

Looking back ...



This photo of a native burial mound in a glacial kame on a farm near Mifflin, Ohio, was found in the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Quarterly and submitted by Tom O'Grady. Mifflin is situated in the glaciated plateau region of Ashland County. A kame is a short ridge or hill of stratified drift (gravel, silt, clay) deposited by glacial meltwater. The image shows a farmstead with a Pennsylvania Dutch bank barn with an overhanging forebay and elaborate cupolas. Other farm structures, a rail fence, and the farmhouse with a hipped roof are shown around the burial mound, which has been plowed for crops, as many often were in the 1800s. Another barn roof on an adjacent farm is visible beyond the house.

Send us your historic photos! We'd love to print your historic barn photos, as well as archive them for future reference.



FRIENDS OF OHIO BARNs

P.O. Box 203
Burbank, Ohio 44214



The Old BARN POST

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Ohio Barn Conference XI, April 23-24

You've all heard that what goes around comes around, and this year we are coming back around to Wooster, OH for our annual conference and barn tour.

You read the article in your last newsletter about Charles Whitney. I first met Chuck in 1994 when he got wind of the Malabar Farm Barn replacement. He called to see if he could meet the fellows from the Timber Framers Guild working in our shop, and he became a regular visitor. Several years later he began publishing The Barn Consultant newsletter, which led to organizing the first Ohio Barn Conference in Delaware, Ohio, in the spring of 2000. Some of you who have been members of Friends of Ohio Barns since the beginning will remember that our organization was born following a second barn conference that took place in Wooster in 2001. Several of your current board members were on that steering committee and still serve today. It is fitting that Chuck's daughter, now known as the Lady Barn Consultant, will be one of our speakers this year. She will share her barn experiences

while working with her father and will have their collaborative book available for purchase and signing.

In addition to Pam Gray, we have a full slate of presenters, including Steve Gordon sharing his immense background in rural Ohio farm and barn history; Paul Locher, past president of the Wayne County Historical Society, who will share local history and some very interesting stories from his book When Wooster Was a Whippersnapper; Charles Leik will bring us up to date with National Barn Alliance activities; Ann Christy will help us understand resources, tax credits, and uses for old barns; the Junior Barn Detective committee will report on progress and training; the Wayne County Historic Barn Study and Inventory group will parade their accomplishments and preview the new Survey Handbook and forms; Rudy Christian will give a brief history of timber framing; and our two standby favorites, The Barn Detectives and our Barn Repair Panel, will provide humor and education for barn owners with maintenance or repair questions. Exhibits will include Lowell Finley's barn models, Wooster Book Store, antique tools, Wayne County barn surveys and photos, a log hewing demonstration, silent auction, and more!

Our day-long barn tour will focus on some of the wonderful barns that are being discovered through the Wayne County Barn Survey. This has been my county for twenty-eight years, and as a barn enthusiast I'm amazed at some of the barns we have missed seeing prior to the survey. Even our barn tour luncheon will be held in a barn. Please join us for both the tour and conference. We are able to hold the low 2009 registration price due to our partnership with OSU and our non-profit status, so come visit your old friends, make new friends, and get charged up for Ohio Barns!

— Laura Saeger



The barn on this eighth generation farmstead still has the original threshing floor doors. The Baer barn will be one of the stop's on Friday's barn tour. For more information on the conference and barn tour, please see pages 3 and 4. Photo by Rudy Christian



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Friends keeping busy as ever

Welcome to our eleventh annual conference edition of the Old Barn Post!

Your board members have been busy this winter. We are getting ready for another dynamic conference with exciting presentations, speakers, and new information to help you, our Ohio barn stewards, continue the preservation movement. Some of our endeavors will be presented at the Arden Shisler Conference Center in Wooster, like the ambitious barn survey program and the work from our fall JBD workshop. But we have a few other projects taking place behind the scenes.

Last fall, Lowell Finley constructed and donated a beautiful barn model to FOB for use as a teaching aid and fancy collection box for our endowment fund donations. Lowell as been a big supporter of our efforts, and he has a terrific display of detailed barn models during the Malabar Heritage Days. We can't thank him enough for his artwork. Don't miss out on an opportunity to talk with Lowell and learn of his model building story.

A big thanks also goes out to Jim Taylor and Denny Hendershot for agreeing to build a transport box for the barn model and letter it for our endowment collections. These two men and their lovely wives do so much for the organization, and we all really appreciate it!

