

Local history makes Chillicothe an ideal location for April 25-26 Barn Conference

Information will be available during Barn Conference IV for a self-guided tour of this historic region.

Situated on the banks of the Scioto River, Chillicothe, known to its inhabitants as Chalagawtha, was home to early Ohioans long before the first white settlers. Centuries before Shawnee and other nomadic tribes made this place home it was an important center for a people who have come to be known as the Moundbuilders.

Situated on the Scioto River near the border of the glacial plain and the sedimentary hills of the Allegheny plateau, this has been an important site in human history for thousands of years. The earthworks left by the Adena and Hopewell people are evident in abundance around Chillicothe.

The Warrior's Path, an old and important Indian trail connecting Lake Erie and the Ohio River, ran along the ridges on both sides of the Scioto River above Old Town (early name for Chillicothe). Cornstalk and his Shawnee tribe retreated to Old Town after the Battle of Point Pleasant with Virginia settlers in Lord Dunmore's War in 1774. That war gave rise to the great speech by the Mingo chief

delivered beneath Ohio's most famous tree, the nearby Logan Elm.

Ebenezer Zane blazed Ohio's first road from Wheeling, Virginia (now West Virginia) to Limestone, Kentucky (now Maysville) in 1799. He established towns at the main stream crossings. Zanesville was established on the banks of the Muskingum River, Lancaster on the banks of the Hock-hocking, and Chillicothe at the crossing of the Scioto River.

Statehood was declared in Chillicothe a short while later, in 1803, under the leadership of Thomas Worthington, whose Ross County home, Adena, is the site from which the Great Seal of Ohio was inspired.

Chillicothe grew along with the new state. In the 1830s the Ohio and Erie Canal played an important role in helping move agricultural commodities from central and south central Ohio to world markets, helping to establish Ohio as a world leader in agricultural production. All of this led to an increasing number of farms in Ohio by the turn of the last century. And

with these farms came the outstanding heritage of barns and farm buildings that Friends of Ohio Barns is working to acknowledge and protect today.



Chillicothe Courthouse



FRIENDS OF OHIO BARNS

P.O. Box 203
Burbank, Ohio 44214



The Old BARN POST

A publication of Friends of Ohio Barns • March, 2003 • Vol. II, Issue 2

Ohio Barn Conference IV

Chillicothe was the site of the first capital of the state of Ohio and it will be the site of the fourth Ohio Barn Conference. Bicentennial festivities were kicked off March 1 with Statehood Day and will continue for several months.

The Ross County Fairgrounds will be the location of Ohio Barn Conference IV held April 25 and 26. With help from the Bicentennial Commission and Ohio State University Extension, Friends of Ohio Barns is offering a Bicentennial Barn Celebration aimed at increasing public appreciation and support for the protection of Ohio's agricultural icon, the barn on the family farm.

Guest speakers are being lined up for Friday's conference sessions and include Joe Jenkins, roof contractor and author of *The Slate Roof Bible*; Tom Visser, author of *A Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings*, and Scott Hagen, who painted Ohio's Bicentennial Logo on 89 barns across the state.

John Rodak, an artist who donated prints of his barn paintings for last year's auction, will be back with more of his art work. And back by popular demand will be "The Barn Detectives" to help barn enthusiasts understand the barns in their own backyards.

Pat Medert will offer historical views of the Chillicothe area, and Carroll Neidhardt will present information and stories on Folkways and Barn Folklore.

