



NEWSLETTER

June 2023

"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."



Come Celebrate Our 7th Anniversary!

Come see what all the fuss is about! Our doors will be open to the public from 10am to 2pm on Saturday, June 3rd in celebration of our 7th anniversary. We'll have demos, tours, food and fun!

Celebrate 7 years with us this Saturday, June 3rd!

Don't forget to come to the 7th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, 10 AM to 2 PM. It's hard to believe that we have gone from a small group to the second largest makerspace in Houston in just seven years. And, we had fun doing it!

Saturday will be a good chance to get together and meet some of the members you haven't met before. Also, we will have many visitors that have not seen our makerspace. We can show them around the space and share some of the projects that have been made at the "Barn". If you have some things you have made, bring them in, others may want to see them. We will have some demonstrations and how-to's going on. Also, some food catered from Chick-Fil-A and the Kona shaved ice man. It should be fun.

Lisa Lane has been working on getting our **ceramics program** under way. The plan is to have a pour night where members can get together and pour slip into a mold and make a hollow ceramic figure. The pour night will be June 27th at 7:00pm.

And we now have the coolest wood shop around. Thanks to the **two new A/C units installed**.

This gives us a total of nine tons of coolness in the shop. The new mini-splits are also heat-pumps, so that will help when winter arrives.

We will be having some other learning events coming up such as a class on using the tiny XIAO-ESP32-C3 computer as a web server, What makes a vacuum tube work, Ceramics, and other interesting topics.

See you Saturday!

George Carlson
President, Maker Barn



Who are these
brave and fearless
MB members?
Don't forget to
thank them for
keeping us cool this
summer!



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!

Introducing... CERAMICS! June 20, 7 PM



We kicked off the Maker Barn Ceramics program with our first Ceramics Interest Group Meeting in May. The team is working to organize our ceramics shop so we can start making! If you have an interest in ceramics and would like to help, please contact **Lisa Lane** via Slack or email MakerBarnCeramics@gmail.com. The more help we get the faster the program will be available to the general membership. This is your opportunity to be on the ground floor of the **Maker Barn Ceramics Program!**

Do you want to learn more about making ceramics?

Join us for our first **Pour Night at the Maker Barn on Tuesday, June 20th at 7:00PM**. We will learn about how to pour ceramic molds and create greenware objects that can be fired to glaze and paint.

This is a free event for all Maker Barn Members, but your RSVP is needed by 6/16/23, to ensure adequate supplies are available. RSVP using <https://forms.gle/E51Mb4n7mE5pQTVs7>.

Join the Ceramics channel on slack for updated information, tips and tutorials!

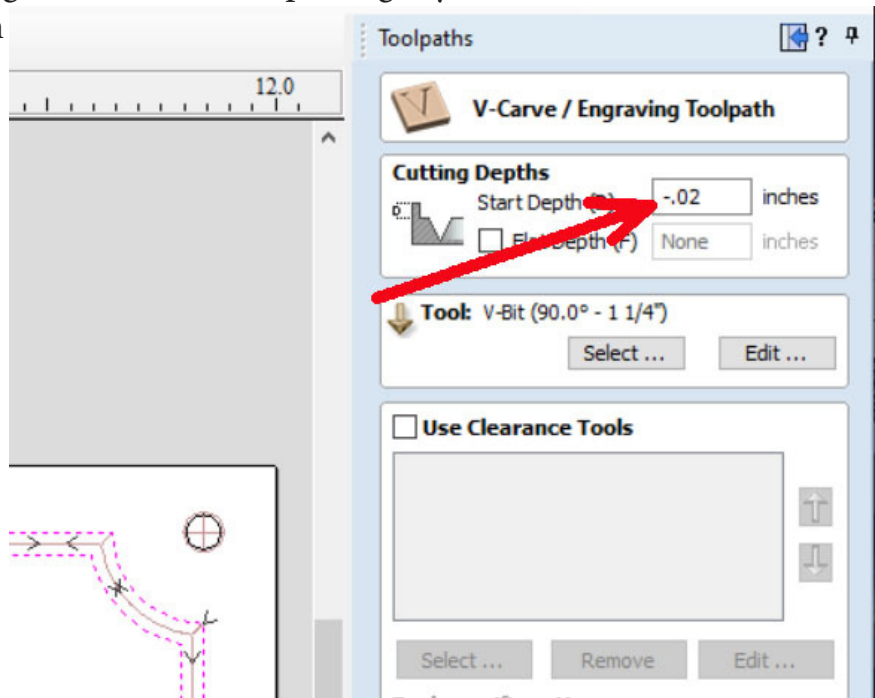


Making Engraved and Color Filled Wooden Engraved Signs

Making engraved and color filled wooden signs is easy with V-Carve. Here's a few tips to make it even easier.

