



# The Old BARN POST

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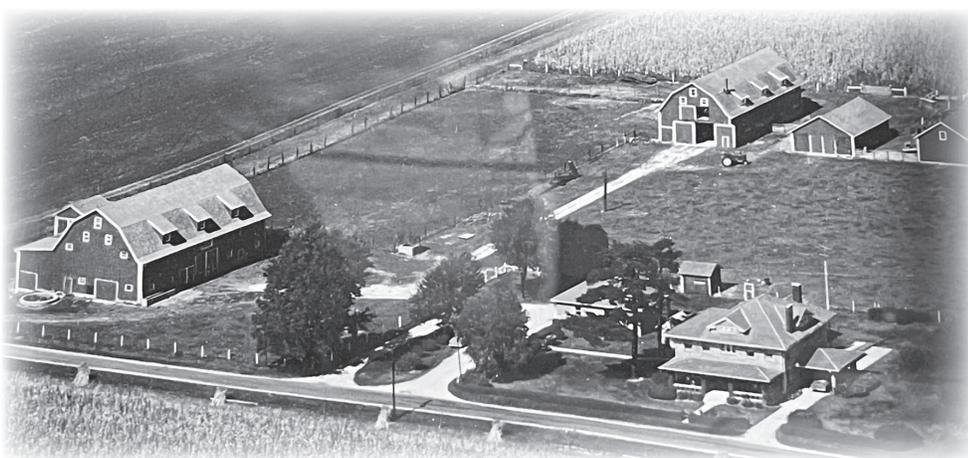
## Ohio Barn Tour and Conference XXI Recap — Preble County

First I would be remiss if I did not throw out a big Thank You to Sarah Sisser, Lauren Etler, Laura Saeger and the rest of the board of FOB for putting together a super nice conference! As a “regular member” this year I was able to enjoy the whole experience without putting out the usual fires as conference chair. And I know there were fires. I heard about the fires. They were put out and no one was the wiser, except for those in the know. And, I want to acknowledge Mike Wengler and his barnstorming crew. As we drove around Preble County I was amazed at how many barns there were and they all looked like they could have something special under the newer siding. You all did a fabulous job.

As a regular member I am only going to report on My experience. So if I leave out anybody like a docent on the bridge or barn tour it is only because I know nothing of what went on in the other vans or buses. So sorry about that!

The Preble County Historical Society assisted with the Covered Bridge tour and our thanks go out to Harold Niehaus, President of the Board of Trustees and Lisa White, Executive Director of Business, Marketing & Education for putting together such a great tour and evening for Friends of Ohio Barns. I know this event sold out quickly (within hours of the notice) but I was fortunate enough to secure

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Photos by: Tom O'Grady

**Some of the mystery of the Kuhn barn and its missing parts and updated roof system is explained by two images. This aerial image of the farm (above) was on display inside the barn with other pictures including a very old one in an oval frame. The aerial image shows two barns with dormers some distance apart. The owner of the barn mentioned that they had all been one barn at an earlier time.**



**This detail, from an early image of the farm in an oval frame on display in the barn. The two barns in the aerial image are one much longer barn at an earlier time with its original gable roof. The roof was pushed up into a gambrel system at a later date and half of the barn was moved back away from the road.**

# CALEB'S CORNER

## Pursuit of a wooden stave tank and cider press and hydraulic press — continued from the Winter 2022 issue of The Old Barn Post:

After some searching through the auditor's office, I made contact with the property owner and made my pitch for the abandoned operation on his property. After agreeing upon a reasonable price, his only stipulation was to not tear up the woods too badly in the retrieval. Over the course of the next three weeks I made bi-weekly trips to the site with lubricant and a wire brush in order to give the old steel bolts and nuts plenty of opportunity to break free when the time came to take the press apart. I also purchased a worn out hay wagon and modified it to be able to transport the tank and press out of the woods, down the mountain, and onto Route 60 to our shop.