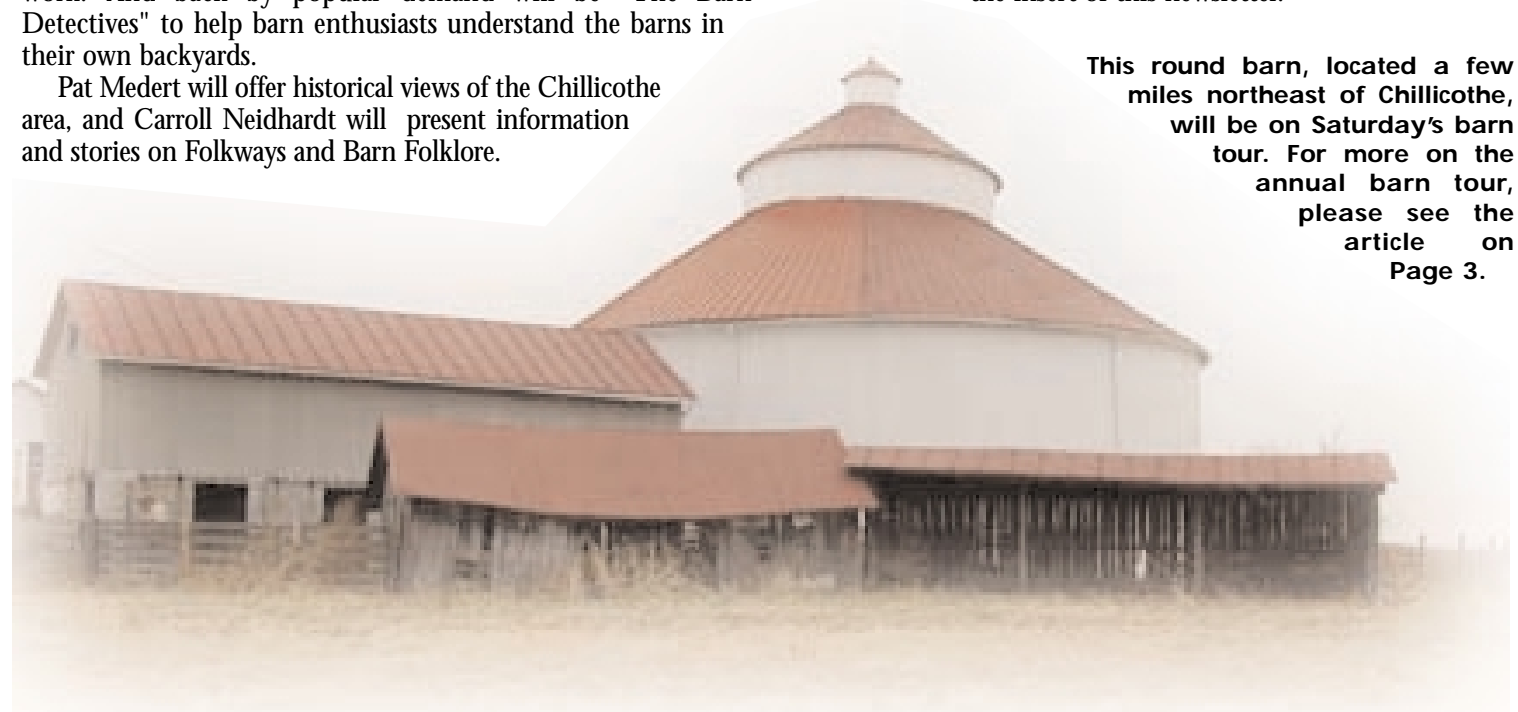
Ohio Barn Conference IV will also offer a trade fair, educational exhibit, demonstrations, a book store, a guided barn tour, and a self-guided tour of Chillicothe with interesting historical sites of Ohio's first capital.

Information for the self-guided historical tour will be included in a packet conference attendees will receive upon arrival and will include such sites as Thomas Worthington's home Adena, Mound City, Great Seal State Park, a replica of Ohio's first capitol building, and the Pump House Art Gallery, which was an original part of the city water system.

Ohioans are being encouraged to bring photos of their barns or others they have seen. The goal is to assemble an archive of historic barns from around the state. FOB is also trying to establish a registry of barns by county. Information about the barns is also needed, including style, approximate date of construction, location, materials used, and features such as cupolas or additions.

Registration forms are available on the web site, as well as on the insert of this newsletter.

This round barn, located a few miles northeast of Chillicothe, will be on Saturday's barn tour. For more on the annual barn tour, please see the article on Page 3.



Please recycle this newsletter. Share it with a friend.
Printed on recycled-content paper.

You are making a difference

How many times have you driven by a barn that has lost its owner's pride and stewardship and wondered, "Why can't something be done to save that? If enough people cared about old barns, wouldn't we be able to save a lot of them?"

Thanks to many Ohioans, the answer is "yes." Over 150 people are members of Friends of Ohio Barns and that number is growing every day. But the truth, as we all know, is that many more are needed. In order to make a real difference, we will have to see change at both social and governmental levels, and that change will not occur without the motivation created by the actions and intentions of the citizens of our great state.

The Bicentennial Barns program is one indication that some change is occurring at the state governmental level. This highly visible initiative has given Ohioans in every county a new opportunity to take pride in our great heritage of barns. It has also given visitors from all over the world a glimpse of the wonderful diversity we have in our agricultural landscape. It is not unlikely that many of our barns will receive some much needed attention and maintenance because of this great endeavor.

The National Trust's annual Preservation Conference was held in Cleveland in 2002 and for the very first time a barn tour was included in the program. Friends of Ohio Barns was asked to take the lead role in the tour, and according to the survey taken of the participants it was a tremendous success. This not only helped program developers in Ohio understand the value and importance of our barns, but many tour participants from other states went home with a renewed interest in saving their barns.

