

Instructor Retreat: April 8-12, 2015



SCHEDULE

A full schedule including Try It sessions & working sessions will be available in early March.

Wednesday, April 8

9 am: Welcome! Courses begin

Building the Seliga Canoe with Jeanne Bourquin

7pm: *Traditional Willow Harvest Basket with Lee Zeike & Lindsay Lee*

Thursday, April 9

9am: Welcome! 2 day courses kick off

Intro to Food Fermentation with Eric Edgin: \$35 materials fee

Birthing the Bird Bowl with Mike Loeffler: \$10 materials fee

Sawhorse Trestles with Gerald David: optional materials fee if keeping project ~\$100

6pm: Potluck Dinner & Evening Entertainment TBD

Friday, April 10

9am: 2 day courses continue, 1 day courses begin

Exploring Tree Barks with John Zasada

4:30pm: Official Retreat Kick-Off

Introductions & Welcome: Greg Wright

6pm: Chili & Beer at North House

7pm: Instructor Show & Share

Saturday, April 11

8:30am Coffee's on

9:00 Teaching Techniques Break-out Session 1: Choice of topics

10:00 Teaching Techniques Break Session 2: Choice of topics

10:45 Coffee Break

11:00 Making it Happen: On Campus

12:30pm Lunch

1:30-2:15 The Other Side of the World of Craft

2:30 Try It sessions Begin

5:30 Happy Hour/ Ingredient Chopping

6:00 Pizza Bake!

7:30 pm Presentation by Tim Cochrane, founding board member, superintendent of Grand Portage National Monument and all around great story teller

Sunday, April 12

8:30-10:30am: Retreat Wrap-Up: The Way Forward Large Group Discussion

10:30-11am: All HANDS ON DECK: clear the Blue Building to sand & refinish the floors!

Please RSVP by March 1, 2015

Instructor Retreat: April 8-12, 2015



I. THE BASICS

All North House instructors are invited to attend an annual gathering at North House, featuring lead in coursework, community gatherings, and abundant opportunities to share ideas, stories and enrich the fabric of folk learning at North House.

Goals

- build instructor community
- nurture folk education traditions
- expand the teaching skills of new instructors
- share teaching secrets & successes
- strengthen the culture & traditions of North House

Coursework begins April 8; the official retreat begins April 10 at 4:30pm and will conclude by noon on Sunday, April 12.

North House will provide lodging as needed, some meals, and tuition-free coursework. A small travel stipend is available by request.

Spouses are welcome to attend the full group gatherings on Friday and Saturday night. If space is available in pre-retreat coursework, they may also register for those courses. This will be determined 2 weeks before the retreat.

II. PRE-RETREAT COURSEWORK: Timing varies, see descriptions

Tuition paid by North House; Materials fees paid by participants directly to instructor (cash or check). Please register on the attached RSVP form.

<i>Building the Seliga Canoe*</i>	<i>Jeanne Bourquin</i>	<i>April 8-10</i>	
<i>Traditional Willow Harvest Basket**</i>	<i>Lee Zeike/Lindsay Lee</i>	<i>April 8-10</i>	<i>\$45 materials fee</i>
<i>Intro to Food Fermentation</i>	<i>Eric Edgin</i>	<i>April 9-10</i>	<i>\$35 materials fee</i>
<i>Birthing the Bird Bowl</i>	<i>Mike Loeffler</i>	<i>April 9-10</i>	<i>\$10 materials fee</i>
<i>Sawhorse Trestles</i>	<i>Gerald David</i>	<i>April 9-10</i>	<i>optional mat fee (~\$100)***</i>
<i>Exploring Tree Barks</i>	<i>John Zasada</i>	<i>April 10</i>	<i>\$10 materials fee</i>

*register for 1, 2 or 3 days

** April 8, 7pm-9pm, full days on the 9th and 10th

***see description, only applicable if you want to keep the sawhorses

Coursework Descriptions

All courses start at 9am unless otherwise noted. Courses will end by 4:00 on Friday.

April 8-10 Building the Seliga Canoe with Jeanne Bourquin: No materials fee

Calling all boat builders and woodworkers to lend a hand restoring and beginning to build a square-stern canoe on a form recently donated by the Seliga family. Jeanne will lead all interested folks in a variety of work to start the building of a canoe on this piece of Minnesota history. Participate in 1,2 or 3 days: your help is needed!

