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CROW KILLS

Researchers for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority found over 200 dead crows near greater Boston recently, and there was concern that they may have died from Avian Flu. A Bird Pathologist examined the remains of all the crows, and, to everyone's relief, confirmed the problem was definitely NOT Avian Flu. The cause of death appeared to be vehicular impacts. However, during the detailed analysis it was noted that varying colors of paints appeared on the bird's beaks and claws. By analyzing these paint residues it was determined that 98% of the crows had been killed by impact with trucks, while only 2% were killed by an impact with a car. MTA then hired an Ornithological Behaviorist to determine if there was a cause for the disproportionate percentages of truck kills versus car kills. The Ornithological Behaviorist very quickly concluded the cause: when crows eat road kill, they always have a look-out crow in a nearby tree to warn of impending danger. They discovered that while all the lookout crows could shout "Cah", not a single one could shout "Truck."

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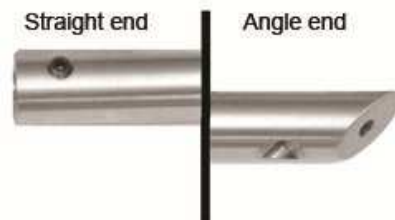
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NEW 1/2 INCH DIAMETER BORING BAR

Designed the same as the 3/4 inch boring bar, with has a dual purpose. On one end the 3/16 cutter is straight out the end. On the other end of the boring bar the cutter is on a 45 degree angle. This versatility allows reach into any shape vessel. Two bars for the price of one.

This allows the entry into very small mouth openings. An example would be to reach and hollow Christmas ornaments and small lidded boxes. It is ideal for any small vessel hollowing up to 6 inches tall. Package includes: 1/2 inch boring bar – 1/8 inch "T" Allen key – 1/2 inch Bushing – HSS cutter.



TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Topic of the Month: Dust and Mold Safety

(This month I will again use a question for the topic of the month.)

Lyle,

I have been only turning bowls for about 6 months. At first I had lots of problems with cracks forming on my green bowls after the primary turning. You helped me out and gave me some good suggestions on how to prevent the cracks from forming. I have not had any problems with green bowl cracking since implementation of your suggestions to slow the drying out process and making adjustments to the bowls wall and bottom thickness. Now I have another problem that I could use your input.

I have been applying a wax emulsion to the end grain of my bowls plus putting each bowl in a brown paper sack. I store all my bowls on the floor of my heated basement that is relatively dry. My new problem now is the formation of black mold spots primarily in the wax emulsion sealer applied to the end grain area of each bowl. Would it be advisable to use bleach or vinegar and get rid of the mold now or just turn off the mold when the wood is dry? I don't know if I want to inhale saw dust that has black mold mixed in with it.

Could this be one of the reasons you don't double turn bowls anymore? I have a stockpile of 15 bowls in various stages of drying out and many of them have this mold on them. I should have checked on my bowls inside the brown paper sacks to find out how they were doing more frequently. Do you any suggestions on how I should handle this bowl mold problem?

Thanks again,
John from Michigan

Hi John,

Nice to hear from you and your thoughts are right on target. We all must be careful with the mold and dust issue. Turners have been dealing with mold forever. We need to start with green wood and the decay process produces mold (spalting). I am no expert on the kind of mold we are dealing with. For most people it has no harmful effects but some people might react to it adversely. Wood sensitivities are cumulative. You might be OK with it now but the buildup over years could lead to health problems.

You are correct, I do not double turn, so my mold exposure is reduced. I do, however, have mold sometimes on my stored wood pile before I start turning the tree sections. When I am turning my figurative sculptures I have to keep the wood wet for about a week while I work on the multi-axis hollowing. The wood is too thick at this stage to let it dry out. I have a spray bottle at the lathe with a few tablespoons of bleach in it to help retard the mold. I cover the sculpture with plastic overnight, and without the bleach I will usually see mold in the morning.

When double turning, you need to control the rate of drying. Drying too fast and it will crack, drying too slowly and it will get excessive mold. Your thoughts about checking it more often will help you control the drying rate.

