



Beads of Courage

Thanks to all who made boxes for the Beads of Courage program. This will be an ongoing program because it is for such an important cause.

was \$500-\$700. He instead bought the much cheaper D-Way hollowing tool (\$205 at time of writing this article on D-Way Tools' website).

December Meeting

The Great Falls Woodturners club's met on Saturday, December 10, 2022 at 12:30 pm at the Hershberger shop. There were 11 people present.

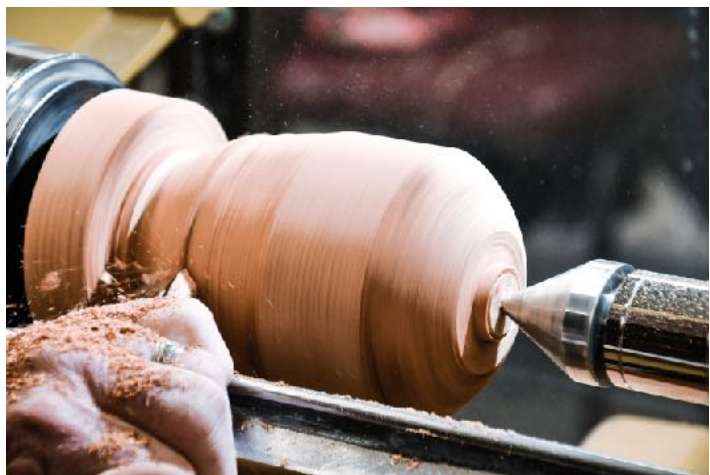
Jay Eklund gave a demonstration of the D-Way hollowing tool.

Jay had wanted to make hollow forms. He saw many articulated hollowing systems available on the market, but usually the price



The D-Way hollowing tool allows the user to adjust the distance between the cutting end and the outside of the hollow form with a small flexible spring. The cutting surface goes inside the form, the spring stays outside. When the

spring no longer bends where it is touching the form, the thickness of the form is less than the preset distance between the cutting edge and the spring. It is a simple but very visual indicator.



Jay noted that he signs up for demonstrations in part to push himself outside of his own comfort zone. He knows that if he is going to demonstrate a new tool or technique, he'll need to become comfortable with it in his own shop before he can show the rest of us.

Jay had already used his hollowing tool to create several hollow forms in his shop. He brought those hollow forms along to show us, and they were quite nice. Like most crafters, Jay is his own worst critic. He saw where the forms did not match his initial vision; the rest of us saw some very nicely turned, nicely finished, and nice-looking hollow forms.

For the demonstration, Jay used Spanish cedar. That is technically a hardwood, but is light in density and relatively soft.

As a side note, Jay said if anyone has a question about whether it is possible to get shavings off of Spanish cedar instead of dust, the answer is "Yes, if you have sharp enough tools." And Jay did get some fine shavings off the Spanish cedar while forming the outside. He uses a radiused skew, also from D-Way Tools, and uses the methods described by Eric Lofstrom. He says when the skew is sharpened as Lofstrom recommends with diamond stones and leather stropping, it creates a very sharp edge.

Jay has quite a bit of Spanish cedar as he purchased a pallet of different woods years ago and the shipper used Spanish cedar to fill



out the order. Jay has found that the endgrain does tend to tear out easily. He's also found that stabilizers, faster speeds, and very sharp tools all help reduce tearout. For stabilizers he's used CA glue, and also mineral oil. He finds that mineral oil will tend to darken the final finish.



While he was doing his demonstration, Jay also talked about some useful things for his shop. He purchased a number of strong permanent magnets from Harbor Freight and now uses them to hold tools to his lathe. Vacuuming dust and shavings directly from a hollow form with an attachment from the vacuum cleaner is much faster than blowing out the dust and shavings from the form, then sweeping them up, and then vacuuming them. From D-Way Tools, he got a tip on how to get rid of the dimple left behind by Forstner bits: take a spade bit, grind a large radius curve on the

end use the bit to drill to the final depth, and as a bonus if you keep it level in the bit holder it will serve as a small scoop to help get some of the shavings and dust out of the form.

