



A Non-Profit Special Purpose School Providing Innovative Approaches to Education

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What's In the News:

- **Forestry** is busy with multiple projects
- **Animal Science** spring cleaning and working with NARHA
- **Mechanics** are busy with maintenance projects and the "arts"
- **Outdoor Adventure** begins adventure in machine shop
- Huge accomplishments in interior work in **Carpentry with Mark**
- **Carpentry with Bob** puts on addition for horse barn
- Please post **Horses for Heroes** insert

Upcoming Events:

- April Vacation
April 21-24
- June 17 – Last day of school

Forestry by the Group

Maple Syrup - The group has been doing maple sugaring. First we tapped maple trees with a 5/16" bit. We hung gallon buckets as we put the bits in the trees. We waited until the weather warmed up so the sap would run; when the buckets filled up, the group goes out with 5 gallon buckets to collect and dump the sap into a holding container that holds 200 gallons of sap which is in the pick-up truck. Then we would go to Carl's house and connect a hose to the tank in the truck to a holding container and then we would start up the wood stove to the boiler and boil the sap until we make syrup. It takes 10 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of syrup. ~ **Will**

The Hike Out Back – One day we went out back of the school for a hike to see what we could find. We came across some good looking trees like rock maple, sugar maples, and basswood. Then we came across a porcupine that was dead. We think that a fisher cat killed it. We went on the iced pond and saw a hawk in the sky. I saw a big bear track in the snow and a coyote on the ice. But then we some ducks, fish and a gerbil that were dead – someone had shot them. We saw a little ice shack on the side of the pond and then we returned to the school. ~ **Steven**

Wooden Spoons – Our group hand carved spoons out of basswood. First we used a froe, which is a straight blade with a wooden handle. You place the blade up against the piece of wood about two inches wide. Then you hit the froe with a hammer, which makes a perfect cut. Then you draw the spoon on the two-inch piece of wood. You then cut out your spoon shape then put on a strong pair of gloves and start carving it out. You then carve out the spoon head. When you are done carving it out, you sand the whole spoon with a piece of sandpaper to make the spoon very soft. Then you make yourself a stew or a soup and enjoy with the spoon you have carved. ~ **Mike**

(Forestry continued on page 2)



(Forestry continued from page 1)

Splitting Wood – This quarter we have cut and split eight cord of hard wood. We split most of the wood by hand and for the other difficult pieces we used the wood splitter. We broke the wood splitter and the mechanic group had to fix it. My favorite part is splitting wood. It builds muscle and character. It's hard work and you never get bored of doing it. Our teacher is cool and he is a hard worker and a nice guy. ~ **CJ**

Senior Project – This quarter I started working on my senior project, which is building rustic furniture for the sawmill building. I started out peeling the bark off of 4' wood for the table legs, chair legs and bench legs which will be made out of soft wood and hard wood. I have also glued up the top of the table which is made out of 4" white pine. It is glued up using a spline and has a live edge. ~ **Andrew**

Pancake Breakfast – My crew and I boiled sap to make maple syrup. We made batter to make pancakes and waffles. I started in on making pancakes for my group. After my group was stuffed, I cooked pancakes for the rest of the school. While I made pancakes, Carl made waffles and we went through a lot of batter. Steve and Jake's job was to fill pints of syrup and keep the jar full of maple syrup for each group's pancake and waffles. Andrew helped boil the sap to make the syrup; he watched the temperature on the evaporator. When it reaches 219° we have syrup, so we drain out the syrup until it drops below 219°. He kept stoking the stove so we could keep making syrup as Will brought in the wood to Andrew. ~ **Mike**

Carpentry with Bob by the Group

In the 3rd quarter of the school year we got busy doing several projects around the school campus. We built birdhouses and then we move on to building a roof over the oil tank so water would not freeze on it. We then moved to a job over at the barn to enclose some part of it. It was a lot of fun this quarter.

We built two bird houses for charity auction. The bird house we built look like churches. The walls and roof are built with 1/2" plywood, and then after they were put together we painted them both different colors. One was green with a grey roof and the other one was grey walls with a green roof. On the roof of the bird house we had a clock tower. The bottom of the bird houses were hinged so you can unscrew it when it needs to be cleaned. We also put windows on the walls of the house and we put stripes on the side of the walls. The money went to support the Granite State Carriage Association.

We built a tin roof over the oil tanks at the horse barn. The first thing we did was went and got the wood. We used hemlock in the size 2x10x6ft. The first thing we did was cut the wood for the supports and there were 8 of them. When we got all those up, we put the tin on the supports and screwed it down.

