



A monthly publication of the Presque Isle Woodturners

# Turn to the News

Volume 3 Issue 8

October 2017

## Highlights

- Elections

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## President's Message

It's October already and it was great to see the club with a larger group and new members attending as well as some of the original members. It's great that so many people have pulled together to bring the club back to where it is now.

At next month's meeting we will have an opportunity to move into the next phase of rebuilding the club. With that we have to remember that we are a member of the AAW and as such we have to abide by their rules and regulations. We must also realize that AAW doesn't just sit and make up rules and regulations to complicate members' or clubs' lives. They make rules to protect and keep their members safe. This past month I have seen or heard the results of people who aren't members of clubs and have decided that all those safety rules are a bunch of hubbub and another way to spend somebody's money or control us. One friend had a grinder explode and even though he was following the guidelines to not stand in front of the grinder, had a large piece of the stone embedded in his thigh just above his knee. In yet another instance a person was using a table saw he had recently purchased. When a club member suggested that he have someone who knows about using table saws work with him before he started using it alone, the club member's advice was disregarded and the man cut off 3 fingers by not adjusting the blade to the right height and being distracted and using his hand to feed the wood through the saw. Accidents are bound to happen, but when you belong to a club you are at least aware of some of the safety guidelines and you have access to mentors who will help you learn how to safely work through the woodworking process. The AAW holds the club to these regulations and writes the articles that Terry includes in the newsletters as well as what we receive if we have individual memberships. I'm not saying that everyone should go out and get a membership to AAW, but it is a necessity for the club to be a member of the AAW and the officers who will be leading the club. In the short time I have been president there have been several times that AAW has sent me information that was relevant to our club and its members.

Last year when I volunteered to become president, I was retired and had large amounts of free time. Since that time, I have gone back to work and my time is extremely limited. This month I realized I no longer have the time needed to be a president of a club. If there is another person who would like to take over the club president's position I will not run for president for next year. At the same time, I hope that you will not allow the future officers the opportunity to take the club back to the situation it was in last year. We now have the space for the monthly meetings, to use smaller lathes to have workshops, and to have more experienced turners help the new members understand how to use the lathes, keeping safety first. We now know that the insurance is a touchy situation and that we need to follow guidelines or we won't be able to find it. We also know that a club cannot be run by just one person, it needs to have input from all of its members. It is also important to understand that people join clubs because once a month they want to hang out with people who have similar interests and share their knowledge, skills and experience. They are looking forward to the one or sometimes two days a month for that time. If we share the jobs, responsibilities and delegate, the club becomes strong and at the same time workable for all members. In the future, keep in mind that any help that you as a member can provide will take the load off the officers and other people who regularly volunteer. It also gives you a sense of ownership.

Continued...

This club was once an amazing group and it was mainly due to the fact that the members were active, but with that activeness comes a sense of bitterness when only a few are volunteering and "doing all the work." To prevent this situation, we need to be able to ask members for help as well as volunteering to help. Sometimes people are not aware that they can help or that they have the gift of time to offer that won't bankrupt them. Communication is very important.

I will be president until we vote for the next president and hopefully things will go smoothly. Ron plans on being Vice President and working on building membership and all that comes with that. (We will have to be limiting his winning all the prizes though.) It has been a great learning experience being president. I hope to be able to continue to support the club as a member. I will still be on the board as a past president and I will keep working to help in any way that I can.

I want to thank all the people who have contributed to the growth of the club these past months/years while I've been a member and president. I hope that we all continue to be aware of what a great club we have and continue to work to make it better.

Isabel

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## Minutes

The Board meeting discussion centered on a few items: "whether to continue doing an evening demo at the annual Albion Fair during the second week of September." Jim Meyers explained to the Board that the PIW, for the last 5 years, has done an demo at the fair from 8:00-10:00 P.M. on Friday night. Usually there are three members who offer to do the demo. Jim Meyers has been going to the fair to help with the demo and the other two people who have gone will not be able to do next year. Ron said that he and Isabel would help with the demo.

