

Thoughts From the President



Bill Wallace

As another year comes to a close, I find myself reflecting on where we stand. As I write this in early November, our revenue numbers are nearly identical to those of 2024 and 2023. While I wasn't initially thrilled about that, after attending a recent

conference with several independent dealers like Big C, I came away feeling much better. Many of those dealers, particularly in larger markets, are down considerably from prior years. While we may not experience the big highs they see, we also avoid the big lows that some are experiencing today.

In this issue, I want to pay tribute to Mark Young as he approaches his retirement. Over the years, Mark has not only served as a trusted salesman to some of our longest standing customers, but he has also been the voice and face of Big C Lumber through our commercials for over four decades.

Mark is one of the first ones to arrive each day before hitting the road to visit his job sites. He returns in the afternoon to tie up loose ends and prepares to do it all again the next day. Because of that consistency and dedication, Mark's customers are among the most loyal Big C Lumber has.

Mark has served as a mentor to many of our new sales team and while his friendly smile will be greatly missed, his legacy will live for many years to come. We love you Mark, and wish you and Kallie nothing but the best in the next chapter of your lives.

As the holidays approach, we've made the decision to close our stores for four days during both Christmas and New Year's. This will allow our Big C team to spend this special time with family without having to use PTO. At our core, we are a family company, and

Continued on back page →

Mark Young Retirement

After 47 years, Mark Young announced his retirement. Mark is one of Big C's longest-employed team members, and it all started in August of 1978. He had moved here from New Jersey, and his new neighbor across the street was Sales Manager Don Florey. Mark recalls, "He saw my brother and me working outside, and he walked up and asked, 'Hey, any of you guys interested in a job for a couple of weeks?'"

His main task for the two weeks he agreed to was assisting in a tent sale at Roseland, where customers could come purchase discounted goods such as misordered special order items or items left at job sites. They decided to keep Mark on board after the first two weeks and moved him to inside sales. After ten years in inside sales, he briefly took on the role of Roseland store manager and then transitioned into Outside Sales, a position he has held ever since.

Once in Outside Sales, a new opportunity was presented to him that would eventually make him known as "the Big C guy". The former advertising manager, Dick Janicki, approached him to ask if he would be interested in filming some TV commercials. Mark agreed, and since then, he has been featured in dozens of well-known Big C Lumber commercials. Since he became a type of local celebrity, it didn't take long for people to start recognizing him in public. There was one occasion that Mark recalls that was an unusual location to be recognized in: a food line in Jamaica.

For Mark, the thing he will miss most about his day-to-day workflow is talking to customers and helping them out in any way he can. "Going out to the job sites and talking to people every day is what does it for me. You make friends with everybody."

Mark has two pieces of advice for anybody in this industry: Talk to people the way you want to be talked to, and do what you say you are going to do.

Congratulations on 47 years with Big C Lumber. From all of us here, you will surely be missed!





We'd like to welcome the following new associates to the Big C Lumber team:

THREE OAKS - Jim Hembree (Outside Sales), Kevin Schoff (Yard & Warehouse), **COLOMA** - Brandon Higgins (Non CDL Driver), **EAU CLAIRE** - Dakota Spruell (Non CDL Driver), **SCHOOLCRAFT** - Hunter Van (Outside Sales), **DELTON** - Ronald Watson (Non CDL Driver), **DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS** - Joshua Bryant (Production), Robert Bryant (Production), Misael Castillo (Production), Levi Clark (Yard & Warehouse), Nate Davis (Yard & Warehouse), Trever Hampton (Production), James Hoff (CDL Driver), Kevin Karstetter (Driver), David Leski (Service)

We're glad to have you with us!

ROSELAND

On October 16th, our Roseland location held a Kitchen & Bath Open House for the public. Customers had the opportunity to enjoy a free lunch and speak with vendors on the newest trends and products in the industry.



Customers enjoying lunch in Roseland

ELKHART

Our Elkhart location held a Customer Appreciation event on October 1st. The vendors in attendance spoke with customers



Attendees speaking at vendor booth

on the latest products in the industry, and everyone had a chance to connect with each other while enjoying a delicious BBQ lunch.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend this event.