When the day finally came to retrieve the abandoned items from the woods, our focus was to first try and get the wooden tank out in one piece. After we cut the trees that were growing into the compression rings and dug out the base from the dirt, we were able to pick the tank up in one piece and place it onto the hay wagon. What we didn't realize was all the equipment we drove down to the site had opened up an artesian spring on the path leading down from the ridge to the site- thus preventing us from being able to take anything back up the old logging trail. Over the course of the next day, using 300' of logging cable, chains, make-shift swamp mats, and multiple vehicles, we were finally able to get the tank to the top of the ridge and then down to our shop.

We then set out to take apart the cider press piece by piece, which happened without struggle or incident. By this point my research had determined the press was a rack and cloth style built by Hydraulic Press of Mt. Gilead, Ohio. The information on these was sparse but I found an orchard in Loudonville that has operated the same press for now five generations. The owner graciously gave me a hands on tour of their press, demonstrating how the press operated. After seeing an operational Mt. Gilead I felt confident enough to rebuild this one into its original glory.

To be continued...

### Bridge Tour at 2022 Ohio Barn Conference:

In a break from previous year's Thursday workshop, associated with the Ohio Barn Conference and Tour, we decided to partner with the Preble County Historical Society to partake in the cov-

ered bridge tour that they conduct. Due to narrow roads and remote locations we were divided into four large vans, each containing a local docent. Of the eight total covered bridges within Preble County, the tour was condensed into seeing six in one afternoon.

Of the six we saw, four of them were built and designed by the same people. All four of them are still in use by the community they were built to assist, which is a testament to the people who built them over 100 years ago and a brief portal into the past when driving through. The bridge in Hueston Woods was an impressive structure built in 2012 using glulam timbers and metal plate. By no means a historic bridge but an esthetically pleasing structure built within the confines of modern engineering codes.

The Belle of the Ball was undoubtedly the double-barreled Roberts Bridge whose claim to fame is being the oldest timber bridge in Ohio and the second oldest in the country. Damaged by arson over thirty years ago the bridge was moved to a park in Eaton where it was repaired and re-opened for foot traffic only. The level of craftsmanship and detail that the builder (who was a cabinetmaker) put into each walnut timber and joint elevated my personal bar of excellence to strive toward.

The most significant takeaway from the bridge tour was the testament to the respect and love the people in the community of Preble County show for their heritage. Each of the eight bridges in that county (whether still in use for vehicles or relegated to pedestrian traffic) have been maintained and or restored through money and energy given from the community. I knew almost nothing about Preble County prior to spending the few days of the conference there, but I left with an immense respect for the entire community. It started in my admiration of how they cared for their bridges!

Caleb Miller, President – Friends of Ohio Barns

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## Quotable quote

**"When tillage begins, other arts follow. The farmers therefore are the founders of human civilization."**

~ John Quincy Adams, former U.S. President (1825-1829),  
serving as U.S. Congressman from Massachusetts (1831-1848),  
January 13, 1840 - from *Remarks on Agriculture*

## RECAP, Continued from Page 1

a spot. Doug Kramer and Kyle Cross were locals that served as docents on the busses. Our docent was Steve Simmons, retired Preble County engineer, and he did not disappoint! His theme was all about the romantic, historic, cultural, and engineering components of these historic covered bridges. The engineering was fairly easy to grasp. Two major truss systems were used: the Childs and the Burr Arch truss systems. You can read about the truss systems on the Preble County Convention and Visitor's Bureau website. Mr. Simmons shared a story of a runaway bulldozer that was abandoned by kids after they realized that they had no control over it and jumped off while the dozer was heading straight for one of the covered bridges. Miraculously it shoved a large round bale of hay in front of it and got stopped. The historic bridge remains. We had a great tour but I can tell you we had a discussion in the bar at Hueston Woods that night questioning the sandblasting of the charred wood on the Roberts Bridge that gave it such a beautiful look. Our group tried to square that with the fact that all the joinery junctions looked too nice and evenly carved to have been created by sandblasting of unevenly charred wood. It was a long and thorough discussion. These things happen after a barn tour.

Before we arrived back at Hueston Woods on Thursday night we were invited to Mary Bullen's property to have a pulled pork dinner in her fantastic barn in which she told the story of how it came to be and how it was renovated. The Star Theatre at Eagle's Point where our conference was held was also a renovation project of hers. Every community would be blessed to have a passionate and enthusiastic citizen that gets things done like Mary Bullen. We presented her with the FOB Barn of the Year Award for Adaptive Reuse for her determined endeavor of relocating and restoring her historic Preble County barn.

