

Blaire Scanning Photos and Working on the Computer

This project was designed to teach Blaire about general computer usage, scanner usage and basic photo editing software usage. While Blaire scanned about 2000 of the 22,000 pictures in my life's photo collection, she was learning about various subjects such as mountain climbing, flying, foreign travel and North Pole Exploration. All of this time, having her work station next to mine, we talked about positive thinking and self improvement from the many courses that I have taken over the past thirty years. You can see the improvement in the physical appearance of Blaire during her time that she was scanning the slides in these pictures on this page.

In this process Blaire progressive learned about things like Clockwise and Counterclockwise, Portrait and Landscape views, proper slide cleaning tools and methods, photo emulsions, photo problems of dust, chemical spots, pinholes, fading, color saturation and level equalization. All of these subjects were very new to Blaire, and in the beginning, way over her head in conceptualizing the processes. She still needs to do much work in this area and needs to do it in a spaced repetition manner for a complete and more in-depth understanding of these complex processes.



Blaire Working at the Lamoine Ramblers Motorcycle Club

Blaire came from a very poor family background that left her with an inadequate education both academically and socially. The plan here was to have Blaire work on various parts of the race track and meet some of our countries top racers and other track workers for the purposes of learning race track operations, job functions, and to provide her with enculturation into a society of hard working, very well educated people from all walks of life.



Blaire worked in the Announcer's tower, the Kitchen, sign-up booth, starting gate (Shown standing with a disabled worker named James Bond) as a corner worker, in the pits and as a videographer. The camera here was the only video camera to successfully take videos of the Worlds First North Pole Marathon.

These jobs were all training Blaire to work in a variety of areas as needed to help in track operations, expose her to new situations and help in her self confidence and personal development.



In her time at the track she worked at about twenty different race events including the state championships. She also met the Australian race team, interviewed various racers including a one armed racer using the new Mert Lawill arm.

In every situation, Blaire gave her full effort and never complained to the long hours, cold temperatures and very dusty and loud conditions that she had to endure. I have to give her an A+ for effort because she willfully accepted every job and sought out new areas to expand her knowledge.



Yard Work and Landscaping

From cutting the grass to cutting trees to building sidewalks and laying cement, Blaire received experience in all of these areas.

Here you can see Blaire cutting a four acre yard. She had to learn mower maintenance, pre operational checks, and unscheduled mower repair.

In addition to cutting the grass, Blaire trimmed the trees, cut trees using a chain saw, and staked and split firewood for heating the shop in the winter.

But, this wasn't all. Blaire performed many other jobs including carrying bricks, stacking and laying bricks for a new sidewalk, mixing and pouring concrete for stairs and, not shown here, rebuilding the bathroom for my mom, not to mention her work in laying carpet, hanging sheetrock and stapling up insulation.

In every case Blaire worked very hard with little to no supervision and could be trusted to do a complete job without cutting corners where a complete inspection would have to otherwise be done.



Experience and Excitement

Stealth Education

A Super Education builder is always part of the plan. Going to the Quad Cities Air Show is what I call a Stealth Education System. Here Blaire her son and his friend learn all about aviation and technology and don't even realize that they are learning. They think that they are having fun, when all the time they are exploring the different types of technologies and learning about future possibilities for their lives outside the box of the little town that they live in.

Going to an Air Show is totally unlike watching the event on the TV. The super massive number of people, the noise of the airplanes, and the variety of technologies from the civilian aerobatic teams to the military aircraft flying by at near supersonic speeds with their afterburners pouring out flames as they zip by. Going to an Air Show is the ultimate training tool for any kid or adult. And if you want something to talk about for months and years to come, you need to visit an Air Show.



Blaire and Her Son Visit the Prairie Aviation Museum



Going to an Air Show is One Thing Working on a Real Jet Fighter Is the Real Thing

But visiting an Air Show isn't enough. Going to an air museum and sitting in, touching and actually working on a real jet fighter is something else. In the top photo Blaire sits in an A-7A Corsair II Jet Fighter from Attack Squadron VA-125, formerly stationed in Lemoore California. This is interesting because this is the exact jet fighter that I worked on when I was attached to VA-125 in Lemoore back in 1974. The Prairie Aviation Museum found pictures of me and this jet on my website and allowed me full access to the airplane anytime that I wanted.



This day we not only looked at the aircraft at the museum, Blaire and her son Ethan helped clean the airplane and fill the tires with air.



The second picture shows Blaire and Ethan looking down the intake of the jet as I crawled inside to inspect the engine.

The bottom picture shows Blaire signing the workers logbook showing that she did indeed do volunteer work at the museum and helped preserve a part of history. In return, the museum receives federal grant money for every hour of volunteer work at the museum.



