice President	Bruce Trojan		261-7230	<a href="mailto:trojanbd@frontiernet.net">trojanbd@frontiernet.net</a>
Secretary	Bill McColgin	586-1417	402-0967	<a href="mailto:mccolgin@rochester.rr.com">mccolgin@rochester.rr.com</a>
Treasurer	Clifford Weatherell	737-7815	737-7815	<a href="mailto:canoeboy@rochester.rr.com">canoeboy@rochester.rr.com</a>
Librarian	Gary Russell	227-8527		<a href="mailto:cngrussell@gmail.com">cngrussell@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter	Dan Meyerhoefer	671-5595		<a href="mailto:d.meyerhoefer@att.net">d.meyerhoefer@att.net</a>
Advisor	Jeffery Cheramie			
Advisor	Roger Coleman	288-0344		<a href="mailto:rogeracoleman@rochester.rr.com">rogeracoleman@rochester.rr.com</a>

# NOTES

**Faux Marbling with Barbara & Charlie LaPrease  
&  
Finishing Tips for the Woodturner**

## Faux Marbling / Flocking with Barbara & Charlie LaPrease

### Sawdust & Woodchips Woodworking Association Meeting – September 5, 2013

**Definition:** The art of floating paints on a thickened liquid or water, patterning a design, and making a *contact* print.

#### Materials:

Methyl Cellulose	<i>Used to thicken water.</i>
Ammonia	Use clear household ammonia that <b>DOES NOT</b> contain ionic surfactants, perfumes, alcohol, detergent, or color. <i>Used to change pH of water.</i>
White Vinegar	<i>Used to neutralize ammonia.</i>
Distilled Water	<i>Used to mix paint and bath.</i>
Newspapers	Tear into strips. <i>Used to clean bath.</i>
Acrylic Paint	Most can be used. Experimentation is critical. Golden Fluid Acrylic or Golden Air Brush Paint are higher quality paints.
Alum	Aluminum sulfate or potassium sulfate. <i>Use as mordant which causes the paint to stick to an object.</i> DO NOT use household or pickling alum.
Eye Droppers	<i>Used to drop paint on bath.</i>
Gloves & Drop Cloth	<i>Used to protect Hands &amp; Work Surface</i>
Small Cups / Toothpicks or Chopsticks	<i>Used to mix paints with water to dilute</i>
Container	Any container should be large enough to handle the size of objects being marbled plus the liquid.

#### Recipes:

<b>Mordant</b>	1½ teaspoon alum to 1 cup warm water. Stir until crystals dissolve. One article suggests 8 cups water (1/2 gallon) to ¼ cup alum
<b>Bath / Size</b>	4 tablespoons methyl cellulose to 1 gallon distilled water. Stir until particles are dissolved. Add 2 teaspoons of ammonia and stir until thick. Wait ½ to 1 hour to allow thickening to continue – then add 2 teaspoons of white vinegar and stir. Let sit a minimum of 3 hours; however, overnight works best.
<b>Wash</b>	Bucket of warm water
<b>Paint</b>	1 part paint to 1 part distilled water as a start. May need to adjust. Different colors of paint float differently.

#### General Guidelines:

<b>Set Up</b>	There is a fair bit of prep and set up, so starting
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- Wash** Floating the piece in warm water is preferable to holding it under a faucet. Be very gentle or the colors can blur. Hang to dry.
- Mix Paint** Small medicine cups or plastic shot glasses can be used for mixing paint. Paint needs to be covered when not in use. Make sure paint is well mixed before measuring. Particles tend to settle to the bottom. Mix paint and distilled water in a **1 to 1 ratio to start**. Measure paint first and water second; water will wash out paint and you will not waste paint. Mix all colors of paint at one time. Stir well before each use. Test drop of color on bath to make sure they will spread properly.

**Problems:**

**Paint Sinks** – surface may be dirty; bath may be too thick; the paint was dropped too hard; colors not expanded before adding additional colors

**Fuzzy Edges** – temperature of bath and paint not the same; bath too thick; paint too thick; bath not aged long enough

**Paint Particles** – paint not completely mixed; dropper may need to be cleaned

**WARNING: Never throw sizing into plumbing**

**Resources:**

*Marbling Techniques: How to Create Traditional and Contemporary Designs on Paper and Fabric* by Wendy Addison Medeiros

*The Weekend Crafter: Marbling: Easy & Elegant Projects for Paper & Fabric* by Laura Sims

*Art of Marbling DVD* distributed by Education Video Network

*Marbling Turnings: Fluid, Mesmerizing and Spontaneous* by Mary-Celine Thouin from the Winter 2002 American Woodturner available on the internet at <http://www.mceline-artisan.com/article.html>

**Purchasing Supplies:**

Alum and Methyl Cellulose can be purchased via the Earth Guild of our Asheville, NC – <http://www.earthguild.com> under dyes. There is also a set of instructions on their website. Another website is Dharma Trading at <http://www.dharmatrading.com>.

Golden Acrylic paint can be purchased locally at an art supply store or via Blick Art Materials - <http://www.dickblick.com>.

## Finishing for the Turner

*A poor finish will make a great piece look good  
A good finish will make a good piece look great*

### ✘ Preparing to Finish

- ✘ The first step to any finish is to start with a wood surface that is properly sanded.
- ✘ All finishes tend to magnify the surface underneath the finish; therefore, the applied finish will accentuate any defects.
- ✘ Consider sanding as the cornerstone a building – if not completed well, the building will collapse!
- ✘ Tear Out? Try using **Sanding Sealer** or a half & half combo of **Sanding Sealer** and **Turpentine**. Also **Mineral Oil** can be used.
  - Put on to prevent additional tearout when you thing you are at the final cut. Then, sharpen your tool and complete the final cut.

