

Experience the unique Canadian tradition of Le Château Montebello...Join your friends and colleagues at the 19th Annual Eastern Conference of the Timber Framers Guild Oct. 31- Nov. 2, 2003

Le Château Montebello combines remarkable architecture with rustic elegance in a country resort of international renown. It is the largest log hotel in the world and features gourmet meals unequaled at past Guild conferences.

In February 1930, the site where Fairmont Le Château Montebello now stands was just a clearing in the woods. In just 90 days, 5,000 carpenters erected the massive cedar château - a construction feat that captured the popular imagination of the time, inspired newspaper features across North America and attracted crowds of onlookers.

The dream of Swiss-American Harold Saddle mire, who dubbed it "Lucerne-in-Quebec," Fairmont Le Château Montebello was inspired by the châteaux of the Swiss Alps. Craftsmen used 10,000 giant cedar logs to build the resort's three main buildings, all cut and set by hand. The central log château, which houses all the guest rooms in the resort, has a three-story central atrium, at the heart of which stands a massive six-sided stone fireplace.

Activities at Montebello include golf on a championship 18-hole course, mini-golf, fishing and boating on the Ottawa River, horseshoes, indoor tennis and squash, exercise room, saunas and swimming in the largest indoor pool in Canada.

We will expand the international flavor of our recent Conferences by hosting visiting carpenters from France and Germany who will be demonstrating their skills and leading Pre-Conference Workshops. Keynote speaker Patrick Hofsummer from Belgium will describe the typology and evolution of roof structures in Europe from the 11th through the 18th centuries, and the techniques carpenters used to build them.

In addition, we have a continuous track throughout the weekend on Natural Building techniques, including straw bale, straw/clay, and cordwood enclosures, living roofs and interior finishes related to timber framing. Equally strong is the Design and Business track, with seminars on promoting your business, joinery and frame design, and management. Rounding out the schedule are presentations relating to the history and practice of timber framing both on-site and in the shop.

All in all, this year's event includes the largest number of presentations ever at a Guild Conference!



# CONFERENCE AGENDA

**Tuesday, Oct. 28th**

**8:30 AM - 5:30 PM** Zimmererhandwerk Workshop

**Wednesday, Oct. 29th**

**8:30 AM - 5:30 PM** Zimmererhandwerk Workshop continues

**Thursday, Oct. 30th**

**8:30 AM - 5:30 PM** Zimmererhandwerk Workshop continues  
French Roof Framing Workshop  
Cordwood Masonry Workshop  
Building Buildings That Build Community  
Main Conference Registration Open

4:00 PM

**Friday, Oct. 31st**

**7:30-9:00 AM**

**Breakfast**  
Registration opens at 7:30 AM

**8:30-10:00 AM** **Dick Roosenberg**, Tillers International  
*Preserving and Sharing Skills*  
Design & Business Track: **Doug Anderson**, Winter Panel  
*Building Hybrids with SIPS*  
Natural Building Track: **Steve Chappell**, Fox Maple  
*Clay Infill & Community Building*

**Break**

**10:30-Noon** **Patrick Hofsummer**, Univ. of Liege  
*Dendrochronologically Dating Timber Frames*  
Design & Business Track: **John Mumaw**, Lost Bent  
*Woodworking & Design*  
*Designing in the Trenches*  
Natural Building Track: **Rob Roy**, Earthwood  
*Cordwood Masonry Construction*

**Norbert Senf**, Masonry Stove Builders  
*Masonry Heaters*

**Lunch**

**1:00-2:30 PM** **Doug Reed**, Preservation Associates, Inc.  
*The Development of the Frontier Cabin*  
Design & Business Track: **Margot Larson**, Management Alternative  
*Improving Workplace Relationships*  
**(sponsored by the Timber Frame Business Council)**  
Natural Building Track: **Robert Laporte**, Econest Building Co.  
*Straw/Clay Wraps for Timber Frames*  
**Mike Classen**, Classen's Crane Service  
*Working with Cranes*

