Maine Woodturners
Peter Asselyn Demo – January 16, 2008
"Turn a Lampshade"

1) Find a log about 2 inches larger than the diameter and 3 inches longer than the finished shade.

2) Mount log between centers using the pith as center.

3) Make slight concave on end of log that will be the top of the shade for the faceplate. Attach the face plate using 1 ½" #10 or #12 sheet metal screws.

4) Form the outside of the shade and use a spindle roughing gouge for final finishing cut. Sand the outside.

5) Center drill a one inch hole and remove waste from the inside of the shade in steps. When you are half inch thin for the first ¾ inch the fun begins.

6) Install a fluorescent lamp in a work light and begin to watch for light to come through the shade wall. Thin to final thickness no more than ¾ inch at a time and then sand with 120 and 220, then do another ¾ inch and sand again.

7) As you get 2 or 3 inches of the shade finished be very aware of how delicate it is becoming and be careful about bumping it with anything.

8) As you near the top end of the shade to final thickness take a deep breath and slow down.

9) The shade will be ALMOST parted off from the inside by manipulating the hollowing cutter at right angles to the shade.

10) The final cut will be with the lathe off and using a skew. Set the shade it aside to dry overnight and then final sand and oil it.

11) Turn the lamp base to your design with a 3/8 hole at rear for cord and a 1-inch hole for the tenon of the lamp upright.

12) Turn the upright and jam chuck into the base for finishing cuts and sanding.

13) Glue the upright to the base and run the power cord through both pieces and screw the lamp nipple down into the upright. Connect wires lamp fixture and install harp and ring. Install shade and finial and we are done!

Congratulations. Call or email with questions or for lessons at my shop.

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