



November 2014



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Have you noticed since everyone has a camcorder these days no one talks about seeing UFOs like they used to?

Anonymous

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FEEDBACK

CALENDAR

TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Topic of the Month: YouTube advantages

I am just in the early stages of exploring the world of turning on YouTube. There are some really good resources available there. Most turners are rooted in the woodturning world, turning clubs, turning magazines, turning chat rooms or forums, and AAW. There is another world that can be fun to explore...YouTube. There is some scary stuff there for sure; you get what you pay for, right? It's free! I mentioned Captain Eddie Castelin and Carl Jacobson in a previous newsletter, but, there are a host of good turners sharing their creativity and ideas, and tips and tricks out there. Once you subscribe on one of these channels they lead you to other good turners. This resource is endless. I think Carl has 314 YouTube posts on his channel. Most of you, on my newsletter list, have been exposed to my turning methods. You will see a lot of other methods that you might agree or disagree with on YouTube, but most are project oriented. My previous YouTube clips and DVDs are process oriented, teaching oriented. So others use different methods, that's OK, we are exposed to new techniques and they are entertaining above all else. You can filter out the techniques that would not work as well for you and what you like to turn.

One thing about YouTube is there are no borders. People from all over the world are connected and sharing their turning ideas. Some other people to view might be Brenden Stemp from Australia, Mike Waldt from UK, Wyoming woodturner Sam Angelo, The naked turner Erik Anderson, (no, he does not turn naked), I hate to start this list because I will be missing some very good people. Some turners you might already know like Cindy Drozda or John Lucas are on YouTube. If you subscribe to any of these channels you can get into the loop and see the action as it is posted.

I posted my YouTube clips two years ago. They were professionally produced and edited by Phil Pratt. He is an expert at turning videography but he is retiring from it and he lives 12 hours away from me. So, I am looking for help in my local area so that I can do some new clips. I know my new clips will not be of the quality that Phil produced but my new posts will have to be better than the production of a lot of contributors on YouTube. My new clips will be more about quick and easy projects. I am too much of a teacher to ignore the process and teach how and why I use the techniques I share but I will string out the teaching points in several clips and keep them short and sweet. It's all about the fun we get from turning so I want to capture some interesting pieces with a little teaching of techniques mixed in and yet keep them short in duration. I don't believe most people surfing the YouTube clips will sit through a project that takes hours to complete.

My goal is to be a vehicle to bridge the turning world with the YouTube world. Hopefully I can share some of my techniques that my newsletter readers have been exposed to with quick little projects and invite the vast YouTube audience to accept some of the technical aspects of turning that will help them enjoy their turning time. So if you want to be notified when I

post new clips you can subscribe to my YouTube channel and YouTube will send a notice to you. Please subscribe to my YouTube channel and watch for my new posts, it's going to be a fun ride.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CUTTER AND SWIVEL VIBRATION LIMITS

Hi Lyle,

I recently purchased a hollowing system from you at the Virginia Symposium and I'm making great strides on it. I've turned several hollow forms already and getting better at the technique all the time. I have a question, however, about the system that may be a topic you could address in your next newsletter...

My question concerns minimizing vibration, which you talk about quite a bit in your videos and other literature. Could you explain the physics or rationale for using a relatively small tool tip and cutter combo at the end of the boring bars, and why does this not negate the stability that a heavy boring bar provides to begin with? In other words, assuming that a hollowing system is only as stable as its weakest link; doesn't the use of the small diameter tool tip and cutter at the end of a big boring bar potentially introduce the very vibration that we're trying to eliminate? I couldn't be happier with my system and have to admit I haven't noticed the above to be a problem, but simply curious.

Many thanks, and keep up the good work in your teaching!