**Break**

**3:00-4:30 PM** **Mark Surnoskie**, Timberwolftree  
*Due Diligence and Site Safety*  
**TF Guild Membership Meeting**  
Natural Building Track: **Paula Laporte**, Econest Building Co.  
*Natural Finishes for the Healthy Home*

**4:30-6:00 PM** Trade Show Reception

**6:00-7:30 PM** Dinner

**8:00-11:00 PM** TFG Benefit Auction  
**(sponsored by Mafell North America)**

**Saturday, Nov. 1st**

**7:30-9:00 AM**

**Breakfast**  
Registration opens at 7:30 AM

**8:30-10:00 AM**

**Lynn Courteney**, Univ. of Wisconsin  
*Charpente Lambrisse*  
Design & Business Track: **Margot Larson**, Management  
Alternative, Open Forum:  
*Troubleshooting Workplace Relationships*  
**(sponsored by the Timber Frame Business Council)**

Natural Building Track: **Patti Southard**, Environmental Home  
Center, *Success with Sustainable Wood*

**Break**

**10:30 AM-Noon**

**Dr. Joseph Pelino**, Soft Tissue Institute  
*Active Release Techniques*  
Design & Business Track: **Jim DeStefano**, DeStefano Associates  
*Timber Frame Joinery from a Structural  
Engineer's Perspective*

Natural Building Track: **Michel Bergeron**, Archibio  
*Straw Bale Construction, Living Roofs and  
Timber Frames*

**Boris Noël**, SARL Valentin  
*Ways of the Compagnon*

**Lunch**

**1:00-2:30 PM**

**Slide Show Rehearsal**  
Design & Business Track: **Charles Bevier**, Building Systems  
Magazine, *Why Aren't You Famous Yet?*

Natural Building Track: **Natural House Forum**

**Curtis Milton**, Monolithic Building Systems  
*Real Time Problem Solving*  
**Alfredo Rico**, Northern Timberhouse  
*Montebello Tour*

**Break**

**3:00-6:00 PM**

*Book Signing by Forum members*  
**Slide Show**

**6:00-7:30 PM**

**Dinner (sponsored by Home Buyers  
Publications/Timber Frame Homes Magazine)**  
**Dance with fabulous Québécois band**

**8:00-12:00 PM**

**DOMINO**  
**(sponsored by Riverbend/Insulspan)**

**Sunday, Nov. 2nd**

**7:30-9:00 AM**

**Breakfast**

**8:30-10:00 AM**

**Dave Gauthier**, Winter Panel  
*Applying Finish Materials to SIPS*  
Design & Business Track: **John MacFarland**, Tohickon Timber  
Frames, *The Old Way of Building*  
**Rick Collins**, Trillium Dell Timberworks  
*Identifying Wood*

**Break**

**10:30 AM - Noon**

**KEYNOTE: Patrick Hofsummer**, Univ. of Liege  
*The Evolution of Timber Roofs*  
**Closing Remarks**

**ALL DAY on  
Friday and Saturday:**  
Trade Fair Open  
Bookstore Open **(sponsored by Duluth Timber)**  
Project Expo  
ARTDocs (Soft Tissue Therapists)  
Wood ID Contest  
Children's Discovery Workshop

**More information on the individual  
presentations and updates on any schedule  
changes can be found on our website at  
[www.tfguild.org](http://www.tfguild.org).**



Continuing Education Units for architects and engineers are available for many of the seminars. Contact our office for a specific listing, or you may pick it up at the Conference.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

Our Conference agenda, besides having fun and enjoying the splendors of the Château, include Pre-Conference Workshops, numerous seminars and the following Special Events:

**Montebello Tour** - Join Alfredo Rico for a behind the scenes tour of the historic Château and its construction. *Saturday at 1:00 PM.*