### ✘ SANDING

- Start at the lowest grit needed – if you need to start at 80, start at 80.
- Remember, the first grit is used the most. Once you get past the first, your sanding will go faster because the *rough* spots are gone.
- **Power Sanding** – Pneumatic sanding devices attached to an air compressor are wonderful devices.
  - **Pneumatic Sanders** – Grex Power Tools - **AOS368** - 2" 105° Angle Random Orbital Sander ([www.grextools.com](http://www.grextools.com)) \$110 at Amazon.com ALSO - extension shaft kit with a 3" and 5" shafts.
  - **High Speed Die Grinder** with buffing attachment
- **Compressed Air** – Blow off sawdust once done. Also wipe with cloth or paper towel

### ✘ Filling Gaps or Holes

- ✘ Many different products can be used to fill holes and decorate the turning.
  - Inlacc; Metal Leafing; Surface Inlay; Charcoal

### ✘ Why Bottles?

- ✘ Buying in larger quantities is cheaper but opening and closing the larger containers lets air in and can spoil the product
- ✘ Mixtures easier to maintain

### ✘ Finishes

- ✘ Most finishes for turning are natural
- ✘ The wood will determine the finish
- ✘ Finishes are used to enhance the quality and look of a piece
- ✘ When applying finishes, protect your lathe, eyes and clothing

### ✘ Shellac-Based Finishes – mixing your own vs premixed

- Color – blonde, orange, garnet, beige, lemon
- Premixed
  - **Mylands Friction Polish**
  - **Hut Crystal Coat**

**The Shellac Shack** [[www.shellacshack.com](http://www.shellacshack.com)] is a good place to buy flakes. Each order of flakes (blonde is about \$32 per pound) comes with instructions.

- ✘ The term cut refers to the quantity of shellac (in pounds) in a gallon of alcohol. Thus a 2 pound cut means 2 pounds of shellac flakes dissolved in a gallon of alcohol. Rarely if ever do you mix that much because you should only make enough to finish your project.
- ✘ A chart for mixing 8-10 oz of finish at various cuts:
  - 1 pound cut .... 1 oz flakes .... 8 oz (1 cup) alcohol
  - 2 pound cut .... 2 oz flakes .... 8 oz (1 cup) alcohol
  - 3 pound cut .... 3 oz flakes .... 8 oz (1 cup) alcohol
- ✘ When dissolving flakes, it is best to crush them as they will dissolve much quicker. A coffee grinder is a good tool to use. Dissolving can take 24 to 36 hours to completely dissolve. Shake or stir regularly to encourage dissolving.

### ✘ Polyurethane Finishes

- Liquid plastic resins that dry to a durable satin or gloss finish
- Composed of vegetable oil acids, nitrogen compounds, and isocyanates in a mineral spirits carrier.
- Can cause a slight amber color on light colored woods due to the oil
- Water based polyurethanes are used on light colored woods
- Sand between coats.
- Regular allows recoating in 4-18hrs whereas water-based can be recoated in 1-4 hrs.

### ✘ Oil Based Finishes

- Often considered the "holy grail" of woodturning finishes
- Many commercial products but many turners prefer to handcraft their own formulas
- Apply thin, even coats
- Examples:
  - **Danish Oil (Watco)** – natural, medium walnut, golden oak, light walnut, dark walnut, fruitwood, black walnut, cherry, red mahogany
  - **Antique Oil (Olympic)**
  - **Bush Oil**
  - **Waterlox** – Tung oil based finish. First coat penetrates and seals, and remaining coats build up surface.
  - **Tung Oil**
  - **Teak Oil**
  - **Tried & True** – original, varnish oil, danish oil

### ✘ Lacquer Finishes

- Builds a durable crystal clear film that gives depth and clarity to the wood surface
- Easy to apply but is most difficult to do well
- Examples:
  - **Deft**
  - **CAB Acrylic Lacquer or Luster Lac (Valspar)**
  - **Clear Brushing Lacquer (Minwax)**
  - **Qualalacq Lacquer (Behlen)**
  - **Clear Lacquer Finish (Watco)**
  - **Lacquer & Sealer (Luthier's)**

### ✘ Specialty Finishes

- **CA Glue** as a finish
- 1/3 rule -
- Examples:
  - **Danish Oil, Boiled Linseed Oil, Wipe-On Poly**
  - **Tung Oil, Boiled Linseed Oil, Wipe-On Poly**

### ✘ Non-Toxic Finishes

- Finishes that can be used on pieces that will be used for food
- Examples:

▪ <b>Mineral Oil</b>	▪ <b>Salad Bowl Finish</b>
▪ <b>Butcher Block Oil</b>	▪ <b>Walnut Oil</b>
▪ <b>Lemon Oil Wax</b>	▪ <b>Nordic Oil</b>

### ✘ Dyes or Stains

- Can change the look of any piece
- Water Soluble Aniline Dyes – premixed or your mixing
- Intermixable Transparent Wood Stains (Woodburst)
- Mixol Universal Tints

### ✘ Paints

- New H<sup>2</sup>O Sprays
- Air Brushing

**Non-Toxic Bees Wax Finish**  
½ Cup Heaping Cut Shaved Beeswax  
1 pint of mineral oil  
[www.toymakingplans.com/how-to](http://www.toymakingplans.com/how-to)

Compiled By: Charlie & Barb LaPrease, May 16, 2013 for the Finger Lakes Woodturners Meeting