

# Blood Farm barn takedown

PHASE 1 of the Blood-Farm-to-Pisgah-Park project is complete and judged a success. Under the cheerful direction of Arron Sturgis, a loyal handful of Guild members carefully studied, tagged, and disassembled this old hemlock and pine barn in Westmoreland, N.H., the last week of May.

Special thanks are due Matt Phillips at Lift-All and the fine folks at Panel Pros for assistance with forktruck and crane, respectively.

All and all, this was a peaceful event. Short on good weather and blissfully short on mosquitoes, we had a large enough crew (12) or a small enough barn (38 x 60) to allow us to proceed at a thoughtful pace without the intensity sometimes associated with the final days of a Guild event. This was the first TFG experience for this year's crop of Heartwood apprentices, who acquitted themselves in the upstanding manner we have come to expect. The balance of the crew held up equally well in the face of the usual barn repair delights of bats, birds, bovines, bees, decay, debris, distress, danger, and all the other ills the flesh of this poor old barn was heir to.

Cheshire County had done a pretty good job of

keeping a quality roof on this barn over the last 85 years, but cattle and poor design had taken a toll. We met the fellow who took the slate off and put the metal on during the Reagan Administration, and we met a man whose father talked about the moving of this barn in 1920 or 1921, intact, on the river ice. This is a canted queen post structure with asymmetrical aisles (12 ft., 12 ft., 14 ft.), meaning that the relationship of the queen post feet to the tie beam connection was going to be trouble; there was also a loft joist mortise in this sensitive location, resulting in each of the interior tie beams failing at the same spot. Too much joinery and too little wood.



*The bones revealed.*

photo Stephen Dunn

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Stephen Dunn

*Geoff Cooper (U.K.), Devon Jennings (Calif.), and John Sandiford (Mass.) cleaning and hauling tagged parts.*

We found spotty repairs that included lots of wire rope and nailed-on bolsters.

The common rafters were peeled poles, probably of red pine, making the run in two pieces (plate to purlin, purlin to ridge), meaning that they could be tediously removed by hand, in a ballet that involved towers of staging, multiple saws-alls, nail pullers of various lengths, and poor weather. Fall protection protocols were honored. The plates and purlins were hewn (as were all the large timbers), and they sported a single, simple scarf in each run, one bay and one brace in from the gable.

The barn belonged to Cheshire County, N.H., and was part of a facility locally known as the County Farm, historically the safety net institution of New England county government; it was a combination asylum, jail,

## Timber Framers Guild

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*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: July 10.

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poor farm, and charity hospital. What's left of this system in this century is a large modern dairy farm, a bleak-looking jail, and an absolutely up-to-date nursing home. The farm and facilities managers went out of their way to be hospitable, providing water, odds and ends, weather reports, stories, showers, and even barbeque and ice cream. Campers had a spectacular view of the Connecticut River and rain almost every night. We found a delightful little country store-café up in Westmoreland Village run by a Spanish fellow who now wants to be a timber framer.

We were all packed up and ready for farewells mid-afternoon Saturday, when it finally stopped raining. All in all, a quality event with good work and new friends were ample payment.

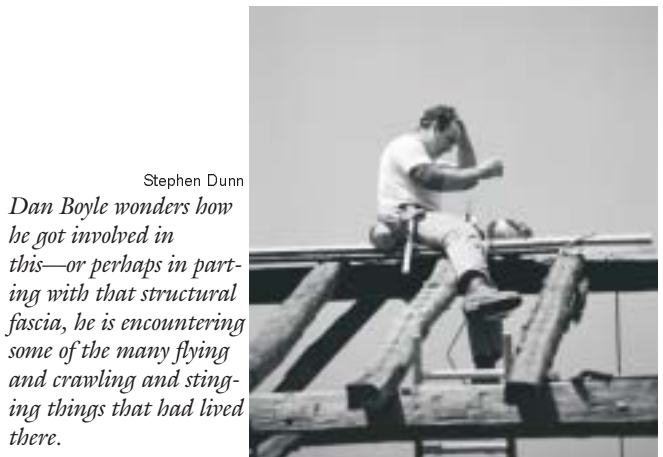
The frame has already been delivered to the beautiful hilltop farm in Chesterfield, N.H. where Phase 2 will transpire July 12–17. We'll repair what we can and replace what we must. This is a Guild workshop; the official topic is Appropriate and Authentic Repair of Historic Structures. Cost is \$150 for Guild members. Tool list, directions, and other details are on the Guild website. You can also join up online. We guarantee a fine time with great people in a beautiful part of the world.

—Joel C. McCarty



Joel C. McCarty

*Anise Wiley (N. Brunswick) in the dairy with Steve Morrison (Maine) trying to keep it all from tipping over as the sheathing comes off.*



Stephen Dunn

*Dan Boyle wonders how he got involved in this—or perhaps in parting with that structural fascia, he is encountering some of the many flying and crawling and stinging things that had lived there.*

# Eastern Conference plans

THE 20TH annual Eastern Conference will be held October 28–31 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion, Pennsylvania. It promises to be the best ever!

Highlighting the program will be the first international timber frame workshop. We are planning on inviting timber framers from Germany, France, and Japan to lead a special event where they will design, plan, and execute a small timber framing project. Crew leaders include Boris Noël from France, Kojiro Sugimura from Japan, and Filippo Campagna from Germany. Those attending the pre-conference portion of the workshop will hear the international crews share with each other the methods they use to approach the project, and they will then have the opportunity to work alongside the crews as they demonstrate their techniques during the main body of the conference.

