

# GENE COLLINS LOGGER ACTIVIST AWARD

## BILL LOMINICK

### W. B. LOMINICK LOGGING, INC.

The 2019 Gene Collins Logger Activist Award is proudly awarded to Bill Lominick and W. B. Lominick Logging, Inc. for their sincere commitment to professional timber harvesting, supporting the association, participating in community and industry activities, practicing sustainable timber harvesting, promoting education and positive promotion of professional business practices.

W. B. Lominick Logging, Inc. is a conscientious, professional business understanding the value of relationships with customers, employees and their industry, environmental stewardship and promotion of a positive image as a professional logger.

As a thirty year timber harvesting business veteran, Bill has witnessed the evolution of the professional timber harvesting industry from chain saw felling to total timber harvesting mechanization.

Bill began begin working with his brother Olin "Hub" Lominick in Hub's logging business prior to establishing his own logging business in 1990. Since the beginning Bill has grown his business to operate three crews now.

Bill's son Buddy works alongside his dad and supervises a crew. Buddy serves as the company Vice President and wife Mindy is the Secretary-Treasurer handling administration duties. Buddy also serves as a truck driver, and you can see him in his orange Mack truck when additional trucking capacity is needed. Buddy graduated from Horry-Georgetown Technical College in 2000 with a Forestry Technician degree and graduated Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management in 2003.

Bill's son-in-law Brian McDade, Bill and Mindy's daughter

Adrian's husband, also works in the business running a crew. Rick Lail is the office manager handling the business administration duties. Bill and Mindy have been married for 44 years. And bless Mindy's heart as she has endured being a logger's better half for sure.

Bill, Buddy and Rick are Sustainable Forestry Initiative SC Timber Operations Professional (TOP) Trained for their SC SFI Trained status.

The company operates three mechanized crew focusing on thinning and total harvests delivering pine and hardwood roundwood products to various local markets such as West Frazier Lumber, Newberry, Georgia Pacific, Prosperity, Boise Cascade, Chester, International Paper, Eastover, Norbord South Carolina, Kinards, New-Indy Containerboard, Catawba and Beal Lumber Company, Prosperity.

Operating a lean, efficient business works very well for W. B. Lominick Logging.

The crews' total equipment spread consist of six John Deere grapple skidders, four John Deere feller bunchers, two John Deere and two Barko knuckleboom loaders, three John Deere bulldozers and three service trucks. The trucking is handled by Bill's company B.A.M Hauling with four Mack trucks and some 20 trailers available to spread to the company crews and nine contract truckers used between the crews for additional trucking capacity.

Bill partners with A. B. "Butch" Green at Foothills Forest Products, Inc. in Whitmire for tracts and

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(l-r) Bill Lominick & Feller Buncher Operator Heyward "Red" Neal

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wood orders to the various wood receiving mills. Bill Hester is Bill's Foothills Forest Products forester. Wood is also harvested and delivered through Catch Mark when opportunities are available.

The company has 35 employees. Average weekly production is 200 loads with the capability to produce 250 loads when wood markets are available.

As a professional logging business, W.

B. Lominick Logging has contributed its share of time to educate those that may not have an understanding of sustainable timber harvesting. Bill along with two other Newberry area logger members spoke at Pomaria Elementary School about professional logging, sustainable forestry practices and being stewards of our forestlands.

W. B. Lominick Logging has been a long standing supporter of Log A Load For Kids and has visited along with Newberry area members the Children's Hospital in Columbia.

W. B. Lominick Logging has been a SCTPA logger member for twenty years. He attends the SCTPA Newberry district meetings and has only missed one annual meeting. The company has been a Forestry Association of South Carolina member for fifteen years.

Bill serves the community and has been on the Newberry Electric Cooperative board of directors for 29 years and has served as the Coop's Vice Chairman. He has served on the Newberry County Farm Bureau board of directors for 40 years and has served as president. Bill participated at the SCTPA booth at the Newberry Ag & Forestry Day at Newberry the fairgrounds. Bill is a member of St. Philips Lutheran Church and serves on the church council.

Bill says, "I'm proud to be a professional logger for 30 years. Our industry has changed over the years and presented many more challenges. But once the sawdust gets in your blood, it's hard to get away from it. Just gotta love it!! The new technologies now have changed the way we do business. Years ago you'd have more personal relationships with whom you did business with as a customer. You'd get a phone call from the forester about your



wood order for the week or month. Now you get a text message any time of day or night to tell you what your wood order will be for the week or next week. There has been some personal contact removed from the system. Now the new technology on equipment and trucks has made it more difficult to be able to perform repairs and maintenance. Certainly times change and there is the evolution of improvements. Now when there is an issue with an equipment unit, a technician has to come with a laptop to diagnose the problem and make the appropriate repair procedures. As the technology has advanced for logging equipment and trucks, this has also increased the cost of operations and running a logging business. But we as professional loggers have the sawdust in our veins to adapt and attempt to make our business efficient and profitable as possible."

Bill has supported the SC Timber Producers Association and been an active logger member for 20 years. He says, "I am proud to be an active logger member and know the association has been there and is here today to service and represent us, the loggers, for issues impacting our segment of the wood supply chain for road issues, trucking regulations, local and state regulatory issues, educating the critical public and our young people about the professional logging industry and the way we operate as stewards of our sustainable and renewable forests to supply the raw materials to produce the products

that enhance everyone's daily lives. Our industry has an association that is here for us to take on the

issues to help us operate our businesses as professionals and as good forest stewards and citizens. We as professional loggers must continue to promote and perform our businesses as professionals because the viewing public, regulators, agencies do not understand sustainable forestry practices. I am proud to be a SCTPA member as the association has



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done good job for us loggers.”

SCTPA’s President Crad Jaynes says, “I have had the privilege to know Bill Lominick for over 40 years of my career. Bill has always been one of the best professional loggers I have known. His performance on the ground and in his business has been and is today exceptional and his contributions to our professional logging industry are meaningful to promote and improve our timber harvesting industry.”

Understanding the responsibilities and importance associated with how professional loggers contribute to their local and state economies, how professional loggers must work with landowners, wood suppliers and wood receiving companies in cooperative, mutually beneficial partnerships, promoting and practicing sustainable forestry, educating the critical public regarding professional timber harvesting, demonstrating a stewardship attitude about our sustainable and renewable forest resources and our environment are all important issues to the W. B. Lominick Logging, Inc.’s business and operational standards.

As an industry leader with a sincere commitment to professional logging, sustainable forestry, community, family and the principles of outstanding business, SCTPA is proud W. B. Lominick Logging,

Inc. is our 2019 Gene Collins Logger Activist Award recipient.

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*The South Carolina Timber Producers Association’s Logger Activist Award recognizes a logger member who has demonstrated an exceptional desire to promote and represent the profession by actively participating in association state and district activities, promoting and participating in educational efforts, community action projects and association projects to positively promote timber harvesting’s image, conducting business activities in the best interests of the timber harvesting profession to engender the public’s trust by meeting and exceeding the American Loggers Council Loggers Code of Practices and has displayed a professional commitment to sustainable forestry practices.*

*SCTPA’s Logger Activist Award was named in honor of Gene Collins of Gene Collins Logging, Inc, Georgetown, because of Gene’s dedication to his profession, his unselfish endeavors to promote the integrity of the logging industry within his community, his volunteer work educating children, his use of business practices that engendered the public’s trust and his support for professional timber harvesting and sustainable forestry.*

