



NEWSLETTER

February 2024

"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."

Who runs MakerBarn?

As we begin 2024 we have lots of things going on at the Barn, but I thought I'd take a quick time out this month and answer a common question - who is the Executive Committee of The MakerBarn?

The executive committee of any organization plays a crucial role in the governance and decision-making processes. It is typically composed of key executives, senior leaders, or board members, and its primary function is to provide leadership, strategic direction, and oversight to ensure the effective operation of the organization. The Board of Directors set up the structure and responsibilities of the MakerBarn by using our by-laws and 501c3 formation as a guideline. Here at the MakerBarn, the executive committee is the body of volunteers who set the path for the MakerBarn. We currently have 13 members on the committee, 3 of which comprise the Board of Directors. Some of us have specific titles like president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary. Many are "At-Large" members who bring their knowledge and expertise to the committee in a multitude of ways.



Raul Garcia is our VP/Treasurer and brings his business acumen and high productivity to every task he takes on. He is the point of contact for the waitlist, new member invitations and all that membership entails. He is Mr. Fix-It. He is also a floating manager.

Jody Cochran is our Secretary/Clerk. He attends all the meetings and types up the meeting minutes in a live-stream method. He has got the fastest hands in the west and usually gets the meeting minutes out to us just moments after the meeting adjourns. He is a floating manager, as well.

John Buckley has worn many hats on the committee. He has been President, VP, and Manager of Managers (M.O.M). He currently gathers articles and photos and compiles our monthly newsletter that shows off what each of you have made at the MakerBarn. He is the regular Friday afternoon manager.

Jim Barron is currently M.O.M (Manager of Managers). He keeps up with training new managers and seeking out floating managers who would be a good fit at the Shop. He also fills in as a floating manager. He is the trainer of the Vectric V-Carve software we use for the CNC router in the Shop.

Greg Radliff is a Director and founding member. He is also a wizard with the laser engravers, 3D printers, and vinyl cutting. He dedicates almost every Thursday afternoon (2:00-5:00pm) to being at the Lab for members to pop in and get checked out on the equipment or give orientations or to offer help in whatever capacity he can in the Lab.

Matt Folsom is our tech guru. He has run cables through the ceilings, helped set up camera systems, and is currently working on upgrading the NAS (Network-Attached Storage) device. He is also a floating manager.

Ed Fraini has been M.O.M. He is currently a floating manager. He has a special fondness for metal working and the metal shop.

Lisa Lane is our Ceramics Manager. She has set up the training and orientation for members to learn the correct materials and best practices with our various styles of ceramics on offer. She and one other ceramics expert are the only two who load/unload and run the kiln.

Ashley Dickson is a mechanical engineer with an MBA. She offers great insight into lathe work and crafting at the Lab. She brings her family business experience and entrepreneurial spirit to the committee.

Mark Bush is the Shop Manager. He has been instrumental in keeping the equipment properly maintained and keeping the Shop in great shape. He is also the regular Thursday evening manager.

Jeanie James is a Director and founding member. She was a jack of all trades when we were in our first location at the actual Barn. Her entrepreneurial endeavors keep her busy elsewhere these days.

George Carlson is a Director and founding member. He is the most recent President and current “Parliamentarian” on the committee. That means we still get his valuable insight, but he gets relieved of some of the mundane tasks of running the show.

These are the people who make up the executive committee at this moment in time. As

Laser SIG



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 February 22nd at 7:00pm until the discussions end.

CNC Training

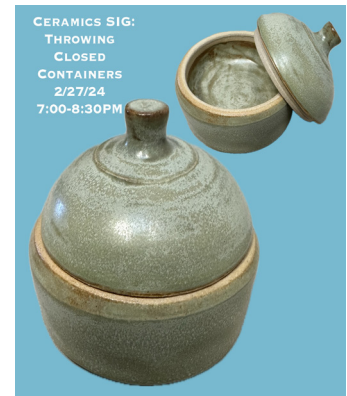
Congratulations to MakerBarn members David Long, Jody Cochran, Gary Alose and John Buckley who recently completed the 3 day ACE CNC training program using Fusion 360 software. This is a federally funded program made available through Texas A&M and various CNC machine tool vendors. In our area Dan Robles of Champions CNC, who is also a MakerBarn member, taught the course and guided our members in the creation of an air piston engine using high end Haas CNC mills and lathes. The 3 day hands on training follows 25+ hours of online instruction and several applications for admission.



