Hunt County Woodturners
Board Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2026

The meeting was held at Wesley United Methodist Church. A Zoom link for the board meeting was made available to our membership through email in advance by Howard Wellspring.

Club members Attending in Person: Bill Belitz*, Howard Wellspring*, Tim Littlefield*, Mark Spencer*, Burt Andrew*, Clayton Seleznoff.
Club members Attending through Zoom: None.
[Voting board members indicated *. A quorum of board members was in attendance.]
The Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by HCW President, Bill Belitz.

Items of Business

- **Board Meeting minutes from July 2, 2026**

Mark Spencer made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 2, 2026, board meeting (as published on the website after board member review) with no changes. The motion was seconded by Howard Wellspring. Motion passed.

- **Website/Technology (Howard Wellspring)**
    - Website traffic for July 2026:
        - 107 total visitors, US 104, Canada 1, United Kingdom 1, France 1.
    - Howard has updated the events calendar on the website and noted that there are relatively few signups so far for SWAT attendants and camera operators. With time growing short, Bill will again announce the need at this month's meeting.
    - The new director's station is nearly complete and will be ready for use during our August meeting.
    - Howard has been notified that pricing for Adobe Premium and WIX are both going up. He stated that the WIX invoice for the HCW email address is due by August 10.
- **Financial (Mark Spencer)** [Mark sent financials to the Board members on 8/2/2026.]
    - Mark presented: 1) a Financial Statement ending July 31, 2026, which includes the approved budget for 2026, and actuals for January through July, and 2) the Check Register entries for July 2026.
        - Overall club reserves, including the checking account balance, CD's, church deposit, and petty cash, come to $23,973.29.
        - July expenses were greater than income by $603.00.
        - The most significant expense posted in July consisted of apparel costs (two invoices, one for SWAT personalized shirts and hats, and the other for T-shirts and hats for new members and for sale at club meeting).
        - The most significant income posted in July consisted of apparel income and proceeds from the monthly raffle.
    - Mark noted that the storage unit will go up from $73 per month to $90 per month.
    - MakerSpace in Rockwall has now passed the city inspections they need to resume building. Makerspace may be ready to host an Open Shop by October.
    - Gene Wellspring has inquired about this year's Christmas Party budget. Allowing for food and other costs, the Board agreed that approximately $300 of the $1200 total budget should be allowed for decorations and consumables.

- With Alliance Bank CD # 4350 now matured, the Board discussed reinvestment options. Mark noted that with our checking account balance currently lower than usual, now would be a good time to make an adjustment.

Mark Spencer made a motion that CD 4350 be renewed at $10,000 for one year at 3.5%, with the balance of approximately $1300 moved to Checking Account 0047. The motion was seconded by Howard Wellspring. The motion passed.

- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops (Tim Littlefield / Ed Drake)** ***(discussed/tentative)***
  - Upcoming planned and proposed club meeting demos:
    - August*:* Thread Chasing / Tim White
    - September: TBD
    - Tim Littlefield is exploring the use of two outside/professional turners for upcoming Club demonstrations through the rest of the year.
  - Open Shop locations (Note: Open shop 8am through noon, with mini-class at 9).
    - August: Burt Andrew; Mini class by Sammy Thomason on Inside-Out Ornaments
    - September: Ed Drake
    - October: Howard Wellspring
    - November: *MakerSpace in Rockwall*
- **Training (Joe Grimes)**
  - No training is currently scheduled beyond the Club demos and Open Shop mini-classes.
  - George has offered to host a half-day class on the topic of "Holding wood on the lathe." It would be held in George's shop for a maximum of 10 attendees (due to space constraints). Per board discussion last month, the charge would be $15. George has agreed to hold this class after SWAT, perhaps September or October. Details TBD.
    Also last month we discussed having a hollowing class with hollowing systems available for students to try out (rotation basis). A class like this was successfully held several years ago. Further discussions will await Joe's return from vacation.
- **SWAT**
  - Our SWAT room demonstrator, Trent Bosch, will require several items that will be provided as follows:
    - VM 120 Vicmark chuck w/ 2.5" jaws: Alain Schwarz
    - Air compressor: Bill Belitz
    - Air hoses: Burt Andrew
    - Sharpening equipment and whiteboard: HCW inventory
    - Tables: SWAT inventory
  - Equipment/setup/logistics:
    - After Open Shop on Saturday, August 15, the lathes will be moved into the storage unit, after which the trailer will be reloaded with SWAT equipment, to be stored at Lee's until the week of SWAT.
    - The trailer will be loaded at WUMC with the gantry, A/V equipment, ect. on Tuesday, Aug 25. Loading will start at 9:00am.
    - Brian Schrader will haul the trailer to Waco on Wednesday, Aug 26.
    - HCW host room setup (Chisholm Hall to Room 209) will be on Thursday, Aug 27, starting at 10:00am. HCW will provide a BBQ noon meal for those who assist with unloading and setup.
    - When SWAT concludes, Brian Schrader will bring the trailer back.
    - WUMC unloading will be on Monday, Aug 31, at 9:00am.
  - Brian Schrader has requested a headcount of those who will help with the Friday night event. After review of the requirements, probably 3 or 4 individuals will be needed.

- Discussed payout to HCW's SWAT room attendants and camera operators. Coverage will be needed for 11 breakout sessions this year vs. 9 last year. Recognizing that HCW will be paid $1000 for SWAT support, plus $200 for the Turning Duel (which will require camera operator, but no attendant), the Board decided to pay the same as in previous years, i.e. $25 for attendants and $75 for camera operators.

- **Miscellaneous Business**
  - We are holding at 81 members. We had no new members or visitors last month. This compares with 90 members at this time last year.
  - While Board meetings are always open and encouraged for all members, attendance typically consists of members who hold the elected positions. To develop a broader level of Club member interest, knowledge of the Club's operations, and possible future assistance, special invitations are being extended each month to a selected new member or to a member who has not attended before. Clayton Seleznoff attended our August meeting and Chuck Day accepted the invitation last month.
  - HCW's first demonstrator is John Beechwood. Bill Belitz will pick up John from DFW airport on Thursday afternoon, August 27. Bill will also transport John back to DFW on Sunday afternoon, August 31.
  - Bill will contact Lauren at WUMC to confirm our planned Christmas party dates and to make sure out SWAT loading and unloading dates/times do not conflict with any other church activities.
  - Had early discussion to consider members who might potentially backfill upcoming officer and newsletter editor vacancies. Officer replacements may be needed for President, Vice-president, Event Coordinator, and Training Coordinator. Bill suggested that this topic be addressed next board meeting, also to determine the nature and makeup of the nominating committee.
  - The next quarterly challenge, scheduled for September, will feature turned items that are "foolish, comical, or useless."

The meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.