

# THE KFIA LINK

## 2025 Kentucky Wood Expo Highlights Issue

### October 2025

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### 2025 KENTUCKY WOOD EXPO - IN REVIEW

The Kentucky Wood Expo took place on September 19 and 20 at Masterson Station Park. This was the seventh show in Lexington, and attendance exceeded industry expectations. The original Kentucky Logging Show began in Morehead, Kentucky, in 1983. The Expo is organized by the Kentucky Forest Industries Association to give members a chance to see new technology and make purchasing decisions.



Although the number of exhibits was lower, James Wright, Executive Director of the Kentucky Forest Industries Assn, was pleased with the support and participation from those who brought their equipment and products to demonstrate at the Expo. Wright and other association leaders spoke with exhibitors and reported positive feedback.

The weather was perfect on Friday and Saturday, which brought an estimated attendance of 1,700 visitors, over 250 students from around the region and other states, along with 70 exhibiting companies, and more than 200 exhibitor personnel throughout the show. The industry crowd focused more on quality than quantity, with some exhibitors making contacts and selling equipment. Several manufacturers showcased portable sawmill machines, logging equipment, and many other industry-related tools.

The success of this year's expo is thanks to many members and partners from the forestry community. The show featured numerous events that not only attracted more attendees but also provided educational benefits and extra activities while at the show.



A huge thank you goes to the **University of Kentucky Forestry Extension** and **Melissa Duncan**, Dexter, KY, for their efforts in organizing the return of the Kentucky Lumberjack Competition. UK Extension also organized educational sessions, and providing labor for the event, as well as helping Kentucky Master Loggers earn 6 hours of continuing education. A shout-out also goes to the **Kentucky Division of Forestry** for







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*Continued from Front Page - KWE*

support at the Wood Expo through assistance with setup, teardown, and arena competitions. The industry is fortunate to have such strong partners supporting forestry and the wood industry in Kentucky. We also want to thank the UK Forestry Students that helped keep the show moving and helping with the education area.



The return of the Kentucky Lumberjack Competition was a huge success, with 25 competitors and over 15 competitions, including Crosscut sawing, chopping, and the ever-popular hot saw competition. **Sam Duncan** from Dexter, KY, is the **Overall Kentucky Champion**. We are excited to announce a new record was set for the Modified Hot Saw (8 x 8 sq.) by Jason Hiser with a time of 2.629, beating the previous record of 2.73.

## University of Kentucky Department of Forestry Extension

offered several educational opportunities to benefit landowners or anyone interested with Forest Health and Invasive Plant Management and Small Scale Logging: cutting and moving logs with ATV's and tractors. The popular Critter Tent allowed visitors to handle and gaze upon several nonvenomous, live amphibians and reptiles. The tent features live tarantulas, scorpions, giant roaches and other creatures.



The cutting board program was again a success giving away over 300 cutting boards to those in attendance. They also learned about the value of the wood industry to the state's economy and then offered an opportunity to rout, sand and finish an actual wood product. All of these activities helped to make the show even bigger and better in Lexington.

Music was provided from **John Thomas Moore** from Harrodsburg, KY. Moore is a singer-songwriter who's first EP "Salt River Blues", was released in 2022. In 2025, Moore was nominated in 2 awards for the Lexington Music Awards. Everyone enjoyed his music while taking a moment to relax.



A Chainsaw Carving Competition, Silent Auction and other fundraising events during the show helped Kentucky Log a Load for Kids raise over \$5,000 for the Kentucky Children's Hospital.

The Kentucky Wood Expo has a long-standing reputation for connecting the Kentucky wood products industry and strengthening our industry for over 40 years. Stay tuned for the 2027 Kentucky Wood Expo.



## KENTUCKY LUMBERJACK COMPETITION

After a 10 year hiatus, the Kentucky Lumberjack Competition made its return in great fashion. With over 25 competitors from beginner to professional levels. We had some record holders and created a new record in the modified hot saw event.

**We want to thank Melissa Duncan and her Crew** for all the help in getting this event started and making sure it all went well received. 16 years ago Dan Duncan (left picture with Larry Lowe) won the Kentucky and Overall Lumberjack Champion, following in his dad's footsteps is Sam Duncan (right with Michele Brewer) winning the 2025 Kentucky Champion and Open Champion. Dan is no longer with us on earth, but I know he is very proud of Sam. Congratulations Sam and Melissa, I know this has been a lot of blood, sweat and tears and you are much appreciated.



