



MAY 2025

VOLUME 20

ISSUE 5

HCW NEWSLETTER

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.

<http://www.huntcountywoodturners.org>

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President's Ponderings

I want to thank all those who helped make the Hunt County Fair another success for our HCW club. We only had 22 people sign up to work the booth this year and if you were one of them, thank you, I hope you enjoyed it! It really is a lot of fun and, for me, whether I'm helping kids while they color their tops or talking with people that walk up or actually turning something, it's just a fun atmosphere to be in. In talking with other club members that were there, they too had several people come to the booth and watch what everyone was turning and asked questions about the club. There were many that said they would come to one of our meetings, so hopefully they will. We gave away almost all of our Veteran's Pens and thanks to Sammy Thomason a lot of tops went to some smiling kids!

I want to express a special thanks to our Event Coordinator, Tom Nehl! Not only did he coordinate getting HCW signed up for the fair, he volunteered his trailer to transport all the equipment to set up and take down our booth. Plus, to make sure there were enough people to man our booth for the whole fair, he signed up for 14 different time slots to help make sure our booth was always open. He ended up working 16 shifts total. Thank you, Tom for everything!

If you entered something in the Fair's Woodworking Competition in the Arts Building, please bring your piece to the club meeting next week for show & tell. I don't have the details yet, but I heard several members placed in that competition, with 1st place going to Tom Nehl! Thank you to all that entered and whether you placed or not, you represented your club well and we're proud of you!

Whether you helped set it all up, keep it all going, or take it all down, thanks for donating your time and energy. It was so much fun, let's do it again next year!!!

Be blessed, Brian

UPCOMING EVENTS



May

- 1st - Board Meeting
- 8th - Club Meeting
- 10th - Open Shop

June

- 5th - Board Meeting
- 12th - Club Meeting
- 14th - Open Shop

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MAY

BOARD MEETING -

Thursday, 1st 5:30pm
Wesley United Methodist
Church, Greenville

CLUB MEETING -

Thursday, 8th 7:00 - 9:00pm
Wesley United Methodist Church,
Greenville
Demonstration: Beaded Box
by James Carter, Easy Tools

OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 10th 8:00 - Noon
Brian Livingston's Shop
100 Margaret St., Fate
Mini Class: Turn -n- Toof

JUNE

BOARD MEETING -

Thursday, 5th 5:30pm
Wesley United Methodist
Church, Greenville

CLUB MEETING -

Thursday, 12th 7:00 - 9:00pm
Wesley United Methodist
Church, Greenville
Demonstration: TBD

OPEN SHOP -

Saturday, 14th 8:00 - Noon
Bill Belitz's Shop
2205 Meadowview Dr., Caddo Mills

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=ZkpOWVFGa00rUmFUeEZlVkrRoSGh3Zz09)

[pwd=ZkpOWVFGa00rUmFUeEZlVkrRoSGh3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84938131255?pwd=ZkpOWVFGa00rUmFUeEZlVkrRoSGh3Zz09)

Meeting ID: 849 3813 1255 Passcode: 308416

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Some News From **BRIAN SCHRADER** TRAINING COORDINATOR

Twelve of the fourteen lathes that were in my shop in April have returned to their rightful homes. *That's right 14 lathes!* It was a Wood Turners paradise! A huge thank you to the 31 students that attended the 4 classes offered by Kirk DeHeer. Also, many volunteers contributed to making the classes run smoothly. This was largely an experimental first-time collaboration between HCW and Dallas Area Woodturners (DAW). HCW is looking ahead at the next opportunity to offer the members of HCW a memorable educational experience.

Also:

A very special Thank You to Howard Wellspring for conducting the mini-class at the April Open Shop. Howard instructed those in attendance on turning the Freedom Pens the club gives to veterans. Pen turning and finishing is one of those subjects that you need to select what works for you. Ask nine people how to turn and finish pens and you will get a dozen different answers. I had been struggling with the method I was using for CA finishes. I was disappointed to the extent that I dreaded someone asking me to make a pen. I was attempting to mimic a great pen craftsman that could sell pens for \$500 and more. His pens are absolutely immaculate. Mine, not so much. After watching Howard I realized some of the areas that were probably responsible for my frustrations. I watched Howard, I watched Mike Nish on YouTube and I have altered my CA methods. I am now getting far more successes than failures. Note to: Brian Livingston, Chuck Day and Kevin Evans, who watched me turn using my technique that Saturday... forget and unlearn everything I showed you. I got lucky with a success that day, but I have probably steered you to a path that leads to anger and anger leads to the dark side.

If you were not at the April Open Shop and want to see a successful method (1 of many) to apply CA, look for Mike Nish on YouTube.

This month, May's Open Shop, we will have a special treat with our VP, Bill Belitz, showing us how to make whistles. We will have the club lathes and blanks available. Come learn, turn and toot your own whistle!