Last year's Ohio Barn Conference, held at beautiful Sauder Village, brought some much needed attention to the Goll Woods Homestead barn. It was hoped this attention would produce enough interest

President's Report Rudy Christian

that some action would be taken to save the barn that was potentially slated for destruction. No one could have imagined the results that followed. Through the interest of the Sauder family and many local citizens, a grass roots organization called the Friends of Goll Homestead was formed. The energy that was focused at the Ohio Barn Conference was magnified by this new group and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources responded in an unprecedented manner. Capitol funding in the amount of \$200,000 was requested and granted for repairs to the barn which will now be saved for future generations to enjoy.

These examples are just a few indicating what is happening here at home, but changes are occurring in other areas as well and again Friends of Ohio Barns is involved. The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office has been working over the last few years to stimulate the formation of a grass roots organization to shine a spotlight on the threatened barns there. As Friends of Ohio Barns president I have been asked to give the keynote presentation and to participate in a workshop on May 3 intended to take the first steps to form the new organization. It's exciting indeed to realize that in a few short years our organization has become a model for others.

As members of Friends of Ohio Barns you should be proud of the work that your organization is doing. If you are not already a member, please join us and support these efforts. Our voices are indeed beginning to be heard, and it can only do good for our barns and farmsteads. Thank you for what you have done to make this possible.

New officers to be elected during annual meeting

FOB Meeting and Election of Officers
The upcoming Barn Conference is also the Annual Business Meeting for Friends of Ohio Barns.

Time will be set aside at the conference for a member meeting and an election of new directors. Three positions on the Board of Directors of Friends of Ohio Barns are up for election. People interested in being considered for these positions

should contact FOB by April 1 in order to be included on the election ballot.

Those interested should send in a photo, a short bio, and their thoughts on what they see as their contribution to FOB and what they'd like to see FOB become. Please consider this opportunity to help Friends of Ohio Barns achieve its mission.

Director duties include attendance at board meetings, assistance at public

Barn lovers wanted!

Are you a member of Friends of Ohio Barns? If not, please consider joining this organization and helping to make a positive difference in the protection of Ohio's historic barns.

If you are a member, guess what? It's time to renew your membership.

Memberships are renewed annually so your dues are now due. The rates are as follows:

- \$40 Individual
- \$35 Senior or student
- \$60 Family
- \$400 Lifetime charter member

You also receive our newsletter which details our activities as well as discounts to our conferences and workshops. We need your help and enthusiasm. Please join us.

Checks can be made to:

Friends of Ohio Barns
P.O. Box 203
Burbank, Ohio 44214

Or contact us by e-mail at friendsohiobarns@aol.com.

A membership form is included in this newsletter. Additional copies may be obtained by e-mailing Friends or on the web site at <http://ohiobarns.osu.edu>.

Tour will explore round barn, log barn, mill

Have you ever seen a round barn? How about a round barn from the inside? Maybe you'd like to get a close-up look at a double-crib log barn with hand hewn timbers almost two feet wide.

Ohio Barn Conference IV will offer a bus tour to four farms between Chillicothe and Laurelville.

The tour includes barns in



Ross, Pickaway and Hocking counties. The route skirts the interface of Ohio's glaciated plain and the Allegheny plateau with features of each visible along the way. The tour will follow portions of Ohio's first publicly funded thoroughfare, Zane's Trace, near where it crossed the old Marietta to Chillicothe stagecoach road.

The tour will visit four farms with very different barns. The old Kinnikinnick Stock and Feed Farm has two farm buildings of a southern style. The Famulener Farm, settled in 1806, has a brick home built in 1836 and a double crib log barn of yet undetermined age. This farm has another timber-frame barn and an old corn crib.



Photos by Tom O'Grady

Top left: The Carroll grain mill is reported to be the oldest business in Hocking County. Its hand-hewn beams are engraved with Roman numerals (inset). Left: The Carroll Farm in Ross County has two timber-frame barns. This one was recently resided and roofed. Above: This southern-style barn belongs to the Mote family. All of these structures will be on Saturday's barn tour, along with the round barn pictured on the front and the log barn shaded behind the Board of Directors below.

Friends of Ohio Barns Board of Directors

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Chairman | Rudy Christian | Wayne County | (330) 624-7282 |
| Vice Chairman | Tim Mason | Licking County | (740) 745-2938 |
| Secretary | Karen Burkhardt | Montgomery County | (937) 866-6826 |
| Treasurer | Laura Saeger | Wayne County | (330) 624-7282 |
| Membership | Dan Troth | Delaware County | (740) 549-1774 |
| Newsletter | Tom O'Grady | Athens County | (740) 593-7552 |
| Board Members | Gary Wechter | Stark County | (330) 499-8522 |
| | Larry Sulzer | Summit County | (330) 657-2135 |
| | Ric Beck | Franklin County | (614) 898-9461 |

"It's sad to see something so noble as a barn die a slow and painful death. They deserve better than what most of them get. Their roofs no longer keep out the weather, but some barns were so honestly built that they last fifty years after they're left for dead."

Andy Rooney,
Common Nonsense