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President's Ponderings

By the time you read this, we will have already experienced our unpredictable February weather of temperatures in the 70's! Who knows, we could be snowed in again in another week or so. I spoke to a colleague in Sweden a couple of weeks ago and it was actually colder in Dallas than it was in Sweden at that time! Life in north Texas!!!!

For those that were at the January meeting (thanks for being flexible on the date change by the way) you may remember that I mentioned that we want the Club to be more involved in the community and Burt had come up with some great ideas on how we can do that. We are still discussing it, and more details will be coming out soon, but to make something like that successful it will take some of you volunteering to help work with or coordinate these outreaches. It will be a great opportunity to showcase some of the work we do and get the HCW name out there and hopefully raise some interest in woodturning at the same time.

You will see some information on SWAT in this month's newsletter, as the ball is already rolling in preparation for it. Get it on your calendar now and start saving your pennies as I'm sure there's something you will want there that you can't live without!!!!

If you haven't paid your dues for this year, the clock is ticking. During the club meeting this month, there will be a drawing for a 'free membership' for this year, but you have to have signed up or renewed by the break time in the meeting to be put in the drawing.

I guess that's it for now. See you on the 13th!!

Be blessed,
Brian

Roses are red. Violets are blue



as much as my gouge and my skew.

UPCOMING EVENTS



February

- 13th - Club Meeting
- 15th - Open Shop

March

- 13th - Club Meeting
- 15th - Open Shop

April

- 10th - Club Meeting
- 12th - Open Shop

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FEBRUARY

BOARD MEETING -

Thursday, 6th 5:30pm
Wesley United Methodist
Church, Greenville

CLUB MEETING -

Thursday, 13th 7:00 - 9:00pm
Wesley United Methodist
Church, Greenville
Demonstration: *Beaded Box*
by: James Carter from Easy Tools

OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 15th 8:00 - Noon
Joe Grime's Shop
4006 CR 2157, Caddo Mills
Mini Class: TBD

MARCH

BOARD MEETING -

Thursday, 6th 5:30pm
Wesley United Methodist
Church, Greenville

CLUB MEETING -

Thursday, 13th 7:00 - 9:00pm
Wesley United Methodist
Church, Greenville
Demonstration: *Bowl* (discussing the
Empty Bowl program)
by John Solberg

OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 15th 8:00 - Noon
Tom Nehl's Shop
118 RS County Rd. 4269, Emory
Mini Class: TBD

Just For Fun Let's Get Together

Many have often mentioned how friendly our club members are to be around. These "unofficial" get-togethers are part of the reason why. Take advantage of these opportunities for some fun and friendly times.

⇒ **Every THURSDAY - Lunch**

Several club members, spouses and friends gather for lunch at **Burgers and Fries** 5360 State Highway 276 W in Royse City. No reservation needed but be there before 12:00 as that's when we order lunch. Come spend an hour or so with friends as we visit, catch up with each other and then return to our daily activities.

⇒ **Once a MONTH - Pre-Club Meeting Meal**

Every month on the Thursday of the Club Meeting, a group of club members, spouses and friends meet to eat at 5:30pm at **TaMolly's Restaurant**, 6929 I-30 in Greenville.



NOTE!



February & March Open Shops
still follow 2nd Thursday Club Meetings but



will be on the 3rd Saturdays
due to how the calendar dates fall for these months.

Join in on the Monthly Club meeting through
ZOOM meetings using the link below:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84938131255?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84938131255?pwd=ZkpOWVFGa00rUmFUeEZIVkRoSGh3Zz09)

[pwd=ZkpOWVFGa00rUmFUeEZIVkRoSGh3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84938131255?pwd=ZkpOWVFGa00rUmFUeEZIVkRoSGh3Zz09)
Meeting ID: 849 3813 1255 Passcode: 308416

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Celebrating FEBRUARY Birthdays

5th *Bill Smith*

6th *Robert Ledbetter*

7th *Tina Mastin*

8th *George Freeman*

13th *Joe Grimes*

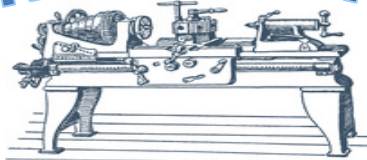
17th *Michael Joyce*

24th *Fred Groves*

25th *Katherine Wirtzberger*

26th *Scott White*

"ON THE LATHE"



These are either currently In the Works,
or Reminders, or Announcements.

QUARTERLY CHALLENGE

The current challenge is an Easter-themed item with the primary component being turned. . Bring yours to the March Club Meeting and Members will vote on their favorite item. The winner will receive a \$50 gift card.

SWAT IS COMING!

Hotel Registrations open February 10th!
And SWAT Registrations open March 3rd!
See page ___ for all the information.

