



# SCANTLINGS

NEWSLETTER OF THE TIMBER FRAMERS GUILD  
NUMBER 117 OCTOBER 2005

## Angola, a look back

Staff (and students?) from May's Professional Development Workshop, the first phase of the Angola project. From left, Will Truax, Luc Giasson, Todd Bellio, Larry Fisk, Tony Wall, Randy Churchill (kneeling), Ged Whelan, Dave Strike, Rick Collins, Chris Gunn, Micah Whitman, Al Anderson, Isaac McCoy-Sulentic, Kevin Brennan.



photos Joel C. McCarty

*It all started with the wood, delivered over the winter to the Trillium Dell site.*

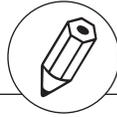
THE TIME constraints of a very busy summer caused us to say too little (until now) about what a success the combination of May's Professional Development Workshop and the Selman Memorial Pavilion (June) project was. We were flying from one job to the next, doing a year's projects in six months.

This very large building, with a frame measuring 40 x 100 ft., is managed by the Angola, Indiana, Parks and Rec Department. The Angola frame was the Guild's biggest understaking ever, budget-wise. The frame contained 254 pieces for an astonishing total of 17,173 board feet of good Midwestern white oak, the hardest and heaviest wood ever. Other pieces included 672 maple pegs (thanks to the generosity of Northcott

*See Angola, page 4*

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## More on "The End of Wood"

I just read the latest *Scantlings*. In particular I was very interested in the article "The end of wood" by Leon Buckwalter. It so happens my reading of this article coincides with my having just read Elizabeth May's book, *At the Cutting Edge: the Crisis in Canada's Forests* (ISBN 1552636453). I thought that some of the members might be interested in reading this book. It talks about Canada, yet I believe that the underlying thoughts are relevant around the world.

Peter Hindrichs  
hindrich@worldchat.com

## Member Directory supplement

FOLDED IN to this issue of *Scantlings* you'll find a supplement to the 2005–2006 Guild *Member Directory*. It contains an ad for West Forest Timber that we inadvertently left out and the list of members who've joined since last summer. We're sorry, Alf.

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## Lifetime members

WE NOW have 13 lifetime members (15 people) in the Guild. We'd like to thank these folks for their life commitment to the Guild: Brian & Arthur Armbrecht, Sandy A. Bennett, James Chambers, Abbott L. Cummings (honorary lifetime member), Dr. Robert Ensminger (honorary lifetime member), Mike Flowers, Ian Halm, Steve Lawrence & Stephanie Waddington, Thomas M. Lechner, Bruce Lindsay, Joe Miller, Eric Morley, Andrew Roeper, and Lon Tyler.

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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: October 20.

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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# Eastern Conference update

The Eastern Conference, October 13–16 in Burlington, Vermont, is just around the corner, and we have added some extra presentations in recent weeks.

Charles LeBlanc from Sullivan Safety Company will be doing a fall protection demonstration from 3:30 to 5:00 pm on Friday, October 14. He will be bringing a tripod, and he'll let folks try on and test various types of harnesses and lanyards. Charles will also discuss features of the equipment and demonstrate the most common problems and failures.

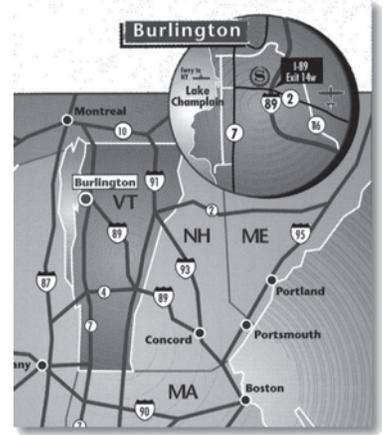
Over a dozen engineers within the Guild have met in informal lunch meetings at the past few conferences, and this time we are setting aside an entire afternoon for them to discuss issues related to their profession. On Saturday starting at 1:30 pm, anyone interested in timber frame engineering can join them in the Shelburne Room at the Burlington Sheraton.

Our Guild room block at the hotel is sold out by now for the infamous 20th anniversary conference, but there are other hotels within walking distance of the Sheraton. Camping is available at North Beach Campground, 800-571-1198 (looks like the closest) and the Shelburne Camping Area, 802-985-2540. If you want to share a room at the hotel or a ride to the conference, please go to the website at [www.tfguild.org/rideboard](http://www.tfguild.org/rideboard).