**ARTDocs** - Dr. Joseph Pelino is team doctor for the Toronto Raptors, and a pioneer in the sports chiropractic technique called ART (Active Release Therapy). Besides his 90 minute breakout session, he will have a booth on the mezzanine with his ARTDocs (young athletes studying the technique) in a clinic setting. Anyone who has had symptoms of CTD (Cumulative Stress Disorder, also known as repetitive stress or carpal tunnel syndrome) will benefit from this treatment. *Friday and Saturday.*

**Trade Fair** - Featuring suppliers for the timber frame industry who will display their products and services and explain in detail how they're used. Meet those who support our craft in the field, including panel suppliers, tool vendors and wood brokers. Don't miss the Mixer Friday at 4:30 PM in the Trade Fair area. The Trade Fair is organized by the Timber Frame Business Council (TFBC). If you wish to exhibit, contact TFBC Executive Director Nancy Wilkins at 888-560-9251, or [nancy@timberframe.org](mailto:nancy@timberframe.org).

**Bookstore** - Charlotte Cooper will once again bring her Summer Beam Books for one-stop shopping and browsing for all those hard-to-find titles on woodworking and timber framing. Open all weekend.

**Project Expo** - You are proud of your work. The Conference Project Expo presents an opportunity for our geographically extensive community to focus attention on a collection of fine projects. Through it we see the richness of the work we do, whether it is a first-time simple frame, a Korean teahouse, a covered bridge, or a complicated mansion. You as a presenter have an opportunity to show your peers the work of your hands and your recent mark upon the timberframing landscape. The Project Expo is not a juried show, but does provide Conference attendees with the opportunity to vote for a favorite design project, which receives the People's Choice Award. All entrants receive an honorary gift; the winner of the People's Choice receives a prize. Entries are usually presented through display boards (8 1/2" x 11" up to 30" x 40"), but other forms of presentations, such as photo albums, models, sculptures, are also welcome. Include a brief description and your name. Details on how to enter the Design Expo will be included with Conference Registration Confirmation, on the website, or from Susan Norlander at [susan@tfguild.org](mailto:susan@tfguild.org), 888-453-0879/603-835-2077.

**Slide Show** - Bring ten of your favorite slides (or better yet, send a CD in advance with electronic images) related to your work in timber framing to share on Saturday afternoon. Everyone's work is welcome at this Conference highlight. Please put your name on each slide and be prepared to give a brief narrative to accompany their showing. Further details will be included in your Registration Confirmation package. The Show is coordinated by Russell Ley, 518-370-3600, [unclerussell@usadatanet.net](mailto:unclerussell@usadatanet.net).

**Troubleshooting Workplace Relationships** - Margot Larson from Management Alternative, LLC will lead an open forum where you can bring your own workplace issues or problems for advice from an expert. A unique opportunity for some valuable consultation. *Saturday at 8:30 AM.*

## Discovery: Shelter & Timber Framing *An exploratory hands-on workshop for children.*

With remarkable skill and ingenuity people used materials "at hand" to build shelters to survive their environments. These skills were handed down by hands-on experience. Children learned as they worked alongside the older folk. Let's share and pass on our skills.

The first workshop will focus on searching the environment for shelter and how shelters can be invented. (No sharp tools to be used.) Limit of 20 participants. Ages 7 and up. Under 7 can attend if accompanied by a parent or appointed adult.

The other three workshops will focus on building a simple timber frame structure. Various skills will be explored: choice of materials, designing, measuring and cutting. Limit of 12 participants. Ages 10 and up. Ages 8-10 can attend if accompanied by a parent or appointed adult.

To ensure a good safe experience we are asking for a minimum of 4 timber framers for the first workshop and minimum of 6 timber framers for the other three workshops, to sign up at the conference to assist the children. Come play, share your enthusiasm, and pass on your knowledge.