OK, what about the dust when turning? When turning green wood the mold has not started much and the green shavings drop to the floor and don't linger in the air very much. When they are on the floor they dry out. Then we kick them around and fine dust mixes with the air. Some turners keep cleaning up all the shavings and sawdust to keep the floor clean every day. (I do not) I would think keeping the shop clean is much healthier, especially if there is any breathing issues like COPD or if you are a smoker. When we turn dry wood the dust is directly mixed with the air right off the tool. I would suggest wearing a dust mask most of the time but always when turning dry wood. A dust collector can help some but it is impossible to capture the shavings at the lathe. Shavings get scattered in all directions. While sanding a dust collector system would be a big help.

With all that said the biggest danger is from the fine particulate in the air that you cannot see. Any time we are in the shop we kick up dust no matter how much cleaning you do. The best protection for this fine stuff is an overhead air exchanging dust filter that gets the little stuff that the dust mask and other things don't protect you from. Most filter down to smaller than 1 micron size particles.

Do I do all this stuff? No, I am not as diligent as I should be. We only have one set of eyes, one set of ears, one set of lungs. We need to be smart about abusing them and use every possible protection available. I always wear a face shield, always. I always use ear protection when using anything louder than the lathe. (I already have some hearing loss from my ignorance in using hearing protection in the past) I keep my exposure to dust and mold to a bare minimum. I could do better. I have seen some really sad stories from dust, wood, and mold exposure. Don't be one of the statistics. Don't wait until the doctor tells you there is irreversible damage.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

YOUTUBE CONTENT

Lyle,

Thank you so much for taking the time to talk to me, I loved it. I would love to have you stay here anytime you come or go through!

I watched the sharpening one and one of the bowl ones. Do you have all of the YouTube's on DVD?



(Please let me introduce you to Arlin. He is a disabled American Vet that has been through an amazing journey. With the help of God and many others close to him he has recovered significantly from severe injuries from a roadside bomb. They said he would never walk again but he is standing now. He had to learn to read, write and speak all over again. As you can see from his email below he is communicating as well as anybody. He is using turning as therapy of sorts and is excited about the learning process and enjoys the time he can spend at the lathe in a special chair that raises up high enough for him to turn. I feel blessed to have discovered this proud American, and I'm in awe at his strength and character. I will be visiting him soon and will do whatever I can do to help him develop his turning skills. If anyone wants to contribute to helping me help him, please give me a call.)

Hi Arlin from Iowa,

Nice to hear from you, thanks for sending the photo of your piece. WOW, that was a difficult piece! You did a very nice job on that. I like the style you have. It is very hard to get the transition from the base of the internal bowl to the bottom of the outside bowl. From what I can see in the photo you nailed it perfectly.

On the question about the difference between the DVDs and the YouTube clips...Some of the YouTube clips are taken from the DVDs. Some of the YouTube clips were recorded separately and have additional information that is not in the DVDs. I have 40 YouTube clips. To find them all, you need to go to my channel. Go to YouTube.com first and search for Lyle Jamieson and you can find them all.

HAND HELD BORING BAR AND INTERNAL TOOL REST

Hello Lyle,

Can you tell me the length of your 3/4" bar?

I am looking for an approximately 30" bar to be used with a 24" handle, non-captured.

Thanks, John

Hi John from Texas,

Nice to hear from you, thanks for the inquiry. I can make you one any length you want. The 3/4 inch bar is 17 inches long and my 1 1/8 inch diameter Jumbo bar is 21 1/2 inches long.

With all due respect I must chime in here and suggest you are asking the wrong question. If you want to do taller hollow form vessels it is not the length of the tool that will get you there. It is the diameter of the bar that will allow you to dangle off the tool rest deep into the vessel and turn without vibration. Any 3/4 inch bar will not be safe and have vibration problems on anything taller than 11-12 inches. And even then it will be a slow go. People push their tools beyond their limitations but it is not smart or safe.

A second observation is, sooner or later you will get tired or unable to take the beating that hand held tools give. You are investing time, energy and money in creating tools that are becoming obsolete. Even when you get good at hollowing by hand it is hard work and we cannot use a laser measuring device with hand held tools. So you are hollowing blind in there. Take a look at my Hollowing DVD.

Your club likely has it in their library or borrow it from a club member that has my tools. Better yet, go use my system before you invest in any more hand held tools. If both of those are not going to work for you I have 40 YouTube clips, many about hollowing. Here is one about vibration issues.

http://youtu.be/FVH-K_iux2U

You will end up spending a lot of money on multiple boring bars and handles, and different reach configurations to do the shape vessels you will want to create. I'd be glad to talk to you about your plans if you want to give a call.

