



SCANTLINGS

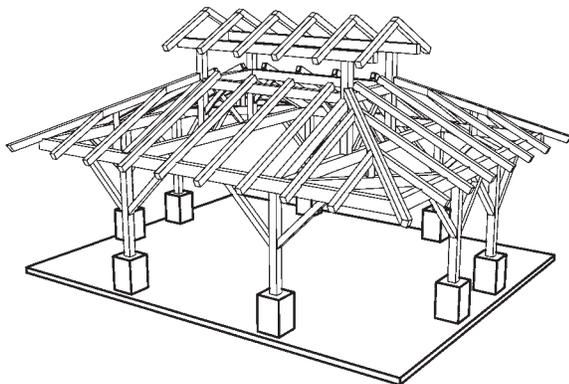
NEWSLETTER OF THE TIMBER FRAMERS GUILD
NUMBER 105 APRIL 2004

What we're cooking up

THESE Guild events for 2004 are bubbling in the pot.

Texas

There is still room and time enough to sign up for the Texas compound joinery workshop at the end of April. Do not lose sight of the fact that discounts are available for those who choose to attend this event *and* take advantage of the Colorado pre-conference workshop led by Curtis Milton to develop the drawings for this adventure in the nicest part of Texas, at the nicest time of the year. We are working on getting the Heartwood '04 apprentices down for this, to teach them a thing or two.



Robert Hinton, Red Suspenders Timber Frames

The little fishing shelter.

This event has all the elements for a great time:

- a great location (in a beautiful East Texas State Park)
- manageable size (just a little fishing shelter)
- experienced hosts (Allen and Darlene Forshage, with Tim Chauvin, all veterans of several successful Texas Parks and Wildlife–TFG collaborations)
- positive culinary options (You have perhaps heard about Allen's gumbo and his blackened redfish in previous project reports.)
- exotic, enthusiastic, and efficient instructional team, led by the Cape Cod duo of Chris Gunn and Todd Bissell, complete with their Treasure Trailer, seconded by Joel McCarty and Tim Chauvin, plus, if enrollment permits, Curtis Milton (N.H.) as compound wizard, with Paul Cooper (Texas) and Jerry Romig (La.) in supporting roles.

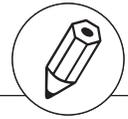
It may be possible to arrange a side trip to the site of the Guild's first Karaoke production, in nearby historic Nacogdoches, where famous timber framers are still fondly remembered for their multi-lingual (Alberta and Virginia) rendition of Percy Sledge's "When a Man Loves a Woman." I am sure there must be a commemorative plaque up by now.

See Events, page 2 (below letters)

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A rave

I attended my first Western Conference last year at Asilomar, and I have been meaning to write a letter ever since. I very much enjoyed the location, facilities, presentations, and enthusiastic people.

At the time I was contemplating starting my own engineering firm specializing in timber frame construction and wondering if this was really the right path. After numerous conversations with timber framers, engineers, architects, and homeowners, I felt more confident that I could realize my dream of being my own boss, doing quality work with interesting people.

After much preparation I started my own company, Fearless Engineers. I think it was all of the positive feedback at the conference that gave me impetus. I would urge all who are interested in a fun, educational, and enlightening time to attend the April conference in Estes Park, Colorado.

Jennifer Anthony, P.E.
Fearless Engineers PLLC
fearlessengineers@msn.com

Possible exchange?

I'm 23 and I work for a timber framing company in England. The introduction of a Hundegger K2 5-axis milling machine over a year ago meant that my role changed from being on workshop tools and site raisings to becoming part of the design team working with Dietrichs 3D CAD/CAM. As a designer I work with clients, architects, and project managers, and I cover the whole range of the design process.

TJ Crump currently employs around 40 people and produces more than 50 frames a year, of which no two are the same. Styles vary from post and beam and English box-framed to hybrids and contemporary. We are at the forefront of developing a new infill paneling system which allows the timbers to be exposed internally and externally.

I am very keen on learning more about building with timber. I am happy working inside or outside. As a company we are always looking for new ideas and streamlining our own systems, so the exchange person may be of a design or workshop background.

Please let me know if you interested.

David Harral
T J Crump Oakwrights Ltd
The Lakes, Swainshill
Hereford, HR4 7PU England
daveo@oakwrights.co.uk

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Ken Rower, director of publications

Susan Witter, Scantlings editor

Scantlings is the member newsletter of the Timber Framers Guild. It is published eight times yearly. Deadline is generally the 10th of the month before an issue comes out (though it often shifts).

Next deadline: April 10.

Please address contributions or information to:

*Susan Witter, Editor, 2406 Williams Street,
Bellingham, WA 98225, phone and fax 360-647-0310,
witter@nas.com.*

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Events (from page 1)

Pisgah

Pending final budget and contract approvals, we are hosting a three-part event this summer and fall in Southwestern New Hampshire (the best part).

We will be taking down, repairing, moving, and re-erecting a pre-Civil War (known to some of you as the War of Northern Aggression) barn from a beautiful site on the Connecticut River (at the Cheshire County House of Corrections), and setting it up in its new home at Pisgah State Park in Winchester, N.H. We expect to get the crop of '04 Heartwood apprentices deeply involved in this one, too. Landmark Pisgah events:

May 24–29: Stabilizing, assessing and dismantling historic structures. We will charge a small tuition for this workshop. Arron Sturgis and I will be the principal leaders. We expect to arrive onsite to find the roof gone but the siding intact.

Our goal for this week is to finish up on Saturday afternoon with a big pile of labeled timbers and a much better understanding of what it's going to take to repair this building. Before we leave, the timbers will be stacked somewhere, marked with metal tags, and covered from the weather (perhaps by that pile of recently removed roofing).

July 12–17: Appropriate and authentic repair of historic structures. The Guild will run this workshop on the same terms as above. It will include the hewing of at least some of the replacement tie beams, all of which have been broken. Various strategies for repair (rather than replacement) will be evaluated, and some will be demonstrated. You will likely get plenty of experience in post repair, as well.

Sep 27–Oct 2: Raising the Pisgah–Blood Farm barn. The Guild will promote and operate this rendezvous onsite with timber framers and interested parties from all over the world (we hope). No tuition will be charged, but participants will be registered, and as always, required to sign a waiver and to take direction. This event will consist of the assembly of the recently repaired barn, and the raising with much ceremony of same, culminating in a giant party on October 2.

The summer and fall phases of this adventure will take place at Pisgah State Park, a perfect undeveloped park about as far west and south as you can get in New Hampshire, hard by the Ashuelot River. We will have use of the existing visitor's center (built by Benson Woodworking in 1998) and plenty of support from our hosts, the Friends of Pisgah. Keep an eye on the web site for a chance to register for any or every part of this adventure.

Boise

The first week of August should find a group of Guild members and interested parties right in the middle of downtown Boise, Idaho, building a small (1,000 sq. ft.) pavilion for the Idaho State Historical Museum at Julia Davis Park. Details are almost non-existent at press time, but it looks like we will get to stay in the dorms at Boise State U., though camping (with RV hookups)

is available quite nearby, and crew will be housed in an historic building onsite. Local sponsors include a craft brewer. By all accounts it's a terrific time of year to be in Boise. Spike and Judy Baker are on board and live nearby.

Letchworth

Sometime late in the year, we will be doing a weekend hewing event at Letchworth State Park in central New York, to make parts for the rehabilitation of a historic structure from the mid-18th century. Dave Dauerty and Jim Kricker will likely be the leaders.

Salem

I am headed to Salem, Oregon, between the Estes Park conference and the Texas workshop to sign the contract and finish the design (maybe not in that order) for a large (42 x 42-ft.) clear span pavilion to be a gift to the city by a consortium of Rotary Clubs in the area. Jim DeSantis is going to be the local hero. Look for this one to unfold over two weeks beginning October 4.

