

FEBRUARY
2024

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 19 * ISSUE 2

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.

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President's Ponderings

So, I made a woman cry last week. No, it wasn't my wife and no, it wasn't intentional. Actually, she cried because I gave her a bowl I had made. There's an elderly woman that we've known for 15-20 years and awhile back I told her I was starting to do some woodturning and she got very excited and asked if I would make her a bowl. She said she didn't care how big it was or what it looked like, but she just likes things that are hand-made. I never forgot her request but wanted to wait until I had "improved my skills" before I gave her something. I don't think she really cared how perfect it was, but I did. She cried when she saw it and told me she would treasure it forever!!

I tell you this story to encourage you to bless other people with your work. If you've been turning awhile, you've probably given all your relatives something and still have bowls stacked on bowls around your house. There are a lot of people that still appreciate hand-made items and would love to have something like that instead of something made in China! Consider going to a nursing home and handing out your bowls, vases, goblets, canes, whatever you have made and see people's faces light up. There are places to donate items for auctions to raise money for different charities too. By the way, if you find one of those, let us know because one topic we discussed at the last board meeting, was to find organizations that we can possibly partner with. Or, if you want, some people are willing to pay top dollar for some nice woodturned articles. The possibilities are endless.

I hope this encourages you to have another purpose for what you do in your shop. It may just be 'brown and round' to you, but to someone else, it's something they will 'treasure forever'!

Be blessed,

Brian

UPCOMING EVENTS



February

- 8th - Club Meeting
- 10th - Open Shop

March

- 14th - Club Meeting
- 16th - Open Shop

April

- 6th - 7th - Training: Beginners
- 11th - Club Meeting
- 13th - Open Shop
- 19th - 28th - Hunt County Fair

See next page for details.

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SAVE THE DATE TO THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

February Board Meeting - Thursday, 1st 5:30pm Wesley United Methodist Church, Greenville

February Club Meeting - Thursday, 8th 7pm-9pm Wesley United Methodist Church, Greenville

Demonstration by Brian Schrader - embellishments

February Open Shop - Saturday, 10th 8am-12pm Tom Nehl's shop, 118 RS County Road 4269, Emory

Mini-Class topic - Different Ways to Use the Chuck

March Board Meeting - Thursday, 7th 5:30pm Wesley United Methodist Church, Greenville

March Club Meeting - Thursday, 14th 7pm-9pm Wesley United Methodist Church, Greenville

Demonstration by Donna Frazier - making a YoYo

March Open Shop - Saturday, 16th 8am-12pm Lee Craft's shop, 6207 CR 2560, Royse City

April Board Meeting - Thursday, 4th 5:30pm Wesley United Methodist Church, Greenville

April Training Class - Saturday/Sunday, 6th-7th *Training for Beginners* place: to be determined

April Club Meeting - Thursday, 11th 7pm-9pm Wesley United Methodist Church, Greenville

April Open Shop - Saturday, 13th 8am-12pm place: to be determined

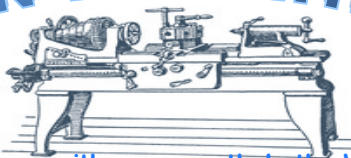
April Hunt County Fair - 19th-28th 9800 Jack Finney Blvd., Greenville

Join in on the Monthly Club meeting through ZOOM meetings using the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84938131255?pwd=ZkpOWVFGa00rUmFUeEZlVkJRoSGh3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 849 3813 1255 Passcode: 308416

"ON THE LATHE"



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

REMINDER! Pay your dues now online or at the beginning of the Club Meeting next week and your name will be entered in the drawing held at the end of the meeting. Winner will receive a refund of their membership fee and will receive free membership for the year!

QUARTERLY CHALLENGE: Make something out of TWO TYPES of WOOD and bring your creation to the March Club Meeting for Show-and-Tell.

HUNT COUNTY FAIR SIGN-UP!

The Fair is coming! April 19-28. We will have a booth and there are LOTS of time-slots to be filled. Sign up sheets will be at the club meetings and on the website. Be sure to get the slots you want by signing up quickly. See Tom Nehl for more details.

