



AUGUST 2025

VOLUME 20

# HCW NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.

<http://www.huntcountywoodturners.org>

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## President's Ponderings

It's August, and you know what that means – besides the unbearable hot weather and dry conditions!! It means SWAT is just a couple of weeks away! It always seems so far off when we start talking about it in the Spring, but here it is already. I know there's a lot of you ready to go and I look forward to seeing you all there. You can still register, it's just gonna cost you more to do it at this point and finding a close hotel may be a challenge. But it will be worth it. It's always fun to get away and see some amazing turners that we don't normally get to see. And I'm sure I'll end up buying something (just don't tell Julie)!!

For those of you that attended one of the classes offered by Dennis Ford last month, I hope you enjoyed it and learned something new. I attended the Sunday class and enjoyed it very much and it was very informative. If you made something in either class, please feel free to bring it to show & tell at next week's meeting. I didn't get mine finished in the class but will try to get it done before our club meeting. And thank you Mr. Schrader for organizing this and for offering your shop for this event.

We also had a community outreach event on Saturday, August 2nd, with a Boy Scout troop from Greenville. Thanks to Burt Andrew for organizing it and to Dan Parsons for bringing your Scouts. From the comments I heard, it was a hit with the scouts & hopefully we will see some of them at a club meeting soon. Read the article on pages 8-9 of this newsletter for *the rest of the story*.

Speaking of Burt, he is now the newest member of a judging panel at the State Fair of Texas. He will be representing HCW as a judge for the woodworking entries for the fair each year. This is good PR for our club and I know he will represent us well!! Thank you Burt!!

That's it for now! See you all next week!!!

Be blessed, Brian

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### August

- 14<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Open Shop
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> - SWAT

### September

- 4<sup>th</sup> - Board Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Open Shop



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## AUGUST

### CLUB MEETING -

Thursday, 14th 7:00 - 9:00pm

Wesley United Methodist  
Church, Greenville

Demonstration: "Finishing" Strong  
by: various members

### OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 16th 8:00 - Noon

Howie Stevens' Shop

10901 Martin Dr., Forney

Mini Class: *Correcting Warped Bowls*

### SWAT -

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

22nd, 23rd, 24th

## SEPTEMBER

### BOARD MEETING -

Thursday, 4th 5:30pm

Wesley United Methodist  
Church, Greenville

### CLUB MEETING -

Thursday, 11th 7:00 - 9:00pm

Wesley United Methodist Church,  
Greenville

Demonstration: TBD

### OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 13th 8:00 - Noon

Lee Craft's Shop

6207 CR 2560, Royse City

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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## August BIRTHDAYS

**3RD ~ JANET JOHNSON**

**6TH ~ SHARON AYRES**

**7TH ~ CHRIS COHEN**

**10TH ~ RONALD JOHNSON**

**10TH ~ ADRIENNE KIRBY**

**11TH ~ RON WILLIAMS**

**15TH ~ RANDY CAIN**

**16TH ~ JANICE DRAKE**

**23RD ~ DOUG BALZER**

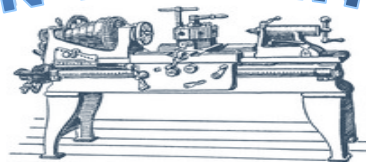
**23RD ~ JOHN FOWLER**

**24TH ~ JOHN HADSALL**

**28TH ~ TIM LITTLEFIELD**

**31ST ~ ANNE THOMASON**

## "ON THE LATHE"



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

### QUARTERLY CHALLENGE

**September 11<sup>th</sup> - "3 or More Types of Wood"**

Make something out of at least 3 different types of wood. Members will vote on their favorite item at the September Club Meeting.

The winner will receive a \$50 gift card.

### BEGINNERS' TRAINING CLASS

COMING IN OCTOBER!!

Watch this space for information regarding exact dates and registration.



### CHRISTMAS PARTY

Save the Date: December 12, 2025!