Friday's bus tour did not disappoint either. Mike Wengler managed to trim his list of over forty barns to six for the day. Steve Gordon, one of our speakers was also the docent on our bus. Steve announced that he was not a resident of Preble County and also not an historian of Preble County. Then Steve commenced to point out farms and landscape features and share the history of the sites along the



**Splitting post held together at the top by a steel cable and bolted steel plates below the brace. Failure due to the weight of the roof pushing down after the removal of integral parts designed to hold the barn walls together. The McQuiston barn has both hand hewn and mill sawn timber and is designed with both scribe rule and square rule framing. The two stone limestone outshots make this a very interesting barn.**

Photo by Sarah Woodall

tour as if he'd been living in Preble County since 1865. If he isn't the local historian of Preble County you couldn't prove it by me. I did say to him "well you did had three years to prepare for this" with a smile on my face, of course. And his response was something like "I have been reading a lot in the last month!" If we could sign up Steve as a docent for every barn tour going forward we would be very fortunate. I told him so.

So the barns.....there seemed to be a commonality this year more apparent than in other years... Missing parts... And added parts. If you were on the tour then you know of what I speak. These barns were those of settlement families which means they were all very old. Rudy Christian commented that the first barn, the Kuhn barn, was the largest oldest barn that he as seen. Mind you, the man has been in over 1500 barns! This barn had pieces missing and pieces added. The barn roof was raised and a gambrel roof system was added to the old timber frame so as to store more

hay. This barn sported a tease joint or a triple bypass joinery and had a forty foot swing beam.

Number two barn was the Snyder barn. More pieces missing and more pieces added. A bow string truss was added to support a post that had been cut off. This barn sported edge halved bladed scarf joinery above the posts which according to Mike is common in this area. Rudy said that he had never seen a barn built like this one. The barn also had scaffolding timbers that Doug Reed called sliders. It does seem that there can be several names for the same object. Kind of like common names for trees — it is always best to use the scientific name but, are there scientific names for joinery? I'll bet you Jack Sobon thinks so. This was the first barn in which we saw raising holes (not called anything else) which was very interesting. We then saw them in several of the barns. Rudy and Dan said that this barn exhibited some of the best hewing they have seen.

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After a very tasty lunch at the Lewisburg United Methodist Church, prepared by the Church ladies, we traveled to the Seibel barn which was the longest of the barns we visited. This barn had a major minor roof system. Again, a feature that is uncommon generally but frequently seen in in this area of Ohio. This barn, Larry Seibel claimed, was built in 1917! The braces were even had hewn. Some were riven. More edge halved bladed scarf joinery was found in this barn. Rudy was wondering why pole rafters were not used. This barn had a really nice pentagonal ridge beam with a really nice hay track and hay fork. Rudy claimed as he was walking out of the barn “I still have questions about this barn....”

The Burkett barn was number four on our list and what did we find? Yep, more empty mortise pockets. And what did we hear? “Another intriguing barn”. And what else did we find? Another bow string truss because a post was removed. Or was it? We did not find the mortise pockets in the floor so it must have been a swing beam that was removed. Intriguing to say the least as the tie beams were placed low enough so that the hay track would work – once it was invented as this barn was built in 1849 or 1850, prior to the dawn of the hay track. A head scratcher for sure. This barn had been racked due to a straight line high wind. Also wondering if this particular barn was built to impress? Not often do we find barns with vertical nailers so horizontal siding can be attached. Of course the vertical metal siding covers that now. Always a reason to go into every barn; you never know what you will find! This barn we awarded the FOB Barn of the Year for Stewardship for good reason.

The Cumberledge barn, number six, is a huge barn, two barns attached in an L shape. More empty mortise pockets, more sawn off posts and more raising holes but this barn had unusual four foot long braces and it had fifty foot plates! A splined threshing floor too. This barn is slated to be dismantled and moved to Indiana – safe travels! Big take away on this barn was that if you have a “T” or “L” shaped barn then please, please, please check for damage where the barn roofs converge forming valleys. Save yourself the aggravation of water damage and hence rotten posts and plates.