Windsor

And finally, in partnership with the nice folks at Historic Windsor (who put us into the structural evaluation workshop this June—see page 15), comes a weekend devoted to trusses, building upon the current body of work now appearing in *Timber Framing*. Jan Lewandoski and Ed Levin will be leading a weekend event to examine, up close and anecdotally, three large building trusses and one humongous bridge truss, all within the town limits of Windsor, Vermont. Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 11.

In the cards for next year?

Bubbling further forward for 2005: John Palmer is working on a partnership with the Gallatin National Forest in Montana, and I have just returned from Lennoxville, Québec, where member Luc Lopes is developing a covered bridge job of considerable interest.

—Joel McCarty

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Western Conference in the wings

THE 18TH annual Western Conference is coming up soon in Colorado, and through some late developments we're welcoming more international talent to the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park.

Vit Mlazovski from the Czech Republic will be joining Petr Ruzieka for a series of presentations on historic reconstructions in Bohemia. Vit is a structural engineer who specializes in repairs of historical wooden buildings, designs of new wooden constructions performed by means of classical carpenters' technology, reconstruction of historical vaults, and repairs of ruins. He will talk about the repair of roof trusses at the Castle of Karlstejn. Petr will expand on the topic and share research strategies to discover the origins of carpenters' marks, how trusses were erected, and comparison of truss types and chronology. He will also bring a collection of axes and demonstrate both hewing and the production of joinery in medieval carpentry using both the long- and short-handled versions of these tools. Translator Marian Khalifa will facilitate the sessions.

Magda Prosinska, cultural anthropologist and member of the Zabludow committee (synagogue reconstruction), will come from Poland joined by two high-school students, Anna Poplawska (class president) and Magdalena Baczyk (head of ecology and liberal club). Together they will join Al Wallace to talk about the Zabludow Annihilated Heritage project and their homeland. They will be visiting high schools in Colorado and also seeing Washington, D.C. before heading home, and we hope you'll join us in giving them a warm welcome to the U.S. They are very excited to be coming.

If you've already registered for the conference, please be sure to use the forms in your confirmation packet to submit entries in advance for the slide show, project expo, and benefit auction. A schedule of presentations and other details on the conference, including registration information for those of you who still want to sign up, can be found on the Guild website, www.tfguild.org. —Will Beemer

Estes Park presenters

The especially robust gathering of presenters for the Western Conference deserves detailed mention. There are no fewer than four pre-conference workshops: David Johnston et al., **Building Sustainability Into Business** (see page 5); Curtis Milton, **Compound Roof Practicum**; Karen Mitchell, **Job Costing Start to Finish with Quickbooks Pro**; and Ed Shure and Takayuki Kida, **Tuning the Japanese Plane**.

The Natural Building Track is particularly extensive, with one of the pre-conference workshops (Building Sustainability into Business) and *eight* conference sessions:

Paula Baker-Laporte et al., **Natural Building Forum**
Paula Baker-Laporte, **Building for Health, Naturally**
Kari Bremer, **Ancient Wisdom for the 21st Century**
Kari Foster, Debbie Hindman, and Annette Stelmack, **"Greening" Interior Spaces: a Primer to Greening Residential CSI Specifications**
Stephen Kanipe, **Permits by the Book: Talking Alternatives with City Hall**
Robert Laporte, **Light Straw-Clay "Outsulation" for Timber Frame Structures**
Todd Swanson and Tim White, **Exterior and Interior Plastering with Lime and Clay for the 21st Century**

The Basic Timber Framing Track is also a full slate, with *seven* sessions (possibly the most ever!):

Leon Buckwalter, **Sharpening**
David Burnett, **Wood Anatomy: Effect on Strength Properties and Moisture Relationships**
Tim Chauvin, **The Optimal Raising**

Rudy Christian, **Understanding and Using Square Rule Layout**

Gordon Macdonald, **Site Safety, or Keeping Your Erection Safe!**

Curtis Milton, **The Challenges of Brace Layout**

Dick Schmidt, **Basic Beam Sizing**

Other sessions, reflecting the region the conference is in, hard-won experiences of some Guild members, and an Eastern European focus, include:

Ron Anthony, **Investigating Timber Structures Using Radioscopy and Resistance Drilling**

Andrea Arduine, **Movement on the Job**

Rudy Christian, **Restoration of the Working Farm Barn at Malabar Farm**

Peter Haney, Merrill Kaufman, Christopher Koziol, **Timber Framing and Place**

Thomas Keohan, **Documenting Historic Structures**

Chris Koehn, **The Rottweil Experience**

Mike and Sandy Koness, **From Print to Pegs**

Ed Levin and Ed Shure, **Ed²—Fruit of a**

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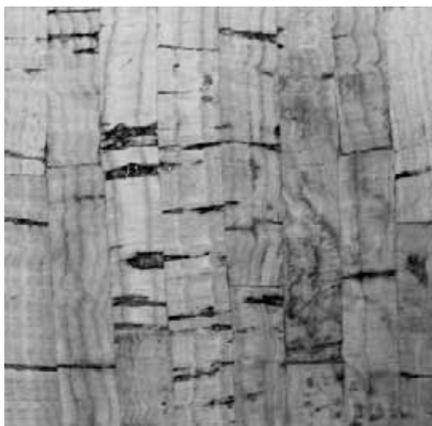
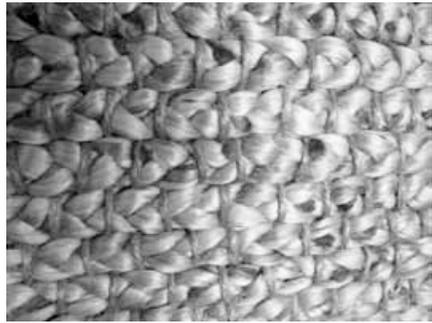
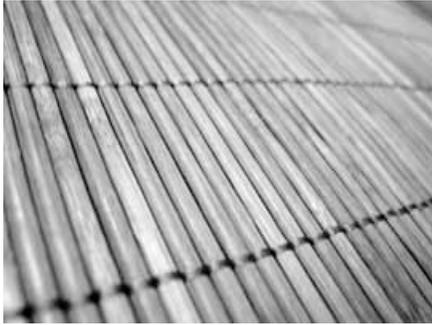
Curtis Milton and Rick Collins, **Real-Time Problem Solving**

Vit Mlazovsky, **Ceiling Reconstruction: a Look at the Castle of Karlstejn** (see page 5)

Magda Prosinska *et al.*, **Annihilated Heritage: the Zabludov Project in Bialystok**

Petr Ruzieka, **Medieval Roof Construction in Bohemia and New Research Methods**

Al Wallace, **Rehabilitating Traditional Western Log Buildings**



Materials used and offered by the Environmental Home Center (EHC): bamboo, jute, seagrass, and cork. EHC has organized the Estes Park pre-conference workshop Building Sustainability Into Business, a serious look at being green, both in the work environment and in materials and practices. The workshop features green building maven David Johnston, Patti Southard of EHC, Debbie Hindman of Associates 3, Paula Mosely, and Carlos Sosa, and is moderated by Chris Dancey. Most of the presenters are coming for the pre-conference workshop only, so if you want to get serious about green building, be sure to sign up.

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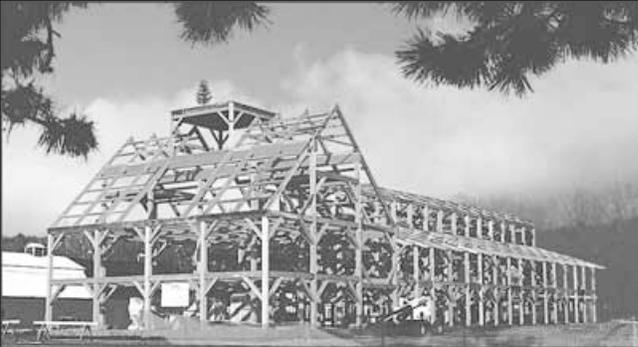
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A photo from Vit Mlazovsky's talk at the Estes Park conference showing the dominant type of ceiling construction in the castle of Karlstejn (in Bohemia, Czech Republic). The main girder is partially damaged by a shear crack.

photo Stanislav Pomahac



From Petr Ruzieka's talk on medieval roofs in Bohemia: one view of high work.