The other items concerned "housekeeping chores." Because our meeting takes place in a working section of Kraft Lumber, our lathe, chairs and cupboard are very dusty. John Fox will purchase a tarp to put over the chairs, a trash can and a dust pan.

There were about 25 members at the meeting which began with Show and Tell. Beginning with the October meeting, each member received a ticket which they placed on the piece on the S and T table that they liked. The winner of a \$10 wood certificate was Ron. Each person who brought in a piece also had a ticket to put in a draw for the other \$10. certificate. That winner was also Ron.

Dave Swanson is having his woods "cleaned out" and offered wood to anyone who might want to come to his place for the tree tops after the lumber men are finished. However, you'll have to do all the cutting and hauling yourself. Dave also has a lot of PCV pipes, several lengths and diameter to give away. He also offer knobs that were used in a jig that Greg Fera showed during his demo. Dave said he has about 200 pounds of knobs and the price is cheap, very cheap. Give Dave a call if you can use any of these free products.

Ron T. told the group that he has an endless supply of wood from a friend. If you need any wood, let Ron know and he'll see if he can get you what you want.

Usually at the November meeting a slate of officers is presented to the club for next year's officers and board members. If you are interested in volunteering your time for the club, please call Dave Swanson 899-5175.

The election will take place at the December meeting. Also at that meeting we will have a gift exchange. We'd like everyone in the club to do a wood piece for the exchange. It's very nice to get another member's piece. Several of our members have a special place in their homes for the pieces which they received in the exchange.

Greg Fera was our featured artist for the meeting. He brought along several of his unique and beautiful segmented bowls that he has turned. Greg gave a detailed and interesting demo on how to create a segmented bowl from start to finish. He shared his many ideas and jigs and how to make some of them plus very detailed handouts. He explained some of the jigs which he bought and made and talked about a video on segmented bowls. The cost is about \$70 and Greg said that it an extremely good video. See Greg for details.

The raffle brought in \$82.00

Audrey

# Library News

One of the greater assets of PIW is the extensive library of tapes, DVDs, books, and reference materials available in the club library. If you have not already done so, take a few moments and browse through the

materials. Materials are offered on an honor system. Please sign the card attached to the desired item and place it in the Library black box. When you return the item, retrieve the card from the box, cross out your name and place

## Latest Additions

- ◆ See the Todd Eastman for more information

# PIW Activities Calendar

2017	Presenter	Topic/Demo	2018	Presenter	Topic/Demo
January					
February					
March					
April					
May					
June					
July					
August	Dave/Nancy Swanson	Annual Picnic			
September	Jamie Donaldson				
October	Greg Fera				
November					
December		Election of officers			

# Treasury Report

Financial update:

Checking: \$2,245.03

Savings: \$3,817.45

If you have any questions about club finances, please give John a call. [814-434-3445](tel:814-434-3445)

## PIW Board 2017 and Elected Officers

<b><i>President</i></b> Isabel Quayle <a href="mailto:isq.piw@gmail.com">isq.piw@gmail.com</a>	<b><i>Vice-President</i></b> Ron Tomasch <a href="mailto:ronswoodshop@hotmail.com">ronswoodshop@hotmail.com</a> <u>216-214-1959</u>	<b><i>Secretary</i></b> Audrey Steff <a href="mailto:asteffosb@hotmail.com">asteffosb@hotmail.com</a> <u>814-899-0614</u>
<b><i>Treasurer &amp; Club Photographer</i></b> John Fox <a href="mailto:john@johnfox.us">john@johnfox.us</a> <u>814-434-3445</u>	<b><i>Elected Board Member</i></b> Sara Peters <a href="mailto:sarabara071260@gmail.com">sarabara071260@gmail.com</a> 814-725-0167	<b><i>Elected Board Member</i></b> Todd Eastman <a href="mailto:eastmanswoodturning@yahoo.com">eastmanswoodturning@yahoo.com</a>
<b><i>Member at Large</i></b> Terry Buetikofer <a href="mailto:tibuet@gmail.com">tibuet@gmail.com</a> <u>814-580-8179</u>		

