

# Echoes from the "BAT" Cave



October 10, 2007

Volume 2, Issue 10

## Dual Demos: Dean Craters and Lyle Hollows



Dean Swaggert demonstrated the steps in production of this multi-centered bowl.



Lyle Jamieson shows off his hollowing system.

### Details inside

### Raffle



Raffle was a mother lode of woods, etc. There were blanks of sassafras, cherry, ash, and black walnut as well as huge slabs of maple and primo Box Elder donated by Chris Kuehn. Thanks to Woodcraft for donating a Tool Tote and a Grip Light.

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# Dean Swaggert: Multi-Centered Bowl Demo



President Wayne Introduces Dean



These are the only tools you need.



Maple blank attached to mounting plate



Dean secures mounting plate onto plywood faceplate



Blank balanced with big nut.



Dean cuts first opening



Reattach on a different center



Shaping outer profile.



Reverse chucking



Turning the bottom

Dean turned a bowl on six centers using a frugal technique developed by Michael Werner. He starts with a faceplate-mounted plywood disc which has a diameter about the maximum swing of the lathe. (The disk also has a 1/16" hole drilled in its center.) The blank is a 2-3" thick piece of maple dyed on the top with a water-based aniline dye. Hollows can be laid out using a compass or circle gauge or done freehand as was done at the demo. The blank is screwed onto a plywood mounting plate with 4 tabs on its edge. (The mounting plate also has a 1/16" hole drilled in its center.) The

mounted blank is held in place against the plywood disk using the tail stock as the tabs are screwed into the plywood disc. The off-center assembly is counterbalanced by attaching a big nut to the other side of the disc. The first opening is cut and sanded.

The mounted blank is then detached from the plate, moved to another position, reattached and the second opening is cut and sanded. This is reiterated until the desired pattern is achieved.

The mounted blank is then centered on the plate using a #18 brad in the two 1/16" holes as a centering point and secured. The blank is trued up and the outside profile is then turned down to the

depth of the mounting screws. The first cuts are made with a bowl gouge, the last cuts with a parting tool as the diameter gets smaller. Finally the blank is separated from the mounting plate, reverse chucked on cole jaws and the bottom turned.

Dean carefully explained every step along the way. He described several possible variations, such as having a dark veneer top over a figured wood blank. This was an excellent demo with plenty of opportunity for Q&A. It was enhanced by video equipment supplied by Wayne Kuhn. Thanks, Dean.

# Lyle Jamieson Hollowing Demo



Lyle addresses BAT and friends



Start between centers



Always secure with faceplate



Shaping outer profile



Adjusting Hollowing device



Susan takes a turn.



Lining up laser guide



Hollowing bottom of piece



Ribbons of shavings fly

Taking a break from demonstrating to the American Association of Plastic Surgeons in Baltimore, Lyle Jamieson gave a demo to area turners at Woodcraft on 10/29/07. Using Woodcraft's Rikon lathe, he proceeded to transform an unremarkable block of maple to a gracefully formed kitchen caddy. Many members of BAT and Chesapeake Turners were present as well as most of the WC staff. After the obligatory discussion about safety, he mounted a chunk of partially dry maple between centers. He explained that he does this to enable him to judge the characteristics of the

piece – grain, cracks, etc and alter his approach easily as he cuts away the outside of the blank. Once he is satisfied with the orientation of the wood, he cuts a shallow indentation across the end to which he will attach a faceplate. He said that chucks allow too much slippage to be useful in hollowing forms. The faceplate is secured with #12 sheet metal screws driven with an impact driver, mounted on the lathe and then the external profile is cut. He extolled the virtues of sharp tools and careful technique in achieving a surface which requires little sanding. He turns at as high a speed as the piece will tolerate, in this case, about 1900 RPM, as this allows

more control over wood with gaps. Finally, he hollows using the Jamieson hollowing tool. He demonstrated the ease of set-up and the ease of using the tool, guiding it with only 2 fingers. Audience member Susan Shane took a turn and agreed. He hollowed using the HSS cutter and then the 3/16" Hunter Cutter. The latter produced lovely shavings and left a much smoother surface. As he approached the edge, he turned on the laser guidance system after first aligning it to assure that the wall thickness he was measuring was perpendicular to the surface. He hollowed in stages, finishing the

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## Tips and Tricks

The Hunter tool consists of a ultrasharp ultra fine-grain carbide circular cutter mounted on the end of a rod. It is excellent for end grain hollowing and leaves a very good finish. It is available in various sizes as a hand turning tool and as an attachment for hollowing apparatus such as the Jamieson system. It stays sharp up to 100 times longer than an HSS cutter. Once the used segment of the cutter dulls, you loosen the cutter and rotate it a bit to expose a fresh edge. Therein lies the rub: How do you know when it's been completely rotated and needs replacement?

Lyle Jamieson has a clever solution:

When using Hunter cutter, Lyle rotates the cutter a random amount after each project. Eventually the whole edge loses its sharpness at the same rate – when it's dull, replace it.

## Related Websites

► Dean learned the technique he demoed from Michael Werner at the 2008 AAW meeting in Portland. Find out more about Michael at his website: <http://www.handandmachine.com/index.html>

► Lyle Jamieson makes a lot more than kitchen caddies with his hollowing system. Check out his amazing torsos at his website: <https://www.lylejamieson.com/enter.asp>

## Lyle: continued

top 1 inch, then proceeding deeper, never going back to the finished portion except to feather-in the cuts. Finally, he hollowed the bottom with the cutter precisely on center, a position he determined by drawing a horizontal line on the bottom with the cutter and adjusting the tool rest height accordingly. For this demo, he parted off the base. He said he normally jam chucks it with a fitted faceplate, turns off the tenon and profiles the bottom.

Lyle peppered his demo with tips and proverbs. "Vibration is the enemy." "Spend time perfecting the outside of a form – hollowing the inside is just boring." "Rub paraffin on tool rest and support bar for effortless movement of the hollowing tool." After the demo, he had tools and DVDs available for purchase. Most of the material covered in the demo is included in his [Hollow Forms the Easy Way](#) DVD which is available in the BAT library. Lyle signed and donated the kitchen caddy to BAT to be raffled off.

## Very Special Raffle

BAT President Wayne Kuhn admires the Cindy Drozda finial box.



Cindy Drozda's elegant finial box will be raffled off during the November BAT meeting. Tickets are \$5 each and were on sale at the October meeting and will be available at the November meeting. This is a truly exquisite piece which will be treasured by whatever lucky person wins it. Take a chance. Buy a ticket. Already have one? Buy another. Proceeds go to BAT.

## Baltimore Area Turners

Baltimore Area Turners meets every month on the second Wednesday of the month at the Greater Baltimore Woodcraft Store at

1125 Cromwell Bridge Road  
Towson, MD 21286

### Next meeting:

November 14, 2007 at 7:00 PM

Agenda: Show and Tell

### Coming Up at Towson Woodcraft:

November 10—Pen Turning for the Troops

December 1—BAT/Woodcraft Pen Turning Demo

## Treasury

Treasurer's Report	
8/31/07 Balance:	\$1,938.86
Additions:	
September Raffle:	\$86.00
Dues:	\$10.00
WC Demo Offset	\$150.00
Subtractions:	
Cindy Drozda Demo	\$350.00
9/30/07 Balance:	\$1,834.86