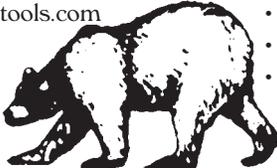
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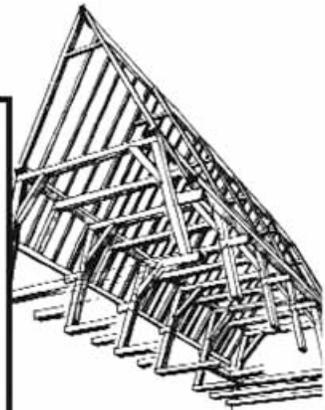
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For those who couldn't go

THE GUILD has embarked on a pilot project in the brave new world of web-based broadcasting. We saw a very sophisticated version of this in Rottweil this past year. Our first effort is much more modest. By the time you read this, you should be able to go to the Guild website and watch presentations from March's TTRAG conference.

The producers are an energetic young bunch of Canadian fellows who assure us that this will be first quality: easy on the eye and ear. Just to make sure they had a challenge, we put them on the spot for recording the tours as well. If all goes well, you will see these guys cruising the halls of the Estes Park conference for the same purpose, on a larger scale.

Any one of the following presentations will be available for online viewing for as little as \$13, depending on length. You can buy unlimited access to the whole collection for \$90.

Jan Lewandoski describes the reconstruction of Yin Yu Tang, an 18th-century Chinese merchants' house at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Mass. (Take a virtual tour at www.pem.org/yinyutang.)

Richard Candee, Director of Preservation at Boston University, offers opening remarks.

Jim Garvin of the N. H. Division of Historic Resources tells us of the timber yards on Great Bay that supplied frames along the East Coast in colonial America.

Tad Baker, archaeologist, shows us artifacts and the history of the Chadbourne House and water-powered sawmill (www.salemstate.edu/~ebaker/chadbourne.htm), a dig which presents a rich picture of life in southern Maine in the mid-1600s.

Victor Wright, master of slate and copper, and Rod Bishop, mason, team up to talk about flashing around chimneys and round posts.

Steve Card from the Northeast Lumber Manufacturers Association (NELMA) demonstrates timber grading.

John Butler and Arron Sturgis show us how to do assessments and archival recording of barns.

Give it a try, and let us know if we are headed in a useful direction.

—Joel McCarty

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Find the ride Board on the web site by following the Western Conference link, or go directly here:
www.tfguild.org/rideboard/.

It's simple enough, and free to members and non-members alike. It's also a great way to do your part for the environment!

—Joel McCarty

IPTW in October: call for demonstrators

PRESERVATION Trades Network (PTN) is hosting its eighth annual International Preservation Trades Workshop in Mobile, Alabama, October 22–24.

The PTN Timber Frame Committee is looking for timber frame demonstrators and possible projects to take part in this exceptional networking event. The timber framers will focus our demonstrations on historically correct vernacular traditions, especially on those of the Mobile area. Projects and demonstrations will provide an educational value to the hundreds of visitors to the workshop.

This is your chance to get to know some of the experts of many other preservation trades and network with the greater worldwide audience. For more information about this event and PTN, please reach Glenn James, PTN Timber Frame Committee (and Timber Framers Guild member), at greyoak1@aol.com or 410-876-0999; or visit www.ptn.org.

Handhouse and Zabłudow

part of the international learning network

HANSHOUSE STUDIO will run a workshop April 23–24 to construct a model of the wooden synagogue of Gwozdziec, featured in Tom Hubka's *Resplendent Synagogue* and to continue work on of the Zabłudow synagogue model now under construction. Workshop leaders include Ed Levin, Laura Brown, Rick Brown, Ellen Gibson, Matt Hincman, Wylly Brown, and Chris Madigan. To do the model work we will divide into teams.

The models, built at a scale of 1 in. to 1 ft., will measure about 60 x 60 x 40. Workshop students are majors in sculpture, art history, and architecture at colleges in Boston.

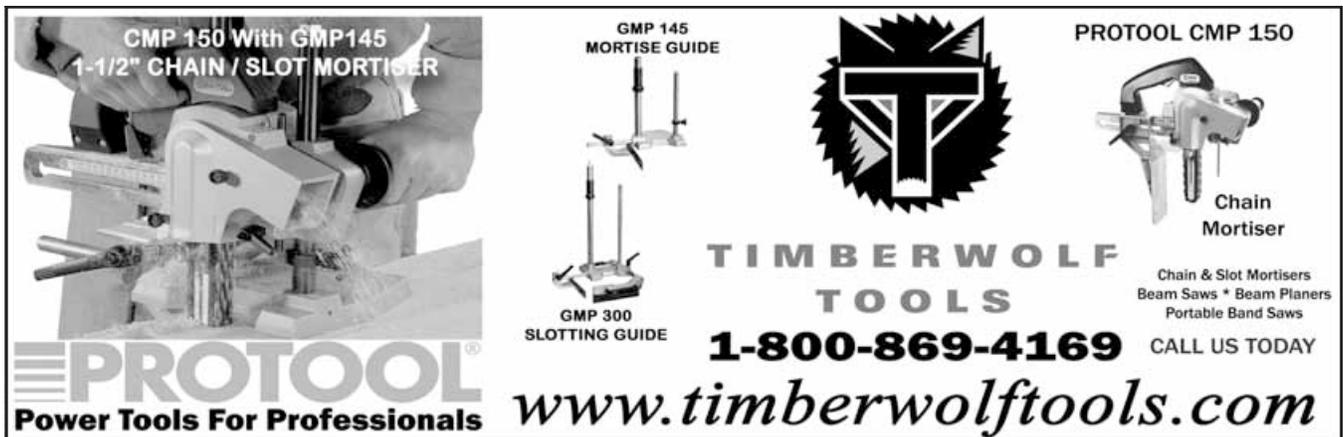
It's a terrific way for us to learn about the history of Poland, its wooden architecture, its Jewish population, and the Jewish culture and religion. It's also a way to recognize the limited information in drawings. Many parts of the buildings are not clearly defined, and the transition from 2-D information of drawings and photographs to 3-D reality is not always smooth.

If you are interested in visiting, tell us a day ahead of time via email (handhouse_laura@comcast.net) or phone (781-826-7314 or 781-354-1218). You can also visit www.handhouse.org.

Through Mass. College of Art, we are also running a Poland travel program on documenting historic wooden architecture, scheduled to leave May 23. It is now full, with 20 students who can do computer and hand drawings, photography with a large format camera, and traditional crafts in wood and metal. We have a number of students who have Polish relatives or who are Polish Jews. Many want to help make the Zabłudow project happen and are involved in the model workshop.

In the spirit of the Bialystok Resolution (see *Scantlings* 102), these programs represent "international learning network" projects dedicated to preserving the wooden cultural heritage of Poland.

—Laura Brown



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Rose Theater project on hold

THE FIRST phase of research and design for a reconstruction of Shakespeare's Rose Theatre in Lenox, Mass., has been completed in England. The research report was created by a British-American design team led by architect Jon Greenfield and master builder Peter McCurdy, from archaeological evidence analyzed by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

In May of 2002, the Guild held a workshop to build a medieval wagon shed under the direction of Peter McCurdy and Jack Sobon on the Shakespeare & Co. campus as the first building in the Rose Village complex. The wattle and daub infill test panels are holding up well after two Berkshire winters, as is the thatched roof installed by Guild member Michael Burrey.

