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**TURNING OF THE
WEEK**



Janice Levi

Wilderness

Holly and Walnut with Pyrography
10" tall

ARTICLES OF THE WEEK

Learn to Turn, Turn to Learn

Hollowing a Simple Form

by Walt Wager

Hollow forms are turnings where the opening is smaller than the diameter of the piece, so the wood inside the vessel is removed through a restricted hole. First, let me recognize the excellent article, "Turning Hollow Forms, We'll Start with Miniatures" written by Molly Winton in the *Women in Turning Newsletter*, available by using Explore! in the AWT website and by clicking the link below (next page). In this article I will amplify what Molly wrote with a bit more detail and information, illustrated by turning a small round pot (photo 1) that you could use to make a holiday ornament.



1 Small round pot. Making this basic project will show you the fundamentals of hollowing.

The width of the cutting tip is generally 1/4" (6mm) or smaller.

The shank of the hollowing tool is straight, with the cutting edge out at an angle, or on a curved section of the shank. The curved tool has the

Tools
Let's start with tools. The majority of hollowing tools are scrapers. They may be High Speed Steel (HSS), like the ones shown in photo 2, or carbide inserts, like those shown in photo 3.

The shape of these scrapers is either straight or bent at different angles, as you can see in 2 and 3, to reach into spaces inside the hollow form.



2, 3 Tools. All hollowing tools are scrapers, with straight and bent shanks to reach everywhere inside a vessel. Steel tools, top, and carbide-tipped tools, right.



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Hollow & Thin

Turn this two-piece hollow form and watch your woodturning skills take off.



By Brian McEvoy

When turning one-piece hollow forms, woodturners rely on many methods, tools, and jigs. Success is a challenge—even for experienced woodturners.

But switch to my two-part turning approach, and your chances for success will improve dramatically:

- **No additional tools required.** Just sharpen the tools you currently use to turn a platter or a bowl—this project requires no special hollowing tools.
- **Thin is in.** Wall thickness is not an issue. You can easily turn a piece to 1/8" thickness or less.
- **Smooth inside.** With this approach, you can completely finish the inside. And when your friends or customers poke their fingers inside the opening you know they will, they will not get a shiver.
- **Safe makes sense.** One-piece hollowing requires risky techniques. Hanging a gouge or

scraper a long way over a tool rest is a precarious technique. My two-part approach improves safety.

To succeed, I recommend you have the skill to turn two similar shallow bowls.

I have completed hollow forms over 20" in diameter and only 4" deep. Because I pierce much of my work, I turn most of these forms to less than 1/8" thick. I am not sure this would be possible with any other method. Because of the simplicity, I can comfortably turn three or four 10" to 12"-diameter forms in a day. And they are good sellers for me.

Give it a try. The results can be stunning.

See some of Brian's variations of this form on other pages.

Get started
For turning tools, you will need 1/4" and 3/8" bowl gauges and a 1"

skew. For your lathe, you'll need a 4" faceplate, a four-jaw chuck, and a cone center. If you don't have access to a cone center, turn a similar profile for a live center. (You'll find cone centers that can provide a guide for turning the shape in most turning catalogs.)

Choose well-seasoned lumber for this project—your stock must be dry to about 6 percent. If you have a moisture meter, it would be wise to take a reading after bandsawing the stock in Step 1.

For this project, I selected a piece of 3x12x12" box elder. The piece is now ready for embellishing. When finished with the surface, apply a finish of your choice. In my shop, I spray on four or five coats of lacquer finish.

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American Woodturner Fall 2006

In his article, "[Learn to Turn, Turn to Learn - Hollowing a Simple Form](#)" from the November 2018 issue of *Woodturning FUNdamentals*, Walt Wager offers learners step-by-step instructions for turning a small hollow form.

In his article, "[Hollow & Thin](#)," from the Fall 2006 issue of *American Woodturner*, Brian McEvoy explains how to turn a striking two-piece hollow form, with thin walls and smooth inside, using no special hollowing tools!

Transform Your Tape Measure

John Giem

Transforming a tape measure from ordinary to elegant can be accomplished using materials you most likely have in your shop. This article shows you how to use the mechanism from an inexpensive unit and repackage it in a wooden case. These repackaged tape measures make unique gifts while providing a use for those small pieces of wood that are too beautiful to throw away.

Dismantle the tape measure
A 3' tape measure can be obtained at most hardware stores. While wearing eye protection, remove the screw under the label on the case. Remove the tape and the spring, being careful not to let them unwind. Secure them with masking tape or a clothespin. If the tape and spring are accidentally released, rewind it being sure to wind it so that the numbers are facing inward.

