



Mill • Direct News

Living the Log Home Lifestyle

Winter 2018-2019



VIEW FROM THE MILL

By Levi Hochstetler

Log Cabin Days 2018 is behind us! It seems you plan it way in advance, work hard to get ready, have a lot of fun during and then bang - it's over. It creates a lot of hard work for our associates, and needless to say their families had to sacrifice as well. We want to thank them and their families for all their unselfish sacrifices in helping to make LCD 2018 a success. And, a very special thank you for all of you that made the sacrifice in opening up your homes during the log home tour. Thanks to you, the Cancer Society received nearly \$4,000 during the event. Fortunately, we were blessed with beautiful weather once again. We could easily put up with the warm weather in exchange for no rain. The homemade ice cream sold well!

Here in north central Ohio we have had an unseasonable wet summer and fall. As a side business we as a family make some hay to sell, and of course to feed our too many horses. They consist of six standard bred, four draft, and one each of all-purpose, quarter horse and pony. All summer we struggled trying to dry hay. The 3 dry days in a row needed in order to dry hay were few and far between.

More important than the hay was the problem of keeping raw logs in our sawmill yard. We did fairly well until this fall. However, it doesn't look all that great going into the winter. Already this fall, we have had to give our sawmill personnel some extra vacation days simply because we didn't have saw-logs to cut. Because of the wet weather the loggers are having a hard time getting logs out of the woods.

It was good seeing you all during LCDs, come again in 2020!

Our Partners/Suppliers

(continued from Fall 2018 Issue) - by Levi Hochstetler

Interior Doors: Stallion Doors & Millworks easily fits the bill. This includes the quality, service and large product selection (over 470 designs) that we need in order to give our clients the service they want and deserve. And what's more, they make several door designs that our log home clientele especially like, and are very appropriate in a log home.

Their goal in designing doors is to make sure their clients will be able to find a door that is perfect for their home. They say it this way, "There is something for everyone and something for every room."

Their extensive selection of door designs, species, glass and panel construction includes many choices. You can even mix species or replace any wood panels with glass, chalkboard or marker board; or replace any straight panel with a louver. Simply said, with Stallion you have the freedom to choose a door for your unique style that is distinctly you.

Their doors also work great for remodeling. They can customize the sizes at no additional up-charge. They even make oversized doors. They have made them as big as 48 x 120 and larger. Like their tag line goes, **Any Size, Any Design, Anyway You Want It, The Choice is Yours!**

continued on page 2



Log Cabin Days a Festive Success - by Bill Dinkins

The long-awaited Log Cabin Days finally arrived Friday and Saturday, September 14 & 15, and several thousand enthusiastic people enjoyed the unseasonably warm weather to take part in the popular event. Hosted by Hochstetler Milling, the two-day event included a new demonstration tent showcasing 18th century trade skills like black-powder rifle making and intricate wood carving, free seminars that gave information on log home planning, a food tent with mouth-watering food and treats, and a special "kids' zone" to keep the youngsters occupied. The highlight of "Cabin Days" was the Log Home Tour, where visitors were able to go through up to 14 private homes, talk to the owners, and discover the casual, relaxing lifestyle that characterizes log home living. This popular self-guided tour was available for a minimal charge with proceeds donated to the American Cancer Society and the local parochial school.

Other events included wood chopping, sawing and hand-hewing demos; an axe-throwing contest; an old-fashioned steam-driven sawmill in operation; chainsaw wood carving; and weaving and rug making. Over 20 booth exhibits featured classic log home style furniture and furnishings, cabinetry, doors, windows, flooring

continued on page 7



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The Johnsville II is a very popular, yet affordable ranch - ideal for the family that prefers a log home over a stick-built at about the same price. Features include the spacious open-concept great room with a cathedral ceiling and exposed decorative beams, master bedroom with oversized master bath, family room off the kitchen, and convenient first-floor laundry. Outside, a rear deck accessible from either the dining room or family room is perfect for entertaining.

The optional basement offers additional living space and storage. If basement is not needed, the stairs are removed and the great room becomes about 4' wider.



Partners/Supplies continued from page 1

We are pleased to be able to offer Stallion Doors to our uncompromising clients who love durability, beauty and distinction for their home. Something they're proud to hand down to their children and even great grandchildren.



Metal roof covering: Since 1963, "Quality, Service, and performance" has been the cornerstone of McElroy Metals business philosophy and success. With 12 manufacturing facilities, and 20 service centers, McElroy remains family-owned with a belief that business ethics and morals have a place in the work environment. They continue to conduct business under the Golden Rule adage, "customers deserve to be treated the same way we expect to be treated by our suppliers."