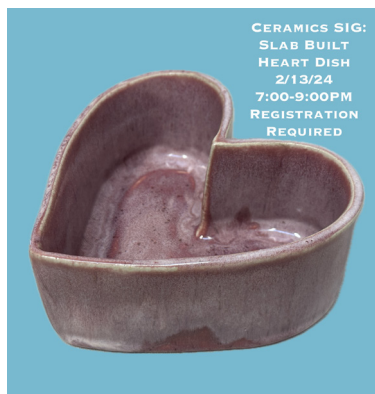
If you are interested in the program contact Gary Alose or John Buckley on MB SLACK CNC channel.

Ceramics SIG for Valentine's!

Join the Ceramics SIG on February 13th, for a Valentine's themed project!. Come make a slab built heart dish, using the slab roller. A pattern will be provided to all clay-trained and registered participants. Please see the calendar below for additional SIG dates and for the registration link.



On February 27th, the SIG will focus on how to make closed forms on the wheel. From covered jewelry dishes to teapots and bells, the possibilities are endless once you learn how to make a closed container.



Those interested in learning more about the ceramics program are invited to attend the Ceramics SIG as an observer, space permitting. Please contact Lisa Lane via slack for more details and to get on the list. If you are interested in the ceramics program at the Maker Barn, please complete this form:

<https://forms.gle/uwCXZwiWCpKso2tX7>

Are you looking for help with a ceramics project or seeking additional training? Lisa is available in the Ceramics Center most Mondays from approximately 10:00AM-1:00PM, working on personal projects. Bring your questions and join her in the lab.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>ELIGIBILITY</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>REGISTRATION</u>
2/13/24	Tuesday	7-9 PM	Ceramics SIG Slab Building	MB Members who have completed the General Ceramics Orientation	Slab Roller demonstration and a Slab Built Project; supplies required. 14/14 seats available	See Slack and Email
2/27/24	Tuesday	7-9 PM	Ceramics SIG Slab Building	MB Members who have completed the General Ceramics Orientation	Demonstration of how to throw closed forms, like jewelry dishes, tea pots, bells, and Christmas trees. 12/12 seats available	See Slack and Email
3/19/24	Tuesday	7-9 PM	Ceramics SIG Slab Building	MB Members who have completed the General Ceramics Orientation	Demonstration of various techniques; Participants encouraged to bring any bisqueware, paints and glazes they are working on. 15/15 seats available	See Slack and Email

Embroidery Class

Lane Ohlemeier conducted two embroidery classes last Saturday (he has one more scheduled for next Sat.). They made MakerBarn patches. Lane actually made the digital file himself and digitized it for use in our machine. He also did some maintenance on the machine to get it up and running properly for the classes.

Thanks Lane!



MakerBarn Policy on Commercial Products

From time to time, I get asked about members who use The MakerBarn to produce items for sale. “Are there any additional fees?” “Is there a problem if I make things to sell at a flea market?” The answer is no, we encourage entrepreneurship. But the member who is doing this should be aware that the reason they have access to the space and equipment is that the entire membership is contributing to make this possible. The equipment, supplies, and upkeep that makes The MakerBarn a pleasure to use, is only possible because of membership dues and volunteers helping with the chores.



So, if you are making things to run your business, please consider giving a bit back to The MakerBarn. Cash contributions are never turned away, but frankly, what we really need is you to share your knowledge with other members. Holding classes or workshops not only helps members learn new skills, but also helps to bring our membership closer together. Even writing a how-to article for the newsletter would be great.

Our executive committee has been doing a great job at providing the best makerspace possible yet keeping membership dues affordable. Some makerspaces charge more for members that use the space for business purposes. One makerspace in Houston charges an additional \$160 per month for business members. That’s not our mission. Our mission is to share knowledge and grow the maker community.

