



Log Home Life

Promoting The Simple Life

Fall 2026

VIEW FROM THE MILL

By Levi Hochstetler

This summer we have experienced, for the most part, pleasant weather. Late June was exceptionally warm, but otherwise somewhat cooler than normal. Maybe we will be blessed with nice weather during Log Cabin Days®!

The timber mill, where we will saw long timber, is coming together. We hope to have it up and running by the end of August. At that point, we will shut down the old timber mill.

The planer mill is staying pretty busy here during August. Seems like many building projects have been pushed out, for one reason or the other, probably mostly weather related. Currently there are 18 Log Home Packages that no deliveries have been made yet. This can change rather quickly as builders get their foundations in.

This year we will have more of Log Cabin Days in tents. The reason is, so we can keep the planer mill running and have less disruption in making deliveries. We hope the shut down will be reduced to several days instead of several weeks.

Doc hopes to have me out of my back brace by the end of August. Every several weeks we go in and take X-rays to see if everything is in order. So far, my back has stayed in place. But my hip is coming along a little slower. It may be mid-September before I can put any weight on it. Meaning you will probably see me in a wheelchair during Log Cabin Days.

Hope to see you all then!

– Levi Hochstetler

Log Cabin Days® - Sept. 11 & 12

See our special section inside for more information and a schedule of events.

Log Cabin Days® is slated for Friday, September 11 (10-6) & Saturday, September 12 (9-5) at Hochstetler Log Homes, 552 SR 95, Loudonville, Ohio.

- Craftsmen Demonstrating 19th Century Trades like Broom Making, Wool Spinning, Pottery, etc.
- Lumberjack Demo
- Self-Guided Log Home Tour
- Cabins and Pavilion Auction
- Delicious Food, Pastries, & Ice Cream
- Log Home Related Exhibitors & Seminars
- Homesteading: Learn how to have your own hobby farm, from gardening to raising chickens
- Hand-Peeling & Hand-Hewing Demos
- Petting Zoo

Make plans today to attend this educational and fun event for the whole family.



Thanksgiving
Open House

– See page 3

Come Visit Us!

Hochstetler Log Homes, LTD
552 St. Rt. 95, Loudonville, OH
800-368-1015

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Loudonville, OH 44842
800-368-1015
Change Service Requested

The Resiliency of Log Homes versus Conventional Homes

By Nathan Hochstetler

The buzz word among the building industry today is “resilient”, similar to what “green” was in the 1980s. What comes to mind when we think of resilient? Strong, robust, durable, sturdy, resistant and enduring. These are all words the log home industry has been using for years when describing log homes.

So what is the conventional building industry doing to build houses that are more resilient? The talk is, better roofing, hurricane straps, stronger siding etc. Isn't this all “Band-Aid” fixes? A house doesn't fall because the shingles failed. The hurricane straps don't mean a lot when attached to a 2x4 that is no stronger than the straps themselves.

Log home guys are pretty biased on their opinion on resiliency of log homes. But the good part is having data, photos and log home customer stories that backup their biased opinion. Our joke here at the mill is, that land is going to get more and more expensive as landfills get bigger and bigger with houses that have not able to stand up to forces of nature.

Let's compare some of the structural “resiliency” differences in conventional houses versus log homes.

Typically the foundation in a conventional house versus a log homes is not much different, other than in a log home the support posts are stronger to carry the loads of the structural beams above.

Subfloor is very little different in a conventional build versus a log home.

The exterior walls of a conventional house are usually build with a 2x4 or 2x6 covered with osb sheathing (optional) filled with fiberglass insulation, covered with drywall on the inside and vinyl siding on the exterior. Where is the strength in this wall? The drywall, insulation and siding add almost zero structural integrity. The OSB and 2x4 is the only part that provides structural resistance. But how much will OSB be able to withstand when you having flying objects coming at 150 mph during a tornado?

The exterior log wall of a log home is where resiliency far exceeds conventional houses. How much force does it take for an object to actually penetrate a solid 6” or 8” log wall?