## Mentor Contacts

*For new turners and those looking to expand their skills, PIW has established a 'Mentor List' of those members willing to assist in that effort. Please make arrangements directly with anyone on the list for help.*

Dave Swanson 7279 Rohl Road, North East, PA 16428 814-899-5175	Bill Blasic 11291 Lake Pleasant Rd. Union City PA 16438 814-796-4609	John Fox 176 Cambridge Road, Erie, Pa 16511 814-434-3445
Ron Tomasch  526 Eastlawn Street Geneva, Ohio 44041  <u>216-214-1959</u>		

For contact information updates, including your email or mailing address, please contact Terry at [piwnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:piwnewsletter@gmail.com)

## AAW Quick Links



## About PIW

Presque Isle Woodturners (PIW) is a member of the American Association of Woodturners. Our mission is to educate woodturners and the public about the art and craft of woodturning.

We were organized in 1999 and became incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2003.

Dues are \$20 per calendar year and include club meetings, demonstrations from our club or other club members, demonstrations from internationally known woodturners, access to a large library of videos, a mentoring program and an email subscription to our newsletter.

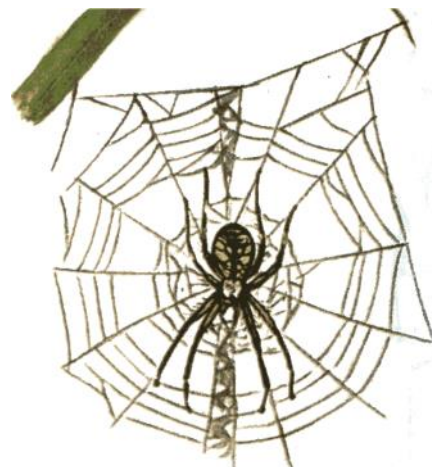
Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at **Kraft Lumber 1707 Peninsula Dr.** at 6:00 p.m.. Currently we meet April through July and September through December.

The weather is not always favorable for traveling, so for the safety of our members, we take a winter break January through March. In August we have our annual club picnic. On occasion, we don't meet in July. If you plan to attend a meeting, please contact us to ensure our schedule has not changed.

<http://www.piwturners.com/>

## Around the Web

**Woodturning** is the craft of using the wood lathe with hand-held tools to cut a shape that is symmetrical around the axis of rotation. Like the potter's wheel, the wood lathe is a simple mechanism which can generate a variety of forms. The operator is known as a turner, and the skills needed to use the tools were traditionally known as turnery. In pre-industrial England, these skills were sufficiently difficult to be known as 'the misterie' of the turners guild. The skills to use the tools by hand, without a fixed point of contact with the wood, distinguish woodturning and the wood lathe from the machinists lathe, or metal-working lathe.