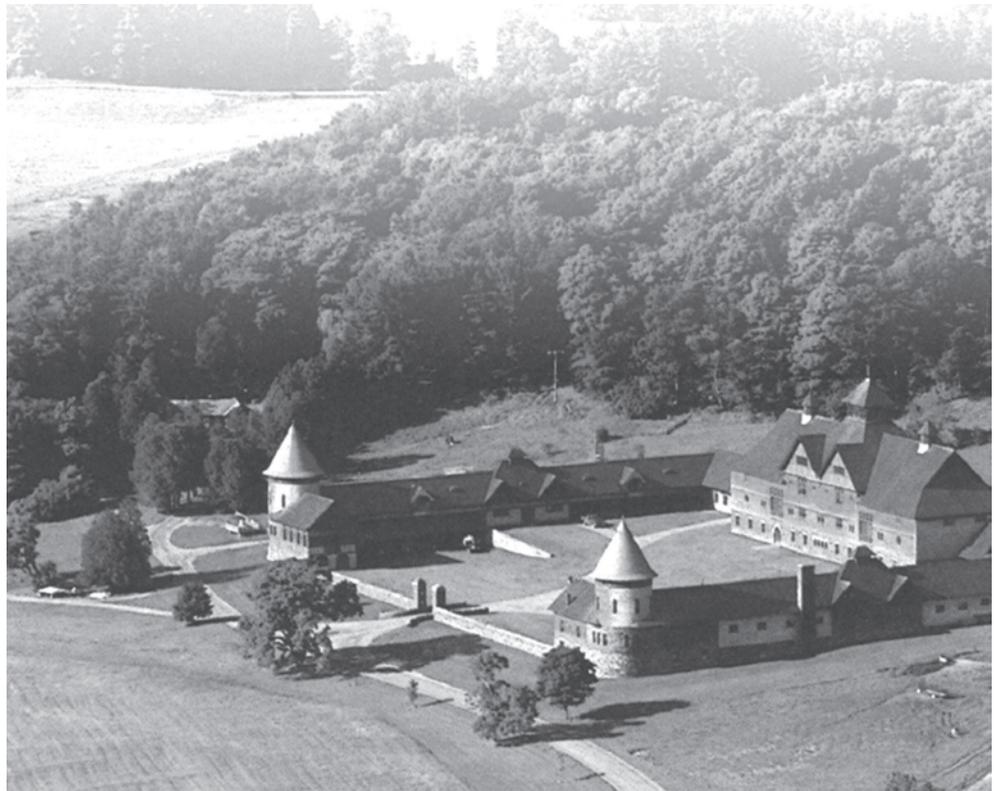
Finally, Wil Dancey and Tony Wall wish to clarify that their workshop on Dimensioning and Layout for Compound Joinery will focus on dimensioning joinery and not sizing timbers as described in the last *Scantlings*.

See you there!

—Will Beemer



courtesy Sheraton Burlington Hotel



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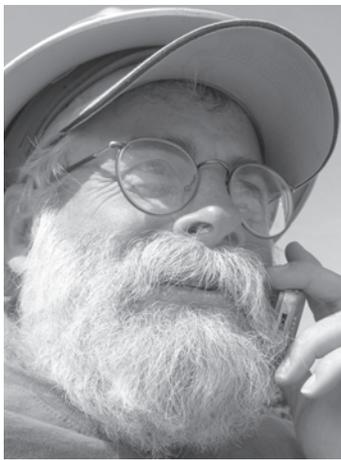
Angola, from page 1

Wood Turning, Walpole, N.H.), 16 walnut wedges, and 16 white oak splines. May's Professional Development portion of the project invested approximately 400 person-hours to lay out and cut 156 pieces (7,409 bf.) before our two-week June rendezvous in Angola. For the rendezvous, we budgeted and spent about 1,700 person-hours to lay out and cut, and two very full days to assemble and raise.

We enjoyed the broadest menu of artery-clogging midwestern comfort food ever. (And as long as we were moving around and drinking lots of water, we were very comforted!) Hats off to the great men, women, and children of Trillium Dell who picked up ALL of the loose ends and lent us every bit of equipment we imagined we needed. We are also very grateful to Adrian Jones, Chris Gunn, Laura Viklund, Joe Miller, Will Truax, Leon Buckwalter, Jack Witherington, Randy Churchill, Tom Nehil, Amy Warren, Tim Brennan, Martin Rowe and Family, and especially, Kevin Brennan, Simon Gnehm, and Rick Collins.

—Joel C. McCarty

*Wearing two hats and often two cell phones, E.D. Joel McCarty continues to juggle future projects from the comfort of his mobile office.*



*Above, Jack Witherington does the Manitowoc pas-de-deux.*

*Below, Alan Peoples (right) and Seth Leik share a pleasant interlude from work.*





*Above, the Rowe Row: all of Martin's kids, emblazoned and ready for action.*

*Heartwood apprentices having a great time. Top, Brian Felice, and just above, Isaac McCoy-Sulentic, a couple of sturdy apprentices who probably got more than they bargained for but gave as good as they got.*

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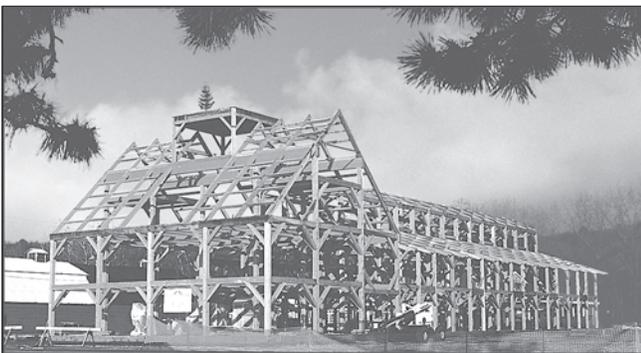
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*You cannot have too many cranes. We made good use of them!*