These games brought a couple of Ol' Timers out of retirement. (lovingly speaking).

**Billy Joe Kerr** (left), a multi-time KY Champion and many other titles, participated in an event during the 2025 show, **Larry Lowe** (pictured with Sam & Melissa Duncan) who was in charge of the Arena for many, many years, stopped in to visit with the competitors and families. It was these guys who made the Kentucky Lumberjack

show so popular. Thank you and it was great to see you.

Many thanks to **Billy Thomas and Renee Williams**, UK Forestry Extension for the Arena announcements



## STUDENTS ATTEND EXPO

The Expo hosted around 250 school students from surrounding counties of Lexington and southeast Kentucky. The students attended the show free of charge thanks to the generosity of members of KFIA. This is a small price to pay to help educate the next generation of leaders and consumers about the importance of forest products. Each year we receive a number of positive comments from schools and teachers about this program.

While at the Wood Expo, the students participated in activities designed to show the participants the value of forest products, the many ways that wood is used in our everyday lives, and the forest management practices used by the forest industry.



The high school students participated in an expanded FFA Program. They tried their hand at 10 different events ranging from tree and wood ID to log grading and measurement. They finished their day with a friendly lumberjack competition. We want to thank **Michael Froelich, Kentucky Division of Forestry** for his organization and **UK Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources** for their participation in making this event a success. Special thanks to **Laurie Thomas and Stacy White, UK Forestry Extension** for organizing the youth program and to our dynamic and announcer **Billy (The Voice) Thomas** also with **UK Forestry Extension**.

We much appreciate **Canon & Laura Vice GreenTree Forest Products**, Wallingford KY providing a log for the contest weighing in at 1,634 pounds and sponsored the prizes, Bluetooth Headphones for kids under 12 years of age and a \$50 gift card for students 13 and over. The

winner of the 12 & under was Ryder Heddleston with a guess of 1,600 lbs. and Will from Great Crossings won the 13 & older gift card with a guess of 1,600 lbs.



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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS/ UPCOMING EVENTS



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visit: [masterlogger.ca.uky.edu](http://masterlogger.ca.uky.edu)

Many thanks to KFIA Platinum Member **Independent Stave Company** and **Heaven Hill Brands** for sponsoring ALL KML 3-day courses for 2025.



**October 21,22,23 - Marshall County - Benton, KY** - Cooperative Extension Office, 1933 Mayfield Hwy, Benton, KY 42025

**November 18,19,20 - Knox County - Barbourville, KY** - Cooperative Extension Office, 215 Treuhaft Blvd, Ste. 7, Barbourville, KY 40906



### Continuing Education

Each class earns 6 Credit Hours and costs \$50. To register contact the Master Logger office at 859-257-6230 or visit [masterlogger.org](http://masterlogger.org) for more information.

**November 13 - Basic Timber Cruising - Montgomery County - Camp McKee - Keeneland Lodge**

**2026 KFIA ANNUAL  
MEETING**  
April 7-9, 2026  
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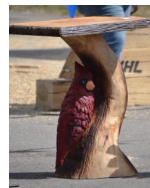
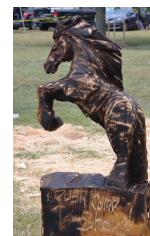
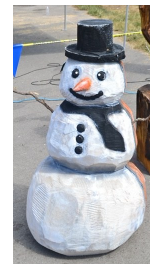
## KY WOOD EXPO ACTIVITIES RAISE MONEY FOR LOG A LOAD FOR KIDS

A silent auction was held at the Kentucky Wood Expo to benefit the Log a Load for Kids campaign. Many exhibitors and members donated items for the auction and raised over \$1300.00.

Many activities from the show helped to raise over \$3,800.00 to benefit the Kentucky Children's Hospital in Lexington, KY. Half of the money from the Chainsaw Carving Auction, Kentucky Master Logger Program Continuing Education, **Kingsford Mfg.** and **Patterson Chip Company** all took in donations during the show all donated to Log a Load to go along with the funds raised by the silent auction.

We appreciate the exhibitors and members for donating items and assisting in all the fund raising activities held at the Wood Expo. All the funds raised will go to support the Kentucky Children's Hospital.

Our Carvers showed out this year with their artistry. **Patrick Barriger, Bear Grrr Custom Chainsaw Carvings**, Sandusky, MI was the top winner for 2025 with **Troy Baker, TB Wooden Creations**, Metamora, IN coming in at a close 2nd. We appreciate these carvers giving their time and talent to help the children.