## Woodturning Resources

### **American Association of Woodturners**

Woodturning Association

### **Tools and Supplies**

#### **Bear Tooth Woods**

Specialty pen kits

#### **Best Wood Tools**

Specialized woodturning tools

#### **Craft Supply**

Woodturning Supplies

#### **Craft ID**

Signature medallions

#### **Geiger's Solutions**

Robust Lathes and accessories

#### **Klingspor**

Abrasives and woodturning supplies

#### **Highland Woodworking**

Woodworking tools, supplies

#### **Hunter Tool Systems**

Carbide woodturning tools

#### **Hut Products**

Woodturning tools, supplies

#### **John Jordan Woodturning**

Woodturning tools and more

#### **JT Turning Tools**

Woodturning tools & accessories

### **OneWay Manufacturing**

Lathes and accessories

### **Packard**

Woodturning Supplies

### **Peachtree Woodworking**

#### **Supply**

Turning and carving tools, supplies

### **Penn State**

Woodturning tools, supplies

### **Rockler**

Woodworking and Hardware

### **Ron Brown's Best**

Woodturning tools and videos

### **Sanding Glove**

Abrasives and sanding equipment

### **SS Niles Bottle Stoppers**

Stainless steel bottle stoppers

### **Thompson Lathe Tools**

High quality steel woodturning tools

### **Vinces WoodNWonders**

Sanding products

### **Woodcraft of Atlanta**

Woodworking and Hardware

### **Woodturners Wonders**

Lathe lamps & CBN wheels

### **Woodturningz**

Pen kits and woodturning supplies

## **Magazines**

### **More Woodturning**

Woodturning magazine

### **Woodturning**

The British woodturning magazine

### **Wood magazine Forum**

Wood Magazine

Q & A on Woodturning

## **Websites**

### **Woodturning Videos**

Excellent woodturning videos

## **Wood Sources**

### **AustralianBurls**

Burls from Australia

### **Bell Forest**

Figured and Exotic woods

### **Big Monk Lumber**

Exotic woods

### **Century Tree Turnings**

Woodturning blanks

### **Got Wood?**

Source of Wood turning blanks from Piedmont area of South Carolina

### **Hardwoods Incorporated**

Specialty Hardwoods

*Let me know if you have a favorite site to add to this list.*

## Area Events

This is a notice and reminder about the 2nd Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium. Our executive committee would like to make a special request to you to please share the following information with your chapter members.

The symposium is a 3 day event with at least 28 rotations. It will be held in Lancaster, PA on October 27, 28, & 29 2017. The discounted rate is \$185 which includes lunch on Saturday and Sunday. A "meet the Demonstrators" session will be held on Friday evening. A limited number of hotel rooms are available at a special reduced rate in the Marriott Lancaster, the site of the event.

We have a terrific lineup of demonstrators including Stuart Batty, Curt Theobald, Cynthia Cardon Gibson, Hans Weissflog, Ashley Harwood, and Avelino Samuel. The rotation schedule will be published soon. We also have numerous vendors coming to display their turning related items at our tradeshow. Our website has links to each of the demonstrators and vendors.

Registration is now open. If you are interested in attending, early registration is highly recommended. Registration will close when all our limited number of seats are sold out.

Please visit our website at <http://www.mawts.com/> for more information. We hope to see you there!

Thank you,

Ron Sheehan, Vice President

## GRAEME PRIDDLE and MELISSA ENGLER

### Class Title: Turn and Burn

#### one day demonstration and two - one day classes

#### The course description follows:

Have a go at turning and carving small bowls and boat forms and applying surface embellishment using rotary carvers, woodburner detailing and 'branding' and application of acrylic and milk paints.

The course will cover design and influences, safety, basic turning techniques, tool selection and sharpening, wood selection, making woodburner tips and 'brands' (I will cover how to make brands but not the handpieces) and various ways to use them, rotary and hand carving techniques, painting and finishing.

For those that would like to have a set project we will start you on a simple bowl with lots of surface area for embellishing. If you complete this project, you can go on to turn and carve the boat form and embellish it if time permits.

Or if you prefer to concentrate on surface embellishment only you are welcome to bring pre-turned spindles/bowls/vessels/test boards to have a go at the myriad of surface treatments Graeme and Melissa will show in their demonstration.

If you are signing up for either, or both, of these one day classes it is important that you attend the Saturday demonstration to see all the possibilities that you can explore on this class. One day is not very long so best not to expect to go home with a perfectly completed piece, most of Graeme & Melissa's pieces take days, and in some cases weeks, to complete. They suggest you try a little of a lot of different techniques to gain the ideas then spend the time perfecting your skills at home.

For Further Information on Graeme and Melissa and their talents, see: "<http://graemepriddle.com/>" and "<http://melissaengler.com/>" and the biographical information provided below.