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April 8-10 Traditional Willow Harvest Basket with Lee Zeike & Lindsay Lee: Wed, 7pm-9pm Thurs-Fri, 9am-5pm (4:00 on Friday), \$45 materials fee

When northern European emigrants came to North America they brought with them a host of crafts and skills necessary for survival in their new world. The basketry tradition known as 'stake & strand' was one such craft, as baskets were used to store nearly everything around the homestead. Learning to weave with sticks of willow is a little different from reed, wood or bark. Willow yields to strong hands, giving beautiful results, and class members will make a sturdy and functional round basket with a handle using a variety of weaves. You'll learn the techniques behind the terms slath, twining, 4-rod wale, French randing and border weaves. Class discussions will cover willow cultivation and harvest, traditions and lore. The class will assure a new appreciation for the art and craft of basketry, and open a door to the amazing world of willow. Baskets are a cross between whittling, carpentry, weaving and sculpture. Lee & Lindsay see willow as the ultimate renewable resource and have found abundant uses for it in their home and gardens.

April 9-10 Intro to Food Fermentation with Eric Edgin: \$35 materials fee

Fermentation...not just for brewers anymore! These days, fermented foods that can be easily prepared in the home are increasingly popular, as people begin to appreciate the healthful and delicious qualities of this ancient method of food preparation. In this overview course, you'll explore the science behind fermentation & various cultural traditions that employ these methods of food preservation. You'll prepare kraut, kimchi, kefir, kombucha, yoghurt, idli, and dosas, all easy to love and delicious recipes that provide a great springboard into the wide world of fermented foods. End the day with a smorgasbord of fermented foods provided by your instructor, and leave inspired to ferment further! You will also take home several samples to get you fermenting with excitement.

April 9-10 Birthing the Bird Bowl with Mike Loeffler: \$10 materials fee

At the heart of any North House course is a beautiful craft and boy, does intern alumnus Mike Loeffler make some beautiful bird bowls. However, translating an end product into a step-by-step class is another matter entirely. Mike is hoping to work with some experienced instructors to help "workshop" this potential class: materials prep, pacing and troubleshooting will all be up for discussion as you work on your own bird bowls. Some experience carving with hand tools and woodworking needed at this stage. BYO hand tools (adze, draw knives, gouges).

April 9-10 Sawhorse Trestles, German-Style Lay out with Gerald David

We're excited to welcome new timber-framing instructor Gerald David to campus as he offers this course on building sawhorse trestles in a different style than we've offered before, teaching basic lay-out principles in the German style. Gerald grew up in Germany and spent several years as a "Zimmermann" in the centuries-old apprenticeship program in timber framing. There are two options here for all students, from beginners to experienced woodworkers: you can make a set of sawhorses for North House OR you may make a set to take home: ~\$100 materials fee applies.

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April 10 Exploring Tree Barks with John Zasada 9am-3pm, \$10 materials fee

Cedar bark, birch bark, basswood inner bark...there's no barking up the wrong tree in this session (sorry, couldn't resist). John will bring a pile of materials harvested from the northern forests for experimentation: try a variety of simple weaving projects or just play with the materials and see what you can make. Course will end at 3pm.

III. LODGING

North House will assist with provide free/ discounted lodging for instructors. This may be on campus, as a guest in a private home near town or in a lodging establishment. We'll do our best; please let us know your preferences on the RSVP form.

IV. TRAVEL

We are happy to help coordinate car-pooling if we can. Let us know your plans on the attached form and we'll try to connect you with other folks traveling your way.

North House has a limited amount of funds to assist with travel expenses. If a small honorarium would make this trip possible for you, please don't hesitate to ask.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

Meals

- Friday dinner: provided by North House
- Saturday lunch: Soup Potluck
- Saturday pizza dough, please bring toppings and more!

Try-It sessions!

On Saturday afternoon, we'll host several 2-3 hour workshops. This is your chance to experience being a beginner student at something entirely new. Options and sign-ups to come when we have a good sense of who is all coming to the Retreat. Stay tuned!

Friday Night Show & Share

Everyone is invited to take part: please bring a jump drive with photos or a few slides or samples of whatever you've been exploring to share with the group, about 5-10 minutes of material. We'll organize the flow of the evening that day.

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RSVP FORM

I. THE BASICS

Name: _____

Guests attending: _____

Anticipated Arrival Date: _____

Anticipated Departure Date: _____

II. PRE-RETREAT COURSEWORK

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Please register me for the following: _____

III. LODGING

☐ I will take care of my own lodging ☐ Please help me find free/discounted lodging.

IV. TRAVEL

☐ Yes, add my name to the list to be circulated to other instructors who will be attending.

Traveling from: _____

Leaving on: _____ Returning on: _____

North House has a limited amount of funds to assist with travel expenses. If a small honorarium would make this trip possible for you, please don't hesitate to ask.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

Would you be willing to teach a Try-It session? We'll need about 6 sessions.

Try-it Session Idea: _____

You can print, fill out and mail or scan this form OR email your answers to the questions OR give me a call. Thanks! PO Box 759 Grand Marais, MN 55604; jfrost@northhouse.org; 218.387.9762

Please RSVP by March 1, 2015