



40 YEARS



OF LOG BUILDING HISTORY



► 1974 1st AGM, at Mackie's home, BC

6 founding members: Al Mackie, Art Long, Ed Campbell, Vic Janzen, Bernie Legault, & Fergus O'Connor. Allan Mackie is President; there is "serious discussion on methods of cost estimating."

► 1975 2nd AGM, at Mackie's home, BC

Ed Campbell is President; 24 builders attend (32 members total); "All agreed that a single afternoon was not enough time to take full advantage of the rare opportunity to exchange information." membership is limited to those who "have built at least one log home of sizeable construction approved by the Association, or have taken an approved log building course."

► 1976 3rd AGM, at Vic Janzen's home, South Langley, BC

85 members, Vic Janzen elected President; work begins on *Log Building Standards*, discussion of Ethics within teaching log construction; about 50 at the AGM (on the agenda: "bullshit sessions"); the first display advertisement ever in our newsletter is for Pat Wolfe Scribes (\$16, including postage); "I hope to see the day when the initials C.L.B.A. are synonymous with good log building anywhere in Canada." Dues are \$125 per year. "Allan Mackie and Ed Campbell plan to direct the CLBA manpower in erecting a building in one day."

► 1977 4th AGM, at Banff, Alberta

Log cabin built in 8 hours and 2 minutes; AGM held during the "Conference on the Log Structures of Canada." Janzen re-elected President; 46 members attended; dues are \$50 per year; the Society is officially registered in BC; CLBA "regalia sashes" are available for \$20; membership is officially closed to Americans. Ethics document adopted. Brian Olynek is Secty-Treasurer. Victor Nymark (Montebello builder) voted to be an honorary member.

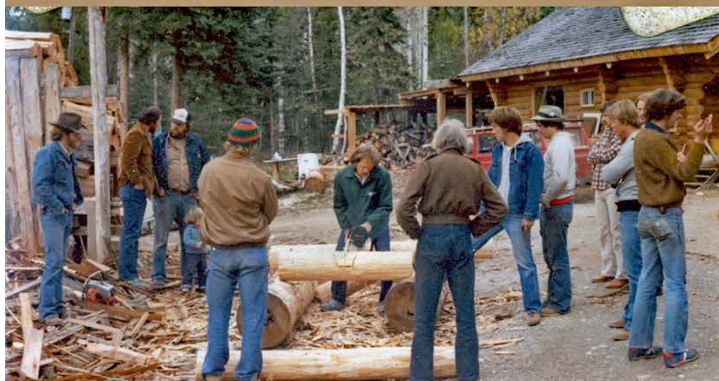
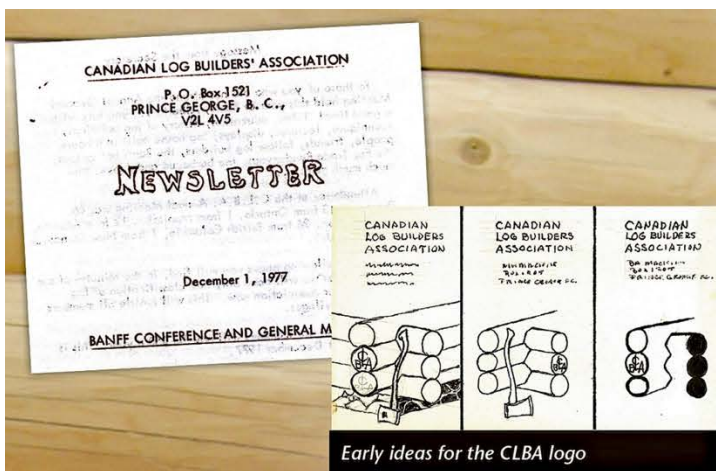
Vic Janzen remembers:

These men were all interesting figures. One left medicine to become a log builder. Another an American diplomat to Japan. Orchardists. Accountants. High school shop teachers. Regular teachers. Social workers. -- so many of us left respectable secure jobs to follow this dream. The times were exactly right for such divergence.