#### **Location:** The Lower Floor of The Society for Contemporary Craft

2100 Smallman Street (Strip District)

Pittsburgh PA, 15222

This location is at the northeastern end of a several block long warehouse building. It is diagonally across the corner from St. Stanislaus church located at the intersection of Smallman Street and 21st Street.

Free parking (I hope it is still free at the time of this event) is available directly behind The Society for Contemporary Craft end the building (first drive to the left after you turn off Smallman street).

Go down the exterior steps at the back of the building and enter through the basement door.

#### **Demonstration:** Saturday, October 21, 2017

Doors open at 9:00 AM (some Turners Anonymous members will start showing up about 8:30)

Coffee, donuts and social time 9:00 to 9:30

Brief Meeting and Introduction of Graeme and Melissa 9:30 to 9:45

Demonstration by Graeme and Melissa: 9:45 to 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$30.00, Includes coffee, donuts, and lunch

This is a demonstration only, no hands on experience

Total capacity, about 60 people

#### **Class:** Sunday, October 22, OR Monday October 23 (Each class includes the same material, you may attend either class)

Doors Open at 9:00 AM

Coffee and social time 9:00 to 9:15

Instruction by Graeme and Melissa: 9:15AM to 4:00PM each day

Cost: \$160.00 for the class, turning blanks, and lunch

This is a hands-on wood turning and embellishment class

Total capacity, 8 people in each class

#### **Each Student Will Be Provided:**

The use of a variable speed lathe, with a 1 inch 8TPI spindle on most lathes

The wood blanks required for the class



**Each Student Should Bring:**

Safety equipment, including a facemask, dust mask, and hearing protection

A 1" x 8TPI 4 Jaw Chuck with 2" and Pin jaws (the Pin jaws are needed for the boat)

Bowl gouges, a small detail gouge, a small skew, a parting tool, and small hollowing tools for making the boat (hollowing through a 1 inch opening)

Carving tools – Mastercarver Micro-Pro, Foredom, Dremel, hand tools or whatever carving gear you have

A mini-arbortech or Proxon carver or angle grinder with coarse (36gr) sanding disc or similar

Power sanding equipment and selection of sandpaper for finishing

Pyrography equipment, Burnmaster or Colewood Detailer are recommended

Long nosed pliers and small flat blade screwdriver.

Finishing oil, no toxic sprays or finishes please.

Masking tape

A selection of good quality artist's acrylic/milk paint and brushes. If you do not have your own paints and do not want to buy before you try, Graeme and Melissa will have their paints available for student use for a fee of \$5.

Pencil, eraser, steel ruler, paper

Note: The carving, sanding, and pyrography equipment may be sharable as all students may not be at the same stage of completion at the same time. Graeme will also have their equipment available for student use.

They will also have a range of rotary carving burs, wood burner handpieces/tips/wire and high powered 'Vaporizer' wood-burners available for sale. **For Additional Information, Please Contact:**

Glen Nickodemus, Phone: [814-421-0911](tel:814-421-0911), Email: [ghnick@comcast.net](mailto:ghnick@comcast.net)

Denny Kearney, Phone: [412-965-4341](tel:412-965-4341), Email: [d.kearney@verizon.net](mailto:d.kearney@verizon.net)

**To Reserve a Place in the Demonstration or One of the Class Sessions see us at the September meeting or send a deposit to:**

Bill Hayes - [411 Meadow Lane, Edgeworth, PA 15143](mailto:wjhayes@comcast.net) - Email: [wjhayes@comcast.net](mailto:wjhayes@comcast.net)

Dave Betler – [265 Stevens Road, Utica, PA 16362](mailto:dabetler@gmail.com) – Email: [dabetler@gmail.com](mailto:dabetler@gmail.com)

Thanks so much,

Dave Dudney  
Pittsburgh Woodturners

For turners who have never tried segmented turning or for those who would like a refresher on the basic concepts, here is a simple, easy approach to turning a segmented bowl. This quick, accurate method will acquaint you with the fundamentals of segmenting, which you can then apply to more complex pieces. The bowl presented here makes use of a solid layer of wood for the foot and four progressively larger rings, each one comprising multiple segments cut at predetermined angles.

