CHINOOK WOODTURNING GUILD
NEWSLETTER

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS November 2026 NO 8

President's message, November 2026

We are coming into the cooler, blustery season and woodworkers are closing doors and windows so we can be warm and protected from the elements. This allows us to work into the winter, but it concentrates fumes and dust right where we don't want it. When we talk about accidents among woodturners we always think of the time the wood came off the lathe at speed, crashing into the face shield or dropping the freshly sharpened skew on our toe (Ouch!!). As far as actual injuries go, they are not very common and most could have been avoided with attention to the signals the wood and machine are sending.

I don't have statistics on woodturning related health concerns, but I'm pretty sure the most common and serious is not getting hit by a chunk of wood, but it is the slow, long term, and cumulative inhaling of wood dust. There is an excellent article on this in the October 2026 edition of the American Woodturner magazine.

The thing about dust is that the particles that bother us are not the most dangerous ones. They may make us sneeze, eyes water, skin itches but our bodies are getting rid of the irritants or allergens or sharp particles of wood in the dust, and we may be becoming allergic which is not good. But the more serious issue is the dust particles you can't see or smell. These guys are super small, in the range of thousandths of a millimeter. They are not visible to the human eye, they don't settle out of the air, they are not caught up in the nose or throat and they can be breathed right down into the most remote part of the lungs where they actually get into the blood stream and are carried around the body or are trapped in the lungs and sinuses. There they can cause nasal cancer, asthma, chronic bronchitis and COPD.

The message is: Wear a dust mask, get the best respirator you can afford, have a dust collection system in good condition. Be aware when dust levels are likely to be high and take precautions.

Enjoy woodturning into old age; breath freely. Stay Safe.

Announcements Nov 2026

If you haven't paid your annual membership dues, **now** is a good time.

$85 for regular membership gets you 10 monthly meetings, 12 Sawdust sessions, 10 newsletters and access to invited demonstrators and speakers. It's a good deal!

19 November: General meeting, 7-9pm at Casa. There will be a video on sharpening and with two sharpening stations set up we will sharpen your skills. Bring your tools if you have sharpening issues.

20-21 November: Christmas At Casa Art sale. Six of our members are registered for the sale. Come along 5-9pm on Friday and 10am-5pm on Saturday to support our guys and see their displays.

5 December: Sawdust Session 10am-12noon at Casa17 December: Christmas guild meeting. This is a social occasion with top spinoff and snacks. Bring your spouse or a friend.

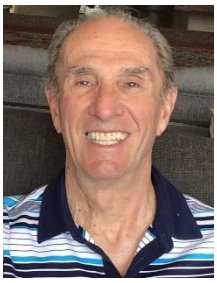
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Diane Munroe: WEBMASTER

Chinook Regional Health Festival Schedule & Highlights:

Sunday, Nov 15: Family Day – Enjoy Christmas Tree Lane, a scavenger hunt, selfie-booth, crafts in Santa's Workshop, and complimentary hot drinks and cookies. Free fun includes Story Time with Mrs. Claus, face painting, and visits with Santa featuring Aspire Photography photos.

- *Monday, Nov 16: Seniors' Day – Features Christmas Tree Lane, passport prize game, scavenger hunt, Santa's Workshop, live stage entertainment with music by Rob Habetler, and complimentary hot drinks and treats. Guests can also join the High Tea (tickets required).*
- *Tuesday, Nov 17: Community Day – Enjoy story time with Mrs. Claus and visit Santa, then spend the afternoon browsing local vendors during Shop & Sip with Happy Hour drinks, plus live broadcasts from WILD 95.5 & B93.3. Enjoy Christmas Tree Lane, a passport game, a scavenger hunt, a selfie booth, and complimentary warm drinks and treats.*
- *Wednesday, Nov 18: Gala & Auction – The festivities conclude on Wednesday evening, November 18, with the signature Gala & Auction. The elegant evening features a champagne reception in Christmas Tree Lane, hand-passed appetizers, live entertainment, an Aspire Photography photo booth, a silent auction, and a live auction of beautifully decorated Christmas trees and curated*
-

André : Hello turners,

Thanks to all members who contributed ornaments for this year tree. We had a total of 250 ornaments to decorate the tree. The tree is lovely.

Thanks to Diane and Steve Munroe, Dianne and Remo Brassolotto and Mireille Cloutier for the help with decorating the tree. I was a pleasure to complete the task with you.











