



# NEWSLETTER

## November 2023

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*"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."*

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## Gratitude in Action: Thankful for Our MakerBarn Members

It's November and the holidays are fast approaching. I've been thinking about gratefulness. In the realm of non-profit organizations, the heart and soul lies within its dedicated members. These individuals commit their time, energy, and passion to make a meaningful difference in large and small ways.

**Passion and Dedication:** Your dedication is the driving force behind the MakerBarn's impact. Your countless hours of volunteer work and enthusiasm and tireless efforts inspire others.

**Unwavering Support:** Your willingness to go the extra mile, whether through financial contributions, advocacy, or lending a helping hand, embodies the essence of true teamwork.

**Innovative Solutions:** Our members bring diverse perspectives and expertise to the table. Your unique backgrounds and experiences enable us to approach problems from various angles.



**Community Builders:** Members have a profound impact on the community at large. Many of you have made and donated projects to your neighborhoods. You have organized a Pinewood Derby Night for your kid's cub scout troop. From time to time, we get requests from people in the area to use a specific piece of equipment. Some managers, if the request is reasonable, invite them in as their guest and work with them to help with the project. Many stories like these you never learn about.

Your involvement helps build a sense of togetherness and shared purpose, creating a stronger, more compassionate society, both in the MakerBarn and in the community at large.

**Leadership and Mentorship:** Many members are not only contributors but also natural leaders and mentors. They guide and mentor newer members, imparting wisdom and insight from their

*(Continued from page 1...)*

experiences. Their leadership is instrumental in nurturing a supportive and productive environment within the MakerBarn.

**Inspiration:** Last but certainly not least, our members are a constant source of inspiration.

Your stories, your dedication, and your accomplishments remind us daily of the positive impact that one person can make in the world.

Being grateful is not just about saying “thank you”; but also about feeling a deep sense of appreciation for the people, experiences, and opportunities that enrich our lives. It’s a practice that can bring joy and fulfillment, reminding us that the more we acknowledge our blessings, the more reasons we find to be grateful.

**Kathy Barberi**  
President, MakerBarn



## *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!

## Paint, Glaze & Pour! Join MakerBarn Ceramics

The Ceramics program is kicking into full swing! We just had our first wheel orientation and are ready to get some more members trained! Members interested in any aspect of the ceramics program, need to first complete the general orientation Pour Night. After that is a Paint & Glaze Orientation and if interested, opportunities to learn more about throwing on the wheel and hand building.

Most classes are geared for our adult members (18+.) We welcome the children of Maker Barn families to be involved in the ceramics program, but ask that the parents go through the group training/orientation and then share the art of ceramics with their children. We will have a basic hand building demonstration for families, where techniques like pinch pots and coil pots will be presented. This will be open to Maker Barn Families, but at least one adult must have completed the General Orientation Pour Night.

Below is the tentative training calendar for the fall. Please plan strategically, as the General Orientation Pour Night and the Paint & Glaze training need to be completed before any of the other classes.



11/2/23	Thursday	7:00PM-9:00PM	Wheel	Completed Pour Night & Paint/Glaze Adults
11/6/23	Monday	7:00PM-9:00PM	Slab Building	Completed Pour Night & Paint/Glaze, Adults
12/2/23	Saturday	9:30AM-11:00AM	Pinch Pots & Coil Pots	MB Families, at least 1 parent Completed Pour Night & Paint/Glaze, 2:1 Adult:Child ratio

If you are interested in the ceramics program at the Maker Barn, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/uwCXZwiWCpKso2tX7>.

To sign up for classes, see this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044AAAAA2AA57-44723382-maker>.

Note that times and dates are subject to change. Lisa Lane and Savannah Goulait are contacts on Slack.

## Laser SIG Begins...



Our area manager of Laser Printing, Greg Radliff will host a Laser SIG (special interest group) to begin meeting at the Lab **on the 4th Thursday of the month.**

Anyone interested in talking about and sharing tips and tricks on laser cutters is welcome. Bring your projects for show and tell.

The next gathering will be November 23rd at 7:00pm until the discussions end.



## Welding Instructors Wanted

Great news!

Welding classes at the MakerBarn have started up again (4 lucky students are in training now).

Unfortunately, we are no longer taking additional students due to the long wait list. Over the next 4-5 months the back log should be resolved (so if you are on the wait list please be patient). If you wish to help your fellow maker learn a new skill, we would love a 2nd (or 3rd) welding instructor. I think you will find teaching your fellow makers fun and rewarding. If you are interested in teaching, please contact Joe Foster.

## Model Trains and MakerBarn

Model trains and The MakerBarn are just made for each other. The hobby requires all sorts of skills to bring the trains to life and at least six members of MakerBarn use our tools and community to build model train layouts all over the Houston area. Some of our model train members are Michael McCrae, Mark Herzog, Barry Bogs, Rick Pomeroy, Joe Reed, Mike Durham and John Buckley.

Do you like model trains? Well, you are in luck! November is the annual model train Fall Layout Tour in Houston when nearly 60 model train layouts are made available for viewing. Most of these layouts are built in private homes so this is often the only time the general public can view and enjoy them. There are three model train layouts where MakerBarn members apply their skills. Here are the Layout Tour details for each of them:

### CONROE:



**All Points North Model Railroad** will hold open house on Saturday November 11, 10 AM -6 PM and Sunday November 12 Noon - 5 PM. The club is housed in a 5000 square foot clubhouse at 611 S Magnolia Dr. A model train can take up to 45 minutes to traverse the entire layout!