Recent budget constraints have lessened the priority of the project until more funding becomes available (donations are welcome!), but the Guild and the folks at Shakespeare & Co. remain confident that the project will continue to move forward and that Guild members will have a chance to be involved in the future. Visit www.shakespeare.org for updates.

—Will Beemer



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Editor's note on the face-to-face

FOR ME, the annual face-to-face meeting of directors and staff, held in January at Norwell, Mass., was a landmark meeting. For the first time in several years, the Guild has experienced a year with a financial net loss. This caused all of us to take a hard look at every expense, and, more, at how things get done in the Guild. Initiatives on the table for project management and financial management led to a majority realization that as a group we need to decide what our mission is and to develop a business plan, rather than simply responding to opportunities or needs that surface.

I found the process both fascinating and difficult. Minutes of the meeting can be read on the members-only page of the Guild website. (This page is password-protected—a simple email request to a director will get you the password.) One important outcome is that this year's directors will be defining a mission and business plan (or operating plan, or whatever it might finally be called) during the entire year. They'll meet before the Western Conference, once during the summer, and possibly again at the Eastern Conference. I expect the Estes Park Guild members' meeting to address this visioning process in depth.

On page 12 you'll find a full list of Guild Directors, along with their offices and contact information. Page 13 shows the president's State of the Guild report. On page 14, find the treasurer's reflection on the financial state of the Guild, along with income and expense reports.

Committee appointments are as follows:

Bylaws: Rudy Christian, Curtis Milton, Brenda Baker, Susan Witter.

Nominating: Sandy Bennett, John MacFarland, Laura Brown, Tim Chauvin.

Scholarship: Grigg Mullen, Joel McCarty, Chris Feddersohn, Donna Williams.

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Rottweil: Rudy Christian, Will Beemer, Joel McCarty.

As Guild members, you are encouraged to voice your opinions and ideas on these topics to anyone on these committees. —Susan Witter

Rhetorical questions

ON THE lighter side of the face-to-face, it was a great meeting. Everyone participated on difficult subjects with constructive points of view. Along the way, I began to hear some questions that tickled me because, in a larger view, there were really no answers. I added a few, but most of these were actually said in all earnestness during the meeting.

Do I look like a fool?

How many times do I have to tell you?

Are you talking to me?

Do you want fries with that?

Do you mind?

Can I ask another question?

Did we get all the committees that we wanted?

—Susan Witter

Membership rates to increase

AFTER several years of unchanging Guild member dues, we are raising rates beginning in June. The new rates are as follows:

- Individual member \$85
- Student member \$50
- International member (except Canada) add \$25 for overseas postage for Guild periodicals
- Family members add \$25 to above individual rate.

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The State of the Guild

THIS YEAR the Guild will hold its 14th annual Traditional Timberframe Research and Advisory Group (TTRAG), 19th annual Western, and 20th annual Eastern conferences! If recent conferences are any indication, they will be well-attended and, for those who do go, unprecedented opportunities to learn more about timber framing yesterday, today, and tomorrow. We have seen increasing international collaboration with English, French, German, and Japanese carpenters conducting pre-conference workshops that provide hands-on instruction in traditional timber framing, at Guild conferences in both the U.S. and Canada. Many Guild members have taken advantage of the Guild-sponsored tours to visit the countries these tradesmen come from and learn more about their culture and history. Through a cooperative effort with the German Chamber of Trades, three groups of students have traveled to Germany to learn carpentry techniques from master *Zimmernänner* at the Gewerbe Akademie in Rottweil, Germany. To say the Guild has become a truly international organization would almost be an understatement.

Through the selfless and seemingly endless efforts of our executive directors and staff, the Guild continues to expand educational resources available to our members and the public. The Guild website has become a model for other non-profit organizations, an ever-expanding source for current information about Guild activities, and a convenient way to sign up for conferences, workshops, and rendezvous, shop for quality publications and tools, or buy a gift for someone special. Our publication efforts are growing too. The Guild quarterly *Timber Framing* and our newsletter *Scantlings* just keep getting better and better; somehow our editors have found the time and energy to produce the Guild's first book on timber frame joinery and to prepare the second edition of the Design and Joinery Workbook. There's also a book on timber frame trusses in the works, and this is likely to be the year that all of the previous issues of *Timber Framing* become available on CD.

The last few years have also seen real progress with the apprenticeship program. Detailed training modules are well into development and will soon be available to aid in the planning of training programs. The long range goal is to develop a standardized curriculum for learning the trade of timber frame construction. This type of education is of course already a principal part of Guild activities through our workshops and rendezvous. Hundreds of people, Guild members and not, have been introduced to the excitement and community of timber frame projects. Projects involving historic conservation have recently become a part of the fare, and Guild rendezvous in

particular have created an opportunity for young and old alike to share in the joy of working and learning together. Many Guild families are benefiting from this concept.

One of the most gratifying recent successes was realizing and passing our goal of \$40,000 in the Mark Brandt scholarship fund. Thanks to your generous contributions and support, the Guild continues to provide funding assistance to many aspiring professionals. This is a truly a rewarding accomplishment considering the fact that the declining stock market and economy have placed financial pressures on many non-profit organizations including our own. I would personally like to thank the past and present members of the Guild's Board of Directors who had the foresight and determination to put in place the financial planning that allows us to continue to provide scholarship assistance and quality educational programming during these tough economic times. The fact that Guild membership, and workshop, rendezvous, and conference attendance have continued to grow is a clear indicator that the Guild is still a very important part of many lives. Thank you for the honor of serving you.

—Rudy R. Christian, Guild president

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Treasury notes

I REMEMBER sitting in the airport last year with Sandy Bennett (VP *ex officio*) trying to decipher the financial workings of the Guild. We were on our way to the annual Board of Directors meeting known as the face-to-face. I was freshly elected to the Board, working on the road for six weeks, and not going home for six more. My head was spinning from new concepts and vocabulary that I now approach more comfortably. The thin air of Providence, R.I. was replaced by the energetic atmosphere of the Great Room in Norwell, Mass., where friends and respected associates managed the business of your Guild. Suddenly I found myself your treasurer. As an accountant, I am a pretty good carpenter. All joking aside, this is not a position to be taken lightly.

When you look at the income and expenses for 2002 and 2003, there are some items that will indeed get your attention, so let's just go through the list.

Income

Advertising income is up, but not as much as the publications expenses this revenue supports.

Conferences were less productive in terms of income in 2003. This is due in part to the giant turnout at Burlington in 2002, a small showing at Asilomar in 2003, and a low exchange rate for the Montebello '03 conference. Auctions were similarly soft.

Membership retention was off enough to ask why, though total numbers are growing slowly.

Interest and dividends are off for our accounts, too, this year. The scholarship fund may have to be subsidized by the general fund this year to continue supporting the scholarship program at previous levels.

Projects and workshops revenues do not reflect accounts receivable that carry into the new fiscal year. One project last year ended without meeting projected revenue goals. We would prefer that this not happen again, and we understand what needs to be done.

Sales, lumping things as diverse as temporary tattoos and the lovely Lie-Nielsen 10¼ planes, appear slow, but there is invisible inventory. The web store continues to be the access of choice for many purchasers.

Expense

Board of Directors expenses are up, due mostly to travel reimbursement for conferences and meetings. This is the all the compensation directors get unless they write for *Timber Framing*, teach workshops, or create curriculum. An active board costs money.

