This week’s work can be split up into three parts. The first part was researching different methods of pad making. Beau came up with a method where the naugahyde material is put together and then turned inside out and the pad material is stuffed inside. Peter’s method is to take one long piece of naugahyde material and wrap the pad like a present. This method is accomplished by folding in a corner, then the adjacent side and stapling it to the board. Then the other corner adjacent to the folded side is folded in, then the other corner, and that is stapled. The person making the pads goes around until all of the corners and sides are folded in. The trick to this method of making pads is to have a piece of naugahyde material long enough so that each of the sides that are folded in passes the middle line of the board. Therefore, the center of the board will be covered a total of four times, one time for each one of the sides of naugahyde. This method is believed to be a very good method of waterproofing the pad so no water can get into it.

The second part of the weeks work was done in researching different materials to be used for the pot template, bolts, and soil catching drawer. Along with researching these materials, Peter was in contact with a family member who put him in touch with a type of PVC board called Kleer. A piece of Kleer can be found in Figure 1, below.
This was much less expensive than the Corian, which the members of Team 2 had first looked into as the tabletop material. The purpose of this material is to provide a workspace for the client that is heat and weather resistant. Kleer can be found in Willington, Connecticut at Chace Building Supply. A 4 foot X 8 foot X ½ inch piece of clear is roughly 94 dollars, which equates to roughly 5 dollars per square foot. This is much less expensive than Corian, which would be roughly 30 dollars per square foot.

The third part of this week’s work was to start making the brackets for the pads that would support the client’s hips/chest. The design calls for a long “L” bracket to be mounted to the standing gardener that will be bolted into the wood supporting the pad.
The side supports on the hips have to move in and out to accommodate the potential growth of the client. This will be accomplished by having the brackets be mounted on the standing gardener and the pads will be attached to the brackets via long bolts that can be adjusted in and out, moving the pads from side to side.

Future work on this project will be completing the pads and support brackets and ordering the polycarbonate material to make the template and pot holder walls, along with the bolts, nuts, and screws that must be stainless steel to resist weathering.

Hours worked: 8