



Dear Customers,


As 2008 comes to a close and Christmas approaches, we want to take a moment to thank you for your friendship and our business relationship. As always, it would be impossible for us to send gifts that appropriately reflect our appreciation. So, as in years past, we have made a donation on behalf of our customers to **Children's Hospital** in Birmingham, AL through the Alabama Forestry Association's **Log a Load for Kids** campaign. We hope you will share in our satisfaction in knowing that we have all helped bring comfort and healing to injured, sick and abused children.

We wish you all the blessings that Christmas represents and a Happy New Year that is filled with good health, prosperity and joy.

Merry Christmas,

*The Employees of  
McShan Lumber Company*



Build responsibly. Choose wood from well-managed  SFI® forests.

**McSHAN LUMBER  
COMPANY  
McSHAN, AL**

205-375-6277 FAX 2773

We are a family owned and operated company that has produced quality Southern Pine lumber from our abundant and Sustainable Southern Forests since 1907.

It is our goal to profitably provide products that our customers value anywhere on the globe. We believe it is our duty to extract all the value and quality from every log that passes through our mill and to be good stewards of all the resources that are entrusted to us. We enjoy a worldwide reputation for quality and strive daily to maintain this hard earned status.

**IN THIS EDITION**

- *Merry Christmas*
- *The Tale of The Three Trees*
- *Holiday Schedule*

# THE TALE OF THE THREE TREES

Once upon a mountaintop, three little trees stood and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up. The first little tree looked up at the stars twinkling like diamonds above him. "I want to be covered with gold and filled with precious stones. I will be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!"

The second little tree looked out at the stream trickling by on its way to the ocean. "I want to be a strong sailing ship," he said. I want to travel mighty waters and carry powerful kings. I will be the strongest ship in the world!"

The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and women worked in a busy town. "I don't want to leave the mountain-top at all" she said. "I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me they will raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world!"

Years passed. Rains came, the sun shone, and the little trees grew tall.

One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain. The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me." With the swoop of his axe the first tree fell. "Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest," thought the first tree. "I shall hold wonderful treasure".

The second wood cutter looked at the second tree and said, "This tree is strong. It is perfect for me." With the swoop of his shining ax the second tree fell. "Now I shall sail mighty waters," thought the second tree. "I shall be a strong ship fit for kings."

The third tree felt her heart sink when the last woodcutter looked her way. "Any kind of tree will do for me," he muttered. With a swoop of his ax the third tree fell.

The first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought him to a carpenter's shop, but the busy carpenter was not thinking about treasure chests. Instead his rough hands fashioned the tree into a trough for animals. He wasn't covered with gold or filled with treasures. He was coated with sawdust and filled with hay for hungry animals.

The second tree smiled when the woodcutter took him to a shipyard, but no mighty sailing ships were being made that day. Instead he was fashioned into a simple fishing boat. Too small or weak to sail an ocean or even a river, he was taken to

a little lake. Every day he brought in loads of smelly, dead fish.

The third tree was confused when the woodcutter cut her into strong beams and left her in a lumberyard.

Many, many days and nights passed. The three trees nearly forgot their dreams. But one night golden starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman placed her new born baby in the feed trough. "I wish I could make a cradle for him," her husband whispered. The mother squeezed his hand and smiled as the starlight shone on the smooth sturdy wood. "This manger is beautiful," she said. And suddenly the tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world.

One evening a tired traveler and his friends crowded into the old fishing boat. The traveler fell asleep as the second tree quietly sailed onto the lake. Soon a thrashing storm arose. The little tree shuddered. He knew he did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through the wind and the rain. The tired traveler awakened. He stood up, stretched out his hand and said, "Peace." The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun. And suddenly the second tree knew he was carrying the King of heaven and earth.

One Friday morning the third tree was startled to be yanked from the woodpile. She flinched as she was carried through an angry, jeering crowd. She shuddered when soldiers nailed a man's hands and feet to her beams. She felt ugly and harsh and cruel.

But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth trembled with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything. It made the first tree beautiful. It had made the second tree strong. And every time people thought of the third tree, they would think of God.





McShan Lumber Company  
PO Box 27  
McShan, AL 35471

**Holiday  
Sales and Shipping Hours:**

**7am-4pm 12/22, 12/23**

**7am-noon 12/24**

***Closed 12/24-26***

**7am-4pm 12/29,30, 31**

***Closed 1/1***

**7am-noon 1/2**