Another pre-conference workshop will feature noted building scientist and educator Mark Abraham leading a one-day seminar on How Buildings Work. He will return for a keynote address. Curtis Milton will offer a pre-conference workshop on Compound Roof Framing, a repeat of his very popular workshop at our recent western conference and a substantial contribution to our developing compound joinery curriculum. During the main conference we will feature a half-day scribing demonstration by Josh Jackson and on-going workshops in planing and sharpening by Japanese tool expert Harrelson Stanley. We'll get outside for walks in the woods with Penn State University foresters Erik Burkhard, Michael Jacobson, and Jim Finley, who will teach tree identification and forest management techniques. We'll bring east some of the best presentations from April's basic track in Colorado, including Gordon Macdonald on Safe Raisings, Dick Schmidt on Basic Beam Sizing, and Curtis Milton on the Challenges of Brace Layout. Historical topics will include Rudy Christian on the Malabar Farm Working Barn and Doug Reed



photo Stephen Wright  
wright-house.com/frank-lloyd-wright

*Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, which we plan to tour.*

on Preservation Techniques. Vicco von Voss will show how lessons from furniture-making and boat-building can contribute to timber framing, and how to think outside the box when designing projects. Chris Dancey will reprise the Natural Building Track, which is becoming a popular regular feature at conferences. It will include new topics and presenters at Seven Springs. The Timber Frame Business Council will be offering some business seminars, including Lee Resnick with Keeping It in the Family (a survival guide for closely held businesses). For

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those who want to see a variety of CAD programs for timber framing go at the same design problem, we are also planning a first-ever CAD Challenge.

Other regular events include the Hundegger User's Group Meeting, Real Time Problem Solving, Membership Meeting, Board of Directors election, Summerbeam Bookstore, Trade Fair, Project Expo, Benefit Auction, and the famous Slide Show. Kimberley Reagan and friends will bring back the Children's Discovery Workshop which was such an inspiring event at the Montebello Conference last year.

There's plenty more for kids big and small to do at Seven Springs; this is probably the most kid-friendly venue we've ever had. There are two huge game rooms at the sprawling resort, plus an indoor pool, bowling alleys, indoor miniature golf, health spa, and outdoor mountain slide. We'll be a bit early for snow here at Pennsylvania's largest ski resort, but the state's best white-water rafting and fly fishing will still be in full swing in the immediate area. Perhaps the best attraction in the area is Frank Lloyd Wright's most famous house, Fallingwater (see photo page 3), located an hour away and available for touring daily.

Our Saturday night dinner will be a very special event. The Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) will arrange a banquet featuring all-Pennsylvania products, including regional specialties such as chutneys, dairy products, desserts, beverages, vegetables, and locally grown beef, lamb, and chicken entrées. Guild member Brian Snyder is now executive director of PASA. He was formerly the executive director of Gould Farm in Massachusetts, where the TFG built a barn in 2000. We can look forward to fresh and healthy foods produced by farmers who will no doubt join us at the banquet. I attended the PASA Conference in February and was surprised at how much in common our groups have. Farms need barns, after all.

Seven Springs is located about 1½ hours southeast of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, outside the small town of Champion (address: 777 Waterwheel Drive). Room rates are \$101 per person per night, single occupancy; \$75 per person per night, double occupancy; and \$65 per person per night, triple/quad occupancy. This rate

includes lodging, full buffet breakfast, and all taxes and gratuities. To be sure of getting a room, please make your reservations early; call 800-452-2223 or 814-352-7777, ext. 7009. For a look at Seven Springs, go to the web at [www.7springs.com](http://www.7springs.com).

Conference registration will be available on the Guild website shortly, and you will also receive a flyer in the mail in August.

—Will Beemer



courtesy Seven Springs Mountain Resort

## Errata

ON PAGE 14 of the May-June issue, Will Truax was incorrectly identified. In the caption of one of the photos he appears as Dave Truax. We regret this error.

In last month's notices, the email address [kwhitehead@conknet.com](mailto:kwhitehead@conknet.com) was mistakenly attributed to Architectural Timber & Millwork. If you are interested in working for Architectural Timber & Millwork, the way to reach them is by calling 413-586-3045.


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# Guild insurance?

MORE THAN a few of you have asked over the years why the Guild isn't selling health insurance as some other not-for-profits are. It turns out size does matter. While the bizarre regulatory climate of the health insurance business will likely prevent us from getting in the health care business, after about a year of back and forth with the TFG insurance broker we have identified some packages that we may well be able to offer our members.

If you have even a casual interest, please complete the survey (by fax, 888-453-0879 if necessary; web is preferred) at [www.tfguild.org/members/insurancesurvey.html](http://www.tfguild.org/members/insurancesurvey.html) soon—all results confidential. It's only by collecting good data that we can have any hope of developing a program

that will be of value to you, your families, and your employees. Did any of us think in 1985 that we'd be having this discussion?

The insurance broker will compile all our of members' responses and then put the programs together for our consideration.

The services our broker is researching include life, supplemental health, disability, and accident insurance. However, if there are other insurance-related products [such as dental!—SZW] you would like them to review, please feel free to add those products to the survey.

Questions? Ask me at 603 835 2077 or

[joel@tfguild.org](mailto:joel@tfguild.org).