Tom

Hi Tom from Maryland,

Great observation, I like your curiosity or quest for information and details. The strength and stability of any boring bar system is the diameter of the supporting bar and accessories. OK, a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch boring bar will get up to 12 inches dangling out over its support without vibration, which is the tool rest. Next, the $\frac{3}{8}$ inch swivel shaft is supported by the boring bar. Any $\frac{3}{8}$ inch diameter shaft can hang out from its support about 3 inches without vibration. So the boring bar holds up the swivel shaft without any vibration. Next is the $\frac{3}{16}$ inch square cutter. The cutter is supported by the $\frac{3}{8}$ inch swivel shaft. Any $\frac{3}{16}$ inch shaft can hang out about 1 inch from its support without vibration. So the boring bar holds the swivel shaft and the swivel holds the cutter without vibration. The strength comes from a ratio of its diameter vs. the distance from its support. I use the same size swivel and cutter assembly for very large boring bars I have used. One reason all this works is the $\frac{3}{16}$ inch cutter is the most efficient size cutter for hollowing. A bigger cutter, even $\frac{1}{4}$ inch cutters, take too much wood at a time and will stress all the parts to produce vibration in smaller vessels than the $\frac{3}{16}$ inch cutter will reach without vibration. The same engineering holds true for the teardrop shape cutters, they take too much wood at a time for an efficient cut. The same holds true for the hooded ring tools or hook tools with a cap or hood to protect from catches. You cannot go as deep with these type cutters. We can take small efficient cuts quicker and easier with smaller cutters, then forcing a larger cutter and causing vibration. This is why I tested and ended up using the #1 small Hunter Carbide cutter, because of its efficiency. My process recommends the small cuts and discourages pushing the cutter forward

toward the headstock and wrapping a large shaving around even the 3/16 inch cutter. I wrote an article about tool control and vibration entitled ["Practical Hollow Form Tips-Vibration Issues and Control of the Hollowing Process"](#). Hope it sheds more light on your question.

TORQUE ARREST CAPABILITY FROM STABILIZING "D" HANDLE

Hi,

I am researching hollowing systems and had a quick question. Why do you use a "D-shaped" handle to hold your boring bar? Wouldn't a much narrower handle work just as well? Maybe the two bars separated by only an inch or two, rather than the 8 inches. Seems to me this would allow more sideways travel without the need to reverse the back rest.

Thanks

Mike

Hi Mike location unknown,

Nice to hear from you, thanks for the inquiry. You are on the right track. I like the fact that you are asking questions and trying to understand the dynamics and technology involved. You are way ahead of the curve there. Are you thinking about making your own home built system? I was the first to develop and market the captured system for broad consumption back in 1996. There are a lot of copycat systems out there now, and some use smaller torque arrest systems like you suggest. They do not give the control I want. The broad brush of the wider handle spreads out the significant twisting torqueing forces so they are hardly noticeable. This is especially needed when you start to explore more bulbous shapes and need to reach way over to the left to undercut a steep shoulder around the mouth opening. My back rest and the three reach capabilities with my system will allow you to reach any shape you want to hollow through small mouth openings. Have you seen my In-Depth Hollowing DVD?

The torque arrest capability is only one element to consider. I attached a flier about comparing system features and the benefits of my system. Hope this will help filter out the conflicting and confusing information out there. Feel free to give me a call and we can chat in more detail. Here I am as a tool manufacturer but I think just as important as having the right tools, is the process. The other attachment tells my philosophy on why I do what I do. I have a ton of resources to help you. DVDs, articles, YouTube clips, newsletters, installation instructions, will help you get up to speed with the newest techniques and methods that make turning a lot more fun and hollowing a lot easier.

LARGER BOWL GOUGE USE

Nice! It seems you use a 3/4" gouge correct? And I like those long tool handles.

Thanks,

Marc from YouTube

Hi Marc location unknown,

My signature bowl gouge is 5/8 inch diameter with a parabolic flute and swept back wings. The 3/4 inch gouges out there are way too big and get in their own way. The 5/8 inch diameter stock gouges I use have plenty of

strength to hang over the tool rest. My Bowl Basics DVD shows all four cuts and the tool control I use. It is all about the fun, turning is no longer hard work. The 3/4 inch gouge was made for those that are still beating their bodies up at the lathe and the bigger tool will absorb some of the punishment that's not necessary if the tool control improves. The long handles on bowl gouges do two things. First, they are needed for leverage strength dangling over the tool rest. Second, the long handle helps make pleasing continuous curves. I always keep my hand on the end of the handle for best control. The shorter handles on most spindle turning tools are more herky-jerky. I even use a long handle on my spindle gouge.

BORING BAR LIMITS

Hi Lyle

I am interested in your hollowing system and am curious about the depths I can expect to hollow with your standard systems. I have a Vicmarc short bed lathe.

