

Kamp Kephart '14

The Classic Camping Skills Workshop Series

Dedicated to the spirit of Horace Kephart, the "Dean of American Campers"
...author of *Our Southern Highlanders* and *Camping and Woodcraft*.



Horace Kephart in camp.

The Golden Age of Camping (1880's-1920's) was a time when camping meant sleeping under canvas and cooking over an open fire. These courses are offered within that context. Participants will spend the day in a recreated campsite of the 1920s. Here in the woodsmoke, surrounded by the outdoor gear of a by-gone day, these traditional skills may be practiced in their proper setting.

"This instinct for a free life in the open is as natural and wholesome as the gratification of hunger and thirst and love. It is Nature's recall to the simple mode of existence that she intended for us."

- Horace Kephart

The Schiele

Museum of Natural History

1500 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, NC

704.866.6908

www.schielemuseum.org

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The Hafted Hatchet

February 22

The hatchet occupies a unique place in the pantheon of camp tools. Sized halfway between the knife and the full-size axe, it is perfect for a wide variety of woody tasks. After a brief survey of Classic Camping-style hatchet models, participants will install a new handle on an old hatchet head. Custom handles will be crafted from scratch. Along the way, we'll challenge some standard ideas about wood species, grain alignment and handle shapes.

Two Birch Bark Knife Sheaths

February 23

Traditional outdoorsmen of the northern circumpolar forests looked to the birch tree for fuel, food, tools and utensils. In this course participants will craft two different classic knife sheaths from birch bark: a blade sheath from the boreal forests of Scandinavia, and a full-body sheath from the Great North Woods of America.

Backwoods Buttons

March 15

Add a little frontier fashion to that coat, vest, belt bag, axe sheath or knapsack flap—with buttons, toggles and fobs made in the classic style. Participants will craft a variety of backwoods fasteners from wood, bone, antler, horn, leather and hand-cast pewter.

Woodcrafter's Belt Bag

March 16

The everyday essentials of camp and trail are easily carried in this handcrafted leather belt bag. It is the perfect place to pack that pocket knife, match safe, compass and notebook. Participants will use traditional leather working tools and techniques to create this classic carryall.

The Food Quiver

April 5

Recreate an almost forgotten piece of traditional trail gear used by natives and newcomers alike on the American frontier--and recommended by none other than Daniel Carter Beard himself! Worn around the waist, across the back or stuffed in the top of your knapsack, these hand-sewn, two compartment provision bags are always right at hand.

Jack Knife Cookery

April 6

This course is dedicated to James Austin Wilder, a truly unique character in the history of classic camping legend and lore. We'll explore Wilder's life and work and set about recreating many of the skills offered in his outdoor opus, Jack Knife Cookery. This is camp cooking castaway style—using primitive methods gathered from a lifetime of travel and adventure.

Campfire Brew

May 3

It's camp coffee, tea and chocolate prepared in the old style. We'll explore the history of these classic campfire brews, and the golden age methods used to prepare them. We'll craft coffee from trail-roasted and hand-ground beans, steep both green and black teas in loose leaf and home-bagged forms, and recreate Horace Kephart's cherished chocolate cup. Participants will also manufacture their own alcohol fueled "billy-boil-up kit" for the trail.

Griddlecraft

May 4

The griddle is an often overlooked piece of camp kitchen gear that occupies an honored place around the hearth in a traditional group camp. We'll explore the selection, use and care of stone, steel and cast iron griddles. Participants will also carve two time-tested wooden griddlecraft utensils of their own to use as we cook up a few classics from the campfire menus of old.

The Rope Yard

October 4

Ropecraft is an essential skills set for the classic camper and the backwoods engineer. Step into the rope yard to explore the knots, lashings, whippings, splices and strops of the traditional camp. We'll also craft and use rope making machines, explore some rope "kinks" of the old masters, and apply all these skills to a group pioneering project.

Classic Camp Gourdcraft

October 5

Meals around a traditional woodcraft fire were sometimes eaten from hard-shell gourd utensils manufactured by the campers themselves. In this course we will explore the gourd working traditions of Bernard Mason and then craft both a noggin and a trencher using classic tools and techniques in the style of this Grand Master of Woodcraft.

Registration:

Please complete and mail to:
Steve Watts, Schiele Museum
1500 E. Garrison Blvd.
Gastonia, NC 28054

Check the desired course(s) above in spaces provided. You may register for any or all courses.

Cost: \$55 for Museum members per course/
\$60 per course
\$20 deposit per course required
for registration (non-refundable).

Registration begins immediately. Applications received on or before February 1, 2014 receive top priority. You will be notified of your registration status by February 14, 2014.

All courses begin at 9 AM and end at 4 PM.
Lunch is provided as a part of each course.
On-site camping and rustic lodging are available as well.

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____

Are you a Museum Member? Yes ___ No ___ Membership # _____

Total number of workshops checked _____

Total amount enclosed: Number of workshops X \$20 = _____

*A payment-in-full-option is available for those who wish to avoid carryover balances:

Total amount enclosed: Number of workshops X \$60 (\$55 Museum members) = _____

Make all checks payable to "Schiele Museum" with "Kamp Kephart on the memo line.