



Mid-Atlantic
TIMBERFRAMES

TIMBERTALK

Spring 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



4&5

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Home in the Appalachian Ridges of Perry County, PA

6

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHT

Dustin Haas of Haas Creative Carpentry, LLC

7

ASK AN EXPERT

What is a hybrid timber frame design?



Home in the Appalachian Ridges
A majestic home featuring a massive timber frame great room.

INDUSTRY NEWS



Five Stand-Out Features of Timber Frame Interiors

Timber frame construction is a distinct style that showcases the beauty of natural wood. While its curb appeal is obvious, sometimes its structural and design benefits for interiors can be overlooked. Here are five trademark elements that make timber frame interiors truly special.

- 1. Exposed Structure**
In a conventionally framed building, its structure is typically hidden behind drywall or other materials. A timber frame building puts it on display, creating a visually interesting interior.
- 2. Design Flexibility**
A variety of wood species, stains, and finishing treatments provide endless design possibilities. Timber frame buildings are adaptable to any architectural style, whether it's a rustic mountain home or a contemporary event venue.
- 3. Open Floor Plans**
Timber frame structures require fewer walls to support the building. This makes them ideal for designing an open floor plan, which is suitable for many commercial spaces (e.g., restaurants and event venues) but also popular in homes.
- 4. High, Expansive Ceilings**
Natural light spills into timber frame buildings because of their high ceilings, large windows, and open floor plans. High ceilings are aesthetically pleasing and make spaces feel more spacious.
- 5. Biophilia**
Humans naturally crave the outdoors. Living or working among natural materials indoors can not only lower stress levels, but also increase productivity, making a timber frame interior an ideal way to boost well-being.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Home in the Appalachian Ridges of Perry County, PA

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Architect	Meridad Design
Builder	Haas Creative Carpentry, LLC
Location	Perry County, PA
Points of Interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,800 square-foot great room• Hammer trusses• Life-sized wooden bear

Mid-Atlantic Timberframes helped to build this gorgeous mountain home, featuring an expansive timber frame great room (36' from floor to ceiling peak!) with views for miles. Oversized timbers — including 12" x 12" interior posts and 12" x 16" ceiling beams — make a bold statement, but we also added a touch of whimsy with a life-sized bear and its cubs carved from two white cedar trees. A pool and a timber frame porch add the perfect finishing touches to enjoy the home's beautiful, peaceful surroundings.



The patio's timber frame porch and outdoor kitchen expand the home's living space to the outdoors.

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHT

Dustin Haas | Haas Creative Carpentry, LLC

Why did you start Haas Creative Carpentry?

Haas Creative Carpentry was created in 2016 to provide quality crafted products to those clients looking for just that. We are a small company that focuses on mainly one project at a time and puts all our talent into it, no matter how big or small it is.

How did you get into carpentry?

I grew up around construction and woodworking. My father and grandfathers were either involved in the construction industry or worked on woodworking projects as a side hustle / hobby, so it was a natural fit for me. I was blessed with a natural talent to be able to build pretty much anything I set my mind to. I felt like I shouldn't waste that.

How long have you been in the business?

I have been working in the construction industry officially for 15 years, but I had part-time jobs in the trade starting when I was 15 years old.

What is your area of expertise?

The true carpentry side of the trades — custom projects like cabinets, mantels, and countertops in the homes we build. I still wouldn't call myself an expert, though. I still have a lot of learning to do.

"I was blessed with a natural talent to be able to build pretty much anything I set my mind to. I felt like I shouldn't waste that."



Which project are you most proud of?

I am proud of all the projects we work on. But if I must choose one, it was the home we completed in spring 2022 — the Mountaintop Retreat, as we named it. This was a truly custom home in every aspect, including massive free-of-heart timbers for the great room and trees from Canada four feet in diameter that had a mama bear and three cubs carved into them. Teaming up with Mid-Atlantic Timberframes on this project was the best decision we could have made. They are a super company to work with.

Which project was the most challenging?

The most challenging request we have received was a custom cantilevered set of stairs with reclaimed wooden treads that were supposed to have color-changing LED lights recess installed in the underside of each one. The stairs had to have cantilevered landings within them as well. A wainscoting made out of the same reclaimed lumber skirted the wall side of the stairs, and custom steel railings were positioned along the open side.

What are your thoughts on designing with timber?

I absolutely love designing with timber in mind. There is just something about its strength and beauty. It is both bold and gentle at the same time. The great thing is that the whole structure can be timber, or it could just be small accents. Either way, it adds something special to the project.

LIVE WEBINAR: THE EVOLUTION OF A PROVEN BUILDING METHOD

Join us as we explore the past, present, and future of timber frame construction. We'll discuss the timber framing process from the design, engineering, and construction perspectives, and show several examples where heavy timber enhanced the aesthetics, engineering capabilities, sustainability, and more in residential and commercial projects.

This webinar is free to attend!
Visit TinyURL.com/MATF-Webinar to register.



Tuesday, June 6
1:00 – 2:00 pm EDT

ASK AN EXPERT

What is a hybrid timber frame design?

A traditional timber frame design relies on heavy timber beams and mortise-and-tenon joinery to create the structural frame. In a hybrid design, however, one or more parts of a building may be timber framed, while others are conventionally framed (usually using lumber that is joined together by nails or screws). Or, a hybrid design might use all conventional framing and incorporate timber more as a decorative element than a structural one. A common example of this is using timber ceiling beams to add a rustic touch.

At Mid-Atlantic Timberframes, many of our projects feature hybrid designs. A structure that is conventionally framed is typically less expensive and quicker to build than one that is fully timber framed. Hence, a hybrid design can provide the best of both worlds — the timber frame aesthetic on a shorter time frame and smaller budget.



Sam Ebersol | General Manager

Sam has more than 25 years' experience in the timber frame industry. He got his start erecting timber frames, then graduated to layout and cutting, before eventually learning the design and estimating sides of the business. Today he oversees all of Mid-Atlantic Timberframes' operations, including its sales, estimating, design, fabrication, and installation of timber frames.

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Want to be our next Industry Highlight? Email Sam Ebersol | Samuel.Ebersol@MATFLLC.com

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TIMBERFRAMES

Advancing the Art of Timber Construction

Mid-Atlantic Timberframes builds custom legacy homes and one-of-a-kind academic, agricultural, and commercial structures. Timber frame construction provides versatility that traditional construction methods can't match, for limitless possibilities. We employ innovative computer-aided design and computer numerical control (CNC) machining technology, bringing our craft to a higher level of precision and resulting in exceptional structures that deliver lasting durability and peace of mind.

For more information about Mid-Atlantic Timberframes, visit **MATFLLC.com**.