

**AUGUST
2026**



VOLUME 21 ISSUE 8

NEWSLETTER

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.

<http://www.huntcountywoodturners.org>

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President's Ponderings

SWAT is Aug 28, 29, 30! It's coming up fast! Each year, HCW sponsors a room for the demonstrators. To make our room a success, we need helpers in two areas: (1) Room Assistant and (2) A/V Helper. We need to be certain that we cover all the duties for each demonstrator's time. (Many hands make the work light). This is a rewarding duty, because as a room attendant or A/V helper you can get to know the demonstrator better! We will have our new AV system up and running and we hope we can show it off to the SWAT community in a positive manner. Sign up for helpers is now on the HCW website ([click here](#)). You can also see the Demonstrator's schedules on the website, so check it out and make your plans now to get the time slot that works for you.

The open Gallery at SWAT has always displayed a wide variety of items, and I encourage you to consider showing your creation(s). What you show gives others ideas and encouragement.

Our community outreach has received some donations, and more donations can be put to good use. Please turn what you can and are able. (see page 7)

This time of year, you may have noticed the daylight getting a little shorter and hopefully the temperature will be starting to edge down soon. Until then, stay hydrated and safe.

Cool Turnings,
~Bill

UPCOMING EVENTS



August

- 6th - Board Meeting
- 13th - Club Meeting
- 15th - Open Shop

September

- 3rd - Board Meeting
- 10th - Club Meeting
- 12th - Open Shop

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SWAT2026 AUGUST 28, 29, 30
LAST CHANCE for ONLINE REGISTRATION
CLOSES THIS SATURDAY, the 8th!

WWW.SWATURNERS.ORG



The SouthWest Association of Turners!

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. Each year, in August, SWAT offers their 3-day symposium. 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 there's not a nicer group of people who are willing to share their experience.

This year, the 7 Lead Demonstrators are: John Beaver, Trent Bosch, Andy Chen, Jason Clark, Rebecca DeGroot, Mike Jackofsky, Colwin Way. We encourage you to look at the SWAT website, read their bios and see what they will be demonstrating. And also, check out the line-up of the 21 Regional Demonstrators. The hard task will be to select the 10 sessions you wish to see!

Where: Waco Convention Center 100 Washington Avenue, Waco, Texas

Registration: Gets you all three full days with access to all demonstrations, access to all vendors, daily lunch provided, hands-on area and access to the Woodturners' Art Gallery. There are many extras you may want to add to your cart as well (such as the Saturday Night Banquet, T-shirts, the Demonstrators Handbook, etc.). Click the link at the top of this page for all details and to register for the event. Online Registration closes August 8th at 10pm. Prices are higher if registered at the door.

What is so special about woodturning?

Woodturning is a craft - an art form for many people - where wood is cut and shaped (turned) on a lathe with a variety of hand-held tools. The various tools are used to cut the wood in different ways. What makes woodturning so interesting is that a single piece of wood can be turned into a vase, a lidded jar, a bowl, a plate, a pen, a bottle stopper, or a beautiful art piece. It all depends on the vision and imagination of the woodturner (maker). How the wood becomes something beautiful and/or useful depends on the tools used - and the skill of the maker. Woodturners continually aspire to hone and advance their craft. Incremental improvements over time produce amazing works of art.

(from www.swaturners.org)

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AUGUST

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: *Thread Chasing*
By: Tim White

OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 15th 8:00 - Noon

Burt Andrew's Shop
8085 CR 2578, Royse City

Mini Class: *Inside Out Christmas Ornament*
By: Sammy Thomason

SEPTEMBER

BOARD MEETING -

Thursday, 3rd 5:30pm

Wesley United Methodist Church,
Greenville

CLUB MEETING -

Thursday, 10th 7:00 - 9:00pm

Wesley United Methodist Church,
Greenville

Demonstration: *TBD*
By: TBD

OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 12th 8:00 - Noon

Ed Drake's Shop
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.



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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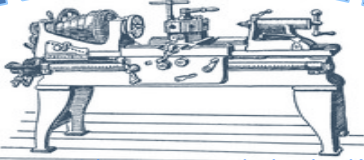
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"ON THE LATHE"



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

QUARTERLY CHALLENGE

September 10th

This is a fun one!

Use your imagination. Turn something

Foolish, Comical, or Useless.

The Winner is determined by the

votes of your fellow-turners.