*Above, Chris Koehn, walloping another in a long series of mortises, got himself a field promotion to Project Manager for a 2006 Guild event.*



*Left, Mafell's Denny Hambruch, loyal event supporter (didn't we just see him in two other time zones?), tool maven, and great travelling companion. With him is Kevin Brennan on the saw.*

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## Heating up in Suriname

AS OF press time, the Suriname crew has been selected from among 49 applicants. They will build a visitors center on Foengoe Island in the middle of the Central Suriname Nature Preserve, though which they hope to promote eco-tourism. While the schedule is still a bit soft (targeted date for the raising is late November), we are certain that we have assembled a first-class team. Most of the folks we looked at were very well qualified, and we regret having to turn anyone away.

Leadership and crew are Gord Macdonald, Steve Lawrence, Rick Collins, Adrienne Walker, John Miller, Bob Smith, Oscar Emanuel, Derwyn Hanney, Steve Morrison (of KJ Morrison in Maine), Jack Witherington, Gene Wixson, James Chitty, Andrew Preston, and Neville Bodsworth.

They are each now receiving painful injections and shopping for bug repellent.

—Joel C. McCarty

*Half the timber for the job has reached the village of Witagron on the Copperhead River, half-way between Suriname's capital (Paramaribo) and the jobsite. These Conservation International workers are lowering timbers into water from the bridge deck, where they can then be loaded into dugout canoes for transport upriver to the building site. In the photo below, the big concrete structures behind the man on the log are bridge pillars.*



photos Troll and C.I. staff

*Troll and Simon Gidding in the foundation, now being finalized.*

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# Salem Rotary Club cuts the ribbon

THE ROTARY CLUB of Salem (Oregon) invites members of the Timber Framers Guild to the dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Salem Rotary Centennial Pavilion. This pavilion, a Guild project completed in May (see the July *Scantlings*), was designed by John Mumaw of Lost Bent Woodworking. Ribbon-cutting will happen Tuesday, October 11, at 11am at Salem Riverfront Park. For more information, ask Jim DeSantis, [jimmyd@open.org](mailto:jimmyd@open.org), 503-932-1395.



photos Jim DeSantis



From the lowly to the sublime. Left, one of the paving tiles. Above, the lovely Rotary pavilion.

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# Lessons learned, patterns repeated

A TIMBER frame was raised on a mid-September Saturday, in Vermont, and it was the work of our daughter, Raven, and her husband, Rio Mueller.

They are young, these two, 24 and 26, and so perhaps parents may be indulged for the pride and pleasure we feel in their accomplishment. The frame fitted together with seamless ease. And when it was done and the sun was shining golden across the hills and onto the frame, and when it was done and we watched the moon rising across the pines of the far hills and through the pine of the frame, we marveled and were happy deep in our hearts.

They chose to build their own home. They chose to clean up a neglected, trash-strewn piece of land and make it better. They chose to design a home that would fit into the land's curve and would receive the warmth of the sun. They chose to timber frame.

Raven might have walked away from timber framing in response to excessive exposure in her youth. But instead she and Rio chose to seek big wood and put chisels to timber. They enrolled in the timber framing class at Heartwood in the summer of 2004. Fresh from class, they ordered timbers and confidently cut their first frame, a storage building on which they could "practice"; they raised it on Mother's Day, 2005. Then they ordered the timbers for their home. They had organized their lives and finances to be able to devote the summer to cutting their frame, with a 20-stick-per-week cutting plan. They met their goal, with time to spare.

I have been thinking of the integration of time, choices, and generations, and how the word *joinery* is related to the word *connections*. Eighteen years ago, when Raven was six and her sister Birch was two and a half, Joel and I hand-mixed and poured the foundation for our home-to-be. We have photos of them sitting and reading while we shoveled and wheeled and poured. By the time we moved in, three and a half years later, they had a brother, Rowan, and needed to share their bedroom with him. What made possible our moving in to our own timber frame home was the cheerful and generous help given us by friends over those years.

Now not only are Raven and Rio sharing in the work we love, but some of our friends have become theirs. Will and Michele Beemer, Dave Carlon, Josh Jackson, and Ben



photo Tim Whitehouse

Raven at work on her house.

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Yeomans became their timber frame teachers. The pine for their frame grew in the rocky soil of New Hampshire, logged by our neighbor Peter Renzelman, milled by our friend Lester Phillips. The pegs came from our friends and neighbors Scott and Judy Northcott and family. Their decking and roof boards were milled by our friend Tina. Some of the people who helped us build our house have helped raise Raven and Rio's frame, particularly friends Kate and Michael Nerrie. Friends—including Guild members Jim Kricker and Jean Whelan, Dave Carter, Randy Churchill, and Kevin Brennan—helped raise the frame, and Kevin helped cut joinery for two days.

But of course Raven and Rio have their own friends, too, and these friends have helped them with everything from working on the foundation to milling boards and giving them salvaged windows and bathroom fixtures and time, time, time at each stage. For several of their friends, this timber frame experience was their first, and they participated joyfully.