—Joel C. McCarty

## Insurance Needs Survey — Timber Framers Guild

Residence—state/province, country: \_\_\_\_\_

Male / Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Your age: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of dependents: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you own your own home? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Combined yearly income—check one (US dollars):

☐ \$10,000–\$30,000

☐ \$31,000–\$50,000

☐ \$51,000–\$100,000

☐ \$101,000 +

Are you self employed? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, do you have employees working for you? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how many employees? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you now have health/medical insurance? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, is it provided through your employer? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

What is the amount of the deductible (what you pay before the insurance kicks in) on your health insurance plan? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently have accident insurance? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently have life insurance? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, for what amount? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently covered by workers' compensation insurance through your employer? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

The primary programs we are investigating are: life insurance, supplemental health insurance, disability insurance, and accident insurance. If there are other insurance-related programs you would be interested in, please note those programs here. \_\_\_\_\_

All responses are optional and confidential. Survey results will be published in summary form only. Thank you.

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# Summer Guild workshop in Idaho

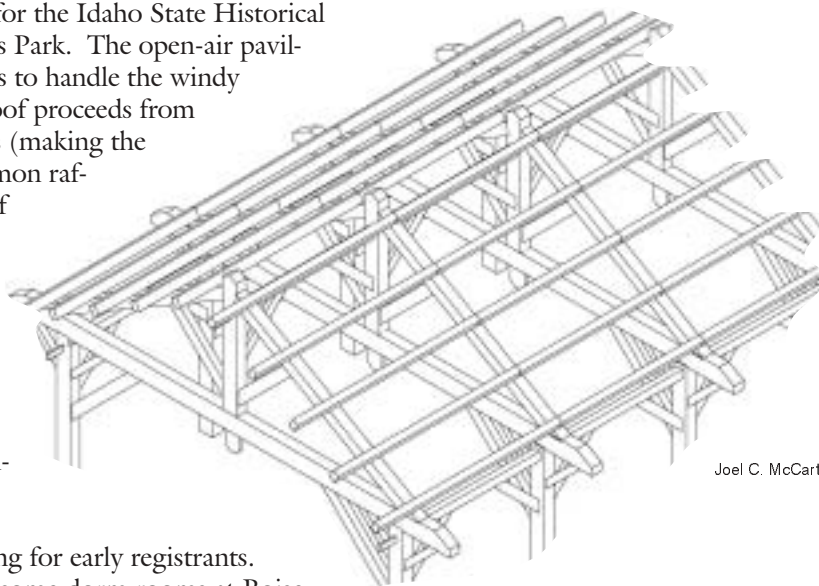
PLANS ARE coming together for the Guild's timber framing event in Boise the first week of August. We'll be building a pavilion for the Idaho State Historical Museum in the heart of the city, in Julia Davis Park. The open-air pavilion features king posts and double knee braces to handle the windy (but not snowy) climate. The basket-weave roof proceeds from large rafters (in the bents) to common purlins (making the overhang work) to modest but frequent common rafters (removed from the drawing for clarity). If you have seen the Rindge Pavilion, you know this makes for an extremely attractive ceiling when shakes are the roofing material of choice.

This project is also a workshop on square rule timber framing, with enough challenge and variety to please the novice and the expert. I will lead, with at least one other qualified instructor, depending upon enrollment. The \$500 (\$600 non-members) workshop fee includes dorm housing for early registrants.

We've arranged for early breakfasts onsite, some dorm rooms at Boise State University, some camping options, and most important, a project of manageable size and complexity, plus a variety of other challenges (early morning work so as not to be unduly influenced by the smoke from seasonal forest fires) and amusements (such as the trout stream running right through the jobsite).

Sign up on the Guild website, and if you are interested in a leadership position for this one, let me know.

—Joel C. McCarty



Joel C. McCarty



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# This fall's U.K. tour: East Anglia

FOR OUR next trip to the timber framing wonderland of Great Britain, John Russell has organized the following itinerary centered on the 5th annual gathering of the U.K. Carpenters Fellowship at fabulous Cressing Temple.

Tour participants will tentatively arrive in the U.K. (Heathrow Airport) on the morning of Wednesday, September 15, and depart on Thursday, September 23. We will attend the Fellowship meeting (Frame 2004) on the weekend of September 17–19.

Some of the Frame 2004 presenters: Leigh Alston will start the weekend on Friday evening with a talk on the frames of the East Anglia region. Saturday, Richard Harris will speak on cranes and scaffolds; Philip Aitkens will explore hammer beam roofs in the region; Stephanie Waddington will present a workshop on shop drawings for framers; Adrian Gibson will look at the role Cecil Hewitt and the Cressing barns played in the development of the study of historic building; and David Andrews will give tours of the site each day.

Sunday will bring us Adrian Gibson and Laurie Smith on the geometry of barns, followed by Richard Harris and

Joe Thomson on the two-ft. rule. Leigh Alston will discuss roof development in the eastern region. Will Beemer will handle roof geometry. Dave Stenning will look at the timber framing of Essex. Cameron Scott will discuss CAD for framing. Jim Blackburn will finish by taking us through the Abingdon boathouse project of 2003.

Practical demonstrations at Frame 2004 will include the use of two-ft. marks in historical carpentry, joint destruction testing with Jon Shanks from Bath University, simple frame layout, safety harnesses for framers, cutting timber on mobile sawmills, trigonometry for hip and valley framing, peg making, cleaving oak shingles, and the use of lime in traditional building.