Now consider the roof system. In a conventional house roof is frames with 2x trusses 2' on center with OSB sheathing on top and either fiberglass or blown in insulation. Conventional trusses are engineered but cases of extreme wind they fail. Recently a big snow storm in Pennsylvania caused many roofs to collapse. What about trees falling on these trusses?

Be aware a lot of log home companies provide conventional roof and not a timbered roof system. On a true timber log home typically has 6x8 rafters at 4' on center, covered with a T&G decking, an 8” rigid insulation panel on top, with OSB glued to the insulation. A long screw thru the insulation system and into the rafter sandwiches the assembly tightly together. Truly a roof system that can be labeled resilient.

Recently a customer of ours was very thankful for being in a log home. While they were sleeping a tree fell on the roof above them. The firefighter later told them that if they wouldn't have a solid log wall that tree would've landed on top of them.

Most people have a misconception of the fire resiliency of log homes. When a large piece of timber is subjected to fire it begins to char. This layer of char on the outside of the log forms an insulating layer that protects the rest of the log from the effects of the fire. This char layer on a burning log works very much like high-tech intumescent coatings used to protect steel and other building materials from fire, except wood has been doing it well for thousands of years.

A barn caught on fire and close to the burning barn was a log home. One observer commented the logs were warm to the touch and was concerned that log home would ignite because it was wood. The owner of this home is lucky it was a log home. A conventional home most likely would've caught fire or at least melted the vinyl siding into taffy. This happened 20 years ago and this log home still looks as beautiful as it did the days it was build.

Another major issue is mold resiliency. We are seeing more and more homes being condemned because of mold in the cavities of the home. Whereas in log homes the solid build wall has no cavities for mold to proliferate.

What makes resiliency such a hot topic today? Damage from mold, flooding, hurricanes, wildfires, tornados, earthquakes and snow storms has the insurance companies' upside-down. They are doing their best to get out of insuring homes. What is likely to happen is either home insurance will skyrocket or coverage won't be available in certain areas, if builders continue building conventional homes the way they have been the last 50 years. If insurance doesn't cover your home, the least you can do is to build a resilient home. 



A Log Home that is over 200 years old. The oldest known log structure is 1100 years.



A conventional home that couldn't stand up to forces of nature.



A 25-Year-old conventional home with Mold.



This Log Home stood while most of the conventional homes around it got wiped off the map or ended up in the landfill.

Thanksgiving

Open House

November 27th & 28th
at Hochstetler Log Homes

Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-2pm

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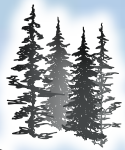
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■ Our initial contact was 2 years prior to buying. All our questions were answered and extra information was provided. The complete process from learning and seeing the models and stepping thru the design phase were excellent. The materials were organized and in perfect condition load after load. Any concerns were handled with no problems. We and the builder enjoy the package quality and consistency. Select Hochstetler, you will be thankful!

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LOG HOME TOUR

American Cancer Society would like to thank the hosts of the 2026 Log Cabin Days car tour for opening their doors to make the home tour possible. This is one of the largest fund-raisers we do and we can't thank you enough.

These homes will be available for tour during Log Cabin Days®. You will be able to converse with the homeowners on how their building experience was, what they would do differently, and discover the casual, relaxing lifestyle that characterizes log home living. The \$25 per person donation goes to the American Cancer Society. You must register at the information booth at Log Cabin Days to receive the locations of these homes.



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★ ★ ★ SPECIAL SECTION ★ ★ ★

LOG CABIN DAYS®

September 11 & 12 at Hochstetler Log Homes

Log Cabin Days Hours: Friday, September 11: 10am-6pm • Saturday, September 12: 9am-5pm

Have you ever dreamed of spending time with family and friends in your own beautiful log home? Perhaps you are one of the lucky few that already get to enjoy the log home lifestyle? Or maybe you yearn for days-gone-by when life was a lot simpler? Whichever it may be, Log Cabin Days® is for you! Join in the Family Friendly Fun with activities everyone will enjoy.