The last barn on our tour was the Mc-



**This throw down or hay chute or hay hole or hay drop in the Snyder barn was beautifully hand crafted of branches and set in place for hay to be delivered from the hay loft to the basement to feed the animals.**

Photo by: Sarah Woodall

Quiston barn. Again we saw a major major minor roof system on this barn. Most importantly, though, in this barn the bottom cord of the truss system was removed! Why? There was no hay track. Hmmm, wonder why they would have removed an integral part of the structure? Since it was removed there is now considerable splitting of the posts which are currently banded and another bow tie truss system has been set in place. And the timbers seemed undersized on this barn. Interestingly, the truss system was cut using the scribe rule framing technique. “Rudyism”: Trusses have to be cut exactly right for them to work correctly. Both scribe rule and square rule layout was used in this barn. It was also a nice example of a double outshot barn with the out shots made of stone. This barn was the winner of the Barn of the Year for Agriculture Use.

I mentioned fires back at the start of this article. Well, putting them out is definitely a challenge, but never have we had two speakers, for personal reasons, back out two weeks before the conference. Thankfully, and I say this with much ado-

ration, that Doug Reed and Steve Gordon stepped up to the plate and lengthened their talks to take care of one slot and our very own, highly thought of historian, Tom O’Grady, filled in for the afternoon speaker. I want to acknowledge Steve Gordon for what was one of the most gracious openings of a talk expounding about our organization and all that we do. And I will hit that back over the net to him in that he is always a pleasure to have on board as a speaker and a docent. He puts his heart and soul into discovery and delivers with enthusiasm and passion. He manages to relay the personal attributes of a society that is woven into the fabric thereof. For instance in Preble County to name roads after settlers and remarkable cemeteries that are well cared for. Steve always finds the human aspect of hardscapes.

And Doug Reed. What humor and knowledge. He wants to have three hours to talk — we could give it to him and he would still run out of time but nobody would get up and leave because he also delivers a story of human hardship and

perseverance. He relayed the story of settlers coming to America and clearing land, hunting animals, cutting trees down to clear the land for gardens, cutting firewood, first making a hut and then eventually building their cabins. But what is a cabin and where did it come from? Our cabins here in America are unique to us, or are they? Did it come from Moravia? Silesia? It seems the common defining features would say so. We have only ten notches used in America according to Doug but there are over four hundred in Europe. More in Japan and China. It is intriguing, to say the least. What I find interesting is that the cabins we have left are devoid of siding — something that became the look of what a cabin be. But in reality these cabins still exist because they had siding for a hundred and fifty years and were not exposed to the elements — or they would have rotted. Oh how history can be distorted...

Do I have to say anything more about the Barn Detectives? I write these articles every year and note the great job they do but this year I want to say how much I appreciate Rudy and Dan for their knowledge, passion and teaching abilities. Rudy walks into these barns for the first time and is able to dissect them and their history. That is always amazing to me. And the two of them spend a lot of time sifting through all the pictures that Laura, Dan, and whoever, gives them and then they come up with a humorous way to teach us some things about the barns of the day before. I thank you and applaud you and appreciate you both so much for what you do for our organization. You both are the reason why our barn tours are the best.

Tom O'Grady is our go-to historian for FOB. He is the kind of guy that we can call ten days out to fill a spot on the speaker schedule if it were suddenly vacated. And he does it with such flair. He said he was reenacting Bill Reynolds, our scheduled speaker. He was went to Marietta to talk with Bill about his presentation but Tom said they didn't get around to it in the four hours he visited Bill! They got distracted! But low and behold Tom delivered the history of where Ohio began in a little over an hour in the quickest pace that I have ever witnessed him deliver a presentation! I think he covered it all! Tom has the ability to deliver interesting information with touches of appropriate humor that can keep me in my seat wanting more. I admire his knowledge and pas-



**Above: Our speakers for the 2022 conference Steve Gordon, Doug Reed, Tom O'Grady and David Simmons gather together for a laugh or two, about what I wonder??**

Photo by Sarah Woodall



**Left: Like people of faith crowding into St. Peter's Square in Rome to see the pope appear in an upper window and preach to the throngs, barn tour attendees crowd into the barn to hear timber framing high priest, Rudy Christian, speak of the barn. And the word is, this barn is different from every other barn, in some ways and we can only gain a comprehensive understanding of the barn if we are worthy stewards.**

sion. This seems to be a common thread amongst our speakers. I want to personally thank Tom for always stepping up to the plate when needed. And this year we really needed him!