Stringam Christmas Tree Festival 2026

This year we collected 250 ornaments made by the members. It is always reassuring that every year we can count on the contribution of the memberships to make ornaments. The richness of the ornaments is due to the variety of ornaments provided by each turner. An objective of 250 ornaments is a tall order for our small guild but every year you respond and we reach the objective. Heartful thanks to every contributor. If you could not contribute this year, the project will be back next year as it is an important contribution that the Guild can provide to the Community. Our tree is lovely and it is the best ever.

As we set up the tree, we always enjoy the comments of many different people communicating their appreciation about the tree made up by the Guild. This year was no exception but we had a surprise. The buyer of our tree from last year, stopped by to tell us about the success of the tree in their business location and then described the enthusiasm of her family spending the holidays with the turner's tree as they moved the tree to her home. So, the impact of our tree is always larger than what we anticipate.

I would like to sincerely thanks the magic team that came to put the tree together. They were Diane and Steve Munroe, Dianne and Remo Brassolotto and Mireille Cloutier. Norm Robinson was also in the wing.

In the accompanying photos, you can see the some of the ornaments on a table awaiting to be pick up and attached to the tree and then on the tree. A novelty this year, you can see in the Newsletter section of our website (https://www.chinookwoodturning.org/newsletters/) videos of the tree (https://www.chinookwoodturning.org/images/0/29296423/IMG_2744-nw2fhGDSox1mdhWn0L0ESw.MOV) and of some of the ornaments on the table (https://www.chinookwoodturning.org/images/0/29296432/IMG_2715-vUxMi8pMe7Y_RWpAV5ELTw.MOV). The last links work on my tablet but not on my computer. In case of difficulties, you will have to open the website first.

I hope that you will have a chance to see our Tree in all his splendor between November 15 and 18 at the Lethbridge Trade & Convention Centre.

André

Tree Captain 2026

André's preferred websites of the month

- The Art of Wood Exhibition 2026, an annual event of The National Association of Woodworkers NZ Inc. in New Zealand (https://exhibition.naw.org.nz/) is becoming an annual mention in my chronicle. The submitted works are judged by an international panel of woodworkers from around the world (including Cindy Drozda, a past guess demonstrator in Lethbridge in 2015). Again, this year, the pieces are just astonishing and leaves me is awe. This wood competition for our pleasure is dominated by woodturners. To best preserve your discovery, I am suggesting that you start with the different categories from the entry page. Nine of the ten categories include woodturning works. Under Plain Bowls/Platters, my favorite entries are Calabash II (Michelia), Magnolia Bowl and Fire (kauri). Under Embellished Bowls/Platters, my preferred ones are Autumn Leaves Bowl (Michelia), Emerging Chrysanthemum (walnut), Liquid Bloom 3 (birch), Leaves and Kauri (kauri) and Monstera in Motion (unknown wood). In the Boxes category, my vote goes to Pandora's Box (macrocarpa), Exhibit (totara), Outstanding (kauri) and Old Murphy's tea (plum and purple heart). In the Domestic section, Crimson Glow (Pohutukawa and magnolia), Picasso's pepper are my preferred items, For the Hollow Forms/Vases, my preferred entries are Triple Canopy (ebony, rewarewa, pepperwood), Mantaray and Mahogany (mahogany) and Balance (eucalyptus). Under Natural section, my preferences are going to Window to the Past (kauri), Re Beech Burl Delight (red beech), Heart Dish (firewood) and Apple Burl Bowl (apple). Under Ornamental, I like Vessel (oregon) very much, Love Tango (totara, amazing what you can accomplish on a lathe from a single piece of wood) and A Triple of Goblets (mahogany). Under Sculpture, there are some turned piece that are surprising such as Reaching for the Sky (red beech burls) and Suspended in Time (kauri). Under the Wall Art section, my preference goes to Solar Eclipse. How your own selection compared to mine and the Jury? Now you can click on the Award tab and see where the judges were standing.