(I talked with John. And he is using an internal tool rest with gated pins and hollowing through a large mouth opening. He can do very large hollow forms this way. His system works well. The downside is the hard work needed for hand held tools, and working blind. I suggested the best of both worlds by adding a "D" handle, back rest, and laser. He is selling his work and could increase his productivity significantly.)

DUST SAFETY AND BOWL GOUGE GRIND

Hi Lyle,

Thanks for the newsletters!

Two questions:

1. Would you write a review on the topic of air quality, filtration, setup around the lathe, etc.?
2. I think my grind has deviated from your original. Do you have detailed pictures of your grind?

Thanks!

Paul

Hi Paul from Illinois,

Air quality is an important part of turning safely. The damage from dust created in the shop is cumulative. It might not bother you now but it will manifest itself over a period of time. I usually turn green wood so my risk is less than those people that use dry wood or double turn. Dry wood is dustier and breaks up into smaller pieces than wet wood but there is still risk from both.

What you see in the Kleenex at the end of the day is not the stuff that will hurt you as bad as the fine particulate in the air you cannot see. The turning process produces mostly big chunks of dust that falls on the floor and you kick it around a bit. It is near impossible to capture the shavings from the turning cuts. They fly in all directions and some sort of hood made big enough to catch even some of them gets in the way big time. It is nice to have some sort of capture system close to the lathe when sanding. I do not have one of these connected to a dust collection system. I do have a shop vacuum dedicated to my stationary disk sander. But I don't use any other stationary tools in my turning studio besides my drill press.

My first line of protection is a dust mask. I use dust masks from the medical supply shops that have good fitting nose pieces and two straps and an exit port so they don't fog up my glasses. This stops the big stuff. I also have a fan that is facing out, in a window, to push out the cloud of dust when I do the carving, shaping, and sanding of my figurative sculptures. This alone is not a very good plan. I think the most important thing is to capture the very fine particulate, that we cannot see floating around the shop. We don't even have to be turning or sanding to kick up this fine dust. The way to filter this size dust is with one of the overhead filters that can get the small stuff. It continually exchanges the shop air through a filter fine enough to protect your health. Check the filtering power by looking at the specifications of the dust size particles it will stop (Under 1 micron) and make sure it has enough volume for your size shop. There are many brands out there.

On the grind for the bowl gouge there are two separate things to do. First, get the jig system set up to get the angles correct. This makes the grinder repeatable, fast and, easy. Second, is to grind in the right spot to get the shape you want. See the new gouge flier attached with a photo of the grind. Looking at it from the side view, grind the high spots and leave the low spots alone. My Bowl Basics DVD or YouTube clip on sharpening will help you.



HAND STRENGTH FOR HOLLOWING

Hello,

I am interesting in your boring bar system. I love woodturning and turning natural edge bowls and hollow forms; however recently my right hand that holds the handle started hurting from having to hold large tools to get deep into the hollow forms. It looks like your system is easier on the body and hands. I am 19 and would like to be able to continue woodturning for many years. How much does the amount of force required to hold the tool compare with hand held tools, for hollow forms specifically? Can I use it while having a relatively light grip with my right hand?

Cheers!

Steven

Hi Steven location unknown,

Nice to hear from you, thanks for the inquiry. Nineteen years old or did you transpose the numbers and you are 91!!! WOW, that's great! We rarely find young people involved with turning. My classes are filled with a lot of gray hair usually.

I have had many success stories with people that have had some serious physical problems. It usually only takes fingertip control to hollow with my system, I do it mostly with only one hand. The handle hand (right hand) only keeps the handle in place but does not get into the act at all. The back rest and handle take all the cutting and torqueing forces and we stand comfortably at the front of the lathe and watch the laser. The only time the right hand gets into the action is when the entry hole is very small and we need to slide the handle back and forth on the tool rest to make the cuts. Again this takes only fingertip control. Hollowing with my system is a finesse thing not a strength thing. We no longer have to work hard at all.

BACK REST USE TIPS

Lyle,

Question regarding the back rest, why did you shorten the one side? There are times when I need more room on one side or the other but find it inconvenient to shift it back and forth.

