

Skills for Life Staff

Stefan Maier

A master organ builder, Stefan provides organ technician services through his Massachusetts-based company, Tracker Organs. In 1987 he attended a four-month course based on the ideas and practices of the philosophers G.I. Gurdjieff and J.G. Bennett. There he learned methods of balancing the inner qualities of the craftsman while refining his outer skills. In 2012 Stefan started a new venture, installing photovoltaic systems using renewable energy sources.

Nanji Davison

Nanji attended a ten-month residential course in England run by J.G. Bennett. Designed to establish inner life practices to be developed over a lifetime, Nanji has continued her work with others through the Camp Caravan community. Earlier, as a physical chemistry major, she became a medical technologist, followed by certification as a master gardener. Nanji helped to lead many residential courses, through which she explored and developed many of the ideas behind Skills-for-Life.

George Bennett

Raised in an experimental spiritual community in England, George attended one of J.G. Bennett's ten-month courses. Following postgraduate work in American history, and work as an international truck driver, journalist, and publisher, George received teacher certification. George now teaches at The Village School, an independent elementary school in Royalston, founded by Camp Caravan in the 1980s. George collaborates to conduct seminars and courses in the U.K. and Massachusetts, based on Skills-for-Life themes.

Ana Bennett

Ana became an osteopath in England, where she practiced for twelve years. She is now a cranial-sacral therapist in Massachusetts, where she moved with her family in 2003. In 2006 Ana attended a four-month course studying ideas and practices derived from Gurdjieff and Bennett. Since then she has directed and taught postgraduate osteopathic courses in England and Germany.



The Details

Week 1: August 5-13, 2017 (Primarily for first-time participants, but all are welcome)

Week 2: August 13-20, 2017 (Must have attended Week 1 or last year's program)

Fees: \$400/week, scholarships available

Fees cover: tuition, food and accommodations

Minimum age: 18

Deadline & Deposit: \$50 non-refundable deposit due by July 1, 2017

More info: skills-for-life.org

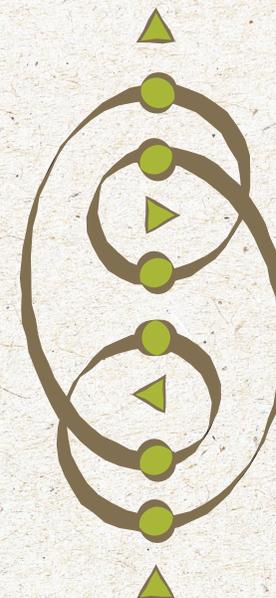
Contact us to Register

Skills for Life

Camp Caravan
255 South Royalston Road
Royalston, MA 01368

info@skills-for-life.org

 Find us on Facebook (Skills-For-Life)



Skills for Life

An immersive program
for young adults

August 5–13, 2017
Introductory week

August 13–20, 2017
Optional part 2

Camp Caravan, Royalston, MA



simple meditation & movement

gardening, cooking, carpentry

skills-for-life.org



Skills-for-Life

An immersive program aimed at taking practical steps towards equipping you with a wider range of skills and practices than conventional education provides, to promote flexible, practical thinking.

What?

- Experience community living
- Join in guided meditations
- Participate in group projects with a non-hierarchical organization
- Learn how to maintain an active and fruitful inner life in the midst of outer activity
- Take daily classes in woodworking, gardening (vegetable growing, seed saving), cooking, and baking
- Develop tools for awareness of the body, feelings and attitudes. Observe how we function and interact with others
- Work with movement and dance, aimed at developing attention and awareness in relation to the body
- Investigate daily study themes specifically designed to help us notice how we relate to the material world around us, the natural world, and to other people. How do we function within ourselves?
- Explore ideas such as "reciprocal maintenance." What is the significance for our own life of the interdependence of all life forms? How does this relate to sustainability, and what is our responsibility?

Why?

We are living in challenging and unpredictable times. Long foreseen issues, from global warming to food safety, are in crisis. Meeting these challenges creatively requires imagination, practical skills and, above all, cooperation. Yet our traditional educational systems seem to have been designed to stifle these very qualities that current and future generations will need.

Skills-for-Life takes a very different approach. It offers practical classes in gardening, cooking and carpentry, combined with an equally practical work on understanding our own natures. Through practices, including selfmonitoring techniques and simple meditation, participants gain a better understanding of their own inner life and emotional experience, promoting balance between the inner and outer life.

Where?

Camp Caravan is an educational campus in a nature-packed setting in Royalston, a small town in north central Massachusetts. This peaceful rural location offers the opportunity to be with our innermost self, the natural world, and with a community of friends, while temporarily suspending our previous patterns for connecting with the modern world.

Is it for me?

Skills-for-Life may be right for you if you are:

- young adult (over 18)
- independent spirit
- slightly unconventional
- seeking meaning in your life
- want to make a difference but not sure how

Participants take responsibility for cooking, washing-up and other practical chores, and engage in practical and theoretical classes. Conditions are simple, with dormitory accommodations and communal meals.

more info at: skills-for-life.org



experiments in community building

practical skills for life

balancing inner & outer lives