The above quote, directly out of their catalog, states it better than what I could with my own words. It's just like their tag line, "A family-owned company with a reputation for putting the customer first." Certainly we can attest to that.

Also attractive to us is their humble beginning, not a lot different from our own. We are a second generation-owned family business whereas they are a third generation.

But excellent service is not the only good thing that McElroy has going for them. With them as our supplier, we can offer many of the options our clients want. Some of these include different configurations and profiles, including standing seam, corrugated and standard rib. All of these come in various widths and thicknesses. However, their Meridian Standing Seam panel with their concealed fastener system continues to be our customer's number one choice. It is unsurpassed for its beauty, performance and longevity.

You can pick twenty-nine colors from their architectural line and ten from their commodity line. All their colors come with their Kynar 500 coating system and are Energy Star compliant. A 30-year warranty against chalking, fading, cracking, checking or peeling is standard.

Testing data is available on all their products. This includes fire, wind and impact, including special approval in coastal states such as Florida.

One of the criteria we look for in our suppliers is longevity. This is especially important in metal roofing. We want them to be around down the road when our clients need them. That we certainly have with McElroy. A solid company that has a long track record, and with all indications, it will be around for many years to come.

Roof Shingles: We have found everything we want for our customers in a supplier with Owens Corning. Their service, quality, choices, warranty and longevity are unsurpassed in the shingle industry. They have been a recognized leader in the building industry for over 70 years. The roof is far too important to our clients to rely on a, "company come lately." You want someone you can depend on, someone that's there for you when you need them.

Of their different product lines we prefer their Tru-Definition Duration Shingles. They come standard on our log home packages. They feature tough, woven, engineered - reinforced fabric to deliver consistent fastening during installation. A unique "triple layer" of reinforcement occurs when the fabric overlays the common bond of the shingle. These laminate layers offer excellent fastener holding power. In addition, their enhanced Tru-

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



Come One, Come All! HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE at Hochstetler Milling



It's that time of year when we wish to invite you to come in and enjoy the casual and relaxing lifestyle that makes a log home so special. Refreshments will be served.

This is also an ideal time to discuss your building plans with our experienced design staff and get a free, no-obligation estimate. Our McKay model is at the intersection of Hwy. 60 & 95. 5 miles north of Loudonville, Ohio. The second model, the Black Fork, is only a 1/2 mile up the hill at 552 Hwy. 95.

Open House days are: December 26, 27, 28 & 29.

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Rustic Splendor

by Bill Dinkins



The flat farmland around Chatham, Ohio seemed an unlikely home site for Mike and Belicia Biskup until they investigated a little further. A friend of theirs had a “football field flat”, 5.6 acre field with woods behind it that just might work. They wanted a walkout basement, so they needed enough fill to create their home on a hill. Mike is the owner of a landscaping business in Medina, Greenkeepers Lawn Service and Landscaping, and was able to dig out enough dirt for this and put in a small pond in the process. Since there were no trees on the property, Mike also planted several trees to line the driveway and surround their future home.

They first became interested in building a log home while on a camping trip to the Mohican State Park area near Loudonville. While traveling there they had passed the McKay model on Rt.60 and decided to come back and go through it the next day. They talked to one of Hochstetler’s sales associates, and soon got the ball rolling. Mike drew up rough floor plans and met with their designer to finalize the blue prints. The custom-designed, 2,800 square foot home would have 4 bedrooms and 3 baths; a large, open-concept great room, kitchen and dining area; breezeway with convenient pantry, laundry, mud room and bath; and a 3-car garage. One bedroom with an adjoining bath and shower had to be specially-designed to accommodate their special needs child, Chase. It is next to the Biskup’s master bedroom on the first floor. A relaxing hot tub sits on the full-length deck just outside the master bedroom.