There is another display at Malabar that gets lots of attention, that being Paul Knoebel's mini-barn and raising. As if he

Random Thoughts

Ric Beck
Friends of Ohio Barns president



Model timber frame structure built by Lowell Finley.

didn't need more work, Paul and I (mostly Paul) are working on developing a guidebook and video for his mini-barn presentation for two reasons. One, the National Barn Alliance is interested in replicating the mini-barn concept and having several models around the country for other kids to experience. The other reason is that Paul would like to have others present the mini-barn to interested youth utilizing his teaching concepts, so that he might be able to enjoy his retirement!

The barn restoration project in Upper Arlington continues to progress. Bids are going out for construction of the new four-season timber frame building to be attached to the original restored frame that Dan Troth and I dismantled and documented. The plan is to have a workshop in June on the park site and restore the original frame, and then raise it during the July 4 weekend, traditionally a very big day in Upper Arlington. We will keep you posted as the project moves forward.

Finally, Laura Saeger has finished the grantee final report to the Columbus Foundation with funds from the Gordon Chandler Memorial Fund for the barn survey project. It is a very ambitious program sure to change the way we document and record the history of our beloved Ohio Barns. Many thanks go to Laura, Rudy, Dan Houston, and the volunteers in Wayne County for helping Friends develop the historical barn survey handbook and survey forms.

Like I said, the organization has been busy. It's been our way of staying warm this winter! Read through this conference edition for the festivities planned this spring, and we look forward to seeing you in Wooster!

An old-fashioned winter

With winters like this, no wonder they built so many barns!

Editor's note: This article is taken from the Historical Collection of Ohio, by Henry Howe, 1889, and is provided here to offer a glimpse into our rural heritage.

THE GREAT COMPETING SLEIGH-RIDES OF THE WINTER OF 1855 AND 1856 OF SUMMIT, CUYAHOGA, AND MEDINA COUNTIES

The following completes the series of articles by Mr. Peirce from details largely supplied by Hon. Thomas Palmer of Lafayette, this county. The event at the time created interest, not only the leading newspapers in our country giving full accounts, but those of Europe. The London Times, among them, it is said, chronicled it as one of the novelties in the line of amusement the Western Yankees had originated.

During the winter of 1855 and 1856 there were about one hundred days of almost continuous sleighing throughout Northern Ohio. In February the people of Solon Township, Cuyahoga County, organized a sleigh ride consisting of seven four-house teams and drove to Akron, Summit County. It seems that there had already been several smaller parties there from Medina and several other counties, and it was understood that the Solon party intended to eclipse any previous party, for among other decorations used by them was a small cotton flag (33 by 55 inches) painted with the regulation number of stars and stripes, and containing in addition a profile with thumb to the nose and fingers extended.

This was interpreted by the people of the townships through which the party passed as a banter and invitation to take the flag if they could muster a larger party; indeed, an Akron paper published an evidently authorized challenge to that effect. The people of the township of Twinsburg, through which the Solon party drove, concluded that they could easily capture the flag, and upon trial mustered fourteen four-horse teams

and went to Solon. The flag was gracefully surrendered to them and was carried to Twinsburg. The people of Royalton, Cuyahoga County, concluded that the flag must come back to their county. They rallied thirty-eight four-horse teams and appeared at Twinsburg, when the flag was duly surrendered to them. The matter now became a county affair, Cuyahoga, Summit, and Medina entering into the competition.

The competing delegation met at Richfield, Summit County (which township adjoins both Cuyahoga and Medina counties), on the 14th day of March. Medina had 144 four-horse teams, Cuyahoga had 151, and Summit, 171; in all 466 four-horse teams and sleighs, each containing an average of fourteen persons, total 6,524 people and 1,864 horses. In addition to these there were a large number of single sleighs with their loads, which did not enter into the count. In each party were a number of brass bands, for in those days nearly every township in that part of the Reserve had a brass band. Of course, Summit captured the flag and took it to Akron. As the competition had been mostly between Cuyahoga and Summit counties, the Medina delegation upon their return trip decided that the

correct thing would be to have the flag removed into Medina county, and four days later (March 18, 1856) they appeared at Akron about noon with 182 four-horse teams, and one team of four mules. They carried a great number of banners and devices and were accompanied by numerous brass bands. They were received by the citizens of Akron with extravagant demonstrations, including the ringing of bells, firing of cannon, and uproarious cheers. Word was passed back from the head of the line to the last load, which commenced cheering, and the cheers came swelling back up the line, and were taken up by the rapidly congregating citizens until the town was in one deafening roar of human voices. The flag was presented to the delegation by President Peirce of Hudson College with appropriate remarks, which were responded to by Charles E. Bostwick, chief marshal of the delegation. Two songs, composed expressly for the occasion, were then sung, after which refreshments were served, and the delegation returned to Medina County with the flag, probably the largest and most joyous party of the kind ever assembled. No accident occurred, and, like the Hinckley Hunt, no one got drunk.



