



The roots at Gish Logging run deep. As the largest producer of kiln-dried packaged firewood in North America, they have remained rooted in what the company was built on - a strong work ethic, a quality product and loyalty. DHM and Gish Logging have a long history of working together. On January 27, 2023, when a fire broke out at Gish, DHM was there to help.

Early that morning as a Gish loader operator was scooping kiln dried wood, it is believed that the metal bucket hit a piece of rebar in the concrete, sparking into the wood. Soon after the fire call went in, Jeryl Martin arrived at Gish to offer any services or equipment they may need. Mike Jones, an owner of Gish, said "It was decided a trackhoe was needed to help remove the roof so the firefighters could get in a better position to fight the fire. Jeryl had a trackhoe delivered in no time! Bryan Brown, the trackhoe operator, did a fantastic job and stayed long after dark until the fire companies no longer needed his assistance."

done in a timely manner." Just three months after the fire, Gish was back to full production.

Mike and his sons, Michael and Eric, have used DHM's services for over 20 years. Mike said, "We have seen the same operators repeatedly. To have the same operators for that long says a lot for DHM." Mike also wanted to add that "We all miss working with Jeryl, but Adam is doing a great job and staying on top of things. My sons and I plan to continue having a working relationship with DHM for years to come."

The next step was to help Gish resume full production of their kiln dried Hotsticks. DHM Superintendent Adam Gress worked with Palmer Construction in the demolition of the fire-damaged buildings. DHM then dug footers for two new buildings and graded the pads for concrete. New storm sewer structures and pipes were also installed. There will be a new 180,000-gallon water tank to supply a new fire line system. To accommodate it, DHM installed 1,000 ft of 10" water line and 6 hydrants.

Adam said, "Due to the circumstances there was no real set plan, everything has been designed as we go which led to daily changes and adjustments. The DHM team has done very well coordinating the right people and equipment, all while having materials onsite to get the work

Photo courtesy of Franklin Fire Company



LEFT - ADAM GRESS, SUPERINTENDENT
RIGHT - MIKE JONES, OWNER OF GISH LOGGING



Thank you to all the employees and customers who reached out to Dad throughout this past year. He was so moved by your calls, texts, cards, and visits. We read each and every card that you sent. Mom read the cards to Dad and if there wasn't a last name, or she had trouble making it out, Dad knew your names every time. He appreciated and cared for each and every one of you.

In all his life, Dad never lived more than 5.2 miles from DHM. He even grew up at the red farmhouse right across the road from DHM. His roots go deep in this valley, and he loved being a part of it. He was a country boy at heart. Dad was most at home in the mountains hunting, in all seasons. We loved hearing his crazy hunting stories and each one of us loved spending time with him in the woods.

Dad was our hero who seemed to have the solution to any problem that we had. He was always asking questions and learning and passing that on to us. Dad liked fixing things with leftover scrap material for some idea he would dream up. He made our first playhouse with doors, windows and wood from a house that was torn down.

Our childhood memories are full of four-wheeler rides, trips to Horse Valley, camping in the summer in the Poconos and Caledonia with friends, walks in the woods, snowmobile rides (with a sled attached on the back), backyard baseball games, stacking wood, watching/helping him work on a project (there was always a project), fishing on Saturday mornings, hunting in the spring and fall, church softball and basketball games. Whatever it was, we just loved being with Dad.

One of our favorite stories of Dad's was the night he drove over to the shop to work on a truck (when DHM was the one original building, which

housed 3 offices and the garage). He was under a truck working and when he wheeled out on the creeper, he got quite the scare. A police officer was just standing there staring at him with his hand on his gun. Dad had tripped the alarm, and having turned it off right away, thought he didn't need to call it in. Of course, hearing Dad tell his dramatic version of the story was very entertaining.

Wherever we went, Dad always seemed to know someone, or they knew him. Dad was good at striking up a conversation with anyone and finding a way to connect with them, making them feel heard and seen. Relationships were always the most important thing to him.

Dad loved his life here: Mom-his childhood sweetheart, his children and grandchildren, his extended family, so many dear friends, and his work and hobbies. He also lived with an eye on eternity, recognizing that this life is temporary. "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever" (Psalms 73:26).

We are so glad for his legacy of faith and his trust in Jesus. We miss him terribly and are so thankful we will see him again someday. Thank you again for your support and love to Mom and our family during this difficult time.