Family stood with Raven and Rio for this raising. Giving foundation to this project was the championing presence of Rio's grandfather, Bob Yoder, who deeded them the land and applauded their environmental reclamation. Bob died in May. Though he will not physically join them in their housewarming, Rio suggested that it might have been Bob's influence that miraculously kept the promised rain of tropical storm Ophelia from falling on raising day. Raven and Rio's three surviving grand-

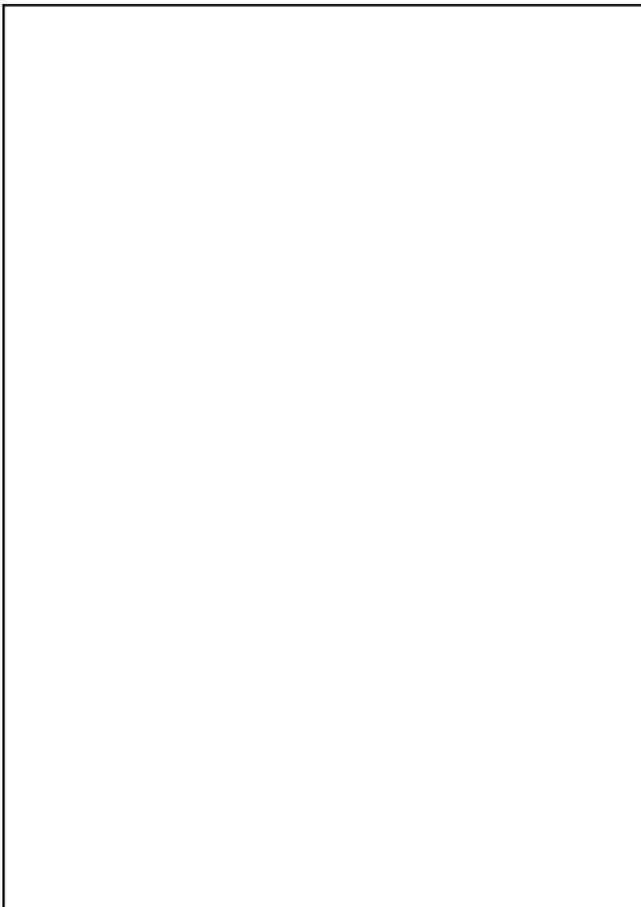
mothers (each with a small dog) and three surviving parents assisted with the raising, as did now tall brother Rowan, Aunt Karen N., and Uncle Jeff McC. And father Joel had drawn the plans from which the frame was cut.

Still and all, Raven and Rio have done most of the work, and their effort and concentration impress us all. Their project has reminded me of the possibilities for succeeding when one is open to learning, hard work, good design, attention to detail, efficient planning, good will, and gratitude. Their timber framing integrates their environmental conscientiousness and the aesthetic of creating beautiful, lasting dwellings.

Raven also learned from her parents' ways. Her septic system went in last fall. (Joel and I still do not have one.) They are planning to complete their home before moving in. (Closets, closets, where are the closets, quoth her mother, evermore.) As we hope that all of our children do, they have taken the best and learned from the rest.

And so we celebrate the emergence of two new timber framers! We are proud parents! The work of our children has given us an opportunity to reflect on the value of the work we do. The work of our children has helped us appreciate the connections among people that pass through time and territory. We value the connections between generation and generation. We are given a gift of hope, promise, and confidence in the future.

—Susan Norlander





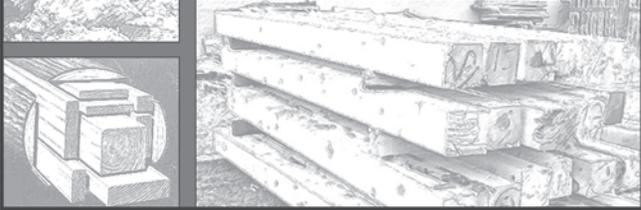
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## Old Wood R.I.P.

THOSE WERE heady days back in the late '80s and early '90s. Suddenly it was possible for timber frames to be cut from dry, stable timbers rescued from old industrial structures. Now we could go visit our timber frames after a year had passed and not be embarrassed at how amateurish the joints looked! Plus this wood was cheap and could sometimes be acquired for just hauling it away. Talk about having your cake and eating it too! The quality of the wood was wonderful, even though one had apologize for the bolt and nail holes, and, oh yes, the checking. With tongue in cheek, some purveyors of this wood even offered free checking with each order. All in all, we thought we'd died and gone to heaven. Supply seemed endless and demand was anemic.

The growth of timber framing in the West was just starting to take off when, rightly or wrongly, the lowly spotted owl became the hammer to stop old-growth log-

ging on public lands. It was no longer cool to use old-growth timbers in your timber frames. Now the worst insult one could hurl in those hip western playgrounds of Hasbeen, Tohelluride, Scum Valley, Jackasson, and Pig Sty was calling someone a tree killer. We thought we were environmentalists, and environmental guilt became an extremely effective marketing tool for companies that sold reclaimed materials. Now cool people were into organic stuff, sustainable living, telecommuting for work and information, alternative energy, energy efficiency, and not-so-big timber frames with used timbers.

