

Carver exhibits 'Extreme' dedication

National Barn crew leader shines on 'Makeover' job

Nothing beats rewarding young, energetic talent.

Just four years after being hired as a crew member for the National Barn Company at the age of 16, James Carver showed through sheer dedication and hard work that he was ready to head a crew. Before turning 20 years old, Carver was named crew foreman for the Fort Gibson, Okla.-based company.

"James has been a great asset to our company over the years and has constructed some of our most customized and highest quality buildings," says Brian Keane, president and owner of the National Barn Company. "James does whatever is asked of him, without com-

plaint. He is very polite and courteous to our customers and he always goes the extra mile to make sure that the customer is satisfied."

Last October, James supervised the effort to build a horse barn in Ash Grove, Mo., for ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" (see articles in the November 2009 Post-Frame Advantage E-Newsletter and December *Rural Builder*).

"We asked James if he would be willing to donate his time to assist us with the construction, and he agreed without hesitation," says Keane.

Although a typical horse barn takes about two weeks to build, this Extreme Makeover structure was constructed in only five days.

"That was possible only because James and his crew worked between 15 to 20 hours a day, in the rain, to make sure that it was done," Keane says.

In addition to working long days in rainy weather, Keane says the project faced other difficulties as well. First, the company was contacted only 10 days before the project was scheduled to start, creating challenges in getting suppliers involved, coordinating the design, and scheduling all the necessary deliveries and builders. Another challenge was digging post holes in Southern Missouri's very rocky soil, which slowed progress.

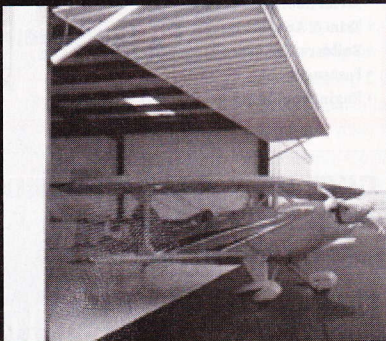
Still, the crew persevered and was able to complete the barn on schedule, thanks to Carver's leadership and the help of many eager volunteers.

"Not only did James donate his time and money to this project, he thanked us



for the opportunity we gave him to build this barn for a family in need," Keane said. "James is the best crew foreman that we have had in 18 years. He is very deserving of this award." *FBN*

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