The Homesteading tent is back for 2026 with an exciting lineup of speakers. Learn how to have your own hobby farm. Participate in seminars and talk with vendors on gardening, fruit trees, bee keeping, animal care and much more.

The highlight is the self-guided **log home auto tour** sponsored by Andersen Windows. We have 8 log homes scheduled to be on the tour. Allow at least 6 hours to do the complete tour.

**SELF-GUIDED
LOG HOME TOUR**

A suggested donation of \$25 per person for the tour goes to the American Cancer Society. Registration must be made at the event entry. The homes are private residences; please thank the owners for their generosity in opening up their homes to give you this rare opportunity.

The team at **Log Home Academy** will share their expertise on Friday & Saturday in the "9 Steps to the Good Log Home Workshops" covering these vital topics. You can pick and choose which ones you want. See the times on the Workshop & Seminar section.

- **Financing**
- **Finding Property**
- **Choosing Your Home Style & Size**
- **Designing Your Log Home**
- **Log Home Construction Process**
- **Log Home Care**

Seminars are sponsored by Log & Timber Home Living.

Be sure to pick up your log home care supplies! During Log Cabin Days we are having a **sale of 15% off**. This applies on all PPG Proluxe Wood Finishes, caulking, bug repellent and brushes in stock, while supplies last.

Exhibitors will be showing off their wares, including: cabinets, solid oak furniture, log home furniture, bent hickory rockers, windows, and both interior and exterior doors. This could be the largest assembly of rustic furniture makers in North America. Be sure to bring your truck to take home all your new treasures! Builders will be on hand to answer all your construction questions, along with banks that specialize in log home lending.

*continued
on next page ➤*



Two of the homes
on the tour. Pick up tour map at
Information Booth. ➡



Self-Guided Log Home Tour • Lumberjack Competitions • Log Cabin Works

Cabin & Pavilion Auction will be held on Saturday at 4 pm. There will be up to 3 prebuilt cabins and 1-16x20 pavilion selling at live auction. There will be no rustic furniture auction in 2026. The local parochial school will have a silent auction where you can bid on hand-made crafts and Amish Dinners etc.

New for 2026 is opportunity to watch our sawmill and planer in operation. The only place where you can actually see the whole process of a tree being felled, sawed into lumber, air dried, kiln dried and finally milled to finished product!

Demonstration area will once again have craftsmen demonstrating various 19th century era log cabin-related trades. They include a bowl & spoon carver, gun builder, broom maker, potter, and wood carver. You'll also see wool spinning, rug braiding and period furniture makers demonstrating their period wood lathe, jig saw, hand planes and more. Some hands-on activity and interaction with the attendees will be encouraged.

There will also be demonstrations of hand-hewing, hand-peeling, and chainsaw carving, not to mention the blacksmith pounding out unique iron items for your log home.

On site will be **vintage steam engines** powering a shingle mill and sawmill (just like in the good ole' days!).

Win a prize while trying your hand at being a lumberjack. Throw the ax and hit the bull's eye, see how "cool" it is cutting logs with a cross cut saw and how "easy" it is to fell a tree with an ax.

Relive "Little House on the Prairie" and go on a horse-drawn **covered wagon ride** down through the woods or watch the black smith shoe a few

horses. Be sure to go on the forestry tour and receive a free bundle of white pine seedlings and don't forget to register to win a free chainsaw carving.

Log Cabin Days® is a family event. Make sure the kids take a ride on the pony pulled barrel train, play "gold digger" and sift thru shavings for nickels and candy. They will, no doubt, be fascinated by the petting zoo with a chance to get "up close" with animals like a pony, a calf, puppies, rabbits, and kittens.