And the Winner receives a \$50 gift card.

HELP SUPPORT HCW @ SWAT

Volunteers are needed to assist in the HCW room.

We need AV assistants and room hosts.

If interested, click [HERE](#) to select a time slot or
signup at the club meeting on the 13th.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED:

December's Newsletter will be the last one this
current Editor will compose. If you are willing to take
this position for the next year, please contact one of
the board members.

OPENINGS on the BOARD

HCW will have some open positions
on the Board for 2027.

Please consider if you might be able to help the Club
by filling an office for a term. Speak to any of the
current Board Members (see page 11) to get more
information on what each office entails.

August BIRTHDAYS

3RD ~ JANET JOHNSON

6TH ~ SHARON AYRES

10TH ~ RONALD JOHNSON

10TH ~ ADRIENNE KIRBY

11TH ~ RON WILLIAMS

15TH ~ RANDY CAIN

16TH ~ JANICE DRAKE

23RD ~ DOUG BALZER

23RD ~ JOHN FOWLER

28TH ~ TIM LITTLEFIELD

Prayer Requests & Praises

Vic Hollingsworth
Tami Lattanzi

PHILIPPIANS 4: 6

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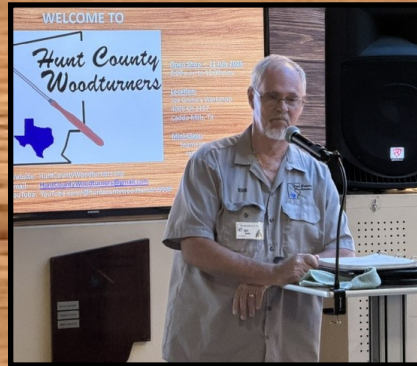
<http://www.huntcountywoodturners.org>

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July Club Meeting

Thanks to Chuck Day for the demonstration on "Identifying Wood"



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July Open Shop

Thanks Joe Grimes for hosting.
And thank you for
the Mini-Class on
"Segmenting Pen Blanks with RF glue".



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

How can YOU help?

Below is a list of programs we partner with and a very brief description of what they do. Please look at each program on our website under the "[Community](#)" banner for more information and discover what you can do to help each one. In 2025, we donated a combined 331 items! We have cleared the numbers, but as you give, we will list the totals to the left of each organization, hopefully watching the numbers grow each month. Let's set a goal to surpass our total from last year!

- 0 BEADS OF COURAGE:** This program supports children and teens with serious illnesses by helping them tell their stories of bravery through colorful beads. Each bead represents a significant moment in their treatment journey, such as a medical procedure or personal achievement. Boxes may be delivered to Burt Andrew.
- 9 EMPTY BOWLS & RESTORED HOPE** *Empty Bowls*, organized by the North Texas Food Bank, is an annual event that raises funds to support North Texans facing hunger. The funds raised from the event provide critical support to the NTFB's programs. *Restored Hope* is a program dedicated to rescuing young women and their children trapped in sexual slavery, trafficking, and domestic violence. Wood-turned items that are donated typically bring from \$80 to \$500 each. Items for both of these organizations may be given to Alain Schwarz.
- 102 FREEDOM PEN:** {NOTE: 92 Pens were given out at the Fair!} This program started in 2004 by the Sgt Joe Kelly Freedom Pen Foundation as an all-volunteer initiative to provide custom hand-crafted pens to American servicemen and women. It is for anyone interested in donating their time, talent, and services in providing writing instruments for active-duty military personnel, as well as veterans, as a symbol of our support and care. Pens can be delivered to Bill Belitz.
- 0 OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** Is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. It collects and distributes shoeboxes filled with gifts to children in need around the world. The shoeboxes typically contain toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and other small gifts. It's part of a broader effort to share the gospel and to support communities in crisis. Toys may be delivered to Ron Williams.
- 15 VETERANS PENS:** Is a diversion program for Justice-Involved Veterans (JIV) who are facing prosecution for one or more criminal cases. Their mission is to provide support and rehabilitation to qualified JIV criminal defendants whose crimes were materially connected to injuries suffered as a result of honorable service in the United States Armed Forces. Completed pens can be given to Chris Cohen.