Entertainment includes the exciting axe-throwing competition, medieval longbow demonstrations, a banquet, live music, and the fund-raising auction. Trade stands throughout the weekend include vendors selling power tools, antique tools, and books.

Before and after the main event of Frame 2004, our van with a maximum of 15 tour participants will tour the countryside. We will stay at Rare View Bed and Breakfast/Self Catering in Gosfield, sharing and cooking meals together (to save cost) when we aren't enjoying pub fare. We will share three units (converted cow sheds) housing six people each with private rooms and baths, only four miles from Cressing Temple.

Essex and Suffolk were particularly wealthy counties prior to the 18th century. The rich agricultural land, sheep farming, and numerous rivers allowed trade with the Continent to flourish. Consequently these areas have an outstanding heritage of medieval and Jacobean buildings and, because there was generally a lack of good stone for construction, almost all these buildings are timber framed. The region is famed for its early carpentry: floating tie beams, lap joints, passing braces, hammer beam roofs, and ornate King post trusses.

Sites to visit are described below.



photo Ian Rose

*The St. Lawrence Church, one of the stops on the U.K. tour.*

Cressing Temple	Two of the most impressive and oldest medieval barns in Britain (the Wheat Barn and Barley Barn) are rare links with the world of the illustrious Knights Templar. During Frame 2004, there will be guided tours of the barns, the medieval moats, the Tudor walled gardens, and the largest Elizabethan granary in Essex.
Coggeshall Grange Barn Paycockes House Essex	Stunning 13th-century monastic tithe barn. Also contains a fine collection of historic farm machinery, carts, and wagons. Paycockes is a fine 16th-century close-studded merchant's house with wonderful paneling and woodcarving. The local town is a classic example of tall, narrow timber framed town houses clad in plaster.
Bourne Mill Essex	Originally built as a fishing lodge in 1591, this historic house with its stepped Dutch gables was converted in the 19th century to a mill.
Woodbridge Tide Mill	One of the few surviving tidal mills in the U.K., this mill on the beautiful Deben River estuary is still in working order.

Wind and water mills	At one time Essex and Suffolk were home to many hundreds of wind and water mills. A number are still in working order: Moulsham Mill (Chelmsford), Bocking Windmill, Saxstead Green Post Mill, Leiston Mill, and Billingford Windmill.
Churches	<p>The economies of the eastern counties (Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk) flourished prior to the discovery of the Americas. This wealth is reflected in the rich heritage of stunning medieval churches with some of the finest hammer beam roofs in Britain. We could visit one every day for a year and still not see them all. The churches at Needham Market, Framlingham, Blythborough, Icklingham All Saints, and Laxfield all spring to mind as fantastic examples.</p> <p>We might also be able to go into the belfry of some churches. Of particular interest might be the early timberwork at Navestock and St. Lawrence's, Upminster. (Cecil Hewitt based his ideas about early carpentry on the notched lap joints in these churches.)</p>
Greensted Church	This small parish church may be a direct descendant of the early Saxon churches which must have existed all through eastern Britain. It is uniquely similar to the stave churches of Scandanavia, possibly the oldest in Europe.
Chatham Historic Dockyard	The historic dockyards at Chatham have been in use since medieval times. Apart from the boat yards, docks, arsenals, and military history at the site, there are a number of 18th- and 19th-century boat sheds with examples of historic trussed roofs.
Lavenham and the Guildhall Suffolk	<p>Perhaps the best known of all timber framed guild halls, this magnificent 15th-century example has exhibitions inside on timber framing, local history, farming, and industry. We'll visit the walled garden, tea shop, 19th-century lockup, and mortuary—not in that order, we hope!</p> <p>Lavenham is an amazing town filled with impressive timber framed buildings; it's probably the best place in England to see close studding. Nearby is a timber-framed inn at Long Melford with Jacobean sculpted-carved timbers and molded beams.</p>
Milden Hall	13th-century hall owned by friends of Clare Walter. Fine example of curved base crucks quite rare in East England.
Steeple Bumpstead, Essex	A good example of the market hall once common in every town.
Moyes Hall Museum, Bury St. Edmunds	Good examples of carved dragon beam constructions.
Bury St. Edmunds Cathedral	One of the glories of England. This complex boasts a Norman gatehouse and magnificent hammer beam roof to the main nave of St. Mary's Parish Church. We hope to arrange a tour of the roof structures as well.
Little Stoneham, Suffolk	Impressive examples of ornate crown post roofs.
Toolshop at Needham Market	Quite a well-known antique tool shop and auction house, worth dropping in.
Local timber framing workshop	Several possibilities. We will also look at some contemporary framing in the area.

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We are also hoping to get Philip Aitkens or John Walker to give us a talk on the history and development of houses in Essex and Suffolk one evening as an accompaniment to our tour. We might also visit Sutton Hoo, a Saxon burial mound unearthed.

Costs are still being negotiated at press time, but it is estimated that the cost will be around \$500 per person, which includes van rental, lodging for 8 nights, admission to Frame 2004 (including banquet) and the fee for our tour guide, John Russell. Extra costs per participant would include meals (if we cook most

together this will save significantly over eating out), gas share, and airfare to London.