The Biskup’s integrated their love of wood throughout the home. Belicia prefers the warm “look” of wood instead of painted walls or wallpaper and appreciates the lower maintenance. When she was deciding on the kitchen

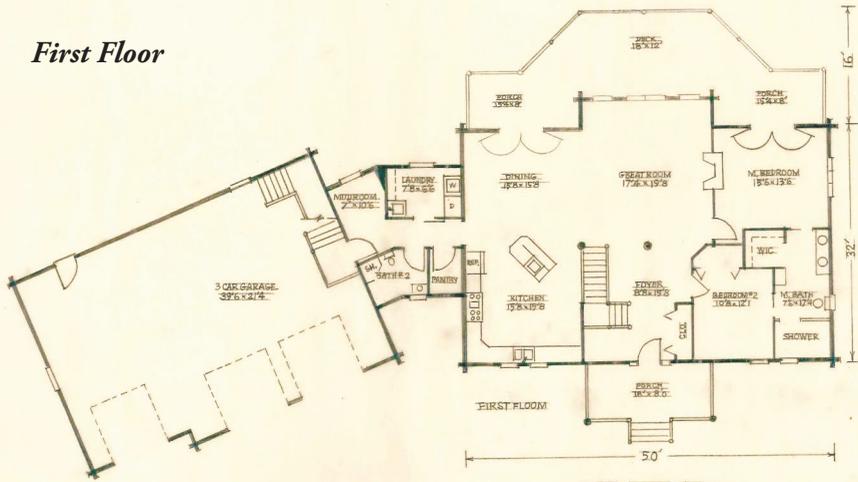
cabinets she said, “I want them to be the most rustic wood you can find”. And, after visiting the McKay model, she decided on Hickory. Mike also favored the rustic character of wood and had all the rafters, girders and posts hand-peeled. He even went a step further by leaving several roots on one support post in the entryway!

The rustic charm of the interior is also evident with antiques in every room. Mike has a collection of hand tools like hand drills, mallets, pulleys and garden tools like rakes, shovels and a scythe. Plus, a growing collection of pigs in all shapes, materials and sizes! Look closely and you’ll see pigs looking back at you in just about every room! Not to be outdone, Belicia has her own unique collection - Mickey Mouse figures. Standing proudly on a book case shelf are Mickey and Minnie holding the Biskup’s wedding announcement. Indeed, the couple’s happiness is reflected in their lifestyle and decorating.

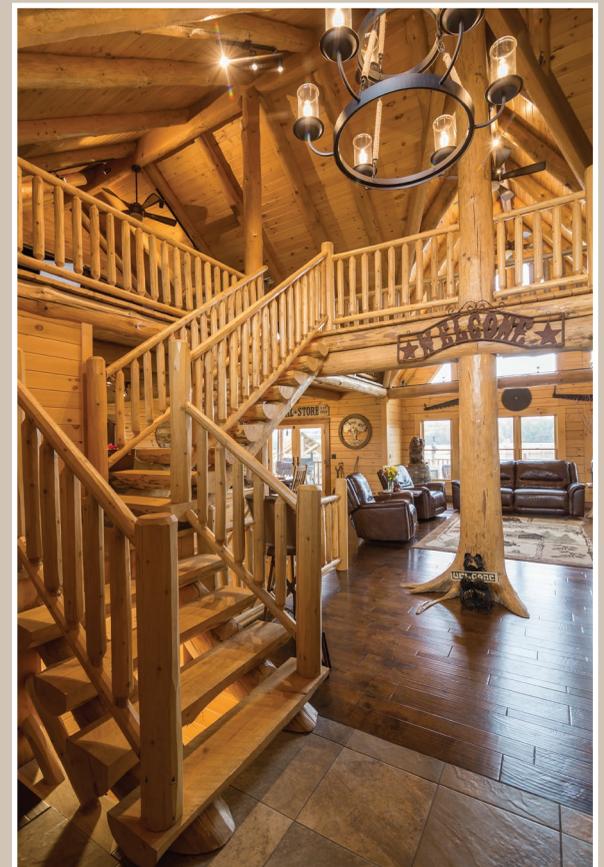
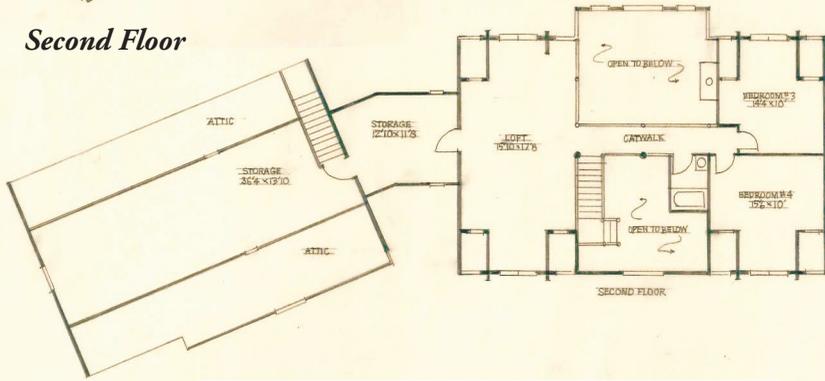
The Biskup’s broke ground for their home in July, 2016 and moved in New Year’s Eve of that same year. During the building process they lived in a motor home with their three boys for five months, so it was not surprising that they wanted to finish as quickly as possible. But the wait was certainly worthwhile. Mike was most surprised at how energy-efficient their new home is. He had a geothermal system installed, and although their home is twice the size of their previous conventional home, the electrical bills are less! When asked what he likes best about log home living he replied, “I love the peacefulness, the calmness. People spend \$200. a night to stay in a place that we live in everyday.”