Step 1. Plane the board to make sure it is flat.

Step 2. When you V-Carve the sign, set the Start Depth slightly below the surface, I use -.02. Be sure to use the minus sign to indicate below the surface, not above. This preserves the detail areas after final planing.



Step 3. After engraving, seal the wood with a clear finish. Spray lacquer, shellac, or Seal Coat works well. Use at least two coats to make sure the grain is well sealed.

Step 4. Use blue tape to cover the edges of the board, then use spray paint to paint over and color the engraved areas. With masking, multiple colors can be used. At this point, the face of the sign is completely covered with paint.

Step 5. After the paint completely dries, run the board through the planer taking a very light cut off the top. In this case, about 0.02. This removes the unwanted paint and leaves a perfect paint fill in the engraved areas. If a good sealing was done, there will be no unwanted paint streaks in the grain.



Hands on Welding Class Continues!

We are offering MIG Steel, TIG Steel, and TIG-Aluminum basic hands-on training at no cost to the student (the student is responsible for metal costs paid to The Makerbarn). By the time you are finished you will be able to do a bead, butt, T, horizontal, and vertical welds. Each student receives one-on-one training, 2 hours a week for up to 4 weeks. The training does include suggested reading material which is provided at the beginning of the hands-on training.

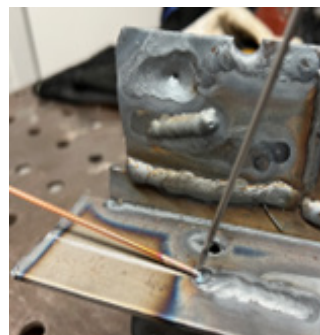
The great news is that The Makerbarn is a low-pressure learning environment, so whether you are having a good day or not such a good day (see photos below) you still can have fun learning. The first photo is a student getting ready to MIG weld a T joint. The second is a very nice MIG T weld, and finally the last photo is a TIG bead that ended with the tungsten welded to the material (not intentional nor desirable).



Ready, Set, Go



A Good Day



Not Such a Good Day

To date, we have had 4 students complete the hands-on training. “Complete” generally means they can weld better than the instructor (!). We currently have 4 students in training, and 7 students on the wait list. If there are others that would like to help with the hands-on training, please reach out to me via Slack.

Learning is generally done welding 6” pieces of material in every imaginable way possible. The results are small pieces of art (see below). Graduating students are encouraged to take their artwork with them at the completion of the hands-on training.

Hope to see you welding,
Joe Foster
Area Manger Welding
The MakerBarn

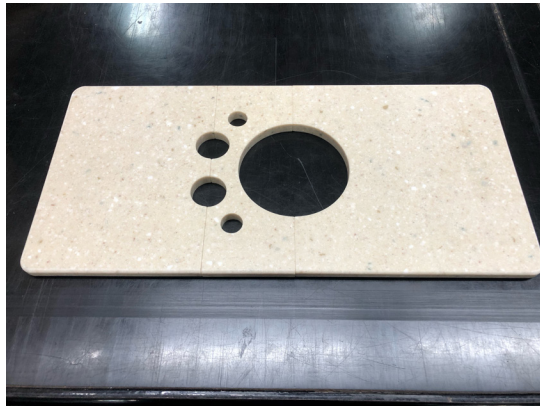


Practice, Practice, and More Practice!

MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Calvin made a Critter Control Collar to snug up around utility connections which pass through the basement floor of his RV. This allows him and his family to just say “No” to pests!