We need a minimum of ten participants for this tour to take place, and if you are interested you should contact Will directly at the Guild office (413-623-9926, [will@tfguild.org](mailto:will@tfguild.org)) by August 1. If we don't have the required number of participants by then, we will have to cancel the tour. This is a rare opportunity to visit the richest area of timber framing in Britain with one of the most knowledgeable experts in the country. Please join us, and don't delay letting us know you'll be on board!

—Will Beemer and John Russell



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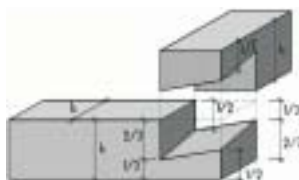
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# Gewerbe Akademie course for timber framers

THE GEWERBE AKADEMIE'S three-week basic-but-intensive Timber Framers Guild-sanctioned course on joinery and compound layout runs September 26–October 16, in Rottweil, Germany. In this course you'll get a solid introduction and lots of practice in a dedicated environment. It provides the foundation for you to do compound joinery and for the advanced three-week Gewerbe course to be held in January.

You'll start with the basics of roof design, learning different methods to construct perpendicular lines and other angles with simple drafting tools. You'll use these tools to do roof layouts from variant building footprints. This unit starts with simple roofs (same slope and even eave height) and progresses to more complex designs with



images courtesy Gewerbe Akademies



variations in roof slopes and eave height. The aim is to understand how to develop a roof design and how to draw it.

Further lessons include traditional joinery (purpose, structural aspects, and use of different traditional German joints), traditional structures (roots of timber framing, local samples, layout and marking systems),

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compound layout by math (basic trig functions to calculate hip, valley, and jack rafters, plus tricks and secrets), sample house (a little frame that you will design, draw, lay out, and cut), the hipped roof (drawing, layout, and cutting of hipped roofs, concentrating on hips, valleys, jacks, and clawed jacks), training on Dietrich's 3D CAD/CAM software using the sample frame as a project to produce shop drawings, timber lists, and piece drawings, and finally power tool tips and tricks (Mafell's demo of advanced use of power tools through patterns and other little helpers).

Instruction is in English, but units are not! You'll want to develop a working knowledge of the metric system and to brush up on your trig. The course day starts at 8 am and ends at 5 pm, with lunch and breaks. In the evenings and weekends, you may find time to explore Rottweil (for more see [www.rottweil.de](http://www.rottweil.de)), take other courses at the Gewerbe Akademie (bakery, masonry, furniture building, and so on), take part in sightseeing tours, and perhaps visit some local timber framing shops.

If you're interested, begin your inquiries now. More information is available about prices, travel logistics, tools needed, and so on. You can direct your questions to Will Beemer as the Guild representative ([will@tfguild.org](mailto:will@tfguild.org)), Heiner Maute as principal of the academy ([garw-maute@lwk-konstanz.de](mailto:garw-maute@lwk-konstanz.de)), or Filippo Campagna ([garw-campagna@lwk-konstanz.de](mailto:garw-campagna@lwk-konstanz.de)). Registration deadline is August 27. See you in Rottweil!

—Heiner Maute




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### Staying legal across state borders

STAYING WITHIN the law as you move from state to state can seem like a full-time job and a moving target. And it's one you really have to take on at some point because the alternative, when you get caught, can be very expensive and, even more time consuming.

This subject moved up the priority list as I got a call for help researching the requirement of a contractor's license in Utah to raise frames legally. I called a company that builds in Utah to find out how they deal with it. While I was on the phone with them, I learned that they needed help locating someone with a contractor's license in West Virginia that could make them legal there. So it's plainly time to start helping clarify what is required of companies working in multiple states.

First the obvious caveat: this is not legal advice, and it surely won't be complete. What I will do is list requirements to consider and sources for finding out whether those requirements are relevant in any given state. Several of these requirements have costs associated with

them, so make sure you do your research as fully as possible *before* you submit a bid!

Keep in mind that the larger the job, the more complicated it is. More players are involved, it's more likely to be scrutinized, and the bite is much bigger if you get caught doing something outside the law.

My best general piece of advice: before you sign your contracts, have a good accountant (who understands the unique areas of your work) review them. On larger jobs, consider using a lawyer for that review as well.

#### 1. Taxes—state and local.

Two superb sites give information about state taxes on a state-by-state basis: [www.start-a-business.com/inc-category/taxinfo.html](http://www.start-a-business.com/inc-category/taxinfo.html) and [www.toolkit.cch.com/text/P07\\_4500.asp](http://www.toolkit.cch.com/text/P07_4500.asp). For local taxes, talk to the architect or general contractor on the job, the local chamber of commerce, or a local reputable builder; you can find their names from a building supply house. The state com-

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merce departments are your sources for state tax information.

## 2. Contractor's licensing.

Many states require that you hold a contractor's license if you do any work at all there, even for a short time. Sometimes this can be met by the general contractor onsite, or you may be able to have someone from an in-state timber frame company join you onsite. Be sure to look over the requirements for the state you will be working in. If you doubt the importance of this law, consider that in some states, a general contractor is not required to pay a subcontractor who does not hold the proper licenses.

Here are some excellent resources on the requirements for contracting licenses.

License requirements state by state:

[www.contractors-license.org](http://www.contractors-license.org).

Basic licensing information:

[www.nationalcontractors.com/license.htm](http://www.nationalcontractors.com/license.htm).

Remodeling license info:

[www.411homerepair.com/contractor/license.shtml](http://www.411homerepair.com/contractor/license.shtml).