I think the conference was well rounded out by Dave Simmons giving his talk on our historic covered bridges. We have 140 of them in the state of Ohio. Dave said that the last wooden bridge was built in 1919, the year after the end of WWI when wood was deemed a controlled material meaning it was government owned and therefore in demand and too expensive

to use. He described the Childs Truss and the Burr Arch truss systems and how and why they were used. He had a wonderful slide show of the old bridges and remains of those that are now in disrepair. Dave is very knowledgeable and again, passionate about these bridges.

Three years waiting for everyone to get back together after COVID and we all seemed to carry on like there was no break in time. Next year the conference will be in Morrow County — be there or be square.

Sarah Woodall

# A DIFFERENT KIND OF BARN

A part of our work that is always enjoyable is doing barn assessments.

As I'm sure most of you have learned, every barn is unique. They may be a certain type but each one has its own individual characteristics. The barn at Longwood Manor in Macedonia was no exception. The manor house was built in 1924 by Colonel William Frew Long, the first mayor of Macedonia, Ohio.

There isn't a significant amount of history regarding the type of agriculture practiced by Colonel Long, but it would appear he had horses. The first barn built on the property is anecdotally dated 1930. At that late date farming would have already been transitioning to tractor powered and public transit would be motor cars rather than horse and carriage. Based on this, it would appear Colonel Long's horses would have been part of a gentleman's farm and used more for pleasure riding or pulling riding carriages than being work horses.

From the perspective of barn identification, Colonel Long's barn is a gambrel roof ground barn. It has a small hay hood, and the hay track can be seen protruding through the wall. The drop-down hay door, which has been sealed off, is still identifiable and below a set of double doors leading straight into the second-floor hay mow, possibly indicating the transition from loose to baled hay. On the lower floor, what is now an overhead garage door, would have been a pair of track doors as indicated by the header-board.

The addition to the left of the barn in the photo was done after Colonel Long's death in 1984. In his will he gave the land and buildings to the city of Macedonia to become a park. The city opted to use the barns as storage buildings for city maintenance equipment. The interior of the barn has a dirt floor and remnants of horse stalls and double hung windows above the stall boards on the walls. The barn has a shed dormer with double hung windows which would be problematic in a loose hay mow. Shed dormers are not common in gambrel mows for that reason. A view of the exterior north wall of the barn adds to the intrigue and list of questions.

The north elevation reveals a matching shed dormer to the one on the south.

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Above: Longwood Manor built in 1924 by Colonel William Frew Long, the first mayor of Macedonia, Ohio.



Left: Colonel Long's gambrel roof ground barn with a small hay hood, and the hay track can be seen protruding through the wall. Photos by Rudy Christian

Long's barn has a dirt floor and remnants of horse stalls.



# 2022 Grant Recipient



FOB President, Caleb Miller and FOB past President, Ric Beck, present Oxford Museum Association Executive Director, Mike Case, with the Big Check as the recipient of the 2022 Barn Conservation Grant for work to be done on the Doty Barn. Photo by: Sarah Woodall

## Barn Detectives



Photo by Sarah Woodall  
Rudy Christian and Dan Troth, the Barn Detectives, going through pictures from the 2022 Barn Tour and preparing for their afternoon presentation the following day.

### BARN, Continued from Page 6

It also shows a centered board and batten man door flanked by pairs of double hung windows, now boarded over. On the left under the eave can be seen a boarded over window into the stairwell to the attic space. Clearly, this is not a typical gambrel barn side elevation. Why would all these characteristics of a house exist on a horse barn? Did this barn live an earlier life before being converted to use as a barn?

