

THE HAWK CIRCLE TIMBER FRAMING SKILLS INTENSIVE

April 24-29, 2023

Aug 14-19, 2023

Cutting a mortise in a plate beam during our Spring 2022 Intensive for the Cherry Cabin Porch Frame.



North American Style Timber Framing with Heirloom Tools

This program is for passionate students who want to learn timber framing as part of a community building experience, at our education center in Cherry Valley. Participants live at our farmhouse or in one of our cabins for the duration of the program.

Students learn to make hardwood pegs from logs, using drawknives and the shave horse. They learn to make mortises and tenons, on both scrap lumber for practice and on actual frames. They learn how to measure and 'lay out' every part of the frame, including sill beams, posts, girts, tie beams, plate beams, knee braces, rafters and purlins. We'll cover **square rule**

methods, and use heirloom hand tools.

We will be building a small **timber frame** that will be part of our retreat campus, with beautiful eaves, built from locally harvested **tamarack** and **eastern hemlock**. This frame has all of the joinery needed to learn this skill, whether you are looking to build a woodshed, a tiny house, a personal workshop or retreat cabin.

Students can learn these skills at whatever level of woodcrafting experience they have, as we accommodate beginners as well as more experienced people.

Participants enjoy hearty meals which are provided three times a day.

The workday runs from 9 am to 5 pm, with an hour lunch between 12-1 pm approximately. Evenings are open for visiting nearby Cooperstown or the Mohawk Valley, or for having a hike in the woods or a 'carving night' in the barn workshop.

If this program sounds like what you are looking for, please contact us and apply using the application at the end of this brochure.

Please Note: Due to the endemic phase of the COVID pandemic, we are asking people to follow the protocols they need to keep themselves safe. Details are available on our website.

Logistics & Equipment

Housing:

While you are part of the skills intensive program, you will be provided a single or shared room in our farmhouse, or one of our heated retreat cabins. Students can use our retreat center Eagle House for meals and relaxing, as well as our barn workshop space for after hours projects. We have laundry facilities if needed. Internet access is limited, as well as cell coverage, but there is an LTE signal at the end of our driveway as well as in Cherry Valley or Cooperstown.

Community Policies:

We are a non-smoking community, drug free, permitting alcohol for those students 21 years of age or older. We emphasize a supportive learning environment for all staff and students to help us bring a positive attitude and good communication skills to our group. We have found that focusing on our learning and skills rather than politics and divisive issues helps us all avoid pointless drama and really get the most out of this experience..

Sorry, **we don't allow pets** in this program.

Equipment List:

Bring clothes for warm days and for the colder weather to, as we live in the mountains:

- boots/comfortable work shoes**
- clothing for layering**
- warm jacket**
- hats, gloves, scarf, gloves**
- WORK GLOVES & SAFETY GLASSES**
- blankets/sheets/pillow & case**
- sleeping bag**
- notebook, journal & camera**
- biodegradable soap/shampoo**
- personal medications**
- sunscreen/personal first aid kit**
- daypack**
- flashlight/headlamp**
- good rain gear**
- bath towels**
- toothbrush/toothpaste**
- alarm clock, watch, carving knife**
- water bottle**
- any tools you would like to bring**

Right:

Noah guides the plate beam onto the post during the raising of the Aspen Cabin.

Far Right:

Ben hammers the rafters securely into their positions.

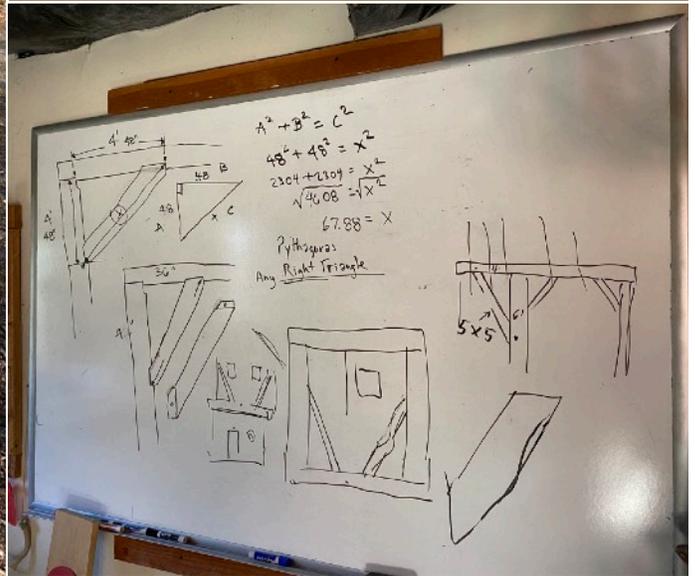




"It's not enough to just read about skills, like wood craft, or survival and watch YouTube videos, or see it on television. You have to practice over and over, get your techniques right, get an understanding of what you're trying to do and find the way that is just right for you.