## 3. Business registration.

Some states require you to register your business in that state. I could not find a nationwide listing of business registration information, so I suggest searching for business requirements in the state where you will be

operating. They are most often handled through the secretary of state's office.

## 4. Workers' comp.

This varies widely, since you can have either state or private coverage. Your insurer may have a reciprocity agreement with the state you are working in, for employees you have hired at home and take with you. If you hire employees on the job site, they won't be covered under a reciprocity agreement, and you will have to cover them in that state. In this and any situation where you hope to stay away from employment laws by hiring people as subcontractors, be sure they qualify for that designation. Review the requirements at [www.irs.gov/pub/irs-regs/subcontractorstext.prn.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-regs/subcontractorstext.prn.pdf).

## 5. Lien notice requirements.

To protect yourself in case you ever need to file a lien on a job, you may need to file preliminary paperwork. This varies state to state. To research the requirements for each state, see [www.lienlawonline.com/lienlaw.asp](http://www.lienlawonline.com/lienlaw.asp).

## 6. Liability insurance issues.

Everywhere you work, you should get certificates of insurance from people you sub work out to, like crane operators. It's good protection for you in case something goes wrong, and it's an easy way to make sure your subs are covered.

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## 7. Surety bonds.

You may be required to post a bond. The site [www.attny.com/gci32djd.html](http://www.attny.com/gci32djd.html) explains when construction surety bonds are required on federal, state, and private projects, and it outlines the bonding requirements contained in widely used contract forms, including Federal government contracts, American Institute of Architects contract forms, and the Associated General Contractors subcontract form.

## 8. Prevailing wages.

This will apply primarily if you are doing government work, in which case you may well also need a public works contractor's license in that state. If prevailing wages apply, you definitely want to know it before you price the job!

## 9. Heavy vehicle taxes.

Make sure your vehicle is within the limits set by the areas you will be traveling through. I could not find any nationwide info on this, so you'll need to check state by state. Randy Churchill recently wrote an article on his experience in this matter in the April TFBC newsletter, available on our website, [www.timberframe.org](http://www.timberframe.org).

To make sure you have completely covered your bases, do a search for the specific state you are interested

in, looking for business requirements. This is definitely a task where the Internet can save hours of frustration.

The TFBC contains many business owners very willing to share what they've learned. To enhance your network, we have installed a forum on our website with a thread for state business requirements. This will be an excellent place to share your stories and to check and see what others have learned about the system.

May you have safe, happy and legal raisings, wherever they are!  
—Nancy Wilkins

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## A look at the Pingree Park design workshop

JOHN MUMAW, instructor at the Pingree Park Timber Frame Design and Joinery Decisions workshop, takes a bit of a different slant on design. Since he began his career as a carpenter, he approaches design from a builder's standpoint.

A start in the early 70s in boatbuilding led to work as a carpenter. In 1984 he began timber framing when he went to work for Blue Ridge Timberwrights. After directing the design department at Blue Ridge for nine years, John began work as an independent timber frame designer under the name Lost Bent Woodworking & Design. He spoke at both the Western and Eastern Timber Framers Guild conferences in 2003, sharing case studies of various design projects.

The course is an introduction to timber frame design. It is for anyone wanting a better understanding of timber frame design, but it's especially meant for practicing timber framers. The emphasis of the course will be on developing the information necessary for a small shop to cut a frame, including sizing timbers and selecting joints.

After a brief history of timber framing, the evolution of the craft, and timber frame terminology, students will look at different methods of developing a concept, including bubble diagrams and massing studies, and at

the process of developing a structural grid within either or both. Then they will learn how to use the timber frame to define space, create order, and embellish the plan. They'll explore communicating the design to the client, the rest of the design team, and the shop through sketches, hand drafts, CAD, and model.

Further topics include the interaction between the frame and other house systems (foundations, enclosures, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC).

Finally, the course will cover basic frame engineering, wood properties, beam sizing, and joinery design. *The National Design Specification (NDS) for Wood Construction* and the *Supplement to the NDS* (both by the American Forest & Paper Association, published by the American Wood Council) will be used for exercises in this section.

At press time, the course was just about full; if you want further information, ask John Mumaw, [john@lostbent.com](mailto:john@lostbent.com), or Peter Haney, [haneyrmww@frie.com](mailto:haneyrmww@frie.com).

—Susan Witter

*[There is still space available as well in Curtis Milton's Compound Joinery workshop at Pingree Park, September 5–10. For student comments on Curtis' teaching, see the May–June Scantlings.—Ed.]*



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## **CAD designer-draftsperson—relocate to the “last, best place.”**

Centennial Timber Frames is seeking a CAD designer-draftsperson proficient in AutoCAD. Architectural background and experience designing timber frames preferred, but not necessary. Join our community of fine craftspeople in Kalispell, Montana, 40 miles from Glacier National Park. Competitive wages, benefits, and good career potential. Send letter of introduction and résumé to [centennial@centurytel.net](mailto:centennial@centurytel.net) or mail to: Sandy Koness, Centennial Timber Frames, 1001 Trumble Creek Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-8114.

## **Can we visit you?**

Chris and Ruth Koehn and sons Ansel and Rainer are hitting the road for an undetermined period of time in search of adventure beginning this July. We will be living in our 1979 Airstream trailer, seeing what we can see, learning what we can learn, and working along the way.

