

### President's Letter July 2020



July is usually the time I'm in between shows, and in the shop frantically making boxes, vases, bowls, and more, to keep up with sales. It is refreshing to be able to slow down a little and take time to try out new ideas and techniques – like turning a yoyo. I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and trying something new.

Last month, Jeffrey Cheramie was our keynote demonstration, showing us how to make a yoyo from a single piece of wood, and no need for store bought parts beyond the string and o-ring. The demo was well attended, and I hope to see some yoyo images posted on our FaceBook page soon.

This month, on July 16, our demonstrators will be Alan and Lauren Zenreich, who will show the tools, techniques, and procedures they use to make wooden jewelry. The demo will originate at their shop in New Jersey. The pictures of their work posted on our website are stunning, and I am looking forward to seeing and hearing about their work – I hope you are as well.

In addition to monthly meetings, we also had a great Super Show and Share on the first Thursday in July – organized by Jeffrey Cheramie. We heard directly from David Barnet and his basketweaving-inspired designs, and Erv Tschanz on some intriguing historical recreations. We also heard Bill McColgin explain how he used a piece of burl that has been sitting in his shop for a long time – until an FLWT IRD inspired him to give it a go.

We brought back the auctions last month, with rousing success. Five pieces, graciously donated by David Gould, sold for an average of \$32 each – all going straight to the FLWT treasury. Given the response, you can expect to see more auctions in the near future. If you have anything you'd like to donate, please let us know. In addition to the auctions, we also brought back the Library and the ability to purchase sandpaper and Anchor Seal. Despite being locked up by COVID, we are working hard to keep up the club activities we all enjoy. If there is more you'd like to see, please reach out – we are always interested in trying something new.

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Next month we will be able to share the full results of the member survey. A big thank you for all that participated. As I write this note, the AAW's first Virtual Symposium is up next on my horizon. I'm hoping to discover a lot of new things to try, and I hope that all of you are as well. Stay safe, be well, and try something new!

-Phil

#### Library

Phil Rose recently sent out an email letting members know the FLWT Library is back open. Members can see the items that we have in the Library by going to the following link on the [FLWT page](#). If you see an item you want, please email [Denis](#).

Denis will let you know if the item is in stock or checked out. If the item is in stock, you can pick it up at his house in Hilton, or you can pay for him to mail it out to you.

For returns there are a number of people who have signed up to be "return sites" for you to drop off items. The names and addresses of the "return sites" will be included in the emails that Denis will send out to get checked-out items returned.

All returned items will be quarantined for 72 hours per CDC guidelines before being put back into stock.

If you have spare time on your hands, don't hesitate to take advantage of this important member benefit.

## Turning a YoYo with Jeff Cheramie

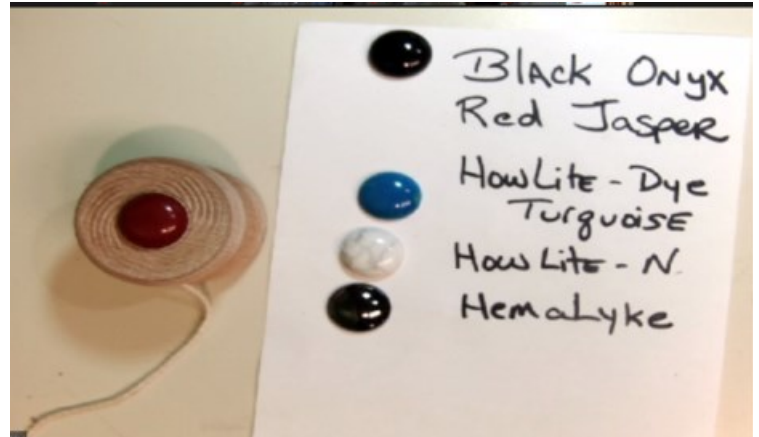


by Bruce Impey

Jeff collected Yoyos as a kid. Katrina took his collection. During our June virtual demonstration, Jeff showed us how to make one on the lathe. Jeff learned to do this online, especially following the instruction of Ed Davidson.

