



Wood Turners Worldwide

worldwidewoodturners.org and the art of making shavings

Newsletter

MARCH 13, 2024

TIPS & TRICKS

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 6

Making a four column spiral finial

Story and photos by Howard King

Most of this process is based on work by Stuart Moritimer.



1. Start with a 2" by 2" by 6" piece of straight grain wood.
2. Rough out the placement for the waist and the pointed tip. The section where the spiral columns will be carved should be a shape resembling an egg.
3. Draw four parallel lines along the axis of the piece (horizontal) 90 degrees from each other.
4. Mark vertical lines dividing the egg along the center, and roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the top and bottom.
5. Trace a diagonal line from the intersection of a horizontal and vertical line at the base of the egg up to and through the intersection of the next parallel line and the middle line.

Continue the diagonal line up to the intersection of the next parallel line and the line at the top of the egg. The ends of this diagonal line should end up on the opposite sides of the egg form.

6. Draw the other three diagonal lines in like manner giving four spiral lines along the outside of the egg. These lines represent the spaces between the spiral columns.



7. Using the spiral lines as a guide, drill $\frac{3}{16}$ " holes in each of the lines, aiming the drill bit toward the center of the egg.
8. Use a conical burr bit to connect the drilled holes and open up the space between the columns. Remove as much of the interior of the egg as possible.

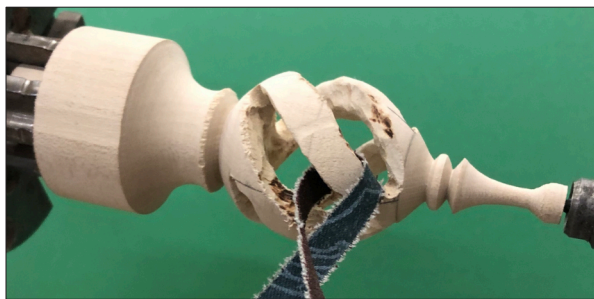
Continued on page 2 ...

... Spiral (Continued from page 1)



9. Use various files to help open up the spaces while trying to make all the columns and spaces as uniform as possible.

10. Quarter inch strips of sand paper help sand each of the spiral columns. Be extra careful while doing this to not break one or all of the columns. File and sand the areas where the columns come together at the top and bottom of the eggs interior.



11. Wrap the spiral columns with masking tape to support the fragile columns while you finish and sand the tip and waist of the finial.

Four Spiral column tips:

- Holly and Maple work well for this project.
- Keep the piece of wood between centers while working to help give the piece support.
- An indexing system (either built-in, or shop made) and your tool rest are key to marking out your carving lines.
- As you carve the columns, keep the space between them consistent.





Dale Slaughter



Gerald Jensen



Leonard Davis

Clockwise from top left: Sculptured cherry bowl; Maple crooked box turned using the Paul Howard jig featured in the February 28th edition; Oak root ball hollowform; Construction lumber cactus candle holder.



Tom Kenney

World Wide Woodturners meets every Wednesday at 7:00 PM Eastern! Go to worldwidewoodturners.org and click "go to meeting!"



Ron Dagan



Brenda Thornton

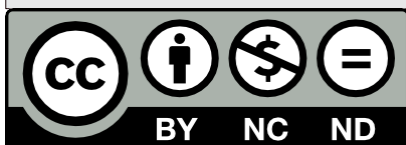


Billy Burt

Wood Turners Worldwide

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Clockwise from top left: Unknown fruit wood vase with pyrography; Spalted maple picture frames, with a bead turned from the center segment; Ashe juniper Easter bunny.



Altier del Legno



Kieth Hyland

Clockwise from top left: Hades; alder burl colored with six water-based dye to create a captivating blend of shades. The rim is enhanced with chameleon powder; Ash four corner bowl, two corners up, two down. Pyrography design with Chestnut stain; Birch offset bowl with embellishment.



Jon Moore

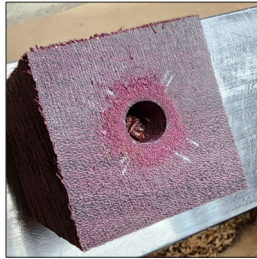


Kirk Kapp

Left: Cabinet fit beneath the lathe to contain tools and accessories. **Inset:** foam insert cut out to contain gouge blades. The top four drawers have foam inserts, the rest are open for tool storage.

Making an “outhollow” ornament

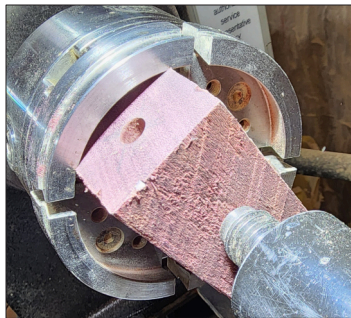
Story and photos by Jon Moore



1. Drill a 3/8" hole in each end of your blank approximately 1/2"-3/4" deep.



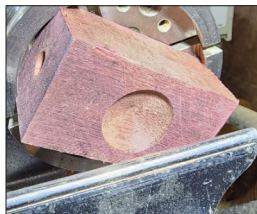
2. Carefully mark centers of all four sides of the blank and center punch the marks.



3. Use the tailstock to align and center the blank to the chuck, then tighten the chuck jaws.



4. Mark a circle approximately 1/4" from the edges of the blank before hollowing so the edges will come out even.



5. Turn out the center of each side of the blank.



6. Make a jam chuck to accept the 3/8" hole on the end of the blank.



7. Mount the blank between the jam chuck and the tail stock.

8. Shape, sand, and finish your ornament as desired.



9. Now ready to turn your finials for the ends.



Finished outhollow ornament with finials.