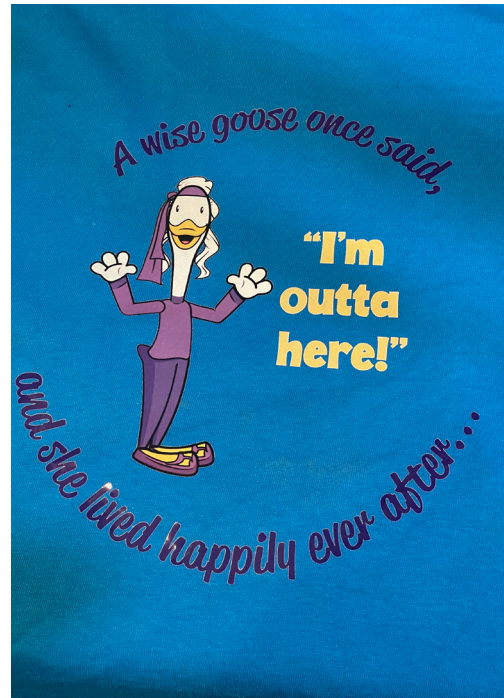
This project is made of Corian, which is perfect for wet environments. It was cut out on the CNC router. The router table with a round over bit was used to put the fillet on the edges. The Bridgeport mill was used to locate, drill, and set the alignment pins.



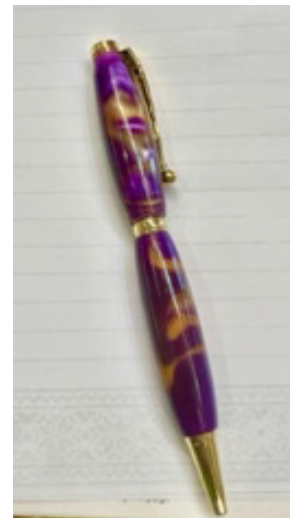
Lane Ohlemeier made four of these chair bottoms for a friend.

MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Krista Young made a t-shirt with a white ink printer transfer she bought on Etsy and ironed it on using the MakerBarn t-shirt press. She “stole” the sayings from the internet and modified as needed. This will be her retirement t-shirt to wear to her retirement party. :)



Colleen Helz made a pen



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Robert Wozniewicz says, “You’ve heard of Rolex? These are my version - RolTex- ‘cause everything is bigger in Texas!”

These watchbands are made from a variety of domestic and exotic hardwoods. Each wristwatch measures approximately 15 inches in length the band is 1 5/8 wide and the main clock body is 3 x 4 1/2.



Members, please remember!!

Members - PLEASE remember to clean up after using any equipment in the Shop or the Lab. Pictured here is equipment that was NOT left in acceptable condition.

Also, if you leave anything in the Shop or Lab you MUST label it with your name, date and when you will be returning to pick it up.



Items left without ID may be moved or disposed of at the manager's discretion!!

Meet The Area Managers

	<p><u>WOODWORKING & CNC</u></p> <p>Jim Barron has lots of experience with woodworking and CNC. He holds occasional CNC classes that demonstrate the Vectric VCarve Pro software we use. Jim can check you out on woodworking and CNC tools at the Barn. Contact him via SLACK.</p>
	<p><u>LASER PRINTING</u></p> <p>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</p>
	<p><u>3D PRINTING</u></p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><u>METALWORKING</u></p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><u>ELECTRONICS</u></p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><u>WELDING</u></p> <p>Joe Foster is area manager for welding.</p>

For New Members

WELCOME to the wonderful world of making!! We know you'll 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!



Maker Barn: The Shop & The Lab

28030 FM 2978, Suites 201, 202, 203 & 204, Magnolia 77354

Phone: 832-663-6390

MakerBarn Directors:

George Carlson, Director and President

Jeanie James, Director

Greg Radliff, Director

Executive Committee:

Kathy Barbieri - Procurement and Acquisitions

Jody Cochran - Secretary

Raul Garcia - Member at Large

Jim Barron - Membership

Matt Folsom - IT

Doug Green - Web Site

Ashley Dickson - Member at Large

John Buckley - Newsletter Editor

Area Managers: (Guru or Custodian)

Woodworking - Jim Baron

Lasers - Greg Radliff

3D Printing - Jody Cochran

Metalworking - Bryan Manka

Electronics - Raul Garcia

Welding - Joe Foster

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