Regards,
Vince

Hi Vince from Canada,

Nice to hear from you, thanks for the inquiry. Any 3/4 inch diameter boring bar will have the same limits in the distance it will hang off the tool rest into a vessel. The standard for decades has been the 3/4 inch diameter bar. It is the strength of the diameter not the length that will get you into taller vessels. That's why I have a jumbo bar and Giant Hollowing System to go deeper. My limits are for hollowing WITHOUT VIBRATION and there are many variables. The 3/4 inch bar will do 9-10 inches routinely and 11-12 inches with good conditions. The jumbo bar will do 15-16 inches with a maximum of about 17 inches. A better question to ask is how tall of vessels do you want to hollow? Give me a call and we can make sure you have the right tools to go where you want to go and do it safely, and do it easy, and have fun without vibration getting in the way. I have lots of resources to help you along the way. The Vicmarc is a great lathe, no limits there.

LOST SOCKET SCREW SIZES

Lyle,

This afternoon I dropped one of the small set screws for holding the bits in the 1/2" boring bar and couldn't immediately find it. The good news is my wife with sharper eyes did manage to find it in the mess of sawdust and shavings around my lathe. But that reminded me that it would be a good idea to purchase replacements for the various screws used by your system. While shopping for a replacement for the 1/2" boring bar I found that the size for the set screw is an M4, but the thread was different from the .70 (or 70) pitch found in the two stores where I looked. So can you tell me the size and thread specs for the set screws in the D handle and the 3/4" boring bar, the set screws for the 1/2" boring bar and the hex head screw that locks the cutters in place on the tool holders that come with the system?

Thanks for your help, after a slow start due to an illness; I'm having a ball with the system. I demonstrated it using the skills I have developed so far

to our club last month, there seems to be a lot of interest in the captured systems.

Thanks,
John

Hi John location unknown,

The best way to get a replacement screw is to take the old one down to a local hardware store like Ace Hardware. You will never find it in a big box store. The cost of shipping is a lot more than the screws are worth. Match it up with what they have in the little bins full of small items. All are USA made not metric.

The 1/2 inch boring bar uses 8/32 socket screw.

All the others are 1/4-20 socket screws.

HOW TO USE A CHUCK, LOL

Lyle

When I was in Phoenix I purchased a Longworth chuck.

I just cannot keep the bowl in the chuck.

I think I am doing/using it correctly.

Can you give me some insight?

Thanks

Paul

Hi Paul location unknown,

Nice to hear from you, thanks for the note. You must be new to my process or website or teaching methods. I have talked about chucks over and over again. I don't mind going on my rant another time. Best case scenario using chucks will get vibration problems, worst case, is you can knock a piece out of the chuck and get hurt. I never use chucks and I'm not going to encourage you to use one by telling you how to use it. Even with good methods a chuck has limitations I don't want to live with. See my Bowl Basics DVD for the entire process. There are many pieces of the process on my 40 YouTube clips that might help. Here is the one on chucks. <http://youtu.be/VIZ81aDfcxc> Other resources are the articles I have written, the newsletter Q&A section has a ton of information and old copies are archived on my website. Attached is a flier entitled "[Are You With Me?](#)" I use to describe why my process is so important.

Here I am manufacturing and selling tools and I think the process is just as important as using good tools. If you are asking about chucks there will likely be more help out there to make turning more fun, easier and safer for you. Get involved in your local turning club and get some help from the more experienced turners there, as mentors.

P.S. Paul,

I apologize; I missed the word "Longworth" from your question. I don't use a Longworth chuck either, but my response was talking about 4 jaw chucks. The Longworth chucks are hard to use, you have to take very light cuts and make the cutting action toward the chuck face not pushing sideways across the bottom of bowls. That might mean going the wrong way to the grain orientation, which I NEVER do. The idea behind the Longworth is to reverse turn without the tailstock in the way but, the trade-off is more than I want to live with. The limits of what the Longworth will do are stifling to creativity. You cannot do natural edge bowls, hollow

forms, small things, big things, thin things, etc. get my point? I can reverse chuck anything with my process - - - no limits, with my process I can put anything back on the lathe. The down side of my method is carving the little ½ inch nub left on the bottom of the turning, certainly a small price to pay for the ability to safely reverse turn anything. Here is the YouTube clip on reversing. <http://youtu.be/DMpGEzfoWKw>

