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NEWSLETTER November 2026

"The MakerBarn is a member-driven family-friendly makerspace that exists to provide a place for our members to envision, design, and realize creative projects. We are dedicated to building a creative maker community among our membership and the community at large."

The New MakerBarn – Progress Update



We've got some exciting news to share! After a lengthy process, we've FINALLY received bank approval for $730,000 in financing for our new MakerBarn buildintg! We've also come to terms with our current landlord to extend our lease through June 30, 2027. This gives us some much-needed breathing room and, more importantly, the opportunity to complete much of the build-out ourselves while keeping The MakerBarn operational. Our plan is to move into the new facility in stages, allowing us to keep the doors open and minimize disruption to members throughout the transition.

So, what's next? We're currently waiting on the necessary permits from the county before we can move forward with construction. Our engineers have submitted the site plans, and we're hopeful that we'll have some answers sometime in November. We know everyone is anxious to see dirt moving and walls going up (we are too!), but there are still a few hoops to jump through before that can happen. We're making progress, and we'll keep you posted as we reach each new milestone. The dream of a permanent MakerBarn is getting closer!



Kathy Barbieri
President

An Acrylic Engraving Trick



Acrylic is one of my favorite materials to cut and engrave with the laser. It cuts leaving smooth polished edges and engraves very well. One problem with engraving is the hot fumes coming off the engraving stick to the material around the engraving making a fog around the engraved area. It is very hard to remove. One way to get around this problem is to leave the protective film or paper on the acrylic before engraving. This means that after engraving, you must remove every tiny piece of film or paper from the engraved area. What a pain.

Here's a solution that will save you a lot of time and aggravation and will leave a beautiful image. First remove all the protective film or paper from the acrylic. The coat the top of the acrylic with Dawn or another liquid dish soap. Just wipe it on with a paper towel and make sure the entire surface is coated. Then engrave and cut the piece as you normally would.



After engraving, wash the soap off with water scrubbing the engraved area with a soft toothbrush. Blow the water off with compressed air and you are done. If you wish to fill the engraving use Lacquer Stik fill in paint. Lacquer Stick is almost like a crayon. Work it into the engraving then wipe the excess away with a paper towel. You can get Lacquer Stik in several colors on Amazon. The MACS in the photo was engraved and filled at least six years ago. The Lacquer Stik is very durable.



This process also works well on Romark type two-color plastic. This is the plastic material used for name badges and name tags on desks and doors.

George M Carlson

Are you Manager Material?

The MakerBarn runs on volunteers. If you have been an active member for two months or more, we would like you to consider becoming a Shop MakerBarn Manager.
MakerBarn Managers work 3-4 hour shifts during which they supervise the general operation of the Shop keeping a close eye on safety and noting any maintenance issues that arise. They also devote a fair amount of time to general cleaning of the shop floor and emptying the dust collection and trash systems. They give prospective members tours and update MACS access cards as needed for members.
Oh, and they enjoy 24/7 access to the Shop!
If the Shop manager role sounds interesting to you, contact Jim Barron via Slack. Thanks!

MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!



Charlie Lindahl made coffee cup with Dye Sublimation. He bought the cups at Michaels for $15/6.



Colleen Helz made this glass fusion nightlight.

MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!





David Hawa made a wooden wall-mounted fish tank with LED lighting for the fish sculptures that he purchased from an artist in Galveston.

MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!

David Wogh did his first CNC project. It is a maple fingerboard for an upright double bass. He says, it was very exciting to finally get to use the CNC to make a custom part. David thanks Joe Foster for his help and “vast amounts of patience”.





MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!

Jeff Rollins made a small rustic bench (40 x 16 x 18h) to match an existing dinner table. He drew up the plans in Lightburn, cut the legs on the CNC and used dowel and mortise/tenon joinery. Made from Cherry. Finished with Rubio Monocoat.



MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!







Jerry Beaver made a sublimation printed golf shirt, and a custom cycling jersey.

MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!

JoAnn Monette made "clappers" for her fellow quiters. She thanks shop manager KC for the wood working and her friend Sheri for the laser printing. They were well-received at our recent quilt retreat.

(Ed Note: a quilter's clapper is a solid, unfinished hardwood tool (typically made of oak, maple, or beech) used to set and flatten fabric seams)



MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!





