



November 2013



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Thank you and Happy Veterans Day to you all!

Also, here's hoping everyone will indulge in wonderful food with family and friends this Thanksgiving.

We are so blessed and have much to be thankful for!

HOW TO CALL THE POLICE WHEN YOU'RE OLD, AND DON'T MOVE FAST ANYMORE.....

George Phillips, an elderly man from Walled Lake, MI, was going up to bed, when his wife told him that he'd left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window. George opened the back door to go turn off the light, but saw that there were people in the shed stealing things. He phoned the police, who asked "Is someone in your house?" He said "No, but some people are breaking into my garden shed and stealing from me."

Then the police dispatcher said "All patrols are busy. You should lock your doors and an officer will be along when one is available."

George said, "Okay." He hung up the phone and counted to 30. Then he phoned the police again.

"Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed. Well, you don't have to worry about them now, because I just shot and killed them both - - the dogs are eating them right now," and he hung up.

Within five minutes, six Police Cars, a SWAT Team, a Helicopter, two Fire Trucks, a Paramedic, and an Ambulance showed up at the Phillips' residence, and caught the burglars red-handed.

One of the officers said to George, "I thought you said that you'd shot them!"

George said, "I thought you said there was nobody available!"

Don't mess with old people!

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TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Topic of the Month: Preventing vibration

First, my definition of a hollow form is any turning that you cannot reach with bevel supported cuts using a bowl gouge or spindle gouge. If you can reach the surface with a bevel supported slicing cut you can create a more continuous line and sweeter shapes that slice through the fibers cleaner than we can with boring bars or hollowing tools. The grain orientation can be end grain or side grain. It is the shape of the vessel that dictates what tools we use and whether it is a hollow form or bowl shape.

Let me address the "how to hollow" a bit. I could write a book about the subject, and probably I have over the years written enough to compile a book. There is a lot more to hollowing than using the right tools. There are a multitude of topics you needed to know about how to hollow. There is tool control, chucking methods, working in stages, grain orientation, sharpening, reversing options, design elements, laser measuring techniques, and on and on and on. Let me break it down and address one major problem...vibration. Vibration is a no-no, we can't and don't want to go there. When we get vibration, we need to stop and fix it. When we get vibration, nothing good can happen, it will always get worse, and something very bad can be the end result. Vibration can be caused in three different ways.

First, the method of holding the wood can fail. Here is where I would never use a chuck. The chuck is not what fails, but it is the fact we are grabbing a sponge. The wood compresses and fails to transfer the power and stability of the lathe to the wood. Use a strong faceplate with many screws for a better grip of the wood, reducing the vibration tendencies. I don't use chucks at all because of the limitations. If you use a chuck for hollow forms you are turning with one hand tied behind your back.

Second, the wood can flex and vibrate under the stresses of the cuts. Here we learn to work in stages so we have lots of waste wood at the

bottom of the vessel to support the cut way out at the mouth opening. Visualize, we are turning a goblet 12 inches tall and three inches in diameter. Can I grip a 3"x3"x12" piece of wood in any fashion and hollow out the goblet without vibration? Impossible! So I need to start with a larger piece of wood and have support for the hollowing cuts and work my way back to the foot gradually. We always need waste wood supporting the wood and preventing vibration. Is it OK to waste a little wood here? We have to fight our frugal gene here, it's only firewood. The last resort for me would be to use a steady rest. They are a nightmare to use and get in the way and often dictate the shape...not a good plan. The third way vibration happens is extending too far into the vessel with too large of an overhang over the tool rest. In this case the boring bar just plain starts to bend and flex and vibrate. There are many variables that exacerbate the vibration, tool control, green wood vs. dry wood, porous wood vs. tight grain wood, and how sharp the tools are, and your experience level. The way to stop the boring bar from vibrating would be to take light, more efficient cuts or use a larger diameter boring bar. Just because the boring bar is 20 inches long does not mean you can turn a 20 inch deep vessel. White knuckling and gritting your teeth to force your way deeper can get you in big trouble. It's not safe to hollow with vibration. The sound of the cut should be a hissing sound, nothing more. I surely welcome more detailed, specific questions about the hollowing process. My latest DVD "In Depth Hollowing" uses the carbide cutter and advanced techniques to help you enjoy the hollowing process.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

BOWL GOUGE GRIND WING ANGLES

Lyle,

Before I put my new bowl gouge to the grinding wheel I have a question. I marked the edge with a magic marker to see where the grinding wheel would touch. Following the directions on your DVD I adjusted the jig for the tip and the angle. On the left side everything is correct but when I do the right side I notice that the marker isn't being scuffed off all the way from the heel to toe. So I adjusted it and then found that it wasn't correct on the right side. I have done this several times and each time it comes out the same. Could it be that the angle that it was originally ground at is a little off on one side? If so then I'll just make both sides the same.

Thanks for the help.

