

Spring 2019

# WOODCHIPS

*From the Site Administrator, Joshua Roth*

Just as spring is a season of rebirth, growth and renewed activity in the forest, so too is it for the Lumber Museum. Visitation will steadily increase in the coming months, leading up to the "big weekend" of Bark Peelers' Festival on July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The museum is scheduled to receive multiple spring school tour groups in April and May, totaling over 250 students. Another 100 high-school students will visit the site in May for the Potter County Envirothon. The Potter County Conservation District will be unveiling a new wooden wall plaque (to be displayed in the visitor center lobby) that will feature the names of winning student teams and explain what Envirothon is all about to museum patrons. The site will again provide an educational opportunity for young people in the month of June with our Youth & Family Field Day on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to get your registrations in for this event as soon as you can. Public education (especially of young people) is the cornerstone of our mission, and I'm delighted to see so many people utilizing the museum as an educational resource in the community.

I would also like to extend my warmest regards and welcome for our two new employees: Joshua Fox and Paul Fedalen. You can read all about them in this issue. Though only with us for a few months, they have proven themselves to be friendly and knowledgeable, and have become a valuable and integral part of our museum team. Many and continued thanks to all our other staff and volunteers as well; without you this museum would not be the dynamic and prosperous place that it is.

Please visit with us this spring and enjoy the site "in full-bloom."

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Anna Wales, Education & Outreach Coordinator

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Joshua Roth, Site Administrator

Joshua Fox, Curator

Trisha Berberich, Clerk Typist

Paul Fedalen, Maintenance



# YOUTH & FAMILY FIELD DAY

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Pennsylvania Lumber Museum

This event requires pre-registration because it includes a free lunch. Call the Lumber Museum today to register your crew for Youth & Family Field Day on June 8.

*From the President of PALMA, Robert F. Miller*

Even though Bark Peelers' Festival is not until the first weekend of July, the coordination of the 45th annual event is already underway.

Some of the historic trade demonstrations in the lumber camp will include leather tanning, cooking in the mess hall, carpentry in the lower level of the sawmill, blacksmithing, and the shingle mill. That's in addition to the steam sawmill running for the second time in 2019 (the first time is at the Spring Show, the final time is at the Fall Show). People are volunteering to bring nearly every element of the lumber camp to life this year.

There will be programs and activities for the whole family. A full schedule of events is posted on our website, [lumbermuseum.org](http://lumbermuseum.org).



Celebrate Smokey the Bear's 75th birthday at Bark Peelers' Festival on July 6 and 7!



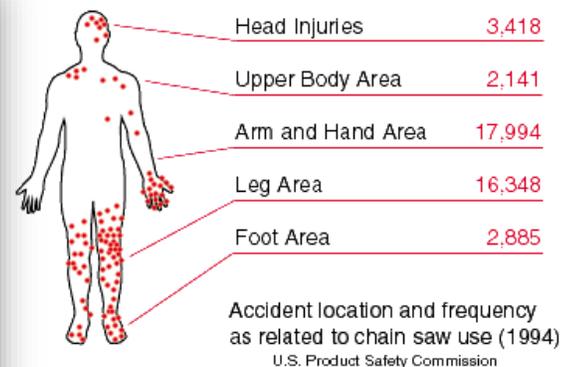
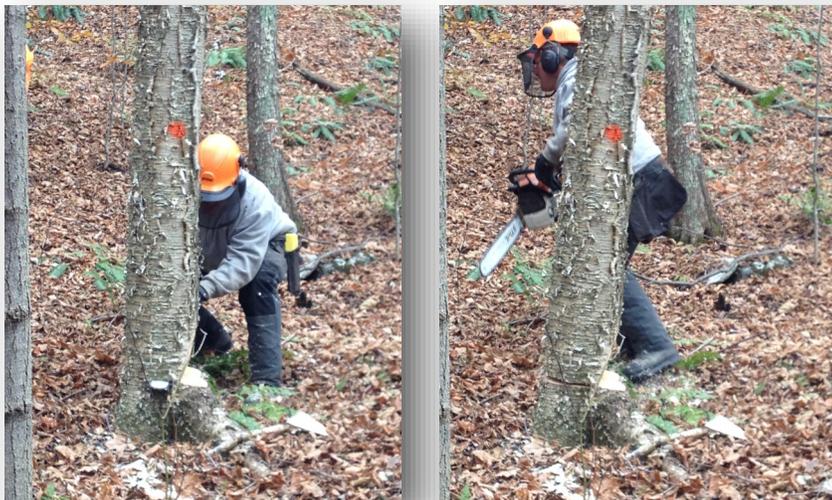
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# CHAINSAW SAFETY

*Anna Wales, Education & Outreach Coordinator*

This Spring, our team is adding something new to the Chainsaw Exhibit. We currently examine the way that chainsaw technology has developed over time. At the same time, we honor the ways that technology and practices evolved to improve the safe operation of these powerful machines. In order to be relevant to our patrons (many of whom operate chainsaws at home, if the conversations I overhear from my office are any indication) we are adding contemporary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to our display. The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forest Initiative is sponsoring these updates.