TENTATIVE TRAINING CLASSES

Looking to expand your knowledge and skill? Keep these classes in mind and watch for more details to come!

May: Carving

July or August: Captive Rings

September: Pyrography

November: Beginners

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*Ever wonder how they
get lumber from a log?*



FEBRUARY

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 5th - Bill Smith | 13th - Joe Grimes |
| 6th - Robert Ledbetter | 13th - Travis Guinn |
| 7th - Harold Collander | 16th - Kim Kidd |
| 7th - Tina Mastin | 18th - Jim Brooks |
| 8th - George Freeman | 18th - Ross Spielman |
| 11th - Tom Nehl | 24th - Fred Groves |

Prayer Requests and Praises

John Blattman
George Littlefield
Kay Shrode

PHILIPPIANS 4: 6

As a club, it is our desire to build connectivity between members. The **Members' Highlight** section (see the next page) is one way to learn about each other. Each month we hope to highlight 2 members. If you would like to volunteer your bio info for future editions, let Brian Livingston know and he will email you with the details. Brian's email is bdliving@yahoo.com, or talk to him next time you see him.

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MEMBERS' HIGHLIGHT

Burt Andrew

Burt is married to Vicki and they live near Union Valley. They have three daughters, all grown and living in Hunt and Dallas counties. They have been blessed with 8 grandchildren ranging from ages 6 to 24 years old. Burt has been retired for almost 10 years after working at Esco Mfg. Co. and at E-Systems/Raytheon/L-3, spending most of his career in Supply Chain purchasing and management and Facilities Operations. Vicki and he met and married during their years at L-3 where she was employed as well. Burt was born in Texas and during his teenage years, worked on his parents' rice farm. His family moved to southeastern Oklahoma during his college years. He came back to Texas, in the '70s moving to Greenville. Vicki and Burt like to travel. After doing some international travel, they have decided to enjoy traveling exclusively in the U.S. Since retirement, they have taken many 3-day to 2-week trips to several U.S. destinations.

As a woodturner, Burt enjoys the challenges of learning and turning a variety of items. He was a member of HCW about 25 years ago, shortly after the club was started. But with job and family commitments, his time involved with the club was limited. In 2018, he rejoined HCW and has been a strong member ever since, holding the appointed Publicist position for 2 years; this year is his 4th year as Secretary. He says "I have enjoyed the social aspects of HCW and helping the leadership organize and grow the club. My involvement is fun and rewarding to me. The Club's friendly atmosphere of learning and sharing has helped in developing my woodturning skills immensely." Other hobbies, both current and past, have included photography, beekeeping, pigeon raising, wildlife management, gardening, amateur radio and flying.

One story about Burt's life that very few know about is that he once picked up a Zulu hitchhiker while he was living in South Africa. While working at Tongaat-Hulett Sugar Mills,

located 30 miles north of Durban, his commute took him up the coast of the Indian Ocean. Although he and his passenger could barely communicate, Burt remembers that they made hand gestures, grinned and nodded a lot!

Rhonda Stelly

Rhonda Stelly is retired from L-3 and is a woodturner/artist. She is married to Brian who is a woodworker. Between them, they have 5 children, and 10 beautiful grandchildren. They consider themselves fortunate to have traveled to many beautiful places in the world and recently added camping to their resume. They enjoy the ability to bring their dog, Remy, with them on these adventures. Remy loves hiking as much as her people do.

When asked how she got into woodturning, Rhonda shares, "My dad, Bill Oliver, was one of the founders of Hunt County Woodturners. Unfortunately, I didn't pick up his love for woodturning until his passing in 2009. I did, however, inherit his lathe. My sister, Sharon Ayres, told me, 'in inheriting dad's lathe, you need to learn to turn'. That I did. I joined HCW in 2010. I began making pens and ventured off to a few other items. I made many phone calls to my sister, Sharon, trying to figure out a bowl gouge from a spindle gouge, and also trying to explain what I did now and asking how do I fix it. With her patience and my perseverance, I'm still turning today, and still learning today."