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Junior Barn Detectives begin training

Friends of Ohio Barns' Junior Barn Detective (JBD) program is alive and well—and reporting on where it has been, what is going on now, and where we see it headed.

The program got its first real shot in the arm as a result of a very successful JBD workshop held on Saturday, November 14 near Alliance, Ohio. Fourteen dedicated FOB members showed up to enjoy a beautiful fall day at an equally impressive site, the Mount Union College's John T. Huston/Dr. John D. Brumbaugh Nature Center. The center's manager, Mike Greiner, graciously gave up his normal deer hunting day to host and participate in the activities with the group.

The indoor/outdoor sessions included a visit to the center's well-maintained old barn and the group scrutinization of the Sutton family's "needy" barn that was conveniently located

just across the highway. We enjoyed a fabulous hot lunch in perfect keeping with the caliber of the environment, the day's active discussions, and the enthusiastic folks who attended.

Our first indoor session included a thorough review of the stated objectives and proposed path of the original JBD program as outlined at last year's barn conference. For now it appears that very little if any deviation from the basic plan will be needed. However, what was most welcome throughout the day was the generous amount of

Restorations, an experienced local contractor and historic building tradesmen. Everyone enjoyed having the opportunity to discuss openly and candidly contractor/client association and review each other's responsibilities and potential challenges.

Other concerns discussed were centered around obtaining more information on possible tax credits, deductions, and financial aid sources for barn repair efforts. The group also had a general desire for a more complete explanation of types of barns and their component terminology. This need will soon be met with the publication of the FOB Barn Survey team's "almost completed" booklet on that very same subject. Gary Clower and Paul Knoebel's cleverly articulated "gizmo" was a big help in demonstrating what can happen to a timber framed structure when the

constructive input contributed by all the concerned participants. A few issues that surfaced are that the JBD participants would like to have more training on how to judge a barn's health. Also needed are more "hands on" and "up close" observation of common barn maladies, information on how to qualify the problems once identified, and then an explanation of appropriate remedies. To us it suggests a need for some specific workshops oriented toward particular barn ailments.

One of the day's most enthusiastic and revealing sessions was hosted by Jim Mehl of J.A. Mehl



The JBD team used this raised demonstration barn for teaching construction and repair techniques, practicing diagnosing structural problems, and showing future areas needing maintenance, repair, or reinforcement.

bottom supports start slipping off their foundations. You can expect to see it show up at the upcoming conference.

Workshop attendees went home with a notebook of information relative to the aims and objectives of the JBD program, barn inspection information, resources, preservation/maintenance tactics, and other related materials. The JBD team is working on filling in the as yet needed

material. We plan to address many of the identified needs at the upcoming FOB conference and barn tour.

This year's Friday tour will include another "needy" barn that will receive a more in-depth analysis of some specific problems in lieu of the general overview that was given to last year's structure. A breakout session will be included in the Saturday proceedings for the benefit of the workshop attendees as well for any newly interested JBD enthusiasts. It will be an ideal setting at which to pick up more information, address concerns, evaluate JBD progress, and enjoy a general get-together. Oh, and we will also continue the discussion concerning the "Junior" terminology in the JBD moniker!

See you at the conference in Wooster.

— The JBD Team



Junior Barn Detectives investigate a barn during the November workshop.



Workshop attendees tour the John T. Huston barn, built circa 1860, which recently received extensive restoration work.



Left: Attendees of the Junior Barn Detectives workshop in November near Alliance, Ohio, listen as Gary Clower (above) instructs them on the naming of the parts and particular construction techniques of several different styles of barns.



2010 Barn Tour draws out local history

Wayne County is named for General “Mad” Anthony Wayne, who distinguished himself in 1779 at the Battle of Stony Point on the Hudson River in the Revolutionary War and then later against a confederacy of native tribes at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in north-western Ohio. This victory culminated in the Greenville Treaty in 1795, which transferred the majority of Ohio lands from native tribes to the U.S. government and opened the territory for settlement.

