

WOOD N YOU LIKE TO KNOW

Elmsdale Lumber Company Limited

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Notes from the Editor

Spring has sprung, Trump has been indicted for one of the many charges he is facing, and after a 5-year hiatus, our dinner theatre group is back at it. All is good with the world.

This fall, we will be selling tickets to 2 (possibly 3) shows. We are in the process of writing the script, but we have settled on a theme and after our first 4 meetings, I can attest to the fact that the Elmsdale CareActors are ready to get back to the stage. The Elmsdale Legion and the East Hants Community Learning Association are partnering on this production and all profits will be shared equally.

We will be taking our guests on a fun-filled chartered flight to a sunny location and our guests will be encouraged to dress up in their best sun attire. We will be selling 2 levels of tickets, economy and first class. Of course, first class seats will cost a little more and Robin has already agreed to purchase 10 tickets. First class tickets will cost \$10 more per seat than economy and at this time we have not determined the price of economy tickets. We do know we will have to increase the price a bit because of increased food costs but we are attempting to keep them as fair as possible. I will let our readers know when tickets go on sale.

And some more good news, in the summer of 2020, Janet Barr (Bubba's wife) was diagnosed with congestive heart failure as a result of an infection she sustained following her gall bladder surgery. Her heart was only working at 6%. Her medical team was considering a heart transplant but because of her young age, they opted to do medical therapy instead. So, this month, after 3 years, she has received a clean bill of health and was discharged from the heart clinic. She will continue to take medications but her future diagnosis is great. Happy news!

Until next month, Gennie

Notes from the Safety Committee

The minutes from our last safety meeting are posted on the bulletin boards around the property. Please take a moment to review them & be sure to ask your supervisor or any member of our safety committee about any questions you may have.

Our lumber piles are high throughout the yard making visibility a challenge in some spots. As always, please ensure you are driving slowly through the yard to allow you time to see around the lifts and to see oncoming vehicle and forklift traffic.

We will be installing new emergency lighting around the new sawmill building in the weeks ahead, as well as replacing the existing temporary catwalks with new steel permanent catwalks to the lunchroom and upstairs electrical room. Please continue to be mindful of construction workers here while they work to keep our building and environment as safe as possible.

Until next month,

Brian Myers, Trevor Hare, Nick Miller, Craig Isenor, Mark Wilber, Angie Kainola



Notes from the President

I would like to start my article with some great news! Donnie Isenor is now a grandfather. There is more on the arrival of Don's granddaughter in Don Isenor's corner of this newsletter. I would like to share this; when Donnie and Sass were young teenagers, they used to accompany their dad Lester, and would help me cut, split, and pile firewood. And now Donnie is a grandfather, oh, wow, that must make me really old! Congratulations Donnie and Bev on joining the wonderful world of grandparenting.

On the more the disheartening side of things, Clint Hines passed away on March 17th. Clint was with us for 28 years and was an extremely talented carpenter. We depended on Clint's talents, and you can see evidence of this throughout our property. He built the trusses for our sawmill building which was erected in 1976-77 and we just removed them to allow for our new sawmill building. Clint projects, both large and small, are just too many to list. Personally, I really enjoyed working with Clint on countless projects and depended on his knowledge and great advice on how to best tackle many building challenges.

Continuing with the disheartening news, Warren Hirtle's 27-year-old son Matthew suffered a stroke last week. His medical team is still doing tests to discover the cause. It appears he is going to be okay but to err on the side of caution, he has been released from the hospital and is off work for a month or until such time the cause has been determined. He has sustained a little vision loss as a result, and it is not known if he will recover from this. Only time will tell. Luckily, his vision loss is minor, and it should not affect his day-to-day life. Matthew, look after yourself and we look forward to a full recovery.

On a much happier note, fishing season opens next month. Yahoo!

Notes from the President, con't

Please take note of both the American and Canadian flags on the McDonough logo. ELCO had a part in this. In the past, McDonough were well known as a high-end bandmill manufacturer from Wisconsin, USA. Some years ago, they acquired Valley Machinery in Mactaquac, New Brunswick. Our present combination board edger and gang edger is a Valley machine. It has been an absolute workhorse for about 30 years. It was designed by Fritz Weirathmeuller, the engineer who has been largely responsible for the design of the many sawmill upgrades we have been in the middle of for the past few years. He is also well know to our sawmill group.



When the new machine arrived, it had the logo you see above attached to the machine. Except this logo said made in Wisconsin, USA. All 3 of our new machines will be made in Mactaquac, New Brunswick and we are proud to have purchased this fantastic technology and extremely well built machines, made right here in the Maritimes.

On more than one occasion, I joked about the logo to the President of MacDonough Manufacturing. We were promised a new plaque or stencil displaying the Canadian flag for our existing machine. I hope each of you are as proud as me to display the Canadian flag.

Until next month, Robin

Notes from Eacan Timber

Every year the team at Eacan attends a show called the ABSDA. The show is designed for buyers (retail stores) to walk the floor and speak with various suppliers of building materials. It's a great show for us as many of the retail stores throughout Atlantic Canada are represented. We are able to share our knowledge on lumber and discuss potential partnerships moving forward.



This year is the first time they have held it since the pandemic began and people were ready to get out and see each other. I am happy to share we had many conversations regarding the ELCO product, and I am sure some of the sales in the next few months can be directly related to the show.

It is always nice to see customers face to face rather than an email or phone call. In the end this business is built on relationships.

Until next month,
Joel MacLaggan



TF. 855.223.1143 C. 902.483.0340
T. 902.860.1143 F. 902.860.3600

Notes from Woodlands

After an influx of log deliveries over the last few months, our inventory levels started to approach uncomfortably high levels. However, with spring weight restrictions now in affect and the working relationships we have with our suppliers, we are starting to get our log inventory levels under control. With our supplier's cooperation, Stephen Thompson has been able to develop delivery strategies that have allowed the contractors to continue moving logs enough to keep working while at the same time not over-filling our log yard. There is a lot that must go into planning strategies like this to balance things out. Too much to go into detail on, but at the end of the day, it is another testament to how important good working relationships are to everyone within our industry.

Earlier in March, ELCO participated in the first-ever forestry themed section at the Atlantic Outdoor Sport and RV Show. Going into this for the first time, we were excited to have the opportunity to be involved. In the forestry section, we had representatives from various forestry organizations, as well as Nova Scotia Community College, Maritime College of Forest Technology, Westfor, and the outfit that put this all together - Rumcache Forestry Solutions. Miguel Cote of Rumcache worked tirelessly to organize this with all the participants and deserves much praise. The section was well rounded and provided spectators with various aspects of forestry including management practices, education, and career opportunities. The event was well attended which gave us lots of opportunity to connect with a diverse group of people who share an enthusiasm for the outdoors.

Greg Grant, Craig Isenor, Angie Kainola, Stephen Thompson, and I rotated over the three days at our booth, greeting people, having informative conversations, feeding them candy, and ultimately, encouraging the spectators to fill out a free ballot to win a Milwaukee power saw.

Notes from Woodlands, con't

I would like to think they came for the bottomless bowl of Werther's Originals and power saw draw but stayed for the informative forestry conversations!

Ultimately, we feel the weekend turned out great, and that the experience was worthwhile. We are already talking about participating next year and are having conversations on how we can "step up" our booth game.

Until next month, Jason and the Woodlands Team

Notes from Peter Dillman's Corner

Let the Games Begin

Once again this year, I find myself on the outside looking in at the Stanley Cup playoffs. I just have to hang on for a couple more years and I will be back. The only joy I get to take away from the playoffs is watching the Laffs fall on their face in the first round again. I offered Robbie a bet about a month ago on the first round of the playoffs. I said I would take whoever plays Toronto, it didn't matter to me who it was. Usually, Robbie says, "I'll get back to you". But not this time, as he immediately stuck his hand out and we shook. He must really want his money back in a bad way (LOL). My offer still stands, right up until game day Robbie and that is gimme 10 bucks and I will let you off the hook. Go Bolts Go!

The Grand Tour

Earlier this week, I had a chance to go over to the sawmill. It's probably been a year or so since I last saw the place. So, I thought to myself no better time than the present to see where all our money is going. Before I go any farther with this story, we were broken down at the time and my work area was cleaned up, permission was asked and given, so any complaints come to me directly). WOW! Lots of changes for sure and I hear more to come. Lots of big screen monitors, catwalks, etc. Pretty impressive to say the least!

Notes from Peter Dillman's Corner, con't

Do I Know You?

I worked a shift on Friday in early February at the Elmsdale Legion bar. A young guy came in and he looked so familiar. I thought I know this guy but for the life of me I couldn't figure it out. Long story short, I got busy, and life went on. Fast forward to March and the young guy is back on a Saturday night and it started all over again. I thought I know this guy but who the hell is he? One of my regulars came up to the bar and I pointed the guy out and asked if he was an Isenor? That's always my first guess living here (LOL). Nope, that's ___ . Soon as I heard the last name the light came on for me. His last name is PREEPER, Colin to be exact. No wonder I thought I knew him. He looks exactly like his dad Shawn. I told him that later. For those of you who don't know, Colin does karaoke and he is one of the best ones I have ever heard, and I have heard lots over the years!

Editor's note. Peter, because you missed our Christmas party this year, you also missed our surprise performer. We asked Colin to sing a few songs at our party to surprise Shawn. Shawn was really surprised, and father and son enjoyed an evening together. And, I agree, Colin has some great pipes!

What's in the Truck?

As I sat at the lights at the square in Elmsdale on Sunday morning, I noticed Warren passing through heading towards home. In the back of his truck, I noticed he had something we use to carry and sell here at ELCO years ago. I am guessing he may have been coming from Rona, but I am not sure. If you see Warren and you feel you know what he had in the back of his truck tell him and I am sure he will let you know if you are right or not!

Notes from Don Isenor's Corner

There have been many memorable dates and titles during our lives, but 2023 has been one of the best years by far.

February 24th is the one that will never be forgotten as we were given new names, Grampy and Grammy. Kinslee Ann Marie came into the world on that day at 12:53 am weighing in at 6 lbs. 11oz. She has become our whole world and has even consumed Uncle Owie's heart.

Don Isenor



March Anniversaries

Peter Dillman	44 years
Greg Grant	25 years
Warren Hirtle	39 years
Craig Isenor	22 years
Roland Murray	6 years
Craig Stewart	32 years
Downey Thompson	76 years (not a typo)

Congratulations!

April Birthdays

Matthew Blackwell	April 19
Peter Dillman	April 11
Matthew Dillman	April 08
Dwight Isenor	April 26

March 50/50

March 3	Matthew Works
March 10	Corey White
March 17	Chris Myers
March 24	Gavin MacDonald
March 31	Jason Casey