Fast forward in time to 2005. Interest in this unique resource has grown so much that demand has outstripped the supply of old wood; price has subsequently risen to the point where only the truly wealthy can afford it. There have been some great buildings built with it, buildings that will stand the test of time. But I often

### Quality Timbers for Timber Frame Homes

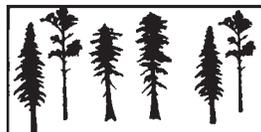
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wonder if a lot of this old wood resource has been wasted on poorly conceived and executed buildings.

For the most part, timber framers have underutilized these materials because of cost and because of difficulties in adjusting to the realities of used wood. It was deemed hard on tools. It was difficult to work with available sizes. The wood needed different joints because of thinner x-sections. Clients didn't really like free checking after all. Reserving wood required early commitments. If the wood had continued to be cheap, I'm convinced there would have been few difficulties in adapting to it. So the people who should have been using these materials were often shut out of the market for the simple reason that timber framing is labor intensive and needs inexpensive materials to remain even remotely economically viable. The timber framers who use these old materials have had to move away from traditional timber framing in order to use fewer timbers and eliminate the structural redundancy found in most insulated timber frames in North America.

The real demand for used wood seems to have come from architects designing high end residences in exclusive places for exclusive clients. Sometimes I wonder if there is a competition going on between some architects to see

who can design the biggest home for the fewest number of people with the biggest and longest timbers possible that do the least work (or none at all). They often herald their use of recycled timbers as some sort of justification for the construction of these behemoths. The real tragedy for much of this old wood is that quite often the wood is not doing any structural work and is only there to make the building look like something it's not. Disneyland! The only upside to this whole situation is that these buildings will probably become obsolete someday soon, too big and expensive to keep—much like the industrial buildings the wood is coming from—and maybe the timbers can be reused again.

Make no mistake: old timbers will never be a long term solution for timber framers looking for quality dry timber. One could only hope that this 20-year phenomenon gave our old-growth forests a breather from the relentless pressure of cutting and that we came up with a forest management policy to insure the continued existence and availability of old-growth wood. Yeah, right!

Maybe we should take some lessons from sportsmen who have helped guarantee the continued existence of favorite fish and game populations that they regularly harvest on a sustainable basis. —*Merle Adams*

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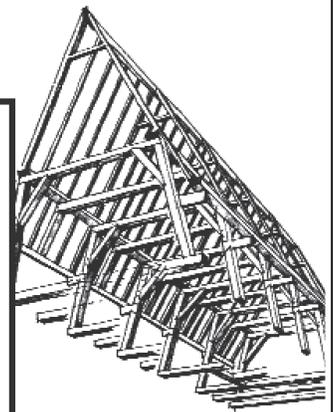
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## Conference expectations

THE EASTERN CONFERENCE is fast approaching. Like most of you, I'm already looking at my schedule and trying to figure out how I'm going to be away from the office that long and still get everything done. As a veteran of many industry conferences, I have been to many that weren't worth a darn and have caused me to look with a critical eye when considering whether to attend one or not. Over the last month, I've looked at the program for the Eastern Conference and am very impressed with the wide range of topics covered and the quality of the content. The organizers have done a great job in organizing the programs that mirror the issues that face all of us. They are very aware of the time and expense of attending the conference and are all dedicated to providing real value to you. There is a lot to talk about and I hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to learn and make your voice heard.

This is, of course, my first conference, and I'm really looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can. Phone and email are great, but there is nothing like sitting down after a good handshake to talk about things. Many a great deal has been struck and many a problem solved with a pen and a cocktail napkin.

The boards of both the Guild and the Business Council will be getting together to talk about some very important issues and how we can work together to solve them. They have a real core of expertise and vision that I have not seen on a lot of boards. It can be difficult just getting a board to work together, much less, to collaborate well with other groups. The members of both organizations should know that they are in good hands and should expect great things from our leadership. Your participation at these conferences is an invaluable asset to



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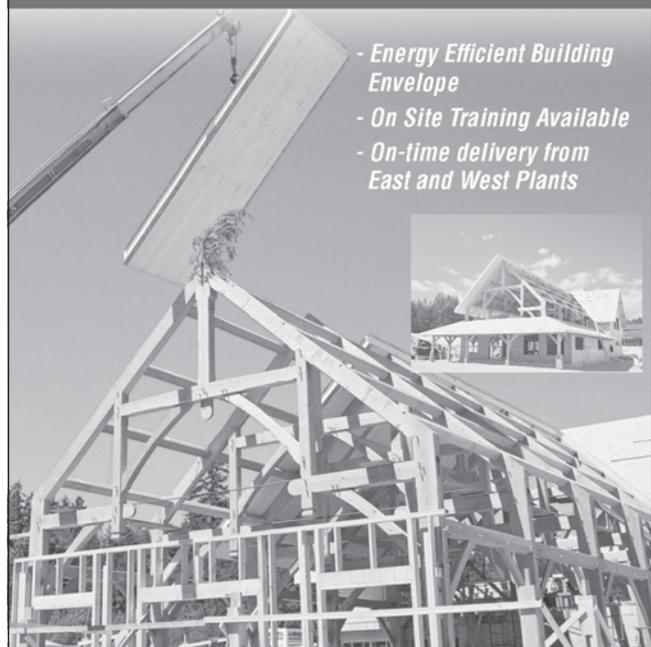
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our boards as they talk about the many challenges and opportunities that face our industry.

