

Traditional Tangent Handrail
Jim Baldwin of 18th Century Handrail, together with South Mountain Company, will conduct a 4-day intensive class in the crafting of Traditional Tangent Handrails. The mix of drafting and workshop time will focus on the basics of face mould drawing and tangent handrail development, and each student will create a wreath for a handrail using hand tools. Jim will also cover tread/riser relationship and stairway designs used to create seamless and elegant handrails. Students are encouraged to bring their own proposed project plans and portfolios for sharing.

Jim Baldwin

While he was still in high-school Jim Baldwin started working for his grandfather, a hand woodturner from Holland; his grandfather would turn the posts on one lathe and Jim would sand them on another nearby.

Many years later, after transforming his grandfather's business into a specialty shop making high-end custom staircases for new and remodeled homes throughout much of Southern California, Jim has turned his focus to making only sculptural handrail parts for other stair companies and individuals.

He says "Professionally, this is where I think I do the most good...instead of building just a few custom stairs a year, I am now involved in hundreds of projects."

South Mountain Company

South Mountain Company is a multi-faceted employee-owned company offering integrated architecture, engineering, building, interiors, woodworking, and energy services to residential, commercial and institutional clients. Great design, high performance building, superb craft - all rolled into one!

Founded in 1975 and located on the island of Martha's Vineyard, we combine youthful exuberance with diverse expertise and four decades of experience.

While at SMC

While you're here you'll get a taste of what daily life at South Mountain is like - you'll be able to take a tour of our facility, and chat with our Owners and employees in Design, Energy, Admin and our Shop.

South Mountain's building is in a rural area with spotty cell phone service (as is common on Martha's Vineyard.) We do however have Wi-Fi which will be available to you.

Dress at SMC is way casual! It will be fall when you come - most likely with warm days and cool nights.

Meals

South Mountain will provide snacks for morning break and sandwiches for daily lunches. Please let us know if you have any dietary considerations.

What to Bring

Each student attending should come prepared to draft their own shop drawings and perform limited bench work operations. Upon registering you will receive a list of suggested drafting and benchwork tools to bring with you.

Transportation

Martha's Vineyard is accessible by sea or air.

If you are travelling by sea there are both passenger and car ferry services. Bringing your car over requires an advance reservation with the **Steamship Authority** and you should make one as soon as possible. **Cape Air** has flights from Boston Logan to Martha's Vineyard several times a day.

Once you are on the island you can travel by car (however rentals are quite expensive), bicycle and public bus. **Martha's Vineyard Regional Transit Authority** runs the local buses.

Accommodations

There are plenty of accommodation options available on Martha's Vineyard including private home rentals, bed and breakfasts, etc. We've narrowed it down to two possibilities but feel free to explore and find the right fit for you.

Inexpensive private or shared rooms are available at **Martha's Vineyard Youth Hostel**. For a full-service hotel nearby you could contact **The Mansion House**. If this choice is of interest to you please let us know and we can negotiate a slightly lower rate.

Fees & Cancellation Policy

Class fee is \$800 including lunch and materials. A deposit of \$200 is due by August 30th, with balance is due by September 17th. A full refund will be issued on cancellations made before September 17th. Late registrations will be space available and at the discretion of South Mountain.

Make checks payable to:
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