

# WELDER'S CORNER

**MCCC WELDING  
CENTER OF EXPERTISE  
EAST TECH BLDG 102A  
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A Department of Labor funded program, under the Community Based Job Training Grant #CB-18204-09-60-A-26 of the Industrial Technology Division of Monroe County Community College, Monroe, Michigan.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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L to R: Graduate, Joseph Boudrie and MCCC President, Dr. David Nixon.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND FOR WELDING GRADUATES

Thirteen recent graduates of MCCC's new Welding Center of Expertise program have secured full- or part-time jobs upon completion of our 10-week Entry-Level Welder Training. Various local companies in the state of Michigan have added our students to their workforce, including Advanta Industries; Bar Processing; Fed-Ex; Georgia Pacific; Mac Steel; Ort Tool & Die; Pioneer Metal Finishing; Rikoff; and Roush Company. Former student, Jeff Davis was

laid-off from Bar Processing however after his 10-week training was called back to work and now has just learned that his commute of 180 miles round trip will be less than 15 minutes. Bar Processing has re-opened the Monroe County location. Jeff has been able to utilize his welder inspections skills from the grant-funded training in order to ship the company's steel to other distributions.

These students were part of our fall and winter training courses. Thirty-two of our 42 students to date received American Welding Society QC-10 certifications, a specialized certificate and wallet card stating the applicant can MIG, TIG, Stick weld in various positions on a plethora of alloys. The new class, 10-week Advanced-Level Welder Training, runs until June.

Through a combined effort from the Welding Grant Staff and the MCCC Workforce Development Director, Barry Kinsey, the students and the Office of Workforce Development at MCCC, students were able to build resumes, learn interview preparation skills and job hunt. For more information, e-mail Barry Kinsey, Director of Workforce Development, at bkinsey@monroeccc.edu or call him at 734.384.4124.

To read about our students fulfilling the local demand for experienced welders, check out the recent Monroe News article at [www.mcccweldcoe.org](http://www.mcccweldcoe.org).

## SPRING & SUMMER WELDING TRAINING SESSIONS

Grant-Funded Welding Program has set a schedule for two Entry-Level Welding Training classes - Weld 115 - for May 10, 2010 through August 16, 2010. The class will run Monday through Thursday from 5:00 pm until 9:30 pm for an estimated 15 weeks. This session will allow participants to gain new skills or improve their skills in the evenings. The next session, Entry-Level Welding training, will begin on June 14, 2010 and end August 17, 2010. This 10-week class, known as WELD 115, will run Monday through Friday from 12:00 pm until 5:00 pm. We believe the extra session will reduce our waitlist and meet the requirement to train as many welders as possible using grant funds and other financial assistance, such as grants, NWLB/NEG and TRADE.

For more information, please visit [www.mcccweldcoe.org](http://www.mcccweldcoe.org) or e-mail Cameron Albring at [calbring@monroeccc.edu](mailto:calbring@monroeccc.edu)

## MCCC WELDING CENTER OF EXPERTISE CONTINUES OUTREACH EFFORTS

As part of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration Community-Based and Job Training Grant, funds were allocated to meet the broad needs of unemployed and interested participants seeking employment in the welding field.

The welding grant team at MCCC has spent the last four months exhibiting at many off-campus events like job fairs, the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce and the local Rotary club to showcase the welding program. Our recruiting efforts have helped draw tremendous interest in the program as applications continue to pour into the office.

To ensure proper branding, the Welding COE staff's marketing efforts have included a wide variety of print and audio materials as well as presentations to non-profit agencies and schools. Additionally, through our network capability with local employers we have been able to foster relationships with other area employers and community organizations in hopes that they will send welding-seekers our way.



L to R: Monroe Rotary President Bill LaVoy, MCCC ITD Dean, Parmeshwar Coomar, Cameron Albring, Larry Byrnes, MCCC President, David Nixon and MCCC Workforce and Development Director, Barry Kinsey.

## GRANT CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Our real-world curriculum prepares students to succeed in today's demanding job environment. The challenging hands-on training and classroom instruction on welding standards, among other topics, provides students with unique opportunities upon completion of the certified training. The welder training models the Schools Excelling through National Skills Education (SENSE) Program to meet AWS standards. SENSE promotes the dissemination and implementation of seven (7) comprehensive hands-on welding projects to ensure that each student meets the guidelines for welder training in two areas: Level I, which is designed for application at grades 10-12 or entry level training; and Level II, which is designed for two year career and technical education programs or for those with welding experience. A majority of our students have been able to successful complete each project within the 10-week duration.

Some of the challenges we face is capacity and lab time. Students of the grant have a span of time to set up equipment, get in gear, tackle their project and seek assistance as needed. Each day, the instructor explains the assignment before the students get to perform the hands-on task in the lab. If you were an outsider looking in, the welding lab is a constant moving door. Students enjoy lab time and do not hesitate to ask questions.

On the flip side, our training has opened many doors for our students. Welding-related jobs require significant technical skills, and welders will be in demand in order to maintain and update old and new facilities and structures. There is also an expected increase in high-tech manufacturing jobs in the field of joining and cutting.