### Segment-cutting sled

As you would imagine, segmented projects require careful attention to creating a blank prior to turning. The table saw is my preferred tool for cutting segments, and a sled with a fence set at the correct angle is the best way to produce identical segments. Some time invested up front creating a good sled will help you far into the future. I recommend making and using a Wedgie Sled, a simple fixture designed by renowned segmented turner Jerry Bennett. Plans and instructions for building this sled, as well as helpful videos, can be found at Jerry's website, [segeasy.com](http://segeasy.com). Regardless of the sled design you choose, the goal is to be able to cut desired angles accurately and with repeatability.

# Turning Your First SEGMENTED BOWL

Jim Rodgers



### Selecting wood

You will need to determine which wood species to use; I had some very dry Eucalyptus cut a few years ago from a friend's yard. Mill the wood to the desired thickness you want for each level, or ring. I chose  $\frac{5}{8}$ " (16mm) thickness. It is important that you select wood that is thoroughly dry, with moisture content of six to twelve percent. Using green, or unseasoned, wood introduces a greater likelihood of wood movement, which will cause glue joints to fail.

### Plan your bowl

Unlike other kinds of woodturning, segmented projects require detailed planning of the piece you wish to create. For this project, I decided on a small popcorn bowl that would fit in your lap—about 3" (8cm) tall by 7" (18cm) diameter.

### Make a drawing

Make a full-sized drawing of your bowl on graph paper with your desired profile. This drawing will help you determine the ring diameters and thicknesses as well as the segment sizes required. Allowing for extra wall thickness now will help you minimize any problems you might have later in aligning the rings or turning the bowl. Next add horizontal lines to indicate the foot and ring thicknesses, based on the thickness of the wood you will be using. Add a centerline to the drawing and number each level, or ring, of the bowl from the base upward (Figure 1).

Note that drawings made with sophisticated software or using trigonometry functions will render more accurate results, as a simple two-dimensional drawing cannot account for the three-dimensional aspect of the bowl's curvature. This is why allowing for extra wall thickness

### JOURNAL ARCHIVE CONNECTION

Jim Rodgers has written previously in *American Woodturner* on segmenting. His 2005 article on cutting accurate segments (vol 20, no 4, page 24) offers helpful information, including an alternate sled design and tips on gluing segments into rings. AAW members can access all past journal articles online at [woodturner.org](http://woodturner.org).





## Plan your segmented bowl

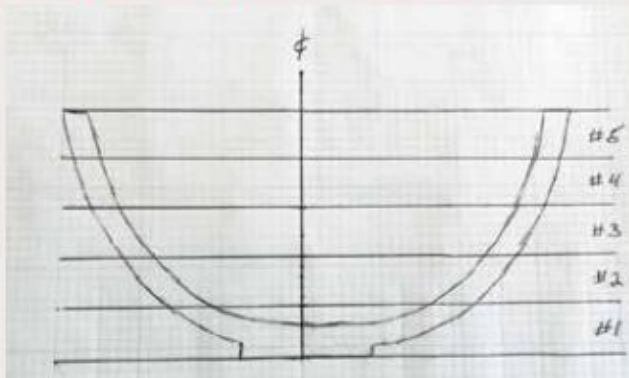


Figure 1. Start with a full-sized drawing of your desired profile, then indicate the thickness of each segment layer, or ring, with horizontal lines.