The objective of the project was to naysay the manufacturer builders who claimed we were too slow and expensive compared to them

Brian Olynek remembers:

I was standing on top of that building wondering, "now what am i going to do with this building?" when a man named Carl Chulakal offered to buy it. We shipped it to his home outside Nakusp!



John Brown on saw; Jim Durham with foot on log. 1980 AGM.

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► 1978 5th AGM, at Columbia Valley Community Centre near Cultus Lake, British Columbia; Tech Talk at Janzen farm

Art Lloyd is President; John Brown speaks on lifting with a skyline and on log acquisition; Jack Haden from CMHC on mortgages; the Association is now publishing "Log Builders News"; log builders games; John Brown is editing the newsletter; discussion if there are now too many log builders; \$50 membership fee; plan to lease 30 acres of crown near Mackie School for a permanent CLBA home; "One building was liberally pinned with rebar which has hung up the logs. Don't use rebar, Turkey!"; Doris Muir wants to organize an international log conference.

► 1979 6th AGM, at Nakusp, British Columbia. We are now called "Western Canadian Log Builders Association"

James Durham, President; held at Nakusp Senior Citizens Hall (a log building built by CLBA members in 1978); CLBA T-shirts for sale \$7; Art Lloyd is editor of newsletter; \$15 conference fee (includes dinner).

► 1980 7th AGM, at Golden, BC at Brian Olynek's house

Bill Peyton elected President; Brian Lloyd (VP), Lloyd Beckedorf, Walt Murray, John Brown, and more — 24 members attended; now called "Canadian Log Builders Association, BC Chapter"; there are CLBA chapters in the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta, and BC. CLBA-BC has a display booth at the Vancouver Sportsman Show.



Lloyd Beckedorf

► 1981 8th AGM, at Golden, British Columbia

► 1982 No 9th AGM?

But there was a 'builders get together' at the Mackie School reunion during Canadian Thanksgiving.

Winter 2013



The "Gatehouse" at the 1983 AGM.



1984 group photo at the "new tool building."



1985 AGM



Gary Pendergrass, David Rogers, Val Rasmussen, Steve Schwartz & Vicki Strobe, and others . . . Tom Hahney teaches Design & Engineering pre-conference session.

► 1983 10th AGM, at Mackie School

John Brown is President; membership \$10 per year; AGM costs \$25; Beckedorf: "I really believe that log building . . . is such a young industry. Things which were standard a few years ago are quickly becoming outdated;" Larry Parker attends; pot-luck supper; slide show.



1983: Allan Mackie and Larry Parker

Gary Pendergrass remembers:
During a treasurer's (?) report, a listed expense was \$900 for dishes and silverware. I looked down at the paper plate I was eating off, with a plastic spoon...and interrupted with a query "If we have \$900 worth of dishes, why are we eating on paper plates?" . . . It went downhill from there, with Larry Parker, who was sitting beside me, egging me on with a 'go get em'!"

► 1984 11th AGM, at Mackie School

Lloyd Beckedorf is president; 143 members; bus tour of log homes west of Prince George; Lois Isabelle and Freda Greenlees are the caterers; Ralph Salm asks the School to archive CLBA files; CMHC is working on a log home code, and is using the CLBA Standards.

David Rogers remembers:
Standing on the porch of the old classroom, observing the gathering at the new classroom, I asked Robert Chambers "What is the CLBA?" Thinking to myself, "How is it different than the School?"



Dave Gardner demo's a slabbing jig with Kolve chain (1984).

► 1985 12th AGM, at Mackie School

Lloyd Beckedorf is president; Design & Engineering pre-conference course by Hahney; Tom Hahney article about the need for gaskets and infiltration seals in grooves and notches; 57 attend conference; founder Art Long passes away; \$25 registration fee; Kyra Guest (Mary Mackie's PA) performs belly dancing; "Technical Talk;" Chambers talks on kerfing logs to locate checking.

David Rogers remembers:
I had to make a hole in the ice in order to get to the lake water to cool off after being in the sauna.