Preparing the mandrel
Construct a simple mandrel using a dry block of wood and mount it on lathe in a chuck or attached to a faceplate. The lag of the mandrel is where the disks of the case will be attached with double-sided tape, then shaped. Consequently, the face must be

Materials List

- 1 tape measure 3' size
- 1 mandrel, any stable wood, 3" x 3" x 3"
- 1 mandrel centering pin, a hardwood dowel, 1/2" diameter x 1" long
- 1 center disc of any colorful wood, 1/2" thick x 2" diameter
- 2 side discs of any colorful wood, 1/2" thick x 1 1/2" diameter
- 1 center pin, hardwood dowel, 1/2" diameter
- medium viscosity CA glue or wood glue
- double-sided tape for woodturners

Note the bends at the inside end of the spring; they will be used later when installing the spring in the new case.

Selecting wood
Go to your treasure box of wood and select a piece for the center ring of the case. It should be at least 1/2" thick and large enough to cut a 2" diameter disk. Sand one side smooth and flat so that it will adhere to the mounting tape on the mandrel. You may cut it into a circular disk at least 2" in diameter or elect to do this later on the lathe. Drill a 1/2"-diameter hole through the center.

turned flat with an area sufficient for mounting the disks, approximately 1 1/2" diameter.

The other component of the mandrel is the center alignment pin. With the mandrel mounted on the lathe and a Jacobs chuck mounted in the tailstock, drill a 1/2"-diameter hole completely through the center of the wood. Next, remove the 1/2" bit from the Jacobs chuck and replace it with a 1 1/2"-diameter bit. Drill a hole into the center of the mandrel's face. This hole is centered on the previously drilled 1/2"-diameter hole. Make the depth of the 1 1/2" hole such that when the 1/2"-diameter centering pin is inserted, 1/2" of it will remain above the face of the mandrel. The slightly undersized hole provides a friction fit for the centering pin. Insert the centering pin into the 1 1/2" hole.

Original 3' tape measure.

In his article, "[Transform Your Tape Measure](#)," from the Summer 2009 issue of *American Woodturner*, John Giem reveals how small pieces of beautiful wood can be used to spruce up an ordinary tape measure.

VIDEO OF THE WEEK

"[How to Decide What Grit Sandpaper to Use on Your Turnings](#)," by Michael Gibson (TRT 4:03)



WORLD WOOD DAY

World Wood Day is a cultural event that takes place each year in conjunction with the vernal equinox. Its purpose is to highlight wood as an eco-friendly and renewable biomaterial and raise awareness about the key role wood plays in a sustainable world through biodiversity and forest conservation. [Learn more about World Wood Day.](#)



World Wood Day 2019, took place in Austria, March 19-23. The theme of the event was "Change" to emphasize the need to make changes for an eco-friendly and sustainable future. World Wood Day programs included an academic symposium, live music and concerts, design projects, a tree-planting ceremony, and public activities such as wood crafts and folk art workshops for all ages.

[Click here to see a short video \(TRT 3:14\) of event highlights.](#)



"...World Wood Day 2018 ...brought people together from different countries to celebrate life and everything good about wood. The sixteen-day celebration had events in both Cambodia and Laos...Every night at dinner we were able to meet other wood enthusiasts from faraway places and gain insights into their lives. Some were woodworkers or musicians, while others were wood technology experts or teachers. We all had one thing in common-the love of wood and the love of life." ~Theo Haralampou, Australia

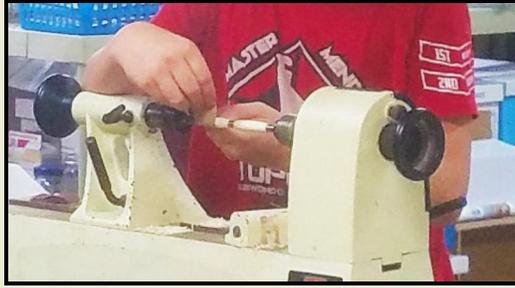
Photo above: Pictured are woodturners Li Xuemin (China), Hassan El Farissi (Morocco), Jingyong SU (China), Andy Chen (U.S.A.), Mike Hou, Director of IWCS, Jean-François Escoulen (France), Eli Avisera (Israel), and Theo Haralampou (Australia).

YOUTH TURNING



Fourteen-year-old Alex Ross, Buford, Georgia, provided a safety talk about Personal Protection

Equipment (PPE) and demonstrated penturning to a group of five fellow homeschool students in Atlanta for Agri Science Day.