The area making up Wayne County today fell just within the southeast portion of the region retained as Indian land. In 1796 Wayne County was the third county formed in the Northwest Territory, and at that time the county covered a good deal of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and all of Michigan. This glaciated landscape is mostly rolling, with numerous glades of level land. The prevailing soil is a deep clay loam, capable of the highest fertility. It has proven to be very productive agricultural land for nearly two centuries.

By 1808 folks were moving in and building farmsteads, homes, and businesses. By 1850 a large percentage of the population was made up of German immigrants, mostly from Pennsylvania and many from the German empire. The German influence will be evident in the buildings and the names encountered along the tour.

The Great Trail, a key travel route between the forks of the Ohio at Fort Duquesne (Pittsburg) and Sandusky Bay on Lake Erie and on to another Fort at Detroit, passed through what is Wayne County today. This was one of the main routes Pennsylvania Germans took as they migrated into this region of Ohio. This and other Indian trails that portaged the divide between Lake Erie and the Ohio River watershed were important transportation routes that evolved into pioneer roads. In 1846 Wooster, located on the stage road between Cleveland and



Weygandt barn: Note the wheels of the windlass in this image.

Photo by Rudy Christian

Columbus, was named the county seat and remains so today.

One of the farms we will visit on the tour is the Baer homestead, first purchased in 1818. The family suffered setbacks and returned to Pennsylvania, but by 1830 the bank barn and brick house were built by the second generation. Still in the hands of the Baer family, the eighth generation farmstead has grown to two houses, six outbuildings, and the original bank barn with its own additions for the dairy herd. The Baer barn has the original timber framed threshing floor doors.

Another barn we will visit belongs to Bob Weygandt, who is also one of our barn survey captains. Some of us who subscribed to the Barn Consultant newsletter can recall the articles written by Chuck Whitney that showcased the windlass in that barn. There are also several unique and puzzling framing details in the Weygandt barn for you to discover and discuss. These two barns are just a taste of what we will see; every barn tour in the past has been interesting, educational, and enduring. We promise that this year’s tour will not disappoint you!

Accepting Barn of the Year nominations

Do you know of an outstanding barn in your region? If so, drop us a line and get it nominated for the annual Friends of Ohio Barns Barn of the Year award. The deadline for entries is April 17, 2010.

Nominations will be judged in two categories: agricultural use and adaptive re-use (non-agricultural). Nominations should include photos, the current owner’s name, location of the barn, current use of the barn, history of the barn including the age and builder if known, and information on repairs and who made them, if known.

You may use the nomination form in this newsletter or copy one from the Friends website. Nominations may be mailed to Dan Troth, 7591 Perry Road, Delaware, Ohio, 43015. The awards will be presented at the conference on Saturday, April 24.

Mini-barn memoirs: *My 2009 travels*

This past year has been a very busy one for me. I took a lot more pounding than in any of my previous five years of traveling Ohio. I’m not complaining though, as I did get to go to Kentucky twice and New York once. Turns out the kids there enjoy raising me just as much as they do in Ohio.

The season began innocently enough with a raising at the annual FOB conference in Bluffton in April. That one was really easy on me since there were no overly enthusiastic children and the adult “wannabe” kids were more sympathetic and considerably more accurate with their mallet aim. I think that was only the third time adults have raised me.

Then in May it was off to the Wolf Creek Mill Festival near Loudonville, Ohio, for a one-day stand. I’m pretty sure this was my third year traveling to that beautiful setting. One group of eager Cub Scouts was really organized, and they all helped each other get the job done.

The next two raising occasions nearly made me car-sick. Traveling in that closed-in bouncy trailer is bad enough on short jaunts, but to Kentucky twice was a new experience. It all began when the National Barn Alliance (NBA) and the Kentucky Historical Society got wind of my existence. The NBA wanted to see firsthand if my up and down lifestyle was something they could possibly adapt to their plans for teaching farm and barn appreciation to fifth graders all across the country. I was raised twice in one day by over 80 fifth-graders in two schools near Lexington. It was a hectic experience. Then over the Fourth of July I traveled back down I-71 to Frankfort as the guest of the Preservation Trades Network and the Timber Framers Guild. It was a beautiful setting, right downtown on the banks of the Kentucky River. Although there were not a lot of kids there, that raising did give me an opportunity to rub elbows with some super craftsman.