Working on the Boat

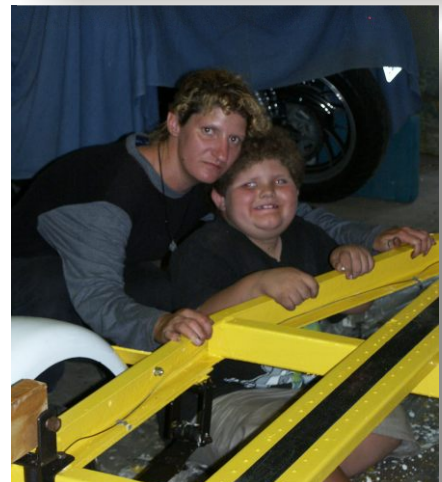
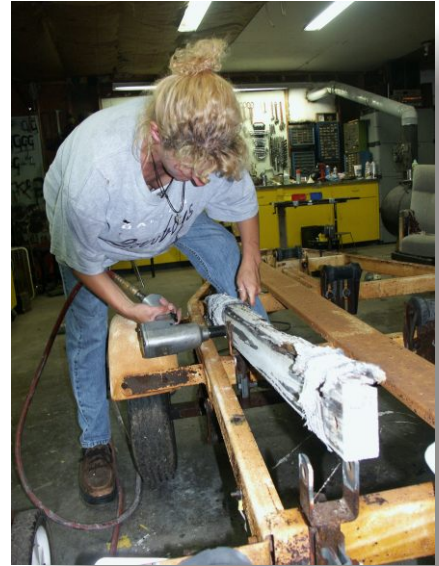
This was completely Blaire's idea. I just wanted to knock off the surface rust and slap a coat of paint on the boat trailer. But, Blaire said, "If you are going to do a job, you need to do it right." The problem is that I'm a Disabled Veteran, anytime I start bending too much or pulling on a wrench too hard, I spend a week to six months in bed, and that's the truth. So Blaire took the job on herself. Never using power tools before, I had to get Blaire started, but once she started the job, there was no way to make her stop. While I sat in the computer room working on my website, Blaire completely disassembled the boat trailer, spent an entire week grinding and sanding the old paint and rust off of the metal and then repainted the entire trailer with two coats of white and two coats of yellow. She then helped me rewire the trailer and add the finishing touches.

You can see the different stages here. Removing the old wood parts and disassembly. In the middle picture, Blaire is adding the first coat of yellow paint over the white. In the bottom picture she is sitting with her son Ethan showing him the work that she did.

By the time that she was done, the whole job took about two weeks. Blaire learned to use the air impact wrench, the compressor, the pressure regulator, a disk sander, vibration sander, different grits of sandpaper, the wire wheel, electric drill and a lot of paint brush work. The job went from a slap job that I wanted to do, to a career job for Blaire.

The interesting thing that I found out about Blaire on this job and other jobs that we worked on, was that she loved to paint, especially spray painting. She is now able to properly mix automotive paints and set up and then tear down and clean the spray gun.

I also observed Blaire when she brought her boyfriend over to look at all of her work. She took pride in working hard and doing a good job. After more observation I realized that no-one else ever gave her a chance, never ever.



What does this all mean.

A Conclusion and a New Start

In conclusion of this document, as you have read through the pages and looked at the pictures, you have only seen a tiny fraction of the work Blaire has done for me and with me. In addition to what you have seen, we have put up interior walls, completely remodeled my office and built the furniture, rebuilt my truck engine, painted two motorcycles, painted my truck and added graphics, Blaire has replaced the starter in my truck, cut trees, gone sailing, gone canoeing and worked very hard every single minute.

Once Blaire found an injured dove and brought it to my mom for help. The dove lived in my mom's house like a pet bird with freedom to walk and fly throughout the house until its wing was healed up enough that we could return it to Prairie City.

Blaire recovered some completely wild kittens and helped raise them where they are now my mom's little babies and best friends.

Blaire would call me every single day and ask to be picked up so she can work on something because everyone else treated her so badly and used her as a house cleaning slave and gave her nothing in return, not even a good word.

As I have said previously in this report, I am a Disabled Veteran with twelve years of federal service. There are times that I cannot do anything. There were many times that I went to Wal Mart and when I was in the store, to others, I looked like the spirit of health, but, when I went to leave, I wasn't sure if I would be able to make it to my truck. And after I made it to my truck, I would have to lay in the seats for sometimes an hour before I was able to drive home. But when I needed help to do work, including split and carry wood, Blaire was willing to put her full effort to make sure that I was safe and comfortable.

In the times that I am able to work, I work as hard as I'm able. In the times that I'm not able to work, I call it laying down, but I sit here at my desk, just like I'm doing right now, with my feet on the desk and the keyboard in my lap working on my website at YellowAirplane.com. I have eighteen years working on aviation electronics all the way from Jet fighters to high performance corporate aircraft. I am a pilot that has no medical. I'm a computer programmer with fifteen years experience. I have worked on North Pole Expeditions for nine years straight and have gone to the pole through both Northern Siberia and Norway and was the Leader of the 2005 North Pole Expedition as well as a promoter, videographer, organizer and guide for the worlds first North Pole Marathon. I have climbed mountains for fourteen years and I have worked with top professionals all the way from rocket scientist to ambassadors to the Secretary of State of Norway. In all of this time I have always found ways to help others improve their lives and realize their dreams. I am certainly hoping that my efforts have helped Blaire and hope that her life can become productive and profitable as she continues to work to become a useful citizen of the United State of America. What I would like to see for Blaire is for her, if convicted, to be placed in a minimum security prison and to work very hard to receive her GED so all of these hopes can become true.

Jeffrey C. Dyrek