

AUGUST 2018

T U R N I N G

Threads

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Edible beans of Mesquite tree

Prez Seyz

Hey, troops, hope all is well with you all. If you missed the picnic, you are probably a pound or two lighter than the rest of us. It was a great time of food and fellowship. A great big thank you to the Eberhardts for hosting this fun event in their hide away.

I received an email from Joe Nycz the other day and he is gaining ground on his recovery from the heart attack and by pass surgery. He is back doing some turning. We all miss him and wish him well.

Time to start thinking about the next presidents challenge, a Halloween decoration. Richard Prouty will help us out with some ideas when he demonstrates for us at an upcoming meeting.

I also want to remind you all to think about the Empty Bowls event. This is a charity event that our club has backed for several years. If we all start now, we can make this years event the biggest ever. Let's see just how many (hundred) bowls that we can donate this year.

The summer is going so fast and we are all busy and attendance has been down some, don't miss out on the great time we have on the first Wednesday and the second Saturday of each month. Also remember to bring in a project for "show and tell" on meeting nights.

Well, "That's all folks "

Prez Duane.



Correction to July demo on Embellishment—The wood carvers group is called the West Wisconsin Wood Carvers Guild and is located in Eau Claire and meets at the Eau Claire Senior Center. The write-up incorrectly stated that the wood carvers were located in Menomonie.

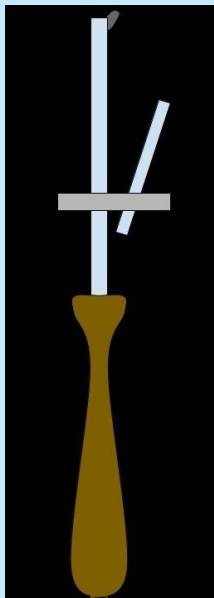
August Demonstration

Hollowing

Barry Grill

Barry Grill did a hollowing demonstration. To give us some perspective he explained that bowls and vases are both hollowing operations, but the distinction between those and what he will be demonstrating is the depth of the hollowing, and the amount of undercutting.

To accomplish this you need heftier tools. In deep hollowing your tool will extend far over the tool rest. As the cutting edge of the tool slices through the fibers of the wood it is forced downwards. Because of the large distance over the tool rest lighter tools may bend.



For his trademark large hollow forms he uses a hollowing system. In this demonstration he did smaller forms without the system to allow people to get experience with it without a heavy investment in tools. Turning without the hollowing system, regardless of size, is less safe than with it. The hollowing system traps the tool over the tool rest which make it easier to keep the cutting edge on center, as well as stops some of the forces acting against the turners shoulder.

He typically uses a heavy boring bar, 1 1/8" in diameter for his deep vessels. The tool he used for the demonstration was fabricated by Joe Nycz. It consists of a high speed steel cutter profiled to resemble a shaper. This is set into a steel shaft. This shaft is set into an aluminum bar. A second bar is run through this bar so that overall it resembles a "Y", this rests against the tool rest and helps to stop the tool from torquing.

Drawing of tool used by Barry and fabricated by Joe Nycz.

Barry starts with a dry piece of wood. He mounts it between center and gets it cylindrical, and puts a tenon on sized for his four jaw chuck. (The jaws of the chuck should almost close for the best holding power. The face of the chuck should meet the wider cylinder squarely.)

Once this is done he mounts it in a four jaw chuck and brings up the tail stock. He starts by turning the outside of the vessel using standard tools. If the grain is parallel to

the bed of the lathe spindle tools are usable. Bowl gouges may always be used. Do not part the vessel from the chuck at this point!

If the wood is large enough for a lid from the same material he makes the customer facing side of the lid, and then parts it off, leaving a small tenon so that he can turn the tenon for his vessel afterwards.

To take out the bulk of the material Barry uses a forstner bit at 250-300 RPM. Too fast and you burn rather than cut. Also, forstner bits need to be sharpened occasionally (anyone who's been at a Coffee and Chips on Saturday can attest to the amount of smoke generated with a dull forstner bit)

Once this is done he uses his hollowing tool to hollow out the inside. He uses calipers rather than cameras or laser pointers. Be cautious when hollowing, if you hollow your walls too thin you end up with a funnel (or firewood). The cutting edge of the tool is kept on, or slightly above center.

Once his walls are sufficiently thin Barry does his sanding on the lathe. He goes from 150 grit to 800 or higher. On the higher grits he reverses the lathe on alternating grits.

He also does his finishing on the lathe as well. When applying dyes the grain will slightly raise, or fuzz. After applying the dye go back over with your finest grit sand paper. For multi colored pieces he wets the wood with a spray bottle, which allows him to blend the dyes.

Barry uses wipe on poly for his finish for most things, it's durable, and it's shiny. His customers always seem to look at the shiny pieces.

To finish the bottom, part off the vessel. At this point you'll make a jam chuck to fit the opening of the vessel. If there's enough waste material then use it, otherwise use a piece of scrap hardwood. Bring the tail stock up for support and turn the bottom slightly concave so that the vessel sits flat. Turn the tenon down and keep working the bottom until the tenon may be removed with a chisel. Barry uses a sharp profile gouge to get in and shape down the tenon.

Barry marks the locations of his 4 jaw chucks on the tenon so that if he needs to he can place the piece back in (sometimes things do fly out) with minimal run out.

Sand the bottom to remove the chisel marks etc.

Wet turning advice: Turn to 1/10 the diameter of the piece. Place in your oven at 170F for an hour, and repeat for 10 days or so. This will dry out the wood and have a lesser chance of cracking. ☺☺



Barry demonstrates one of his jam chucks that fits several sized openings

Barry dyes the turned demonstration piece with a liquid Rite dye.



Several of Barry's many hollowed forms: 2 pet urns, a natural edge form and a vase.



Tools For Hollowing

There are many tools used for hollowing as individual tools or as hollowing systems. Barry used his own version of a hollowing system. All of the systems seem to include a method of articulating the tool at angles to get to curved areas within the piece. Beside the most familiar system – Lyle Jamison – there are many others on the market:

Don Pencil Hollowing Systems: Employs a large vessel version called the Scorpion and a small vessel version called the Stinger. Setup has a hand grip and an arm rest. (Scorpion - \$235; stinger \$59.50; combo \$285).



www.leevalley.com/en/wood/page.aspx?p=49126&cat=1,330,49233,49232

Elbo-Tool Hollowing Systems: An articulated swivel arm system (\$299 complete)



wtwtim.com/elbotool.htm

Lyle Jamison: A Captured-tool deep hollowing system (\$319 to \$408 depending on package)



<https://www.woodworkersinstitute.com/woodturning/kit-tools/hand-tools/hollowing-tools/lyle-jamieson-tool-system/>

D-Way: Employs an outrigger to counteract rotational forces and an adjustable thickness gauge. (\$185-\$218)



D-waytools.com/hollowing-tools/

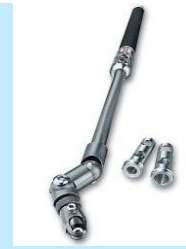
Clark: For really deep hollowing. Has laser and a fulcrum support tube. (\$390 for deep and \$365 for mini)



[https://www.theokspindoctor.com/Clark-Deep-Hollowing-System-p/hb.htm\\$365](https://www.theokspindoctor.com/Clark-Deep-Hollowing-System-p/hb.htm$365)

Sorby: Tool is a multi-variable configuration head using a micro-adjustment wheel. (\$70 to \$120 per tool).

<https://www.robert-sorby.co.uk/sov16s-ultra-ultima-hollowing-system>



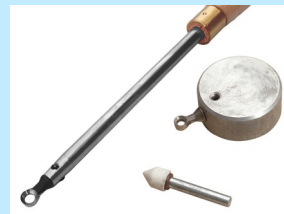
Hunter: Round carbide cutters on boring bars (\$125 to \$200).

huntertoolsystems.com/



OneWay Termite: End grain hollowing tool (Approximately \$105 to \$200)

<https://woodworker.com/termite-tool-mssu-106-334.asp>



OneWay: Laser Hollowing system: Complete system \$582

<https://oneway.ca/products-category/coring-hollowing/Laser%20Hollowing%20System>



Rolly Monro: An adjustable carbide cutter with articulated arm (\$269 to \$408 depending on size)

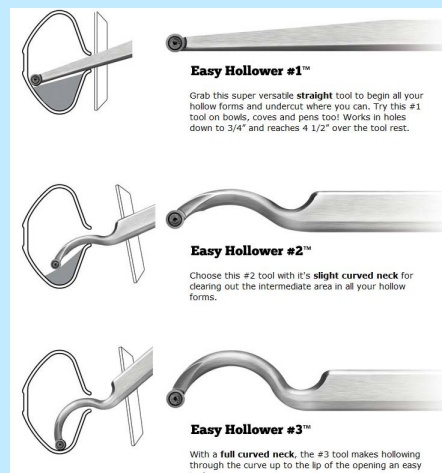
www.packardwoodworks.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?

[Screen=CTGY&Category_Code=tools-munr](http://www.packardwoodworks.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?Screen=CTGY&Category_Code=tools-munr)



Easy Wood Tools: System of three carbide tools with 2 of the 3 being swan neck (\$368 for set of 3)

www.easywoodtools.com/products/easy-hollower/



SHOW AND TELL / GALLERY



Dennis Ciesielski with a part of a Maple log that had a full circle burl. Piece was fashioned from the part of the log above the burl.





Jeff Fagen with several pendants that were turned from left over pieces of Corion he received .



August Meeting

Attendance is usually sparse during the summer but 32 attendees was a credible showing for the month of August.



CVWG Secretary Position

Group secretary John DeRyckere announced to the Board of Directors that due an increasing demand on his time, he will not be a candidate for Secretary when elections are held in December.

Because John has a background in computer programming he has also been the involved in overseeing our group web site and fixing problems affecting the web site including the three times the group web site has been hacked. This job is not a required duty of the secretary but was taken on by John because it was needed. He will continue in this capacity



AAW defined duties of Secretary:

The Secretary ensures that records are maintained for the proceedings of all business meetings of the chapter. His/her duties include (1) Records and writes the minutes for each chapter executive board meeting, (2) Assist with all of the business and affairs of the chapter, (3) Serve on committees as needed.

As defined, the duties are not major. John goes beyond what is expected of a secretary and these activities have been most beneficial to the group over the years.

The board has discussed these extra duties that John has assumed—such as demonstration write-up— and these will be modified or have more than one member do these necessary activities.

This position is a required position by the AAW and someone is needed to carry on with these required duties. Please consider running for the position and joining the CVWG Board of Directors.

CVWG Member Gets Published In the AAW Magazine

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Dennis Ciesielski sent to the AAW magazine—August 2018 issue of the American Woodturner—a short article on his wood turning alternatives. That is, newspaper and denim which he has shown to the group in Show and Tells—Denim in May 2018 and Newspaper in June 2016.



6th Annual Robust Tools Open House

Saturday, October 6

9AM to 4PM

Woodturning Demonstration by
Guest Turner: Rudy Lopez

www.rudolphlopez.com

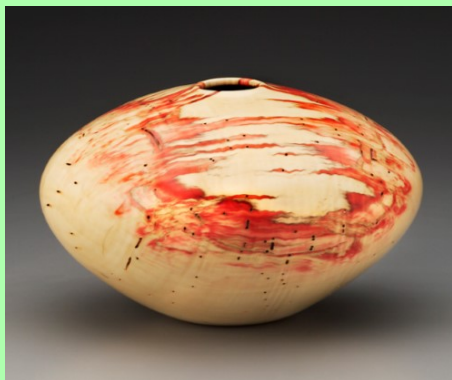
Door prizes and in-house specials on all Robust products

Free Refreshments

101 Business ID, Barneveld, Wisconsin 53507

608-924-1133

www.turnrobust.com info@turnrobust.com



PEN WOOD OF THE MONTH

Honey Mesquite

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Common Name(s): Honey Mesquite

Scientific Name: *Prosopis glandulosa*

Distribution: Southwestern North America

Tree Size: 20-30 ft (6-9 m) tall, 8-16 in (20-40 cm) trunk diameter

Color/Appearance: Heartwood tends to be a reddish brown, which darkens with age. Sapwood is yellow in color, and tends to be thin.

Grain/Texture: Honey Mesquite has a medium to coarse texture and open pores, with a slight natural luster. Clear portions of the trunk tend to have straight or wavy grain: though knots, defects, and other irregularities are common.

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous (or semi-ring-porous); large pores in no specific arrangement, few to moderately numerous; solitary and radial multiples of 2-3; amber-colored deposits occasionally present; growth rings indistinct (or distinct due to marginal parenchyma); medium to large rays may be just barely visible without lens, normal spacing; parenchyma vasicentric, lozenge, and confluent.

Rot Resistance: Honey Mesquite is considered very durable regarding decay resistance.

Workability: Working properties are largely dictated by the quality of the wood itself. Mesquite that is clear and free from defects is easy to work with hand and machine tools, but irregular grain or knots can be challenging. Glues, turns, and finishes well.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: Woods in the *Prosopis* genus have been reported to cause skin irritation. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Mesquite only tends to be available in small sizes, or as large irregular slabs. Larger boards free from defects are uncommon. Prices for Honey Mesquite are in the upper range for a domestic hardwood.

Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices or on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Common Uses: Fence posts, flooring, turned objects, cabinetry, and furniture.