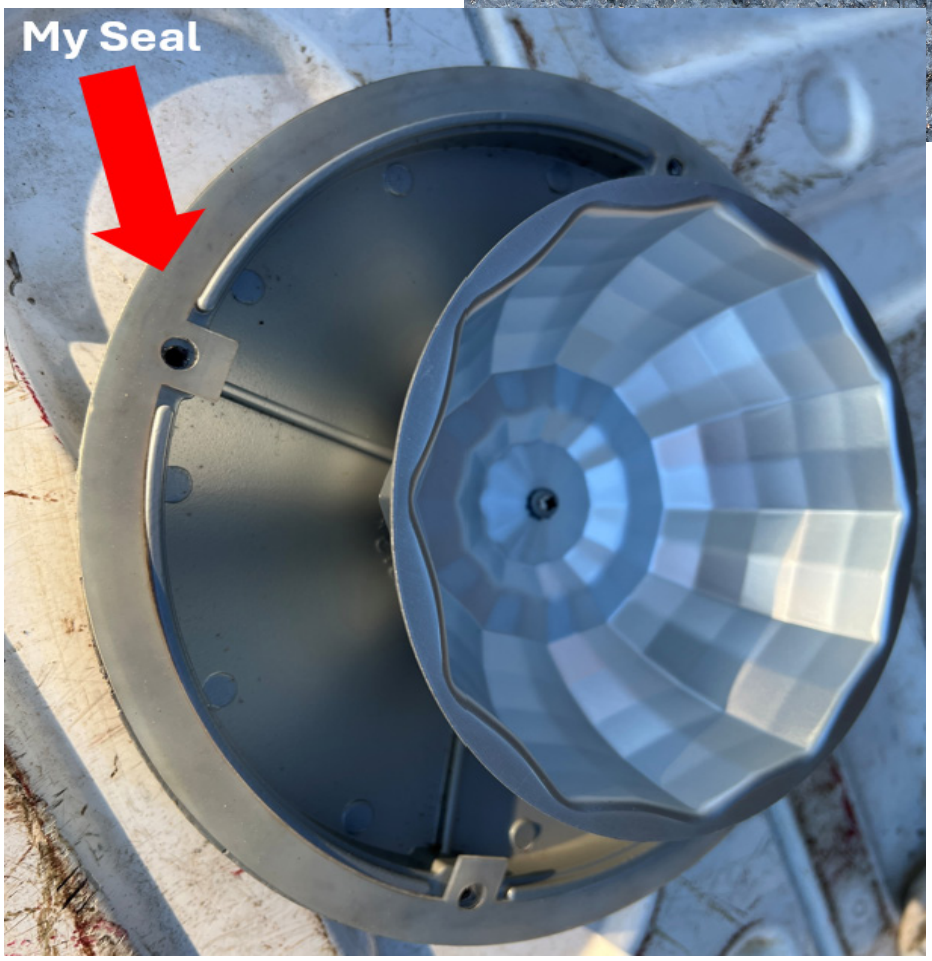


Joe Foster made a mud kitchen for the young students at Pines Montessori. Inspired by his teacher friend, it gives children a place to use mud and natural materials to create pies, cakes, and whatever their imagination dreams up. The entire structure is made from repurposed shipping pallets. Joe designed the mud kitchen in Fusion 360 and cut the components in the shop. The laser handled all the screw shank holes, pilot holes, and even the bowl cavity. A bit of trivia - in total, the mud kitchen uses 252 screws.

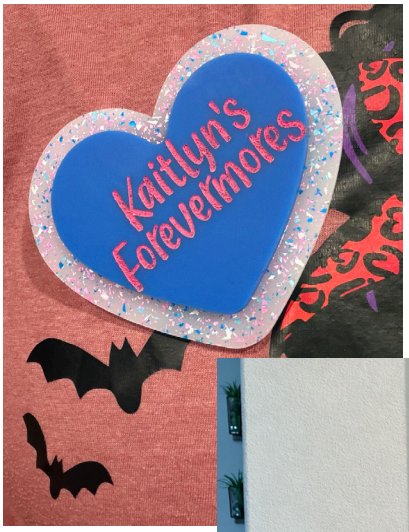
MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!