Workshops will run Friday and Saturday, morning and afternoon, during the Main Conference breakout sessions. You can sign your children up at the Conference when you arrive and see then when the individual workshops will run. To get an accurate estimate of how many children will be attending, please circle on the registration form the name(s) of your children who will participate. If you're registering online, indicate your interest in this program in the Comments section of the online registration form.

For further information or if you would like to assist, contact Kimberley Reagan, Tel: (902) 684-9708 (Atlantic Standard Time: Nova Scotia, Canada), Fax: (902) 692-2877, [info@acorntimberframes.ca](mailto:info@acorntimberframes.ca).

These special all-day workshops will give you an intensive hands-on learning experience; separate advance registration and fee are required (see registration form).

Lunch, breaks and handouts are included. All workshop fees are quoted in US dollars.

# PRE-CONFERENCE

## Zimmererhandwerk

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (3 days), Oct. 28-30, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Work alongside German carpenters (Zimmerer) Filippo Campagna and Wil Dancey as you lay out, cut and erect a small picnic pavilion/barbecue house (drawing). You'll learn carpentry techniques as they have been passed down for centuries through the German apprenticeship system, including Fachwerk (half-timbered lattices) and compound/valley roof framing. Drawing techniques to solve design and roof problems will be emphasized, as well as safe and efficient tool use during layout and cutting. Other interesting features of the project include passing braces and carved brackets and overhangs.



Filippo Campagna is a chief instructor at the Gewerbe-Akademie in Rottweil, Germany and has most recently hosted roof framing and CAD workshops for visiting American Guild members. Wil Dancey moved to Canada after completing his German apprenticeship and runs (along with his wife, Chris) Dietrich's North America and Nature First Building Company.

A list of basic carpentry tools required for the workshop will be sent upon receipt of your registration; knowledge of German is not required. Rooms are available at Montebello starting Monday night.

Workshop fee: \$350 US/Guild members, \$375/non-members, lunch included.

## French Roof Framing

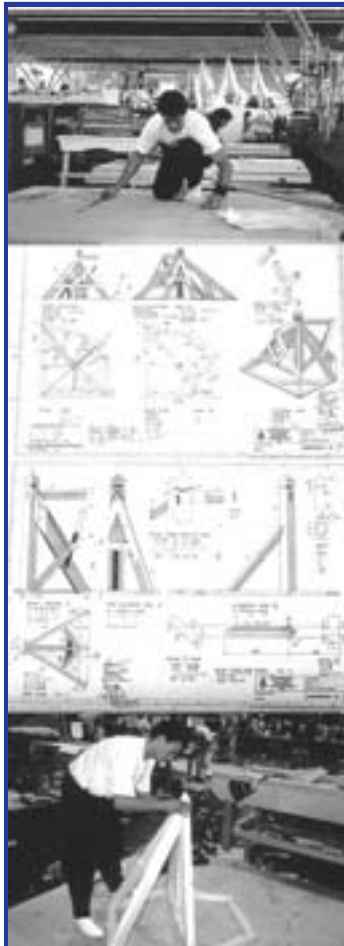
Thursday, Oct. 30,  
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Steven Leber is a young French carpenter and Compagnon from Brittany who represented France in the World Trade Olympics in Seoul in 2001. Boris Noël worked at Bensonwood Homes in 1994 and led the recent TFG tour in France. Together they will demonstrate the techniques used to successfully lay out and cut a complicated roof during the Olympic competition. They will build a roof model with different pitches giving a hip with jack rafters and purlins. Steven will make a real-size roof layout while Boris explains the process step-by-step; participants will then help cut the model while Boris goes into more details about the process.

Steven now is in the teaching phase of his training in France, supervising younger apprentices. Boris supervises 25 employees at SARL Valentin in Troyes.

A list of basic carpentry tools required for the workshop will be sent upon receipt of your registration; knowledge of French is not required.

Workshop fee: \$185 US/Guild members, \$200/non-members, lunch included.



