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JANUARY 2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

President's Corner

Continued Covid-19 watch

We are continuing to remain open to members only. We are currently closed to the public and no new members until at least Jan 15th. If I'm reading my tea leaves and news reports correctly, we will probably remain in this format until sometime in February. We will keep the members up to date on any changes as we move forward. It looks like everyone is being real good with masks and social distancing, so thank you to all our members.

Lets all have a good 2021,
Eric Bradford

Facilities Changes

Bridgewire Laser – Improved Air Assist The air assist nozzle has been redesigned. The new nozzle is now pointed about 10 degrees from vertical instead of the old 45 degrees. This has improved the performance of the air assist by reducing the vaporized deposits on the top surface. Additionally, the bottom of the nozzle is slightly higher off the bed, so accidentally dragging the nozzle on your work should not happen any more.

Bridgewire Laser – Improved Lighting We added new LED lights to the inside front and right side wall. This makes it easier to see the engraving and cutting jobs as they occur. There is no longer a need to use a flashlight to see the detail of your work as it gets cut. If you don't want the lights on you can turn them off with the switch on the lights. We have also added an exhaust bar for the through vector cuts. However, it is in refinement because it's not working well.

3D Printers – New Software We have purchased a licensed copy of Simplify3D for the 3D Printers. This software is somewhat different from Repetier. You simply specify which printer you want to use and it loads in the default setup for that printer. It has adjustability in it that other software doesn't. It has solved the alignment issue on our Malyan dual extruder 3D printer and now we are getting good quality 2 plastic prints (bluecat - new vs. greencat – old). The heater cartridge and thermocouple on the right nozzle have been replaced to address the tendency to not reach temperature. It is improved but not perfect. You still need to block the cooling fan to reach the target temp.

Refrigerated Materials – New We have obtained a storage container for your temperature sensitive materials like some glues or solder pastes. Just label your item with your name and place into the container. We know your materials are expensive and we hate to see waste. Please be courteous and place your items in a bag if they are inclined to leak.

Table Saw Sleds – New Loren has built a large, medium and (in process) small sled for the table saw. These sleds make using the table saw considerably safer.

WHO DUNNIT?

Inspector Policy is our house detective. He is always on duty looking for rules violations which disrupt the peace and fair maker environment. He lives by the maker credo "Be Excellent to each other". Each month he will ask for your help to identify a rules violator.

This month's case:

"All quiet on the maker front"

Two months in a row, we didn't see any policy violations in the shop worth mentioning. The rather bored Inspector Policy was heard saying, "This community is fantastic. True support and respect for the fellow maker".

He does want to take this moment to remind members that consumable materials are general supplied as part of membership. However, if you use a significant amount of a consumables life, you are expected to replace that item.

Inspector Policy

ARTICLES ALWAYS NEEDED!

The Newsletter

Things are looking up for the Bridgewire Newsletter, we're getting more and more interest in submitting articles, making the BWNL more interesting and relevant than ever. Thanks to Eric for contributing to this month's issue. If you have an article in mind or just a particular subject that you would like to see in the newsletter please email your entries to Lance, at lance@ipc-solar.com .

EDUCATION HAPPENINGS

Bridgewire Classes and Workshops.

Embedded Systems Group: Meeting on Tuesday the 19th this month with lessons in soldering, basic circuitry and electronics projects. This would be the place to learn electronics and upgrade your knowledge. Projects will be presented every meeting.

Bridgewire offers a varying array of classes and workshops from month to month which can be viewed in our Calendar.

FINAL NOTES

Clean up for the cleaning crew?

We're back! And strict hygiene rules are in place. It's important that we pay attention to our workspace and be sure to consider the other members who come after us. Bridgewire's industrial cleaning service will again be doing a terrific job of keeping the shop tidy, safe and dust free. We can all help them focus on the deep cleaning aspects of their job by keeping work areas organized and sanitized and cleaning up after ourselves. Let's not forget that Bridgewire is a co-operative facility that relies on member participation to maintain the facilities while keeping an affordable fee structure. This service frees us to spend more time on infrastructure issues. There's plenty of need for repair and maintenance of the tools and equipment.

New Members

No new memberships accepted this month.

BRIDGEWIRE CALENDAR

BELOW Click on "Calendar" to go to the Bridgewire calendar with interactive event details.

Bridgewire Calendar
January 2021

JAN Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
29	30	31	January 1 New Year's Day	2	3
5	6	7 6 pm - 9 pm CANCELLED Open House Night 7 pm - 9 pm Metal Shop and Welding	8	9	10
12	13	14 6 pm - 9 pm CANCELLED Open House Night 7:30 pm - 9 pm Laser Cutting & Etching	15	16	17
19 6 pm - 8 pm Embedded Microprocessor Group meeting	20	21 6 pm - 9 pm Open House Night 6:05 pm - 8:05 pm Wood Shop	22	23	24
26	27	28 6 pm - 9 pm Open House Night 7 pm - 8:30 pm 3D Printing	29	30	31

ALL MEMBERS, If you would like to add an event. Email us at info@bridgewire.org or click on the button below the calendar to schedule your event with details and contact info. The new event will be approved by an officer or director to make it show up. Your events can be any project you want to share or get help with. Add Event

.

Calendar