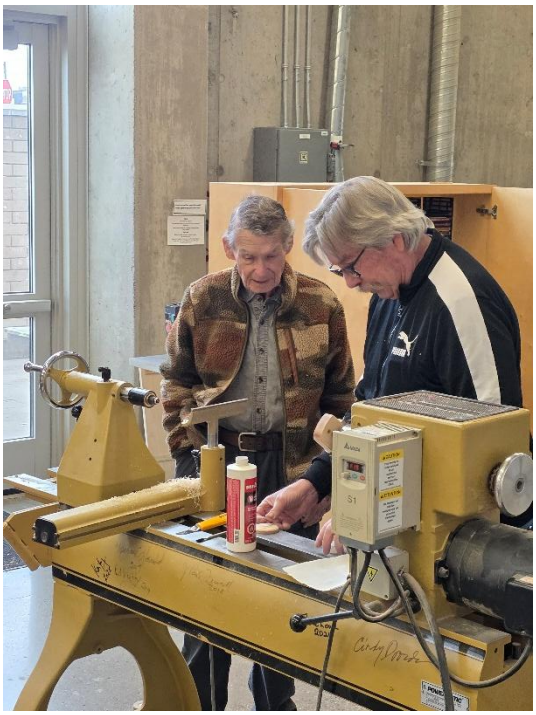
Every year, I am amazed by the creativity of numerous artists and by the different wood species that I am discovering or rediscovering.

The other site is under the web site of Kimberley Franzen a turner living in UK which was presented in the last newsletter. This time it is a video of the highlights of the meeting, a rapid survey of some of the vendors and the Instant Gallery (that starts at 2:31) of the 2026 Woodturning Festival sponsored by the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain https://youtu.be/KqmKjJ9L2wA?si=0s8JMO9nJzjojr17. Enjoy the discovery and many beautiful works.

Enjoy the websites. Please stay safe while you are in your shop.

André

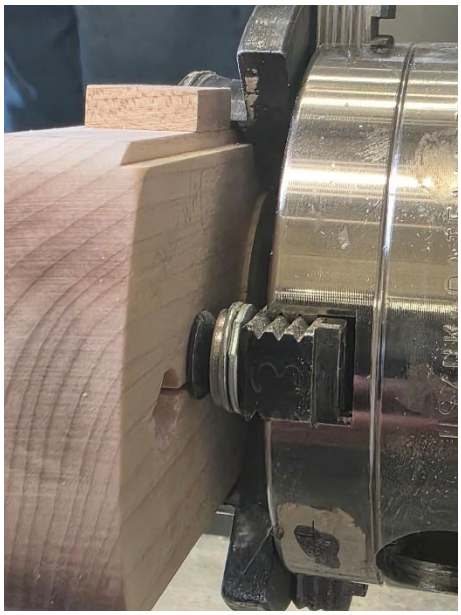
November 6, Sawdust Sesson



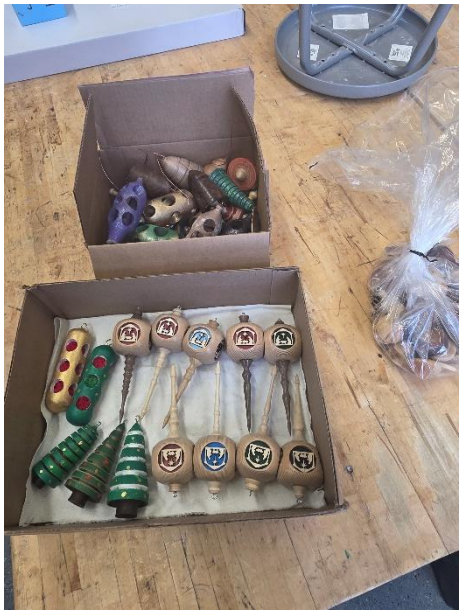
Below are pictures taken at the November 6 Sawdust Session. Steve demonstrated making a pendant. He modified a jig to incorporate a 180 Deg Polar Grid. Just remember to drill the center hole on the Lathe.