Ed Orecchio

Hi Ed from New Hampshire,

Good question! The back rest needs to be out over the backside of the lathe to swing the handle away from you when you undercut shoulders for bulbous shapes. It is rare that you ever swing the handle forward in front of the lathe. Usually we use the cutter swivel tip to access those areas along with the bent swivel. In other words, the tools usually do the work for you and reach those hard to reach places. Sometimes for that hard to reach spot through a very small mouth opening it is necessary to swing the backrest 180 degrees and make it easier to get into small holes. It is all about the entry hole size. If we open up the mouth a quarter inch larger it is reachable a lot easier and does not deter from the overall shape and look of the vessel.

When I designed the system I had to make the decision for the position and size of the backrest. I decided to make it more versatile, more maneuverable, more shippable, and more storable for the vast majority of turning needs, knowing it can be used both ways. It works best in the original position 95+ percent of the time. It would cost more to make, and cost more to ship just to make smaller entry holes. It would need to be 4 feet long to work as you suggest. It would get in its own way sticking out in front of the lathe all the time.

RULES FOR WALL THICKNESS

Lyle,

Question, is there any rule of thumb for wall thickness? The 13" bowl I turned at 1/4" the 6" bowls I turned at approx. 1/8", does it matter?

Thanks,

Pottsy

Hi Pottsy from Ohio,

I think your wall thickness is fine. Sometimes if I know the bowls are meant to be used I will give them a little thicker wall. It's all about feel and what looks good to you. It is what looks good to you...not me. I try to match the wall thickness with the use or look of the bowl. If it is functional I leave it a little thick. If it is natural edge and/or voids and fragile looking I want to keep the message to the viewer compatible or consistent with the vessel and make the wall thinner.

MINI LATHE LIMITATIONS AND PRICING TURNED PIECES

Hi Lyle,

Today I received a request to create a deep hollow form from 12 to 16 inches deep and 5 to 6 inches in diameter. Actually it would be a straight wall vessel. Guess who I thought of first? You let me try your system at the AAW Symposium in Tampa last year. The request is for black walnut or some other dark wood. I have a Jet 12-20 with a bed extension.

My first chore will be sourcing the wood. The next item is getting your recommendations on the equipment you sell that would be necessary for the lathe I have. I remember noticing in one of your newsletters that the Jet poses some kind of problem with the tool rest. I've been turning for some time but have never attempted anything this deep. Can you guide me on this adventure? I also have not thought about what to charge for this project as I don't have a feel for the level of difficulty. My initial "wild guess" would be \$150 to \$200 but I usually price things too low. A little help here would be nice too.

Regards,

Jim

Hi Jim from Florida,

Nice to hear from you, thanks for the kind words, you made my day!

I have some bad news. The lathe is too small to do a hollow form that tall, safely. The limiting factor is the one inch spindle size and the bearings on mini lathes. It will not carry the load. The tool rest for the mini will work for hollowing systems. So you need a bigger lathe and a hollowing system with a jumbo bar to hang over the tool rest that far without vibration. Some grit their teeth and force the equipment past their capabilities but it is not a good plan to exceed the tools limitations.

For your pricing structure I think you are way too low. I would think the value for the piece you describe would be double your first thoughts. It will cost you a few thousand dollars to upgrade your lathe to do something that big and you need special tools to do it safely. That is a pretty big price to pay and the person requesting this creation must realize it takes special tools and years of experience to handle such a big venture. I suggest you sneak up on scale in small increments and learn the challenges of handling that big of a tree safely.

CBN WHEELS

Lyle,

Just curious as to what you think about the CBN wheel. It seems that it is all the rage now. Due to its cost I don't know if it is worth it. I notice that you do not have one.

Byron

Hi Bryon location unknown,

Correct, I do not have a CBN wheel...yet. It has some big advantages for the hobbyist turner. The next time I need a wheel I will likely get one. They cut cool, last for a long time, stay stable, no dressing, no moving the grinding jig set up.

