

## To Participate

Please mail or fax this form with a \$300 deposit to the Community School no later than June 1, 2010.

Name:

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Address:

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Phone:

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Email:

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\_\_\_ **Building Scherzo, 10-day course**  
\$1,200

### Building Scherzo with meals

\_\_\_ **mid-morning coffee break** (coffee, juice, homemade pastry) \$1,250

\_\_\_ **garden lunch** (soup or salad, sandwich, dessert) \$1,300

\_\_\_ **coffee break and lunch** \$1,350

Please make note of any food allergies.

## About The Community School

The Community School (TCS) is a fully-accredited, independent day school serving grades 7-12. Our schoolhouse, a lovingly renovated 19th century farmhouse, is situated on 310 acres. Curriculum and programs include experientially-focused courses, management of our certified organic gardens and white pine forest, and regular travel opportunities which connect students to the broader world around us. It is impossible to be at The Community School and not note the beauty and abundance of our natural surroundings.

## Lodging

We have beautiful fields and forests (with a lean-to) available for camping. TCS has a large, fully equipped kitchen and bathroom with shower to be had for \$100/week while you participate in the Scherzo workshop. Other local lodging includes:

Berry Pond Motel: (603) 476-5571

Samantha's Inn: (603) 323-9100

Brass Heart Inn: (603) 323-7766

Lazy Dog Inn: (603) 323-8350

Highland House Inn: (603) 323-7982

Riverbend Inn: (603) 323-7440

Gilman Tavern Inn: (603) 323-9123

## Food

Coffee break and lunch are offered at modest prices to those who prefer not to interrupt the flow of work with meal preparation. A local caterer will serve delicious fresh foods from The Community School's certified organic gardens and other local sources. The school's kitchen is available to participants for food storage and preparation.

# Building Scherzo: Re-creating a Historical Lapstrake Canoe

taught by Geoff Burke,  
Master Boatbuilder

## July 19-30, 2010



The Community School  
1164 Bunker Hill Road  
South Tamworth, NH 03883  
Phone: (603) 323-7000  
Fax: (603) 323-8240

# Building Scherzo

## A Brief History

In 1889 the St. Lawrence River Skiff, Canoe and Steam Launch Co. of Clayton, New York, built a handsome little lapstrake double-paddle canoe; Scherzo (musical term meaning light and playful, pronounced "scairt-zo") is now over 116 years old. Weighing only 38 pounds, with a length of 12' 10", she is constructed of Northern white cedar over an oak/pine keel, is framed with elm, staunch, in excellent paddling condition. Scherzo was built at the height of the Golden Age of canoeing in America, a time when many builders like J.H. Rushton and W.P. Stephens started their legendary careers by building lapstrake canoes. As a product of that era, Scherzo is a superb example of lightweight traditional boatbuilding at its best, a testament to construction methods that work and stand the test of time.

## About Geoffrey Burke

Ever since Geoff Burke went on his first canoe trip in the Adirondack Mountains in second grade, canoes and small boats have been an important part of his life. In the early 1970's, a love of the wilderness took him to Alaska where he took a series of canoe trips varying from 200-1,000 miles in length; these showed him that canoes could make voyages of epic lengths. Upon returning to New England, a chance encounter with an article in WoodenBoat magazine written by Robert Baker changed his life. He was taught by Walt Simmons and John Gardner. Henry Rushton and Pete Culler became the focus of much research. Today, Geoff owns a very successful business building traditional wooden small craft in Tamworth, New Hampshire, and enjoys teaching boatbuilding classes at Wooden Boat School and Lake Champlain Maritime Museum.

## This Class

Scherzo, recently acquired by Geoff, will serve as the centerpiece/model for this special class where two copies of this canoe will be built. Having the original canoe present will allow important historical details to be accurately reproduced. Starting with a set of lines taken off the original, we will proceed through all the steps in building a traditional lapstrake boat. This will include lofting, making the molds and backbone, planking, ribbing out, trim, and finishing. Special emphasis will be placed on developing fine hand skills and using old-time, but effective, methods of working wood. We will also cover the making of a double paddle with take-apart ferrules. These allow the paddle to be used, feathered or not, as well as easily stowed. One canoe will be raffled to a lucky student and the other donated to the Community School for at least 100 years of paddling pleasure. Students may choose between providing their own lunch each day or enjoying the delicious meals prepared by local caterer. The Community School's farmhouse kitchen is available to those who would like to store or prepare their own food. Course participants must be 15 years old or older. Woodworking experience desirable, but motivation counts for even more!