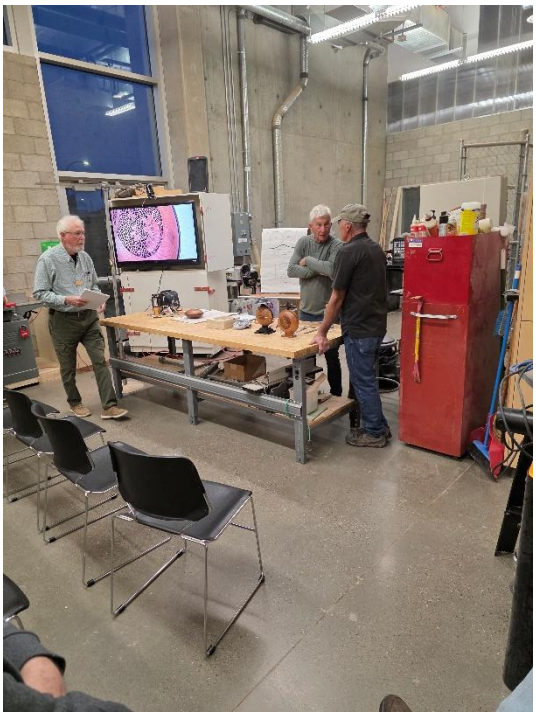


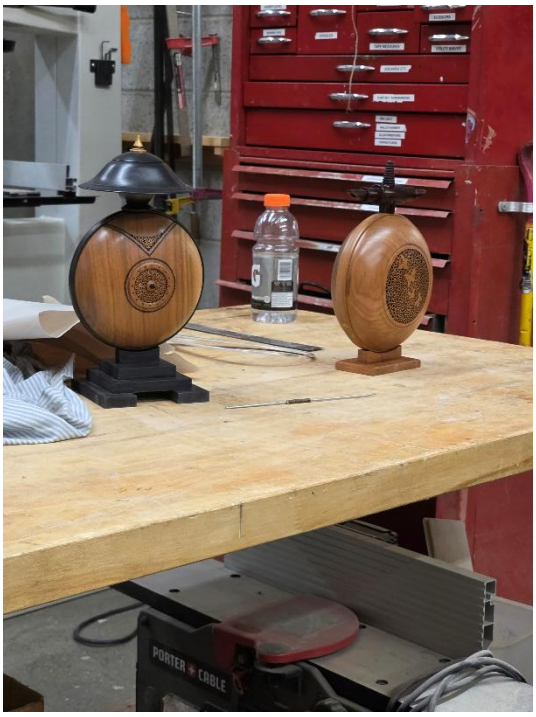


October 15, Guild Meeting. Roger McMullin demonstrating. Highlighting using a piercing tool as well as a wood burning tool.







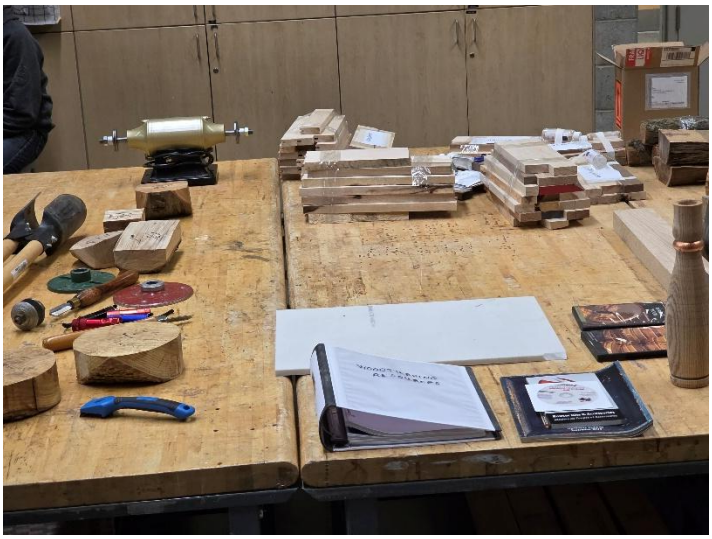


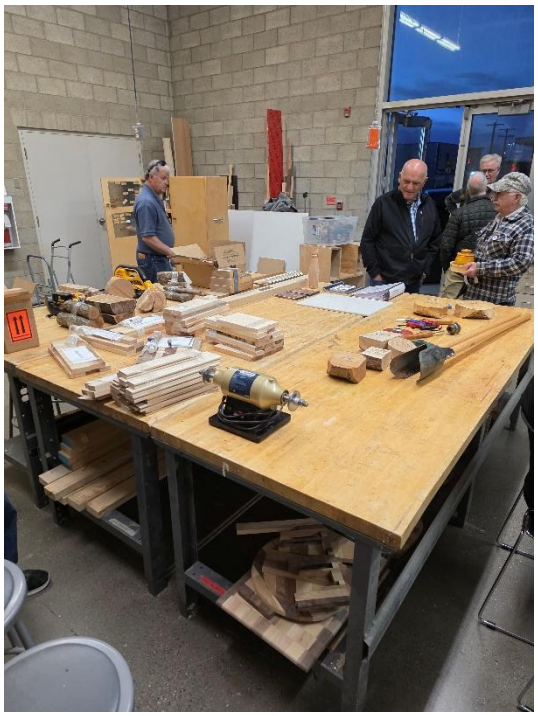
Roger is demonstrating a two-piece spline bowl. The pieces consisted of two, 1,5-inch material to form to identical bowls. He then demonstrated cutting the spline and then gluing the spline and the bowls together. He moved on to texturing using a Presto air tool and dental bits. To form the butterfly pattern, he captured a butterfly on the internet and traced the design onto the wood. On the following pages are pictures of the design and the instructions.