Kenny Churchill, Chugiak, Alaska, shows off a first-place ribbon he won at a local show for a turned wooden fencing sword. He's recently shifted his focus to turned jewelry items, which he says are selling well. Kenny was just seven when he did his first demo at the Alaska Woodturning Symposium.



WOODTURNING IN KENYA

Members of the [Bay Lake Woodturners Club](#) (BLWC), Green Bay, Wisconsin, teamed up with nonprofit, [Health Education Africa Resource Team](#)

(HEART) to inspire a group of young adults in the Gusii Highlands region of Kenya to create a business opportunity by introducing them to woodturning. Gusii is estimated to have a 70% unemployment rate. Introducing this group to woodturning, along with the training and tools to turn local resources into useful, in-demand products, has directly improved the lives of local families. In December 2017, a HEART team led by BLWC President Kelly Bresnahan, member Ric Van Sistine, and his son Matt Van Sistine brought a pedal-powered lathe, tools, and supplies to the rural area. In May 2018, Kelly and Matt returned to Kenya to introduce a powered lathe and assist with refining the students' woodturning skills. The team formed the Gusii Woodturners Association (GWA) and chose the slogan "Ekiya Mono," which means "best quality" in the local Kisii tribal language. GWA is committed to producing high quality, unique products, and sharing what they've learned to grow their community's economy. [Learn more about GWA.](#)



10 YEARS OF SUPPORT FOR BEADS OF COURAGE

The [Dallas Area Woodturners](#) (DAW), Dallas, Texas, donated a record 124 boxes to [Beads of Courage](#) (BOC) last year. The boxes were given to seriously ill children in local hospitals to hold their collection of beads that symbolize courage for each milestone along their treatment path. DAW's involvement with BOC began in 2009 when seven members donated fifteen boxes. Their support has grown steadily since to a total of 550 boxes from forty-four members.

- To increase the number of BOC boxes produced and expand member skills in

segmented turning, [DAW initiated a Beads of Courage kit program in 2016](#). The kits contain precut box components, logo beads, and assembly instructions.

- [Beads of Courage Guidelines for Woodturners](#)

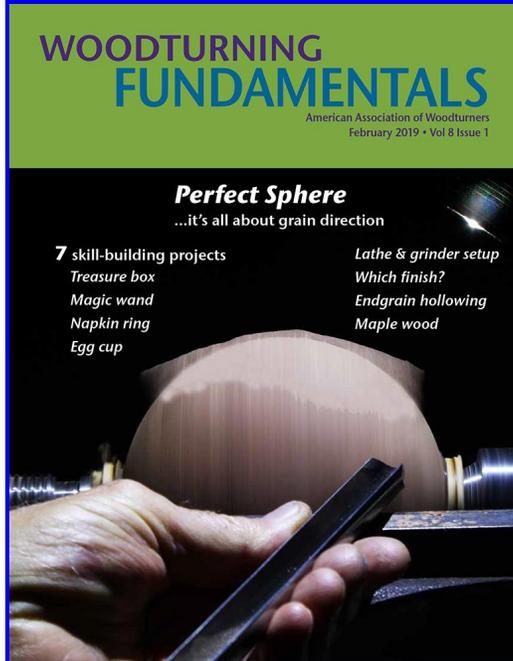
Pictured above are members of the DAW visiting the Children's Medical Center to donate Beads of Courage boxes.



WIG STANDS FOR CANCER SURVIVORS

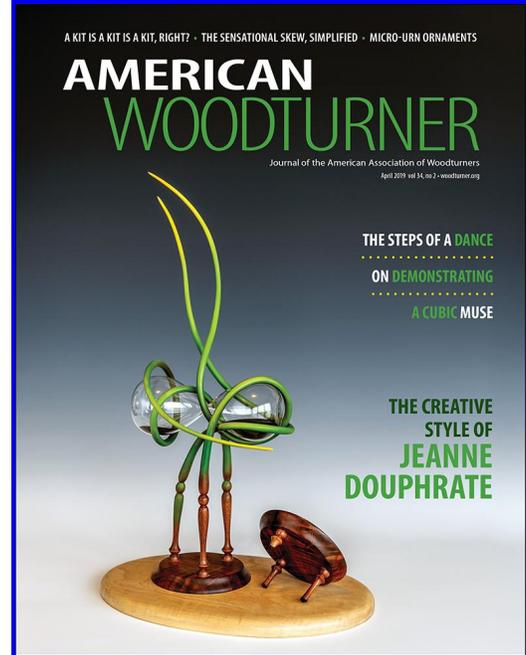
The [Central Illinois Woodturners](#) (CIW) has been turning wig stands for cancer survivors since 2016. The stands are then donated to and distributed by the [Susan G. Komen Foundation](#) of Peoria, Illinois. CIW says three things have contributed to their program's success: 1) a local company donates hardwood scraps, 2) club members enjoy participating-one member has turned 170 wig stands, and 3) non-club members decorate the stands. The CIW partnered with the senior art class of the Normal Community West High School in Normal, Illinois, in 2018 to decorate thirty-seven stands, and will decorate wig stands through 2019. To date, CIW has donated a total of 611 wig stands to Susan G. Komen Foundation.