Keep learning and keep turning,
~ Brian

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It was an honor to have Kirk DeHeer as our demonstrator for our April Club Meeting. Whether you were able to take one of his classes or not, these are pictures from those classes for you to enjoy viewing.
Special THANKS to Brian Schrader fo the use of your shop.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7th Mike Rackley
16th Eric Kirby
16th Tuvia Wirtzberger
19th Drake Freeman
22nd Mike Pregent
24th Matt Belval
28th Mitzi Freeman
28th Greg Richards

Prayer Requests & Praises

PHILIPPIANS 4: 6

Tami Lattanzi
Robert Webster
Steve Thomason



QUARTERLY CHALLENGE - JUNE 12

Anything "Thin-Walled"

Make something with the thinnest wall you can.

We won't be measuring to see who does the 'thinnest', BUT the vote will be on the favorite thin-walled item,

so obviously the thinner the better. Good luck!

The winner will receive a \$50 gift card.

SWAT: Register Now!

Registration has been opened since March which means hotels are filling up.

Don't miss out. Register now.

See page 10 for all the information.

TRAINING CLASSES

HCW tries to offer 3 to 4 training opportunities each year. Watch this space for information regarding upcoming Training Classes.



"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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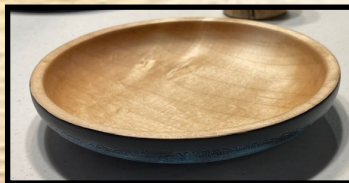
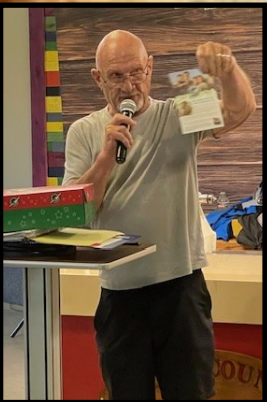
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We want to give a BIG Thank You to
Kirk DeHeer for the demonstration at our

April Club Meeting

There were a total of 52 in attendance,
5 of those being visitors.



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Thank you to Brian Schrader
for opening your shop for our day of turning items for
our Charitable Organizations, and thanks
Howard for showing your techniques for turning pens.

April Open Shop

We had 20 in attendance.



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AUGUST IS NOT THAT FAR AWAY! Which means you need to register NOW! **SWAT2025**

The SouthWest Association of WoodTurners 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. All levels of experience are welcome to participate in the yearly symposium each August. 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 you won't find a nicer group of people who are always willing to share their experience.

The 7 Lead Demonstrators are set: Sally Ault, Toni Street, Mike Mahoney, Michael Nish, Matt Monaco, Jerry Bennett & Lyle Jamieson.

The list of 17 Regional Demonstrators is soon to be finalized and currently includes: Alan Stratton, Anne Ogg, Charles Tucker, 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 & Todd Raines.

All Leads will present 2 topics/subjects and the Regionals will present a single class. All sessions are repeated twice over the three days of SWAT. The hard task is to select the 8 sessions you wish to see!

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

Place: Waco Convention Center

Cost: Registration is \$190 for the full three days, (couples can register for \$315). There are many extras (such as Saturday night banquet, T-shirts, Demonstrators Handbook, etc.) that can be added to your cart and there are single day prices as well. Go to swaturners.org for all details and options.

The raffle Grand Prize is a Robust American Beauty, as well as 3 Jet 12/21 lathes.

Important Dates:

- ♦ **February 10, 2025.** This is the date that the official hotels for SWAT, The Hilton and The Marriot Courtyard, open their blocks of rooms reserved at conference price (estimated to be \$170). Get yours reserved early. Don't wait. There are other options for lodging in Waco, but you will need to research those options yourself.
- ♦ **March 3, 2025.** This is the opening date for online registration for SWAT.
- ♦ **August 1, 2025.** This is the date online registration closes (and prices increase).

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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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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. Give them a call or a text and they will get back to you. Find our Mentors List in the Members Only section of our website. www.huntcountywoodturners.org



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

Ads will be posted in the newsletter for two months, unless sold or requested to be removed sooner.



Barracuda Micro Key Chuck System

8 piece system

For use of mini and midi lathes

Complete set for \$75.

Contact Rhonda Stelly if interested



SPECIALTY LUMBER & LOGGING George Freeman * 214-334-4035 * 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 spend a lot of time gathering Pecan, Maple, Cedar Elm, Hackberry, Cherry and Red oak logs for Spalting. That's the introduction of a fungus into the wood to add to the natural beauty of the various woods when cut. We also gather pine to be cut into utility projects for the sawmill such as stickers, billets, and forklift pallets. And we cut pine into 1 1/2 inch thick boards by 20-foot lengths for the horse people to build stalls and corrals from. This thick lumber prevents a horse from kicking through their enclosures

See how we do all of this on 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. 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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Who's on Board

Serving the Hunt County Woodturners for 2024 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.