I was intrigued by Kai's space ship but didn't want to make a jig to spin it.

Start with a piece of wood that will result in a star ship that is about four inches in diameter and about one and a quarter inches thick. Maple could be glued together for this thickness and the seam from gluing could be hidden in the design.

The balloon lights I used in the past had a "eye" on the bottom for a string, like the one on the right in the picture below. Since it was an old light, the batteries were dead, so I inserted the batteries from the other into it.





Drill a hole the size of the diameter of the balloon light you are using; the depth should be shallow enough so that the top of the light can be removed to replace the batteries in the future. Use some scrap wood, if necessary, to determine the correct depth. When you are satisfied with the turning and it has the finish completed, epoxy the bottom of the light into the hole.

To turn it on, twist the top of the light. You can twist off the top of the balloon light unit to change the batteries.

The yellow represents the deck of the ship and the red represents "safety" lights. The bottom is tapered to make it a spinner.



Dave Bleil