The horse barn needed new stalls. We built the walls around the horse barn to enclose a new section. We are making an extra stall for another horse. In the framing of the walls we used a ramset to shoot nails into the concrete. The next thing we did was to frame the walls with 2x4x10 studs. Next we installed blocking in the walls so we can install the vertical siding.

All the work that we did this quarter will help us later in life. We will have to build things in building. Thanks to our teacher, Bob Chenard, we are prepared and feel good to have contributed this quarter.



Mechanics by the Group

The Mechanics Group—that's us—serves a specific need at MapleStone. We fix things. This quarter we did a lot of repair work for the Forestry Group, worked on staff and student vehicles and completed an Art Project. In addition, we did some practice repair work on small motors.

The Forestry Group broke their wood splitter so we had to build a new cutting edge. We took three metal rods and grinded them down into a blade. We also replaced the front seat of their F-350 Dump Truck. We had fun with that project because we got to go to the junk yard. There were lots of cool old cars to look at.

We did some real world repair and some practice repair this quarter. MapleStone ordered us some small engines to work on. They are little 5 horse-4 stroke motors. We had to take them apart after mounting them on our personal work benches that we built earlier this year. We had to take them apart and put them back together so that they ran as well as before they were taken apart. Our real life repairs were on some of the student and staff vehicles. Taylor's truck needed a new radiator. Corey's Volvo needed a new wheel bearing and a new exhaust. Donna's drive shaft was falling out of her truck, so we fixed that by replacing the Universal Joint (U joint). We also worked on a couple of four wheelers. One needed to be rebuilt and the other one just needed new brake lines.

We also decided to create an art project. We welded some bolts together to make the sculpture look like the Automotive Shop. This was an interesting project because it was very hard to make and design the sculpture. All the parts of the shop were created in mini form. We were skeptical at first but then we got excited—and the results were very satisfying.

We had a lot of spring cleaning to do. We had to organize the shop. We cleaned out the very messy part shed; not any more—nice and neat. We cleaned out the scrap metal bin. Wow was that a mess! Those are pretty much the major things we did this quarter.

Examples of Poetry from the Mechanics group this quarter:

Surgeons Are We

Ever listen to the beat of the engine?
Hear the engine race? Know when the timing belt
is off?
Read the ECM (Electrical Control Module)?

We know our systems:

Circulatory: better know the oil and coolant
capacity!
Digestive: Carburetors convert fuel to power
Endocrine: Ever ridden in a nitrous enhanced car?
Revs like hormones do.
Immune: ECM monitors the health of the vehicle.
Lymphatic: Air Cleaners
Muscular: Horse Power
Nervous: Distributor
Reproductive: Ever blow your transmission—
birth to little parts all over the road
Respiratory-Pistons
Skelton: Frame—Keep it healthy and free of rust
Urinary: Exhaust

Shapely Engines or Politically Incorrect

Slant six, Straight Six. V6, V4, V8
That's my fate

Feel the rush
Feel the power
Buy V8

V8 thunder
Makes the straight six wonder
Where's the power? Where's the rush?
Buy V8

The speed the power the muscle...
The cost of gas, the sound of guzzle

The wallet saying:
You COULD have had a V8



Carpentry with Mark by Group

We recently finished the ceiling of the new carpentry shop. This was a big project and it took over 1000 square feet of material to install. We are also working on the walls in the room that will be our new classroom. We bought a new Makita miter saw before we started the inside finish work of our project. We are getting ready to do the layout work for the porch. We are discussing about putting either a wheel chair ramp or a power lift so the building will be accessible. Our group went snowboarding a couple of times in the past few months. ~ **Tyler**

In our third quarter, the carpentry group completed these projects. First we worked on framing new closets so we could store all our tools in them. Then after framing it on the floor we stood it up and made it level. After that we installed tongue and groove v-match in the closets and installed shelves. Next we installed over 1000 board feet of tongue and groove v-match on the ceiling; it took us about 4 weeks. Then we installed more of the tongue and groove v-match on the wall on the opposite side of the classroom, which only took us 3 days. ~ **Doug**

A team of guys and me got a number of jobs done this quarter. We are still working on the carpentry building-- mostly interior. The biggest job we finished was the ceiling. It was a lot of work. The ceiling was made up of tongue and groove and the ends were beveled. I did some wall trim for the class. And then we went out to eat for my birthday at a pizza place. On a different day we went snow boarding at Wildcat and that was cool. All in all we've had a good year so far. ~ **Pat**