Office expenses are up. This includes items such as Internet provider, web hosting, computer supplies, envelopes, and the Yahoo store. The biggest increase is in web maintenance, but higher sales on the web store

Income (rounded to dollars) 2002 2003

	2002	2003
Advertising	51,161	58,389
Auction	55,211	52,795
Conferences and seminars	225,255	161,774
Donations	-19,811	874
Dues	140,965	128,660
Interest and dividends	2,446	1,246
Misc. income	868	482
Projects, workshops	162,674	173,742
Sales	37,324	29,647
Trade fairs (net)	7,485	6,590
TOTAL INCOME	\$663,578	\$614,199

Expense 2002 2003

Expense	2002	2003
Auctioneer	600	406
Bank fees	13,142	10,455
BOD expense	9,086	11,861
Conf's, seminars, mtgs.	188,685	166,802
Guild advertising	99	482
Insurance	5,537	5,462
Office expense	15,935	24,023
Postage	10,062	12,167
Professional fees	2,250	2,600
Rent	3,600	2,700
Travel	3,913	11,671
Utilities	6,131	6,375
Wages	103,603	116,072
Payroll taxes	8,321	6,874
Employee benefits	12,599	14,674
Membership expense	15,477	13,826
Misc. expenses	9,401	2,247
Projects, workshops	110,012	163,712
Publications	99,512	121,942
Taxes and licenses	125	434
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$618,090	\$694,785
Net Income	\$45,488	-\$80,589

Current Assets end-2002 end-2003

Current Assets	end-2002	end-2003
Money market account	27,379	27,649
Checking account	146,508	44,283
Certificates of deposit	33,212	34,511
M.B. Scholarship fund	41,373	41,706
Total current assets	\$248,472	\$148,149

are pushing this number. Postage is up predictably. Rent is holding the same for the Guild office.

Travel is primarily Executive Director travel expenses, reflecting the cost of putting a representative in many different locations during the year.

Wages are up, as we maintain the quality of services with additional capable, enthusiastic staff.

The tool crib made some capital investments this year in lights and more rigging gear.

Project and workshop expenses include everything from the rental car for the French tour to the generator for the Russell-Colbath project and will always vary with the scope of projects.

Publications expenses are creeping up, but:

- We are nearly ready to launch *Timber Framing* on CD, a searchable disc of the entire library of articles, with about \$8000 invested this year. Sales are predicted to be healthy.
- We have been selling the *Historic American Joinery* book, but expenses for 2003 exceed income. About \$5000 invested this year ends the up-front costs, and the book is now close to sold out, so we are now in the black.
- We are preparing the Design Workbook II, with about \$2000 invested this year. The DW I has been a steady seller.

- We are collecting modular curriculum materials and budgeting accordingly for this expense. As we begin to sell this material the ledger will reflect this.

Publication quality continues to improve. The publishing group will continue to get the support it needs to deliver high quality materials to the membership. The future revenue potential in this sector is considerable.

We should continue to grow both the scholarship and general funds to provide better and more complex services for our membership. The tool crib represents coin of the realm and needs investment too.

Goals for calendar year 2004 include:

- Further fine-tune the reporting mechanisms to better understand, predict, and improve the financial health of our Guild.
- Develop revenue streams.
- Conduct long term structural planning for this non-profit volunteer educational organization.

A wide variety of skills is needed to succeed. Please step forward and offer suggestions if you have them. You will be happy to know that, at the end of the first quarter of 2004, the Guild is back in the black.

—Curtis Milton, Guild treasurer

Workshop on historic structural evaluation

EVALUATING the physical condition of a historic building is the first step in developing a sensitive, cost effective rehabilitation plan.

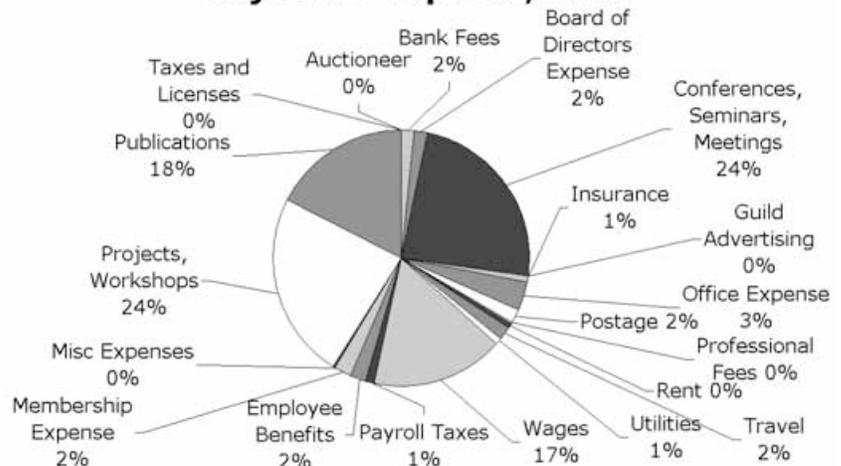
The instruction team, an engineer (Dave Fischetti) and a timber framer (Jan Lewandoski), will discuss types of structural systems, evaluation and testing, locating common problem areas, examples of rot and insect damage, introductory analysis of wood and timber structures, and case studies. A field trip will be included. Please bring slides and photos of structural projects on which you are involved.

The workshop happens June 4–5, at Norwich University, Northfield, Vt. For more information, see www.historicwindsor.com.

Sources of Income, 2003



Objects of Expense, 2003





Establishing credit

I WAS SPEAKING with one of our members the other day, Dan Ettelstein of North Pacific Lumber (NOR PAC). He mentioned to me that one of the biggest issues he sees is how hard it seems to be for timber frame companies to establish sufficient credit with NOR PAC.

Let's address this. How can companies in general, and small or startup companies in particular, best go about the process of developing good credit with a supplier? Through Dan, I got in touch with Roz Nolen, Softwood Credit Manager, who has worked in this area for 30 years and is very knowledgeable on the subject.

To start out, put yourself in her shoes for a moment. Imagine a stranger coming to you (the vendor) asking for a loan of \$50,000. This can be a difficult encounter, so realize that this is a time to be open and forthcoming. Now take your own role back. As a business person asking for a loan, your entire goal is to establish trust. You want to convince the vendor that

you can succeed in business and that you will pay your bills on time.

Along with a credit application containing bank information and trade references, the supplier's credit department requests a copy of your financial statement. With these, they look at the length of time you have had an established relationship with the bank or with other vendors, what your high credit has been from other sources, and whether or not you pay on time.

Some timber frame companies give financial and trade information freely, and others resist. Roz assured me that it's a small world—everyone knows who the players are; yet people in the credit department have an extremely high respect for confidentiality. She further suggested that if a timber frame company has any doubts at all, they could send their financial information straight to the company's credit department, where people are trained in confidentiality, rather than through a salesperson.



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Roz mentioned that sometimes companies are reluctant to give NOR PAC names of a competing vendor—in this case, other timber suppliers. This reluctance usually stems from one of two causes: (1) the company hasn't been paying their supplier bills on time, or (2) they are very careful about their relationship with the other supplier. If you, the company looking for credit, are this guarded about your dealings with another supplier, you risk losing your chance to demonstrate your highest credit history, which is a very important factor in a supplier's decision to advance you the materials you need. Perhaps you have other vendors who have given you high credit, for example a panel supplier. But if you don't mention that relationship, your already established practice of plain dealing is invisible. Conversely, clearly pointing it out can definitely increase the amount of credit you are offered.

Vendors generally share this information during a credit approval process: your recent (within the last 12 months) high credit, the length of time the vendor has done business with you, the terms of sales you operate on, and whether or not you have paid promptly within those terms. Generally, they do NOT share your credit limit, whether it is secured or unsecured, any of your other financial information, or your trade references.

(By the way, the best way to be comfortable with the information being shared is to get a credit check and see it for yourself. If you are an individual or sole proprietor, ask one of the three major credit reporting companies—Equifax, Experian, or Trans Union—for a credit check. It's not expensive; in fact, it's free by law in some states. You can order a credit check right from their web sites. For corporations, try Dun & Bradstreet.)