### Border crossings for non-

**Canadians:** Those coming to Montebello from the U.S. should have proof of citizenship, such as: a certified birth certificate PLUS a photo ID (such as a driver's license); or a passport. A child without a passport, or who is not included on a parent's passport, must have a birth certificate, and if not the child of the adults accompanying them, a letter from the parents (with telephone and address contact information) is required. For a child traveling with a single parent, you should have a letter from the absent spouse showing permission to cross the border with the child. Citizens of other countries may be required to have a passport and/or visa. Remember to obtain Canadian currency before arriving at the hotel. We will not be able to change currency in large amounts at the Conference.

# WORKSHOPS

## Cordwood Masonry Construction

Thursday, Oct. 30, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Cordwood masonry is an old building technique in which walls are constructed of short logs – called “log-ends” – laid transversely, much as a rank of firewood is stacked. The wall gets its exceptional thermal characteristics from the insulated mortar matrix woven between the log-ends. Cordwood masonry makes an excellent infill material for timber frame construction.

The morning session consists of classroom work, including a slideshow and, after morning break, a discussion of the various woods and how long to dry them, mortar options, special design details, and other special considerations such as electrical and window installation.

After lunch, Rob and Jaki Roy will demonstrate the wall-building techniques, within a small timber frame panel. Students will learn how to mix mortar, select log-ends, insulate the wall, and tuck-point the masonry for strength and beauty. After the initial demonstration, students will help build up the panel with cordwood, practicing the mixing, building and pointing techniques under the watchful eyes of the instructors.

Instructors Rob and Jaki Roy have built four cordwood homes and numerous outbuildings, including saunas and garages. The couple started Earthwood Building School in West Chazy, NY, in 1981 to teach cordwood masonry and earth-sheltered housing, and have also conducted workshops throughout the world. Rob has written 12 books in the alternative building field, including *Cordwood Building: The State of the Art*, *The Sauna*, and *Complete Book of Underground Houses*. His newest book, *Timber Framing for the Rest of Us*, will be published by New Society in the autumn of 2003.

Workshop fee: \$125 US/Guild members, \$140/non-members, lunch included.

**Travel Arrangements:** Located on the Ottawa River, Le Château Montebello is 90 km east of the recommended Ottawa International Airport (YOW) and 120 km west of the Dorval International Airport - Montreal (YUL). A map and directions will be sent with other conference materials upon receipt of registration. Shuttle services from either airport may be obtained by calling Maestro Limo at 819-246-5081; however from our research, it appears that rental cars are much more affordable.

## Building Buildings That Build Community

Thursday, Oct. 30, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Community built buildings provide more to a community than just a place to meet. The steps involved in moving from the concept to reality provide an integral part of the process. Along the way, relationships are formed, designs evolve, skills are learned and shared, and ownership takes on a whole new meaning. The involvement of various cultures and a multi-generational spectrum, from young to old, can bring greater unity to a host community.

This pre-conference gathering will bring together a diverse group of presenters who have practical experience. Steve Chappell, of Fox Maple School, will share his experience with two training programs named Indigenous Peoples Community Building Initiative and Running Strong for American Indian Youth. Paula Baker Laporte, co-author of *Prescription for a Healthy House*, will discuss how the choices we make when we build can affect our health and well-being. Robert Laporte will speak about his holistic approach to designing and constructing buildings using natural materials. Examples of community based projects, which have been sponsored by the Timber Framers Guild, will illustrate how offering practical training and involvement in the raising of a frame can benefit not only the community receiving the new structure, but also the timber frame apprentices, professional framers and a cross-section of the host community. The design for a proposed timber framed Youth Cultural Centre will be shown by Markus Brunn. Linda Albright, founder of the Arts Network for Children and Youth, will elaborate on how this project would use “best practices” to create a healthy space, by making environmentally responsible choices. A project of this type can also offer skills based training, by professional instructors, to local youth and timber frame apprentices, as well as an opportunity to learn for other members of the host community.