August soon rolled around, and I had hardly gotten settled when I was beckoned to the Stream Days Festival at the site of the Old Mill at Beaver Creek State Park. The rain held off, the kids did well, but I was a bit concerned as to what my floorboards would look and smell like afterward thanks to the geese! The venue was quite different later in the month when I was invited to do my thing right there in the middle of the Tallmadge Traffic Circle during a church’s 200-year community celebration. Being right there on the lawn next to that grand old church was exhilarating. I know my chapter-

one came away really happy after his private tour of the church’s magnificent timber framed steeple. I’m not sure what all those vehicles circling about thought, but they really didn’t bother me.

A month went by, and it was off to our old stomping grounds, the annual September Heritage Festival at Malabar State Park. It had to be my fourth or fifth consecutive year at that well-attended event. The next week it was back down to Beaver Creek for their annual Harvest Days celebration. They want me to be there every year. Another short week and it was off to the biggy, the annual three-day Algonquin Mill Festival near Carrollton. My joints were really tired after that workout, and more bumps and bruises were evident. Eight raisings were accomplished throughout the long weekend. I usually get my biggest crowd of kids at this heavily-attended event. It was kind of special being there in 2009, as I got to help draw folks in to see the new realistic barn model in the FOB display booth. Come to think of it, I do seem to show up wherever the FOB display does. You don’t suppose FOB has an ulterior motive for my being there? I thought I was just present for the kids.

In a normal year Algonquin marks the end of my season, but 2009 was not a normal year. It was off to the Timber Framers Guild annual Eastern Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York, in November. I think I may have shaken some knots loose during that bouncy ride. It was fun, but somewhat intimidating being raised by kids right there in the hotel ballroom alongside Jack Sobon’s impressive newly hewn and cut large Dutch building. Maybe my nervousness was simply due to my diminutive size. However, I got over it after someone commented that I should be more upbeat; after all this was my 88th raising, and only that barn’s first! Perhaps a new record.

In closing I would like to thank all the folks who came out to help me give the kids a good, fun-filled barn raising experience (and FOB booth attraction). It wouldn’t get done without you. 2010 already has about six bookings lined up, and I will again need all the help I can get.



Photos and article submitted by Paul Knoebel

Above: A supervisor inspects as a worker drives a wooden peg at the Algonquin Mill Festival. Below: Youngsters help Paul Knoebel raise the mini-barn at the Algonquin Mill Festival in October.



Wayne County Barn Inventory under way

During the winter of 2008/2009, a small group of Wayne County residents gathered at the Wayne County Historical Society to begin putting ideas together for how to conduct a barn survey. Dan Houston of Wooster stepped forward as chairman of this ad hoc committee and offered to keep records and coordinate communication between the volunteers. Meetings were scheduled on a monthly basis, and a rather ambitious schedule was established in hopes it might be possible to start the actual survey work in 2009. That proved to be difficult as it became clear just how much work it would take to prepare.

Part of the reason the workload became substantial was the particular goals that were established for the Wayne County survey. Although much could be gleaned from the hard work done in Michigan and in Ashland County, several objectives were established that would require a significant amount of new material to be created. The primary reason for this was the fact that, with hopes of creating a new and re-usable model that could be used in Ohio's other 86 counties, the Wayne County survey was designed to be digital in nature. This would allow the surveys and survey photos to become part of an online resource.

Early on in the development Friends members Laura Saeger and Rudy Christian suggested that Wayne County should partner with Friends of Ohio Barns. This would allow the work to be supported by Friends and for the survey materials to become Friends property, allowing them to be officially made available on a statewide basis. This would also allow Friends to provide server space on the Friends website for the storage of the survey data and photos and to make it available to the general public.

The board of directors was very receptive to this arrangement

and a \$5,000 grant from the Gordon Chandler Memorial Fund made it possible for Friends to become the first major sponsor of the Wayne County survey. President Ric Beck wrote the grant and deserves a great deal of thanks for making this all a reality. With the grant in hand, work began in earnest on specifying and purchasing digital cameras and storage cards, clipboards, paper, and printing supplies for the survey forms.

A new survey form had to be designed which would be suitable for easy and clear data entry, and it was decided that a survey handbook should be created so folks would have something to help them use the new form correctly. Rudy and Friends webmaster Carson Christian took on the job of creating the form and handbook. A database also had to be created for uploading the survey data, and that job went to Carson. Spreadsheets from the county auditor's records were needed for each of the sixteen townships in Wayne County so the survey forms could be keyed to them. Committee member George Gingery took on that job. Finally all of this had to be printed and packets made for each of the township survey captains, and Laura took on that task.