If you are a new company, you might not yet have a financial history. Start by getting a pro forma statement, possibly developed by your CPA or yourself, which indicates how much capital you have invested in the company. Get it audited by an independent third party auditor. Creditors look at your history: what expertise do you bring to this business that might give the credit holder confidence

in your success? Have you run similar businesses in the past? Are you involved with other related businesses? Get creative in thinking about how you can *demonstrate* your creditworthiness.

The credit department might want to speak with your banker; you can help the process. Tell your banker beforehand to be forthcoming with information about your company when asked.

You may be also requested to provide a personal guarantee for the credit. This means that you—not your corporation nor any other entity—guarantee to pay the bill. This is common even for S corporations.

One way to establish a track record with a vendor, building a solid line of credit as you go, is to offer a *standby letter of credit*: your bank earmarks a portion of your existing line of credit for this vendor. This is merely a way of securing what is effectively a credit line with the vendor. The bank may earmark \$25,000 to the vendor, and you work within it: ordering material and paying on delivery, keeping within that limit, and paying on time. This arrangement generally runs for a year. At the end of that year, the vendor evaluates your account to determine whether or not they can continue doing business on open account terms (without the security of the standby letter of credit).

As a key part of sound financial management, arrange credit before you need it. Get it in place while times are good (and the balance sheet reflects that), so you have it when you most need it. You are far less likely to achieve new credit when your own client is late on a payment and you're on shaky ground financially.

And, as in any relationship, the most important thing is honest communication. The more open you can be, the more people will trust you, especially financially. Keep your vendors apprised of what's happening. If a payment is going to be late for any reason, alert them. Let them know how concerned you are about your credit standing with them. Develop this relationship in the same way you develop others in your life, and it will pay big dividends for you.

—Nancy Wilkins



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A real look at Scotland

[IN THE January Scantlings, Robert Savignac of the International Log Builders Association (ILBA) described a possible ILBA rendezvous in Scotland this summer. Quoting from the sponsoring organization in Scotland, he said, "Central Scotland, now a man-made desert of industrial ravaged landscape, mostly denuded of trees, is in need of an aesthetic and environmental rejuvenation." One of our Scottish Guild members took exception to the remark and began a conversation about what Scotland is really like. He suggested we call upon Gordon Macdonald, who reports below.]

I've been living and working in the U.K. for eight or nine years, mostly in Scotland, where I've been involved in conservation, forestry, and construction as the director of Carpenter Oak & Woodland (COWCo). For the past few years I've worked closely with the Forestry Commission to support the use of local hardwood and softwood, and to apply pressure "from within" to embrace such thorny issues as Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) timber, replanting with native species, eco-building, revised structural specifications for local timber, sustainable forestry planning, and so on. In the course of my work (and just for fun) I've traveled and worked up, down, back and forth from the Outer Hebrides to the Orkneys to the Lead Hills many times over, and I've met with many of the major players in Scotland's eco-building and sustainable forestry movements. Here are my conclusions.

Scotland is spectacularly beautiful and has a heart and soul to rival any place on the planet. Its people are warm, generous, and genuine.

There is little remaining native forest cover: remnants of the once-great Caledonian Forest now exist only in small pockets of amenity woodland and parkland. These places are so beautiful that they bring tears to the eye.

About 15 percent of Scotland is currently under forest cover (three times what it was at the end of the First War), and there is a growing emphasis on native species. Most of Scotland's forests are the product of massive, government-subsidized planting that took place during the 1960s and 1970s, which produced vast quantities of low-quality timber that nobody really knows what to do with now that it's coming to maturity. These forests consist of uniform rows of homogenous species, monoculture crops rather than woodlands or forests. One problem is that the majority

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of the trees planted during this period were non-native species like Japanese larch, Sitka spruce, and Douglas fir, and the product is largely fast-grown and sappy timber of low quality (often the result of poor management or neglect once the trees were established). Much of this wood is currently being pulped or pressure-treated to combat insect attack because the wood is very sugary and porous. But in the greater scheme of things it should be remembered that the U.K. has only managed to produce about 12 percent of its own timber at the best of times, for over 500 years now. That's right: it imports 86–88 percent of what it consumes and has done so for centuries.

There are many exceptions to the junk-wood forestry model, and some very fine timber is now being grown in Scotland by foresters who genuinely care about the future. I've seen clear European larch boat-skins, 30-in. D-fir timbers, straight-as-a-die Scots pine, and magnificent oaks that rival the wood of any country, all grown in Scotland; but they are, alas, exceptions to the rule.

Is Scotland an industrial wasteland? No, that's nonsense. Scotland suffers from disorganized local planning, years of under-investment, and an "agricultural" or pragmatic approach to architecture (to put it politely). The countryside is littered with hideous, drab buildings that were thrown up (as in barf) after the Second War and they do everything possible to

denude the otherwise pastoral landscape. But so what? They're rotting away now, and they won't be around for much longer, while the buildings of the previous ten centuries will mostly survive in all their ruinous splendor to inspire future generations. There's good architecture to be found there, and I've had the privilege to work with many inspired young Scots architects who care deeply about their built environment.

Is Scotland a man-made landscape? Sure. It has been populated for millennia and made to earn its keep. The effects of this are everywhere, from John O'Groats to the Borders. When the Romans stomped their way through the Perthshire Glens damn-near 2000 years ago, they found a land that was already under cultivation by massive burning. It's never really been left alone since. Most of Scotland's larger animals have been hunted to extinction (eagles, wolves, bears) and the forests have continuously fallen to the fires of peasant farmers or the axes of hungry Englishmen (and "wannabe-English" hungry Scotsmen). Probably the most devastating recent influences on the Scots mixed-species woodlands have been the demand for railway sleepers and the need to hold up the roofs of coal pits (yes, really!). The man-made nature of the Scots landscape is a part of its beauty and I defy anyone to say otherwise without blushing.

See Scotland, page 24

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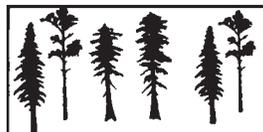
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- One-step aniline dye wiping stain in soft wax base
- Exterior finish (weathers to silver-gray)

Mike and Nita Baugh
213 Townes Rd
N Augusta, SC 29860

803-279-4116
fax 803-278-6996



POLICY: Notices are for one-time events and offers, and they run free to Guild members for two issues. The cost to non-Guild members (or to run a notice more than twice) is \$50 per notice per issue.

Architect-designer.

South County Post and Beam seeks a lead architect-designer to manage our 3- to 4-person design team. The candidate should be proficient in all phases of design from schematic design through construction documents and have the ability to manage design crew, workflow, and customer relationships. Full benefits and profit sharing potential for the right candidate. Please forward your résumé and salary requirements by email (info@scpb.net), fax (401-783-4494), or mail (521 Liberty Lane, W Kingston, RI 02892).

Born.

To Andrew Wilkins (son of Nancy and Wil Wilkins) and Jordan Jarmoski, a girl, Joslyn Marie Wilkins, on February 14, 2004, in Hamilton, Montana. The baby weighed in at 6 lbs. 12 oz., 19 in. long. Baby, parents, and grandparents are all doing fine.

Born.

Gabriel Jack Calvin, son of Leif and Tamala Calvin, born a Canadian on July 13, '03. Tami and I were on vacation in Canada for the weekend and Gabriel decided that a Canadian citizenship might be cool. So, after only 7 months in the womb, out he came, 4 lbs. 0 oz. Today, as a 7-month-old, he is as healthy as can be. P.S. After spending over a month in a Canadian special care unit with a premature baby, Tami and I cannot speak highly enough of the care we received. We have some of the best insurance a U.S. citizen can buy and I doubt we could have gotten better service here in California for the needs we had.—Leif Calvin, Timber Creations.