## 2025 SKIDDER CONTEST

**C**oby Stephens, Connor Stephens, Ray Madden & Rob Cornett from Kentucky Hardwood Lumber and Dick Brantigan with D & M Forestry did an amazing job organizing and operating the skidder contest. Contestants operated a John Deere Skidder provided by **McCoy Construction & Forestry**, Georgetown, KY, by picking up logs provided by **Kentucky Hardwood Lumber**, Burnside, KY and moving them through an obstacle course, trying to avoid traffic cones. This is a timed event with the winners in a time spread less than 15 seconds from first to third place.



### Skidder Contest winners:

**First Place** (2:20 min/sec)

Dylan Blair, Hartford, KY  
(pictured center)

**Second Place** (2:25 min/sec)

David T. Blair, Reynolds Station, KY  
(pictured on left)

**Third Place** (2:35 min/sec)

Dalton Kranz, Lewisburg, KY  
(pictured on right)



## KNUCKLEBOOM CONTEST



**Patterson Chip Co.**, Barbourville, KY, sponsored and conducted the Knuckleboom contest on Saturday with assistance from **Kevin Tudor, Domtar Paper Co. LLC**, Mount Sterling, KY. Knuckleboom operators competed by testing their skills with a Knuckleboom loader by picking up several log pieces and stacking them. This was a timed event and the winner with the shortest time and best accuracy was the winner. Contestants used a Barko Knuckleboom loader supplied by **Patterson Chip Co.**



### Knuckleboom Contest Winners:

**First Place** (2:16 min/sec)

Chris Terry, Morehead, KY  
(Pictured top with Bob Bauer)

**Second Place** (2:19 min/sec)

Hunter Clark, Glasgow, KY  
(no picture available)

**Third Place** (2:34 min/sec)

Jared Rowe, KY  
(pictured bottom)



Both contest winners received prize money and plaques.

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## 2025 KWE EXHIBITORS

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Products: Horse Logging Demonstration

#### **AIRMEDCARE NETWORK**

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Angela.howard@gmr.net  
T: 270.832.5412  
Products: Medical Air Evacuation

#### **B & H EQUIPMENT**

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#### **KENTUCKY MASTER LOGGER**

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Products: Hardwood Inventory Management Software Systems

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**Craft Exhibits:**

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**TB Wooden Creations**, Metamora, IN  
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**Derek Richardson Chainsaw Art**,  
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Derek Richardson, 270.945.5028

**Bear Grrr Custom Chainsaw Carvings**, Sandusky, MI  
Patrick Barrigar, 810.358.1687

**Enchanted Forest Carving**, North  
Manchester, IN  
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**Fancy Firewood**, Bath Springs, TN  
Hank Ivey, 731.733.0635

**RB's Custom Carvings**, Warren, IN  
Ron Bradford, 260.375.3181



## 2025 KENTUCKY WOOD EXPO COMMITTEE

**Bob Bauer**, Onsite assistance, anywhere he wanted to be, talk to whoever he wanted to and enjoy the show.

**Rex Patterson**, Patterson Chip Co. - Chairman, onsite assistance, Knuckleboom Contest

**Tom DeFilippo**, KFIA President – KFIA Information Tent, Exhibitor Assistance and onsite assistance

**Chuck Courtney**, KFIA Vice President - Courtney Timber Harvesting - KFIA Information tent

**John Reinstetle**, KFIA Director - UK Robinson Forest onsite assistance, set-up/clean up, silent auction.

**Renee Williams**, UK Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources - Local Contact, publicity, Lumberjack Arena

**Chad Niman**, UK Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources - Cutting board Program, Set up/clean up, continuing education

**Darrin Gay**, Gay Brothers Lumber - Front gate, onsite assistance

**Stacy White**, UK Extension - Student Activities

**Michael Froelich**, KY Division of Forestry - FFA Competition, Arena Assistance, Student Program

**Coby Stephens**, Kentucky Hardwood Lumber-Material Requests & Skidder Contest

**Laurie Thomas**, UK Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources - Student Activities, Arena Assistance

**Michael Ammerman**, UK Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources - Small scale logging, KY Master Logger, Logging Bridge Program, Set-up/clean up, and onsite assistance

**Canon Vice**, GreenTree Forest Products - Log Guess, material request

**Kevin Tudor**, Domtar Paper Co LLC – Knuckleboom Contest, onsite assistance.

**Stephen Rogers**, KY Division of Forestry-Show set-up/clean up, KDF Organization with volunteers

**Amy Middleton**, Diamond Forest Resources - Front Gate Assistance, Onsite information.

## LOG GUESS



**K** FIA Platinum Leaf member **GreenTree Forest Products**, Wallingford, KY sponsored the Log Guess and all of the prizes plus supplied a 10,590 lbs. log for Expo attendees to try their luck at guessing the weight.

