Two Facilities Services Colleagues Earn their Master Plumber’s Licenses

Scott Barker and Steve teRiele, colleagues in Facilities Services, earned their Master Plumber’s Licenses last month. The rigorous process required to become a Master Plumber begins as a Journeyman Plumber, who must complete the Vermont State Apprenticeship program or work 12,000 hours, documenting relevant experience with all hours covered by an affidavit from a licensed plumber. Another option is to complete a program at an appropriate vocational or trade school at the equivalent of 1,000 hours per school year, plus 8,000 hours of work under an experienced license holder, totaling 12,000 hours. Master Plumbers, before passing a three hour exam, must have held a valid journeyman’s license for at least 12 months in addition to 2,000 hours experience under a licensed Master Plumber.

Prior to joining Middlebury College in April 2002 as a Maintenance Plumber B, Scott Barker graduated from Technical Careers Institute and acquired several years of experience servicing and installing commercial Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems. Scott attended evening courses through VTC to obtain his Apprenticeship Certificate and passed his Journeyman’s Plumber Exam in May 2006. With his recently acquired Master Plumber’s License, in addition to Scott’s demonstrated skills and trouble-shooting abilities, he has been promoted to HVAC/Maintenance Plumber A. Congratulations, Scott!

Steve teRiele joined the College in May 2001 as a Maintenance Plumber B, following several years as a Heating and Plumbing Technician with some additional experience in sales and estimating. Steve graduated from SUNY Morrisville with an Associate’s Degree in Residential Construction and passed the Vermont State Journeyman Plumbers’ Exam in 2006. With his recently-acquired Master Plumber’s License, in addition to Steve’s demonstrated skills, project-lead and trouble-shooting abilities, he has been promoted to Maintenance Plumber A. Congratulations, Steve!

The ability that licensed plumbers have to read blueprints and to design systems is extremely beneficial. We are proud of Scott and Steve for their diligence in obtaining their goal of becoming Master Plumbers!

~ Mike Moore, Supervisor, HVAC/Mechan/Plumber
Class of 1860’s Spruce Tree, Victim of Lightning, to be Reborn as Library Bench

A majestic Norway spruce tree that has graced the east edge of campus for close to 150 years is dying and needs to be cut down.

The Class of 1860 Spruce, located east of Old Chapel and next to the entrance to the new library, has witnessed inaugurations, commencements, weddings, funerals, and countless other milestones in the College’s history. But the tree was struck by lightning in 2006, and developed a deep crack that runs from the base of the trunk to the top half of the tree.

College Horticulturalist Tim Parsons took steps last fall to try to save the tree, including deep-root feeding, “vertical mulching,” and removing dead wood and loose bark — all to no avail. The tree has not recovered.

Yet the tradition of the Class of 1860 will live on. In May, a group of Middlebury undergraduates met with Parsons and Associate Professor of Anthropology Michael Sheridan and together they developed the idea of using the wood from the tree to make a bench for the new library. As Sheridan said, “It would be good for the library, good for managing the landscape, and good for alumni relations.”

Dean of Library and Information Services Barbara Doyle-Wilch and Stewardship Officer Michele Almeida agreed, and College Carpenter Gerald Tetrault was selected to build a stunning new piece of spruce furniture.

Wood from the 90-foot-tall tree, near entrance to new library, will be milled for lumber and used to create furniture honoring benefactors.

“Now almost bare, the Class of 1860 Spruce looms over the quadrangle with Warner Hall in the background and the entrance to the new library at right.”

Not much is known about the history of the tree except that it was planted by the Class of 1860 and that it soared to nearly 90 feet in height in the quadrangle east of Old Stone Row. The members of the class — five of whom served in the Civil War — must have taken pride in the Norway spruce (Picea abies). The stone plaque commemorating the original planting was “lost” for years. It was uncovered during the construction of the library, and will go with the new bench or be placed in the College Archives.

The tree will be cut down between the end of the Language Schools summer session in August and the start of the fall semester in September. The historic spruce will be milled into lumber by Tom Lathrop of Bristol.