CRACKED BOWL DANGER

Lyle,

I have discovered an interesting way to determine the wall thickness and shape of a bowl. (See attached photo below) I had balanced the blank between centers, turned the outside and put it on a 3" glue block. Finished shaping the outside and sheer scraped. I then turned the inside in stages, got around the bottom corner by feel. All was looking great. I was ready to put the tools up, slow it down and sand. Then the worst kind of catch happened as I was taking the bowl gouge out, it's call inattentiveness, I caught the gouge on the edge of the bowl. As you can see from the photo the glue block held the large piece on the lathe, the rest went across the shop. I really hate to think what would have happen if I had used a chuck. Also from your advice on setting up the lathe I had installed a shut off switch on the right side of the lathe, so I didn't have to reach across the danger zone to turn it off. So even though I lost the best and biggest bowl I've turned to date, by following your way of turning that was all that was lost. Thanks again.

I've found the hardest thing about sheer scraping is after all that hogging off, to take your time and getting it smooth enough to start sanding at 220.

Potsy



Hi Potsy from Ohio,

Thanks for the testimonial about the mishap. Many parts of the learning curve are illustrated. It's the best way to learn, when you make a mistake and DON'T get hurt.

Let's learn something else from this piece. Take another close look at the pieces. It appears from the photo that the dark area at the bottom of the picture is darker than the rest of the broken edge above it. I don't think it is a shadow. If you look close it looks like it was a crack before it broke. That is why it broke there, because the crack was already there before you started. The discolored wood at the edge means the crack had oxidized. It is possible it had opened up as a crack and closed back up in the drying or storage time. The solution is to keep inspecting the wood in all stages of turning. Look at the tree, the rough out, and the finish cuts. Most of the time these things will reveal themselves before you get very far. Some people will continue turning when cracks are evident...but not me. If it has a crack it's firewood!

INSTALLING CBN WHEELS

Lyle,

Thanks for the quick response. I ordered a CNB wheel but when I tried to mount it (8") just like my wheels, it was too wide and scraped on the cover. Should I remove the cover or put a washer behind it?

Stan

Hi Stan from Florida

Everyone removes the cover. There is no danger of the wheel exploding like the AO wheels can do if they get cracked.

CUTTING BOWL BLANKS FROM THE TREE

Lyle,

This is one of the bowl blanks I cut yesterday and we talked about on the phone. I was able to get 8, they range in length from 17" to 21" and are 19" to 21" across the cut, most being 9" to 10" deep. I have drawn some lines on the blank as to where I think the next cut should be. Your input and advice will be greatly appreciated. Thanks for your time on the phone yesterday.



(I lost the photo of the tree bowl blank but here is some finished bowls from the tree.)

Hi Mike, From Ohio,

That is a great find, spalted maple. It is in the early stages of the decay process. Stay away from the pith, waste it away, it will be unstable and give you cracking troubles. You will have to get after it soon; it will not survive the warm weather ahead.

My first approach would be to cut it up some more. Take the biggest piece and cut it in fourths and get four 9 inch bowls from one half piece of the tree. An 8-10 inch bowl is a lot more fun to do and is more useful than a 14-16 inch bowl. Take the chainsaw cut you made on the pith and cut it in half lengthwise and crosswise. Then trim each bowl blank to do a series of bowls. Some shallow bowls to start they're easier, some deeper bowls would be harder. You could do some natural edged. Think about the bottom of the bowl capturing the best color contrasts.

If you are still want to do a big bowl, just to get the experience, use the smallest diameter piece of tree you have for that big bowl.

You have 4 basic decisions to make 1) bowl, 2) hollow form, 3) rim toward the pith and 4) rim toward the bark. The smaller cut offs can be saved for other things like lidded boxes or Christmas ornaments.

CUTTING BOWL BLANKS FROM RARE H-SHAPED TREE

Lyle,

My neighbor recently cut up a huge maple tree that had multiple trunks radiating from the same large stump. Two of the trunks were joined by a common horizontal limb. He cut out this "H" shaped chunk of tree and gave it to me. (See attached picture)

After much deliberation, my plan was to make two bowls by cutting the horizontally connecting limb in-half and making a bowl where the horizontal limb bisects each trunk. But I was wondering what would you make out of these hooked together tree trunks? The larger trunk is starting to get punky and could easily be hollowed out. One trunk is about 2 feet in diameter and the other is about 1 foot in diameter. It weighs a lot!

I do not know how unusual these connected tree trunks would be considered by you? I basically don't know what to do with it other than cut it up for a couple of bowls. Do you have any suggestions?

