

## OCTOBER 2015 DEMONSTRATION

### PEELED LIP VESSEL WITH ED SIEGEL

**A**maze your friends and family by creating a vessel of illusion and they will wonder *how did you get that in there?*

Begin by turning a hollow form. The form will need to have a shallow slope under the opening so that the insert will have a surface to rest against. Wood selection here is not critical but one consideration is the movement from the drying of green wood will enhance the natural look of the finished piece. There will be carving later so leave the upper portion of the vessel walls thicker so that there is sufficient material to carve away. Plot out a general petal design while turning the form as well. To have all petals standing leave a thick rim or to have some petals standing and some lying down turn two thick rims.



Do some light sanding then remove the piece from the lathe. For petal design an odd number of petals tends to look more natural than an even number. Draw out the

petals on the rim. No need to measure, mark by eye with a soft leaded pencil the general shape of where the petals will be. Modify the petal shapes and sizes until a pleasant design is achieved.

Rough cut away the waste wood on the rims between the petals using a carving tool. A small high speed reciprocating saw, Dremel tools, or a Foredom rotary tool with a round bit will work. This carving doesn't have to be pretty; this is just shaping. A few tips while carving, if the wood is turning brown it is burning so use a lower speed or a lighter touch; if the wood is turning red it means you have cut yourself.

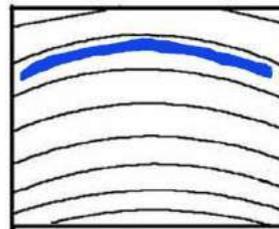
Now it is time to sand, a lot. Mount a drill chuck to the lathe headstock with a sanding pad to use as a sanding station.



It is often joked that 60 or 80 grit paper is a shaping tool, here it is true. Hold the vessel in hand and press into the rotating sanding pad to shape. Sand between the petals, sand the lips of the petals, sand a line down the side wall

between the petals to provide further definition. Use care not to overheat the sanding pad ([www.kilngspor.com](http://www.kilngspor.com) is a good source for pads and sanding discs). Once the shaping is done sand through the grits until sufficiently smooth, typically 320 grit. Hand sand where necessary.

**THE INSERT:** Since the insert will be steam bent the wood selection is important. A flat sawn, straight grained domestic hardwood is best. The insert will be slightly rounded so orient the wood on the lathe so that the grain lines run towards the headstock. Turn the insert out of a single growth ring. The insert diameter



should be large enough to cover the opening of the vessel and all the carved details with an additional  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch material as a future glue surface.

1. Turn a tenon and chuck the blank.



2. Drill a center hole through the end of the blank. This should be small enough that a finger will not fit through. This way nobody can test how well you have sanded the interior.



3. Turn the face of the insert slightly curved and sand.
4. Use a parting tool at an angle to remove the insert. This insert needs to be thin, final thickness should be  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch or less.



*Peeled Lip Vessel, continued*

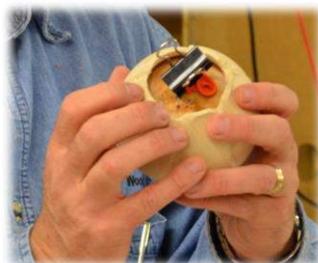
- Clean up the back side of the insert. Three possible methods would be to use a vacuum chuck or to turn a jam chuck and use double sided tape then carefully clean the inside with a gouge, or place a three inch soft sanding pad with 80 grit sandpaper in a drill chuck on the lathe headstock at a slower speed and sanded the back side down. The back side is going to be inside so it doesn't have to look perfect, what you want is a uniform thickness.

It is time to bend and insert. One method is to boil the insert on the stove until the wood sinks, this can take thirty minutes to an hour. Another method is to soak the piece, wrap in a wet paper towel, and microwave on half power for one to two minutes.



When the insert is hot and steamy place a good quality balloon through the hole of the insert, bend the insert and place inside the vessel, then blow the balloon up so that the balloon is pressing the insert against the opening of

the vessel. You have about thirty seconds of working time to get the insert in place. Clamp off the end of the balloon and let set overnight.

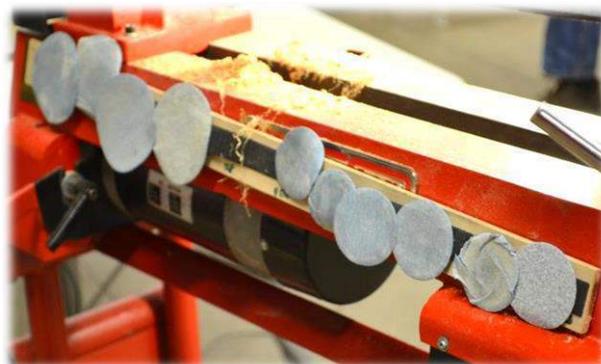


The insert will take on the shape of the inside of the vessel. To glue, release

some of the air from the balloon so that the insert can be pressed slightly away from the vessel, brush glue around the edges, and then blow the balloon back up to hold the insert while the glue dries. Once the glue is set deflate the balloon and pull out.

Other turning hints from Ed:

- Sharpening – Ed labels each tool with the type of grind it has on it then uses preset templates for setting up his jigs. This shortens his sharpening set up time.
- Ed took a board and installed magnets on one side and a strip of Velcro on the other. He then uses this board to hold his hook and loop sanding pads. He puts the pads in grit order and attaches the board to his lathe when sanding. When not sanding he can pop the board off and place in storage. This helps to keep those sanding pads organized.



Submitted by **Greg Potter**  
Photos by **Andy LoConte & Heather Muckley**

**CLUB ELECTIONS**

The nominating committee (**Chad Dawson** and **Mel Taber**) will present the slate of officers and Board of Directors candidates at the November meeting. They will also take nominations from the floor. Should you be interested in running for any position, please feel free to contact either Chad or Mel as well as join us at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Their contact information is on page 18.

**DEMONSTRATION TOPICS**

The Board of Directors would like your input. What do you want to see demonstrated at a meeting? We have some ideas already but are always looking for more. Hey ... what can you demonstrate? The Board will be happy to partner you with another member who will help with the talking if needed. Topics suggested so far:

Spoon	Finial	Ways to Use a Skew
Square Bowl	Winged Bowl	Large Inside Out
Fruit – Apple, etc.	Wave Bowl	
Anything Homemade (tools, chucks, jigs, etc.)		