Art

Hi Art from New York,

It can be just an optical illusion. If one wing is ground back a bit farther, it may appear that the angle is off. Every grinder will be slightly different than any other. The differences are likely caused from the sharpening sliding arm position that is not right in the middle of the wheel. Mine might be a little off to the right and yours a little off to the left. The slight angle differences will not affect the grind or its use. Go ahead and sharpen it with your jig set up (to one side or the other) and the correction will be made when you sharpen it. You are correct just make both sides the same with your grinder. Sharpening is all about repeatability. The angles can be a little different with no problem. The angles are only a preference,

many are different and they will work just fine. In fact, the right and left can be different without causing any problems. You may want to adjust it to your own specs once you have experience enough to desire a steeper or blunter grind for the turning you like to do. My angles are set to be user friendly and be very versatile to do all the cuts easily.

CARBIDE CUTTER FIT

Lyle:

Thanks for sending the replacement knob.

Please include me in your email list.

I looked over the material you sent and will likely be ordering the carbide cutter assembly soon. Will it fit into the boring bar I have been using all along? In the photo it looks square and the hole is round.

Thanks again,

Ken

Hi Ken from California

If you have my system it will work. It replaces the 3/16" square HSS cutter. The carbide cutter shaft is 3/16" and the cutter is small by design. It is all about the efficiency, it takes the correct amount of wood. My latest DVD uses the carbide cutter and I have an article I have written for the details on the rules for it and defining the three cuts you do. I will send the article with your order so you have it in written form too.

SANDING HOLLOW FORMS AND PREVENTING VIBRATION

Lyle,

Received the larger boring bar and it works much better for me below 7 inches.

I recently reviewed the DVD you sent with the original laser system where you do a goblet. I understand leaving the large amount of wood in place as you work your way down the stem but would that also be the process on a 10 inch urn. I have been finish turning and sanding the outside before hollowing the inside. I also hold it with a chuck rather than a face plate. Your thoughts!

Hi Bill from Missouri,

Yes, I always do all my hollow forms in stages with waste wood to prevent vibration: hollow easier, hollow faster, reduce limitations. I, also, NEVER USE A CHUCK! It is a limiting factor. I want to open up possibilities not limit them, for the same reasons I do the hollow form shape on the outside in stages: faster, easier, limit restrictions. Yes, if it is dry enough to sand finish the outside before hollowing. After hollowing the wood will dry quickly. There is no big advantage to sanding before or after hollowing.

CLASS AVAILABILITY AND COSTS

Lyle,

I have just read your newsletter and schedule and need to ask 2 questions.

Do you have any openings in your Two Day Hands-On Foundations Workshops for Beginners and if so where and when?

What would be the possibility of your coming to the Starkville, MS area for a one-on-one workshop at my shop and the cost?

Thank you very much. I look forward to receiving your answer.
Duane

Hi Duane from Mississippi

Nice to hear from you, thanks for the inquiry. I have a waiting list for my local classes in Michigan. I arrange dates for the classes at students' convenience. They are held often, so often in fact, that I have trouble keeping the calendar updated fast enough to get most of them posted. The two day Foundations class held here in Traverse City, Michigan is \$300.00 with three students to a class. I supply everything, wood, tools, and lunch for two days.

To answer your other question, a 1-on-1 in a student's shop is what I do a lot as I am traveling on my teaching tours. (I fill in the midweek days on my calendar while I work with the clubs or at symposium functions that are usually on the weekends.) If I am in your neighborhood, the fee is \$300.00 per day for a 1-on-1 workshop. This way you have little or no travel expense. I travel near you often, so I'm sure we could work out a time for you to kick it up a notch!

Please call me to chat about what would work best, my number is 231-947-2348.

FEEDBACK

Lyle,

A pleasure to have met you Friday last week at the NC Symposium! As a novice woodturner [and an engineer] I came to appreciate your process as presented in the Bowl Basics video I had borrowed from the club library. I will place an order in a week or so for my own copy [overspent the budget for this pay period at the Symposium] and will use it regularly to help keep up with the right habits.

Reading your "Are you with me" note this morning I see why you may be frustrated with the multitude of "systems" being shown out there.

Sometimes others are for commercial gain intention and sometimes I think just because they have always done it that way.

BTW - I especially like your use of large scale props for technique sharing. This was especially valuable for me when I was looking for technique improvement. I am still behind on working away from my woodscrew and chucking practices but will tell you that I intend to do my next bowl with your glue block technique. It just makes sense to try it.

Thanks again for taking the time to put together a great little video.

Regards,

Tom from North Carolina

Thank you for your time and effort. I got the screws have put them to use already. Your hollowing system helped me up my turning and cut my interior sanding dramatically. I look forward to meeting you on the wood turning trail.

Gary from Oregon

You are the first person who has been thorough. I started turning 45 years ago but stopped after school, but since restarted and having problems sharpening. Thank you for the great Video (on sharpening).

John, on YouTube, location unknown

Great info (about starting on the balance point), I'll have to try that next time. My lathe will only slow down to about 700 rpm, so I have been reluctant to turn much green wood blocks, but I really want too.

Lynn, on YouTube, location unknown

CALENDAR

Check out my website calendar for more specifics.

<http://www.lylejamieson.com/information/calendar.asp>

February, 2014 – Tennessee

March, 2014 – New York

April, 2014 – Georgia

June, 2014 - Arizona

August, 2014 – Illinois, Texas

September, 2014 – Virginia