ADRIAN

The Jackson Hillsdale Lenawee Home Builder's Association held their first Hard Hat After Hours event at our Adrian location on October 16th. Local contractors had the opportunity to network with vendors in attendance and gain insight on the products in our industry.



Aaron Stewart & Pat O'Dowd



Employees of WLZZ Radio

Our Adrian location partnered with WLEN radio for their annual "Thank a Vet" day on November 11th. This event is to bring awareness to the many challenges

that veterans have in their lives, and encourages the public to make contributions to the Veterans Dire Needs Fund which helps veterans with many financial troubles. We are honored to have sponsored this wonderful cause.

GRANGER

We recently donated material to Daniel Williams of Boy Scout Troop 525 for the construction of a stage at the Dave Norris Amphitheater. This stage will be used by local



Ryan Beck and Daniel Williams

Mishawaka residents in the future for community gatherings and performances.

SHIPSHEWANA

'Tis the season in Shipshewana! Our employees decorated a flatbed truck with lights and trees to join the annual Shipshewana Light Parade on November 8th.



A Big C delivery truck driving in the parade

DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS



Katelyn Owensby and her dog Max

Katelyn Owensby and her dog Max were awarded with a training certificate recently. This involves placing the dog in a variety of different environments, such as a casual walk in the park and working on improving a dog's temperment. Katelyn and Max have been working for three years towards this goal, and she is incredibly proud of this personal accomplishment.

The employees of the truss plant enjoyed a luncheon in late October. This was to show our gratitude for the hard work that each employees gives in ensuring every task is done safely and efficiently.



Employees at our truss plant

Birthdays

Best wishes to the following people who will celebrate birthdays in December and January.

ROSELAND

Doug Kapica December 21
Mike Swartz December 30
Don Wantuch January 17

ELKHART

Nate Droste January 7
Payton Voorde January 9
Dave Shireman January 18

THREE OAKS

Ben Nelson January 5
Mike Padgett January 6
Julie Fournier January 29

COLOMA

Jason Ferrier December 5

ADRIAN

Cal Deline December 9

EAU CLAIRE

Leigha Vinson January 4
Chuck Huscher January 22

GRANGER

Kerry Snyder December 4
Brian Mitchell December 10
Mark Young December 13
Garrett Baumann December 24
Keith Currin January 28

CROMWELL

Philip Wiler December 24

LAPORTE

Eric Deletter December 12
Noah Novitzke December 29
Travis Coleman January 10

MISHAWAKA WINDOW & DOOR

TJ Findley December 10
Brian Yost December 20
Shane Lane December 29
Christy Ciula December 30
Jeff Hanyzewski January 7
Johnathon Wietfeldt January 20

SHIPSHEWANA

Mike Hostetler December 18
Bill Hildebrand December 31

SCHOOLCRAFT

Mike Wright December 1
Olley Wise December 26
Hunter Van January 11

FORT WAYNE

Chris Huffman December 8
Jason Hamrick December 10

EDGERTON

Eric Culler December 2
Shane Smith December 20

Birthdays

EDGERTON

Greg Bell December 26
Nya Lovejoy January 11

DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS

Gricel Roman December 5
Steven Stenberg December 16
Blaine Evans December 17
Austin Ottman December 17
Terry Sundstrom January 16
Matt Kurzhal January 23
Gilberto Meza January 23
Caleb Luthringer January 25

GRANGER CORPORATE

Ryan Brady December 4
Bridget Brady December 27
Scott Foley December 28
Bill Wallace January 11
Caitlin Stone January 16

FORT WAYNE MILL

Lou Dornseif December 16
Aaron Miller January 7

Anniversaries

Congratulations to all who will be marking their anniversaries with Big C Lumber in December and January. Those with at least five years of service are recognized.