Choose a wood that is tight grained and dense. Tight grained wood has less variability in density and denser woods such as exotics are better. Mahogany is probably too light. Higher mass helps the Yoyo spin longer. The finished weight should

adds decoration, it adds mass to help the Yoyo spin longer. After roughing the cylinder with a skew, Jeff cut a tenon matching the angle of the chuck dovetail. The OD is to be 2", so the starting stock must obviously be > 2x2. The shoulder of



the tenon is critical for stability. Don't bottom it out in the chuck and do clean up the inside corner. Each side of the Yoyo is 3/8" to 1/2" outside the centerline of the string groove. Use a thin parting tool and make the groove 1 1/2 to 2 times the tool blade width. Too wide a groove gives string



ideally be between 45 and 75 g. Orientation of the grain is critical. If the grain runs perpendicular, the spindle will snap. Jeff holds the work in a scroll chuck and uses o-rings to hide the dovetails. The o-ring must be under 2" in OD. Jeff uses a #132, available from a supply house like McMaster-Carr or some local hardware. Durometer hardness can range from about 50 to 70. Silicone (red rubber) runs 50. Jeff doesn't like the color but likes the feel. Besides hiding the dovetail, the o-ring gives some shock protection in use.



Another aesthetic addition is cabochons. Use "calibrated" cabs, such as the 20mm ones available from Fire Mountain Gems. The stone not only



wobble.

Add texturing if desired and if adding a cabochon, make an indent with the skew to center the drill for cutting a 1/16" recess. The key is to make both sides identical. Last, finish cutting the string section, which was only 1/2" deep, to give a 3/8" diameter spindle.

Cabs can be glued with Gem Tac, available from Hobby Lobby or Michaels. String can be 6 or 8 strand. Jeff prefers cotton. Cliff commented that he made his from nylon kite string. Penn



Here's an affordable Yoyo kit Jim Echter found at Ollies Discount



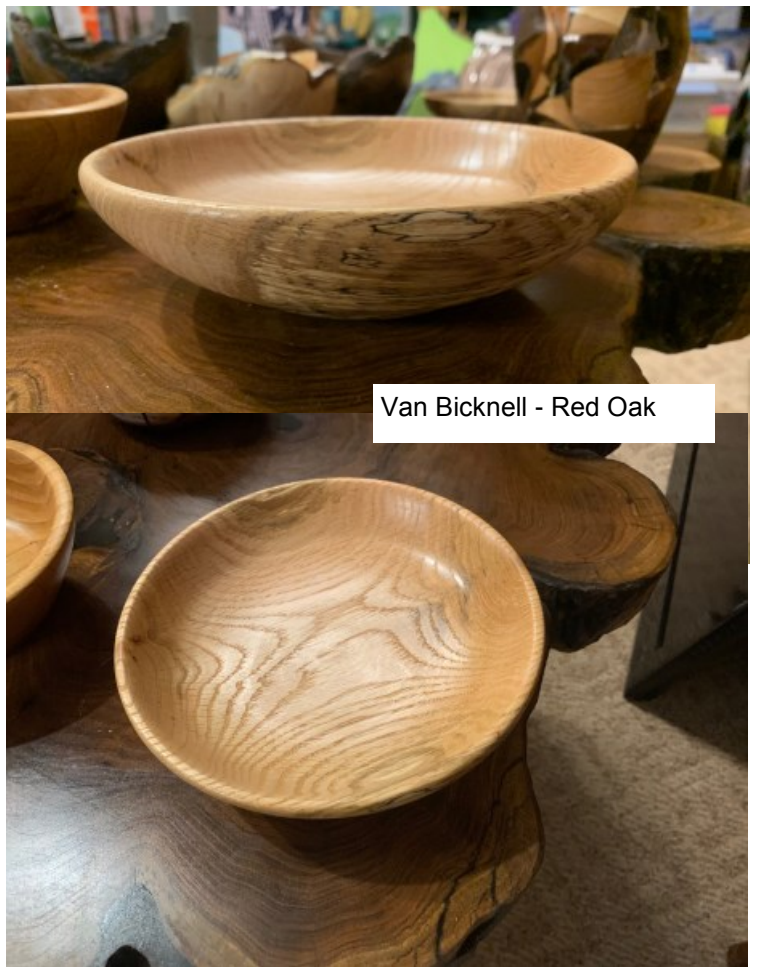
Show and Share



Mike Sullivan - first attempt at working with a burl



Van Bicknell - Apple live edge



Van Bicknell - Red Oak

## Making a Handled Top

David Gould



This project was inspired by a top made by the Rochester Folk Art Guild under the guidance of David Barnett, from

whom I had my first woodturning lesson. For two years I have tried unsuccessfully to schedule a demonstration by David of how to make these tops for our group and finally decided to take the bull by the horns and do the explanation myself, even though I have **never** made one. After some measurements and some reverse-engineering, I came up with the following list of basic parts for the top:

- a. 2 ½" x 2 ½" block of wood (I used Box Elder)
- b. 3/8ths inch dowel cut to 2 ½"
- c. 1 ¼" dowel cut to 7 ½"
- d. ¾" wood bead
- e. 19" length of braided cord (1/16" diameter)
- f. brass escutcheon pin

After finding the center of one side of the wood block I drilled a 3/8ths inch hole 3/4ths of an inch deep and glued the 3/8ths inch dowel rod in place.