We'd love to talk to you about spending some time. We have over 15 years experience designing, erecting, and building timber framed homes. We have a CD-résumé to send you, and Joel McCarty vouches for our character. Little does he know. Please write us at [timberguides@koehn.com](mailto:timberguides@koehn.com) or call 920-528-8661. Thanks!

## **Green builder wanted.**

The Traditional Timber Framing Company Inc., in Nelson, B.C., is seeking an experienced Green builder. Minimum of 4 years experience in clay construction including enclosure systems for timber frames required. Skills in layout, joinery and finish carpentry are a definite asset. Reply to: TTFC, 6850 Harrop-Procter Rd., Nelson, BC V1L 6R2 or [handwerk@netidea.com](mailto:handwerk@netidea.com).

## **Hundegger (K-2) machine operator wanted.**

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### Project manager and sales dog needed.

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We are a growing company specializing in unique, high-end timber projects. We offer a progressive work environment, good wages and benefits, and a beautiful Pacific Northwest location. Call or email Laurel or Pete at Two Dog Timberworks, Inc., Ferndale, WA for more info, 360-366-5350, [info@twodogtimberworks.com](mailto:info@twodogtimberworks.com).

### Scribe and electric chain saw wanted.

Looking for a second hand Big Timberworks Double Bubble scribe. Also looking for an electric chain saw in good condition, hand saws, and 1½-in. chisel. I'm leading a high-school timber frame building project in the fall and looking especially for used hand saws and chisels for the students. Please contact Denis Buet at 509-382-2005 or [sheden@bmi.net](mailto:sheden@bmi.net).

### 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.

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### Antique beam carts.

These old trolleys were designed especially for moving heavy steel beams for textile machinery, and they are perfect for timber handling. Designed many years ago by Mather & Platt, a Lancashire-based company, they move well on firm or hard floors, they're safe, and they're convenient. My friend has a farmyard full of these carts (60–100), and they are for sale for £50 (about \$91 US). He ships antiques to the U.S., so shipping is possible.



The carts are constructed in steel and cast iron with two 21-in. diameter wheels with rims 1¾ in. wide. Two smaller wheels back and front are 6 in. in diameter (rims also 1¾ in. wide), and they prevent the cart from flipping over. The smaller wheels can be offset relative to each other to aid stability, and they can be set higher than the larger wheels to allow some tilting over the 32-in. length of the cart, facilitating loading and unloading. The top mounting platform is 22 in. from the ground, and the wheel-to-wheel width is 19 in.

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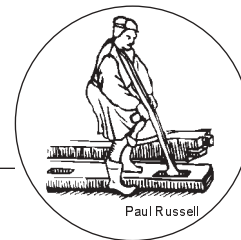
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## Guild workshops

*At Heartwood (Washington, Mass.):*  
**Knots, ropework, raising and rigging.** Jul 19–23.  
**Timber framing.** Jul 26–30.  
**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.** (See page 15.) Sep 12–17.

*In Rottweil, Germany (Gewerbe Akademie):*  
**Extended timber framing course.** Sep 26–Oct 16,  
Jan 9–Jan 29, 2005.

Guild workshops contact:  
Will Beemer, [will@tfguild.org](mailto:will@tfguild.org), 413-623-9926.

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## Guild conferences

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

**TTRAG 2005 Symposium and Tour.** Mar 18–20, 2005,  
Mohican Resort & Conference Center, Perrysville, Ohio.

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

**Western Conference 2006.** Tentative mid-Apr, Tigh-  
Na-Mara Lodge, Parksville (Vancouver Island), B.C.

## Guild events on location

*At Pisgah State Park, Winchester, N.H.:*  
**Appropriate and authentic repair of historic  
structures.** Jul 12–17.

**Raising the Pisgah–Blood Farm barn.** TBA.

*In Boise, Idaho:*

**Julia Davis Park pavilion.** Aug 2–7.

*In Salem, Oregon:*

**Rotary Club pavilion for Salem.** Oct 4–17.

*In Windsor, Vt., with Historic Windsor:*

**Historic bridge truss workshop with Jan Lewandoski  
and Ed Levin.** Sep 10–12.

Guild rendezvous contact:  
Joel C. McCarty, [joel@tfguild.org](mailto:joel@tfguild.org), 603-835-2077.

## Other conferences

*U.K. Carpenters Fellowship*

**Frame 2004.** Sep 17–19, Cressing Temple, Essex, Eng-  
land. (John Russell is leading a tour as well; see page 7.)

*ILBA and Swedish Log Builders Association*

**European Log and Timber Builders' Conference.**  
Oct 15–17, Tällberg, Sweden.

Robert Savignac, [robert@logassociation.org](mailto:robert@logassociation.org).

*Preservation Trades Network*

**International Preservation Trades Workshop.**  
Oct 22–24, Mobile, Ala. [www.ptn.org](http://www.ptn.org).

## This just in

DEDICATION OF the Gateway Visitors Center, N.  
Woodstock, N.H. (Guild project 2002), will be Sep  
22. Dick Hamilton extends a warm invitation to us  
all. R.S.V.P. to Joel.

## Other workshops

### *Fox Maple*

**Intro to timber framing.** Jul 5–10, Gagetown, New Brunswick. Aug 2–7, Port Orford, Oregon.  
207-935-3720, [www.foxmaple.com](http://www.foxmaple.com).

### *North House Folk School*

**Build your own timber frame.** Jul 6–15, Jul 19–29.  
**Basic timber framing.** Aug 18–22.  
Grand Marais, Minn. 888-387-9762, [www.northhouse.org](http://www.northhouse.org).

