

WOOD N YOU LIKE TO KNOW

Elmsdale Lumber Company Limited

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Issue # 282

Notes from the Editor

It is with much sadness that we report the passing of Greg Grant's father, Laurie Grant. Greg's dad passed on July 19th. At Laurie's service, Greg paid a touching tribute to his dad and it was clear that Greg and his dad shared a special relationship. Our thoughts and prayers are with Greg and his family.

This month, we welcomed Timber as our new office mascot. Timber is a Great Dane and Mark and Amanda's new addition to their family. He is now 11 week's old and has already learned to sit, stay, and scratch at the door when he needs to do his business. Because of Mark's (and I am sure Amanda's) talent to train all his animal friends, I am sure Timber will become a very obedient, friendly and special friend to all. That's a good thing because he is going to be a very, very big boy.



Until next month, Gennie

Notes from the Safety Committee

2019 in Review

Jan	0 lost time	0 medical aid
Feb	0 lost time	0 medical aid
Mar	0 lost time	0 medical aid
Apr	0 lost time	1 medical aid
May	0 lost time	0 medical aid
June	0 lost time	0 medical aid
July	1 lost time	0 medical aid

Notes from the Safety Committee, con't

The minutes from our last safety meeting are posted on the bulletin boards around the property. Please take a moment to review these and address any concerns with your supervisor.

Darren & Nick will be making their rounds this month to get our quarterly inspections done again. Thanks in advance guys for taking care of this for us.

Jason Molnar recently contracted Siemens to complete a property-wide thermographic survey inspection of all electrical systems using a thermal imaging camera. The inspection went very well with a few minor repairs to be made over the next several months. Thanks Jason.

As most everyone knows, we have been under construction for some time now, and the construction will continue over the next 5+ months. We'd like to thank everyone for working safely on this project, and for continuing to understand that safety is a mindset that requires a conscious effort to always work safely in both familiar and unfamiliar tasks and environments. Well done everyone.

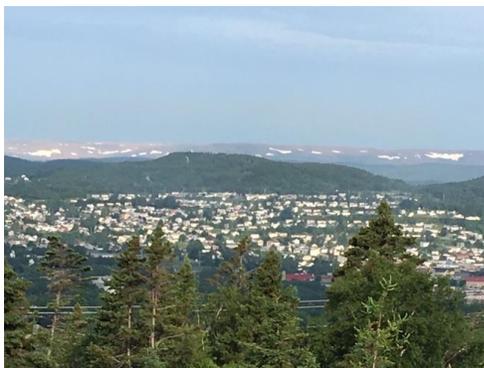
We are cashing out our safety points this month. We have closed out our safety year with 40 points. We will get the awards ordered and deliver them as soon as possible. Just a reminder, you need to have worked with us for a minimum of 6 months in order to qualify for the award. Our new safety points bank starts up on August 1.

Our safety committee elections will take place in August for a new term starting in September. Existing committee members can be re-elected. Give some thought to your nominations and watch for the ballots to be distributed next month.

Until next month, Nick Miller, Don Isenor, Craig Isenor, Darren Isenor, Mark Wilber and Angie Kainola

Notes from The President

Last weekend, Mark and I arrived home from our annual salmon fishing trip in Labrador. As we all know, the weather seems to be late this year and Labrador is no exception. We normally see patches of snow on the mountain tops. This year, we saw huge patches of snow everywhere. The photo below over looks Cornerbrook which is the most southern part of Newfoundland. It was taken on July 19th. Note all the snow in the background.



This annual trip is a father and son thing we started 19 years ago, and the destination is not always in Labrador, although, the last 12 years have been spent on the Hawke River in Labrador. The terrain is not for someone with any physical disabilities. Some areas, as depicted in the photo below, Mark acts as my helper up or down the cliffs.



Notes from the President, con't

You know the old saying, "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach." Well the next photo is what I was confronted with when we first entered the camp. Is there anything better than homemade bread?



Now that the date has been carved in stone, we can announce that we will be shutting the mill down on Friday, November 29th to begin the process of removing a bunch of old equipment and installing new equipment. We are holding weekly construction meetings as there is a lot of pre-planning to be done. The more work we can get done prior to the installation, the more efficient the actual removal and placement of new equipment will be. Some of the work includes, organizing cleanup crews to make workspaces ready for welders, disconnecting power supplies, removing 2 sections of roof, making alterations to the sprinkler system, ordering and scheduling the right size cranes for equipment removal and placement, concrete work, accurate positioning of new equipment and the list goes on.