POWERMATIC LATHE CAPABILITIES

Dear Lyle,

I enjoy your newsletter and wanted to jump into the Robust vs. Powermatic discussions. I enjoy my Powermatic and after viewing the video of the Robust that was referenced in your October newsletter I think that the Powermatic is a more versatile product. I'd like to point out that Powermatic offers an 18" bed extension that can be mounted at a lower position the end of the lathe, resulting in a 38 inch swing. It comes with a tool rest extension and the headstock slides along the ways to the outboard position. Not only does the extension increase the swing, but with the headstock moved to the end, the lathe functions more like a traditional bowl turners lathe in that you can work directly in front of the bowl or platter. Powermatic also offers a 50" extension with legs for spindle turners who need a really long bed.

Regards,
Tony

Hi Tony from New Hampshire,

I agree the Powermatic is a great lathe. I hope my comments did not look like I was cutting down the Powermatic. Our turning club has one which I have turned on and I've turned on them all over the country. Lathes have different features and capabilities and there is not one right one for everyone. I still give the Robust a slight edge for what I want a lathe to do for me.

REMOVAL OF THE WASTE TENON FROM REVERSE TURNING

Good morning Lyle,

I just had to tell you this. I too have all the equipment and many ways to finish off the bottom of a turning. However I very seldom use any of them. The fastest and simplest way is just as you explained in this last newsletter but that little nub or tenon thing left can at times split out in some unpredictable way taking a small divot right out of the flat surface. It is frustrating, time consuming, and can be a real problem on thin turnings especially.

---- I might add, the chances of this happening to you are directly proportional to the cost of that beautiful blank of wood you have just turned ---

I have found this little saw does a fantastic job.

Use a  light force and move around a little. Lay the blade flat on the surface. After the first couple you can almost do a perfect job just with the saw with only hand sanding left.

Anyway, Nice job and good advice,
All the best, Jim

Hi Jim from North Carolina,

Nice hearing from you again. Thanks for the note and suggestion. Looks like that would do the job nicely. There are a million ways to get the waste tenon off. One thing I neglected to mention in the reversing information is a caution not to get the diameter of the waste area too small. We have a tendency to try to get it as small as possible because we don't want to have to remove any more waste by hand than we have to. Making the nub too small can result in what you describe when it can break off and damage the surface of the outside bottom. This can be an undesirable design opportunity we did not want to deal with.

Grain is a huge issue here. If the vessel is side grain the tenon will break off easily when reversing and we need extra strength there just to keep it on the lathe. Another caution is the live center cone can split a small diameter waste tenon and cause it to fail. If you have an end grain vessel you can make the waste nub much smaller. It will have strength and not break off but the last little fibers that go into the bottom of the vessel can pull (or push) a plug of wood out of the bottom and leave a hole in the bottom because the fibers in the bottom are perpendicular to the bottom surface. This is why I never use a parting tool to remove the entire tenon on the lathe. The bottom line - no pun intended - leave a larger waste tenon when reversing and finishing the bottom on the lathe. It is not that much harder to carve off a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch waste nub than it is a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch nub, I leave it a little big on purpose. I always use a sanding disk to remove the last remnants of the nub so I don't damage the bottom surface shape.

YOUTUBE VS. DVD INFORMATION

Hi Lyle,

Thanks so much for the generous video clips on YouTube! I'm assuming much of it is taken from your *Bowl Basics* DVD and am wondering in general what's left to see on the DVD that you haven't placed on YouTube? I'm not expecting an elaborate answer.

And thanks for the newsletter as well.

Bob

Hi Bob from California,

I get your question often. The YouTube clips are just a snapshot of a single topic or technique. Some are taken from the DVDs and some were shot separately. The YouTube clips are only a small part of the process I have developed to make turning more fun and easier. The *Bowl Basics DVD* is 4 hours and twenty minutes with 62 menu breaks. The *Hollow Forms DVD* is 2 plus hours. In the DVDs you get the continuity of seeing the whole process start to finish.

SHARPENING JIGS

Hi Lyle,

Still turning better than ever, using primarily bowl gouges, glue blocks, no chucks, mostly push cuts, some pull. All working well!