Logging is at the top of the list of the 10 most dangerous jobs in America citing 135.9 fatal accidents per 100,000 workers. Yet many of us who live in rural areas often find ourselves using chainsaws for the routine maintenance of our woodlots and for cutting firewood. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative recommends all chainsaw users (professional and nonprofessional) wear head-to-toe personal PPE for the head, ears, eyes, face, hands, and legs. PPE is designed to prevent or lessen the severity of injuries. PPE may be the only thing between a body and the powerful cutting chain spinning at 60-80 feet per second, or a falling tree limb. Find out more about PPE, felling, and logging at <https://sfiofpa.org/page/chainsaw-safety/>. You will also be able to find out more information at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum when our final touches are put into place. Check out the exhibits in the hallway cases the next time you visit.



*Safe tree-cutting always begins with a plan. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative recommends a five-step plan for felling trees: Check for hazards, determine the lean of the tree, establish an escape route, notch/hinge, then back cut.*



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# CURATOR'S CORNER

*Notes on the Collection by Josh Fox*

A recent addition to the museum's collection is the group of objects related to Fred Newell. Fred was a farmer and a carpenter who lived on his family farm in Newelltown, PA in Tioga County. During the winter months he would find work in lumber camps. It was not uncommon for farmers to supplement their income by working in the lumber camps during the winter when there was not as much work to be done on the farm. In 1900 at the age of 34 he was killed when he was struck on the head by a falling tree limb, while working at a lumber camp near Corbett, PA.

Donald Newell, Fred's grandson, donated a collection of photographs to the museum on behalf of the Newell Family (in addition to a wood beam boring machine). The photographs are of Fred, the Newell Family at the farm as well as several photos of lumber camps. These photos were passed down through the Newell family. Unfortunately not much is known about them other than one photo that identifies the camp location as Corbett, PA. These photos are however a very exciting addition to the collection. Not only is there a connection through a specific individual but they also provide a good visual of camps at the time. In addition a couple of photos show women and children who were known to occasionally be at the lumber camps but are underrepresented in the museum collection. One of the photos is particularly interesting as it shows an African-American gentleman front and center in a group shop. As far as we can tell this is the only image in the museum's collection that shows an African-American at a lumber camp of this time period.



Newell Photo at an unidentified lumber camp.



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# JOSHUA FOX

*Meet Joshua Fox, the Lumber Museum's first Curator*

Hello, my name is Josh Fox and I am happy to be the new Curator here at the Lumber Museum. I am in fact the first full time curator in the nearly 50 year history of the museum. In case you are wondering just what a curator does, I usually say it means I'm in charge of the "stuff".

I am responsible for the care and organization of the museum's collection as well as working on exhibits and displays. I bring with me to the Lumber Museum 10 years curatorial experience. My previous experience includes a position as the Curator and Historian at Soldier's and Sailor's Military Museum and Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh, Collections Manager at the Independence Seaport Museum, in Philadelphia and curatorial work at several other sites and museums. I spent several years working with the National Park Service. Prior to accepting the position I was a Park Ranger at Independence National Historic Park.

I look forward to working to preserve the history and tell the story of the PA lumber industry and its forests.



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April 13-14, 2019- Spring Antique and Collectible Show: Antique vendors offer a wide variety of items for sale in the program room. In the Lumber Camp we have a sawmill demonstration on Saturday. The birch still and blacksmith demonstrations are offered on both Saturday and Sunday.

May 2, 2019– Potter County Envirothon: High school student’s knowledge of ecology, conservation, and the care and management of our natural world are tested during this annual event at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum.

June 8, 2019- Youth & Family Field Day: This event was developed with families with youth from 10 to 16 years of age in mind. Qualified instructors demonstrate skills such as fly casting, pellet gun target practice, archery target practice, tree identification, trapping, and astronomy.

July 6—7, 2019- Bark Peeler’s Festival: This is the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum Associates’ signature event.

August 3—4, 2019- Cork-Camp: Our history camp was developed with youth ages 10 to 16 in mind. Participants learn about the history of PA’s forests and attain woodhick skills. On the second day of camp, participants will demonstrate at the 2019 Cherry Springs State Park Woodsmen Show. Call the Museum today to register.

August 31, 2019- Community Yard Sale: PALMA hosts this annual event at the Route 6 entrance to the Lumber Museum. Call Bob to register for a space for your sale today.

(814)435-2652



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# PAUL FEDALEN

*Meet Paul Fedalen, the Lumber Museum's new Site Maintenance Repairman*

I started this position in January and I have been busy ever since. I have had the opportunity to meet with our building system contractors. From these contractors I am learning about the mechanical and safety systems at the Lumber Museum. I feel increasingly independent each day to trouble shoot and perform repairs on my own.

I've had a busy winter. It seems like every other day I have to plow and shovel snow at the site. I have completely reorganized and cleaned the maintenance garage. I installed a new protection screen in the Sawmill. This screen protects the machinery from the elements and prevents rust.

I installed new LED lighting in the Chainsaw exhibit. From here on out, we will replace all light bulbs that burn out with the most energy efficient LED bulbs. There is plenty to look forward to—I am particularly excited about opening the Webber Cabin to the public this year. And it looks like I will have the opportunity to mentor high school level trade students this year.

I am looking forward to the sawmill and equipment demonstrations at the Spring Show. My goal is to learn how to operate all of the equipment on site, so I can be instrumental in the demonstrations for many years to come.



Paul Fedalen, Site Maintenance Repairman

This removable screen protects the machinery in the sawmill from snow and water damage. Thanks, Paul!



Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission



Pennsylvania Lumber Museum Associates

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[lumbermuseum.org](http://lumbermuseum.org)

Sawmill, Blacksmith, and Birch Still Demonstrations April 13  
Antique Vendors April 13-14

SPRING  
SHOW



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