Once you've done something ten or twenty or thirty times, that skill really sinks into your bones and becomes part of you. You will own that skill, and even years later, can replicate it with ease. That is our goal."

-Ricardo Sierra



Program Cost, Dates & Travel Information

Program Cost:

The Timber Framing Skills Intensive is **\$1,700**, and includes housing, main meals, tool use, some craft and project materials as well as instruction in timber framing, carpentry and homestead skills.

A **deposit of \$500** insures your spot in this program, with the balance due two weeks before your arrival. See our website for payment details.

The Hawk Circle Timber Framing Skills Intensive Dates:

Spring Program: **April 24-29, 2023**

Summer Program: **August 14-19, 2023**

Public Transportation:

If you are arriving by plane, train or bus, you will be coming into Albany which is about 1 hour and 15 minute drive from Hawk Circle. **Round trip transportation from Albany to Hawk Circle is \$80.** Please let us know your travel plans as soon as possible. Please check with us before making your reservations so we can be there to pick you up.

GPS Address:

**3496 State Highway 166,
Cherry Valley, NY, 13320**



Above: The Eagle House Rafters are complete.

Left: Raising the Jessup Frame.



Timber Framing Sustainable Building & Traditional Skills

This program takes place at our Retreat and Wilderness Camp facility, and the projects that we will learn on are **‘non-commercial’** in nature, meaning that they aren’t contracted structures for clients that have deadlines, pressure and stress. They are for the growth of our small non-profit nature center, and this allows us to learn **without the pressure of ‘learning on the job’, which is a difficult way to start this journey.**

We allow each person to learn at their own ability, pace and interest. It can take a few days to build up our hand strength for cutting, chiseling, hammering and making pegs, so we will start slow and intersperse our work with classes in timber framing philosophy, design, tool study, sharpening, etc, to round out our full days. I’m excited for you to experience it! -Ricardo Sierra





Hawk Circle Timber Framing Skills Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Work Phone #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please list all known allergies to any foods, insects, or medications, or any medical concerns :

How did you find out about us? _____

What is your main reason for attending this program? *Please feel free to write on the back of this application as well.*

The Fine Print: I understand that the **\$500 deposit** is part of the **\$1,700 program fee**, and is **non-refundable once you are accepted into the program..** If you are not selected for this course, it will be refunded in full. If you are unable to attend your program as scheduled, **half of the deposit** can be transferred to future program or apprenticeship at Hawk Circle’s discretion. The balance of the course fee is due **two weeks prior to the start of your program.** In the case of any property or equipment damage due to a lack of responsibility on the student’s part, we require a credit card number to be kept on file during your stay here. Your card will not be charged without notification and explanation of the charges. Example of such situations is room damage, misuse of tools and or equipment, loss of tools or any other property damage that is a result of negligent behavior. Hawk Circle has the right to dismiss a student from the program if the community guidelines and policies are not followed or there is behavior that negatively effects the community.

Community Policies Understanding, Liability and Media Release

I agree by my signature indicated below, that I have read and agree with the community policies as well as the fine print above. I understand that the program offered by Hawk Circle can expose myself to activities that have inherent risks, and that the staff of Hawk Circle will make every effort to keep each activity as safe as possible. I further understand that Hawk Circle is not responsible for safety or medical issues that were not disclosed to the staff prior to the start of the apprenticeship. I also give my consent for Hawk Circle to use video or photos that I am involved in for their non-profit website, blog or other social media accounts.

Signature: _____

Name (please print): _____

Date: _____

Visa/Mastercard CC# _____ EXP / / Security Code _____

Thank You! We are looking forward to meeting you!

Mail or Email Your Completed Application to:

Hawk Circle, P.O. Box 506, Cherry Valley, NY 13320

Contact Info: HawkCircleOffice@gmail.com (607) 264-3910 Office