As of this writing the first volunteer training meeting has been scheduled, ten of the needed sixteen township captains have been signed up, and plans are nearly complete for the actual survey work to begin. A progress report and presentation of the beginning of the survey will be made at the upcoming Ohio Barn Conference in Wooster. Plan on coming and seeing what Wayne County is doing to document its magnificent historic barns. Maybe you will decide to be the person who makes it happen in your county!

— Rudy Christian



Photo by Rudy Christian

Wayne County volunteers learn the ins and outs of using the survey form and conducting a barn inventory.



Photos by Dan Troth

Here are three images of a cupola being repaired on a slate roofed bicentennial barn north of Columbus in Delaware County. Notice the platform constructed to protect the slate roof during operations. (A small indication of why barn repair isn't cheap.)



Changing faces



Photos submitted by Rudy Christian



At first glance from the front this Indiana barn looks to be late 19th or early 20th century, but then looking at the end you realize it's a much earlier gable-roofed barn that was "pushed up" to the gambrel to allow for a hay track and greater storage area for the hay. A fellow in Indiana is looking to have it deconstructed before the bypass around Kokomo takes it out, but unfortunately much of the barn has already been cut up and removed. Six feet were cut off the top of the posts, a timber wall was cut off, four tie beams were removed, and a top plate is gone, as well as the center posts and historic rafter. Hopefully, before it becomes fodder for a bulldozer, someone will salvage the remaining old timber for repairs on other structures.

Send in your photos of old, refurbished, relocated, or unusual barns, or any interesting or unique barn features, along with any information you can gather. Every barn has a story, and we'd like to know yours!

Saturday Conference Schedule (Tentative)

8 a.m.	Registration and continental breakfast
8:30-8:45	Welcome message
8:45-9:45	Keynote presentation: Steve Gordon
9:45-10:30	Pam Whitney Gray – "Americanization of the Family Barn"
10:30-11	Morning break, exhibits, bookstore
11-11:30	Paul Locher, Wayne County Historian
11:30-12	The Barn Detectives: Larry Sulzer and Rudy Christian
12-1:30	Lunch, Barn of the Year awards, member meeting
1:30-2	Breakout sessions: Resources and Uses of Old Barns, Dr. Ann Christy Junior Barn Detectives, Paul Knoebel, Gary Clower, Larry Sulzer Hewing demonstration
2:15-2:45	Breakout sessions: Wayne County Barn Survey Program National Barn Alliance, Charles Leik Hewing demonstration
2:45-3:30	Afternoon break, hewing demonstration, exhibits, bookstore, silent auction
3:30-4:15	Wayne County Barns, Rudy Christian
4:15-4:30	Close silent auction
4:30-5:30	Barn Repair Panel
5:30 p.m.	Conference ends

Board member elections

Friends of Ohio Barns will once again be seeking candidates to fill board positions of members whose terms are expiring. There are currently three open positions.

Responsibilities include participating in the annual barn conference, attending board meetings and conference calls, and representing Friends at festivals and events with the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing something to help save

a part of Ohio's rich agricultural heritage.

If you are interested in a board position, please send a short biography with your goals and ideas to:

Friends of Ohio Barns

P.O. Box 203

Burbank, Ohio 44214

or e-mail friendsofohiobarns@aol.com.

Remember, new blood brings fresh ideas and keeps the organization alive with promise!

*The foundations of America were laid
with the building of its first barns.*

— Eric Sloane, 1905-1985

Donate to the silent auction!

Part of the fun we have each year during the Ohio Barn Conference is the silent auction. FOB encourages everyone to bring silent auction items for the Saturday event. The proceeds help us offset the costs of the conference and still provide you, the members, with a quality program. Our silent auction has proven to be a great fund raiser for our organization and a fun way to obtain interesting items through friendly bidding competition.

We hope you can contribute an item or two—something handmade, collectible, store bought, or something interesting you've found in your travels. The more you bring, and the better the items, the more exciting the auction gets!

If you can't find anything to bring, at least come prepared to make someone else bid a little higher before walking off with a treasure!

Upcoming events

**Michigan Barn Preservation Network
Annual Conference and Barn Tour
March 12-13, 2010
www.mibarn.net**

**BARN AGAIN! Workshop
Southern Indiana
March 5-6
County Museum
2704 Newton Street
Jasper, Indiana
Includes Barns to Homes tour in
Dubois County March 5**

(Registration deadline is February 28. To register or for more information, contact the Southern Regional Office of Historic Landmarks Foundation at (812) 284-4534, e-mail jmartin@historiclandmarks.org, or visit <http://www.historiclandmarks.org>.)