The floor inside is dirt except for a small, paneled room against the stairwell. Two of the windows on the north elevation open into this room and above it, enclosed by the stairway, is a galvanized tin lined grain bin. This room may have served as an office or tack room but is the only area of the first floor with a concrete floor. Careful investigation of both the first floor and second floor revealed no evidence of walls that would have existed had the barn been a converted house.

The construction of the manor house itself, as well as a later barn on the estate, reveal that Colonel Long had some very eccentric ideas about architecture and it may be that he felt the barn, which appeared as a house, suited his taste. Did he purchase a Sears kit house and use it as a barn? There is no evidence of it being a sales building, but it could well have been a more comfortable space for the Colonel to introduce friends and associates to his prize horses. Unfortunately, as is all



Shed dormer and board and batten man door flanked by pairs of double hung windows.

too often the case, the history of Colonel Long's barn largely was lost after his death. When asked by the Longwood Manor Historical Society if the barn could and should be saved, my answer was strongly affirmative. If nothing else, the answers to the many questions this barn holds are well worth researching and the answers passed on to future generations as part of understanding how diverse our agricultural history is.

By: Rudy R. Christian



Paneled room against the stairwell with a concrete floor.

# In Recognition

Our Board members do all kinds of jobs, frequently beyond the expected director responsibilities. In 2020 two of our valuable board members stepped down:

JoAnne Hamblin joined the board in 2017 and stepped into the recording and secretary position. She had been involved with Friends along with her husband Dave for several years prior. Both put many hours into planning and frequently hosting our annual Fall Picnic, and both participated in the Barn Storming journey in our efforts to lock down county specific barns for our annual Barn Tour. JoAnne offered support at all our events and workshops, quietly on the fringe observing what was needed and contributing to solving the problem if there was one. We all appreciate her time as secretary and her input on how to make things better for our members. JoAnne is still actively involved with the Fall Picnic planning and she and husband Dave will be our local hero's for the Morrow County barn tour and conference in 2023.

Sarah Woodall joined our Board in 2009. She and her husband John Woodall and best pal Gary Clower had put in several hundred hours as our "local hero's" planning the 2006 annual conference and barn tour in Trumbull County. She knew what she was getting into, and there was some arm twisting involved. But right away she began diving into our online data base, minding the member-



Image by: Gary Clower

**Sarah Woodall and JoAnne Hamblin are recognized for their service to Friends of Ohio Barns and received a painting by Robert Kroeger.**

ships and working with Tom O'Grady to get newsletters out. Pretty soon, she began partnering with me on all the conference planning, honing our outlines and communications with all our partners and keeping the details straight. Always at the ready to answer questions, help folks register and navigate our website. It was during her service, in collaboration with then president Ric Beck, that Friends finally got busy on forming policies and putting them in writing, freeing us up to "look in the book" instead of reinventing

the wheel every year.

We would like to thank each of them for making Friends more organized and effective in serving our membership and for keeping that smile on their face even in the worst situations. At our member meeting in Preble County we were able to present each of them with a painting by barn painter Robert Kroeger.

Thank you for all you did, and all you continue to do to help us stay strong and focus on Ohio's historic barns!

Laura Saeger

## A Big Thank You to Everyone!

I was hoping to have had some time to say a few words at the meeting but it felt like we were rushed for time to keep on schedule so I am taking the time and opportunity now to make those comments. It seems like a long time ago that Laura asked me to help her out with the Secretary position. She was both the Treasurer and the Secretary way back then. Dan even used the words "can I twist your arm?" I may have said "yes" too fast without thinking but I am so very grateful that I did. Over the years I have developed very special relationships with some of my fellow board members. And I can honestly say that I have enjoyed serving the members of the Friends of Ohio Barns. It has been a long time since I have been a regular member. So it was definitely a different perspective this year than the last 10 or so years. For that reason I want to be sure to acknowledge Sarah Sisser, Lauren Etlar and Lara Saeger for putting

together a very well organized conference. As a "regular" member one is not always aware of all the fires that need to be put out during a conference. I know there were fires this year, there always are. But Sarah and her team carried on put them out and no one was the wiser. Except me, I was still in the know and simply just because I have been there, done that. So as much as I needed to step down and let someone else take on my duties (and I want to add that Alan is doing a great job as Secretary) it wasn't easy to do. I am a control freak, after all. But I am so happy to say (and I knew it before this conference) that the board is in good hands and the future conferences will most likely be better than they ever have been. So thank you very much to everyone for the recognition and the beautiful Kroeger painting that is now hanging on my office wall.