George Carlson
Past President, MakerBarn

MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Angie French made two pictures of some Mardi Gras figures that Dave French made for their son using the CNC machine. Angie helped to paint them.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Ashley Dickson made some ornaments for the holidays using the wood lathe in the Shop.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Brandon Newton made a movable bar setup for use at parties.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

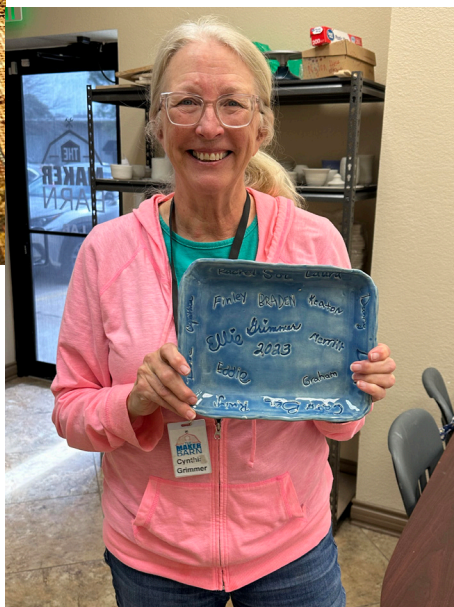
Colleen Helz made this bench with storage cubbies for their back entry way. She used Kreg jig, table saw, drum sander, and bandsaw.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!



Cynthia Grimmer used the 3D printer to create stamps of her grandchildren's signatures, that were then stamped in the clay platter. The platter was hand built using the slab roller and a simple form.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!



David Grimmer made a wooden tray in the shape of a Telecaster guitar. The wood is white oak and it came from a used stair tread. The tray was done on the CNC router.

David Grimmer and his son used the CO2 laser to create a heart shaped puzzle. Each tile in the puzzle is the same shape. These are called Einstein tiles and they form patterns that do not repeat (its a math thing)



MADE AT MAKERBARN!



Jody Cochran made a knife storage and display box at the barn for his friend.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