John



Hi John from Michigan,

That is a very unusual tree, thanks for sharing the photos with me. The first thing that I see is the rotten decayed trunk. Be very careful to use solid wood without cracks or punky spots that could hurt you.

The next is the tendency to try to make the biggest possible turning from this wood, not a good plan sometimes. It might be possible to cut through the "H" and make a natural edge H piece. That would take some advanced turning and planning to pull off. It might be better thinking through how to get the best and maybe multiple smaller pieces. What to do with the "H"? I think about the crotch character at the junctions of each section. Find a way to capture the color and flame figure of the crotches. Maple usually has good figure at the crotches. The "H" is cool on a tree but might not make for good turning. You could take the bark off and hang it on the wall as is. (LOL)

We really need more information from the tree to have a good game plan. I'd start cutting it up. Each chainsaw cut gives us more information to make better decisions. Do we want to make a bowl, platter, or hollow form? The first chain cut for me would be to remove the rotten wood. See what the grain character and color is in the remaining wood. I would then think about the piths. I do not want the pith in the turned piece.

So how do I cut what is left to remove the multiple piths. As you make more cuts you get more information. Don't let scale be the primary priority. Make the best pieces not the biggest pieces from it.

CBN GRIT TO USE

Lyle,

They are having a special on CBN sharpening wheels, about \$125 each and I would like to get one. What grit should I get? I am thinking you set me up with two wheels, 100-grit and 120-grit but not sure. Hope all is well with you.

Stan

Hi Stan from Florida

The CBN wheels have different numbers for grits. Most are using 180 CBN grit.

SETTING THE LASER TO UNDERCUT SHOULDERS

Lyle,

One more question. When doing a hollow form with a two or three inch space between the hole and the side, how do you set the cutting tool and the light to do underneath the top?

Stan

Hi Stan from Florida

This is a fundamental concept that needs to be completely understood. When you move the swivel around to the left to undercut the shoulder the gap between the laser light and the cutter must be 90 degrees through the vessel wall. This concept of perpendicularity is essential to accurate measurement of the wall thickness anywhere in the vessel. The laser setting must be moved often so you must follow the rules. I suggest you go back to the DVD and watch the entire hollowing process so you can see and understand how I use the laser and when and how I set it to keep the gap perpendicular to the wall where you are cutting. Let me know if that is not clear and we can talk to get you up to speed.

SERIES OF QUICK Q&A

Lyle,

Both Joe and I are looking forward to our trip to Michigan to attend your class. We enjoy your DVD's, YouTube videos and most especially have enjoyed using your deep hollowing tool system.

We talk almost daily about turning wood. We discuss our challenges and successes. Mostly we just have fun with our hobby. Our lathes are JET 16 X 42 variable speed models.

To prepare for our class, I'm listing questions that occur during my use of the Hollowing Tool.

Otherwise I'll forget most of them when I'm in your shop (age related memory requires I develop lists).

Please don't feel obligated to answer prior to our class. It is not my intention to be a burden.

1. At what speed do you deep hollow? I'm currently using approximately 1200 RPM but could increase that considerably as my skill builds.

Speed depends on diameter of the piece, I hollow a little slower than I turn on the outside.

2. How deep should I be able to hollow without the "Jumbo Bar"? I have currently reached 5 1/2 inches inside with an additional 1 1/2 to 2 inches to the tool rest. I need to eventually reach 10 to 12 inches inside for the two Burial Urns I'm planning.

After you hollow the upper portion of the vessel, move the tool rest up close to minimize the overhang. 8-10 inches should be pretty easy 11-12 inches is the limit with all things optimum. I would use the jumbo bar so I can work faster and not flirt with vibration at those depths.

3. How long should the carbide cutter last? I know there are a lot of variables in this but it has an effect on the number of spares required, costs etc.

Many, many vessels. Make sure you follow the directions in the carbide article and keep moving the cutter often so it will be used 360 degrees.

4. Does your tool rest with threaded stem have a hardened steel rod on top?

No, I want the tool rest softer than my tools. I can file and clean up the tool rest but I do not want to damage my tools from the stress on the tool rest.

5. How are the threads protected from the clamping screw of the JET Tool Rest? This clamping screw arrangement is OK for a round shaft, but I wonder about the threads. I also have little patience with the hunt and miss way of establishing the center line of a hollow vessel.

