

Jim Waldron - Steward report

Blacksmith Shop

Everything working.

We do need to begin thinking about doing some work on the forge burners.

But, too dang cold for outdoor forging.

Welding Shop

Everything working

Shielding gas and welding wire in good supply

Plasma CNC table has not seen much use (weather has been too cold to work outside).

MS-P Sewing

Industrial walking foot machine has not seen much recent use.

EBF

Everything working

The machine has been quite busy lately

A slide was added to the Workshop deck discussing use of dull tools and the resulting fire hazard.

Fabric bags in the dust collector will be inspected this coming work day.

HVAC

There have been some questions about the split unit heat/cool in the MS-P wood and metal shop.

An Alexa device is located in the MS-P green room.

The commands are:

"Alexa, Wood Shop Heat On"

"Alexa Metal Shop Heat On"

"Alexa Wood Shop Heat Off"

"Alexa, Metal Shop Heat Off"

Speak slowly and distinctly. Green room is a little echo-ie, so if you are closer to the Alexa device (behind the computer), it's better. Also, Alexa does not understand the single word MetalShop or WoodShop. So you have to say, for example,

"Alexa - Wood - Shop - Heat - On"

I switch over from cooling to heating in September, and Back to cooling in April (approximately).

In Summer,

Wood shop cool on/off

Metal shop cool on/off

The shops fall back to 62 degrees at 9pm in the winter.

The shops fall back to 86 degrees at 9pm in the summer.

An instructional sign will also be posted.

A cover is going to be placed over the Propane Heater thermostat in the MS-P wood shop. It will include a notice about using the split units.

The cover has a lock, but it will be unlocked (unless Dave decides to lock it).

FWIW

Pat, Tami, Mary, and I visited the Staunton Makerspace.

In short, they seem to have more table work space than we have. But a smaller space and not as many tools.

They have more CNC routers for wood than we have (one big one and 3 or 4 2 foot by 4 foot machines).

They allow active projects to be left on-site for 90 days.

They divide the space into 'Guilds', i.e. the Woodworkers Guild, the Metalworkers Guild, Blacksmith Guild, Fabric Arts Guild, etc. I thought this was a neat idea and gave some identity to each of the different areas. Besides, who wouldn't want to be associated with a 'Guild'. There may be a possibility of swapping some of their 'we have too many of these' tools for some of our 'we have too many of these' tools.

Project Report - Control Boxes.

Finally, I would like to cancel the Control Box project. In discussion with some of the stewards, we think the problem of folks using machines they have not received training or safety briefings on does not really exist. Further, I do not think we currently have the IT resources to update and maintain the database of authorized users for each machine. (Getting folks registered (for example, I no longer have access to wild apricot to check folks in for red tool workshops), breaking out data for each machine where multiple machines exist in a shop, timing for updating the data base, finding additional IP addresses, fixing lost passwords - there is a lot of background effort for something like this.)

It's a solution for a problem we no longer have.