



Carpentry by Matt, Joey & Group

This second quarter in Mark's carpentry group we have made a lot of progress. We finished the shed in Sanford by hanging the doors and installed a ramp. We also built a weight box for the tractor to even out the balance; the box at finish weighed 250lbs.

We spread 18 yards of gravel for material storage area and built a saw mill brow to move the saw and make more space for lumber. We delivered wood for free to a needy Shapleigh resident.

The door in the riding arena needed to be reframed and put back in place; we covered that task as a group. Now that all tasks are done we are working on individual projects inside the shop, such as slab tables, shelves, boxes, etc.



Animal Science by the Group

This quarter in the barn group Zack, Katie and I went to the Equine Affair in Western Springfield MA and stayed at the hotel for 2 days. The fair was all about horses and seminars telling you how to groom and ride. There were some horse trailers/campers and they looked more like houses than campers - so luxurious and then later on the first night Zack, Patty and I went to this show called Fantasia. It was a bunch of horse riders that were doing tricks on the horses like hanging off and flipping almost like acrobatics. It was some of the coolest things I've seen. We also saw a lot of different horses and went to Olive Garden Prime for supper. Zack and I, along with the help of Nils, built/extended the sides on the 3 wheeler cart with plywood and 2 by 4's. It was harder than I thought it would be. ~ Sean

I learned how to ride a horse; how to do a bit of carpentry; learned how to tell if a sheep is pregnant and about to have a baby soon; learned how to lead a young horse. ~ Oz

I, Zack Wiggin, built a space heater for the arena so we could ride horses. We went to the Equine Affair. We had fun, saw a lot of different horses and went to a hotel for 2 days. We also went to a show called Fantasia. ~ Zack

These past two weeks we have been working on a trailer for moving some sheep to the market. We have to finish the trailer by Jan. 29th. We are planning on putting a tarp over the top for a roof and we are working on building a custom gate for the back of the trailer for multiple uses. We have been using the skill saw to cut the boards the right length. The tools used were: skill saw, speedy square, screw gun, drill and level. We are waiting on the metal to be welded by Jeff's group to build the custom gate for the back of the trailer. We also tightened bolts into the boards.

Zach and I were up in the hayloft and Patty drove the truck to the loft doors by the deck and we moved hay into the end of the loft 1 by 1. Then I left half way through for reading and Oz helped with the rest of the hay and when I came back from reading the hay was all done. We went to Rochester and got oats, sunflower seeds, lime, 6 salt blocks, because we were running out of that stuff and today we need to put it in the barn. ~ Dylan



Upcoming Events

- ◆ February Vacation: February 17-20
- ◆ April 3: End of 3rd Quarter



Students attend a Job Corp presentation.



Thanksgiving - trash can style!



York County Sheriff's Dept. generously contributes to MapleStone.

Environmental Science/Carpentry by the Group



This quarter we have done a lot of hands on projects. We have been working on personal projects that students would like to create. We have been very busy on our community service like taking care of our friend Virginia's driveway and participating in Toys for Tots. We also went on a field trip to the Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth NH. We have done a lot of projects. Our biggest project has been insulating the greenhouse (walls & ceiling) to save energy and especially money. We have more projects in the process. I have been working on a cabinet for the classroom. ~ Kelsey

When I started here, the group was working on vents to cool down the greenhouse. But when it gets too cold we would close the vents then it would get hot in there and warm the classroom. Then we built a vent to let heat in the classroom. My favorite part was when I had to cut a hole in the wall. I built a house for decoration then I built a box for my mom, and I learned how to cut a miter. Then we started working on the green house, insulating the walls so at night the temperature would stay the same. Then we built a box to take the hot air out of the green house and spread it throughout the room. ~ Bryce

The Shipyard was a very interesting place to go for a field trip. We got to see a submarine in the dry docks. We saw one of the huge cranes up close and we got to see the big diesel engines for backup in the subs. We all got to wear hard hats in the mechanical buildings. We learned that the shipyard was a good

place to work. They pay well and they are loyal and don't layoff many people and you get good benefits.

Toys for Tots was a really good experience for me because I have never done something like that. It was really exciting for me to know I was helping kids get gifts for Christmas. We helped the ladies from the 21 Club bring the presents from one place to another. I feel like we helped a lot of people this year and I actually feel good about it. And I hope the group feels good about it too. ~Peter

I'm a new kid that found out a lot of new things and a lot of good information about MapleStone. I am very pleased and grateful to be in a school the like this. I also enjoy doing hands on projects and volunteering the time to other students and their projects. I am glad I got to come to MapleStone and my first three days of school are a blast. ~ Mackenzie

We have plans for many more projects in the future. It is the best school you could ever go to. We have our regular routine so we usually know what is coming up next. In Scott's group we participated in the John Berry Energy Day so since that day we have been getting orders to make some more storm windows for people. It is a way for the group to make extra cash for the team bank. This is a hands-on organization and if you are not the person that sits at a desk all day this is the school for you. ~Kelsey

Forestry/Machine Shop by the Group

We are really excited to be over at the Hobbs farm logging. Carl Davis donated his winch for our new logging job at the Hobbs farm...THANKS CARL!!! We invested in choke chains and new cable.