I have been through a variety of modernization projects several times in my career and shutdown day always give me shivers but then we get so busy that feeling soon passes as everything falls into place. I am confident, especially because of the commitment and expertise of our great team, this project will be successful.

Notes from the President, con't

Movie star, Sam Elliott, posted the following quote and I love it. It might be very fitting for our upcoming project. "Even though there are days I wish I could change some things that happened in the past, there is a reason the rear-view mirror is so small, and the windshield is so big. Where you're headed is much more important than what you've left behind."

Until next month, Robin

Notes from Sales, con't

Hopefully, everyone is enjoying the warm days of summer which finally arrived. The lumber markets continue to be stumbling along without any clear direction. There have been lots of production curtailments and mill closures announcements in Western Canada without any big impact on market prices. Quebec sawmills are now shut down for 2 weeks as they always do this time of year, so that will take more production off the market. Lumber inventories are low and the new home markets are healthy. It seems like we have great conditions developing for the perfect storm and increased prices, it's just taking longer than we expected.

I am attaching a summary which highlights some of the changes.

Summary of the Curtailment Announcements in June

Canfor	BC mills	June 17 - 26	200 million fbm
Canfor	BC mill	29-Apr	100 million fbm
Tolko	Quesnel	August	250 million fbm
Tolko	Soda Creek/Armstrong	May 27 - mid June	
Tolko	Kelowna	12-Jul	
West Fraser	All Mills	June 1 week	30 million
Conifex		6-May	
Aspen Planners		3-Jun	
Interfor		20-Jun	20 million
Lebel	All Mills	May - current	

Here is a July Update

Canfor	Taylor	Still curtailed
Canfor	Houston	Still curtailed
Canfor	MacKenzie	Still curtailed
Canfor	Isle Pierre	Still curtailed
Canfor	Plateau	Still curtailed
Canfor	Vavenby	Permanently closed
West Fraser	100 Mile House	3rd shift eliminated until Sept 1
West Fraser	70 Mile House	Permanently closing Sept 30
Tolko	Kelowna	Indefinite shift cut
Tolko	Quesnel	Permanently closing Aug 1
Conifex	Fort St. James	Permanently closed - selling to Hampton (who may build new mill if tenure transfers)

Notes from Sales, con't

On the flip side, southern yellow pine production has increased by 300 million fbm this year.

In summary, Canada has lost a lot of production due to low lumber prices, high log costs, wildfires and insect damage. Southern yellow pine production is ramping up with the addition of new mills in the Southern USA and an abundance of logs. It should be noted that the preferred construction lumber is Canadian SPF as southern yellow pine is heavy, dense and difficult to work with.

Draw your own conclusion, but if I was a betting man, I would say we are going to have a busy fall with increased lumber prices.

Until next month, we call it as we see it. Derek

Notes from Woodlands

I would like to offer condolences to our Woodland's Team member Greg Grant, as he lost his father Laurie last week to a battle with cancer. Greg was quite close to his father and during the last few months that was expressed clearly as I couldn't help but notice how dedicated Greg was to being there for him day and night, right by Laurie's side until the end. I am sure this was a well needed shimmer of comfort to Laurie during his final time with us. Their relationship and what his father meant to him was shared beautifully during his speech at Laurie's funeral - of course with a classic Greg Grant twist I might add.

Last month, I mentioned we were finishing up harvest activities at the Spence Managed Forest. ELCO has had the opportunity to be involved in the forest management on this lot over the last few years and it has been a great experience.

Earlier this year, this woodlot was nominated for the Nova Scotia Woodland Owner of the Year Award.

Notes from Woodlands, con't

The diversity, natural features, owner involvement and woodlot history all made the Spence property a logical candidate. Having participated in harvest activities the last few years, we were quite pleased to learn a couple weeks ago that they were announced as the provincial winner. Along with the recognition of this prestigious award, the owners are presented with a large wooden plaque and a field day is organized which will be held at the woodlot towards the end of September. The field day is a great opportunity to see the property along with all the great work that has been completed over the years and natural features it has to offer. The planning of this day is under way and will be ongoing for the remainder of the summer.