Presto Piercing tool using various bits and some used dental bits.

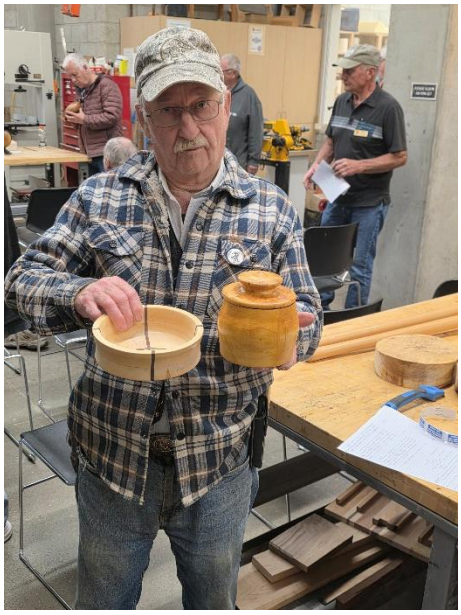




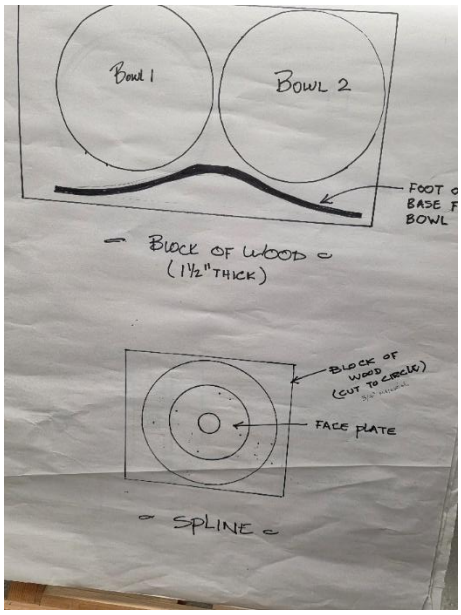


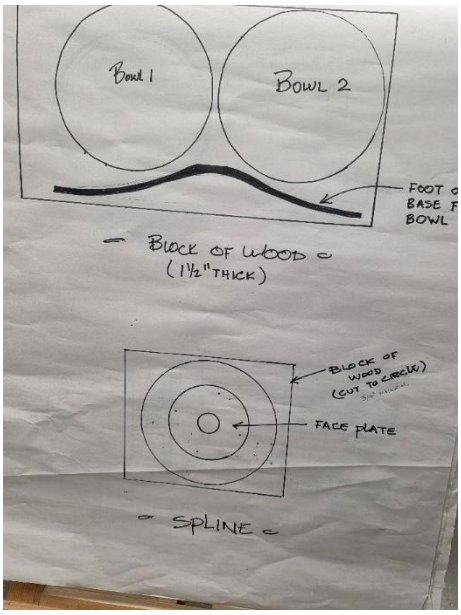


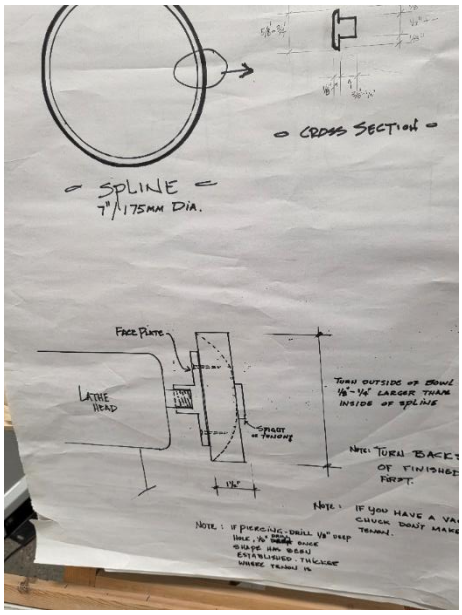


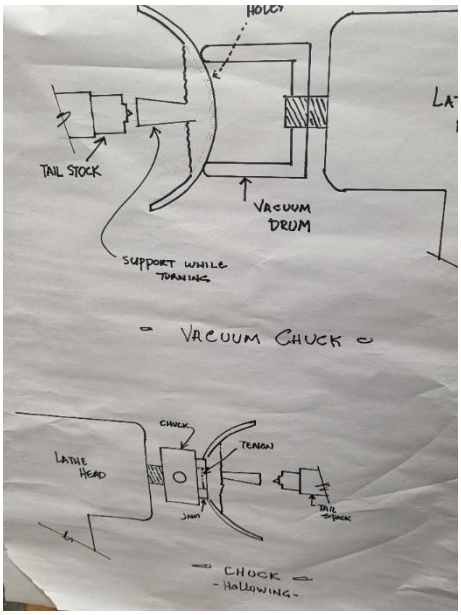


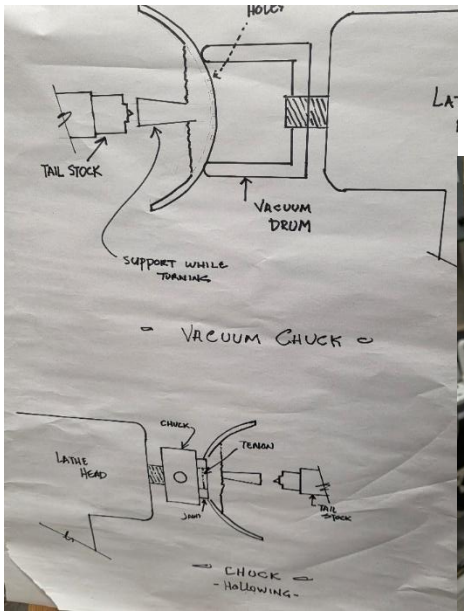
Thank you for participating in the wood raffle. As you can observe the table contains something for everyone including a posthole auger. Terry organized groups of lumber for cheese boards as well as supplying instructions and hardware. Steve donated some 18 Volt drills and a vacuum. All the pieces were taken, and this resulted in a $200 contribution to the guild coffers.