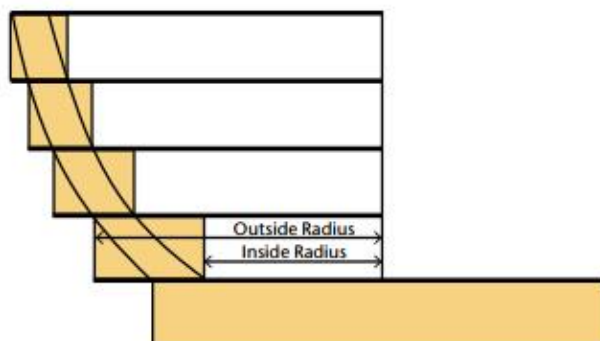


Figure 2. Measure the required width of each segment by subtracting the shortest inside radius from the longest outside radius. Note that the foot layer is a solid circle of wood, not a segmented ring.

is especially important when using a two-dimensional drawing.

### Determine board length

Planning your bowl requires a few simple calculations based on your initial drawing. As you make the calculations, record the results in a table for easy reference. First, you will need to determine the board length needed to cut the right number of segments for each ring. The board length is equal to the circumference of each ring (plus about 4", or 10cm, for safe holding during cutting). To find the circumference of each ring, measure its diameter (d) on your full-sized drawing and multiply that number by 3.14 (Pi, or  $\pi$ )—since the circumference of any circle =  $\pi \times d$ .

### Determine segment length

In order to cross-cut the individual segments on your sled, you will need to determine the length of each segment's longest, or outside edge. This is found by dividing the ring's circumference by the number of segments in that ring. In my example project, each ring is made up of twelve segments, so I divided each

ring's circumference by twelve to get the length of each segment's long, or outermost edge.

### Determine segment width

You will also need to know the width of the wood strips that will make up each segment. To make this determination, go back to your drawing and measure both the longest outside and shortest inside radii of each ring, using the centerline as the point from which to measure. Subtract the inside measurement from the outside measurement and record

the resulting number as the width of each strip (Figure 2).

### Cut your stock

With all of the critical calculations made and recorded, you will have a cut list you can use to begin preparing the wood, first by ripping the timber to the needed width, then by cross-cutting the strips to overall length. Label the strips as you rip them so you can easily see which rings they are to be used for.

Set up the table saw to cut the individual segments to the correct length ►

## Cut the segments



1 Use a 30/60/90 triangle to set the fences on your table saw sled to the desired angle.



2 Cut the individual segments. The length of all segments is made identical with the use of an adjustable stop (bottom right of photo).



## Glue the segments



**3** Glue the segments into rings, using a band clamp to apply even pressure.

and at the correct angle. My setup includes a zero-clearance throat plate, a good quality finish-cut saw blade, and a stop for cutting multiple segments at the same length. You also need to set your table saw sled to cut the segments at the desired angle. The included angle is determined by dividing  $360^\circ$  (a full circle) by the number of segments. So, for example, any twelve-segment ring, regardless of its circumference, will require  $30^\circ$  angles on each individual segment.

Cutting segments using the Wedgie Sled is a little different from cutting on an average table saw sled: the Wedgie can be adjusted to cut different angles

by pivoting its two fences. The angle between those fences is set to the necessary included angle for the segments; the first half of a segment is cut using one fence and the second half, using the other fence. When you cut the segments, there is no flipping the strip, as you would have to do with single-fence sleds. To realign the segments with the greatest precision during glue-up, mark the top face of each wood strip with a continuous line prior to cutting and also mark one edge. An easy way to set the fences for a  $30^\circ$  cut is to use a commonly available 30/60/90 triangle. Place the triangle on the sled with the  $30^\circ$  angle

A flat board with 80-grit abrasive resting on the toolrest for support works well for flattening each ring prior to gluing on the next ring. Keep the lathe speed low, about 600 rpm, during this process (Photo b).



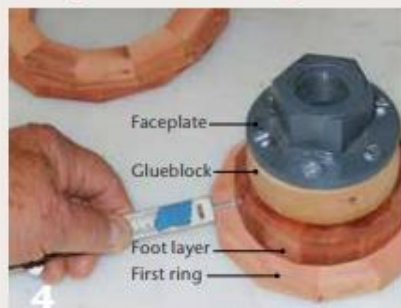
between the two fences. Move the fences until they touch the edges of the triangle, then tighten down the fences (Photo 1).