So, their home is customized to suit their lifestyle - rustic, yet functional, and they couldn’t be happier. 

First Floor



Second Floor



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

Partners/Supplies continued from page 2

Bond sealant grips tightly to the engineered fabric nailing strip on the shingle below. Specially formulated, wide adhesive bands also help keep shingle layers laminated together. Their Tru-Definition Shingles is the industry's first asphalt shingle engineered to deliver 130-MPH wind warranty performance with only 4 nails.

The Tru-Definition shingle is available in 15 popular color choices. They have outstanding curb appeal with their deep shadow lines made more obvious with the use of multiple granule colors and shadowing. They are what is considered a dimensional shingle.

Their warranty is second to none. A lifetime limited warranty on wind resistance and a 10-year Algae resistance warranty. (Look online for the complete warranty detail.) Also important to us in selecting our partners, was the fact that they warrant their shingles on the Sips type insulation panels that we provide for the roof. There are manufacturers that try to use the Sips as an excuse to not cover their warranties. Owens Corning's Duration Shingles do come with an Energy Star rating.

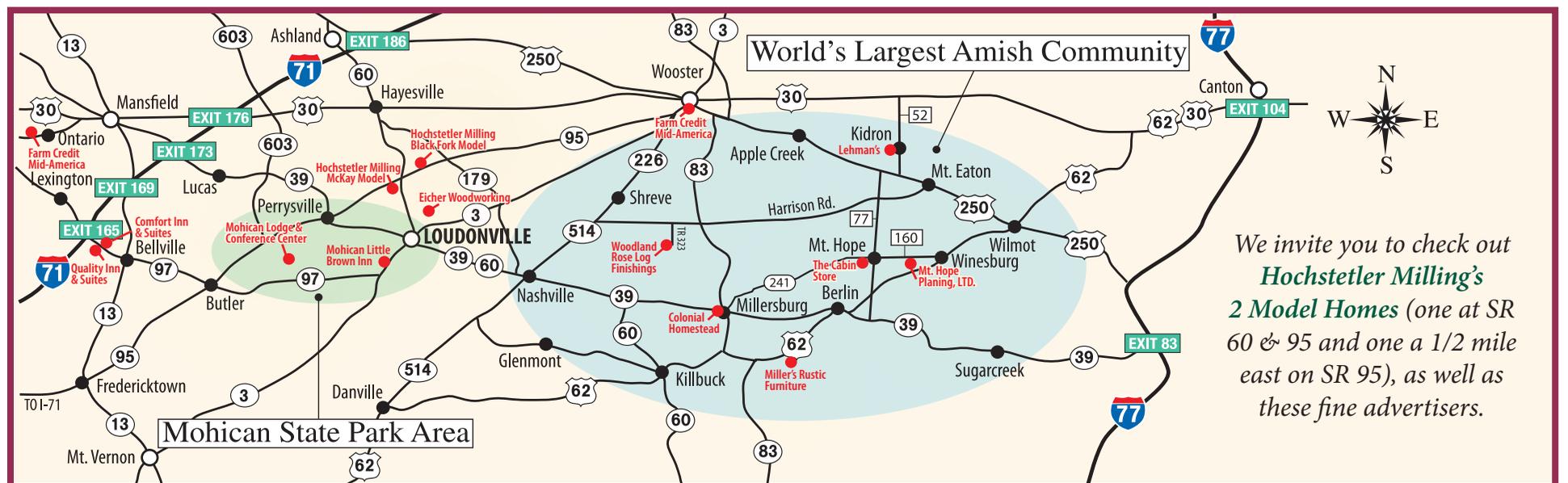
They sell their products through distributors



throughout the country. We have had excellent service and have nothing but good things to say about their distributor network.