Log Cabin Days would not be complete without some good old-fashioned, **finger-lickin' food**. You have to try out the Gourmet Log Cabin Burger! You'll also find delicious barbecue chicken, done to perfection on our large outdoor fire pit, as well as noodles, kettle-cooked baked beans and a variety of pies including L.C.D.'s famous fry pies. There is also homemade ice cream, fresh-squeezed apple cider, apple butter and kettle-cooked popcorn. Be sure and take home pastries from the Amish bake sale, highlighted with fresh pies and homemade bread.

Come early on Saturday for the "**Early Bird**" breakfast, which will be served from 7:00-10 am with scrambled eggs and bacon, real stuffed sausage, pancakes, donuts and coffee or juice.

Proceeds from the sale of refreshments and bake sale will benefit the Mohican Parochial School.

Log Cabin Days is an enjoyable 2-day event that is both educational and beneficial for the whole family. There will be \$5 admission for adults, children 12 & under free. If you have additional questions call 800-368-1015. Come early and stay both days.

Partial Exhibitor List

- 1st. Federal – Lending
- Ackerman's Equipment – Equipment Sales & Rental
- Andersen Windows – Windows
- Berlin Seeds – Gardening Supplies
- Calico Creation – Hand Dip Candles
- Cedar Creek Cabins – Log Home Builder
- Creative Holmes – Window Shades
- Culpeper – Treated Wood Products
- Cutco – Knives
- Des Eck Welding – Dome Grills
- Donny Hostetler – Chainsaw Carving
- Eicher Woodworking – Custom Cabinets
- Eurotec – Log Screws
- Fitch Pharm Farm – Maple Syrup & Honey
- Hillside Gazebos – Rustic Furniture
- Jamison Well Drilling – Well Drilling
- Karen's Garden – Berry Bushes
- Lakeland Log Homes – Log Home Builder
- Lantern Cabin Care – Log Home Staining
- Living on the Edge – Rustic Furniture
- Log Home Living – Log Home Living Magazine
- Luxcrete – Concrete Countertop
- McElroy – Metal Roofing
- Miller Trees LLC – Tree Nursery
- Millers Rustic – Rustic Furniture
- MH3 Solar – Solar
- Mohican Construction – Log Home Staining
- Mohican Valley Fence – Fencing
- M.O.S.S. Outdoors – Homesteading Supplies
- National Design Mart – Countertops
- Natures Herbs – Herbs
- Noble Cabins – Prebuilt Cabins
- Ohio Valley Flooring – Hartco Flooring
- Palmer Donavin – Exterior Doors
- Pine Lane Staining – Log Home Staining
- PPG – Stain
- Provia – Veneer Stone
- R.W. Leather – Leather Billfolds
- Rural 1st – Lender
- Rustic Creations – Rustic Furniture
- Schlabach Engine – Lawn Equipment
- Stallion Door – Interior Doors
- The Cabin Store – Rustic Furniture & Décor
- The Furniture Shack – Furniture
- Troyer Painting – Log Home Staining
- TruWood Designs – Wood Turnings
- Woodland Rose Log Homes – Log Home Builder

Log Cabin Days Lodging Directory

*Mention Hochstetler Log Homes for special rates at the following locations.
With multiple activities in the area book early for availability.*

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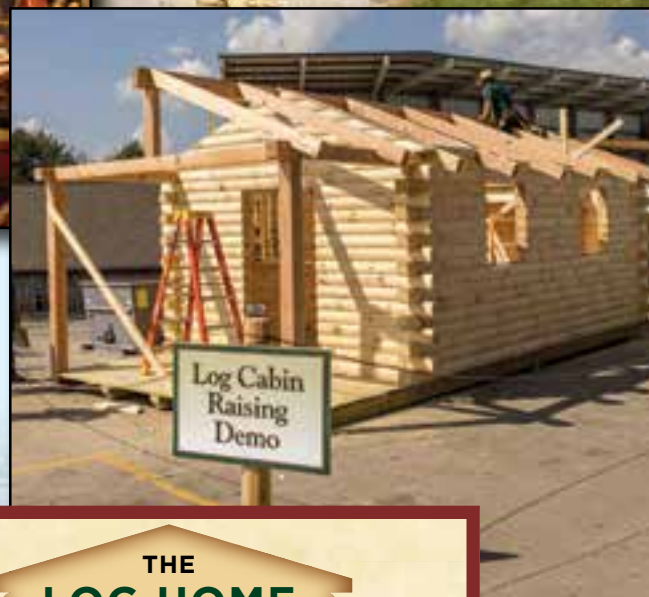
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WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