On the Sharpening chapter of the *Bowl Basics DVD*, what's the red jig you're using? I have a Wolverine system, and it looks like the red holder is compatible.

Many thanks,

Dave

Hi Dave from Pennsylvania,
Thanks for the feedback. Yes, the red True Grind system by Wood Cut is the same as the Wolverine jig. They both do the job the same way. The older Wolverine system had a metal spring flap that was a big pain. If you have an old Wolverine, I'd suggest you get the retro fit fix to correct the problem.

NEW IDEA FOR A CHUCK, PRODUCTION PROBLEMS

Lyle,

I just finished reading your article in the American Woodturner on shop made hollowing tools. I particularly noted your comment – “*I never use chucks, especially for hollow forms.*”

Many years ago I took note of the inability of chuck jaws to do a satisfactory job of gripping when not at their ideal diameter extension. This bothered me so much over the years that I engineered a new jaw design to correct the issue.

The design has been issued publication number US-2014-0125016 A1 by the US Patent Office. You can access the patent detailed information via the web site <http://portal.uspto.gov/pair/PublicPair> and entering 14/070575 as the Application number to search for.

The following chart illustrates the vast improvement in work contact area that is provided over existing designs contributing a stronger and safer working condition rendering prior jaw designs inferior and obsolete.



What bothers me now is that I am unable to find any manufacturer that is interested in providing this Multiple Pivoted lathe Chuck Jaw Assembly to the woodturning community. I have informed the major producers of chucks and jaws to no avail. NOVA checked out my prototype and expressed no interest. While I'm certainly of a biased opinion I can't understand why some company wouldn't be willing to make available a safer product for us woodturners. I suppose it's a financial decision coupled with a lack of enthusiasm and a “why bother” attitude. Still, I believe there is a market out there of turners with a strong interest in safety and those early adaptors wanting to have the latest and greatest.

I suspect you have experienced this type of “not-invented here” attitude while trying to get your products in the marketplace. Has your experience given you any insight as to how I could instill interest by a manufacturer to bring this invention to market and would you share that with me?

Sincerely,
Paul

Hi Paul,

I manufacture my own tools and don't rely on others to build or market them. So I cannot be of any help with that, sorry. Wish I had better news for you.

As far as a better chuck or mouse trap, chucks work fine. It is not the chuck that fails; we are grabbing wood...a sponge...the fibers compress and allow vibration. The size, shape, jaw design, or gripping power is not what fails us. Vibration is the issue and a faceplate is a stronger way to transfer the power from the lathe to the wood. A chuck will not even come close. Just my opinion, sorry it opposes your thinking. You are not alone. Many folks want and use chucks; I don't want to deal with the limitations and obstacles chucks present. For beginners chucks fail often because of what you put your energy into to help get a better grip. The beginner does not know how to use chucks. Beginners knock pieces off the lathe with catches, etc. For advanced turners, chucks fail for what I have described "pushing the creative envelop or trying to jump to larger scale work. Vibration drives them crazy. It's the intermediate skill level turner that usually uses chucks successfully.

CAMERA VS. LASER MEASURING SYSTEM

Lyle,

The new laser arrived this afternoon. Thanks so much Lyle! I smiled when I read your message. You are right; I may go back some day. I'd like to suggest that you try the camera system, you might like it! I did not have to make any adjustments while turning the two vessels I've posted on WoodCentral. Only a \$14 experiment if you have a monitor that you can mount behind the lathe and move a computer up close.

Take care,
Dick

Hi Dick from Illinois,

Thanks for the note. You and I will have to travel a different path that does not mean that one is right and one is wrong. I have seen the camera working and I don't see the advantage. For all the expense and trouble...I'm not a computer person...I either have to move the camera or move the laser to use my process of hollowing without limitations. I want to open up possibilities and the camera has limits I don't want to get in my way. I just did a very complex vessel yesterday. I used three different boring bars and dozens of tool positions. If I had to move and re-set and re-draw the gap lines for the camera that many times, it would have taken me an extra day to finish it. It takes me three seconds to set my laser. We will see what the life expectancy of your monitor, camera, and computer will be in a dusty environment. I wish you well in your adventure, hope it works out for you.

LASERS DESTROYED BY VIBRATION?