"What gives me the most satisfaction is starting with a wooded lot and clearing everything to prepare for a new house. From the before to the after product, it's like painting the earth with a big brush." – Kaven Swope, 953 Hylift Operator

DHM's Residential Division has taken on open, wooded lots and small, congested lots. Imagine trying to maneuver a 32,000 lb machine on a small building lot. 953 Hylift operator, Sam Mummert says, "Just getting the hylift onto the jobsite can be challenging. We need to be mindful of neighboring property lines, homes, fences, dogs, kids, and vehicles just to name a few". Fortunately, DHM has a skilled residential crew that handles challenges while producing quality work.

When asked what a day looks like for one of the operators, Kaven is quick to say, "For starters, coffee, always coffee!" Tyler Kutz adds, "We come into the office around 6 am to meet with Brad Kuhns or Matt Hultin about that day's job. We load what equipment is needed and head to the jobsite." Track skidloader operator, Andrew Long, said "Sometimes they will come to the jobsite to give us more details or sometimes we work with the customer. It is nice to have the customer happy enough to say, 'that was a good job'". The crew checks in with Brad or Matt midday to let them know what was accomplished and what needs to be done. This helps determine what the schedule will look like the next day. Brad Kuhns added, "I feel like our crew gets a lot of work done each day. They move from job to job, a lot of times a different job every day. Each job has a different customer who wants something different. The guys do well figuring this out."

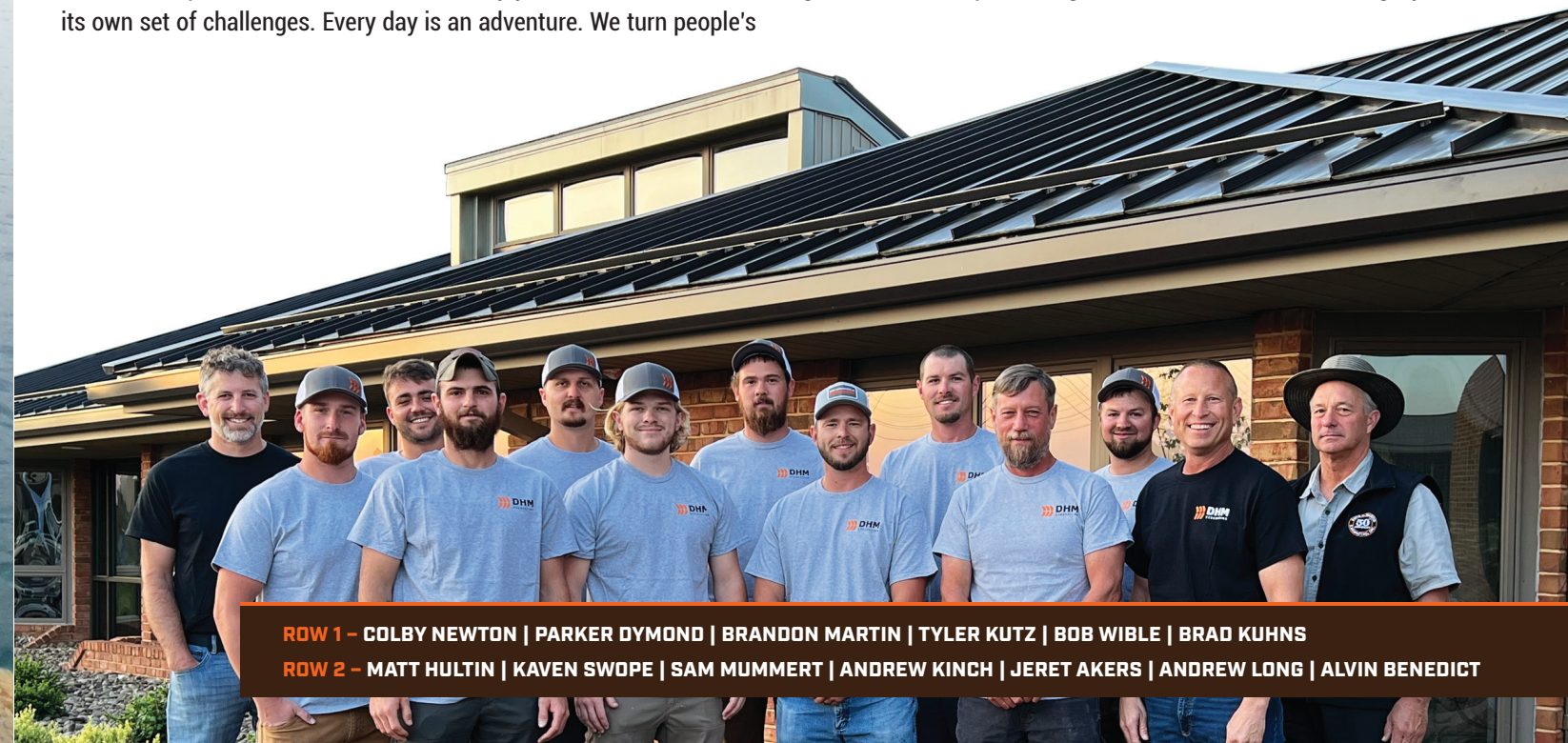
A lot of personal satisfaction can be gained from the work they do. Skidloader operator, Jeret Akers said "Every job is different and has its own set of challenges. Every day is an adventure. We turn people's