Cut all the segments for each ring, keeping the top surface of each strip (marked with a pencil line) facing up (Photo 2). I find it helpful to organize the rings in labeled plastic bags to avoid confusion over which segments are for which rings. Carefully sand each segment to clean up any frayed edges, being careful not to round over corners or touch the face of the cut edge.

## Glue segments into rings

Dry-fit the segments of each ring together, keeping the top surface pencil

## Simple centering methods



Three methods of centering a ring when gluing it to the previous layer. Use a ruler or your fingers as a gauge, or mount the ring in large chuck jaws mounted on your tailstock.



lines facing up and the edge lines alternating, with one facing inward, the next outward, etc. A rubber band will hold the segments together while you check the quality of the glue joints; shine a light from behind the ring—no light shining through indicates good joints. When you are satisfied with the fit, apply glue to the edges and use a band clamp to apply pressure (*Photo 3*). Do this for each ring.

If gaps appear during your dry fit, it is possible you have allowed the strips to slip while cross-cutting the segments, or frayed edges or stray sawdust may remain. It may be necessary to clean up the edges further or recut the segments for that ring more carefully.

### Make a bowl blank

When all of your segment rings are glued up, the next step is to glue them together to make a bowl blank, starting with the solid foot layer on the bottom, then adding the rings from smallest to largest as you go toward the rim of the bowl. I recommend assembling your bowl blank on a glueblock attached to a faceplate. Flatten the glueblock, verifying its flatness with a straightedge before adding the bowl's foot. Glue on the solid layer that will become the foot. Now build your bowl blank one ring at a time.

As you glue on each successive ring, rotate it by half a segment's width to alternate the vertical glue lines and create a "brick-laid" pattern for strength. You may want to mark the center of one segment with a pencil line to ensure the next ring aligns at the halfway mark accurately.

Flatten one side of each ring on a sanding disc or flat sheet of 80-grit abrasive. After flattening the foot, glue the smallest ring onto it, taking care to center the ring the best you can. Centering each ring can be done in several ways. If you do it off the lathe with a ruler or by gauging centeredness with your thumbs

(*Photos 4, 5*), be sure to true the ring's diameter on the lathe before adding the next ring to minimize "creeping errors" of subsequent rings. On-the-lathe methods can provide more centering accuracy. If you own a tailstock live center system that has headstock threads, you can mount a scroll chuck with large jaws on your tailstock (*Photo 6*). This will center the rings very accurately for gluing, and you can use the tailstock crank to apply gluing pressure.

After the glue is dry on your first ring, true up the exposed face before adding the next. An easy way to do this is to sand the surface on the lathe using a flat board with abrasive glued to it (*See Sidebar*). Continue this process until all of your segmented rings are glued on and you have a rough segmented bowl blank (*Photo 7*).

### Turn your bowl

Shape the exterior of your bowl first by following the drawing and ignoring the "steps" between the rings. If you follow the shape, the steps will disappear as the shape is achieved. Keep the base oversized for extra support until the last steps (*Photo 8*). Next, work the interior from the rim downward one or two rings at a time. After completing the interior, reduce the base to proper dimension and cut a clearance groove at the bottom of the defined foot to allow access for sanding the bowl's foot (*Photo 9*).

I prefer to sand and finish both the interior and exterior while the bowl is still mounted on the lathe for ease of handling. When you are satisfied with your finish, part off or cut the bowl from the glueblock. Sand and finish the bottom of the foot by hand. ■

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## Turn and finish



**7** A completed bowl blank built from four segment rings and a solid layer for the bowl's foot.



**8** The outside profile turned. Leave the foot material thick for added stability during turning near the rim.



**9** Sand your segmented bowl, apply finish, and part or cut it off the lathe.





Photos by John Fox Photography