



One of the stops on the timber frame guilds tour of the UK was the Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings ([www.avoncroft.org.uk](http://www.avoncroft.org.uk)) Dr. Joe participated with three others in the axe throwing competition Their team competed against timber framers from England among others who take part in this competitively all the time. They surprised themselves surprised by coming in fourth. Not bad for a team that had never thrown a double bladed axe before !!!

Inside this issue:

**Dr. Joe and Kevin Tour 1**  
**England's historic**  
**timber frames with the**  
**guild**

**Dr. Joe hit the target 1**  
**in ax throwing**  
**competition**

**Family and Friends 2**

Raisings & Events:

- Timber Frame Guild tours historic timber frames of England and Wales
- Dr Joe's team comes in 4th — throwing double bladed axe
- Airport Design Center, Building A, Fletcher, NC
- Event Building for Banner Manor Corp, Boone, NC
- Custom Cypress Trusses, Madison, FL
- Custom Timber Frame home of EWP and Cypress, Lake keowee area, SC
- Custom timber frame addition, Highlands, NC
- Custom Cypress sign for Highlands Pass Development
- Custom EWP Trusses, Waynesville, NC

Contact Tracy Bailey or Jo Bell at 828-369-5899 or by email at [info@cabincreektimberframes.com](mailto:info@cabincreektimberframes.com) for more information.

It's been busy here at Cabin Creek, I'm just now getting around to sharing the tour that Kevin and the timber frame guild and I took to England and Wales. It was held in conjunction with the UK Carpenters Fellowship at Avoncroft Open Air Museum near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. My luggage was lost for a short time...my camera caught up with me on day three.

The first day our group was able to tour Worcester Cathedral, built in stages from the 12th century on. The walls are stone, more than 80 feet tall, but the roof structure is timber frame; mostly oak, although portions are southern yellow pine, imported from America, and built after the 17th century. The workmanship, the size of the timbers, the ingenuity of the old framers was a marvel. We toured old tithe barns and churches built from 1200 on, some of which are essentially unchanged other than some minor repairs, and we saw examples of ingenious repair projects as well.

A fortuitous discovery was that our Franklin, NC office's roof structure is patterned after "Wealden Hall", a 15th century design found in southeastern England, built by prosperous merchants and farmers. We invite you to visit us at the office to take a look.

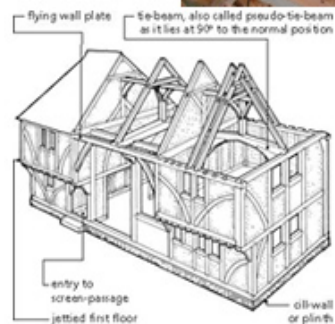
A recurrent feature of the country churches was the use of naturally curved oak timbers as headers over doorways or windows. At times curved branches were left attached to posts. With the branches let in to joining timbers as knee braces.

Some of the houses date from the twelfth century. Framed of oak, the timbers are usually painted black with white infill. The infill is made of clay, horsehair, and wooden sticks (wattle). As these structures have been lived in for 800 years, just imagine how long today's frames may last with SIPs, modern flashing, and modern foundations.

One 15th century house sill had settled about 18 inches, so that one end of a bedroom was 18 inches higher than the other, but was still lived in. On the same farm/ church yard was a Yew tree dated to be 4000 years old. This predates Stonehenge.

In essence: the old timber framers were thoughtful, innovative, clever craftsmen.

-Dr. Joe-





***(above) Every year Dr Joe and I hold a Christmas Party for the employees here at Cabin Creek Timber Frames. As always I forget to take any pictures .....until the party is almost over. (below, left) Sadie and Tar help Dr. Joe 'clean up' after the party. (below center) Christmas is still for kids. (below, Right) Humans are not the only of God's creatures that enjoy living in a well crafted timber frame. This little owl moved in this Autumn and is still with us at Deer Chase in the timber frame garage. >^..^<***