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eflc@uci.net

CD released.

Long time Guild member Tim Chauvin released a CD of his music in January. The CD, *Winds of Change*, contains 13 original tunes which cover a range of topics from timber framing to farming, from economic displacement to overseas adoption. Two songs directly relate to the Guild. "The Timber Framer's Song" has been around Guild events since 1984 and "The Speed River Bridge" is a musical chronicle of that 1992 Guild event. Samples of the songs can be heard at www.cdbaby.com/chauvin, where you can also order a copy.

Come see what we saw!

On Arbor Day (April 30), from 7 am to 3:30 pm, W.D. Cowsls will host the opening of its observation deck and information center in N. Amherst, Mass. where people can see how logs turn into lumber and learn about forestry and wood products. Timber framing will be featured. If you, as a timber framer, would like to demonstrate, please reach W.D. Cowsls at 413-549-1403.

Design manager for timber frame division.

Must be proficient in AutoCAD, Architectural Desktop, HSB, and Hundegger K-2 operations. Need Bachelor's or higher degree in architecture with timber frame experience and expertise. Good onsite construction knowledge and skills helpful. Boise, Idaho, area. Competitive salary, incentives, benefits. Send résumé to Precision Craft Log and Timber Homes, email hr@precisioncraft.com, or fax 208-887-1253.

Help wanted.

Experienced timber framers and log crafters. Silver Plume Log & Timber Works in the Denver/Mountain region of Colorado has full-time, year-round work available for residential and commercial projects. Please call, fax, or email résumé to 303-567-4207, fax 303-567-4305, or email fishingwolf@worldnet.att.net.

Lead dog for the pack.

Two Dog Timberworks seeks a timber framer with at least three years full-time professional experience with Western softwoods, layout on dimensional and organic material, cutting proficiency, machine maintenance, job leadership, and raisings. We are a small, innovative company that strives to attract challenging projects all over the country, and we encourage a "whole team" approach. Join us in the beautiful northwest corner of

Washington State! Pay DOE, full benefit package, rewarding work. Call Laurel or Pete Slisz at 360-366-5350 or email us, info@twodogtimberworks.com.

Mortiser and planer.

Makita 7305H hollow chisel mortiser, excellent shape, \$850. Makita KP310 12.25-in. planer, excellent shape, extra set of blades, \$1550. James Fish (Wash. State), 509-738-4380 days; 509-738-4232 evenings, mmww@plix.com.

Mortiser for sale.

New Makita chain mortiser, still in box, never been used. Call Richard Proctor, Yarmouth, Mass., 508-398-1919.

Plane making workshop.

Hiraide America will host a plane making workshop taught by Isao Inomoto. It takes place May 22 and 23, in Pepperell, Mass. Students will go home with their own handmade, world-class smoothing plane. For details, call 877-692-3624 or visit www.japanesetools.com/pages/news/inomoto_2004/inomoto_2004.html.

Square . . . Scribe . . . CRUCK! frame for sale.

16x24, three-bent, half-loft cruck design, meticulously crafted by our workshop students, is available at a deep discount. You can see the frame drawing at www.rockymountainworkshops.com or www.tfguild.org. Please call Peter Haney, 970-482-1366.

Timber frame job lead.

Spearhead Timberworks Inc., an established leader in unique timber frame construction, in beautiful Nelson, B.C., is looking for a full-time timber frame job lead. The successful applicant will possess 5 years' experience in complex timber frame construction, lead a crew of joiners, act as a liaison among clients, designers, and the crew directly under their direction. Send a résumé and cover letter to shop@spearheadtimberworks.com, or fax to 250-825-4306, attention Ron McDougall.

Timber frame shop foreman.

Immediate opening for a timber frame professional to manage its state-of-the-art facility. The successful applicant will be a journeyman timber framer, well organized, with good communication skills, proven leadership ability, and an interest in joining the management team of a progressive West Coast timber frame design-build company with a 25-year record of building fine homes and public buildings. Competitive salary, comprehensive benefits package, and opportunity to work with skilled craftspeople in a location well known for its outdoor recreational opportunities. Respond with résumé to: J. Rouleau & Associates, PO Box 30, Terryville, CT 06786.

Timber frame team captain.

Blue Ridge Timberwrights, designer and manufacturer of custom timber frames, seeks a skilled, self-motivated team captain. Supervisory experience, coordination skills, and a broad timber framing background required. Reply to PO Box 30, Christiansburg, VA 24068 or bennett@blueridgetimberwrights.com.

Timber framer and shop foreman.

Join our team of outstanding craftsmen and work in a state of the art CAD-CAM environment located in the Appalachian Mountains. Competitive wages and benefits. Check us out at www.harmonyexchange.com and reach rmueller@harmonyexchange.com or 828-264-2314 ext 21.

Timber framer wanted.

Well-established small shop located in beautiful Western Mass. seeks a timber framer to join our team in building a wide variety of custom frames. 3 to 5 years experience in layout, joinery, fabrication, and erection a must. Interesting projects, great environment, excellent benefits. Call Architectural Timber & Millwork, Inc., 413-586-3045.

Timber framer wanted.

Come join our team of "We do it all" timber framers, from historic restorations to crazy compound timbered roofs. We emphasize traditional timber framing, using hand-riven pegs and draw-bore joinery. For more info about us, see www.minkhilltimberframes.com. We are located in the hills of central New Hampshire. To apply, fax résumé to Kyle at 603-938-6219 or email kwhitehead@conknet.com.

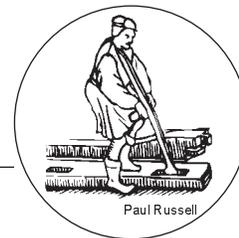
Timber planer and timber mortiser.

Holz-Her 9⁵/₈-in. PLP 245E with spare set of blades. Like-new condition with plywood case, \$1800 OBO. Makita hollow chisel timber mortiser, 7⁷/₈-in. bit and chisel. Excellent condition, \$1200 OBO. Cost does not include shipping or insurance for either tool. Paul Baines, Foley, Minn., 320-983-2549, pbaines@frontiernet.net.

Tool for sale.

Holz-Her, Protool 11¹/₂-in. portable bandsaw. 220 volt. Has guide extensions for thinner stock and several new blades. Was over \$3,500 new. It is 9 months old and has had light use. Asking \$2,600. Sean Macy, Dublin, N.H., 603-563-7758, shmacy@monad.net.

EVENTS



Guild workshops

At Heartwood (Washington, Mass.):
Timber frame design and joinery decisions.
May 31–Jun 4.
Compound joinery. Jun 7–11.
Timber framing. Jun 14–18, Jul 26–30.
Knots, ropework, raising and rigging. Jul 19–23.
Scribing. Aug 2–6.
Converting trees to timber. Aug 9–13.

At Rocky Mountain Workshops (Pingree Park, Colo.):
Square . . . scribe . . . cruck! Aug 22–Sep 24.
Compound joinery. Sep 5–10.
Timber frame design and joinery decisions.
Sep 12–17.

Guild workshop contact:
Will Beemer, will@tfguild.org, 413-623-9926.

Guild events on location

Virginia Military Institute, with the Guild, National Park Service, and School of the Building Arts
Spring field exercise: cannon carriages. Jan 29–Feb 1, Feb 27–29, Lexington, Va.; Apr 2–6, Fort Sumter, S.C.
Grigg Mullen, 540-464-7331.
Timber framing. Apr 25–May 1, Tyler, Tx.
Basic timber framing: state park pavilion. Aug 2–7, Boise, Idaho. (See page 3.)
Compound joinery: Rotary pavilion. Oct 4–16, Salem, Ore. (See page 3.)
Historical truss tours. Sep 11–12, Windsor, Vt. (See page 3.)

Guild on-location contact:
Joel C. McCarty, joel@tfguild.org, 603-835-2077.

