Cindy Drozda's Finial Star Step By Step

- 1 Cut bowl blank round on the bandsaw.
- 2 Mount between centers, true up, cut chucking point, and mount in chuck.
- 3 Start inside curve, leaving bulk in the center where the lid will be.
- 4 Flatten face and cut recess on lid blank to expand chuck into.
- 5 Core out lid blank.
- 6 Complete cutting of inside curve, scrape, dye if desired, and sand.
- 7 Measure lid blank and cut a smaller recess in bowl.
- 8 Cut outside curve down to just past the recess. Wall should be consistant thickness where edge will be shaped (if that is your intention).
- 9 Mount a waste block and shape it to match the curve of the bowl.
- 10 Using tailstock pressure to hold bowl against waste block, shape outside of bowl.
- 11 Use double stick tape to hold the bowl on when taking away the tailstock to finish the bottom.
- 12 Make index marks in 6 places around the rim.
- 13 (optional) Using something round as a template, mark 6 scallops around the rim. Cut on bandsaw, sand (I use a drum sander).
- 14 Turn a finial with a tenon about 1/16" long (longer if there won't be any mechanical fastener securing it to the lid). Sand and finish the finial. Finial could also be turned at the very beginning of the project.
- 15 Grip the lid blank in the recess turned in step 4, and make a chucking point on the other face (the "point" that was inside the bowl before coring it out in step 5).
- 16 Grip the lid on the new tenon (on the top of the lid)

- 17 Measure recess in bowl and fit the exposed edge of the lid blank to it. Hollow, scrape, dye and scrape again (if desired), and sand.
- 18 (optional) Center drill for an "ornament" to secure the finial onto the lid.
- 19 Mount a waste block on the lathe. Drill through it to push the lid out after turning. Jam fit the rim of the lid into a recess in the waste block. The recess should be the same depth as the recess in the bowl.
- 20 Shape the top of the lid, cut a recess for the finial. Scrape, dye and scrape again (if desired), and sand the lid.
- 21 A final application of dye, if desired, followed by the surface finish of your choice.
- 22 Glue the finial into the recess in the lid after the lid is completely finished.
- 23 Sign your work.

Well Done!

Many other designs are possible using these techniques. Feel free to copy, but let that be a stepping stone to discovering your own signature!

Warning! Working with machinery and sharp tools can be dangerous! Always follow the proper safety precautions!

Please turn responsibly! Always use eye and lung protection! Have fun!

Finial Star Materials List:

Bowl Blank 2 1/2" thick x 6" square. Relatively soft, light colored burl is a good choice if the piece is going to be dyed.

Finial Blank 1" square x 4" - 5" long with straight grain running the length of the blank. A dense, close grained hardwood is best.

Waste Block material, prepared for either chuck or faceplate

Ornament for securing the finial onto the lid. I used a post earring.