~ Robert Keren

Learning Opportunity for All Employees

Middlebury College engages the services of Vermont Adult Learning each year from September through May to provide free, confidential sessions for interested employees who wish to strengthen their skills in one or more of the following areas:

- Reading
- Writing
- Grammar
- Basic math
- Working toward a GED

This program is available to all Middlebury College employees with permission from their supervisors. Classes are held during work hours and are paid time. Class size is tailored to each individual employee’s needs and can range in size from one-on-one instruction to groups of 3 to 6. The instructors will contact each employee prior to scheduling the sessions to determine their goals, and then will set up the classes in the best way to accomplish them. Classes are generally one hour long and are offered during the academic year on Tuesdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Sessions may be longer if the instructor determines it is necessary to accomplish the employee’s goals.

Availability is limited, so employees will be accepted into the program on a first come-first served basis. If you are interested in participating, please contact your supervisor or Perry Richards at x5882.

Come in and see our new fall styles and sale items.
Parking is plentiful right now.
Worried About an Elderly Relative?

Nearly everyone has an aging loved one these days. It’s difficult for most people to know when their relative needs help – or where to find help you will like. Most older people insist that they don’t want any help, and families feel torn about how much to push. Elderly Services, a member agency of the United Way of Addison County, can help. Their geriatric social workers can listen to your unique story and help you decide what to do, whether that means finding someone to help care for your dad, help you discuss your concerns with a parent, or finding help for yourself to keep living independently.

Eldercare consultations or needs assessments can occur in-person, via telephone or at home. In addition, the counselors can provide long distance caregiving support or referrals to out of state resources for out-of-town relatives. You are not alone. Family caregiving support groups are available and aging education programs are offered on a regular basis. Elderly Services will be on-campus in the fall to provide a selection of these programs to Middlebury College employees. Stay tuned for details in future issues of Midd Points.

For more information regarding the resources available to you, contact Elderly Services at 388-3983 and ask for Joanne, Pat, Nancy or Judy.

This is the first of an occasional series on community resources available in Addison County.
Classifieds

Classified ads are free for members of the staff, faculty, student body, and alumni of Middlebury College. Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Guidelines for submitting ads can be found at http://www.middlebury.edu/administration/hr/middpoints/Classified+Ad+Guidelines.htm. Please send your ads to: Classifieds, Midd Points, HR, Service Building, or via Outlook to: Middpoints Editor or middpoints@middlebury.edu (electronic submissions preferred).

Real Estate

For Sale: Charming Cape in a great Cornwall location. 4 BR, 1.5 BA, sunny formal DR. Property upgraded in '00 w/ all new vinyl windows, kitch. & appliances, siding, roof. 16 x 16' deck w/ bench seating & slider off DR added in '02. Hardwood floors & partially finished basement. Home on 2.1 acres on secluded country road, w/ very lim. amt. of traffic, 10 min. from dwntwn. Midd. Call 802-989-8395 for more info. & website w/ photos.

For Sale: Charming Cornwall home in great location only 6 mi. from campus. Beautiful, quiet setting w/ views of the valley/Adks., stunning sunsets! New BR & BA, new roof, wiring, insulation, updated appliances & windows. 2BR, 2 BA, hrdwd. floors, fireplace, attached garage. Price reduced to $299,900. Call (802) 462-3488 for photos & website.

For Rent: Beautiful Middlebury home, 2 BR, large family room, DR and LR, garage, porch, & a spacious back yard. In town. $1,200 a month + util. No pets and no smoking. Avail. from August 29 through early June. Dates are negotiable. Call 388-9768.

Auto


Other

For Sale: Piano - Emerson Upright 1910. $600, obo. Contact Kathy at x5046 or 388-2511.

For Sale: Antique furniture. A) Oak Hoosier Cabinet - $500 firm; B) Large Buffet - $275; C) 5-piece BR set – art deco (1930’s) - $500; D) Small Buffet/Sideboard - $100; E) Dining Room Table & Chairs (not antique, Chippendale repro) - sacrifice for $900. All pieces in great condit. Call Rob @ x3455. E-mail for pictures and dimensions: repkor@middlebury.edu.


Free

Free: Color TV. RCA. 13-inch, cable ready, working remote. Very good condition. Picture is perfect. Great for a dorm or as a second TV. Call x5341 or bcarson@middlebury.edu.

Wanted

Wanted: Toddler pool. Little Tikes. Built-in slide. Very good condition. Big enough for ages 1 to 5. Free if you take it away. Call x5341 or bcarson@middlebury.edu.

Where on Campus?

Only the very observant or those who have been here at the College for many years will know where this photo was taken. If you’ve seen this sign, e-mail the editor at “Middpoints Editor” or middpoints@middlebury.edu.