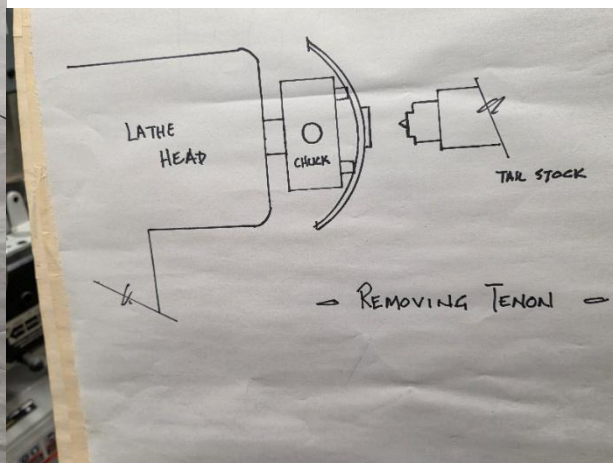

Bowl 1
Bowl 2
FOOT
BASE
BOWL
BLOCK OF WOOD
(1½" THICK)
BLOCK OF WOOD (CUT TO CIRCLE)
FACE PLATE
SPLINE


Bowl 1
Bowl 2
FOOT
BASE
BOWL
BLOCK OF WOOD
(1½" THICK)
BLOCK OF WOOD (CUT TO CIRCLE)
FACE PLATE
SPLINE


CROSS SECTION
SPLINE
7"/175MM DIA.
FACE PLATE
LATHE HEAD
SPIGOT OR TENON
TURN OUTSIDE OF BOWL
1/8"-1/4" LARGER THAN
INSIDE OF SPLINE
NOTE: TURN BACK
OF FINISHED
FIRST.
NOTE: IF YOU HAVE A VA
CHUCK DOUST MAKE
TENON.
NOTE: IF PIERCING, DRILL 1/8" DEEP
HOLE, 1/8" DEEP ONCE
SHAPE HAS BEEN
ESTABLISHED. THICKER
WHERE TENON IS.


