

Finding your Way - Land Navigation Workshop

June 26-28, 2009

Learn or polish navigational skills using such tools as map, compass, GPS receivers and altimeters. Bring any tools you may have and learn how to use them from a pro. Beautiful hikes and instruction led by Certified Clair Tappaan Lodge Leader Bill Straka.

The program will begin at 7:30PM Friday June 26th and end mid-afternoon on Sunday June 28th. The program fee is \$165 (sierra club members) and \$175 (non-members). Program fee includes 2 nights lodging at Clair Tappaan Lodge with 6 meals as well as navigation instruction and guided hikes.

Course Outline

- Basics of map and compass
- Relating the map, compass, and terrain
- Basics of GPS
- Using your GPS receiver
- Relating map to GPS receiver
- Routefinding

Each of these sections involves extensive “hands-on” exercises, with practical navigation in the field. After the classroom segments the group will head out onto the trails behind Clair Tappaan and into the Tahoe National Forest to practice the skills they have learned

Instructor Profile

Bill Straka, who holds a PHD in Astrophysics, was a University Professor and a Staff Scientist at Lockheed Martin. Bill was an instrumental team member in developing the Global Positioning System (GPS) and has been teaching land navigation courses for the past 20+ years. He is also a lifelong backpacker and has many major mountaineering ascents including Denali, Kilimanjaro, and several volcanoes in Mexico as well as numerous ascents in the Sierra Nevada and Rockies.