dreams into reality." Sam added, "I enjoy taking 'nothing' and turning it into 'something'. Taking a spot off the top of a mountain, clearing the trees, and shaping the earth to make it possible for a family to build a home is very satisfying."

Colby Newton, skidloader operator, says that "DHM is the best company I've ever worked for. The bosses actually care about the people working under them and completely understand that family comes first, even with a busy schedule." Andrew added, "I like being trusted to make good judgment by Brad and Matt. They simply treat me well and with respect."

When asked about his co-workers, Jeret said, "We're all a very tight group of men that can call and rely on each other for questions or guidance on any job." Matt Hultin added "The residential guys we have are a great group of guys. They tend to stick together and get along well with each other and like to have fun while doing the work, even if it's not a fun job. I appreciate them and the work they put forth."

Brad added this about the crew, "One of the joys of my job is to hear the customers telling Matt or myself what a good job the guys are doing and seeing the work they have done. I have had many customers ask me where we find such good people and my response is 'God has blessed us for sure with great guys'. The residential crew is producing great work and representing DHM with excellence and integrity."



ROW 1 – COLBY NEWTON | PARKER DYMOND | BRANDON MARTIN | TYLER KUTZ | BOB WIBLE | BRAD KUHN
ROW 2 – MATT HULTIN | KAVEN SWOPE | SAM MUMMERT | ANDREW KINCH | JERET AKERS | ANDREW LONG | ALVIN BENEDICT

Many associate DHM with clean, shiny dump trucks or oversized earthmoving equipment. However, there is a large division that moves a lot of dirt and helps build dreams – the Residential Division.

For 55 years DHM has been providing residential services. The work that was started by David H. Martin, a dump truck and a backhoe has now grown to a team of 13, who operate 953 hylifts, skidloaders, mini excavators, and dump trucks. The variety of work they do includes lot clearing, erosion & sediment controls, basement excavation, backfilling foundations, utility installation, placing stone under concrete slabs, grading yards, prepping & seeding yards, underground roof drain systems, stone pads, slate & stone driveway installation, filling in swimming pools and preparing an entire housing subdivision.

The division is led by Brad Kuhns, Vice President of Residential Development and Matt Hultin, Project Coordinator. Brad is just shy of 35 years with DHM and Matt has 25 years with DHM. When asked about their work experience at DHM, the similarities are uncanny. Both started as laborers on a utility crew, then moved to the operator's seat of a 953 hylift, and both have held the position as Project Coordinator. It may be why Brad had this to say about their working relationship, "We think along the same lines on how to do jobs. If we have a job that is complicated, we can get our heads together and figure it out."

Matt walked us through the process of working with a housing contractor to build a family their dream home. "The builder will tell us when they would like the work done and we will put it in the schedule. In many cases we meet with the builder/owner to discuss details and come up with a game plan. An 811 Call is placed to have the utilities located. The builder will have the foundation and any other pertinent items staked out, then give us the foundation and grading plans, and tell us the elevation they would like the foundation set to. We then send our talented operators to do the following work: clear & grub, strip the topsoil, dig the foundation, and install a construction driveway generally with a 953 hylift. A mini excavator is then sent to dig frost footers if needed. After the foundation is dug and the footers are poured, our crew places stone in the foundation under the slab and over the footer drains. After the walls are in place, they backfill the foundation. In many cases, they go back to excavate and install utilities at some point during the building process. After the house is nearly completed, they final grade the yard." To ensure the project's success for all involved, a lot of communication and attention to details takes place.