The winner of the **STIHL chainsaw** was **Gabe Glasscock**, **Glasscock Log & Lumber** from Bloomfield, KY with a guess of 10,560 lbs. (Pictured) **Randy Rose** from Liberty, KY won the **Rocking Chair** with a guess of 10,499 lbs. The winner of the **Bluetooth Headphones** was **Charlie Abner** with a guess of 10,500 lbs. Thanks to our winners for participating and we appreciate **GreenTree Forest Products** for the sponsorship.



**A huge thank you to Canon & Laura Vice and GreenTree Forest Products for working and organizing the big log guess all weekend.**



# Leading Sellers of Land & Timberland

Auctioneers Ron Kirby Jr & Chris Gravid have a proven record of successful marketable sized standing timber auctions. The auction method provides transparency & competitive bidding resulting in a win-win for both buyers & sellers.

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## EXHIBITORS & KFIA MEMBERS DO THEIR PART

In addition to the many people who served on the Kentucky Wood Expo Committee, **KFIA would like to also thank all of the exhibitors, KFIA members and members of the forest products community for participating at the show this year and supporting the association.** We especially want to thank those exhibitors and companies that went the extra mile by providing equipment, supplies, and manpower at the show. The committee truly appreciates all the support given to the Wood Expo.

**Brandeis Equipment** - Safety cones for the skidder contest, loader use during show

**Bryan Equipment Sales (Stihl Inc. Dealer)** - Saws for arena  
**C.B. Goodman & Sons Lumber** - loader operator, KFIA Information Tent

**Courtney Timber Harvesting** - Onsite Assistance

**Diamond Forest Resources** - Onsite Assistance, Front Gate

**Domtar Paper Co. LLC** - Onsite Assistance, Knuckleboom Contest

**Estill Wood Products** - Wood Dumpster

**Gay Brothers Lumber** - Loader operator, front gate

**GreenTree Forest Products** - Big Logs for Log Guess, wood for show, Log Guess Organizing

**H & S Lumber** - Onsite assistance, KFIA Information Tent

**Kingsford Manufacturing** - onsite assistance, KFIA Information Tent

**Kentucky Div. of Forestry** - Set-up/clean-up, arena help, front gate assistance

**Kentucky Hardwood Lumber** - Onsite assistance, Skidder Contest, logs for show

**Maxwell Brothers Lumber** - Onsite Assistance, KFIA Information Tent

**McCoy Construction & Forestry** - Equipment used for skidder contest and show set-up/tear down.

**Patterson Chip Co.** - Equipment, Knuckleboom Contest, show materials

**Pine Knot Lumber Co.** - Show Materials, White Pine for Carvers

**Premium Hardwood Lumber** - KFIA Information tent

**Rudd Equipment Co.** - Loaders for set up/clean up

**UK Department of Forestry & Natural Resources** - Onsite assistance, Student Program, Educational programs, arena activities, set up/clean up and equipment



## WE APPRECIATE OUR SPONSORS

We would like to thank the following companies for contributing financial support to the 2025 show. Contributions helped to cover the cost of prize money for the lumberjack games, skidder and knuckleboom contests, entertainment, prizes/drawings and general show sponsorship.

We cannot express enough gratitude for the outstanding support of our members for the 2025 Kentucky Wood Expo:

**Companies in green indicate \$500+ donors**

**A & Y Enterprises**

**B & H Equipment**

**Brandeis Machinery & Supply**

**Bryan Equipment Sales/STIHL**

**Country Boy Brewing**

**Domtar Paper Co.**

**Estill Wood Products**

**GreenTree Forest Products**

**Hart County Hardwoods**

**Houchens Insurance Group**

**Independent Stave Co.**

**Kentucky Division of Forestry**

**Kentucky Hardwood Lumber**

**Kentucky SFI**

**Paint Lick Hardwoods**

**Patterson Chip Co.**

**Phoenix Paper Co., Wickliffe**

**Rudd Equipment Co.**

**Shelter Insurance Agency,  
Marc Miller**

**UK Dept. of Forestry & Natural  
Resources**

**TimberSync**





## 2025 KWE Exhibitors Cont.

### Food Truck Vendors:

#### Big Daddy's Fried Chicken

Frankfort, KY - T: 502/352-1865

**Menu:** Fried chicken, wings, tenders, catfish, shrimp. Sides: fries, potato salad, baked beans, Cole slaw

#### Double R Smokehouse

Williamsburg, KYT: 606.215.6394

**Menu:** smoked pulled pork tenderloin, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, fries, chili cheese fries, Lemonade