Now that an initial channel had been drilled with the Forstner bit, and the dimple had been removed, it was time to start hollowing the form. No matter what hollowing tool is used, there will be a certain amount of torque on the tool which can either be transferred to a support or to the turner's wrist. For Jay's hollowing tool, he used a homemade raised horizontal bar as a support for the hollowing tool. The bar may also be purchased



from D-Way tools.

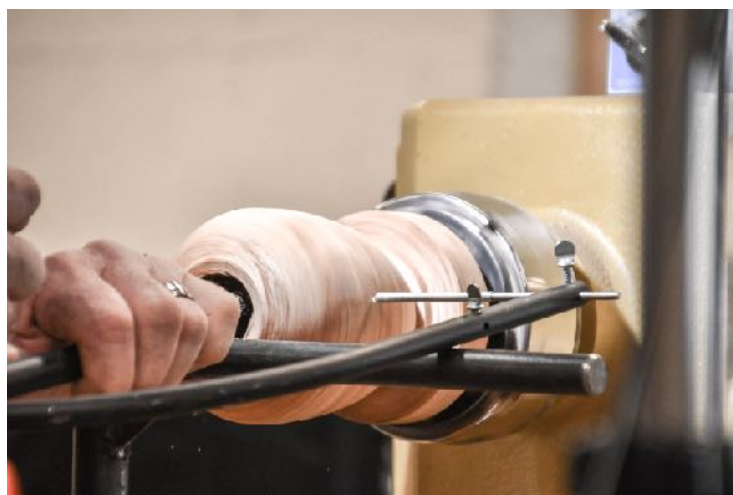
The D-Way hollowing tool comes in handed versions, one for right-handed use and the other for left-handed use. Jay commented that

with the right handed tool a reversible lathe is required. The turning is done with the lathe in reverse from normal turning. As a form is hollowed out, there are times when the angle to hold the tool will be very awkward with regular lathe rotation, but much easier with a reverse rotation.



walls of a hollow form get thinner the sounds of it change, including both the sound the cutting edge makes while hollowing and also the sound of tapping on the outside when the lathe is stopped.

By this time, the hollow form was almost done. Jay did have a few more tips for us. He talked about the challenge of learning how to hollow the form inside without the hollowing tool hitting and chewing up the opening to the form. A small opening to the form is more desirable as nobody can see inside the form and comment on the inside finish (or lack thereof). If the opening of the form does end up wider than intended, an insert can be turned for the top with a small opening and in a contrasting wood. The thinner the walls of the form, the lighter weight the hollow form will be, but also more fragile. As the



As the demonstration was winding up, Jay had one last tip for us: as you are taking a turned piece off of the lathe, it is much easier to mark where it was in the chuck before you take it off the chuck.

And with that, Jay's hollow form demonstration was finished. Everyone agreed the D-Way tool was a good tool to use when a turner wanted to give hollowing small vessels a try, but was not yet ready to commit to the larger articulated systems.

Camille Good



The Perks of Club Membership

One of the many benefits of being a member of the Club is that certain certain businesses related to our craft, offer discounts to on orders placed by club members.

The following businesses offer a 10% discount on all orders:

Penn State Industries

Packard Woodworks Inc.

Klingspor Abrasives

To apply the discount just mention you are a member of the Great Fall Woodturners in the notes area at checkout. The discount may not show up on the website, but will show up on the receipt when the order is shipped.

Hartville Tools offers free shipping on all orders, no minimum purchase required.

Website of the Month

For those turners who are interested in doing basket illusions, the patterns on the turning can be previewed on polar graph paper. This graph paper can be hard to find, but with the following website you can generate and print polar graph paper with any amount of radial lines and sections to match your turning. Then by coloring with colored pencils, you can see what the pattern and colors will look like.

<https://incompetech.com/graphpaper/polar/>

Instant Gallery



Jay Eklund

I made several of these inside out ornaments to give to my nurse friends





Dean Yonkovich

Paul Snyder



Paul Snyder



Randy Setzer

Terry Hill



Terry Hill





Tom Krajacich



Wayne Petrini



Wayne Petrini



Wayne Petr

Thanks

Thanks to this months contributors
Camille Good, Dean Yonkovich, and Paul
Snyder for the excellent pictures.

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