

**Hunt County Woodturners  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 5, 2024**

The meeting was held at Wesley United Methodist Church. A Zoom session was conducted by Howard Wellspring. A Zoom link was provided by Howard to all HCW members in advance.

**Club members Attending in Person:** Brian Livingston\*, Alain Schwarz\*, Mark Spencer\*, Howard Wellspring\*, Tom Nehl\*, Burt Andrew\*.

**Club members Attending through Zoom:** Brian Schrader\*.

[Voting board members indicated \*. A quorum of board members was in attendance.]

**The Meeting was called to order** at 5:37pm by HCW President, Brian Livingston.

### **Items of Business**

- **Board Meeting minutes from August 1, 2024:**

*Alain Schwarz made a motion to accept the minutes, with no changes, from the August 1, 2024, board meeting. The motion was seconded by Brian Livingston. Motion passed. Note: The initially incorrect statement that Beads of Courage has been discontinued, not paused, was corrected in the August minutes prior to release.*

- **Financial (Mark Spencer)** [Mark sent financials to the Board members early on the day of the meeting.]

- Mark presented: 1) a Financial Statement for 2024 which included the 2024 Budget and actuals for the months of January through August 31, 2024, and the Check Register up through August 23, 2024.
  - Overall club reserves, including deposits and petty cash, come to \$34,497.
  - August expenses were greater than income by \$537.73.
  - Primary income from August came from the monthly raffle.
  - Primary expenses in August included storage building costs, SWAT expenses, and AV expense related to the licensing of software.
  - The August 24 ending check register balance was \$7,228.24.
- The Club's CD 4350, \$10,501., at Alliance Bank matured on August 6 and was renewed at an interest rate of 2.52%.
- Money Market fund account #1698 was closed and the funds were added into CD #4350.
- Mark stated that \$1000 has recently been received from SWAT, and that at the September club meeting he will have several checks to sign and hand out to members for SWAT participation and other club related activities.

- **Website/Technology**

- Adobe Premier Pro has now been licensed (one year) primarily to process club videos for HCW's YouTube channel.
- Howard shared website metrics:
  - 47 members are now signed up for Members Only access to the website.
  - YouTube channel: Contains 15 videos w/ 328 views in July, 177 subscribers (8 new in July).
  - Website: 98 visitors last 30 days (73 new, 25 returning).
  - Pyrography class status: 5 have signed up or expressed intent to sign up
  - Basic Woodturning class status: 3 have signed up or expressed intent to sign up
- Attempts to access the club's old Facebook account have remained unsuccessful. Brian has asked Alan Fields to delete the old account as the first step toward creating an entirely new one.
- Discussed the purchase and use of a Bluetooth transmitter.

- *Brian Livingston made a motion to purchase a Bluetooth transmitter at approximately \$175. The motion was seconded by Alain Schwarz. Motion passed. Note: The purchase may be delayed until just before the October club meeting to allow time for a return to the vendor if this broadcasting approach, for whatever reason, doesn't work out.*
  - o Discussed disposal of excess AV equipment, possibly at auction during the Christmas party.
  - o Discussed whether the need still exists for the grinder and sharpening equipment currently in the club's church storage area. Determined that the equipment be kept. Alain suggests utilization of the currently available excess 350 grit CBN wheel and purchase of an appropriate second wheel.
- **Christmas Party Planning:**
  - o Julie Livingston has started planning for the party, and will likely be assisted by Cynthia Balzer, Gene Wellspring, Vicki Andrew.
  - o Howard suggests that the club's existing speakers may serve audio needs. TBD.
  - o Discussed food, especially cost and member assistance with cooking. Mark will check out meat costs, and Brian L. will check with Lee and George regarding willingness to smoke/cook.
  - o Howard is prepared to put up the sign-up sheets, one for attendance and one for food.
  - o The Church has offered a contract to HCW for use of their facilities for our Christmas party at a cost of \$410. Last year it was \$350. Brian will attempt to negotiate toward the lower amount, recognizing that we will have no regular upstairs Club meeting in December.
- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops (*tentative*):**
  - o Upcoming planned and proposed club meeting demos:
    - Sept: Form and Design (Tom Nehl)
    - Oct: Planning your Project (Tim White)
    - Nov: Inside/out turning, Christmas ornaments (Sammy Thomason)
    - Dec: Christmas party
  - o Open Shop locations/mini-class topics (8am – noon, with mini-class at 9)
    - Sept: Brian Livingston / Mini-class: Tuning your Bandsaw (Tim White, *others?*)
    - Oct: Tom and Stacy Nehl / Mini-class: Fixing Cracks (Brian Schrader)
    - November: *Lee Craft* / Mini-class: Offset Turning Chucks (*Bill Belitz, Brian Schrader, Tom Nehl*)
    - Note: October and November programs may be switched. TBD.
- **Training Coordinator / Brian Schrader**
  - o Brian S. requested and coordinated a meeting for selected members of the five area woodturning clubs (HCW, Golden Triangle, East Texas, DAW, and Ft. Worth) at SWAT to discuss best practices and the possible sharing of demonstration resources. He reports that the discussions were helpful and that other meetings will follow.
  - o Upcoming classes (Pyrography and Basic Woodturning):
    - Mark Spencer agreed to print off our two flyers for the two upcoming training classes and will make them available at Rocker. Also possibly at Rockwall MakerSpace.
    - Brian S. emailed the two flyers to the leaders of the other 4 area clubs, requesting that the information be made available to their membership.
    - Brian named the Basic Woodturning Class instructors. First day: Joe Grimes (lead), Doug Balzer, Brian Schrader. Second day: Doug Balzer (lead), Brian Schrader, Joe Grimes (possibly during PM).
  - o Quarterly Challenge:
    - The next quarterly challenge, due at the September meeting, will feature turned cars. Two categories: finished and unfinished. Each category will be judged by the membership separately and each winner will receive a \$50 gift card.
    - The next quarterly challenge, due in the November meeting, will consist of Christmas table decorations for use at the Christmas party (for award to attendees, or raffled, or auctioned).
    - The November challenge winner will be announced during the Christmas party and will receive a \$50 gift card.

- **SWAT**
  - SWAT did not provide food this year for individuals who assisted with set-up on Thursday. The Convention Center rules restricting on-site vendors resulted in confusion and an off-site trip for lunch, at additional cost to our club. Brian Schrader, a new member of the SWAT Executive Committee, will address this issue during the next SWAT Board meeting on November 2.
- **Want Ads in Newsletter**
  - Members of the 5 area clubs will be allowed to submit ads.
    - Each HCW member ad will run two months, then will be removed.
    - Non-HCW ads will run one month, then will be removed.
    - All memberships will be verified prior to publishing.
    - Ads must be woodworking/woodturning related.
    - No commercial ads will be allowed.
    - The Board will resolve any issues.
- **Community**
  - Ed Mastin requested use of the Club's photo light box for pictures at the upcoming Restored Hope event. Alain will pick it up at the next club meeting.
  - Restored Hope submissions are due by the end of this month to Alain. Several Board members will deliver items to Alain next Club meeting.
  - The Board discussed ways to encourage member contributions to charitable causes (Restored Hope, Empty Bowls, Veteran's pens, others.).
- **Miscellaneous Other Items of Business**
  - Discussed possible candidates for VP replacement. Brian will announce the VP vacancy to the membership and will list the associated duties.
  - Discussed the need for an official club photographer. Brian will make a request to the membership.
  - The Board expressed appreciation for Gene Wellspring's sewing repairs to the TV stand skirts for SWAT. Upon evaluation she may also repair the photography light sets, possibly in October.

***The meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.***