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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. Ads will be posted in the newsletter for two months. Submit your ad to Burt Andrew, email: bandrew1@att.net



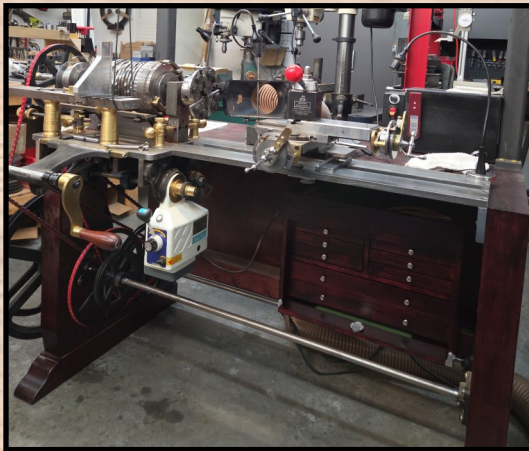
For Sale: Jet 12/21 variable speed lathe

Includes:

- Faceplate (note: no chuck)
- 2 drives
- Knockout bar, wrench
- Stand on lockable swivel wheels
- About 4 years old, minimal use

Asking \$800.

Call Randy Cain for purchase or details at 214-202-3771.



For Sale: Rose Engine Lathe

Call Pete Holmes for details
at 903-456-8104.

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

We have a sawmill and cut trees to be milled. We carry wood products in thirty-two different species that include: Mesquite, Pecan, Maple, Red Oak, Post Oak, Red Cedar, Poplar, Cherry, Sycamore, Cedar Elm, White Ash, Board d' Arc, Pine, & Black Walnut. Check out my ad in this newsletter and also my [You-Tube channel: "George Wood of Texas"](#).

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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. Find them on our website as well as other resources to check out such as videos and other helpful links.

www.huntcountywoodturners.org

Check out these area wood-turning clubs with links to their websites.

Dallas Area Woodturners (DAW)

www.dallaswoodturners.com

3rd Thursday of the Month

meeting starts at 7:00pm

Wood World, 13650 TI Blvd., Ste 101,
Richardson TX 75243

Golden Triangle Woodturners

www.goldentrianglewoodturners.org

1st Monday of the Month meeting
starts at 7:00pm

The Center for the Visual Arts

400 E. Hickory St., Denton TX 76201

East Texas Woodturners (ETW)

www.easttexaswoodturners.org

2nd Saturday of the month

First Christian Church Tyler

4202 S Broadway Ave., Tyler TX 75701

Woodturners of North (WNTX)

www.wntx.org

Last Thursday of the Month meeting
starts at 6:30pm

Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club

6013 Craig St., Ft. Worth TX 76112

If I ever win the lottery, I won't tell anyone.
But there would be signs...



Recommended Lathe Speeds

DIAMETER OF WORK	ROUGHING RPM	GENERAL CUTTING RPM	FINISHING RPM
UNDER 2"	1520	5000	3000
2" - 4"	760	1600	2400
4" - 6"	510	1060	1650
6" - 8"	380	810	1240
8" - 10"	300	650	1000
10" - 12"	255	540	830
12" - 14"	220	460	710
14" - 16"	190	400	620
16" - 20"	175	325	500
20" - 24"	175	260	400



"There is no greater accolade for a craftsman than an object that is a pleasure and a treasure." ~ D. Wood

"INDECO: Production Turn of Mind,"
American Woodturner, October 2018

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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 mspencer2112@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



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 as a club gain by membership. Check out this excellent guide to their membership services and publications at <http://www.woodturner.org>

**SPECIALTY
LUMBER & LOGGING**

GEORGE FREEMAN

7151 Sandy Lake Dr. * Quinlan, TX

214-334-4035

woodchipper2011@hotmail.com * YouTube: George Wood of Texas



584 West I-30, Suite 403 * Garland, TX

469-329-0971

www.rockler.com



601 W. Plano Pkwy., Suite 145 * Plano, TX

972-422-2732

www.woodcraft.com



**Wood World
of Texas LLC**

13650 TI Blvd. * Dallas, TX

972-669-9130

www.Woodworldtx.com

Membership in HCW, Inc. may entitle you to discounts and other benefits at these businesses.

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Who's on Board

Serving the Hunt County Woodturners for 2026 are:

Bill Belitz, President

Tim Littlefield, Vice-President

Burt Andrew, Secretary

Mark Spencer, Treasurer

Howard Wellspring, Technology Officer

Joe Grimes, Training Coordinator

Ed Drake, 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.