Comments: Considered by some to be an invasive species, Mesquite is known to produce great firewood with a high thermal value. Honey Mesquite is prized by segmented woodturners and others for its exceptional stability. Honey Mesquite exhibits very little movement or expansion/contraction due to environmental changes in humidity.

Related Species:

- **African Mesquite** (*Prosopis africana*)
- **Algarrobo Blanco** (*Prosopis alba*)
- **Black Mesquite** (*Prosopis nigra*)
- **Itin** (*Prosopis kuntzei*)
- **Nandubay** (*Prosopis affinis*)
- **Prosopis juliflora** (*Prosopis juliflora*)

Source: <http://www.wood-database.com/honey-mesquite/>

Pen type is satin gold Slimline (Trimline) . This piece has a lot going on grain wise.



The Devil Tree and It's Many Uses

Early-day ranchers called mesquite "the devil with roots," because it absorbs all of the water in its surroundings causing other plants and trees to wither away and die, allowing more mesquites to move in and take over, and also because of its vicious thorns.

Mesquite trees have long been used by native people of the southwest for food, medicine, beverages, glue, hair dye, firewood, construction material, and furniture making.

The pods are especially valued - so much so that you have to be fast to get some when they hit the ground. But pods are much better picked straight from the tree.

Use as a Food

Golden and hard harvested beans are ground into a meal. Sprinkled with water and formed into round cakes. Later these are eaten raw, fried as mush or used to thicken stews. The meal is also used as a flour to make a flat bread which is gluten free. Dried can be ground and used like pinto beans. Boiled and eaten as green beans when pods are green and soft.



The pods are sweet and because of the high fructose content which is good for diabetics because insulin is not needed to metabolize. The seeds contains 35% protein, 25% fiber and has a low glycemic index of 25 and is useful for regulation of blood sugar.

A refreshing drink can also be made from the flour. If fermented it makes a fizzy alcoholic drink.

The flowers can be used to make a tea and can be roasted for eating.

And of course the wood can be used as a smoke flavor for meats.

Use as a Medicine

The Black tar or sap from the tree can be boiled and diluted to be used as an eye wash and antiseptic for wounds. It can also be used on sore lips, chapped skin, as a sunburn lotion, and as a treatment for venereal disease.

A liquid made from the boiling the bark can be used as a laxative or emetic.

Tea is used for headache and stomach trouble and used to cure conjunctivitis and to heal painful gums.

Other Uses

The Pima Indians used the black tar as a hair dye. This was done by boiling the tar and applying the mixture to the hair, covering the hair with mud over night, then thoroughly washing the next morning. Resin from the tree was used as glue to mend pottery, or when boiled and diluted, as paint for pottery. The inner bark of the tree was used for basketry.

Mesquite wood is used by artisans in southern Arizona to make some beautiful furniture.

Source: Articles by Jonathan Duhamel and C.E. Clark

<https://arizonadailyindependent.com/2013/07/07/mesquite-trees-provide-food-fuel-medicine-and-more/>

<https://dengarden.com/landscaping/mesquite-trees-mesquite-bushes-devil-trees-thorns-seedpods>

<https://casademesquite.com/pages/mesquite-recipes>



OTHER MESQUITE PRODUCTS



Bean Jelly



Coffee



Flour



Wood Chips

The Mesquite Tree - Leaves, Flowers and Thorns



Top: Typical Mesquite tree shape. Below Left: Characteristic shape and bark. Below Right: Mesquite flowers.



**Above: Mesquite tree with ripe pods.
At Right: Mesquite thorns.**

Woodworking and Artisan Works of Mesquite



Considerations When Cutting a Log for Bowl Blanks

Part One: The Chainsaw

Sources:

Frequently wood turners pass by downed trees in a woodland or beside the road and immediately wonder whether that would make a nice bowl or some other turned items.

But what if one is able to obtain some of that interesting downed tree. How does one go about cutting it in such a way to get the most out of the log and get the part that will be the most interesting grain wise?

The internet is replete with videos and web sites that show how to do this and show how to do it in many different ways. This series of articles will endeavor to compile much of that information.