FRIDAY – SEPTEMBER 11

- 10:00** Log Basics 101
- 11:00** Financing
- 11:30** Finding Property
- 12:00** Choosing Your Home Style & Size
- 1:00** Arranging Your Home on the Property and Designing the Floor Plan
- 2:00** Designing the Right Home for You
- 3:00** Construction Process
- 3:30** Log Home Maintenance

SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 12

- 9:00** Log Basics 101
- 11:00** Financing
- 11:30** Finding Property
- 12:00** Choosing Your Home Style & Size
- 1:00** Arranging Your Home on the Property and Designing the Floor Plan
- 2:00** Designing the Right Home for You
- 3:00** Construction Process
- 3:30** Log Home Maintenance

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 Bring your truck and trailer!



Up to 40 Vendors will have a booth setup, from builders to cabinets to home decor, we've got it. On Saturday 4 PM, Cabins and Pavilion will be auctioned off.

Schedule of Events

	Friday Sept. 11th	Saturday Sept. 12th
Food	10 am–6 pm	10 am–5 pm
Breakfast	—	7 am–10 am
Log Home Seminars	10 am–4 pm	9 am–3 pm
Exhibit Booth	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5pm
Demonstrations	10am–6pm	9 am–5 pm
Cabin Raising	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Cabin Auction	—	4:00 pm
Pavilion Auction	—	4:00 pm
Kid Zone	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Sawmill & Mill Tour	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Dry Kiln Tour	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Log Home Tour	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Covered Wagon Rides	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Steam Engines	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Bake Sale	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm
Hay Ride Forestry Tour	2:00 pm	2:00 pm
Hay Ride Herb Tour	12:00 pm	1:00pm
Homesteading Seminars	11 am–4 pm	10 am–4 pm
Homesteading Tent	10 am–6 pm	9 am–5 pm

EVENT INFORMATION:

Located 5 miles north of Loudonville and
 1/2 mile east of the St. Rt. 95 & 60 intersection
 at 552 St. Rt. 95, Loudonville, OH 44842

Hours: Friday, September 11, 10am - 6pm
 Saturday, September 12, 9am - 5pm
 Early Bird Breakfast Sat. 7am -10am

Questions, call 800-368-1015

Admission: \$5.00



Cabins and Pavilion Auction

on Saturday, Sept. 12th 4pm

Selling at live auction during Log Cabin Days



Actual Products may vary from photos

- **Cabins:** Up to 3 Prebuilt 12' wide Cabins. Perfect for that weekend getaway, rental or a hunting cabin.
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Friday, Sept. 11

- 11:00** Gardening Techniques by Bill Speer
- 12:00** Hay Ride Herb Identification Tour with Anna Edgington
- 1:00** Eating from the Land by David Kline
- 2:00** Fermented Favorites by Karen Geiser
- 2:00** Hay Ride Forestry Tour with Hochstetler Timbers
- 3:00** Honey Production by Doug Fitch

Saturday, Sept. 12

- 10:00** Fermented Favorites by Karen Geiser
- 11:00** Maple Syrup Production by Doug Fitch
- 12:00** Hay Ride Herb Identification Tour with Anna Edgington
- 1:00** Eating from the Land by David Kline
- 2:00** Gardening Techniques by Bill Speer
- 2:00** Hay Ride Forestry Tour with Hochstetler Timbers
- 3:00** Hay Ride Herb Identification Tour with Anna Edgington

We'd like to thank Hochstetler Log Homes for allowing us to be a partner for Log Cabin Days.