HOLD
TAIL STOCK
VACUUM DRUM
SUPPORT WHILE TURNING
VACUUM CHUCK
CHUCK
TENON
LATHE HEAD
JAWS
TAIL STOCK
CHUCK
- HOLLOWING -


HOLD
TAIL STOCK
VACUUM DRUM
SUPPORT WHILE TURNING
VACUUM CHUCK
CHUCK
TENON
LATHE HEAD
JAWS
TAIL STOCK
CHUCK
- HOLLOWING -


LATHE HEAD
CHUCK
TAIL STOCK
REMOVING TENON

PROJECT DESCRIPTION : HOLLOW FORM - USING A SPLINE + TWO BOWLS

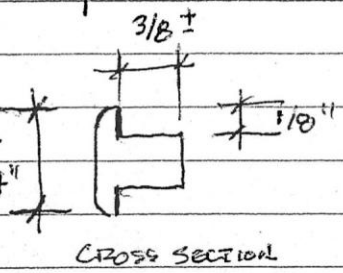
STEP 1 - PLAN OUT THE PROJECT. MAKING A LIFE SIZE DRAWING IS THE BE

- DETERMINE THE SIZE, BEST MATERIAL (SPECIES OF WOOD) TOP + BOTTOM DESIGN, FRONT + BACK DESIGN & PIERCING OR BURNIN FEATURE

OPTIONAL - PIERCING & BURNING ARE OPTIONAL

STEP 2 - MAKE SPLINE FIRST

- CONFIGURATION →



CROSS SECTION

- SPLINE DIAMETER - 4" - 12"

STEP 3

- TURN THE BACKSIDE OF HOLLOW FORM FIRST

- USE FACEPLATE SCREWED TO 1 1/2" THICK WOOD BLOCK, TURN AS YOU WOULD FOR A BOWL, MAKE BOWL 1/8-1/4" LARGER THAN SPLINE DIAMETER. CREATE A SMALL TENON ON THIS SIDE. (TENON TO BE SIZED TO FIT SMALLEST CHUCK SIZE) CREATE ANY DESIGN RIDGES AT THIS TIME & SAND AS NORMAL

STEP 4

- MOUNT TENON IN CHUCK. HOLLOW AS YOU WOULD THE INSIDE OF BOWL. IF PIERCING A DESIGN, THE OPTIMOM THICKNESS SHOULD BE 1/8" MAXIMUM, 1/16" IS BEST. USE A 1/16" DRILL BIT TO MAKE PILOT HOLES TO CONFIRM DESIRED THICKNESS. REMOVE BOWL.

STEP 5 CONTINUED °c

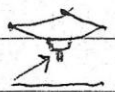
IF YOU HAVE A VACUUM CHUCK YOUR STEPS WILL BE DIFFERENT. FOLLOW STEP 3, STEPS 4+5 OMIT.

VACUUM CHUCK : REMOVE FACEPLATE IN STEP 3. MOUNT THE OUTSIDE OF BOWL ON TO THE VACUUM DRUM, MAKE SURE ITS WELL CENTERED. HOLLOW OUT THE INSIDE USING THE TAIL STOCK FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT.

IF PIERCING A DESIGN, USE A SMALL DRILL TO PROVIDE 1/8" DEEP HOLES TO ALLOW MORE WOOD REMOVAL, TURN UNTIL 1/8" WALL THICKNESS IS ACHIEVED

NOTE: TEST HOLES ABOVE MUST BE DRILLED FROM THE OUTSIDE OF THE BOWL

MAKING TOP + BASE

TOP - DECIDE ON DESIGN
- PROPORTIONS - MAKE DRAWING FIRST SO YOU KNOW SIZE + SHAPE OK.
- MOUNT TOP USING , ONCE BOTH SIDES ARE MOUNTED IN SPLINE, ASSURE PERFECT VERICAL POSITION & DRILL HOLE THROUGH SPLINE, GLUE OR EPOXY IN PLACE.

BOTTOM - DECIDE ON BASE DESIGN
- BUILD THE BASE
- USE GLUE OR EPOXY OR DEPENDING ON SITUATION
- CAN OGMENT WITH A SCREW IF NEEDED.