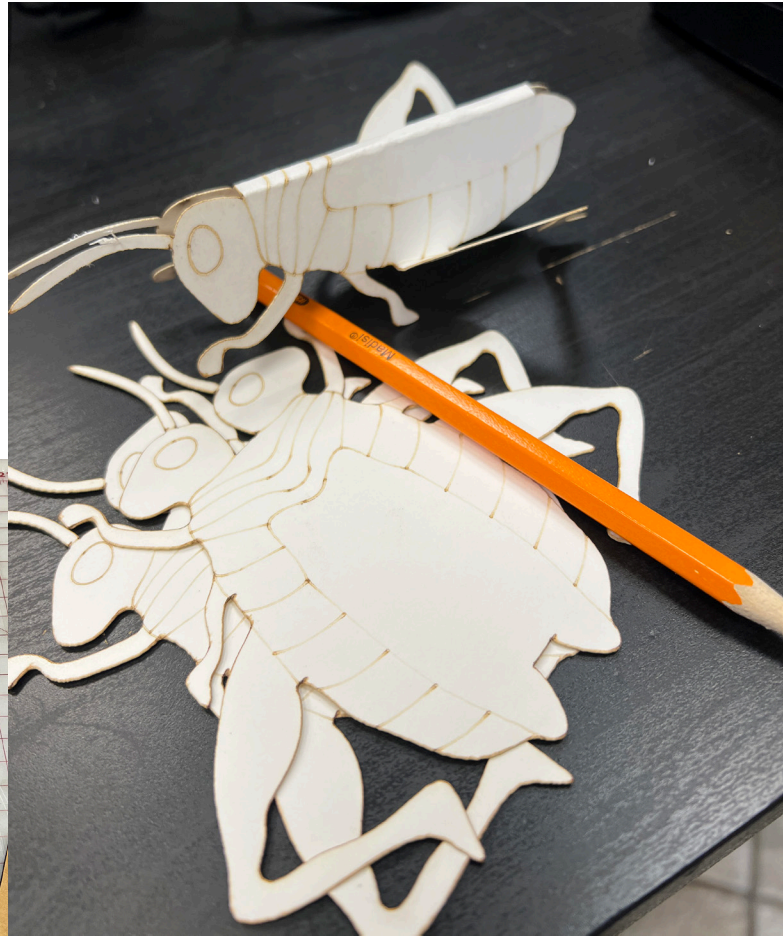
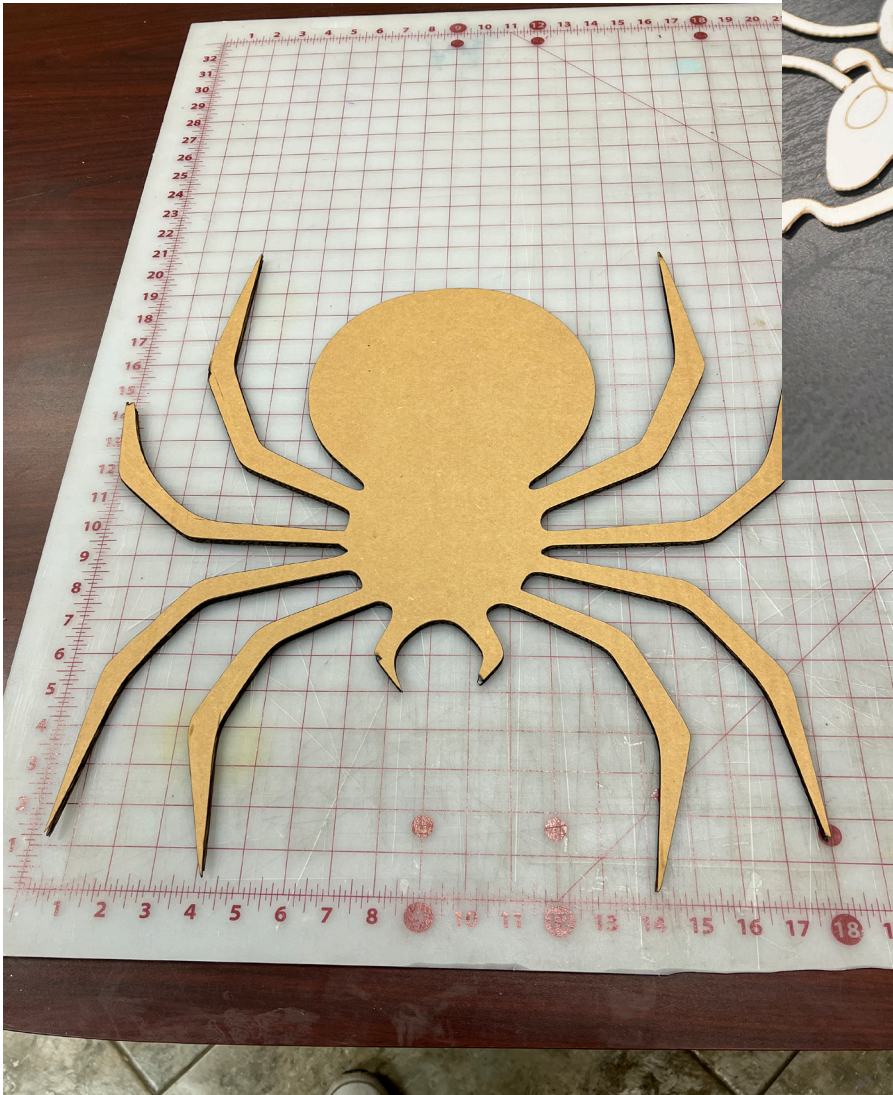
Jerrel Geisler made some late Christmas presents and some other items for family.

- a sign for abarbecue team
- a collection board for collecting TX whiskey caps.
- a plaque for commentating the first deer that shot at Thanksgiving
- a laser carved picture of Minute Maid Park.
- a laser engraved and carved shaped bats. They show the size relationship of the largest and smallest bats in the world as well as one of our local species.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Joe Foster made two pictures for a middle school teacher.. One of the pictures is a large spider cut using the laser. The second are locusts (60 of them) cut on the laser. The locusts will be colored and folded by school children during their study of insects.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Sarp Ballar made a cutting board out of walnut



George M Carlson - made a prototype of a Morse Code practice unit for teaching Morse Code at a school. He will be making fifteen units to serve the schools needs.



MADE AT MAKERBARN!

Stephanie Pan made these clay bears. They are still waiting to be fired.



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

Gary Alose is area manager for CNC metal machining. Still learning but happy to help! 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!



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
Jeanie James, Director
Greg Radliff, Director

Executive Committee:

Kathy Barbieri - President
Jody Cochran - Secretary
Raul Garcia - Treasurer
Jim Barron - Membership
Matt Folsom - IT
Ashley Dickson - Member at Large
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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