In addition to their Duration Shingles they have a host of other choices. Some include shingles for

areas of heavy wind and warm climates, and for the architect designer, in color and shape, and for the budget-conscious, the old fashioned 3 tap. Simply put, they offer a shingle for everyone's taste, even the most fastidious person. 🏠



We invite you to check out Hochstetler Milling's 2 Model Homes (one at SR 60 & 95 and one a 1/2 mile east on SR 95), as well as these fine advertisers.

Log Cabin Days continued from page 1



and miscellaneous building materials - and experienced builders and craftsmen to build and install them. A silent auction for a multitude of handmade items, including an authentic Amish quilt, and a live auction for a 12'x24' log cabin captured everyone's attention. Perfect as a weekend retreat or hunting or fishing cabin!

Children of all ages enjoyed the small petting zoo and a chance to visit,

up close, animals like a pony, goat, puppies, rabbits and kittens. Or, they could play "gold-digger" and sift thru shavings for small trinkets and coins, or take their first pony ride. Others joined their families for an authentic, horse-drawn covered wagon ride through the woods and experience life as the frontier settlers did.

Always a popular destination is the large food tent with its scrumptious, mouth-watering food. Delicious barbecued chicken and burgers done on the grill, hot dogs, noodles, potato salad, kettle-cooked baked beans and a variety of pies tempted everyone's palette, especially when topped off with homemade ice cream. I think it's safe to say no one left hungry!

Fresh produce, locally-made Amish Swiss cheese, trail bologna and assorted jams, jellies, honey, and pastries were available for those who wanted something to remember the gala event when they got home! 




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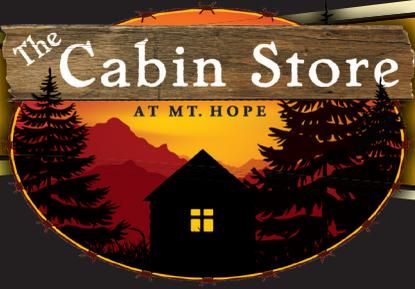


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CABIN FEVER

“Pigeon Payday” by Bill Dinkins

Log Cabin Days at Hochstetler Milling is a great time to meet friends and catch up on the latest news - or, in this case, old news. One of our builders, Mahlon Hochstetler, had an interesting encounter with some pigeons when he was a young lad of 15 and recalled the episode, while still occasionally wincing.

He was told by his brother-in-law, Edward, that a bird dog trainer in the neighborhood would pay \$2. for each pigeon that the boys could bring him. Being the enterprising young man that he was Mahlon thought this seemed like too good of an opportunity to pass up. All they had to do was find some willing pigeons.

Edward had seen some pigeons flying into an old, abandoned church about two miles away and thought it might be worth checking out. So, one night Mahlon hitched up Charlie, his dad's old, reliable buggy horse, and headed over to Edward's house. Upon arrival, though, Edward was not too thrilled about having Charlie take them to the church.

“It's dark, and at his age I'm not sure he can even see, let alone trot, to the church. How old is he anyway?” Edward asked.

Mahlon didn't answer, but knew the horse was older than him - probably 95 in human years.

Quickly, Edward hitched up his young gelding and down the road they went, holding flashlights to light the way in the ominous darkness. Like a line from Robert Frost's poem, they “had miles to go before they slept.” They finally reached the church and approached it nervously - not knowing what to expect in the foreboding darkness.

Mahlon climbed the rickety ladder, slowly raised the attic door, and threw his head back in amazement. There was a sea of grey - the entire floor was covered with pigeons! Working slowly and methodically they gathered up the dozing pigeons and placed them in cardboard boxes - about 30 to a box. The horse, meanwhile, awaited anxiously outside, already thinking of his oats “reward” when they got back to the barn. The boys loaded about 6 boxes in the buggy, jumped up on the front seat, and with a quick snap of the reins the horse was off.

The winding country road was enough of a challenge during the day, but became a real hazard at night, especially without lights. The horse only knew one speed - fast - and was galloping along about 20 mph when it sped down a steep hill. At the bottom, the road veered sharply right and the buggy slid off the road and flipped on its side in the ditch. Both boys were thrown out, along with the boxes, and pigeons flew everywhere - as the horse bolted away with the buggy. They managed to capture about 25 dazed birds, but had to walk the remaining 2 miles on badly sprained ankles!

You've heard the old saying, “Don't count your chickens 'till they've hatched.” I think that applies here - for they were already counting the \$400. they would have made with the original 200 pigeons, but had to settle for \$50. and some bumps and bruises. Needless to say, it could have been worse!

Oh, by the way, they did find the horse the next day, casually munching away in a nearby corn field and apparently none the worse for wear. 🏠



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