For me, it has been a real challenge to try to forge the relationships with our members due to our geographic disparity, so this conference is that much more important. Without those personal relationships, it is hard to build the trust and confidence in each other that is critical to setting and accomplishing our goals. I will work very hard to meet as many of you as possible and hope that you will not be shy about offering your opinions, ideas and criticisms. Again, I encourage you all to attend the conference, and I look forward to meeting you in October.

—Chad DeLong

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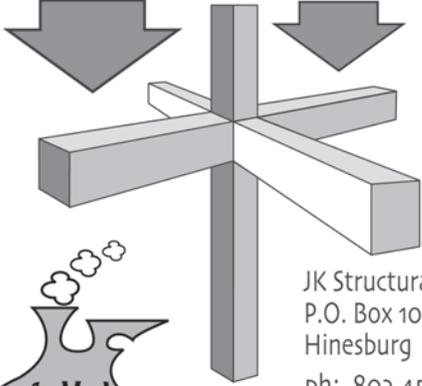
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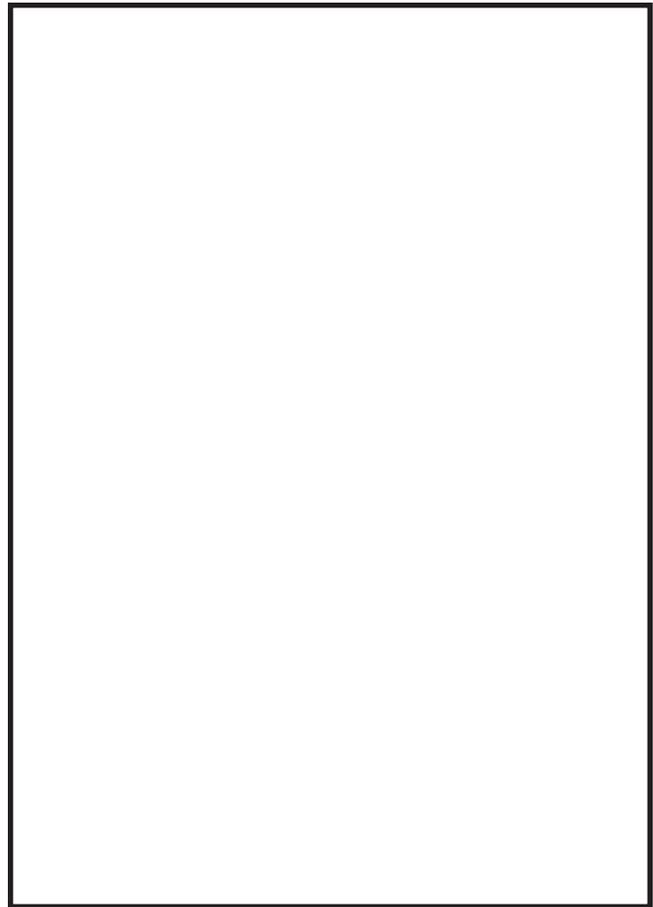
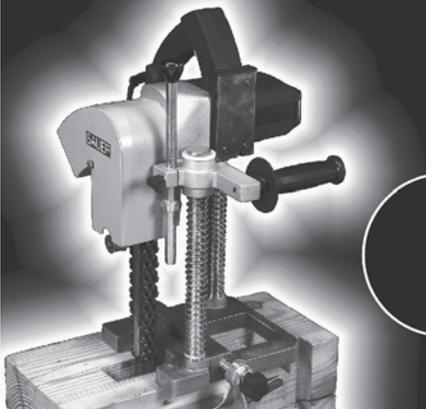
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For more, see [www.tetontimberframe.com](http://www.tetontimberframe.com). To apply, send a letter and résumé to Adam Riley, Partner, Teton Timberframe LLC, 105 C Johnson Ave, Driggs, ID 83422, email [adamriley@onewest.net](mailto:adamriley@onewest.net).