Gary Pendergrass adds:
Somehow Dave and I convinced the others that going from Sauna to 'hole in the ice' was a 'Rite of passage'. . .and somehow we talked all the others into giving it a try. Don't think I've laughed that hard since.



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- **1986** 13th AGM, at Mackie School
Allan unveils his new Mackie scribes; David Rogers and Tom Hahney speak on stair railings; Robert Chambers elected president; \$5,550 in the bank; 21 attendees; Hahney gave "rave reviews" of his new Macintosh computer; Mary Mackie will no longer publish the CLBA newsletter.

Tom Hahney remembers:

When elected to the CLBA board of directors, with the position of secretary-treasurer, in 1986 it was my first time as a board member, and the first time I had met Robert Chambers, who was chosen as our president. The Board gathered in a circle, Robert said that we were going to have a newsletter that was focused on the technical skills and knowledge of log building, and that he was asking each member of the board to submit two articles for the coming year. I remember feeling a sense of excitement as I took this in. And indeed, I still feel delight when I get a new edition of Log Building News – the "glue" that through communication has held us together.

David Rogers remembers:

Lloyd Beckedorf introduced the "butterfly" notch, and Allan Mackie showed us his "power scribe" concept—a grinder with attachments to score the groove on both logs.

- **1987** 14th AGM, at Mackie School
Now is called "Canadian Log Builders Association, International."

Jack Sobon, architect and timber framer, is guest speaker; Randy Campbell on business; Tom Hahney "brought his Macintosh computer"; Albie Barden on thermally massive fireplaces; dues \$10 per year; 130 members; our newsletter is *Joiner's Quarterly*.

- **1988** 15th AGM, at Mackie School
\$35 conference fee; first issue of *Log Building News* published; a full page ad costs \$100; Allan Mackie reflects on sharing knowledge between builders, and how that improves quality; Tech Talk: Timbor (borate) rods, Ken Guest and hoof shapers; Duane Sellman showed the scribes he is making; Ed Campbell speaks on accessing logs; Tom Hahney on "stress and strain"; Beckedorf gets Technical Excellence Award—a painted antique slick.



- **1989** 16th AGM, at Mackie School
Mary Mackie officially honored as the "founding mother" of the CLBA; Tech Talk: sheep wool as insulation; Garth Farquhar is President; CLBA has a certificate of deposit that is paying 10.4% interest.



Mary Mackie, Founding Mother, 1989



Shannon Maris remembers:

A BIG bonfire, a clear night, and a full moon. A group of fellows from Nova Scotia who were on their way, or just back from Maritime Music Festival burst out rip roaring a cappella sea shanty's late into the night while those of musical talent used found object such as an empty guitar case to sticks and driftwood on empty beer cans to accompany the singers with percussion. The annual auction with wacky and wonderful donations, sometime bottles of beer being the most profitable auction item.



Standards Committee meets at Radomske School in 1991.

► 1990 17th AGM, at Sorrento, British Columbia

Doyle Burke, engineer; Murray Hardie on exporting; Ralph Salm on roof panels; Tech Talk: braided line for chalklines; \$3000 laser level; Wayne Sparshu peeling machine; Shannon Maris is hired (our first paid staff person); Association offices will be in Tom Hahney's design office; \$60 conference fee; singing around the campfire; Maritimes log builders; Beckedorf's shoes end up in the auction, but beer commands a higher price; life memberships removed by the members at AGM; a few members report they now have mobile phones; Beckedorf reports his 'double scribe' groove has been patented.

► 1991 18th AGM, at Sorrento, British Columbia

Terry Hall is President; Membership numbers have doubled since last year, and we now have 283; Jeff Arvin gives keynote on timber framing; Skip Ackermann built a 55,000 sf house for Saudi prince in Aspen; Company Membership is now offered; exports of log shells from Canada are down 20% from 1989; Tech Talk: plate log roll; random-orbital sanders demonstrated; Radomske explains underscribing; Chambers on log selection; planning starts for 1993 Yellowstone conference—Brian Lloyd is in charge; Standards Committee works on big revision (meets twice at Radomske School).