Sarah Woodall, past secretary of FOB

# 2022 Auction was a Success!

We have been holding an auction of sorts at our annual conference/member meeting since 2002! In those early years of 2002-2005 we had an impromptu “auction” of specific items donated by a participating vendor or artist. I remember out-bidding Ric Beck for a wonderful pastel, by Roger Chapin, of the first log crib barn we discovered outside Chillicothe, OH in 2003. We also tried a raffle one year. But over the years the Auction and the Barn Detectives have been a standard item on our annual schedules. Now, almost 100% of our donations for the auction come from You the members. And we want to thank all of you for donating quality items that are seeking a new home. Some just for nice, and some are for use.

In this year’s planning we encountered a serious hiccup. Two of our veteran auction volunteers were not able to be with us. The board had discussed not pushing to make it happen, even though we had not had an auction for two years during COVID. That put Beryl Beckett, our longtime volunteer on alert! Knowing full well that you can’t do all that work by yourself, she reached out to Pam Gray.



Photo by: Sarah Woodall

**Volunteers who stepped up to help out with the Conference Auction are sitting left to right Pamela Whitney Gray, Beryl Beckett (veteran), and Suzanne Williams. Standing left to right Joann Hamblin and Barb Lang.**

Then the magic of invitations to step up, join the crew, and make it work all fell into place. Three new team members built a new crew of five. We all know that “many hands make light work” and the auction layout this year would surely make Kendal Taylor and Judy Hendershot very proud.

A very special Thank You goes out to Beryl Beckett, Pam Gray, Suzanne Williams, JoAnne Hamblin and Barb Lang.

And to all of you who made this year’s auction a success through your donations and purchases, bringing in \$1,253.00.

Laura Saeger

## 2022 FOB Fall Picnic

The FOB Fall Picnic will take place at Century Village, 4185 Orders Road, Grove City, Ohio 43123 on Saturday, October 1. The group will gather at 11:30am and eat at noon. Bring your picnic lunch. Cookies and water will be provided by FOB.

Reservations are due by September 15 to Friends of Ohio Barns, [www.friendsofohiobarns.org](http://www.friendsofohiobarns.org).

Refer all questions to Dave Hamblin at [Daveh2949@centurylink.net](mailto:Daveh2949@centurylink.net) or 419.947.1360.

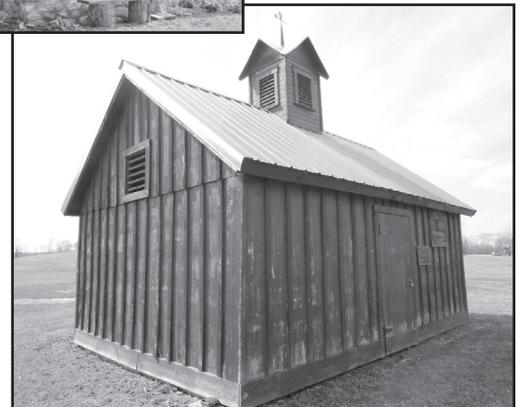
In partnership with the Southwest Franklin County Historical Society staff, we will tour the nine buildings led by volunteers dressed in period clothing. The buildings include an 1879 brick school, a log home built in the mid-1800s, the Jones log barn constructed around 1850, the Bob Evans mid-1800s double-crib log barn moved from the Evans Farm at Rio Grande, Ohio, that houses a museum of farm tools of that era, a granary separated for use by three families, a log structure built before 1850, a two-seat outhouse, a working blacksmith shop constructed in the 1850s, and a windmill. The 1884 train depot was moved from downtown Grove City to its present site and dedicated in 2021.