## Experienced timber framer.

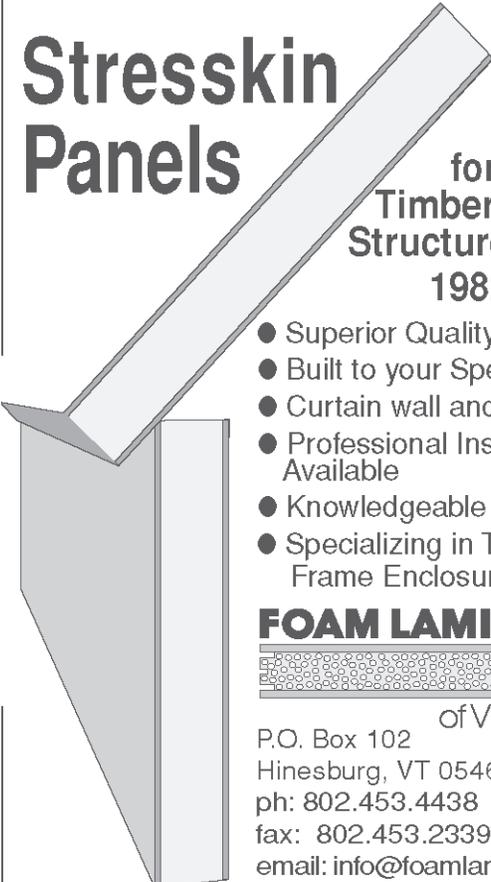
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### For sale.

Circa 1820 queen post bank barn. 38 x 50, excellent condition. Two 50-ft. and 6 38-ft. hand hewn beams (8 x 8 in.), 1-ft. x 1-ft. granite pillars in basement. Barn stands square and true, roof and side always tight so natural patina glows. Many half rounds, great floor and side boards as well. Predominantly old pine but over-braced with hardwood. For pictures visit <http://groups.msn.com/emersonbarnreadingma> Call Tony Pelusi, 781-944-9449. Asking \$35,000 as it stands.

### Help wanted.

Experienced timber framers needed, good wages, high energy, benefits. Join our team of outstanding craftsmen and build beautiful projects. We have positions for experienced timber framers. Check us out on the web at [HarmonyExchange.com](http://HarmonyExchange.com). Apply to [rmueller@harmonyexchange.com](mailto:rmueller@harmonyexchange.com), fax 828-264-4770, or call 828-264-2314 ex. 18.

### Lead, apprentice timber framers needed.

Two Dog Timberworks is looking for an experienced TF'er with at least 3 years full-time professional experience. Must be able to demonstrate experience with Western softwoods, layout on dimensional & organic material, cutting proficiency, machinery maintenance, job leadership, and strong raising know-how.

We are also looking for an apprentice TF'er. Must have general woodworking experience and a solid working knowledge of hand and power tools.

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### Looking for employment.

Timber framer, took 3-month course with Higgs Murphy in Sep '04. Working for a year, took part in 5 raisings along the way. I have basic framing tools, some power tools, available to start right away. Reach me, Matt McIntyre, at [foursticks@canada.com](mailto:foursticks@canada.com) or 250-547-2105.

### Timber frame cutters and lead people wanted.

Trail Ridge Timber Frames is located in the beautiful foothills of northern Colorado. We are a growing company with a fun, progressive work environment. We are looking for motivated individuals with at least 1 year of timber framing experience-education in layout, cutting with power and hand tools, and raisings. Compound joinery, CAD knowledge, construction-carpentry background log and scribe work a plus. Must be a good problem solver, have a strong work ethic, and be a team player. Lead people must have the above skills plus experience in managing employees and projects and working with clients. Wages DOE. Please tell Kathy or Mark Miller, home office 970-203-9305 or shop 970-461-1523.

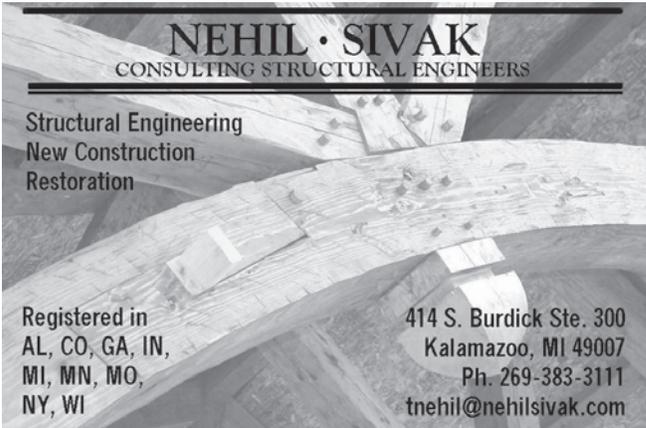
### Timber framers wanted.

BT Timberworks (formerly Big Timberworks) is looking for a few good timber framers with the right stuff—positive attitude, industrious, teachable, and with a desire for a long-term relationship. Check our website at [bttimberworks.com](http://bttimberworks.com), then call Hudson, 406-763-4639 or email [hudson@bttimberworks.com](mailto:hudson@bttimberworks.com). Wages DOE. Excellent benefits including possible membership in BT Co-op.

### Wood wanted.

14 pair (28 total) hand hewn rafters 18 ft. long for 19th century barn restoration in Connecticut. No specific species, can pick up in New York and New England areas. Please call Greg Naylor, **860-485-3808**, any time.

phone number corrected



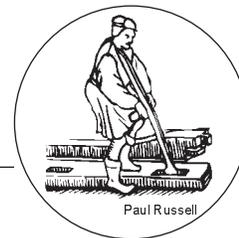
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# EVENTS



## Guild projects

*In Suriname:*

**Visitor center.** Nov 7–28, Central Suriname Nature Preserve. (See page 8.)

*In Allenstown, N.H.:* **Allenstown Meeting House roof rebuilding.** Fall 2006.