Community based projects require involvement from many viewpoints. You will have the opportunity to participate in two forums, when the presenters can reply to your questions and hear your comments. Hopefully, seeds will be planted for even more collaborative building projects, so we can continue to “build buildings that build community.”

Workshop fee: \$40 US, lunch included.



## CONFERENCE SPONSORS

We'd like to thank the following for their support of special Conference events:  
**Riverbend Timber Framing / Insulspan** for providing the band DOMINO  
 for the Saturday night dance.

**Home Buyer Publications/Timber Frame Homes Magazine** for our Saturday night dinner.  
**Mafell North America** for providing the auctioneer and refreshments.

**Duluth Timber** for supporting the Bookstore and refreshments.

**The Timber Frame Business Council (TFBC)** for bringing presenter Margot Larson.

**Our Trade Fair vendors** for the food and refreshments during the Mixer.

**Dietrich's** for helping coordinate the Zimmererhandwerk Workshop and the Natural Building Track.  
**Please support those who support the Guild!**



## TFG BENEFIT AUCTION

CATALOG DEADLINE: September 27th, 2003



The TFG Benefit Auction is our major fund raising event for the year. Now you can participate and help support your Guild even if you can't be at Montebello. Please notify us in advance of what item(s) you plan to donate to the auction by filling out the form below and sending it to us by Sept. 27th. Conference attendees will get a printed catalog of items prior to arriving at the Conference, and getting this form to us in time will mean your name and item will appear in the catalog. You can still bring items to the Conference without submitting a form in advance, but your name and item will not appear in the catalog.

If you can't bring your item to Montebello and/or wish to send it, address with all the following information to:

FAIRMONT LE CHÂTEAU MONTEBELLO  
 392, Notre Dame  
 Montebello, PQ JoV 1Lo  
 Canada  
 Tel: 819-423-6341  
 ATT: Richard Buteau  
 RE: Timber Framers Guild Conference

**If you're from outside of Canada:** Items other than printed matter shipped or brought into Canada to leave there are subject to customs duty. Customs brokers handle this transaction (which can be substantial); the Château recommends Livingston International at 514-735-2000. If you have questions about getting items across the border call us at 413-623-9926.

TFG Eastern Conference 2003 - Auction		CATALOG DEADLINE: September 27th, 2003
DONOR NAME FOR CATALOG	ITEM - BRIEF DESCRIPTION	
DONOR CONTACT PERSON (IF DIFFERENT)	VALUE - DONOR'S ESTIMATE OF RETAIL VALUE	
DONOR CONTACT PERSON TELEPHONE #	<input type="checkbox"/> TANGIBLE ITEM <input type="checkbox"/> GIFT CERTIFICATE	
DONOR ADDRESS	(DONOR SHOULD PROVIDE TWO SETS OF PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS)	
ITEM DESCRIPTION - SUGGESTED FOR CATALOG - INCLUDE QUANTITY, SIZE, COLOR, DURATION & RESTRICTIONS, IF ANY.		
EXPIRATION DATE, IF ANY: ____/____/____		
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AUCTION REPRESENTATIVE NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE # _____	
PACKAGE SHIPPED TO:		
PACKAGE SHIPPED VIA:	PACKAGE SHIPPING DATE: ____/____/____	
FOR OFFICE USE	CATALOG #	
BIDDER #	BID AMOUNT	
PLEASE MAKE A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS. RETURN TO: TFG CONFERENCE AUCTION, PO BOX 60, BECKET, MA 01223 or FAX to 888-453-0879 (toll free). Forms are also available ONLINE at <a href="http://www.tfguild.org">www.tfguild.org</a>		





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Register by Sept. 27th  
and save \$50 off regular  
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## Timber Framers Guild 19th Eastern Conference Le Château Montebello, Quebec

Pre-Conference  
Hands-on  
Workshops  
Oct. 28 - 30

Oct. 31 -  
Nov. 2  
2003