Catharine Hansen Remembers:

The display of international flags in Yellowstone, the people who travelled from around the world to attend the wide variety of workshops, and the buffalo and hot pools we had to dodge on our way back to our cabins late at night – it was an amazing time.

► 1992 19th AGM, at Sorrento, British Columbia

Radomske on log selection; Chambers on Kizhi, Russia; Latvian builders available for US companies; Terry Hall on roof systems; major revision of *Log Building Standards* will be ready in 1993; the Association now accepts credit cards; Mackie School is closed and buildings are auctioned; Chambers is President and Radomske Vice President; "Commentary" column to be added to *Log Building Standards*.



1992 AGM at Sorrento, BC.



Some of the 500 people at the Yellowstone 20th "International Conference"



Robert Chambers Remembers:
Giving my speech at the banquet in Yellowstone's Glacier Hall in front of the largest gathering of log builders the world has ever known. Even now, it gives me goosebumps.

Gunnar Granberg Remembers:

I'm thinking back of those wonderful and exciting days at Yellowstone, it was a great statement of the skill and vision in craftsmanship -- it brought people and ideas together on an international arena. I have warm memories of an enthusiastic crowd who gave, and received, inspiration. The knowledge must be nourished to stay alive!

Shannon Maris Remembers:

20th Anniversary Conference at Yellowstone National Park took every Board person, staff and volunteer hour that could be mustered to pull that one off. We had delegates, log historians, authors, craftsman, and legends flying in from Japan, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, and all corners of Canada and the United States. A cornucopia of information exchange, talent, new friendships, business connections, mentoring and camaraderie. We all needed a two week vacation after packing up that phenomenal event.... but WOW! what an event.



Ole-Karl



Ed Shure Mitered
"Banff" Truss, 1994



R Chambers, S Greer, T Hahney, E Shure, S Ackerman, K Mogenson, 1995

Ed Shure remembers:

Since the statute of limitations has passed- I can now share one of my fondest memories. The local logs we had sourced didn't meet Ole-Karl's specs, so we cajoled a logger in Northern Montana into felling a load of peeler poles and running 'em down to us at the eleventh hour. He must of been up for two or three days straight 'cause he showed up (with remnants of a deer carcass on his grill), parked his rig, and disappeared. The show had to go on so I committed one felony (and at least a couple of misdemeanors) by hot wiring his rig and taking my first drive in an honest to god 18-wheeler. Roy, wherever you are, Thanks!

▶ **1993** 20th AGM, at Yellowstone National Park—Now we are called "CLBA" and "ALBA."

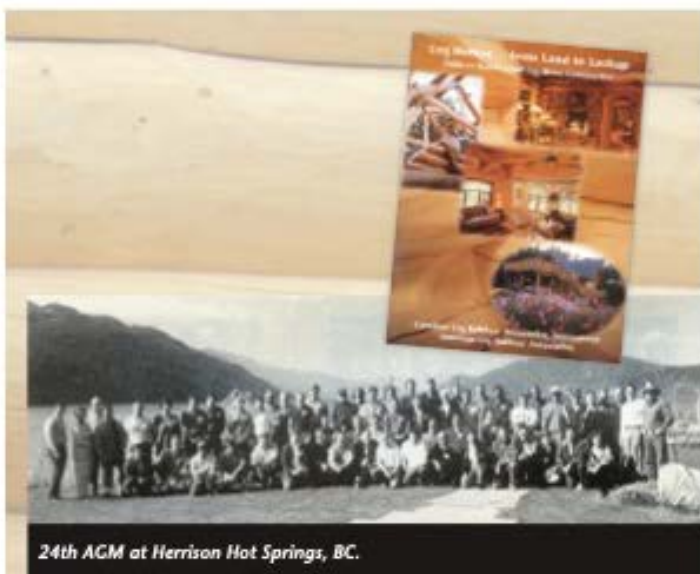
Ole-Karl Prois from Norway; Brian Lloyd is Conference Chair; Brungraber and Hahney on engineering; dues are now \$35; Henrik Andersen from Denmark; Merle Adams; Ed Levin on roof kernal; Jean Steinbrecher on design; Hahney and Brian Lloyd on Building Details; bison traffic jams between Old Faithful and West Yellowstone venues; Doris Muir, *Log Home Guide*; big trade show in Glacier Hall; Duane Sellman wins World Notching title; perhaps 450 to 550 people at the conference. Cathy McIntyre (Hanson) assists; Ed Shure elected President. Log Span Tables now published by CLBA.