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FEATURE HOME ADDITIONAL FLOOR PLANS • SEE PAGE 14-15 FOR ARTICLE



The Past is Present



by Janice Weiser

– Photography by Style Life Photography

Stacy and Dave were ready to move closer to family and Stacy's work in Southeastern Ohio, with one caveat: They wanted to recreate the look and feel of their historic 1828 home in Granville, Ohio.

They found 30 acres of land near extended family in Junction City – a perfect spot to build. “I had a general interest for a long time in log homes,” Dave says. Stacy was on board, as long as the finished home would have that historic charm.

They searched the internet for log home producers and were excited to discover Hochstetler Log Homes in Loudonville, Ohio. “They had different options available,” Dave says, “and example photos of the work they did on their site.” Because their Granville home was constructed with hand-hewn posts and beams, Dave made sure Hochstetler could match that style of construction.

When they met with the Hochstetler team, the couple chose wood siding for the home's exterior, which would allow for a neutral backdrop on the interior, highlighting the beams as well as the couple's impressive collection of antique furnishings and primitives. They specified light-color wood for the ceilings, mimicking the traditional look of early American construction.

First Things First

Before construction began on the house, the couple worked with Hochstetler to design and build a barn on the property with full, square logs that would match the main home, a wide back porch and authentic sliding exterior barn doors. They completely finished the interior, creating a large living area, kitchen with slate blue cabinetry, a generous sleeping loft and one and a half baths.

Stacy and Dave were able to live in the barn while their home was being built on the property. Now the barn, with its exposed beams, serves as a welcome space for their grown sons and their families to stay when they visit the couple.

The design for the main house was inspired by photos of a cottage Stacy found. The main floor includes a living space, dining area and kitchen, along with two bedrooms. They stayed



true to historic style by not including vaulted spaces, giving the main areas warmth and charm. The living room is anchored by an oversized brick fireplace that burns wood, which is plentiful on their forested acreage. A two-car, log-sided garage is just steps away from the home's back porch.

The kitchen features beams overhead and custom concrete countertops, a material the couple had used previously when they renovated the kitchen in their Granville home.

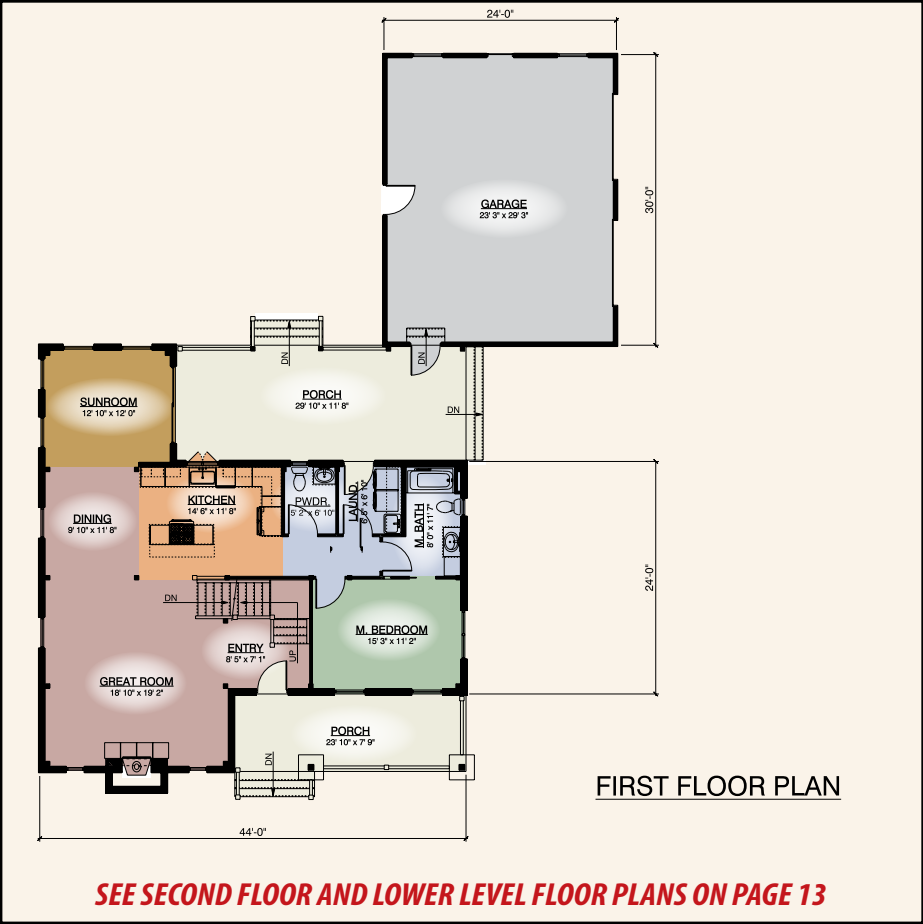
On the exterior, the brick chimney adds visual texture and complements the warm-hued log siding. Green shutters flank the windows, wood shingles accent the gables and a porch with wood railings welcomes visitors to the front door. The same shutters are repeated around the windows on the barn.