### *Earthwood Building School*

**Timber framing for the rest of us.** Jul 7–9, W. Chazy, N.Y. 518-493-7744, [www.earthwoodmasonry.com](http://www.earthwoodmasonry.com).

### *Tillers Ox*

**Relocating barns.** Jul 9–16, Kalamazoo, Mich.  
**Timber framing and raising.** Aug 16–21, Wykoff, Minn. Sep 6–11, Kalamazoo. [www.umich.edu/tillers](http://www.umich.edu/tillers).

### *Centreville Settlement*

**Timber frame internship and workshop.** Internship Jul 11–16, workshop Jul 12–14. **Nogging workshop.** Late summer. Cleveland, Wisc. Janet Lutze, 414-964-0319, [www.centrevillesettlement.com](http://www.centrevillesettlement.com).

### *Red Gate Farm*

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

### *Roepers Projects*

**Barn dismantling.** Jul 16–18, Lyndeborough, N.H.  
**Assessment and Tagging.** TBA. Andy Roeper, 603-654-9831, [andy@cwrmktg.com](mailto:andy@cwrmktg.com).

### *Goshen Timber Frames*

**Basic timber framing.** Jul 25–30, Oct 10–15. Franklin, N.C., 828-524-8662, [cathy@goshenframes.com](mailto:cathy@goshenframes.com).

### *Pfeiffer Nature Center*

**Pavilion workshop.** Jul 26–31, Portville, N.Y.  
716-373-1219, [www.pfeiffernaturecenter.org](http://www.pfeiffernaturecenter.org).

## August French scribe workshop postponed

BORIS NOËL'S two-week French scribe workshop announced in the last *Scantlings* has been indefinitely postponed until we can find an appropriate public project for the workshop (probably next summer). Boris will be coming to the Eastern Conference in Pennsylvania in October to participate in our international timber frame symposium. —Will Beemer

### *Cowee Mountain Timber Framers*

**Basic timber framing.** Jul 25–31, Nov 7–13. Franklin, N.C. Steve Smith, 828-369-8186, [coweemtn@hotmail.com](mailto:coweemtn@hotmail.com).

### *College of the Rockies*

**Intro to timber framing.** Aug 24–29.  
**Timber frame production.** Sep 27–Dec 17, Jan 10–Apr 1, 2005.  
Mike Flowers, [mflowers@cotr.bc.ca](mailto:mflowers@cotr.bc.ca), 250-427-7116, [www.cotr.bc.ca/kimberley](http://www.cotr.bc.ca/kimberley).

### *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.

## We're grateful!

A COUPLE folks deserve special thanks for their support of the recent Guild workshop in Texas. Scott Northcott has generously provided pegs for numerous Guild workshops and all five of the Texas projects, and Mike Preston of Timberlinx provided a number of specialty fasteners for those spots where the wooden joints benefitted from a little steel assist. Thank you for holding it all together for us. —Tim Chauvin



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# The vision jells

THE TABLES are littered with empty coffee cups and water glasses. The walls of the conference room (including the framed pictures) are almost completely covered with sheets of flip-chart paper.

It's amazing! This is the first sustained effort the Board has engaged in without the distraction of a conference or major project, to examine where the Guild is and where we want to go. It differs from our annual face-to-face meetings in its rigid structure of institutional introspection and a well-documented method for holding ourselves accountable. This event, held at the end of the east-west runway of the Manchester (N.H.) "international" airport, is the fourth, final, pre-implementation phase of the visioning workshop directed by Nancy Wilkins of the Timber Frame Business Council. It began at a Board meeting before the Estes Park conference. The results of that event, including comments from membership, are pasted all over the walls of the conference room.

Look for programs and initiatives in the immediate future, but more important, look for invitations to you to take part in the four program areas that we identified as the most important to our future. There are now specific goals, with reporting dates, for each. We expect to report on this further via our publications and at the Pennsylvania conference with another call for member commentary. Stay tuned for more.

## Educate working professionals

As a result of several surveys of what you want from the Guild, we are exploring new educational models: inter-shop efforts such as those championed by John Miller of Dreaming Creek; streamlined, focused standalone conferences for shop people, without the overhead of trade shows, auctions, and so forth; a timber

framing shop manual; and specific user groups for allied professionals.

## Refine management structures

We'll review and revise the *Project Handbook*, to reflect new event models we have been using, and guidelines for what has been working and for what needs more effort right now. It's time to develop an organizational chart, create the framework for administrative process review, and implement structural revisions.

## Enhance revenue streams

This means new publications, including the oft-mentioned but as yet unrealized Plan Book. We also might create a new "in-house" project/event model where we develop and execute a timber frame project in the absence of a client, allowing us to better focus on the teaching and training aspect of the Road Show.

## Expand member outreach

This is being championed by Dick Schmidt. We'll address the notion of local or regional chapters, smaller, more economical weekend events that do not involve long drives or airline travel, and the stated goal of getting more of you participating in the Guild's programs.

I am generally suspicious of any fluffy-feeling management notions. These events convinced me that concrete results and significant improvements are possible. The real test is, of course, to see if we can walk the walk.

Thanks to all Board members participating in person or via email and conference phone. Thanks also to John Miller and Andrea Warchaizer who also donated their time and perspectives to the mix, and especially to Nancy Wilkins who pulled it all together. —Joel C. McCarty



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