▶ **1994** 21st AGM, at Banff, Alberta

John Brown on kiln-dry logs; Ed Shure - Tom Hahney with mitered truss demo; new Constitution, Bylaws and Code of Ethics adopted; Tom Stonecipher and Brian Lloyd on construction contracts; *Log Span Tables* now published by the Association; Shure re-elected President.

▶ **1995** 22nd AGM, at Banff, Alberta

Steve Loken on "resourceful building;" Hahney retires as Treasurer (14 years), and CLBA has \$50,000 in the bank (from Yellowstone); 202 members.



24th AGM at Harrison Hot Springs, BC.



On the Whistler log home tour.



Stephen Kemper, Barry Houseal, Jerry Wait in 1999

▶ 1996 23rd AGM, at Duluth, Minnesota

North Shore tour of homes; Thierry Houdart from France; Latvians: Egils, Gintis, & Karlis Apinis; David Salmela on design; Ed Miller dovetail jig and Mike Heintzman tenon and drill jigs; 233 members; Ed Shure is President; our Association gets its first email account.

▶ 1997 24th AGM, at Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia

Steve Badanes of Jersey Devil is keynote; CLBA contract for building is for sale; CLBAI gives \$2000 to start the BC-LTBI; hydraulic peeling spud; Mafell hand-held bandsaw; Makita curved base planers make their first appearance at Tech Talk. Robert Savignac and John Boys, and others create "Log Home: From Land to LockUp," our first publication for customers.

▶ 1998 25th AGM, at Whistler, British Columbia

Tour of local homes; Ric & Matheo Durfield; Steve Kemper with hydraulic chainsaw and drill; Jay Wan Yu attends from Korea; Tracy Wakefield from Australia; Wayne Sparshu on jobsite efficiency; James Mitchell on using short logs for construction.

▶ 1999 26th AGM, at Glenwood, Colorado

Tour of Aspen and Snowmass log homes, many by Ackermans; Barry Houseal with a non-settling building; gasket demo; Osborne buffing brushes demonstrated; Lateral Loads research - Hahney presentation; Tenonizer; Shannon Maris retires from Association after 9 years; BC apprenticeship program being established; Cathy Hansen hired and Association offices move to Lumby, BC; Builder Certification initiative is underway; 400 members: CLBAI now has a website.



Shannon Maris retires after 9 years as Association administrator.



For Educational Association
for Handcrafted Log
Construction

ILBA
International Log Builders' Association

Robèrt Savignac remembers:
The French-translation group got stuck on the title of the document: Log Building Standards... there was no consensus on how "Log Building" should be translated. Maisons en billots, maisons en rondin, maisons de bois brut, maisons en bois rond, construction en luster. We had trouble getting past the first TWO WORDS!



Gary Espe shows laser scribe.



Wayne Sparshu with his scaffold.



Joel and Robèrt atop gazebo.

► 2000 27th AGM, at Montebello, Quebec Now we are the "International Log Builders Association"

Two-day pre-conference design workshop with Jean Steinbrecher; 'Round Meets Square' gazebo workshop with Shure, Chambers, & McCarty goes into 'extra innings'; 250 members; *Standards* are now in French; Gary Espe demonstrates lasers on scribes; Jim Grieb scribes unveiled; John Boys is President. ILBA buys office building.

