BRIDGEWIRE makerspace

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Feb 2017

BIG EVENTS

The IRS has granted us tax exempt 501(c)(3) status.

On Jan 16th we filed a 1023EZ application with the IRS asking for tax exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). True to historical timelines they granted us such status on Feb 9th. We are considered a Public Charity per 509 (a)(2). Our effective date will be Jan 16th 2016.

What does this mean to Bridgewire? Donors can now deduct contributions they make to Bridgewire under IRC section 170. Also we are qualified to receive tax deductable bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106, or 2522. We realize this may result in a flood of contributions. Please give us a little time to get our processes setup so we can handle donations properly and legally. We should have our Quickbooks accounting and forms ready by next month.

Previously, we had been covered by sharing the 501(c)(3) of School Factory from the beginning of Bridgewire. However, this was always hard for us to manage and awkward when handling donations. We formally ended this relationship effective January 31st.

We are doing public promotion and marketing. We will have a booth at the Reno Home and Garden Show on March 17th-18th. We need more volunteers to man the booth both days. Contact Lee Elliott to help. On April 12th Bridgewire will host tours for NCET. We may have anywhere from 25-75 guests. We need volunteers to run demos in some of our shops. Contact Eric Bradford to help. In addition to these events, we have opportunities at the Discovery Museum and the 4th Reno Mini Maker Faire on July8th.

THE BOARD DECISIONS

The Board has decided that the Education and Facilities Committees are not structured and empowered to operate effectively. Therefore the committees will be disbanded effective Feb 7th. In their place the Board has created two officer positions. John T. has been named the Education Officer. Also Matt Miller has been named the Facilities Officer. Each officer will have the power to implement the goals of the board within a budget without a need to review all details with the Board. This should result in more timely and efficient plans. Member participation is NOT being cut out. We recognize that Bridgewire is fundamentally a community. Each officer will continue to call meetings to solicit members' ideas and inputs.

EDUCATION HAPPENINGS

Education Officer, John T. has worked with members to create a list of classes to be scheduled on a regular basis. Starting in March, our calendar will be filled with reoccuring classes, and events. ***Please see the Calendar below***. These educational opportunities are primarily free to members with some small fees to non members. Please see the individual class for details.

If you would like to add your own class or event to the calendar, please contact John to develop and schedule your class. To help, contact John at renoscuba1@gmail.com.

New reoccuring Education classes and events:

- **Metal Shop and Welding:** Hosted and taught by Lee Elliott.
- **Soldering Class:** Hosted and taught by Matt Miller.
- **Microcontroller Presentation Night:** Hosted and taught by Thomas F.
- **Microcontroller Collaboration Night:** Hosted and taught by Thomas F.
- **Wood Shop:** Hosted and taught by Roman Hruska.
- **Inspiration Exchange and Project Ideas:**
- **FIX-IT Workshop:** Hosted and taught by Eric Bradford.

FACILITY HAPPENINGS

Facilities Officer, Matt Miller is still planning to schedule clean and organize days for specific shops and labs. If you have a special shop of interest, you will probably be contacted to help that part of Bridgewire.

What to do with the money from the sale of the CNC Wood Router. The Board has determined that we can buy kits and materials to make some new equipment. Currently the options are:

1. $3000 for a 48in x 36in Laser Cutter kit with the latest DSP controller and software. We would scavenge the laser, power supply, and cooling/ venting from the current 12in x 10in laser cutter. This kit requires assembly but very little fabrication of parts.

2. $3000 for a 98in x 50in CNC Wood Router. This would include a slider bearing and ball screw kit. This CNC router would be much more robust and easier to use than the unit we just sold off. There are several parts that require fabrication. All fab parts have been designed.

We will be contacting members soon with a survey to see which item we should pursue. These would be Member involved shop projects. If you have other uses for the money that you think the board should consider, Please contact any board member and share your thoughts.

The Safety + Hygiene Project to feed us better food while raising money for safety and janitorial needs is continuing. Money was raised and spent to completely restock our First Aid Cabinet with new supplies which meets the latest Z308.1-2015 First Aid Regulations.

Remember Prices are marked on the items. We are using the honor system. Pay for your items in the Black Box under the orange cabinets.

CLICK on Calendars to go to Bridgewire Calendar with interactive event details.

Bridgewire Calendar

March 2017

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	March 1 7 pm - 9 pm DEFCON 775	2 6 pm - 9 pm Open Space Night 6 pm - 8 pm Metal Shop and Welding	3 8 pm - 11 pm Movie Night - Keeping up with the Jones	4 12 pm - 1:30 pm FIX-IT Workshop
5	6	7 6 pm - 7 pm BW Board Meeting	8 6 pm - 8 pm Microcontroller Presentation Night	9 6 pm - 9 pm Open Space Night	10	11 12 pm - 1:30 pm FIX-IT Workshop
12 Daylight Saving (Start)	13	14 6 pm - 8 pm Soldering Class	15 5 pm - 8 pm Nevada Inventors Association - Monthly Meeting/Lecture	16 6 pm - 9 pm Open Space Night 6 pm - 8 pm Wood Shop	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 12 pm - 1:30 pm FIX-IT Workshop
19	20	21	22 6 pm - 8 pm Microcontroller Collaboration Night	23 6 pm - 9 pm Open Space Night	24	25
26	27 6 pm - 7 pm Inspiration Exchange and Project Ideas	28 6 pm - 8 pm Soldering Class	29	30 6 pm - 9 pm Open Space Night	31	1 April Fool's Day 12 pm - 1:30 pm FIX-IT Workshop

ALL MEMBERS, If you would like to add an event. Press the “Add Event” button on the calendar at bridgewire.org Schedule your event with details and contact info. The new event will be hidden until an officer reviews and makes it public. Your events can be any project you want to share or get help with.