Lyle,

I have had trouble with the lasers quitting because the switch or other part gives up- presumably from vibration.

How well do yours hold up, or is there a trick?

Robin

Hi Robin from Canada,

I turn without vibration. Go back to the DVD and the article about hollowing tool control I wrote, archived on my web site teaching menu, and see if that will help with some part of the process you are not using. Like chucks? Don't use chucks for hollowing. If you don't see anything there to help, give me a call and I will trouble shoot your process to help you eliminate the vibration issue.

I have lasers that have lasted me many years with tons of use from many students. Usually laser problems are battery related. Put a new fresh set of batteries in it. If it still acts up give me your address and I'll send you a replacement laser.

FEEDBACK

Hi Lyle,

I just wanted to drop a note to say I really enjoyed my visit to the meeting on Saturday. I was nice to see you again and to meet other turners. I really liked the demo on bowls with feet. We had a member do this about a year ago but his process was very laborious. I will be using this method. (Looks like my wife just lost her Freedom carver). I also made a killing on wood. What a great deal and the timing was right as I have some weddings next summer that I would like to make bowl for as gifts.

I hope to get back in the late winter or early spring for a visit.

Keep up the good work.

Jeff from Michigan

Lyle, I appreciated you readily and freely replacing my laser pointer which had a sticking ball-type power switch.

This is good customer service and shows me that you really do stand by your products, which is not all that common today.

In addition, I want you to know that I am quite pleased with the Jumbo Bar which I bought from you back at the Southern States symposium in Cartersville GA.

I had not had an opportunity/need to use it until just recently when I turned two medium sized Red Oak vases.

Cutting Oak is not easy in the best of conditions but with the big bar damping out vibrations and resisting the forces from the cutter the process was much easier than I expected.

Thanks also for your advice, support and training which you bring to our turners' gatherings.

George location unknown

Feedback from torn out grain clip on YouTube.

My turning life has changed!

Luke location unknown

Upon receiving my new gouge, I worked backwards using the new Jamieson bowl gouge to set up my Tormek jig settings. Using trial and error to best match the 'as received' Jamieson nose and side grind

profiles, I established the following Tormek settings for my Tormek BGM-100 dry bench grinder mount, Tormek TTS-100 turning tool setter, and Tormek SVD-185 jig(<http://www.tormek.com/en/accessories/bgm100/>). I am using a CBN 180 grit, 1 1/2" x 8" grinder wheel.

Tormek settings:

Gouge jig (SVD-185) setting (JS) = 4 1/2

Turning tool setter (TTS-100) Protrusion (P) = 65

BGM-100 mount distance from grinder wheel = setting hole A on TTS-100.

This gives me a slightly smaller nose grind angle of ~59* compared to as received ~63* for the Jamieson bowl gouge I ordered a month ago while nicely matching the as received side grind profile of the Jamieson bowl gouge.

I subsequently used the same Tormek jig settings to regrind my Thompson 5/8 inch 'V' flute bowl gouge to the Jamieson bowl gouge side profile grind. The Thompson V flute shape is different from the Jamieson parabolic flute shape so the results are a bit different between the two bowl gouges using the same Jamieson grind. But the side profile of the reshaped Thompson gouge achieves the Jamieson grind objectives. Please share with your readers and invite them to share what settings they use for a Tormek on a dry bench grinder.

Ref your comments and invitation for feedback regarding Tormek jig settings for BGM-100 + SVD-185 jig for John. The BGM-100 is a mount for a dry grinder that uses the Tormek wet grinder jigs. I am also using the BGM-100 with a dry grinder so will look forward to any reader feedback on their settings experience. Tom, Location unknown Just rechecked my jig settings and see that my SVD-185 is set at JS = 5 instead of the 4 1/2 that I posted below. Everything else is correct.

So, the correct settings are:

Gouge jig (SVD-185) setting (JS) = 5

Turning tool setter (TTS-100) Protrusion (P) = 65

BGM-100 mount distance from grinder wheel = setting hole A on TTS-100

Tom

Tom,

I don't understand this, but I hope it can help someone. It seems to be confusing, at least for me.

CALENDAR

Check out my website calendar for more specifics.

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

March, 2015 - New York, Oregon

May, 2015 - New Hampshire

June, 2015 - Pennsylvania

September, 2015 - Wisconsin