

October 7, 2021 – Robin Costelle – Finial and spindle gouge

As promised, I'm having Robin Costelle back again, after an excellent program for us in April. Robin is an amateur, hobbyist woodturner, just like us. He has been woodturning since 2003 and has run the gamut from pens and bowls and boxes to large, complex segmented forms and sculptures. Speaking for myself, I can say I've long been a fan of his elegant finials and bark-edge pedestal boxes and collected eight different "fave" images for my "Design" folder over the years. His forms are always impeccable. Design and form and line are very important to him. I was very excited to hear from a friend that he is doing IRDs now and to be able to chat with him and to snag his services for our April demo. That was a very good program, so I have once again engaged his services – this time to put a finial on that two-piece HF from April and, in the process, to show us more about how to use a spindle gouge gracefully and to good effect.



Robin turns, teaches, and demonstrates in and around his home state of Kentucky, but now he's branching out (yes, that's a tree joke) with several IRDs. Besides woodturning, he also dabbles in pottery and building wooden musical instruments, outfitting fly rods, and crafting wood fishing nets. You can see a lot of these activities and projects on his homey website here: <http://www.robincostelle.com/> Robin lives on a small farm outside the town of Fern Creek, near Louisville, in north-central Kentucky along with his wife, Connie, and three children.



Robin is a finial master. His finials are made specially to go with his hollow forms. The finials often contain a diminutive representation of the vessel itself. Is that cool, or what? Here are a couple examples of what I'm talking about. Yes, those subtly beaded hollow forms in the photo were made in two pieces, just like the one he did for us, and now we're going to get a finial to go with it. He's going to show us the techniques, tricks, and tips for using a spindle gouge effectively and efficiently while making a spectacular finial in the process.

Please put October 7 on your calendars and plan to join us.