- Making a wig stand is a little bit of spindle turning and a little bit of bowl turning, so it's really a great little project for new turners. [CIW has created a tutorial for building a kit and turning a wig stand. It can be found on their website.](#)
-



WOODTURNING FUNDAMENTALS

The February 2019 issue of Woodturning FUNDamentals is available online. Have fun building your woodturning abilities with projects, including shop-made cup centers, rotating spheres-a multiples challenge, egg cup introduces endgrain hollowing, endgrain treasure box, napkin rings expand your skills, shop-made expansion chuck, and magic wand casts a spell. [Click here to view/download the current issue.](#)



AMERICAN WOODTURNER

The April 2019 issue of *American Woodturner* features articles including, "The Sensational Skew, Simplified," by Jim Echter, which will help you perfect your skew skills and thoroughly understand its "finesse." Additionally, Jon Magill explains the differences between project kits and how you can make a scoop without a kit in, "A Kit is a Kit is a Kit, Right?" Last, you'll be flabbergasted and inspired by the organic forms of Alain Mailland and the creative style of Jeanne Douphrate's work, as well as the other work featured in the "Members' Gallery." [Click here to view the current issue.](#)

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FEATURED DEMONSTRATOR

Sharon Doughtie

Kailua, Hawai'i

Symposium Presentations

Embellishment, Finishing, Carving, Design: Techniques for Using Acrylic and Milk Paints - *All skill levels*.

Attendees will learn how milk paint and acrylic paints can be used individually and together, as well as how to use various mixes and mediums to alter the color and workability of the paint. Paintbrushes and their uses, preparing surfaces for painting, and the merits and limitations milk paint and acrylic paints will also be discussed.

Boxes: Turning an Open Form Box for Embellishment- *All skill levels*. Attendees will learn how to make an open form box for embellishment on both the interior and exterior. Tool and wood selection, grain orientation, chucking and reverse chucking, lid fit, and shaping will also be covered.

Intimate Critique - *All skill levels*. An opportunity for symposium attendees to have their work critiqued by some of the most knowledgeable and respected woodturners, woodworkers, and curators in the field. Preregistration is required. Sharon will be critiquing surface embellishments.

Selling Through the Physical Marketplace: A panel of experts will discuss craft fairs, brick and mortar galleries, and when to sell through an exclusive venue.

About Sharon Doughtie

Sharon has always had an affinity for wood. She started turning in 1993 and became a full time turner in 1998. Nature, culture, connections, and communication are her inspirations. Sharon's work is represented in several major museums and in many private homes. She loves teaching and demonstrating and has traveled around the globe sharing her techniques. [Visit Sharon's website.](#)





Registration is filling quickly. Please register today to ensure your place at the symposium. Click here.

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Reflections on the 2018 WIT eXchange
"*...It was a pool of creative energy. It was camaraderie. It was a starting point for many new friendships and artistic collaborations. It was wonderful! I didn't want it to end and I can't wait to do it again! I had a lot of firsts at this eXchange. I tried pyrography. I tried staining. I tried power carving. I used new equipment, including a vacuum chuck, a planer and various sanders. I pushed myself creatively. I practiced patience, communication and teamwork. I challenged my perceived limitations. I accepted and learned from mistakes and obstacles, channeling them into design opportunities...*" ~ Marie Anderson



[Click here to read more about Marie's experience.](#)

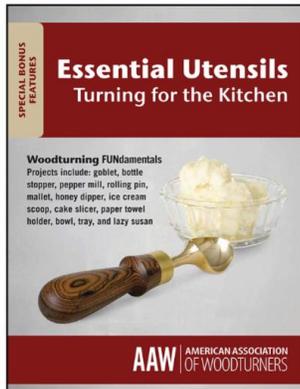
Photo: Pictured above is entitled, "Curving Adventure," one of the collaborations Marie worked on during the eXchange, along with Joan Busby and Laura Schindler.



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