First Things First - Equipment needed:

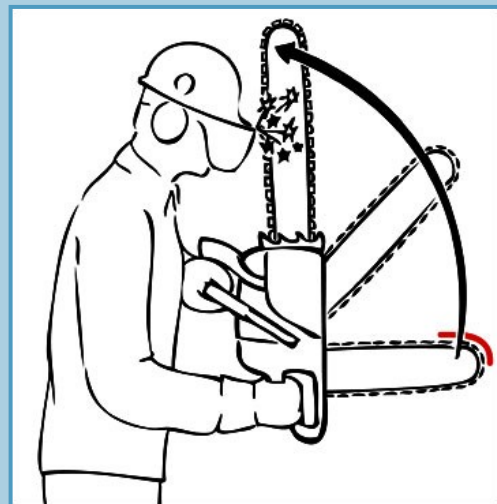
A chainsaw is essential. A gas powered saw if a lot of cutting is away from your shop. A battery powered saw can be used away from the shop if cutting is limited in numbers and size. An electrical cord saw is ideal for near or in shop cutting.

Minimal eye and ear protection. Chainsaws are loud and have a tendency to throw wood material in the direction of the cutter. If someone is with you have them stand beside you and not in front. Cut wood has a mind of its own. Some chainsaw enthusiasts also recommend full face shield, hard hat, boots and chaps.

Kickback

The most dangerous chainsaw reaction is kickback. Kickback results for two main reasons:

The upper quadrant of the nose of the saw comes in contact with the wood and as a result the bar will go up and rearwards to the operator. Always note where the tip of the bar is located.



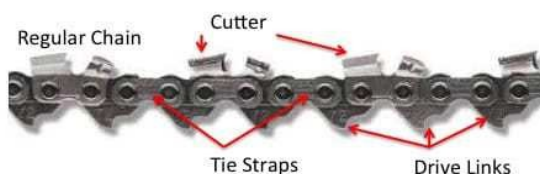
A second condition involves pinching the chain at the top of the bar in a crosscut, and causes the saw to pull in. This can be avoided by keeping the kerf open.

Two good ways to minimize kickback is a kickback guard or nose bar installed and use a safety chain. The kickback bar is a piece of metal attached to the nose of the bar so that the chain tip cannot touch the wood being cut. A drawback to a kickback bar is that the nose cannot go into the cut even to withdraw the chain.

A safety chain has "extra amount of metal onto the tie straps between the cutting teeth such that the tie strap functions as a higher depth gauge as the chain rounds the upper half of the bar tip." (See photo. A picture is worth a thousand words in this case. The drawbacks of a safety chain will become evident when one tries to bore cut to make a back cut when felling a tree. A second drawback of safety chains is sharpening is more difficult when doing it by hand.



**With Kickback
Guard or Nose-
Bar on left.
Without Kick-
back Bar on
right**



**Safety
Chain
types**



Chainsaw Rules: According to Ernie Conover

Never use a chainsaw left-handed. All come right-handed.

One person uses the chainsaw. Any other stands a distance away and not in front.

Never use alone (Not always possible but good rule is to let someone know when and where).

Never use above shoulders or on a ladder. You are only inviting a kickback.

Check that chain is tight and check frequently.

Chain is to be sharp. A dull chain makes it harder to saw.

Cut at high throttle. Partial throttle only invites a kickback.

Use ground start or knee starting a cold chainsaw. ①①

Part two of this series will cover the best way to cut and how to get the best grain.

Sources:

<http://www.woodworkersjournal.com/cutting-bowl-blanks-chain-saw/>

<https://www.woodmagazine.com/materials-guide/lumber/from-trees-to-turning-blanks>

<http://keithlarrett.com/2010/08/26/processing-a-log-for-bowl-blanks/>

September Demonstration

Halloween Ornaments

Dick Prouty

Demonstrator Bio

Dick had never turned ornaments until he saw a demonstration by group member Barry Grill making ornament bird houses.. He tried it and made several birdhouse ornaments which led to making Christmas ornaments. Dick credits a lot of his turning expertise to technics learned from members of the Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild.

Demonstration:

Dick volunteered to demonstrate turning Halloween ornaments even though he has never turned one. He is confident that having turned other types of ornaments that his ideas for Halloween ornaments will be a learning experience for him and the group.



COMING EVENTS

Meetings are first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Open house—Coffee and Chips - is the second Saturday of the month from 8 am to 12 pm

Meeting Dates and Demonstrations

September 5 - Dick Prouty—Halloween Ornaments

October 3 - Richard Ryan—Polka Dot Bowls

November 7— To Be Determined

December 5—To Be Determined

January 2—To Be Determined

February 6—To Be determined

Open House-Coffee and Chips Dates

September 8

October 13

November 10

December 8

January 12

February 9

Meetings and Coffee and Chips are held in the Eau Claire Insulation building at 1125 Starr Ave on the northeast side of Eau Claire, Wi.

Board of Directors for 2018

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***Photos of Show and Tell / Gallery items
provided by : Tom Leonard***