*In Bainbridge Is., Wash.:* **Nidoto Nai Yoni.** Fall 2006 (tentative).

*On Long Island:*

**LISEC boathouse.** Sep–Oct 2006, Port Jefferson, N.Y.

Guild projects contact:

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

## Guild conferences

**Eastern Conference 2005.** Oct 13–16, Burlington, Vt.

**Western Conference 2006.** Apr 20–24, Tigh-Na-Mara Lodge, Parksville (Vancouver Island), B.C.

**TTRAG 2006.** Eastover Resort, Lenox, Mass., May 12–14, 2006.

**Eastern Conference 2006.** Hotel Roanoke, Va., Nov 9–12, 2006.

**Western Conference 2007.** Asilomar, Monterey, Calif., Apr 12–15, 2007.

**Eastern Conference 2007.** Montebello, Québec, Oct 18–21, 2007.

## Guild workshops

Guild workshops contact:

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

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## Other conferences

### *Preservation Trades Network*

**International Preservation Trades Workshop (IPTW) 2005 (with other events).**

Oct 7-9, St. Clairsville, Ohio. [www.ptn.org](http://www.ptn.org).

### *PreservationMASS*

**Preserve Mass Barns.** Oct 29, Leominster, Mass.

[www.preservationmass.org](http://www.preservationmass.org), 617-723-3383. (See page 20.)

## Other workshops

### *Centreville Settlement*

**Barn restoration (1849): half timber repair, stone masonry, nogging, archiving, and interiors.**

Apr 16-Nov 12, every other Saturday, Manitowoc County, Wisc. 414-964-0319, [www.centrevillesettlement.com](http://www.centrevillesettlement.com).

### *Grand Oaks Academy of Timber Framing*

**Introduction to timber framing.** Oct 14-23, Paris,

Tenn. Scott Stevens, 731-642-2908, [scott@grandoakstimmerframing.com](mailto:scott@grandoakstimmerframing.com).

### *College of the Rockies*

**Timber frame program (12 weeks).** Sep 26-Dec 16.

**Timber frame program (12 weeks).** Jan 9-Mar 31, '06.

Kimberley, B.C. [kimberley@cotr.bc.ca](mailto:kimberley@cotr.bc.ca), [www.cotr.bc.ca/kimberley](http://www.cotr.bc.ca/kimberley), 250-427-7116.

### *Tillers International*

**Timber frame assembly.** Oct 2-22, Scotts, Mich. Traditional craft courses also available.

[www.tillersinternational.org](http://www.tillersinternational.org).

### *Cowee Mountain Timber Framers*

**Beginner's timber framing workshop.** Nov 6-12, Franklin, N.C. Open enrollment apprenticeships also available. 828-369-8186, [www.timberframeschool.com](http://www.timberframeschool.com).

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# Let's keep the barns

PRESERVATION MASS. announces the 2005 annual conference Preserve Mass Barns, October 29 at Doyle Center, Leominster.

In today's changing agricultural economy, hundreds of sturdily built, local landmark barns are lost every year in Massachusetts. As their conference suggests, the Preservation Mass Barns Task Force is bringing expertise to Massachusetts barn owners to help save these important resources.

The October 29 conference is being held at the Doyle Center in Leominster, Massachusetts. The agenda consists of practical information for owners, architects, engineers, and preservationists on up-to-date measures for repairing barns. Maintaining barns in continuing agricultural or new uses will be discussed. Specialists will be available for both technical advice and historical information.

Presenters at this year's conference are Robert Adam, Department Head of Preservation Carpentry at the North Bennet Street School, who will talk on barn roof system repairs; Richard Lazarus of Lazarus & Company, house and barn riggers, who will speak about repair of



barn foundations, sills, and flooring; and Arron Sturgis of Preservation Timber Framing, who will address overall barn maintenance. William Finch, Principal of Finch & Rose, preservation architects, will speak about the history of New England's barns.

Advance registration (prior to October 21) for the all-day conference is \$35. After October 21, registration at the door is \$45. Registration forms are available on-line at [www.preservationmass.org](http://www.preservationmass.org) or at Preservation Mass, Old City Hall, 45 School Street, Boston, 02108, telephone 617-723-3383.

—Erin Kelly

## Insurance information

I THINK we're all aware that insurance is a necessary evil that we can't live with and can't live without. As the Guild continues to plan and organize interesting projects and as we travel to more and varied locations both in the U.S. and internationally, we want to be sure that we have the best insurance coverage at the best rates.

We are continually researching our options and coverage requirements. With new and changing regulations, every year is a different challenge. If there are any Guild members who are knowledgeable in the general liability insurance world, or if you would be willing to share information on your own experiences with insurance issues and rates, please tell either Joel ([joel@tfguild.org](mailto:joel@tfguild.org)) or me ([BrendaB@riverbendtf.com](mailto:BrendaB@riverbendtf.com)).

Thank you.

—Brenda Baker



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