

## **Rick Urban Woodturner**

Demonstration: It's a Small World – Turn Small to Learn Big!

### Overview

Primary Audience: Novice to Intermediate

Why turn miniatures? Some woodturners enjoy seeing just how small they can make something, and I once saw a goblet that wasn't more than about two millimeters tall, and upon magnification one could see it was nicely crafted. John Lucas kept it in a tiny glass vial to keep from losing it. Some don't turn large objects because they have only a small lathe. Here is another case for turning small works.

Everyone knows the value of practice when it comes to building "muscle memory" for skills such as woodturning. It has been said that by the time you turn 10,000 bowls you will be an expert (or words conveying that same thought). In the time it takes to turn a 12" bowl or platter you can turn many 3" or 4" bowls or platters. That means you can tally your 10,000<sup>th</sup> bowl much sooner!

This demo subtly delivers that powerful message while creating several miniature projects like platters, bowls, or vessels that are then compared to examine the nuances that lead to a more pleasing form and features that make the work a successful stand out.

The following are routinely included in all my demos and mini-workshops as applicable.

Safety including:

- Examination of blanks for structural integrity.
- Remaining alert for warning signs during turning.
- Respect for the *kill zone* and use of a face shield.
- My tripple S mnemonic for safety. Secure, Spin, and Speed.

Tool selection use.

The ABCs of tool presentation.

Self critique is used to help everyone learn to identify areas for growth.