TRAINING CLASSES

HCW tries to offer 3 to 4 training opportunities each year. Watch this space for information regarding upcoming Training Classes.

Prayer Requests & Praises

Vic Hollingsworth

Tami Lattanzi

Robert Webster

PHILIPPIANS 4: 6

There is no such thing as
SCRAP WOOD,
it's merely wood that has
not been used yet!

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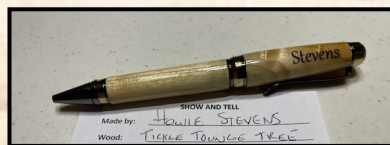
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Thank you to Tim, Scott, and Alain for the demonstration of Tool Sharpening.

January Club Meeting

There were a total of 37 with 1 Visitor and 2 joined by Zoom.



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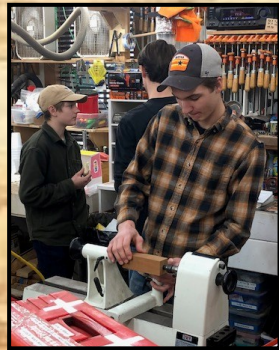
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Thank you to George Freeman
for opening his shop
and for being flexible, changing the date due to the weather.
And thanks Tim White for continuing to teach about
Tool Sharpening in the mini-class.

January Open Shop

There were a total of 41 in attendance.



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MEMBERS' HIGHLIGHT

As a club, it is our desire to build connectivity between members. These short biographies are one way to learn about each other. We hope to highlight 1 or 2 members each month. Let Brian Livingston know if you would like submit yours.

Chris Firra

My family moved to the Lake Highlands area of Dallas from Houston in 1964. LH was a great place to grow up with my six brothers and sisters. I met my wife-to-be, Pam Murphy, walking home from a pick-up baseball game, and we've been married for 41-years. We reside in Rockwall Co. and have one adult son.

My father was a civil engineer turned civil attorney that aspired to be a carpenter. In truth, he was not a very good one, but that did not stop him from building a 2-story house, along with his wife and 7 other free laborers, near the top of Bobcat Pass, the highest mountain pass in New Mexico. I'm certain that I learned a lot of bad construction habits from that experience. Nevertheless, the house still stands and is much loved by my mother and siblings.

My other set of parents were Tommy and Helen Murphy, Pam's folks. I was taught better construction and woodworking methods from Tommy and his son Thomas (my other brother), even if most of them did not stick. The Jet 1014 that we found in Thomas' storage after he passed started both of us on a new journey with wood turning.

Even today, as I'm working on something on the lathe, Tommy will suggest a better tool or approach. I've seen that willingness to share knowledge seems to be a common trait of all the woodturners that I've met over the past year, and I appreciate that more than I could adequately express.

I wish that I had more time for making chips, because it requires focus and eliminates stress. On top of that, creating something from a block of wood is an awesome feeling. However, I still need to work for a living, and I do so as a software solutions consultant / salesperson for a Plano-based CPA Firm.



Remember the snow of last month? Some of us got more of it than others. Van Alstyne was one of those areas that got a lot. Donna Frazier "met" this friendly woodturner who didn't seem to mind the cold as he enjoyed his favorite hobby!



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SWAT2025 is coming AUGUST 22, 23, 24

What is SWAT?

The SouthWest Association of WoodTurners!

The SWAT organization exists to promote the craft of woodturning through training, demonstrations, hands on experience and exhibits. SWAT offers something for all levels of experience from hobbyists to professionals. All levels of experience are welcome to participate in the yearly symposium each August. If you enjoy woodturning and want to meet like-minded folks, this is the place for you. All ages and levels of experience are encouraged to attend and broaden their craft and/or learn new skills.

In addition to learning from the demonstrations at SWAT, you can also learn from rubbing elbows with a wide range of experienced turners. The years of experience found at each SWAT event runs into the thousands, and you won't find a nicer group of people who are always willing to share their experience.

The 7 Lead Demonstrators are set: Sally Ault, Toni Street, Mike Mahoney, Michael Nish, Matt Monaco, Jerry Bennett & Lyle Jamieson.

The list of 17 Regional Demonstrators is soon to be finalized and currently includes: Alan Stratton, Anne Ogg, Charles Tucker, Clayton Thigpen, Gary Rock, James Carter, James Duxbury, Jim Bob Burgoon, Keith Robinson, Leonard Nederweld, Linda Jane Ferber, Lionel Bedard, Mark Wallace, Paul Russell, Paul Tiefel, Steve McNeil & Todd Raines.

All Leads will present 2 topics/subjects and the Regionals will present a single class. All sessions are repeated twice over the three days of SWAT. The hard task is to select the 8 sessions you wish to see!

Date is set: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, August 22, 23, 24, 2025!

