Hunt County Woodturners
Board Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2026

The meeting was held at Wesley United Methodist Church. The usual advance Zoom link for the board meeting was inadvertently unavailable this month.

Club members Attending in Person: Bill Belitz*, Howard Wellspring*, Tim Littlefield*, Mark Spencer*, Ed Drake*, Burt Andrew*, Gene Wellspring.
Club members Attending through Zoom: Joe Grimes*.
[Voting board members indicated *. A quorum of board members was in attendance.]
The Meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by HCW President, Bill Belitz.

Items of Business

- **Board Meeting minutes from August 6, 2026**

Ed Drake made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 6, 2026, board meeting (as published on the website after board member review and changes). The motion was seconded by Mark Spencer. Motion passed.

- **Website/Technology (Howard Wellspring)**
    - Website traffic for August:
        - 108 total visitors, US 98, Canada 2, Singapore 2, France 1, Pakistan 1, Denmark 1, Puerto Rico 1, Italy 1, Hong Kong 1.
    - Bill suggested that having officer email addresses (by position, not individual name) on the website might be of value. Howard will check associated pricing for future consideration.
    - Howard suggested that in appreciation for Bill Kloepping's significant role in designing and building the new director's station, we should consider extending an honorary membership to him. The Board agreed, a motion was passed, and Bill B offered to notify Bill K.

Mark Spencer made a motion to extend an honorary HCW membership to Bill Kloepping for the balance of 2026 and all of 2027 in appreciation for his work on the director's station. The motion was seconded by Ed Drake. Motion passed.

- **Financial (Mark Spencer)** [Mark sent financials to the Board members on 9/2/2026.]
    - Mark presented: 1) a Financial Statement ending August 31, 2026, which includes the approved budget for 2026, and actuals for January through August, and 2) the Check Register entries for August 2026.
        - Overall club reserves, including the checking account balance, CD's, church deposit, and petty cash, come to $23,791.65.
        - August expenses were greater than income by $437.68.
        - The most significant expenses posted in August consisted of AV equipment, open shop hosting, and SWAT expenses.
        - The most significant income items were funds received from the monthly raffle and the sale of logo wear.
        - An interest amount of $1,512.37 was transferred to Checking Account 0047 concurrent with the renewal/investment of $10,000 in CD 4350 (for one year at 3.5%; ref. minutes from last month). The transferred interest amount was not recorded as revenue since it was a transfer between accounts.

- SWAT income and expenses will be reported in the September financials. Mark noted that the SWAT payment to HCW will amount to $1400 for host room and duel cost.

- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops (Tim Littlefield / Ed Drake)** ***(discussed/tentative)***
  - Upcoming planned and proposed club meeting demos:
    - September: David Harper / Spoons
    - October: John Holderman / Skew
    - November: *Donna Carmickle / Hollow forms (twisted box)*
  - Open Shop locations (Note: Open shop 8am through noon, with mini-class at 9).
    - September: Ed Drake / Mini-class: SWAT recap (members will volunteer to discuss general or personal SWAT highlights)
    - October: Howard Wellspring / Mini-class TBD
    - November: *MakerSpace in Rockwall*
  - Makerspace is expected to be ready for Open Shop in November. If it is not, Ed Drake has offered his shop an alternative. Mark informed us that Makerspace will require we use our own tools and equipment. During the visit we will have the opportunity to tour the facility.
- **Training (Joe Grimes)**
  - No training is currently scheduled beyond the Club demos and Open Shop mini-classes.
  - Joe mentioned future possibilities: Tool making and Sharpening (Tim White), Advanced Hollowing (Instructor TBD), Segmented Feature Rings (Chuck Day). He is currently unsure of sufficient interest in another beginner class before year end.
  - George has offered to host a half-day class: Holding Wood on the Lathe.
  - Also, we previously discussed having a hollowing class with various hollowing systems available for students to try out on a rotation basis.
  - Joe and Bill will work together on a survey for use next club meeting to assess members' interest in the various training possibilities. They may utilize parts of the survey developed by Brian Schrader previously.
- **Disposition of Club Equipment**
  - Many unused and/or obsolete AV items exist in the Club's inventory (computer, 6 camcorders, splitter, others) that are of no value to us, but that others may use. Howard will select and test these items, and will give a listing to Brian. Brian will offer and coordinate possible transfers to interested SWAT-associated clubs.
  - The Board discussed the sale of the Club's Ricon lathe, currently unused and in storage. Joe noted that the memorial plate for former HCW member Art Hendrix, currently mounted on the Ricon lathe, would need to be moved to an active lathe. No final decision was made regarding disposition steps, TBD.
  - Recognizing current gantry-system deficiencies (age, weight, operability, appearance, difficulties in movement), renovation/replacement options were discussed, e.g. painting, truss gantry support, display systems, etc. This subject will be addressed further in the future, perhaps through a design group.
  - The Club has retained in inventory many non-AV items that are unused, obsolete, excess, and/or redundant. We discussed resolution through a team effort, TBD.
- **Miscellaneous Business**
  - We currently have 82 members. Gary and Carol Selby (Union Valley area) are our newest members.
  - Clayton Seleznoff has agreed to be our newsletter editor following Julie Livingston's multi-year term. Julie will work with Clayton during the transition, and beyond as needed.
  - Gene Wellspring attended the board meeting to discuss the upcoming Christmas party (now confirmed for Friday, December 11, 6pm to 9pm).

        - Christmas Planning Committee consists of Gene Wellspring, Deb Belitz, and Vicki Andrew.
        - Discussed the Christmas party budget ($1200 allowed) and requirements for this year. Mark will review last year's costs and will pass the information on to Gene.
        - Christmas flyers will be made available to members in October.
        - Discussed meat options and those responsible for cooking: Ham (George? – need confirmation), Sausage (Burt), and Brisket (TBD – need volunteer). Gene and Joe will coordinate the meat shopping list (Costco).
    - The Board identified members who might agree to serve on a nominating committee for next year's officers. Bill will ask George Freeman, Sharon Ayres, and Rhonda Stelly. Elected officer openings include President, Vice-president, Event Coordinator, and Training Coordinator. Per the Bylaws, board and floor nominees are to be presented to the general membership and elected during the November meeting.
    - David Bench, Program Director for the Greenville chapter of Kiwana's, extended to us an open invitation to make an HCW presentation to their group. They meet every Tuesday at 9:30am at Wesley United Methodist Church. An acceptable presentation would go for 15 to 30 minutes, and they are equipped to support PowerPoint if needed.
    - We received two requests for community donations:
        - Casino Night on October 17 to benefit Caddo Mills Education Fund. Local Non Profit | Caddo Mills ISD Education Foundation | Texas
        - Texas Toy Jam on November 21 at Brewbirds in Quinlan to benefit Toys for Tots and an associated child clothing and food drive. Toys for Tots Northeast Texas to host multiple toys drives in Hunt County
        - These are in addition to our established community donation activities.
        - Bill will present these two donation opportunities to the club during Club meeting announcements.
    - Insurance was discussed during the Five-Club meeting at SWAT, specifically regarding whether demonstrators are covered. Mark will review our existing coverage and report back.
    - Our quarterly challenge, due this month, will feature turned items that are "foolish, comical, or useless."

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.