#### Taco Jerk - Louisville, KY

T: 502.321.4133

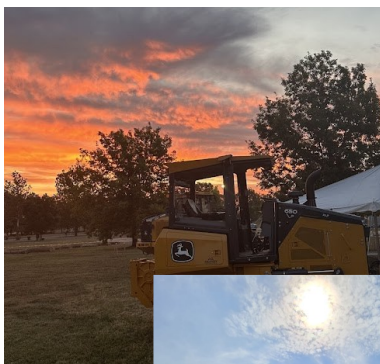
**Menu:** Chicken & ground beef tacos & nachos

#### Country Boy Brewing

Georgetown, KY

T: 859/619-7160

**Menu:** Craft beverages



### NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK October 19 - 25, 2025

Our industry is a major contributor to the manufacturing economy of Kentucky and the entire nation and we use a natural resource that will always be with us through sustainable management that is practiced throughout the industry.

**THANK YOU!!**

## HORSE LOGGING DEMONSTRATION

James Guthrie of Arrow G LLC located in Wilmore, KY presented and discussed the basics of horse or mule logging. James has spent the last 18 years learning the skills of working alongside draft horses, and he enjoys sharing the majesty of a working animal.



Everyone enjoyed watching the horses do their job under the expertise of James to lead them.



### OCTOBER IS: LOG A LOAD FOR KIDS FUNDRAISING MONTH

We encourage all members to get involved by donating directly to Log a Load, conducting a fund raising activity or donating the value of some logs, chips or other products to support our children.

Every penny raised through Log A Load goes directly to the Kentucky Children's Hospital. We have raised over \$1 million since 1997.

We have completed our funding of the Mobile Clinic that travels to rural Kentucky areas to provide care for those that do not have a local pediatrician or are in need and unable to find transportation to a hospital.

We are waiting for more information from KCH about their newest clinic on Richmond Road in Lexington and assist funding for the special operating costs for special needs patients.

If you are interested in being a part of Log A Load contact the KFIA office at 502/695-3979.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to Log a Load for Kids, a receipt will be supplied at the end of the year for your tax filing.

**Send payable to:** Log a Load for Kids  
c/o KFIA  
106 Progress Dr  
Frankfort KY 40601



# Former Girl Scout Kamp Kiwani

## 1,219+/- ACRES OF LAND, TIMBER & IMPROVEMENTS

### ABSOLUTE AUCTION THURSDAY, NOV. 13 @ 1 PM

**3,308,000  
MBF STANDING  
TIMBER**

#### Tract 1

Timber Only  
3,308,000 (est)  
MBF Standing Timber

#### Tract 2

1,219 Acres  
Land & Buildings

#### Tract 3

In it's Entirety,  
Combination of  
Tract 1 & Tract 2



For Bidder Registration & More Info:  
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Mark your calendars and don't miss this **absolute auction** opportunity to own a piece of history! The Former **Girl Scout Kamp Kiwani** is going up for sale — whether you're interested in recreational land, standing timber, a unique resort property, or an investment opportunity, this is your chance.

The property will be offered in individual tracts, combination and its entirety, selling in the manner achieving the highest price utilizing the Multi-par method of sale.



**Heartland Realty  
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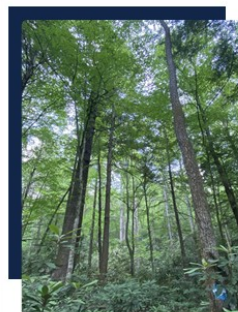
**1880 SANDY SPRINGS LN, MIDDLETON, HARDEMAN CO, TN 38052**





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As the **exclusive endorsed agent of the Kentucky Forestry Association**, HIG delivers tailored property and casualty insurance solutions are built for the lumber industry—with deep expertise and dedicated loss control.

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- Customized for forestry operations



### Risk Services

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- Safety Training
- Loss Prevention Strategies



### Employee Benefits

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- Seamless Implementation

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