

2/25/08

Memo to: Jim Davenport Jr.

The American Country Barn Company

From: Richard G. Bessel Jr.

Re: Letter of Recommendation.

To whom it may concern:

I am happy to say that I am more than satisfied with The American Country Barn Company and the Yankee Carriage Barn that they built for us last year. I would highly recommend Jim Davenport and his company to anyone who is looking for quality post and beam construction at a very reasonable price.

What initially drew me to ACB over some other companies was the quality of the materials that they use. I had some experience with post and beam construction as my house is a timber frame post and beam home and I had been involved with that construction about 20 years ago. I preferred the type of wood (hemlock instead of pine) that ACB used for the framing and their barns seemed to be sturdier than some of the others I had looked at. As they claim on their web site, they do use extra heavy timber with the framing and in places such as loft flooring and roofing structure, 2x6 tongue and groove is used instead of 1x6 as some of the other companies use. Also, they did include heavy duty stairs in the overall price while some other companies charged extra for stairs. Even with this extra value built into the total price, they still came in at a more attractive price than the other companies.

When it came to any customizing or special requests like ordering special windows and changing some of the initial plans, Jim and his crew couldn't have been more accommodating and in some cases there was no additional cost incurred.

As for the actual barn raising, ACB did an excellent job putting together and orchestrating all the different crews needed for the overall installation of the barn and again at a fair price. The crews that they lined up, from the excavator to the guys that put on the shingles, were all professional as well as pleasant to work with.

Jim Davenport and Mark Calabro are a class act and always showed a lot of integrity. My family and I just love our barn and would definitely use American Country Barns again should we ever need a second barn on our property.

Richard G. Bessel Jr. (203) 746-6651