Ann Miks Remembers:
My favorite memory and one that I treasure, is the first slide show that I attended in 2000. It showcased the most incredible work that I had ever seen. It truly took my breath away. I was so proud of all of the builders that made up the ILBA and to think that they allowed me, Ann Miks (who knew nothing about log building) to be a part of this special group.



Cutting an Accelerated shell.

► 2001 28th AGM, at Kananaskis, Alberta

John Boys is president; Ann Miks is hired; Robert Savignac hired as Executive Director; draft of the Chinking Standards; Chambers leads two Accelerated hands-on workshops; Jerry Rouleau workshop on marketing; ArchiCAD workshop; Dalibor Houdek speaks about his research on fire and log walls.

► 2002 29th AGM, at Park City, Utah

Tom Hahney on settling jacks; Compound Log Joinery pre-conference; French Scribing; Jerry Wait is President; scientific testing of lateral stability of log walls; Savignac co-chairs ICC committee for log home code.



Left to Right: Rouleau, Savignac, John & Ingrid, Ann Miks



1st Fall Rendezvous in Cherryville, BC — Mary Mackie speaks; Frederick Brilliant French-scribe workshop; saddle notch workshop. Robèrt Savignac organizes and spearheads a European log building summit, held in Sweden. Board development retreats at Sugar Lake and Canmore.



Duane Sellman explains something technical.

Winter 2013





Parkville gazebo project.



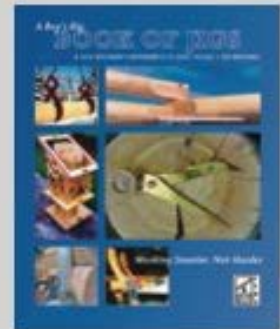
Del Radomske receives Grand Achievement Award from John.

► 2003 30th AGM, at Alymer, Quebec

Dave Gardner is President; Jean Rodrigue stair workshop; 367 members; \$480,000 in revenue this year; \$484,000 in expenses; Les Jozsa speaks on wood technology; Simon Auger and Ron Hann win notching competition; Jig Book is published; Builder Certification Program is tabled.



Ron Hann, Frederick Brilliant, and Simon Auger



2nd Fall Rendezvous, in Cherryville, BC — John Boys and Mark Fritch instruct chinked dovetail course (cabin sold for \$29,000); Russell Joseph tool system is demonstrated.

► 2004 31st AGM, at Parkville, BC

Gazebo project with Egils Artmanis, Duane Sellman, & Dai Ona; raw oysters off the rocks with Tim Bullock; Cyril Courtois on animation in design; Dietrich's 3-day workshop on CAD design; Design expo; Russell Joseph with jig for cutting arc windows; the auction raises \$45,000; 500 members; Mark Deagle champion of competition; 3rd annual rendezvous cancelled; Del Radomske receives the 1st - ILBA Grand Achievement Award.

Robert Savignac Remembers:

Cathy & I worked hard to develop greater Board responsibilities and participation, organizing special board retreats & planning/vision sessions.



Ann & Andree at Montebello 2006

► 2005 32nd AGM, at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Jeff Patterson is president; 8-week 17,000 km Road Trip is announced; Tom Hahney gets Grand Achievement Award; Simon Auger is notching champ; Jeff Pedersen conducts hands-on dovetail course at AGM; Wil Dancey conducts timber frame course; \$40,000 raised in auction, Tom Terry auctioneer; Canada GST levy on US members hit us; Savignac let go; Cathy on sick leave; financial strife for Association; attacks posted on LHOTI are baseless; conference workshop for kids.



Tom Hahney remembers:

One of the great honors of my life was to be given the Achievement Award in 2005. As I remember that moment now, it was so unexpected, I can still be knocked over with a feather!



Brian Lloyd Remembers:

One evening at Montebello I walked into the bar where I found Allan Mackie sitting alone, surprising enough... I picked up a beer and sat down with Allan. He looked up slowly and told me that we were among the very few Old Log Builders at the conference. I aged considerably at that moment!



Higgs Murphy with his Jigger.