<http://apnmrr.org/>

### TOMBALL:



**The Golden~Blackhawk & Central City Model Railroad** is open every Saturday from 10 AM until 2 PM in the Tomball Train Depot at 201 S Elm Street in Tomball, Texas. At 160 square feet this Z scale model railroad is one of the largest of its kind in the world. <https://mrdavez.com>

### SPRING:



**The Colorado and Western Model Railroad** will hold open house on Saturday and Sunday November 11 & 12 from 1-6 PM. Located at 8202 Pine Thistle Lane in Spring, TX this G scale model railroad is the work of Barry Bogs over many years of scratch building. <http://cwrr.org/>

For information about all the model train layout open houses in Houston this year visit <https://sanjacmodeltrains.org/Fall-Layout-Tour.html>

# Fusion Class Begins Again Next Year

Fusion 360 for beginners will graduate it's first class this month on November 13th.



Eleven students have enjoyed learning this very popular but complex 3D software program. With Fusion 360, you can make your very own .stl files for use with our 3D printers. No more scouring Thingiverse and Printables for that special 3D object - now you can make your very own!

As one student said, *“This class has been incredible! These basics answer so many questions as to why my previous work with Fusion 360 was so hard. It will be exponentially quicker because of this class. Thank you.”*

There are plans to restart the beginner class in January next year and there is a possibility of having an intermediate class if instructors can be found.

Contact John Buckley or use the Fusion Channel on Slack if interested.



## ***MADE AT MAKERBARN!***

**Colleen Helz** made candle sticks and votive holders from Claro walnut. She used wood lathe, drill press and edge sander.



## ***MADE AT MAKERBARN!***

**David Grimmer** repurposed 3 doors from an old China Hutch to be the frames for a print of the Eiffel Tower (taken in 2022). The prints are 36” tall and were printed on the Barn’s Epson Stylus Pro 7880 24” wide photo printer.





## ***MADE AT MAKERBARN!***

**George M Carlson and Kevin Laird** made some folding shelves for the learning center. They will be used to store the computers when non-computer classes are being held.



**Joe Foster** made a riser for those that would like a higher vantage point while welding (our welding table height is not adjustable). It is a repurposed snack box pallet. He will keep it stuffed in corner in the welding area, unless the snack person wants it back! :-)

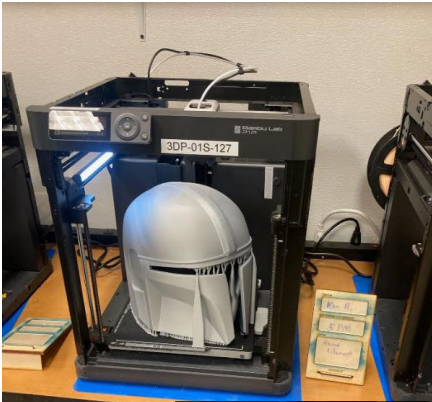
# MADE AT MAKERBARN!

**Joe Foster** made a wood calendar for a teacher in his apartment building. She brought it to school and it was so popular they want 4 more that size and 3 more larger ones. He engraved everything using Thing 1. The challenge for the next batch of calendars is to optimize laser and labor time (both were too long on the first calendar).



Many thanks to **Robert Reno** and **Kathy Barbieri** for making blank tea candle holders for our friends at YMCA BrightLife special needs group. These will be painted and sold by BrightLife at an upcoming art sale. If you would like to join us in making “blanks” for the BrightLife folks to decorate and sell, contact John Buckley on Slack.

# MADE AT MAKERBARN!



**Ken Heiman** made a wearable Mandalorian helmet for his brother's Halloween costume. Printed in one shot (16 hours) on the Bambu P1P at the barn.



# MADE AT MAKERBARN!



**Robert Wozniewicz** got an early jump on Christmas gifts. He made weather stations with working instruments-including a Galileo thermometer. He used a variety of wood types and made use of just about every woodworking tool in the Shop!

## MADE AT MAKERBARN!

**Rod Garza** made an End Grain Cutting Board as a retirement Gift from Bar-S Foods. Material used includes Walnut, Maple, & Paduk. Size 18x12, inlay was cut on CNC, using a 4.8 degree ball nose bit, capture details.



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**Joe Foster** made a Grinder Rack - his very first Plasma CNC project. It's a 3 grinder holder replacing the two grinder holder that was in the welding area. He cut it with the Plasma CNC and then bent/folded it into shape using the brake in the sheet metal area. He used Fusion 360 for the complete Plasma CNC flow.



# MADE AT MAKERBARN!

**Alison Cozad** make “Bats in Flight” against a golden moon, laser-cut and engraved from 3mm wool felt. The pungent scent of burning wool filled the air during lasing, a challenge that her fellow makers at MakerBarn tolerated with grace. The trickiest part was finding how to hang them on the brick wall. For this, she used 3D-printed brick clips (see pic) to hang each item individually on the fireplace.



## 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.

# 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  
Jim Barron - Membership  
Matt Folsom - IT  
Doug Green - Web Site  
Ashley Dickson - Member at Large  
Hamilton Alexandre  
John Buckley - Newsletter Editor

### Area Managers: (Guru or Custodian):

Woodworking - Mark Bush  
Lasers - Greg Radliff  
3D Printing - Jody Cochran  
Metalworking - Bryan Manka  
Electronics - Raul Garcia  
Welding - Joe Foster  
Ceramics - Lisa Lane

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