Brad Carvey Finishing

Friction Polish:

Mix equal parts shellac and walnut oil. Shake before applying. Use either Mahoney's or doctor woodshop walnut oil.

Abrasive Paste;

Place an old can in a pot of gently boiling water. I use a cheap water heater from Target to heat the water.

Add a cup of mineral oil with a 1/4 cup of bees wax pellets to the can. Use a little bit less than a 1/4 cup of bees wax for a softer paste. Stir the mixture till the wax melts. Remove the can from the water. Stir occasionally as the mixture cools. When it starts to thicken, add a 1/4 cup of pumice. At this point you must continue to stir as the mixture cools. Stir until the mixture is thick enough that the pumice won't settle to the bottom. The mixture should be too thick to easy pour, when you transfer it to a container that you plan to use.

Spread the abrasive paste on a sanded bowl. Turn on the lathe to about 450 rpm and use a paper towel to sand the bowl. Apply pressure to the paste as it turns. With a clean paper towel rub the bowl, using clean sections, until the paste is removed.

I would recommend applying the Friction Polish right after using the abrasive paste. Shake the bottle and apply polish to the bowl. Turn on the lathe to a slow speed. Start applying pressure and increase the speed to about 750 rpm. Continue polishing till the paper towel starts to show the hardened shellac on the towel. The section of the towel applying the pressure will have a smooth shiny surface. Apply additional coats till you get the glossiness you want. More coats will make the surface more glossy.