While the glue was setting up I put the 1 ¼" dowel piece in extended dovetail jaws on my lathe and used a ¾" Forstner bit in a keyless chuck in the tail stock to drill out the center of the dowel to a depth of about 2 ½" and set it aside.

Using a Beall Collet Chuck to hold the dowel and with the tail stock brought up for stability I turned the block into a top shape and sanded the piece on the lathe to a final grit of 320.



Using the keyless chuck again to hold a 1/16" drill bit I drilled a starter hole for the brass escutcheon pin. The depth drilled was about 2/3rds the length of the pin which was tapped in with a light hammer after using a drop of thin CA glue to be confident it would be secure.



Moving to the jigsaw I cut out an opening in the hollowed end of the handle to a depth of 2 ¼" and a width of ½".



I attached the cord to the ¾" wooden bead. (Glue can be put on the end of the cord that will go through the hole to keep the cord from fraying. Once the tip of the cord is solid it can be trimmed to a point that will go through the hole in the dowel without fraying.)

I finished my top with a spray lacquer. As soon as it dried, I sent it spinning. A spin time of over a minute seems normal.

The plain dowel handle offers endless opportunities for embellishment. The coloration of the Box Elder blank I used required nothing else to catch the eye. Other less colorful woods would lend themselves to further enhanced designs.

Happy turning and spinning.



The above picture shows a mark where a ½" hole will be drilled through the handle to accept the 3/8" dowel. The center of that hole is 1 ¾" from the front of the handle.

Then I drilled a 3/32" hole through the 3/8" dowel to accept the braided cord.



## 2019-20 SCHEDULE AND MENTOR CONTACTS

July 16	Alan and Lauren Zenreich – Pendants and other Jewelry
Aug 20	Joe Wiesnet – Bottoms Up – Foot First
Sept 24	Trent Bosch – Topic(s) TBD NOTE: This is <i>not</i> the normal 3rd Thursday date
Oct 15	Cindy Drozda – Remote Demo – Topic(s) TBD
Nov 19	Donna Gould – Surface Embellishment
Dec 17	Round Robin – Food, Drink, and Fun

### Mentor Contacts

Name	Phone (585)	Email	Turning Skills / Specialty
Mike Brawley	755-2714	<a href="mailto:mbrawley@rochester.rr.com">mbrawley@rochester.rr.com</a>	Design Principles, Spindles; Bowls and Platters; Sharpening
Jim Byron	478-9911	<a href="mailto:jimbyronhome@yahoo.com">jimbyronhome@yahoo.com</a>	General Turning; Bowls, Spindles; Hollowing; Sharpening
Ward Donahue	334-3178	<a href="mailto:wddonah@frontiernet.net">wddonah@frontiernet.net</a>	Spindles; Hollowing; Coring; Sharpening
Jim Echter	704-7610	<a href="mailto:jechter@rochester.rr.com">jechter@rochester.rr.com</a>	Spindles; Sharpening; Faceplate turning
David Gould	245-1212	<a href="mailto:d2sGould@aol.com">d2sGould@aol.com</a>	Bowls; Plates; Hollow-Forms
Jim Hotaling	223-4877	<a href="mailto:jhotal2198@aol.com">jhotal2198@aol.com</a>	Christmas Ornaments
Terry Lund	455-2517	<a href="mailto:terry.lund@gmail.com">terry.lund@gmail.com</a>	General Turning; Dust Collection Design and Installation, Sharpening
Ralph Mosher	359-0986	<a href="mailto:2mosher@rochester.rr.com">2mosher@rochester.rr.com</a>	Bowls; Faceplate Turning, Sharpening
Erwin Tschanz	271-5263	<a href="mailto:TschanzLandscape@aol.com">TschanzLandscape@aol.com</a>	Historical; Bowls; Plates; Goblets; Boxes; Bone; Antler
Gary Russell	353-3148	<a href="mailto:cngrussell@gmail.com">cngrussell@gmail.com</a>	General turning, bowls, ornaments, finials

**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 regular 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. ♦**

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