



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

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What's in the News?

- Building shed for Shapleigh dump with **Carpentry w/Mark**
- New machinery in **Machine Shop**
- Many projects in **Animal Science**
- **Carpentry w/Bob** building dugouts for Acton Rec
- Getting along in **Mechanics**
- Fall harvest in **Forestry**

Upcoming Events:

- School on Monday, November 23rd
- Early Release, Tuesday, Nov. 24th at 1:00 PM
- Thanksgiving Break, November 25-27
- Early Release, December 23rd at 1:00 PM
- Christmas Break, December 24-Jan 1, 2010
- 2nd Quarter ends, January 29th

Carpentry with Bob

We have been hard at work doing a variety of things. We did lots of community service hours, we put our math skills to work in real life and we had fun building team cooperation at the Fryeburg Fair. Our group works well and has fun together.

During our community service work we are closely monitored because we need to do our best and we want to show off our "MapleStone skills". We repaired a bridge at Branch Hill Farm by putting new decking on it - the old one was rotten. Another project was the Shapleigh dump shed. We built the walls and trusses on campus. We then transported them to Shapleigh where Mark's group assembled the shed. We feel good about our community service.

Before we can build, we have to figure out how much lumber we need. Here's where our math skills come into play. Kelly and Bob taught us how to measure and plug the numbers into a formula so we buy the right amount of lumber. We get to use our math skills in real life.

After all our work was done, we went to the Fryeburg Fair. Craig and Bob drooled over the new tractors; we liked the wood splitters, too. We spent the entire day there and came home very tired.

We have accomplished a lot this quarter. We did a lot of community service and had fun doing it.



Forestry

Last spring the forestry group planted potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, and carrots. This fall we harvested garlic, hot peppers, carrots, onions, tomatoes, green peppers and made chili with them, and we also made garlic potatoes. All fall we ate a lot of carrots and garlic. And we also picked different types of apples. We went to Crawford Notch and hiked into Ethan Pond. During our hike it started to rain a little. The hike was in total 5.8 miles long.

(Forestry continued on page 4)



Animal Science

The first day of school we brought a bat that we found in the barn to a wildlife center in York so they could check the bat to make sure it was O.K. Unfortunately the bat didn't make it. A man from Canada brought hay for the horses and it was a lot to unload into the hayloft and the arena. I had to fix Grey and Jazz's stall because Jazz kicked the wall and the whole wall needed to be fixed. In the morning, I feed a goat then I put the other goats outside to the pasture. We were doing community service at Branch Hill. It was a lot of fun but a lot of walking - over 6 miles. To fill the holes in the trail we brought down the 2 trailers and the dump cart to move sand from the pit on site. We loaded sand into the dump cart and as we went down the trail we filled in the holes with a shovel. We did a lot of cutting back of branches so people on the trail didn't get branches in the face. We hung plates on trees to tell the drivers where to go and measured how far it was with the jeep odometer. Bob's group helped us by re-planking the bridge and Pete's group helped to clear brush from the trails. ~ Nate

This quarter we worked on cleaning stalls everyday and learned how to handle horses. We did some community services projects. We worked at Branch Hill Farm cleaning and identifying trails. We also went to Great East Lake. We had six people pull out a dock and fold up sections. Then we pulled each section out of the water to store it for the winter. Next we lifted the motor out of the boat and put it on its side. When we were done the people gave us cup cakes. ~ Ben

This year I did a lot of repairs around MapleStone. I put boards on Turbo and Breeze's stalls so that they wouldn't swing to far back. I also did some trail work. Nate, Patty and I put up an electric fence on Blitz and Breeze's pen. The class fixed the electric fence that leads to the cow shed. I cut down some weeds that grew up around the electric fence up at Patty's house and around the leech field. I also measured from the pump to the automatic water bucket so that Nils could put in an underground pipe so that the water won't freeze this winter. I am going to make a hole in the door to the goat's pen so they can stick their heads out to eat. We have a chicken named Petra; we got her at the Deerfield fair. She is called a Light Brahma and a bantam. She is round and fat and reminds me of a pigeon. She is a rare breed of chicken. She is the calmest chicken you have ever seen. I sometimes take her in during reading and she will just sit on my lap the whole time. She is my favorite chicken and we hope to get some more like her. ~ Craig

We brought NARHA students out to Branch Hill to take them for a carriage ride. I have learned how to be a side-walker for their lessons and how to lead a horse. Nate and I got to help grease the big excavator and the little one. Then I got to put the machine on the trailer to transport it to the jobsite to get logs. We got to take it off the trailer when we got back to school too. We also help to put in a culvert and started to build trusses for the fuel pump roof. We helped to fill the fuel tank with diesel. I love working with machines. ~ Traide



Mechanics



Our group did many projects this quarter. We started this with an engine display, worked to bring a vehicle up to legal standards so it could pass the state inspection, and built a device to lift the septic tank evenly so it would not buckle or break in half.