Place is set: Waco Convention Center

Cost: Registration for SWAT will be \$190 for the full three days. There are many extras (such as Saturday night banquet, T-shirts, Demonstrators Handbook, etc.) that can be added to your cart and there are single day prices as well. See the website swaturners.org for pricing details and options.

The raffle Grand Prize is a Robust American Beauty, as well as 3 Jet 12/21 lathes.

Important Dates:

- ◆ **February 10, 2025.** This is the date that the official hotels for SWAT, The Hilton and The Marriot Courtyard, open their blocks of rooms reserved at conference price (estimated to be \$170). Get yours reserved early. Don't wait. There are other options for lodging in Waco, but you will need to research those options yourself.
- ◆ **March 3, 2025.** This is the opening date for online registration for SWAT.
- ◆ **August 1, 2025.** This is the date online registration closes (and prices increase).

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RESOURCES!

HCW has a marvelous array of talented **MENTORS** who have graciously agreed to be a resource. They can mentor you over the phone, in person, or maybe even a video call. Give them a call or a text and they will get back to you. Find our Mentors List in the Members Only section of our website. www.huntcountywoodturners.org

We need you! Please help us expand this RESOURCES page. If you can recommend any YouTube links or Tips or Books, please send the information to Brian Livingston. Continually educating each other is part of who we are as HCW.



If you have any woodturner related items to sell, this is your space to advertise. Or maybe you are in search of a tool or piece of equipment, seek for it here. Or perhaps you have a service you can offer, tell us here.

Submit your ad to Burt Andrew, email: bandrew1@att.net

Ads will be posted in the newsletter for two months, unless sold or requested to be removed sooner.

SPECIALTY LUMBER & LOGGING George Freeman * 214-334-4035 * woodchipper2011@hotmail.com

I have a sawmill and cut my own trees to be milled. This includes:

- ◆ Smaller logs, less than 20" in diameter, are cut into lumber of various thickness for...
 - ◇ Wood-turning billets: tool handles, pepper grinders, candle sticks and table legs of 2", 3" & 4" square pieces of various lengths.
 - ◇ Sawed into Lumber: 10' and 12' long by 1", 2" or 3" thick for woodworking projects.
 - ◇ Boards for small DIY projects: cutting boards, shelving, cheese boards, etc. These are cut and planed into 2', 3', 4', & 6' lengths.
 - ◇ Small board lengths for segmenting and intarsia projects.

You can check out my You-Tube channel: "George Wood of Texas: to see how we do all these activities & more.

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BECOME A MEMBER



Become a member of the
Hunt County Woodturners!

Membership is renewable annually for each calendar year and covers individual and family at the same address. The membership cost is \$48.00 per year.

Dues are prorated for new members at \$4 / month.

To get the application, download it [here](#) OR email Mark at m Spencer2112@gmail.com.

Turn in the completed application at the monthly club meeting or mail it to:

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.

Attn. Mark Spencer

P.O. Box 8191

Greenville, Tx 75404

Membership in HCW, Inc. entitles you to discounts on selected items at these 3 fine businesses you see listed below. ↓



HCW members are encouraged to become a member of the
American Association of Woodturners!

Hunt Count Woodturners Inc. is a Chapter of this National organization. Your membership not only supports AAW but HCW as well. Insurance Protection is one of the many benefits we gain by membership Check out this excellent guide to their membership services and publications at <http://www.woodturner.org>

Rockler

584 West I-30,
Suite 403,
Garland, TX.
(469) 329-0971



Wood World

13650 TI Blvd.
Dallas, TX
(972) 669-9130



Wood World
of Texas LLC

Woodcraft

601 W. Plano Pkwy,
Suite 145,
Plano, TX
(972) 422-2732



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Who's on Board

Serving the Hunt County Woodturners for 2024 are:

Brian Livingston, President

Bill Belitz, Vice-President

Burt Andrew, Secretary

Mark Spencer, Treasurer

Howard Wellspring, Technology Officer

Brian Schrader, Training Coordinator

Tom Nehl, Event Coordinator

HCW Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm. Board meetings are open to all members & can be attended in person or remotely via Zoom. Board Meeting Minutes can be found on the website in the Members Only section.

OUR MISSION: Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. (a Texas non-profit corporation) also known as Hunt County Woodturners (HCW), is organized exclusively for educational purposes, and its mission is to educate woodturners and the public in and about the art and craft of woodturning. This mission is accomplished by encouraging and facilitating the establishment of training programs for woodturners; by disseminating information about sources of material and equipment; by exposing the art of woodturning to the public; and by serving as a center of information about woodturning for members, galleries, other interested groups, and the general public. Further, the Corporation is organized exclusively for educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Financial records are available for inspection upon request.

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. is recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Gifts to Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. are fully deductible for U.S. Income Tax purposes.