► 2006 33rd AGM, at Montebello, Quebec

ICC log building code development is underway; auction brings in \$59,000; Higgs Jigger; Robert Chambers gets ILBA Grand Achievement Award; Ed Campbell addresses the members; Ingrid Boys provides historical and scribe displays; compound roof course. Patty LaFrancois organizes conference; Ed Shure is president; members now must apply annually to join.



Ed Campbell remembers:

Giving that speech was one of the prouder moments of my life . . . I am always interested to the progress of the organization that I helped to form and I have deep respect for those individuals who work so hard to further the interests of this industry. My hat is off to all the log builders who keep this industry alive and thriving.



Team Littler competing.



Cathy and Mira.

► 2007 34th AGM, at Abbotsford, BC

Log Grading by ALS nixed; major revision to Constitution and Ethics; ICC-400 Code is adopted; Chainsaw carving with Mike McVay; Littler brothers win. Ann Miks hired as office Administrator.





The Finns: Raimo, Hannu, Henrik



Rob with ChambersScribers at Tech Talk 2009.

► 2008 35th AGM, at Whitefish, Montana



John Boys & Jim Grieb

Logworks Helper pricing program available (created by Dai Ona & John Boys); *Log Building News* now in color; SketchUp workshop with Egils Artmanis and Clark Bremer; Toshio Odate wood sculpture; Mira Steinbrecher awarded by ILBA; Katrina Koebel receives design award.

► 2009 36th AGM, at Cable, Wisconsin



Ed Burke teaches log grading.

Our first joint conference with Great Lakes LogCrafters Association; work starts on what will become "Effective Practices & Methods;" Dusko Ballmer on scanning logs and cutting with CNC machine; Ed Burke log grading workshop; Finns and Estonians at conference; crane certification workshop; sill log layout; David Rogers on log repair.

► 2010 37th AGM, at Prescott, Arizona

Manitowoc crane demo; Effective Practices adopted; new Incremental Accelerated video shown by Chambers; Arcosanti tour; Earl Laverty explores ILBA vision.

Catharine Hansen Remembers:

I miss: the annual conferences, hugs from Uli Walther, a glass of wine with Robert Chambers, Kat Koebel's infectious smile, watching John Boys and Lloyd Beckedorf out bid each other at auctions. . . the list goes on!



Matt Davidson first in notching.



Ben Brungraber shows how easy it is for him to break things that timber framers have carefully built.

INTERNATIONAL LOG BUILDERS
40th
YEAR
ASSOCIATION

TIMBER FRAMERS GUILD
Dedicated to the art and science of timber framing



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► 2011 38th AGM, at Niagara, Ontario

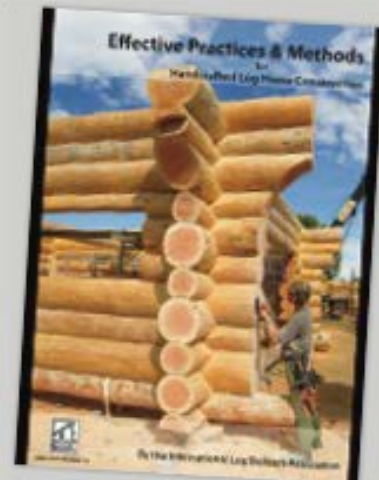
Centerline dovetail workshop with Higgs Murphy; Peter Gott keynote; John Boys brings "Buster," Wayne Sparshu buys Mackie axe for \$2100 in auction; LBN goes 100% digital; Chambers on new underscribe method; Dalibor Houdek on Canada energy codes; Dan Wait on low-tech kiln; Chinese businesswoman attends and wants to buy hundreds of log shells.



Peter Gott and John Nininger

► 2012 39th AGM, at Asilomar, California

First joint conference with TFGNA; Dietrich's 10-year anniversary; EP&M published in paper and digital; Chambers speaks on Dreams & Creativity; Brungraber and others break joints; Higgs, Preston, and Whitehouse hands-on lofting and more; Uli Walter on marketing.



Winter 2013