Joe Foster repaired 40 very old bollard lights at his church. Several of the fixtures leak, causing them to fill with water. Since the original seals are no longer available, I made replacements using the MakerBarn lasers. The new seals are cut from 100% silicone sheet material that I purchased on Amazon.





MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!







Stephanie Hohenschutz made acrylic pins for a coworker to honor her daughter at the American Heart Walk

Stephanie Hohenschutz used the laser to cut out acrylic pieces for this Girl Scout troop sign and to make a few quick Girl Scout SWAPs.

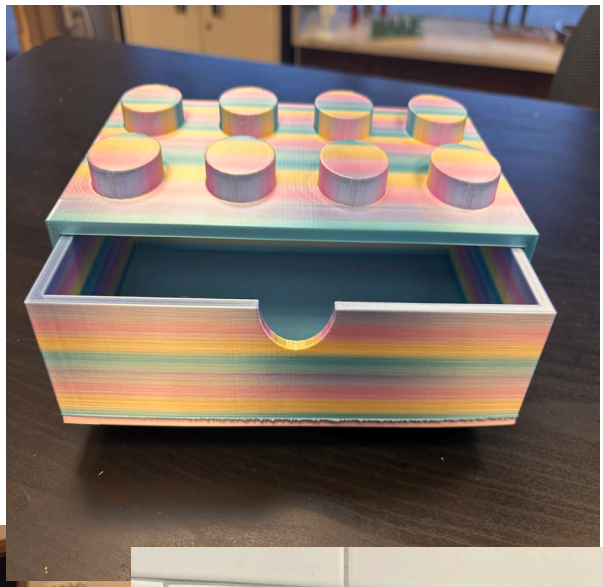
(Ed Note: In Girl Scouts, SWAPS stand for Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere)



MADE AT THE MAKERBARN!

Yordi Quiroz Gil has been busy making 3d prints which include; Funtional Rose lamp, Spooky tea lamp, Lego box set, Decorative tower, Pumpkin tea light, Ghost tea light and Toy spaceship

















Meet the Area Managers



WOODWORKING
Mark Bush is area manager of woodworking. Contact him via SLACK.



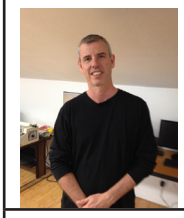
LASER PRINTING
Greg Radliff is an artist and expert at using Laser Cutter and Engravers. Greg can show you the LightBurn software we use and can check you out for use of the Laser printers in the Lab. Contact him via SLACK



METALWORKING
Bryan Manka is area manager for metalworking which includes the metal mill and the metal lathe at the Barn. He can check you out for use of either of these machines. Contact him via SLACK.



3D PRINTING
Jody Cochran is a graphic artist with deep experience in 3D printing and other graphics tools. Jody can show you slicer and other software used with the 3D printers. Contact him via SLACK.



ELECTRONICS
Raul Garcia is area manager for electronics. More of a fixer than designer, but willing to help and learn together. See Raul for anything related to microcontrollers, electronic devices or other electronics related projects. Contact him via SLACK.



CERAMICS
Lisa Lane is area manager for ceramics. Contact her via SLACK.



WELDING
Joe Foster is area manager for welding. Contact him via SLACK.

CNC MACHINING
Doug Baugher is area manager for CNC. Contact him via SLACK.

For New Members

WELCOME to the wonderful world of making!! We know you will come to love this place as much as we do.
First and foremost, this place is about the people. We would like to encourage you to see yourself as more than just a member. We are a community. Because we don't have any employees, we rely heavily on our community to keep things running. So please join in, pitch in, and get involved. Ask lots of questions. We are a really friendly group and love to help one another. The MakerBarn is a fantastic community of makers and we are glad you are here!



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MakerBarn Directors:
George Carlson, Director
Jeanie James, Director
Greg Radliff, Director

Executive Committee:
Kathy Barbieri - President
Jody Cochran - Secretary
Raul Garcia - Treasurer
Joe Foster - Membership
Matt Folsom - IT
Mark Bush - Member at Large
Lisa Lane - Member at Large
Joe Foster - Member at Large
John Buckley - Newsletter Editor

Area Leaders:
Woodworking - Mark Bush
Lasers - Greg Radliff
3D Printing - Jody Cochran
Metalworking - Doug Baugher
Electronics - Raul Garcia
Welding - Joe Foster
Ceramics -Lisa Lane

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