We decide we needed a reference when working to build or maintain engines in the shop. In order to do this we took plywood and laid out all the parts of a five horsepower engine. We labeled the working parts and bolted the parts with their labels. We have a display of 21 pieces now. We use the display, but it has also been useful when the tours come through.

We learned the importance of maintenance because we had to bring a vehicle up to legal standards. We had to do many things to get this vehicle legal: brake lines, front bearings, and body work. This project took three weeks because of extensive body work due to rust.

The school needed us to install half a septic tank so we could put a diesel tank inside of it. We had a piece of I-beam sitting outside that we used to lift the septic tank. We used some rebar for support and we had a piece of that sitting on a metal plate that was welded to the beam and we bent the rebar back down. The piece of steel had a hole in it so we could lift the tank easily. It took some work but we accomplished it.

These are the major things we have done this quarter. We had a few troubles getting along this quarter but we pulled through. All in all we got a lot done this quarter. We also improved our social skills a lot as well. The End.

Carpentry with Mark

We went to the Fryeburg Fair this quarter. It was held during the beginning of October. At first we walked around as a group then we split up for the rest of the time. It was a fun day. I liked the tractor exhibits, farm animals, and the antique chain saws. For breakfast I ate a candy apple. Then I had some French fries. It was a cold sunny day. We left at 1:10. On the way back to the school we stopped at an electricity dam on the Saco River called Hiram Station. ~ Tom

We've been working on a project at the Shapleigh dump building a shed. We learned how to use the transit and survey the difference in elevation of the ground. We also learned to do siding and how to shingle a roof. We had a deadline to finish the dump at the beginning of November; we still have to go back and sheet rock after the electrician is done wiring. It was a good learning experience and I enjoyed it. ~ Chris

We went sea fishing this quarter. Kaleb and I caught eels, clams and mackerel for bait. We didn't catch a thing but I caught a lead weight to the head when I tried to get it off the bottom. That was nice I thought. It was really nice out that day but very windy. We went to Wells Harbor, Kennebunk Jetty and Biddeford Pool. ~ Jason



Ropes Course/Machine Shop

Our machine shop is growing quickly. The first machine we got was a rock drill that Nils had bought our group after we built a roof for his gas tank.

We started to practice on drilling holes in rocks so we can pull them out later with the four wheeler. We tried dragging at least a one ton rock across the ropes course parking lot but it broke and we stopped that project and went on to metal.

Dan built a winch for the four wheeler and we tested it out and it proved to be strong, sturdy and useful. We could get the four wheeler out of any predicament.

Nate has built the electric garage door pretty much by himself from the electronics to the rails. Now we have an easy access for Nils whenever he comes around.

Recently, we just got a metal bender so we can shape and make different models of whatever we are building. We also have a metal sheet bender for the big surface metal bending. Everyone in the ropes course group had a lot of fun this month.



Forestry (con't from page 1)

When we got to the campsite we started a fire. After we made the fire we cooked some dinner. For dinner we made some spaghetti with garlic sauce. Then we hiked around the pond and saw some moose tracks. The weather didn't allow us to go all the way to the top because it was raining too hard. There were a lot of trees where the leaves have changed colors. There was one soft wood tree, the tamarack that changed colors of the needles which is extremely rare. ~ Nikolai

The forestry group went to a lot that was being cleared and the owner said that if we want to get the logs we could have them for free! So we went to the site to find out what type of logs they were and how many there were - turns out there were about 30 logs and they were pine. Then Nils went to get the trailer and the mini excavator and we loaded the logs on the trailer. We put about six to ten logs at a time depending on the size of the logs. We scaled the logs out to be about 2,580 board feet. We are currently milling the pine logs for Mark, Tucker and for our own use. We also milled lumber for our sawmill building. We added a shed to the building to hold chainsaws, gas, oil, and wood for the new wood stove. We built the walls, put up rafters, added the purlins and are just finishing up the metal roof. We cut holes in the roof to put in the wood stove with the insulated piping. ~ Will

Our group also worked on the trails at Mary Grant. We drove the lawn mower through the woods to put wood chips on the trails, because it makes it easy to walk on trails and we mowed the lawn. Then we pick up the sticks and pine needles off the lawn. We cleaned out the top of the barn on the property. We found religious paper written back in the 1930s with a bunch of historical items. We also got boxes from a food shelter in Biddeford and brought them to the Alfred food shelter for their food drive. ~ Jake