Rhonda is an experienced scuba diver, (hitting her 500th dive this past summer). She admittedly loves seeing the beautiful colors, textures, and shapes of the underwater wonders. There are so many different avenues one can explore with woodturning and her goal is to pull more of these underwater colors and textures from the oceans and put them into her own work.

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We had a great Open Shop on January 13th at George's place. We had 26 in attendance that included 2 new members. Attendees had the opportunity to sharpen their tools and the club's -- applying the techniques presented by Tim White and Alain Schwarz during our Club Meeting the Thursday prior. Thank you George and Mitzi for hosting the Open Shop. If you are willing to host an Open Shop any time this year, please let Tom Nehl know.



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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 m Spencer2112@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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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. Look them up [here](#) on our Mentors List.

“Mentors do not give you a shortcut, but they streamline the process. They invariably had their own great mentors, giving them a richer and deeper knowledge of their field. Their ensuing years of experience taught them invaluable lessons and strategies for learning. Their knowledge and experience becomes yours; they can direct you from unnecessary side paths or errors. They observe you at work and provide real-time feedback, making your practice more time efficient. Their advice is tailored to your circumstance and your needs. Working closely with them, you absorb the essence of their creative spirit, which you can now adapt in your own way.”

From the Book - *Mastery* by Robert Greene

For segmenters, George Freeman has 1” square boards that can be cut to various lengths for segmenting. He has this in Pecan, Mesquite, and Walnut. He also has his original stock of turning blanks. Contact George at 214-334-4035 if you are interested in purchasing any of this wood at a minimal cost. We are so thankful for everything George does for the club.

Please help us expand this RESOURCES page. If you can recommend any YouTube links or Tips or Books, please send the information to Brian Livingston. Continually educating each other is part of who we are as HCW.

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SWAT2024 is coming AUGUST 23, 24, 25



Lee Craft, our own HCW SWAT Director, has news from this year's first meeting with the SWAT Board of Directors. Registration will open March 4th. The date is set for the weekend of August 23-25th. Set up will be on Thursday the 22nd and any club members who want to go a day early and help set up just need talk with Lee. The early registration cost for the weekend will be \$190 for the 3-day ticket package. The Saturday night dinner will be \$30. Those that have gone in previous years might notice this slight increase in cost. SWAT, just like HCW, is a non-profit organization, and so even though their goal is not to make money, neither is it to lose money. For the last two years, SWAT has had a deficit, mainly due to the cost of catering meals and refreshments. There are seven other woodturning symposiums, similar to SWAT, across the country each year. All of the other seven have a higher cost than SWAT and most do not serve meals to the attendees, so even with a \$25 increase for the weekend and a \$5 increase for the Saturday dinner, this is still a great deal! SWAT is held in Waco at the Convention Center, 100 Washington Ave.

Demonstrators: The lead demonstrators will be: Beth Irland, Sammy Long, Jason Breech, Kurt Hirtzon, Stewart Batty, Laurant Nicolot, and Kirk DeHeer. We encourage you to search YouTube for their videos.

There will be Ornamental Turners represented this year (Rose Engine Lathe)

Raffle: The 3-for-1 Raffle this year will offer an American Beauty lathe as the grand prize as well as three Jet 12-21's along with other good prizes.

Hotels: SWAT has coordinated special rates of \$170/night for a block of rooms at two hotels adjacent to the convention center: Hilton and Courtyard by Marriott. Breakfast is included at both of these hotels. Registration at these hotels will also open on March 4th.

Check out SWATS website at www.swaturners.org for links to the hotels as well as other information.

What is so special about woodturning?

(from www.swaturners.org)

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.

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Who's on Board

Serving the Hunt County Woodturners for 2024 are:

Brian Livingston, President

Alain Schwarz, Vice-President

Burt Andrew, Secretary

Mark Spencer, Treasurer

Howard Wellspring, Technology Officer

Rod Brumlow, 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.