"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

## Prayer Requests & Praises

**Vic Hollingsworth**

**Tami Lattanzi**

**Steve Thomason**

**Robert Webster**

PHILIPPIANS 4: 6



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## SWAT2025 AUGUST 22-24

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

**Place:** Waco Convention Center

**Registration:** Go to [swaturners.org](http://swaturners.org) for all details and options.

**Please consider helping in the HCW Host Room. We need room assistants.**

The SouthWest Association of WoodTurners exists to promote the craft of woodturning through training, demonstrations, hands on experience and exhibits. No matter your level of experience, all are welcome to participate in this yearly symposium. If you enjoy woodturning and want to meet like-minded folks, this is the place for you.

The 7 Lead Demonstrators are: Sally Ault, Toni Street, Mike Mahoney, Michael Nish, Matt Monaco, Jerry Bennett & Lyle Jamieson. We encourage you to check them out on YouTube.

The list of 17 Regional Demonstrators include: Alan Stratton, Anne Ogg, 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 and our very own HCW members, Charlie Tucker and Todd Raines.

All Leads will present on 2 topics and the Regionals will present a single class.

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### 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](http://www.swaturners.org))



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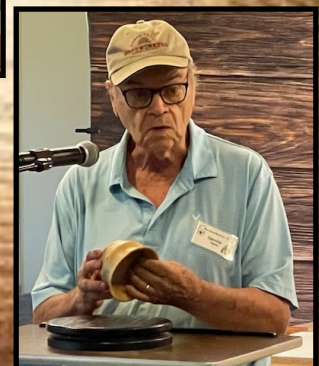
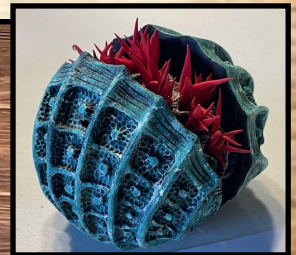
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We thank Tom Nehl for the demonstration on Basic Segmenting at our

## July Club Meeting

There were a total of 37 in attendance, including 2 visitors and 3 members via Zoom.





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Thank you Donna Frazier for hosting our

## July Open Shop

And thank you Ruth Meyer for your mini-class on Resin.  
We had 20 members and 3 visitors in attendance.





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**HCW had the honor to host Dennis Ford as he taught two interesting classes last month.**

**1) A Twisted Box or Multi-Axis      2) A Footed, Lidded Bowl**

A big thank you goes to Brian Schrader for opening your shop to host these classes for these two days. Every one gained new knowledge that they did not have and left with a finished (or almost finished) piece.





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## A day with BOY SCOUTS TROOP 322 and VENTURE CREW 17

### An Introduction to Woodturning:

On Saturday, August 2, 2025, Boy Scouts Troop 322 and Venture Crew 17 had the unique opportunity to dive into the world of woodturning, thanks to a one-day session sponsored by the HCW. Held at Brian Schrader's shop, the event was designed to introduce the Scouts to the basics of woodturning.

### A Day Packed with Learning and Fun

The day began bright and early at 8:00 am with introductions and an overview of the day's activities by Dan Parsons (Troop Leader/HCW Member), Joe Grimes, and Brian Schrader. Safety was a top priority, and Joe Grimes, the lead instructor, ensured that all participants were well-versed in the necessary precautions before diving into the hands-on activities. The Scouts were introduced to the major components of lathes and the primary woodturning tools.

### Hands-On Projects

The first project of the day was turning whistles. Each Scout aimed to complete two whistles: one to donate to Operation Christmas Child and one to keep. The first blank was pre-drilled, while the second required the participants to complete all operations themselves. Bill Belitz explained the basic steps of whistle making, then the group broke out for individual work. During a well-deserved lunch (paid for by the Scouts; thank you!), the group watched a YouTube video by George Freeman on wood processing. The afternoon session resumed with a focus on lathe tool sharpening with Brian Schrader explaining the tools and techniques involved. Through the afternoon each Scout had the chance to rotate through the sharpening station to

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set up and sharpen two tools, addressing a merit badge requirement. The Scouts then moved on to their second project: turning pens. Howard Wellspring demonstrated the equipment and steps, and the Scouts selected their kits and wood, performed the lathe setups, turned the pens, and applied a simple wax finish. Howard provided cast pen blanks with embedded scouting emblems for those who wanted to use them. Several made a second pen. For the final project, Joe showed how to turn a small bowl, starting with a 2"x 6"x 6" pre-prepared pine blank. With limited time, the day ended with the bowls in various stages of completion, though time was adequate for the scouts to practice and appreciate the use of bowl gouges.

