



September 20, 2026

September Board of Directors President's Report

"The President is an Officer of the Corporation, shall be the general manager of the Corporation, and shall supervise, direct, and manage the Corporation's activities, affairs, and Officers."

Completed

1. Attended the Marketing Meeting.
2. Held the required monthly membership meeting on September 2nd with five members attending.
3. Posted the Chairperson's validated steward list on the wiki (<http://wiki.makersmiths.org/display/MAK/Site%2C+Room%2C+and+Tool+Stewards>)
4. Attended the Treasurer's Steward Training Meeting on September 11th.
5. Completed a BOD requested member-initiated investigation.
6. Met with the Treasurer on September 17th to review processes, procedures, and Treasurer concerns.
7. Resumed posting member meeting notes on the wiki (the last posted member meeting was July 2025)

In Progress

1. Requested wiki content from stewards with blank or incomplete pages (there are several) [Aug 2026].
2. Collection of facility and shop pictures. [Aug 2026]

Member Feedback

- Establish a Makersmiths strategic plan with milestones such as establishing a permanent location that is not divided between two locations and developing written policy to create Institutional knowledge. Make a five-year plan.
- Require stewards to seek at least four red tool instructors for each red tool requirement. Some members feel that stewards are deliberately limiting the availability of red tool instructors because they are more concerned about maintaining control than training members. In two cases, the comment was made that stewards who are being paid to teach are "protecting their turf" by not allowing additional instructors.
- Develop an instructor quality control process whereby an independent observer validates the Plan of Instruction and presentations to verify instructor knowledge and proper safety training. Spot check classes to ensure instructors are following the approved plan.



- Red tool safety warnings are not posted on equipment.
- The MS-L woodshop floor is extremely slick and can cause both slip and fall and machine injuries from slipping (even the steward mentioned this).
- A member recommended we have a central inventory control volunteer responsible to not only keep the equipment inventory, but control inventory of equipment purchases, donations, and disposal. Currently stewards can accept donations and dispose of items without updating the inventory list. I also suspect there is more than one inventory list currently circulating.

President's Comments

- The Makersmiths Bylaws requirement to hold the monthly membership meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM is an unnecessary restriction. This is an informational meeting with almost no possibility of becoming a decisional meeting as that would require a membership quorum (currently ~112 members). There were five members present at the September meeting. This requirement should be removed to facilitate meeting flexibility.
- I have observed a lack of consistency in red tool training. Some instructors provide excellent presentations and equipment documentation while other only provide a verbal briefing from memory – they don't even have published notes. Without documentation, students have nothing to refer to after training and safety warnings are quickly forgotten. From a liability viewpoint, not having documented safety training leaves the corporation exposed if an accident occurs and the member claims they were not warned of the hazard.
- I have noted a systemic lack of version control from education presentations to site maps, to steward lists. This makes knowledge management increasingly difficult as our membership grows. Like inventory management, version management should be centrally controlled.
- Role management should be implemented for our digital files. I have found several instances where files and directories are restricted to specific individuals instead of access being restricted by role. If a steward changes, they should inherit access from the previous steward, not forced to hunt for information secured by an individual. Additionally, roles should be structured so site stewards can see tool and room steward files. As an example, the president's files should be in one place and open to board members. When the president changes, all information from previous presidents should be transferred. It's both frustrating and wasteful to try and hunt down files and information that previous members have secured in the personal files.
- We have about 20 stewards without co-stewards. Many simply do not want to share responsibility or authority. Allowing a steward to be a single point of failure is not acceptable.