Brad and Matt enjoy the relationships they have built with the customers over the years. Brad said, "We have the greatest customers! Many have been with us for a long time. They trust us with their projects and that it will be done correctly when we are done. They are appreciative of the work we do for them, and we are very appreciative of the work they give us and the trust they have placed in our residential team."



MATT HULTIN AND BRAD KUHN'S STAND BESIDE THE 1972 JOHN DEERE DOZER THAT THEY HAVE BOTH OPERATED ON JOBSITES.





Do you remember being a teenager and everyone asking, "What do you want to do after you finish school?" DHM's Bradlee Sheaffer had an answer, "a large equipment operator." Bradlee realized to obtain that goal; he would need to work hard for that opportunity.

After talking with his neighbor and DHM truck driver, Shawn Halteman, Bradlee learned of the opportunities at DHM. He realized it was a place he could learn and grow. Bradlee met with Grant Benedict and Lynn Martin to see what the best fit for him at DHM would be. Shortly after finishing his junior year of high school, Bradlee joined our Environmental Division. He worked hard that summer and wanted to stay on at DHM. Schedules for a work co-op were coordinated with the Commonwealth Charter Academy. Bradlee would be able to continue at DHM and earn credit hours while taking the classes he needed.

Dr. Stephanie McHugh, Vice Provost for Commonwealth Charter Academy had this to say about Bradlee and the partnership with DHM. "Bradlee is a driven student with a passion for hard work and big machines. His experience with DHM has meant so much to our school as he is a shining example of a student who has a clear line of sight to and through the school years to his life's work! The best thing we could do as a school is set up structures to allow his talent to shine (and then get out of his way and turn him loose to succeed)! We celebrate his accomplishments and everything he represents for CCA, DHM, and what young people everywhere can accomplish!"

When asked what he likes about working on the environmental crew, Bradlee said, "They are a great crew, they get along great, and it feels like family. I like the work we do and seeing the finished product. It's nice to say, 'I did that.' I'm really happy with how much I've been able to learn, and I am excited to continue learning and working in the field."

DHM congratulates Bradlee on his graduation, and we hope to someday see him operating his dream machine, a D8 Dozer.

NEW HIRES

Gerardo Pena-Salinas, Laborer, Environmental (Rehired)
Luke Stiles, Pipe Layer, Utility
Hayden Bigler, Laborer, Utility
Patricia Lynch, Accounting Support Specialist
Dave Decker, Operator (Rehired)
Denny Byers, Operator, Residential (Rehired)
Philip Sollenberger, Estimator
Brandon Besecker, Operator
Tyler Shindle, Laborer
Mason Mowers, Laborer
Roger Kerstetter, Dump Truck Driver
Marsha Myers, Front Desk Assistant

ELEVATING THE GRADE / PROMOTIONS

Robyn Statler-Hess, Dispatch Assistant
Matt Jenkins, Lead Person, Utility
Brandon Martin, Equipment Operator

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kaven Swope & Tessa Mussleman
welcomed their first child, son, Kai

WEDDINGS

Jeff & Kathy Martin, 5/20/2023

RETIREMENTS

Dave Ebersole, Laborer
11 years of service | Date of hire 10/24/2011

Tom Miller, Operator
1 year of service | Date of hire 2/7/2022

At DHM, our employees work for and alongside some great people, and we wanted to offer the opportunity for them to receive recognition for what they do to help make this such a great company.

Employees can nominate coworkers who are innovative, dedicated, safety conscious, productive, have a strong work ethic, or a positive attitude.

Each month employees are chosen from the nominees. Help us congratulate the employees below as they strive for excellence and integrity in every aspect of their work.

APRIL 2023



ADAM GRESS

Superintendent



BARBARSUE HERSHEY

Safety Coordinator



LYNN MARTIN

Environmental Manager



TRENT MYERS

Assistant Superintendent



TONY SMETZER

Assistant Superintendent

MAY 2023



TONY BOWMAN

Mechanic



TYLER HESS

Equipment Operator



MATT HULTIN

Project Coordinator



JEFF MARTIN

Truck Washer



CHRIS SNYDER

Pipe Layer

JUNE 2023



MARCUS CHILDERS

Mechanic



PARKER DYMOND

Equipment Operator



BEN HEISEL

Hydroseeder



DARREN SEVILLE

Equipment Operator



ROBYN STATLER-HESS

Assistant Dispatcher