We cut the marked trees and limb and top them up; then haul them out to the landing and buck them into logs which are loaded onto a truck and brought to the mill for profit.

When we aren't logging – we are in the shop welding and using drill presses and such to make stuff for other groups. ~ Shane A. & Aidan

Yesterday I logged with a broken arm. It was pretty nice working with Carl not being told what to do. We're working at Hobbs farm. I hope to be running the tractor soon. I hope the skidder was going to be brought up to Hobbs Farm. ~ Shane J.

Mechanics by the Group



Veterinary Assistance Program by the Group

This quarter VAP Students have been working hard to build their knowledge base and strive for personal development in skills sets. Students have achieved Documentable Skill Certificates in FAMACHA scoring, equine leg bandaging, basic wound care, weight tape use for estimating animal weighs, small ruminant hoof care, small ruminant handling, basic ground horsemanship skills and basic veterinary practice inventory management. We have all been learning and participating in Words of the Week (WOW) quizzes to expand our vocabulary. Overall it has been a great semester and we are looking forward to the birth of lambs and kids in the next few weeks!

We wish Justyce Buck all the best success and congratulations on her graduation at the end of this term! We will miss her but know she will be entering the world to go on to new and exciting things.

Here are some words from students about our semester goings on:

Soaked horses feet (liked and knew how to do); Wrapped horse(s) legs: Saddle fit horses; Learned and got tested on W.O.W (words of the week); Book work (cells, atoms etc.) and word math problems (i.e. how much does a pill cost if it costs X amount and you have 2500 pills.)

When we soaked horse's feet we would put Luke-warm water and Epsom salt in a round, soft-sided/not deep bucket to draw out bacteria, so the foot fungus (thrush) would go away and draw out abscesses. We wrapped horse's legs with polo wraps to give them support and to keep them from "stocking up." If they are in a stall too long their legs can swell. We saddle fit horses; making sure the saddles people ride in fit the horse's back and doesn't pinch, squeeze in any way. Words of the week are nice to learn especially when you are going into the medical field, so you can give an accurate diagnosis. W.O.W. terms are tough to remember sometimes. The book work we do is sometimes easy when I have taken a medical class that you learn about human medical careers (i.e. RNA, LNA EMT etc.) The math problems however are confusing to me hence I need to learn my multiplication and division, plus conversions. In all I like it a lot at Maplestone. ~ Caitlyn

One of the most interesting times I shared this year with Taryn was the first time I ever stuck my hand in a cow's anus. The purpose of the rectal exam is to diagnose the reproductive status of the cow. We began by restraining the cow in a stanchion and thoroughly cleaned off the genitals and rectum with chlorhexidine. To prevent damage to the anus I put on a long plastic "OB" glove and covered it by a surgical glove. I put lubricant on my hand and created a beak shape with it. I entered the rectum with my hand and began scooping out manure onto the floor narrowly missing my boots. Taryn pointed out a long strand of mucus coming out of the vagina and onto the floor. This indicated that she was in or near her estrus. I passed my hand over the brim of the pelvis. Moving further in I felt for the ovarian horn down to the end where I began to try to feel for the ovary for any bumps. I'd like to have more practice on this procedure and will gladly volunteer again. I was the only one in my group to agree to do this. It made me feel great to have the chance to have this experience because I am finally getting to have a real life experience in a veterinary setting. ~ Keenan

I've liked practically everything here at Maple Stone. I strongly like working with animals in general, giving them the attention that they officially need. Here are some of the things we have done:

- Ovine Progressive Pneumonia test on Horses, Sheep, and Goats (OPP)
- Learned about Cells, and Atoms.
- Testing for Lime Disease.
- Blood samples from specific animals.
- Wrapped and soaked feet of Horses.
- Cleaned ears of Goats.
- Cleaned Hooves of Goats.
- Disinfected a wound on the top of a Horse's eyebrow.
- Did a rectal palpitation on a Cow.
- Brushed Horses, and used Thrush.
- Genetic Testing.
- Dissected Pigs to see what the cause of death was.
- California Mastitis Test ~ Chris