The threaded post is hardened but it still gets bunged up from the banjo clamp. That is not a problem...the damage is inside the banjo and will not affect the tool rest position. We cannot ever get the nut off but we never need to.

6. Have you ever used or considered using a 3/16 inch 5 percent cobalt instead of the HSS tool bit? I have several on hand and am considering grinding one.

Yes, that is OK.

7. When I'm hollowing beyond the drill hole, I develop a NUB (center column) which I am unable to remove without resorting to other tools (round nose scraper). Yes it's all about locating the center, but that is #@&* hard to do.

The tool rest will help with that. Go back and look at the DVD and how I make the cuts across the bottom. Do not push toward the headstock; sweep back and forth as long as you are on the centerline.

All of the above are minor compared to:

8. I end up with an uneven surface on the inside of my hollow forms. In correcting these uneven surfaces, I have made two (2) funnels, and currently have a vessel that I can see light through. And this is not by design.

SLOOOOOW down! If the set up was done correctly you have fingertip control to measure and clean up tool marks. There is a very short learning curve to master this. Go to the DVD again for tool control tips.

Again, we are looking forward to your help and instruction on using the deep hollowing system. Joe and I have both learned about most spindle and bowl turning through the school of hard knocks and enjoyed it. But with deep hollowing we decided to shorten the "learning curve" and seek your professional help.

See you in May,
Potsy from Pennsylvania

FEEDBACK

I enjoyed your hollowing DVD, lots of very useful information.

Appreciated the information on setting up the wolverine system. It is by far the best information that I've seen.

Thanks,
Robert from Canada

Hi, Lyle,

I've just read your excellent newsletter, and regarding your response to "Dean," I want to say that I don't know if I've ever seen a person print and respond as graciously to criticism as you did. That shows a lot of integrity and gives your readers the knowledge that all comments are welcome.

My wife and I crew on the Madeline and keep hoping to run into you while we're visiting Traverse City, perhaps this year. But, if not there, I'll see you at Turn-On Chicago.

Sincerely,
Jack from Illinois

Several months back I purchased your "Bowl Basics" and another set you sent to my brother in Buffalo, NY. Those DVD's have changed my proverbial turning life. I concur with all the good comments others have stated in your newsletters. You are an excellent teacher and your methods are motivating! My brother, the incessant critic, subscribes to that. That's a "WOW" in my book.

Regards,
Jim from Florida

P.S. Thanks for the American flag on your shirts.

Bingcro, About pull cut clip on YouTube,

one the best demos I've seen thanks.

Bingcro, About spindle turning on YouTube,

terrific lesson as always I've learned so much from watching your uploads. I've had to relearn lots of ways of making cuts.

Lyle,

I went to your YouTube video, you do make it look easy. Excellent description of the process you use. It was a good learning video. While I was at it I watched several more of your videos.....real good

stuff. Thank you for your no BS presentation of the techniques you use while turning. I'll be grabbing a chunk of wood and heading out to the studio. Thanks!

Phil location unknown

Hi Lyle,

At the beginning of the week I ordered a boring bar set and a tool rest and we spoke on the phone. After telling my wife that I could only order some of your system and not all of it, today she volunteered to buy me the back rest horizontal support. ***Ain't she a peach?***

So, you will be finding an order coming through with my name on it. When I can, I will be getting more to complete your system.

Thanks so much for the phone conversation and help. It meant allot! The videos are reminding me that I have soooo much more to learn. What valuable pieces of info they are. You ARE the man!!!

Your newest fan,

Dave from New York

Lyle,

I have turned my first hollow form with the system I ordered from you and all I can say is," why did I wait so long?" I turned a cherry burl vase almost 17 inches deep by 8 inches wide and was amazed at how easy it was, especially in comparison to the old method. The more pleasant surprise was the lack of pain in my old arthritic joints.

Well worth the cost and can see it paying for itself in increased productivity.

So, thanks for a great product.

Sincerely, Ron from Virginia

CALENDAR

Check out my website calendar for more specifics.

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

May, 2014 – Michigan

June, 2014 – Arizona

July, 2014 - Wisconsin

August, 2014 – Illinois, Texas

September, 2014 – Virginia, Georgia