Guild conferences

Western Conference 2004. Apr 15–18, Stanley Hotel, Estes Park, Colo. (See pages 4–7.)

Eastern Conference 2004. Oct 28–31, Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Champion, Pa.

Western Conference 2005. Apr 13–17, 2005, Resort at the Mountain (base of Mt. Hood), Oregon.

Other conferences

International Log Builders Association
31st Annual General Meeting and Conference.
Apr 1–4, Parksville, B.C. 800-532-2900,
www.logassociation.org.

Friends of Ohio Barns
Ohio Barn Conference. Apr 2–3, Xenia, Ohio.
<http://ohiobarns.osu.edu>.

PeaceWeavers and Gaiaecture
Natural Building Colloquium-East. Jun 26–Jul 3,
Bath, N.Y. 585-624-2540, www.gaiaecture.com.

ILBA and Swedish Log Builders Association
European Log and Timber Builders' Conference.
Oct 15–17, Tällberg, Sweden.
Robert Savignac, robert@logassociation.org.

Preservation Trades Network
International Preservation Trades Workshop. (See page 6.) Oct 22–24, Mobile, Ala. www.ptn.org.

Other workshops

Preservation Trades Network
Timber framing—repair of an 1847 barn with Glenn James. April 1–3, Columbia, Md. 410-313-4627.

Healing Harvest Forest Foundation
Biological Woodsmen's Week. Apr 5–10.
Horselogger's Play Day. Apr 10.
Marengo Plantation, New Kent, Virginia.
Jason Rutledge, 540-651-6355 (804-932-4147 week of Apr 5–10), jrutledge@swva.net.

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Fox Maple

Traveling workshops:

Intro to timber framing. Apr 5–10, Kauai, Hawaii. May 3–8, Grand Junction, Iowa. Jul 5–10, Gagetown, New Brunswick. Aug 2–7, Port Orford, Oregon.

On location in Brownfield, Maine:

Clay infill systems. Jun 5–6.

Introduction to timber framing. Jun 7–12.

Advanced timber framing. Jun 14–19.

207-935-3720, www.foxmaple.com.

Cowee Mountain Timber Framers

Basic timber framing. Apr 25–May 1, Jul 25–31, Nov 7–13. Franklin, N.C. Steve Smith, 828-369-8186, coweemtn@hotmail.com.

Gibson Timber Frames and friends

Introduction to timber framing. Apr 26–May 1, Mountain, Ontario (near Ottawa). Jason Gibson, 613-374-2488, jgibson@kos.net, or Dave Pajot, 613-258-1096, dpajot@aol.com. Followed by a straw bale workshop—ask us about it.

Goshen Timber Frames

Basic timber framing. May 2–7, Jul 25–30, Franklin, N.C. 828-524-8662 or susan@goshenframes.com

Traditional Timber Framing

French timber framing. May 3–22, Dax, France. Marc Guilhemjouan, www.traditionaltimberframe.com.

College of the Rockies

Intro to timber framing. Apr 30–May 2, May 7–9 (two weekends), Aug 24–29.

Timber frame production. Sep 27–Dec 17, Jan 17–Apr 8, 2005, Sep 2005 (12-week courses). Mike Flowers, mflowers@cotr.bc.ca, 250-427-7116, www.cotr.bc.ca/kimberley.

North House Folk School

Build your own timber frame. May 8–14, Jun 22–Jul 1, Jul 6–15, Jul 19–29.

Basic timber framing. May 20–24, Aug 18–22.

Compound joinery with Will Beemer. Oct 6–10.

All courses held in Grand Marais, Minn. Peter Henrikson, 888-387-9762, info@northhouse.org, www.northhouse.org.

Trillium Dell Timberworks

Barn restoration techniques. May 10–15, raising May 15, Knoxville, Ill. Laura Collins, 309-289-7921, laura@trilliumdell.com.

Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship

Timber framing. May 14–16, Harpers Ferry, W.Va. John MacFarland, 610-847-2777, tradtimber@aol.com.

Hiraide America

Japanese plane making with Isao Inomoto. May 22–23, Pepperell, Mass. Harrelson Stanley, 877-692-3624, www.japanesetools.com. (See page 6.)

Earthwood Building School

Cordwood masonry. May 29–30, Jun 1–2.

Earthwood techniques (and earth sheltering). May 31.

Timber framing for the rest of us. Jul 7–9.

West Chazy, N.Y. 518-493-7744,

www.cordwoodmasonry.com.

Historic Windsor

Structural evaluation and repair: timber frame structures (with Dave Fischetti and Jan Lewandoski). Jun 4–5, Northfield, Vt. www.preservationworks.org. (See page 15.)

Red Gate Farm

Intro to timber framing. Jun 26–27.

Barn restoration tour. Jul 24. All workshops in Plainfield, Mass. (in the Berkshires). Rich Potter, Potter Homebuilders, 413-743-5430 or 413-743-7110.

Roepers Projects

Barn dismantling weekend. Jul 16–18, Lyndeborough, N.H. Assessment and Tagging. TBA. Andy Roeper, 603.654.9831, andy@cwrmkt.com.

Sobon and Carlon

Traditional Timber Framing with Jack Sobon and Dave Carlon. Sep 22–26, Hancock (Mass.) Shaker Village. Jack Sobon, 413-684-3223, or Dave Carlon, PO Box 223, Windsor, MA 01270 at 413-684-3612.

Other events

Martin J. Donnelly Antique Tools

Two-day antique tool auction. Mar 26–27, Indianapolis, Ind. www.mjdttools.com/auction.

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Scotland, from page 19

Who doesn't admire the rolling fields, criss-crossed by centuries-old stone dykes? Those fields only roll as a result of centuries of tilling, after all. Remember too, that only 16 percent of Scots actually live in those rolling hills, while the rest are city-dwellers (80 percent in just four cities). Why does this matter? Because (with the exception of those fabulously wealthy few who still own most of Scotland—but let's not go there!) the folk who live on the land are some of Scotland's poorest and hardest working. They work the land hard just as their parents did before them, and they get by with precious few luxuries in life compared to the average North American. These aren't idealistic back-to-the-landers or weekend hobby-farmers.

But this is not really the point. The sad truth is that Scotland really is being wrecked, and the landscape may well not survive for very much longer. And yes, this is indeed a man-made problem, but perhaps not the one that first springs to mind. The Scots landscape is being nibbled and eroded by the tens of thousands of sheep and deer that have been introduced during the last century and now roam in numbers far beyond the sustainable capacity of the land. Very little now survives of the native flora, and what there is can't establish itself before grazing damage and erosion quickly snuff it out. The only way that young trees can now survive in Scotland is behind the multiple defenses of fencing, tree guards, and conservationists' rifles. The coast of Scotland is suffering a similar onslaught from seals, and the impact of these three animals combined is now more potent than any other factors in the Scottish landscape. The answers are clear, but until the city-dwelling majority finds the

stomach for a massive culling of deer and seals, or until they are prepared to pay farmers for the true cost of sustainably-managed lamb and beef, the problem will remain.

If you really want to know what's happening in the Scottish landscape, then here's my advice: sip a wee dram with the folk on a Hebridian pier as they pull in after a day on the lobster boats; listen to the banter of hill farmers as they bid for breeding "tups" at the local fair; roll a fag and sip too-strong-tea with the foresters as they take shelter under their oily machinery; and for goodness sake, enjoy the hard-won Right to Roam that lets us all stomp freely through the Scottish hills and heather . . . and form your own opinions of this fascinating, ancient, and beguiling land.

—Gordon Macdonald



photo Gordon Macdonald

A view between Inverness and Perth. In the foreground is rolling heather; mid-ground is a forestry plantation (mostly non-native spruce) with some farming; in the background are the Cairngorm Mountains with a dusting of fresh snow.



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