ROSELAND

January 24 Ashley Smittendorf 13 Years

ELKHART

December 9 Anne Feirick 5 Years
January 15 Brett Griggs 7 Years

COLOMA

December 16 Bruce Hilliard 11 Years
January 27 Jason Elston 11 Years

EAU CLAIRE

January 5 Shawn Williamson 21 Years

LAPORTE

December 17 Steve Tolch 6 Years
December 17 Matt Wrobel 4 Years
January 7 Randee Radloff 6 Years

MISHAWAKA WINDOW & DOOR

January 25 Ron Goetz 39 Years

SHIPSHEWANA

December 23 Matt Bontrager 28 Years

DELTON

December 19 Dakota Dunn 8 Years

DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS

January 5 Steven Stenberg 10 Years
January 12 Isaiah Jones 10 Years
January 16 Steven Bakeman 19 Years
January 16 Wendall Whitaker 19 Years
January 21 Jonah Brethauer 12 Years
January 21 Michael Berry 6 Years

FORT WAYNE MILL

January 5 Andy Bullinger 10 Years

Thoughts From The President (cont.)

that value guides many of our decisions, even as we remain mindful of our responsibility to serve the customers who depend on us.

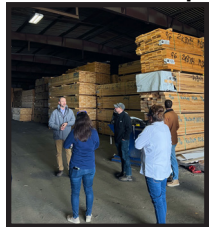
I sincerely wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and feel truly blessed to have worked alongside each of you for another year. Here’s to 2026 and all the good that will come with it!

Caught In the Act

In this issue, we would like to feature Emily Feirick’s submission for Austin Dohm. “While in the yard locating and preparing material to be sent back on a supplier return, Austin noticed that I was dealing with deck boards by myself. He came and helped me get the material banded and moved it with the forklift so we could get it back to the supplier easier. Without being asked, he did the right thing and helped a coworker get a task done more efficiently and safely.”

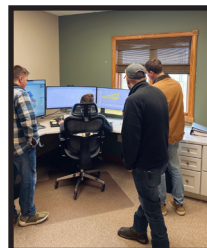


Career Development Plant Tour



Dallas Austin leading the group through the yard

The members of our Career Development program had the opportunity to take a tour of our Dowagiac truss plant recently. There, they learned more of the mechanics of how a truss plant is operated, and also visited our truss design center down the road to gain insight on how trusses are made. Plant Manager Dallas Austin led the tour of the facility, showing what machinery is needed to construct these trusses and the hard work it takes to keep it all running smoothly.



Group members learning about truss design

LOGAN Birdboxes



Painted bird boxes

We recently built wooden birdboxes, created by Big C Lumber employees, to the clients of Logan Industries in South Bend. Their clients spent an afternoon decorating the boxes, which they were able to sell at Logan’s annual Holiday Bazaar on November 1st. Thank you to the clients and employees of Logan Industries for inviting us to their facility to make this happen!

Cruise-In for a Cause

A few of our Fort Wayne employees brought their vehicles out to the Cruise-In for a Cause event on September 27th. The event was in partnership with Solomon’s Strength Foundation to bring awareness to children with Fragile X Syndrome and Autism, with the proceeds going towards funding service dogs for these children. Vehicles such as cars, motorcycles, construction vehicles, and firetrucks were on display. The local baseball team mascot, Johnny TinCaps, and the Fort Wayne Komet’s mascot ICY were there taking photos with attendees and even sat in one of our delivery vehicles. Thank you to our Fort Wayne employees for coming out to support this event.



Johnny TinCaps and ICY posing with John Roy’s

BAEC Golf Outing

We had a great time playing at Bent Oak Golf Course on October 1st. This was an event ran by the Builder’s Association of Elkhart County, with Big C Lumber as a sponsor.



Sponsored hole by Big C Lumber

Eau Claire employees dressing up for Halloween

INDIANA
CROMWELL • ELKHART • FORT WAYNE • GRANGER
LAPORTE • MISHAWAKA • ROSELAND • SHIPSHEWANA • KENDALLVILLE

MICHIGAN
ADRIAN • COLOMA • EAU CLAIRE
SCHOOLCRAFT • THREE OAKS • DELTON

OHIO
EDGERTON

MANUFACTURING
CUSTOM MILLWORK & CABINET FACILITY
WINDOW & DOOR FACILITY
STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS FACILITY

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2026**

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Submit stories to news@bigclumber.com or contact
Alec Evans at the corporate office.

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