We have been installing the ceiling using tongue and groove v-match boards then beveling the edge and nailing it with the nail gun using finishing nails. I did a lot a lot of cutting for the people who were putting up the ceiling using the chop saw. Rocky, Doug and I installed one of the walls using tongue and groove v-match pine boards. After that we put up a closet and built shelves. We have put a lot of our tools in it. I did a lot of the cutting for that. We also went on a skiing trip to Shawnee Peak. Mark showed me how to ski; it was hard, but I learned quickly and it was really fun. ~ **Jeff**

During the third quarter here at MapleStone I have been working in the new carpentry classroom with two other students. We have been putting blocking in the walls for framing before we could install the finish boards. The type of boards we are installing are called edge and center bead and we are installing them vertically. After 3 days, we finished the wall. Now we are going to finish the next wall. Also, our group got to go up to Shawnee Peak for the day and it was your choice if you wanted to ski or snowboard. Most of the kids were very experienced so they went up the big hills. Since I was not that good, I stayed on the easy hill. I had a great day and on the ride home, Mark bought the group subs. ~ **Ben**



Animal Science by the Group

Chris W., Kaleb, and Joey joined the group this quarter. Everybody gets along pretty well. Kaleb built stall dividers to split a stall in half, so we can put two horses in a stall with boards that Carl's group milled up. He cleaned out the utility room so we can put the grain, the extra buckets and all the tools in there.

Chris C. and Mike took driver's ed this quarter; both passed the test and got their permits. We've had some help cleaning the barn from the Ropes Course and Bob's Carpentry group. We work on portfolio assignments weekly.

The Forestry group had "pancake day" where every group went to Carl's house and had pancakes and they were so good. We also got a small jug of this freshly made maple syrup.

We fixed the driveway by filling in all the potholes that were scattered all across everywhere. We used the tractor and fill the bucket up with sand and then we would take shovels and fill them in one by one, and that lasted about two hours until it started raining and it all got washed out again.

We changed the wheels on the cart, from solid rubber tires to air filled tires for a smoother ride. We had to make sure they were on straight so they wouldn't wobble as you drove. We changed the single seat to a bench seat so it can seat two people rather than one.

Kaleb, Chris W. and Joey helped the NAHRA students balance on our horse Max. We also started training another horse, Coco, to be used for NARHA. This was the first time Kaleb, Chris W. and Joey saw what NARHA is all about.

MapleStone has put together a fundraiser, Horses for Heroes, to purchase driving carts for the handicapped. Our group will be working directly with the veterans to help them learn how to drive. Chris W. was one of the few to travel to Bird-In-Hand, Pennsylvania; it's a small Amish community with farmland as far as the eye can see. In the town of Bird-In-Hand, there is a carriage shop run by the Amish. Steven is one of the friendliest, hardest working carriage maker that I know. Steven accommodated our group around his shop and showed us how everything ticks. He was so polite and answered our questions to the best of his knowledge, I would love to go back down and visit again. The carriage for the handicapped, along with the regular carriages, is made from scratch - right down to the very rim of the wheel which is hand carved, hand cut and hand painted. They produce these moving marvels with the sweat of their hands. There is no machine that just slaps these carts together and sends them down an assembly line; these carts are the real deal. All their machines are run by gas, no electricity. The cart made for the handicapped features a ramp on the back of the cart for scooters and wheelchairs; the cart is adaptable with pony and horse.



Outdoor Adventure by the Brett

We started a machine shop this quarter. We first started cleaning out our new space; then we got the floor degreased so we could paint it. We painted the walls and did the electrical work. We put in some lights that we bought at Home Depot and built a work bench. Our Amish friends got our group a great deal on a lathe, one milling machine, one drill press and tooling; so we had to plan a trip to Pennsylvania which was a thirteen hour drive. We stayed two nights at the Hampton Inn. On the way back we had some straps chafing, so we had to make a pit stop. All in all, we made it back safely. Furthermore, getting the equipment into the shop was a massive task. We had to switch the motors to 1 phase 120 volts which was no big deal. On other business, we made a transport trailer to move kids from group to group. We are currently working on how to make cool parts on are milling machine/lathe which I've made some pretty cool parts including parts for the tractor. We are currently putting new climbs on the rock wall and we started cleaning up the ropes course for group tours.

P.S: Thank you Morin Steel for your donation.



Please post "Horses for Heroes" insert and help us raise money for this worthwhile cause. Thank you very much.