## Objectives and Achievements

The primary objectives for the Scouts were: 1) to learn the basic elements of woodturning, 2) to accomplish approximately six elements required for the Woodworking merit badge, 3) and to participate in a new, fulfilling, and fun activity. For HCW, the event served as a community outreach and the opportunity to help build tomorrow's leaders.

## A Successful Event

The woodturning session was a resounding success, providing the Scouts and Venture Crew with valuable hands-on experience and a deeper appreciation for the craft. The collaboration between Boy Scouts Troup 322, Venture Crew 17, and the Hunt County Woodturners highlighted the importance of community involvement and skill development.

Thanks go to the instructors: Joe Grimes, Bill Belitz, Brian Schrader, and Howard Wellspring. Also to the assistants: Brian Livingston, Doug Balzer, and Burt Andrew. Special thanks to Brian Schrader for the use of his shop, equipment, and facilities. We look forward to other similar events in the future.



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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. Submit your ad to Burt Andrew, email: [bandrew1@att.net](mailto:bandrew1@att.net)  
Ads will be posted in the newsletter for two months, unless sold or requested to be removed sooner.

**FOR SALE:** Charis Young, a friend of Donna McCormick, has the equipment listed below. Please text, call, or email Charis if you are interested. 214-783-8182, [krazykropper@gmail.com](mailto:krazykropper@gmail.com)

- > Boss Laser LS1420 - \$2500
- > Rikon Band Saw - \$750
- > SawStop Table Saw - \$1500 - Contractor Grade w/Upgraded Fence
- > Jet 1640 Lathe - \$1200
- > Kreg Router Table - \$200
- > Pen Press - \$50
- > Ryobi Variable Scroll Saw - \$50

**FOR SALE:** ROCKLER EXCELSIOR 10 x18 MINI-LATHE, 650 through 3800 RPM in 3 variable speed ranges, reversible. Includes 4 jaw chuck, 6 woodturning tools, live center, and many pen blanks and kits. Price \$350. Call Mike Pregent at (214) 455-3151 for details and/or to arrange a visit to inspect and test.



**SPECIALTY LUMBER & LOGGING** George Freeman \* 214-334-4035 \* [woodchipper2011@hotmail.com](mailto:woodchipper2011@hotmail.com)

I pride myself on offering unique, diverse cuts of wood that are not available at any other wood supplier in North Texas. We carry **wood products in thirty-two different species** that include: Mesquite, Pecan, Maple, Red Oak, Post Oak, Red Cedar, Poplar, Cherry, White Ash, Board d' Arc, Sycamore, Cedar Elm, Pine & Black Walnut. Check out my You-Tube channel: "[George Wood of Texas](#)".



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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](mailto: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

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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## HCW COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES!

*HCW is starting to get more involved in our community. Here is a list of the programs we're helping 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 full details of how to get involved with each one.*

**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. Bowl contributions may be delivered to [Alain Schwarz](#).

**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 [Lee Craft](#) or [Chris Cohen](#).

**FREEDOM PEN:** 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 [Lee Craft](#).

**RESTORED HOPE:** This program is dedicated to rescuing young women and their children trapped in sexual slavery, trafficking, and domestic violence. Wood-turned items that are donated from across the region typically bring from \$80 to \$500 each to Restored Hope. Items may be given to [Alain Schwarz](#).

**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](#).

**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](#).

**HUNT COUNTY FAIR:** is an annual event held in Greenville, Texas, focused on the youth, agricultural, educational, economic, cultural, and institutional strengths of the area. HCW supports our community through our participation in the Fair, while offering us the opportunity to show the public what we do. Our demonstrations are popular with fairgoers as we demonstrate the art of woodturning. Our booth is located in front of the Creative Arts building. Finished wood-turned items will be displayed in the booth and within the building.



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## Who's on Board

Serving the Hunt County Woodturners for 2025 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.