

**Hunt County Woodturners
Board Meeting Minutes
May 2, 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 members in advance.

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

Club members Attending through Zoom: None.

Board Member(s) absent: All board members attended (the Training Coordinator position has now been filled, see below).

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

The Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by HCW President, Brian Livingston.

Items of Business

- **Board Meeting minutes from April 4, 2024:**

Alain Schwarz made a motion to accept the minutes, with no changes, from the April 4, 2024, board meeting. The motion was seconded by Brian Livingston. Motion passed.

- **Website/Technology**

- Howard briefed recent updates to the website, including the membership listing, addition of apparel order form, and pictures. He noted that only 32 members have so far accessed the Members Only section of the website, and that use of this section of the website needs to be encouraged.
- Members who have pictures subject to consideration for website publication are invited to send them to Howard.
- Our annual Zoom subscription was paid in May, and our WIX premium plan expires on June 7. Mark will coordinate with Carl Gideon to transfer WIX invoicing/payments from Carl to HCW.
- As part of our communications outreach, Howard noted the need to update/improve our YouTube and Facebook platforms. He needs edit assistance from George in order to finalize several YouTube videos. Brian will contact Alan Fields for Facebook access details.

- **Financial (Mark Spencer)** [Mark sent financials to the Board members one day in advance.]

- Mark presented: 1) a Financial Statement for 2024 which included the 2024 Budget and actuals for the months of January through April; 2) the Check Register up through end of April, 2024; and 3) April Paypal Detail.
 - Overall club reserves, including deposits and petty cash, come to \$37.6K.
 - April income was greater than expenses by \$1,476.04. Income from April came from the April raffle, membership dues, training classes (both Beginner Training / Carving), and County Fair revenue.
 - The primary expenses in April included AV costs (Zoom subscription), Fair costs, and storage building costs.
 - April's ending check register balance, \$10,554.40.
- Mark noted that all 6 students signed up for the upcoming Carving class have paid.
- The CBN wheel discussed last month has now been purchased through Rockler.
- Noted that payment of \$200 per day will be due to Stacy for the two days of the carving class. Note: students will not be charged for the vases.

- **Hunt County Fair (April 19-28) Outbrief:**

- Discussed various pros and cons, and items to consider for next year:

- Noted the benefits of three lathes in operation. All were frequently in use.
- The display box needs better content and presentation.
- If we make Freedom Pens available to veterans again next year, signage needs to be improved.
- Need better signage to direct interested individuals to the woodturning display in the Creative Arts building.
- Need to ensure a continuous and adequate supply of blanks for turning in the booth.
- Sign-up's should be started earlier.
- Lathes need new plexiglass between the lathes and observers. Current ones are stained and scratched.
- Noted that the Fair allows donations, but not the sale of items (e.g. pens).
- Sammy Thomason's top display was again a popular feature/attraction. Discussed ways to express appreciation for Sammy's contributions.
- Discussed advisability of allowing interested observers the opportunity to try out turning. Will check out whether our insurance would cover this and whether Fair rules would allow it. Will further discuss at a later date.
- Should remind participant members that they are expected to supply any specialized equipment they need for turning at the fair (e.g. chuck adapters, etc.).
- Tom suggested that a semi-permanent traveling display case, equipped with turned pieces by club members on longer-term loan, be maintained for use in various public settings (library, public events, etc.). The display might be stored in the Creative Arts building in cooperation with the building's current renters.
- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops (*tentative items in italics*):**
 - Upcoming planned and proposed club meeting demos, per Alain:
 - May: Wooden Cars and Toys (John Solberg)
 - June: Coloring/Airbrush (Lee Craft and *Stacy Nehl*)
 - July: Basic Bowl Turning (Tim White, Dennis Ogren, Alain Schwarz)
 - Aug: TBD, perhaps someone who wants to practice for SWAT
 - Sept: Form and Design (Tom Nehl)
 - Oct: Boring (Tim White, Dennis Ogren, Alain Schwarz)
 - Nov: *Inside/out turning, Christmas ornaments* (Sammy Thomason)
 - Dec: Christmas party
 - Open Shop locations/mini-class topics (8am – noon, with mini-class at 9)
 - May: Brian Livingston's shop (100 Margaret Street, Fate) / Mini class: Tom Nehl on Between Centers.
 - June: Burt Andrew's shop (8085 CR 2578, Royse City) / Mini-class: *Lee and Stacy on Airbrushing(?)*.
 - July: Donna Frazier
 - August: Brian Schrader / Mini-class: *Brian Schrader on Hollowing Systems*
 - Sept: Tom and Stacy Nehl / Mini-class: Tom Nehl on Form and Design
 - Oct: Brian Livingston
 - November: *Lee Craft*
 - Discussed use of MakerSpace in Rockwall as a venue for Open Shops.
 - Constraints include: limited space; interference with MakerSpace members during our meeting; liability concerns (i.e. need for all our members to go through their waiver process?); inadequacy/location of their existing woodturning equipment (would require setting up club lathes throughout the area); our generation of chips and dust in the area; HVAC concerns.

