



December/January 2007

### WINTER HOURS

**Monday – Friday**  
7:30 – 4:30  
**Saturday**  
7:30 – 12:00  
**Closed Sunday**

*As always, if you are running late just call ahead and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.*

**Winter Holidays:**  
Closing early December 24th,  
Closed 25th for Christmas  
Closing early Dec 31st  
Closed January 1st for New Years.

# Crosscuts

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## Celebrating the Traditional Art of Timber framing

While others follow sports teams, have the typical New England hobbies, or tackle small projects in their free time, Eric Bloomfield is busy creating something far more massive in scale—timber frame barns. A veterinarian in Manchester, New Hampshire by



profession, Eric enjoys the challenge, attention to detail, and craftsmanship of the post-and-beam building process. Working on weekends, with

friends and family assisting, Eric's latest project is this barn in Raymond. He is an admirer of many types of architecture, and this historical evolution of New England home styles, with the late 1700s Georgian style being his favorite for its clean lines and appropriate proportions.

Eric and friends have been working at the project for just over 2 and 1/2 years now, and hesitates to state an official completion date. The building was professionally designed, and Eric is continually making the needed minor modifications to the design to complete the construction to perfection. Eric looks to the Timber framers Guild for information and guidance.

The two story barn sits on the same property as an existing 1730's cape-style

home, to which Eric also built an addition on previously, after tearing down an



existing L-shape behind the building. When completed, the home will become Eric's residence.

Eric came to Rand, knowing us from his work on past projects. Rand has supplied all the materials for the barn project to date, including the timbers (sometimes measuring as large as 14" wide x 26' long), Advantech OSB by Huber (an engineered wood product), and other kiln-dried stock for stair risers, and other uses.

*continued on next page...*

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Asked about the greatest challenges of the project, Eric cites the heaviness of the green timber being used, and the perfection needed to splice two large timbers together to get to the 30' length needed for the final building size. The reward comes from the satisfaction of completing the entire project in the true post-and-beam construction. Made all from wood products, able to move with the wind and changes in the land from wintertime frosts and springtime thaws, and even able to comfortably withstand strong New England hurricanes and other storms.

When complete, Eric's new, two-story barn will house his woodshop.

### About Timber Frame Construction

Timber framing is a form of post and beam construction. Post and beam construction utilizes numerous types of connections including steel connectors, whereas traditional timber frame construction uses mortise and tenon joinery secured with wooden pegs. Stability is gained through the use of angled trusses. Although the building will move with the earth's movements and the wind, the structure will stay plum, square and true. Timber frame construction dates back to between 500 and 100 BC. The Egyptians and Romans both used timbers to construct the roof systems of their buildings. Between 500 to 800 AD people began to develop the joinery necessary to construct whole buildings out of timbers. During the 9th and 10th centuries the Europeans developed the timber framing skills we recognize today in many of the buildings of Europe and which we use today. Today, a timber frame structure is seen as a piece of art in itself. For more information, visit [www.tfguild.org](http://www.tfguild.org).

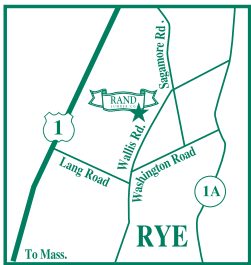
*Merry Christmas  
from all of us at  
Rand Lumber.*

*Jim, Ken, Kathy,  
Doug, Mark M.,  
Kathy S., Steve,  
Mark A., Butch,  
Jonathan, Matt, Ben,  
Chris, Colin, Sean  
& Lily Rose.*



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## RAND'S SALE ITEMS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY 2008

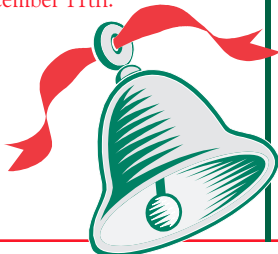
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- Rand Measuring 26' Tape 5.95
- Brown Jersey Gloves \$ .58
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