**Mid nineteenth century log house at Century Village.**

Images: By Dave Hamblin

**Nineteenth century granary, separated for use by three families, at Century Village.**



# Picnic Shelter Raised in Findlay

Friends of Ohio Barns, in collaboration with the Hancock Historical Museum, hosted a three-day timber framing workshop in Findlay, Ohio in July. Caleb Miller, of JCM Timberworks and FOB President, served as an instructor for the workshop, along with Rudy Christian and Laura Saeger (FOB Treasurer) of Christian & Son, Inc. Thirteen FOB members from across the state took part in the workshop, volunteering their time to build a timber framed picnic pavilion at the museum's Brucklacher Memorial Park.

Under the instruction of some of the best timber framers in the state, the workshop attendees learned more about this traditional building technique as they cut joinery and raised the 24' x 24' white oak frame. All skill levels were welcomed to take part in the workshop. While some of the volunteers had worked on similar projects before, others were trying their hand at timber framing for the first time. Some of the attendees hoped to be able to use the skills they learned at the workshop to make small repairs to their own barns at home.

Over the course of the three days, the workshop raised more awareness in the community about historic timber framed structures and passing on the knowledge of traditional building trades. Local news outlets shared the story throughout northwest Ohio, and interested members of the public came out to the site to observe the frame raising and ask questions.

Brucklacher Memorial Park is located on the Hancock Historical Museum's grounds, adjacent to a historic one-room schoolhouse used for educational programming for elementary students. The park includes a playground, public art installations, and a history walk. The development of the park has been entirely volunteer led by the Kiwanis Club of Findlay, with funds raised through private donations. The timber framed picnic pavilion is the final addition to the park, which opened in 2020 and has quickly become a beloved community resource. In addition to the many families who frequent the park, the picnic pavilion will be used by more than 1,000 elementary students annually who visit the schoolhouse on fieldtrips.

The pavilion will serve as an education-



Photo by: Rick Kidwell

**FOB members and volunteers preparing timbers for assembly.**



Photo by: Caleb Miller

**Finished timber frame picnic shelter awaiting roofing.**

al tool while being a functional addition to the park. Signage will detail how the frame was built and identify specific components and joinery. Special recognition goes to the Findlay-Hancock County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Baker's Café, Marriott Towne Place Suites, Brian Edler and Domino's Pizza – North Main, Streaker

Tractor, and Rick Kidwell and the Findlay Kiwanis Club for their assistance and in-kind support of the workshop. Friends of Ohio Barns thanks the workshop instructors and participants who contributed their time and resources to make a lasting impact in this community!

By: Sarah Sisser

# 2022 FOB BARN OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Photos by: Sarah Woodall

**Dan Troth, FOB vice president presents Mary Bullen with the FOB Barn of the Year Award for Adaptive Re-use.**

**FOB VP Dan Troth presents the FOB Barn of the Year Award for Agricultural Use to Thomas and Karen McQuiston during the Barn Tour.**



**The Dunker family accepts the FOB Barn of the Year Award for Stewardship in their barn during the 2022 Ohio Barn Tour.**



Buggy at sunset. Source - [www.kidronhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.kidronhistoricalsociety.org)

# Sonnenburg Village Homecoming

Sonnenburg Village of the Kidron Community Historical Society hosted its 15th Homecoming on Friday and Saturday, August 12th and 13th with lots of food, fun, music, and entertainment!

Activities included a Children's Theater Performance, a Barn Dance, Historic Interpreters, and a Vintage baseball Game.

Other attractions included blacksmithing, garden tours, basket weaving, spoon carving, chair making, primitive cooking, calliope music, live animals, wagon shuttle rides, and village building tours. Some of the buildings include Sonnenberg Church / Welcome Center, Bixler House, Moser Buggy Shop / Print Shop, Carpenter Shop, Schoolhouse, Zuercher House / Garden House, Tschantz Log Cabin, Lehman Spring House, Lehman House, Gerber/Nussbaum Barn, Buggy Shed, Saurer Blacksmith Shop, Gardens, and Pond.

The event was sponsored by the Kidron Community Historical Society and is located at 13497 Hackett Rd. Apple Creek, Ohio 44606. For more information: [www.kidronhistoricalsociety.org/blog/15th-homecoming](http://www.kidronhistoricalsociety.org/blog/15th-homecoming).

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FRIENDS OF OHIO BARNS  
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