### Welding grant participates in MCCC's Industrial Technology Division's X-TECH & STRONG events.

High school and middle schools students engage in the activities in the welding lab. Students were able to be hands-on with welding machines and tig torches under welding instructor and lab technicians. A common theme resonated from the events "Welding is Fun"!



### **GRANT PURCHASES PROSTAR® PLASMA SYSTEM**

Plasma cutting is a vital process for any metal fabrication shop. Unlike oxy-fuel, plasma can cut stainless steel, mild steel, aluminum and brass. The Plasma CNC machine was purchased from Praxair Distribution, Inc. Territory Manager, John Minor.

### **THANK YOU'S**

The Grant Staff would like to thank the following organizations for their support in attending our meetings as well as allowing us to participate in their respective events.

UWUA President Mike Langford on December 2nd, 2009

SEMCA/MIWorks members including Charlie Mahoney, Gary Clark, Daniel Martinez and Julie Montri on December 3rd, 2009

AWS Detroit Chapter and CORMET on January 14th, 2010

Rotary Club members and Matt Matuga on January 19, 2010

Manpower, Inc. Monroe Office on January 25th, 2010

Kiwanis Club members on January 27th, 2010

Salvation Army on February 25th, 2010

Bedford Trade Fair Merchants on March 6th, 2010

SEMCA Workforce Development Board Meeting members on March 17th, 2010

Monroe Leadership members on March 18th, 2010

MCCC Whitman Center Staff on March 18th, 2010

Monroe ISD CTE Coordinators on March 26th, 2010

Owens Community College Collegiate Employ-Net Job Fair on March 26th, 2010

Orchard Center High School staff and students on April 14th, 2010

The Source staff in Toledo, Ohio on April 16th, 2010

MI Skills USA on April 17th, 2010

Dundee Community College Expo on April 27th, 2010

### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

The Department of Labor funded grant allows us to build capacity as needed. The current facility (Welding Lab, room 165) is inadequate with the number of classes currently being run to meet the requisite number of students to be trained. Both AAS degree classes and grant funded classes are currently being run in the lab that accommodates up to 21 students at one time. It would be understatement to say that the lab is extremely busy with the award of the new grant. Given the time line for completion of the grant, our projections are that this will be insufficient for us to turn out in excess of 240 welders that we promised we would do, to the department of Labor. Hence the search for a rented/donated facility in town to build additional capacity. Work is currently going on well with grant staff helping in identifying rental or donated facility in town. This would provide us with additional 22 welding booth capacity where either part or whole of the grant training could be transferred.

## LEARN HOW TO WELD AT SUMMER CAMP

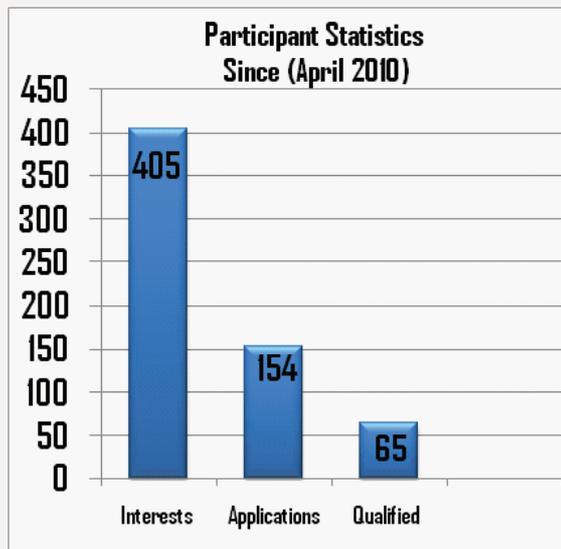
Explore the exciting field of welding! You'll learn the basics of welding technology with an emphasis on Shielded Metal Arc (Stick) welding and Gas Metal Arc (MIG) wire welding on low carbon steel. Conducted at Monroe High School's welding lab, you'll gain hands-on experience with welding equipment, including the opportunity to complete a welding-art project that you will take home. Previous welding experience is not necessary! This is a great opportunity to discover welding as a future educational career choice. All sections open to boys and girls grades 9 and up.

*Please note: This camp is being offered free of charge through a U.S. Department of Labor funded grant program, under the Community Based Job Training Grant # CB-18204-09-60-A-26 of the Industrial Technology Division of Monroe County Community College, Monroe, Michigan.*

Enrollment is limited to 15 students per section. For more information, e-mail Tina Pillarelli, Director of Lifelong Learning, [tpillarelli@monroeccc.edu](mailto:tpillarelli@monroeccc.edu) or call her at 734.384.4332.

## GRANT TRAINING SCHEDULES MORE BEGINNER WELDING CLASSES

The grant team is on a fast track of interested participants in Monroe County and the surrounding area of Michigan and Northwest Ohio to become a certified welder. For more information, please visit [www.mcccweldcoe.org](http://www.mcccweldcoe.org)



### What students are saying about the welding grant program:

