



# Mill • Direct News

Living the Log Home Lifestyle

Spring 2014

## A VIEW FROM THE MILL

By Levi Hochstetler

With this weather, no one is getting very excited about building. It's cold out and it seems like spring is a long ways off. Let me assure you that spring is just around the corner. Now is the time to get your blue prints ordered before the spring rush or you may get bumped out to where it gets late in the year. The other area of concern is a builder. Now is the time to get the builder lined up; otherwise you may not be able get whom you want in your time frame.

In case you haven't already guessed we do buy standing timber, both pine and hardwoods. The eastern white pine is mostly utilized in our log homes for stacking logs, siding, 2x6 and 1x6 T&G. While we buy all hardwoods we specialize in white oak, which is made into heavy timbers and lumber. The heavy timber we furnish to timber framers throughout the country to use in timber framed homes, and the lumber goes mostly into flooring. If you have a wood lot within 150 miles of our mill that you would like us to evaluate, feel free to contact our timber procurement specialist Joseph Yoder direct at 419.651.0452.

**Hochstetler Milling, LTD**

552 Hwy. 95, Loudonville, OH

**800-368-1015**

www.HochstetlerLogHomes.com

## How to Fit the Log Home You Want into Your Budget

- By Levi Hochstetler

This story is part two of a continuing story series. In part one (see our winter issue at www.HochstetlerLogHomes.com) we mentioned 32 steps that will be described more as follows.

**#1 12 Courses of 8" concrete block foundation vs. 13. Added cost for a 2,000 sq. ft. home is approximately \$1,000 to \$1,500 for each additional course.**

Today it's virtually standard to use 13 courses. In fact, quite often clients go 14. Compare that to a few years ago when 11 wasn't all that uncommon. Twelve courses will give you a total ceiling height of 94" vs. thirteen at 102" or fourteen at 110". When making this decision the key is to determine how you will use the basement space. If you are putting in a forced air furnace and want to finish out the basement for a game or family room then investing the dollars for 14 courses makes sense. With a hot water boiler and radiant floor heat less ceiling space is needed than with furnace ducts, giving you a nice ceiling height even with a 13 course basement wall. On the other hand if it's going to be used for storage only, then save your hard earned money for more important areas. Where resale value is important, 13 is an absolute minimum. The same thinking applies to all other types of basement walls as well; however, the added cost could be much more depending on the material used.

**#2 8" Concrete block foundation vs. poured. Added cost for a 2,000 sq. ft. home is approximately \$3,000 to \$5,000 for a standard 8' wall.**

The key benefit in using poured is that they are stronger than blocks, however blocks are adequate in most cases. In some areas where the soil is unstable and mudslides could happen, poured does have a real advantage and even more so when the basement walls are taller. We get the question, "Are block foundation walls strong enough to carry the added weight of a log home?" The answer is yes, concrete blocks can carry far more than needed when the weight is directly down, and in fact the added

*continued on page 2*



*Gas fireplace insert with 2x4 framing covered with cultured stone.*

## Landscape with a Purpose - By Bill Dinkins

Think of the outside areas of your home as having a purpose the same way as the inside of your home. For instance, the kitchen is for food preparation, the dining room is for dining and the great room is for relaxing. Three different rooms - three different purposes. Setting aside specific areas outside follows the same logic:

**1. WELCOME AREA** - This is the area where guests approaching your home will either feel "welcome" or not. It's their first impression and often sets the tone for their visit. You can make it a positive feeling by arranging landscaping that "leads" them to the front door- providing attractive focal points along the way. A winding stone walkway is more natural and more interesting than cement, for instance.

Plant "tiers" of shrubbery: **small** - flowering shrubs and ground cover approximately 10"- 12" high; **medium** - mostly evergreens and shrubs approximately 18"- 22" high; **large** - bushes, grasses, and small trees up to 5'- 6'. Use a 2-1 or 3-1 ratio in distributing plants. The ratio is arbitrary, but simply means you should have several "neutral" shrubs for every "accent" shrub. The "accent" shrubs can be a different color or size but tend to be focal points much the same way a dark green wall accents a room with three light green walls.

Plant shrubs and trees, especially "accents," that reach peak colors at various times of the year. That way you always have a season to look forward to. Even in the dead of winter a Colorado Blue Spruce brightens the landscape!

*continued on page 6*

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MAILED FROM  
ZIP CODE 46711  
PERMIT NO. 43

Change Service Requested  
800-368-1015  
552 Hwy. 95  
Loudonville, OH 44842  
Hochstetler Milling, LTD

# Laurelwood

Sq. ft. 2014

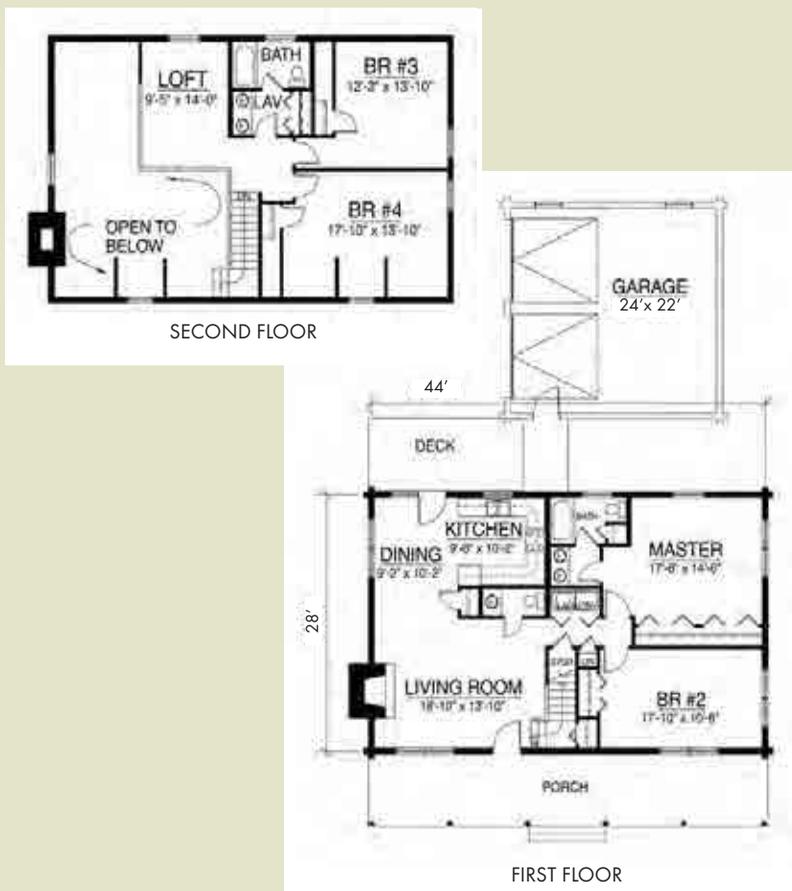
4 BR / 2-1/2 BA



If you're looking for an affordable, 4-bedroom log home in the 2,000 sq.ft. range, look no further than the beautiful Laurelwood. The practical, efficient design provides a lot of living space for the money while still incorporating sizable bedrooms.

The first floor includes the master bedroom with a large wall-length closet and bath with separate dressing area plus a second adjoining bedroom, perfect for a nursery.

The second floor has two additional bedrooms with separate lavatory and bath. In addition, the open loft provides a nice view of the dining area and great room downstairs.



## How to Fit the Log Home You Want into Your Budget - *continued from page 1*

weight will increase the wall's stability and strength enabling it to withstand more side load. When there is a side load or when the finish grade is up four feet on a block wall you will need to fill a core with concrete and rebar every six feet. If there's any place that could get hit with a car or lawn mower, such as next to an overhead door, you should fill those cores as well.

One down side of a poured wall is the fact that it tends to sweat more than concrete blocks. In commercial applications where there's forklift and other traffic, poured has a marked advantage.

In certain areas it's difficult to find good competent masons that lay blocks at a reasonable price, to where it makes sense or where your only option is to use an alternative method such as poured.

### #3 8" Concrete block foundation vs. ICF (Insulated concrete forms). Added cost for a 2,000 sq. ft. home is approximately \$5,000 to \$7,000 for a standard 8' wall.

ICFs have come a long way, and recently with the energy concerns they have become even more appealing, particular in the northern-most states and Canada. They normally are made with polystyrene preformed panels of about 2 1/2" thick inside and out with plastic webs in between to where you can screw into to fasten drywall, wood paneling and siding. They come in blocks of about 16" x 4' or 8' long that you can stack up and pour concrete in between. This makes for a wall that is very strong and highly energy efficient, with R values up to 25 and not that difficult to install. Generally the framer or contractor will install them rather than a mason, and it's not uncommon to have homeowners do it themselves. Once the footers are in, you stack and lock the forms together to the desired height, add rebar, brace them, and pour the concrete.

The added cost can be justified by the energy savings through the life of your home and somewhat offset by needing less insulation in other areas such as using 8" log walls instead of 10". Another advantage is the added living space in your basement that you can potentially utilize with very little cost. You can of course insulate your concrete blocks as well but the time and material you spend to equal ICF's R value would offset the cost, plus you wouldn't have as good of a foundation. In some areas of the country, codes will require you to insulate your basement (or you may want to anyways) and this can be a cost effective way to do it.

One thing to consider is that fewer contractors are familiar with them, forcing them to charge more to install them because of their inexperience. Plus they may not have the proper tools they will need. Also keep in mind that you will need to cover the outside exposed polystyrene with some kind of stucco or cultured stone which may add to your budget if you weren't already planning on covering it.

### #4 8" Concrete block foundation vs. prefab. Added cost for a 2,000 sq. ft. home is approximately \$7,000 to \$10,000 for a standard 8' wall.

The big thing with prefab is that you can install your foundation walls in one day. This is especially attractive in areas where it's hard to get good block layers or if the labor market is tight. They are easy to finish on the inside making them appealing to people that want to finish out their basement for additional living space. An added benefit is that they can come pre-insulated and some manufacturers say you don't have to apply waterproofing either.

It's difficult to add or move windows after the walls are made, so make sure when ordering that they are where you want them. Builders have complained that prefabs are hardly ever straight or level, but I'm sure that with the right installer they can be okay. A word of caution, make sure the post footer pads supplied are the size that the plan calls out because if they are undersized they could settle allowing the posts to go down.

### #5 Exposed concrete block foundation vs. cultured stone facing. Added cost for a 2,000 sq. ft. home with two feet exposed foundation around the perimeter is approximately \$6,000 to \$10,000.

Cultured stone facing on the foundation is just the right rustic flavor, is aesthetically pleasing, and goes well with a log home. Unfortunately it can be a budget buster; however it's something that can be added later if your budget can't handle it. Concrete block and most other foundations can be left exposed and don't need to be protected or covered. Thuraseal, stucco and other less expensive materials can look great as well or even temporarily applied till you have the funding to do the cultured stone.

### #6 Deck and porch post in ground vs. cultured stone faced pillars above ground. Added cost for a 2,000 sq. ft. home with a porch along the front and a small deck in the back is approximately \$3,000 to \$7,000.

Treated porch or deck posts in the ground will only last forty years if you're lucky. The solution is to put concrete pillars in the ground and set the posts on it so the wood is not touching the soil. The pillars can go all the way to the deck or even above the deck or porch, allowing you to wrap the pillar with cultured stone etc. Sometimes clients will even flare or taper the pillar to give it a

craftsmen look. This can be quite expensive as you have to dig a hole for the footer, lay blocks or pour the pillar on top of the footer and finally face it with cultured stone.

To save money you can choose to only do the front or even add it later if your budget doesn't allow it now. Providing its okay with the building department, bank, and better half; you can compromise by putting the pillars in now and cover them with cultured stone later.

**#7 Stove with pipe vs. framed fireplace with insert and cultured stone facing.**  
**Added cost for a typical 1 1/2 story home is approximately \$8,000 to \$12,000.**



*Free standing wood stove with a simple stove pipe through the roof.*

The difference between a fireplace insert and a stove is not that great, one is designed to go inside a chimney, where as a stove is free standing. Stoves can have glass fronts so you can see the fire, making them quite nice too, and they do have some advantages; they are more fuel efficient and could be used as a primary source of heat; where a fireplace is generally more for supplemental.

If the stove is used a lot you should have a masonry chimney, rather than a stove pipe through the roof. This will in turn cost more to where there is less difference between it and a fireplace. Stoves come in all shapes, sizes and brands; are made of steel, cast iron, or soapstone, from one large enough to heat a 4,000 sq.

ft. home down to some where you can barely feed kindling. So depending on what you purchase there can be a sizeable difference in cost.

It's very important to have the stove properly sized for your home, because if it's oversized it will operate on "slow burn" causing excessive creosote buildup, which increases the risk of a chimney fire.

Consider having a wood stove in the basement with a gas furnace as a backup for the coldest nights or when you're away.

**#8 Framed fireplace with insert and cultured stone facing vs. real masonry fireplace.**  
**Added cost for a typical 1 1/2 story home is approximately \$10,000 to \$20,000.**

Sitting in front of a large stone fireplace with a crackling fire snug inside a solid log home on a cold windy night is delightfully romantic, cozy, and pleasurable beyond words. A fireplace insert with a glass front, where you can see the flames is next best.

There are lots of different fireplaces inserts available plus multiple methods and systems from a full masonry fireplace down to a small gas insert. Then there are soapstone stoves that probably cost more than most conventional fireplaces. With that said there is no way that I can sufficiently cover all the possibilities and options or do them justice in one small article.

While an open masonry fireplace looks more aesthetically pleasing, they do lose a lot of heat and energy through the chimney. An insert on the other hand is more fuel efficient, and can have a blower installed to blow most of the heat into the room. Think of a wood burning fireplace insert as a stove that looks like a fireplace but has near the fuel efficiency of a stove.

Gas fireplace inserts can be a nice alternative for the folks who don't have a ready source of wood or simply don't want the inconvenience and mess that you get with a wood burner. Some models have a convincingly real looking wood complete with embers that look in all fairness like the real thing. Flip on the switch and you're ready to enjoy a relaxing evening in front of the fireplace. A person could make a recording of a live fire and play it for a sound effect as well. 

*This article will be continued in our next issue.*

Mark  
your  
Calendar  
now!

## Sept. 12 & 13, 2014

# LOG CABIN DAYS

## at Hochstetler Milling





- Sample mouth-watering barbecue chicken, pastries, home-made apple cider and delicious kettle popcorn.
- Booths and seminars that will guide you through the log building process and help you make your dream log home a reality.
- Self-guided tour of several beautiful log homes including our McKay (above) and Black Fork models.

## Two fun-filled days of events that the whole family will enjoy!




## Visit Our Models

Hours: Monday thru Friday 9-5, Saturday 9-2,  
Closed Sunday. Other hours by appointment.

DIRECTIONS:

Take SR 60 5 miles north of Loudonville to SR 95. Turn left on SR 95 to the McKay model. Turn right on SR 95 to the Black Fork model.

Hochstetler Milling, Ltd.

552 Hwy. 95 • Loudonville, OH 44842  
419-368-0004 • 800-368-1015

www.HochstetlerLogHomes.com

*Unforgettable*  
**Link to the Past**



Devon Nytko and her cat, Cattie, are finally living in the home of her dreams after returning from the bright lights and glitter of the big city. Devon was born and raised in the small town of Perrysville, Ohio, where her family owned an apple orchard. Those were wonderful years - filled with childhood and family memories. But when she married, her life changed significantly. For no longer would she be living in the only town she ever knew, but would be moving to Chicago, where she lived for over 40 years. But fate intervened when her Aunt Mable became ill and asked her to return to her roots in Ohio.

The ties to her fond childhood memories and favorite aunt were too strong to overcome so her husband relented and in February, 2013, she came home. But Devon's ideas for building the home of her dreams was just starting. She had inherited some land and visited the Hochstetler model, the McKay. It was "love at first sight." Although she liked the floor plan of the McKay, she worked with Hochstetler's designer, Steve Lykins, in flipping the plan and adding the breezeway and garage.

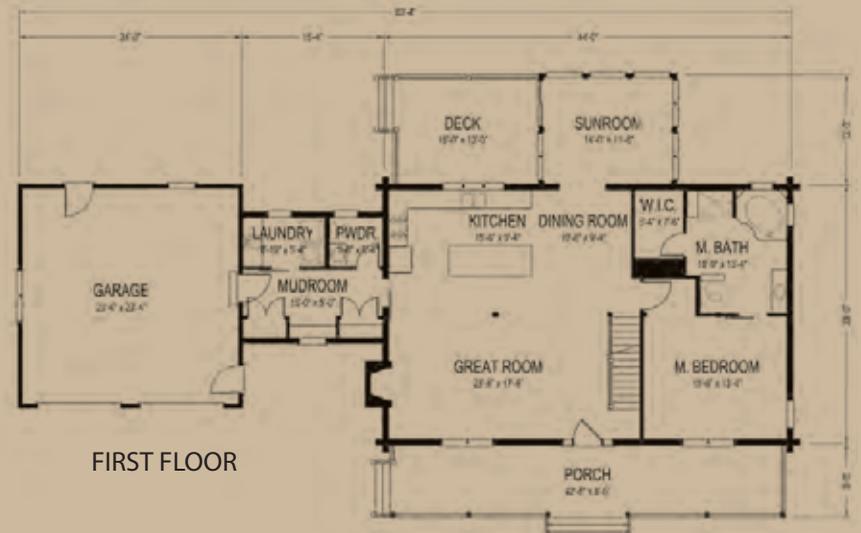
After finalizing the blueprints she contacted a local log home builder, Mahlon Hochstetler, about building her dream home. Devon quickly sensed he was the man for the job - and throughout the building process they seemed to "click" as a team. Since Mahlon is Amish and not permitted to drive, she often went with him and together they would

pick out materials. But in the laundry room she gave him total control of the decorating with the only stipulation that it looked "like a quilt." In other words, use your imagination! What Mahlon and the cabinet maker came up with is truly remarkable and captivating. What could have turned out to be a confusing and disorganized "mess" turned out to be an eye-opening, attractive panorama. Check out the photos: the cabinets are various sizes with colorful antique finishes and handles of every size and shape. Talk about eclectic!

Devon loves the look and warmth of wood so it is not surprising that most of her decorating ideas involve

wood. Besides all the wood walls there are wood doors, but not your usual wood doors. She replaced standard doors with sliding barn doors. The rustic charm and space-saving convenience of these doors is not only beautiful, but downright practical since they don't have to swing open. And, speaking of practical, she sets her thermostat at 66 degrees, while the gas fireplace is on and the entire house stays cozy and comfortable.

Her love of wood is evident throughout the house with many heirloom items collected over the years. In the great room the fireplace includes a huge pine mantle, cut from the property. It is roughly 6' long by 14" deep and has the rustic "imperfections" that most log home owners find "perfect." The mantle is so thick it took 10 weeks to dry in the kiln! In the kitchen, the bead board hickory cabinetry, created by Robert Eicher, also has its own rustic imperfections.



FIRST FLOOR

The Nytko's home is like a stroll through a museum. It is filled with fine antiques in every room, some dating back a hundred years or more - and, no doubt, a treasured memory with each one. A gait leg table, butter churn, school desk, and family-size, metal ice cream container to name a few. Even an original oil painting of the family farm house by her beloved aunt sets atop the mantle - a daily reminder of cherished childhood memories. In the loft, there are two spinning wheels and assorted antique tables and chairs.

It is this wonderful collection of family antiques that forges Devon's link to the past and adds the finishing touches to her log home - in a place she can, once again, call home. 🏠

SECOND FLOOR



*For additional information about the home of Devon Nytko please contact Hochstetler Milling at 800-368-1015.*

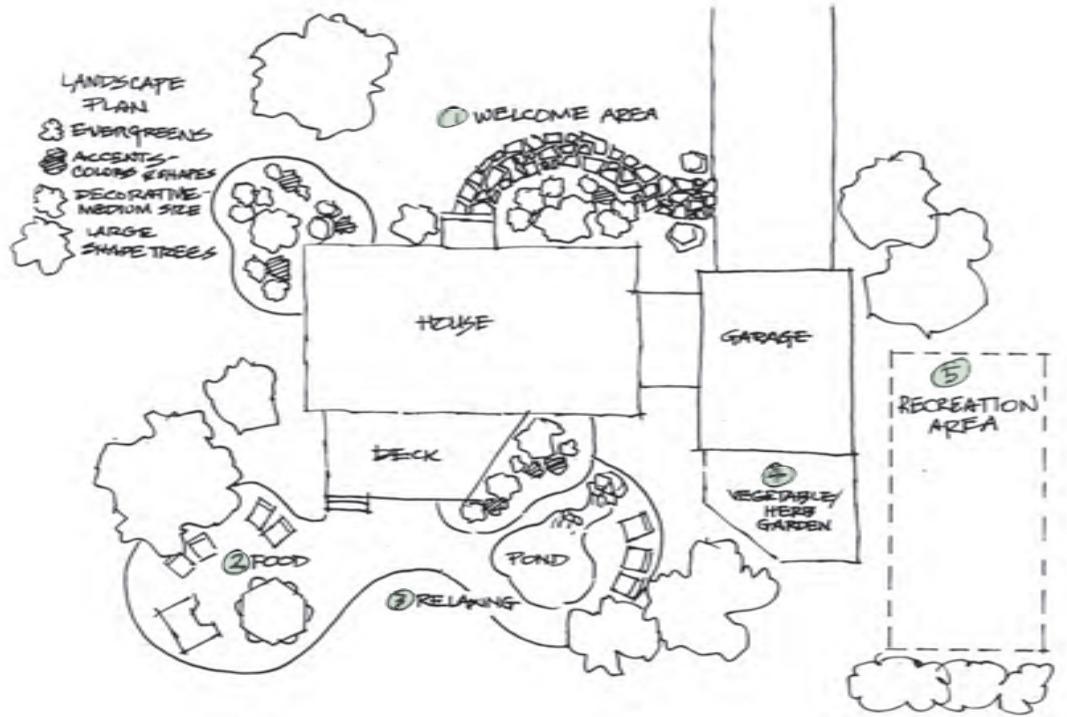
# Landscape with a Purpose - *continued from page 1*

**2. FOOD PREPARATION AREA** - This is usually “Dad’s Domain”- so women beware! (at least until the food is done). An outdoor equivalent to the “Man Cave,” this is where dad cooks his famous barbecued ribs doused with his secret recipe sauce. All kidding aside, this is where the grill or stone fireplace is located along with a few lawn chairs and a picnic table. It should be partially out of the sun, especially during the supper time hours. It should also be located fairly close to the kitchen and deck— to save steps and accommodate extra guests.

**3. RELAXATION AREA** - This is an area where you escape, and hopefully, forget about the hassles of the day. It is total relaxation! So, grab your favorite book, your favorite beverage, and your favorite chair and just take in the music of nature. A cascading waterfalls emptying into a small pool with water lilies provides the perfect backdrop. Since constructing this takes time and money, you can frequently build this in stages. And, when it is finished, it will probably be your favorite area!

**4. GARDEN AREA** - As the name implies this is where you plant your garden. But don’t be limited to vegetables. Although homegrown tomatoes, onions, carrots, corn, and potatoes are always a welcome addition to any meal, you can spice it up a little by adding a herb garden. You may have to do a little research to find out what plants thrive in your area but it will be time well spent.

**5. RECREATION AREA** - This is where the fun begins! This is a location spaced away from the house where all the whopping and hollering is less noisy and intrusive. So whether its a volleyball or basketball court, horseshoe pits, a croquet layout, or cornhole setup— your guests will likely remember the games they played and the fun they had at your place.



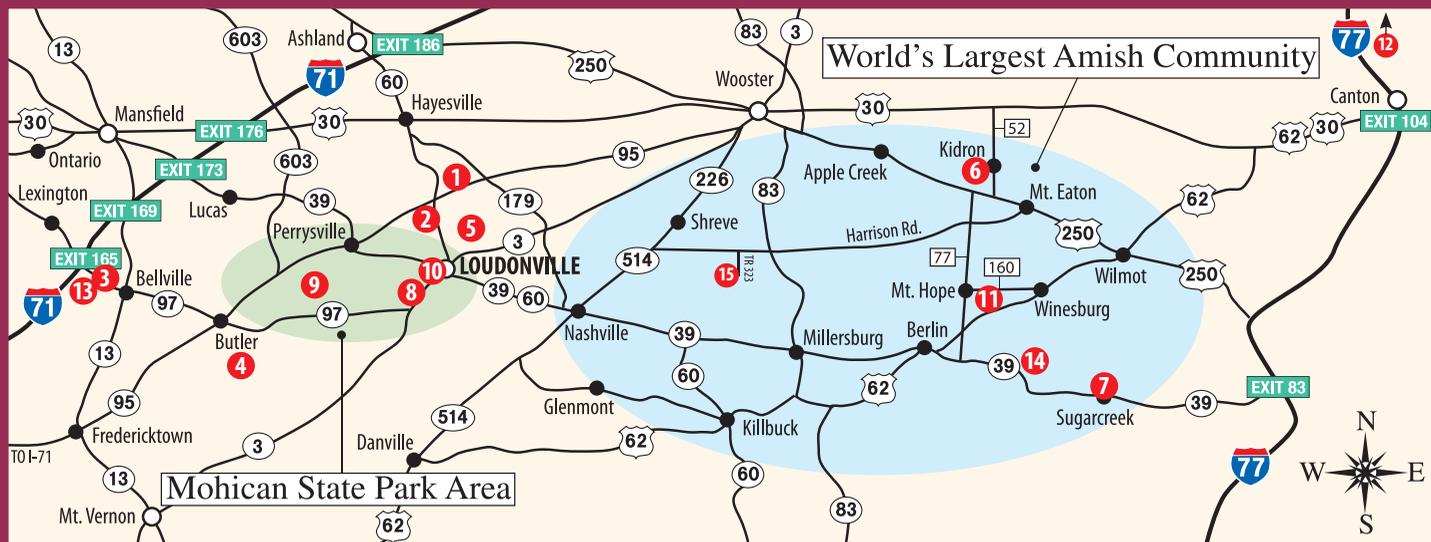
**Landscape by the Numbers:**  
Numbers in diagram match up to the story.

A final thought - **think natural**. Your log home is built of one of the best materials ever created. It has a beautiful wood grain, is unbelievably strong, and do to “thermal mass” is also one of the best insulators. Plus, it is all natural so it makes sense to design your home inside and out with that in mind. Landscaping, for instance, should retain the original and unique shape of the shrub or tree. Prune to remove dead material or “out of control” branches while still maintaining the basic shape. A log home always looks best when surrounded by a picturesque natural setting...like a stand of mature trees, or beside a meandering stream or small pond, or overlooking a scenic valley. Inside, usually the more wood the better! Use tongue-and-groove on interior walls, hand-peeled wood railing with half-log treads on the staircase, and rustic wood furniture to enhance the natural look. Leather chairs and sofas always look great when mixed with fabric-covered chairs as accent pieces. Lamps, bric-a-brac, wall decorations and window coverings with an outdoor theme can help to complete your natural look.

So whether it’s inside or out, planning for how you would like to live and surround yourself can make your log home a great place of hospitality, relaxation, and usefulness. 

## LODGING DIRECTORY

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOHICAN LITTLE BROWN INN MOTEL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Little Brown Inn</small></p>  <p style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow; font-weight: bold;">MENTION HOCHSTETLER FOR 15% DISCOUNT</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Continental Breakfast - AAA Rated 940 S. Market St., (Rt. 3 S.) Loudonville, OH 44842 419-994-5525 www.MohicanLittleBrownInn.com</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>20 Minutes from Hochstetler Milling at I-71 &amp; St. Rt. 97 (Exit 165)</small></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold;">MENTION HOCHSTETLER LOG HOMES FOR 20% DISCOUNT*</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow; font-weight: bold;">Free Deluxe Breakfast Buffet</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>QUALITY INN 1000 Comfort Plaza Dr., Bellville, OH 419-886-7000 - www.QualityInnBellville.com COMFORT INN &amp; SPLASH HARBOR 855 Comfort Plaza Dr., Bellville, OH 419-886-4000 - www.SplashHarbor.com *Some restrictions may apply.</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOHICAN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>LODGE AND CONFERENCE CENTER Operated by Zanterra Parks &amp; Resorts® for CONE</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>96 Room Resort Lodge • Two Pools Sauna • Dining Room with Lake View</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: green; color: white; font-weight: bold;">CALL FOR SPECIAL HOCHSTETLER PACKAGE*</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>*Some restrictions may apply.</small></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><small>1098 Co. Rd. 3006, Perrysville, OH 44864 419-938-5411 www.MohicanStateParkLodge.com</small></p>
---	--	---



### ADVERTISERS & NOTABLE LOCATIONS

- 1 .. HOCHSTETLER MILLING and Black Fork Model Home
- 2 .. McKay Model Home
- 3 .. Comfort Inn & Suites
- 4 .. County Line Woodworks
- 5 .. Eicher Woodworking
- 6 .. Lehman's
- 7 .. Log Cabin Furnishings
- 8 .. Mohican Little Brown Inn
- 9 .. Mohican Lodge and Conference Center
- 10 .. Mohican-Loudonville Visitors Bureau
- 11 .. Mt. Hope Planing, LTD.
- 12 .. Ohio Hardwood Furniture
- 13 .. Quality Inn & Suites
- 14 .. Walnut Creek Log Furniture
- 15 .. Woodland Rose Log Finishing

**COUNTY LINE WOODWORKS**  
*Premium Quality, Solid Wood Interior Doors*

**740-393-9338** (Voice Mail)  
 21760 Butler Road • Butler, Ohio 44822

Doors Manufactured in White Pine • Other Species Available  
 Early American Forged Hardware Finished in Classic Black

SEE OUR DOORS AT HOCHSTETLER LOG HOME MODELS

# Eicher Woodworking

Custom Kitchen & Bath Cabinetry

**522 CR 2575 • Loudonville, OH 44842 • 419-994-1098**  
 See our cabinetry at Hochstetler's McKay Model Home

*Lots of Quiet, Lots of Fun – That's Loudonville!*

# MOHICAN

Loudonville, Ohio

Canoeing • Hiking • Bicycling • Two State Parks • Zip Line • Shopping  
 Festivals • History • Scenic Byways • Lodging Rustic to Royal

**www.DiscoverMohican.com • 877-2MOHICAN**

# Walnut Creek Log Furniture

Custom Craftsmanship  
 From Nature's Materials!

Indoor & Outdoor Furniture  
 Bedroom • Kitchen • Benches & more  
 Custom Designs Available!

2273 Township Road 406  
 Sugarcreek, Ohio 44681  
 Phone: 330-893-1322

# OHIO

HARDWOOD FURNITURE

1770-B Main St. • Peninsula, OH • 330-657-2095 • [OhioHardwoodFurniture.com](http://OhioHardwoodFurniture.com)

## Register now for our "Do-it-Yourself" Building Seminar

**SPRING SPECIAL \$149 per person**

Learn from the experts how to build your dream log home at our 2-day "Hands - On" Seminar, March 28 & 29.

- Log stacking and construction demos by instructors - plus 'hands-on' workshops
- Free lunch provided both days
- What's involved - from building it yourself to being your own General Contractor
- Tour of our state-of-the-art kiln and mill facilities
- Question and answer discussion with D.I.Y. customers
- Tour of our two model log homes

**D.I.Y. Log Home Building Seminar \$149**

Method of Payment:  
 Check (enclosed)     VISA # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_  
 MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Are you bringing a guest?  Yes  No

Return to: Hochstetler Milling, Ltd., 552 Hwy. 95, Loudonville, OH 44842

Please fill out this application and return with your payment of \$149. This offer is only available to the first 10 people that apply. Each person may bring one guest at no additional cost. Call 800-368-1015 for more information.

# WOODLAND ROSE

LOG HOME FINISHING, LLC

Finishing • Chinking • Media Blasting • Caulking • Preserving

8691 Township Road 323 • Holmesville, Ohio 44633  
**330-763-1285**

Call for a **FREE ESTIMATE**

# CABIN FEVER

## “Secret Indian Lure” by Bill Dinkins

A good friend of mine, Bob, shared a story about a childhood experience with his brother, Fred, that both will never forget.

They lived on a small farm in central Ohio that had a little stream which meandered across their “back 40” and was a constant source of adventure - ranging from catching crawdads to panfish and, occasionally, a small bass.

One day, while scanning through the pages of an old *Field and Stream*, Fred spotted an ad that captured his attention. The headline, “DRIVES BIG BASS CRAZY,” was followed by an intriguing subhead, “Indian reveals secret fishing lure guaranteed to catch fish.” And, to make the ad even more convincing, a photo of the largest bass he had ever seen - a huge 12 lb.’er. There was just one catch - you had to promise NEVER tell anyone else about the lure and it’s amazing success. Needless to say, Fred literally bought this - “hook, line and sinker.” He gathered his hard-earned lawn mowing money and sent away for the secret lure - knowing it would make him a legend in the neighborhood - revered for his unbelievable fishing prowess. He could barely contain himself as he awaited the lure’s arrival.

A week later, a plainly-wrapped, long, narrow package was delivered to his house with his name scribbled on the front. He grabbed it, ran up to his bedroom, closed the door, and eagerly opened the package. Sure enough, there was a short, 2’ long stick with a roll of white string and the “secret Indian lure.” It was a crudely cut, disc-shaped chunk of wood - painted bright yellow with black stripes and rubber band “legs” protruding out of both sides. I imagine it was a feeble attempt at “matching the hatch” which trout fishermen use in trying to duplicate a particular insect with a carefully-selected fly. This seemed more like a bumble bee on steroids. But Fred wasn’t about to question its looks - after all, this was an authentic Delaware Indian fishing lure that had been a closely-guarded tribal secret for, who knows how many years.

After checking to make sure no one was following him he rushed down to the stream and hurled his prize lure upstream - eagerly anticipating a smashing strike from that behemoth bass he knew lived there, but until now no one had ever seen. Unfazed, he cast for hours without any luck. Unfortunately, the next day was the same and he returned home and carefully placed the lure and stick “rod” out of sight - under his pillow. But brother Bob noticed the strange bulge in the pillow, lifted it up, and asked Fred where he got that contraption. Fred, sworn to secrecy and not about to disclose any details, “accidentally” punched his brother in the eye - causing a black eye that would soon become the subject of that evening’s dinner discussion. But Bob, not wanting to get his brother in trouble, explained that he had merely been rammed by the family’s goat, Poncho. 🏠



**Do you have an interesting short story about a favorite memory of a log home?** Maybe it’s a childhood vacation, a weekend at the lake, or a day visiting a friend. Whatever you remember and love to tell others qualifies. Don’t forget - a picture to go with your story makes it even more interesting. Please mail your submission to Hochstetler Milling, 552 Hwy. 95, Loudonville, OH 44842. **Hope to read about your log home adventure in a future issue!**



www.walnutvalleyloghomes.com  
Phone | 330-852-2164  
4223 TR 420 • Sugarcreek, OH 44681  
Fax | 330-852-3533

Log Cabin Furnishings offers only the finest in fine quality handcrafted rustic cabin and lodge furnishings, plus a unique blend of rustic home decor. We specialize in handcrafted custom made items, limited only to your imagination.



• handcrafted log furniture • rustic and lodge decor  
• wildlife decor • rustic bathroom cabinets

Bring in this ad to receive 10% off your purchase.  
offer expires July 31, 2014



By Mount Hope Planing

### Custom Hardwood Flooring

- Large Selection of Woods and Sizes
- Numerous Stain and Finish Options
- Custom Hand-Planing and Distressing
- Installation Available!



7598 TR 652 | Millersburg  
Ohio 44654

Toll Free  
(888) 549-2524

www.craftedinoio.com/mhp