Having said that, some of the things visitors can expect to see include a live harvest demonstration by Beaverdam Enterprises, silviculture demonstrations, trail walks through previous forest management treatments and a spectacular waterfall that is on the woodlot. There will also be several interactive exhibitors showcasing local businesses and organizations including some educational experiences. I will keep everyone updated when the day is confirmed, and I would encourage anyone who is interested in seeing a great example of a well-managed private woodlot to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Until next time, Jason and the Woodlands Team

Notes from Peter Dillman's Corner

"Excuse Me"

Some of you may or may not know but here at ELCO we used to have a cookhouse on site. A few of the guys that stayed in the bunkhouse all week also had all their meals there, while all the rest of us that wanted to have dinner at the cookhouse did so for a nominal fee. This amount was taken off your weekly paycheck. In order to eat there two things had to happen. First, there had to be an opening at one of the two long "Walton" style tables and secondly, the boss had to okay it. By the Boss, I am referring to the cook, Edna Cameron. She had the say in the cookhouse. If you were able to get in, Edna would assign you a seat at one of the two tables. That was your spot and no one else's.

The reason I mention this is because we have a similar plan at the planer. For the most part, everyone respects each other's spot at the table. But this is not always the case as we found out earlier this month. Odesa Jack has joined our crew and if you don't know Odesa, then I guess you don't know Jack. Anyway, we told her there are a couple spots at the table and she had to pick one. After about a week, one day she had to run an errand at dinnertime. When she got back, we were all sitting at the table finishing up our lunch. As I looked over, Odesa was standing at the counter eating her lunch. I asked her what she was doing. Before she could answer, I told her to sit down and they will move over. She took a seat across the table from her seat. I told her later that you must speak up for yourself sometimes. About a week later, the same thing occurred. She ran an errand and got back as we were all eating. Odesa once again sat down from across her assigned seat. As Bubba was talking to me, Odesa said, "Excuse me, excuse me. Bubba, Bubba, excuse me". Finally, I said, "Bubba I believe Odesa is talking to you."

Notes from Peter Dillman's Corner, con't

Bubba turned his head and looked directly across the table at Odesa. In which, Odesa said, "I just wanted to tell you that I am letting you sit in my seat for today". Everyone roared with laughter, including Bubba. Odesa is fitting is just fine.

Thank You

I had the very good fortune of having Rosie Isenor serving me my breakfast last Saturday morning. Rosie was very excited as it was her last day before she started her vacation. I hope you had a great week and we will have to do breakfast again sometime soon.

All the Best

I want to take a moment and wish Darrell all the best as he has accepted ELCO's severance package. We had more than a few laughs over the years. I won't soon forget the night we stayed at Jack's cottage and then headed into Antigonish one Saturday night. WOW! Anyway, all the best Darrell.

Hey, how U Doin'?

This week, I had the pleasure of meeting a young man by the name of Lawson Grant. He tells me he is going to be working here for a while. The thing I noticed about Lawson was that when I was speaking to him, he made eye contact and he spoke loud enough so I could hear him! I appreciate that Lawson. I hope you enjoy your time here ELCO and you put the money you earn to good use.

Happy 59th Anniversary



Ross Higgins is a loyal customer of Elmsdale Lumber Company & comes to visit us often to pick up lumber for M&G Higgins in Belmont, NS. Ross and his lovely wife Mary Lou Higgins celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on July 23, 2019. Although we've never met Mary Lou, we've heard lots about her over the years including church suppers, family gatherings, day trips and community involvement. When Ross isn't hauling lumber or involved in his other activities, he can be found in his workshop puttering away. Congratulations to you both, and we're wishing you many more happy anniversaries.

July Anniversaries

Chris Myers	17 years
Mark Wilber	18 years



August Birthdays

Jason Isenor	August 14
Jon Molnar	August 08
Roland Murray	August 03
Downey Thompson	August 13 (88 years young)
Stephen Thompson	August 24
Tyler White	August 7



July 50/50

July 5	Peter Dillman
July 12	Stephen Molnar
July 19	Phillip Isenor
July 26	Phillip Isenor