Favorite Places

Upstairs, a cozy loft accented by a timbered dormer window is a favorite spot for Dave and Stacy to spend time reading and relaxing, especially in the winter. The brick fireplace tucked under the loft eaves is fueled by gas.

A third fireplace warms the finished lower level, where there's plenty of space for lounging, playing foosball and family game nights. "We originally had planned for five fireplaces," Dave recalls, but they decided to pare back to three. The same cultured stone material from the lower-level fireplace was used to finish the exterior foundation walls of the house and garage. The property's natural slope allowed for a walk-out basement, a feature the couple's Granville home also had.

Now that the home is finished, Dave, Stacy and their two dogs have time to enjoy hiking on the property, part of which they set aside in the Ohio Forest Tax Law program administered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. They also like to spend time on the back porch, looking for deer, turkeys and other wildlife that also call their property home.



For additional information about this home, please contact Hochstetler Log Homes at 800-368-1015.

John Muir

– by *Bill Dinkins*

To say John Muir wore many hats would be a colossal understatement. He was an author, environmentalist, botanist, zoologist, glaciologist and leading conservationist. Known as the “Father of our National Parks,” John was instrumental in the establishment of Yosemite, Sequoia and Yellowstone National Parks. In addition, he co-founded the Sierra Club in 1892, creating a lasting legacy in the American conservation movement. His detailed writings about the beauty of the American wilderness convinced Congress and President Teddy Roosevelt to preserve iconic landscapes, preserving the way for our National Parks of today!

Muir wrote numerous articles and books including *The Mountains of California* and *My First Summer in the Sierra*. His book, *A Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf*, was based on his walk from Indianapolis to the Gulf of Mexico. He strongly believed that wild places have intrinsic value and are essential to the human soul. This belief was fundamental to the foundation of the Sierra Club.



Muir was born in 1838 in Dunbar, Scotland and died in California in 1914, 76 years later. His family emigrated to Portage, Wisconsin in 1838. He married Louisa Wanda Strentzel in 1880 and they had two daughters, Wanda and Helen. In the early years, John was a devoted family man as well as managing his father-in-law's large fruit farm, but as the years went on he yearned for more time in the wilderness. His wife sensed his sadness and encouraged him to return to his true love...the wilderness. He once said, “The mountains are calling and I must go.”

In an industrial accident in 1867, Muir lost sight in his right eye after being struck by an awl and experienced temporary blindness in his left eye as well. It was the darkest time of his life when he was confined to a bed and in a dark room for two weeks. His future seemed hopeless! He wrote to his mother of his deep despair and several of his friends were very concerned. But after a month his vision returned and he said, “I have nearly an eye and a half left,” and he was able to return to his real home...the outdoors.

So, if you're visiting Yellowstone, Yosemite, or Sequoia National Park, and in awe of the splendor of the landscape, thank John Muir, the man who had the foresite to make all possible! 🏠

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