- Decided not to pursue this venue, recognizing, however, that MakerSpace is a good option for individual members who would benefit from use of their resources.
- **Promotional Items / Apparel**
 - Promotional items for new members in 2024 (retroactive).
 - Will be made available for new members during the May meeting. Burt will supply a listing of new members who qualify.
 - One per family membership, with choice of t-shirt, cap, or mug.
 - The general membership will be able to purchase caps and t-shirts at subsequent meetings for \$15 each (note: t-shirts and caps are not personalized). Karen will make personalized mugs available to any club member for \$8. Members will deal directly with Karen.
 - Annual Apparel Order (for delivery in time for SWAT)
 - Orders will be taken up through the end of our June meeting, with delivery at our August meeting.
 - Order forms are now on the website in the Members Only section, available for printing. Order forms will be available during our May and June meetings.
 - Completed forms with payment may be turned in to either Mark Spencer or Burt Andrew.
- **Training Coordinator Position / Brian Schrader**
 - As a candidate for this open position, Brian Schrader attended and participated in the meeting.

Tom Nehl made a motion to appoint Brian Schrader to the Training Coordinator position, effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Howard Wellspring. Motion passed.

 - Per the Club's bylaws, Brian will hold this position through the end of the 2024 term.
 - Brian asked questions regarding the scope and responsibilities of the job and was assured that members would assist.
 - Brian will organize and facilitate upcoming training, possibly including separate classes on feature rings and pyrography.
- **Miscellaneous Other Items of Business**
 - In a sincere effort to help, members have been unnecessarily disconnecting and inefficiently storing cables and equipment at the conclusion of our monthly meetings. At our next meeting Howard will explain and request a more orderly end-of-meeting process.
 - Will welcome unrestricted assistance with cleanup and arrangement of chairs, tables, etc. to the pre-meeting configuration.
 - Available members will be specifically asked to assist in an orderly process of disconnection, storage, and major equipment movement.
 - Due to storage room space constraints, equipment will be moved and staged in the lobby area (to the right of the storage room door) before movement into the storage room.
 - Burt reported that membership now stands at 95 (family membership counts as 1). A new membership listing as of 5/1/2024 was sent to Board members in advance of the Board meeting and is currently available in the Members Only area of the website.
 - Discussed when to remove prayer requests in the newsletter. Julie will request, in the next newsletter, that prayer requests include information regarding duration.
 - Because our demonstrators occasionally do not have adequate time for their presentations, at next club meeting Brian will request that members present/discuss only one item, though an unrestricted number of items will be welcomed on the Show-and-Tell table.
 - The newsletter will include a classified section for our members only and will be restricted to non-commercial entries related to member activities.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.