



# The Old BARN POST

*A publication of Friends of Ohio Barns • June, 2014 • Vol. XIII, Issue 2*

## Identifying Barns at 55 MPH:

### *Crossing Ohio on State Routes*

The route chosen to cross the state of Ohio determines what types of historic barns one might see through the windshield. Original settlement districts and the hills and plains are the attributes that define Ohio's rural landscape traversed by the old pathways.

State Route 13 runs from Athens, in the Ohio Company Purchase in southeastern Ohio near the river, to the small town of Huron, Ohio in Erie County on Ohio's north shore. This northern region was the settlement region early defined as the Firelands. Between the Ohio Company Purchase and The Firelands, St. Rt. 13 crosses the Congress Lands, The Refugee Tract, the U.S. Military District, and more Congress Lands. Each of these districts was settled by pulses of migrant groups of different magnitudes representing a diverse cultural heritage. One can see that plainly in the barns that dot the landscape in these districts.

Heading northward from Athens through the Ohio Company Purchase one can see large numbers of New England three bay barns at an easy glance. The Ohio Company region was purchased from Congress by a group from Massachusetts and was settled by large numbers of New Englanders. The largest number of settlers in the several of the counties of the Ohio Company Purchase were from Pennsylvania, the state most frequently associated with the Pennsylvania Dutch bank barn with the overhanging forebay. However, there is not one bank barn with a forebay to be seen in the Ohio Company Purchase. Apparently not everyone living in Pennsylvania at the time was of Germanic descent. Sparsely found in the region is the Southern barn with the hay hood over the gable end entry way. These counties, just across the river from old Virginia, were a relatively easy migration for southern folk and their cultural and architectural characteristics.

State Route 13 heads northward out of Athens County into Perry County and the Congress Lands which Congress sold to any buyers, regardless of nationality and origin. Here we find



Ohio's Original Land Subdivisions - by: Hubert G.H. Wilhelm

**These subdivisions helped define the type of architecture for homes and barns that one sees crossing Ohio today.**

more New England barns and a few southern barns. But in northern Perry County one crosses the old Zane's Trace. Plenty of Pennsylvania Germans followed the trace into the Ohio country and lots of bank barns with the overhanging forebay can be found here. The prevalence of the Pennsylvania German barn along the Zane's Trace ends abruptly, however, where it meets the eastern boundary of the Virginia Military District, a region set aside specifically for southerners.

Moving north out of Perry County we cross into the Refugee Tract. This land was reserved for British Canadians who left home prior to July 4, 1776, stayed in the US until November 25, 1783 continuously, and aided the revolutionary cause. If there are any barns left at all in this district, it is likely to be a New England three bay barn. However, this region is highly

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# 2014 Conference Recap

After that long cold snowy winter, can you think of a better way to usher in spring than a good old barn tour and some great presentations about barns? Ok, so maybe you can come up with a few better examples, but if you were there you had to smile...

The Knox County version of the Ohio Barn Conference XV was another fantastic success. From the Thursday workshop to the Friday tour to the Saturday presentations, this conference packed a punch.

Sure, there were a few snafus to overcome (Friday rain for only the 2nd time in 15 years, some minor parking miscommunications and the mysterious disappearance of the new merchandise) but otherwise...

The Saturday presentation day really stayed on point with the focus on restoration, rehabilitation, and adaptation of our beloved Ohio Barns. Jeff Marshall got us started with his keynote speech about the good, bad and ugly of barn conversions. Jeff is a Bucks Co. Pennsylvania native and has some magnificent stone end barns in his backyard. He had some interesting slides of conversion projects to back up a very informative talk.

Doug Morgan next talked about his love for barns, his adventure into saving some wonderful log structures for his property in Mt Vernon, and his journey from being a lawyer to being a barn restoration advocate and businessman. His story about the Mt. Vernon Barn Company is fun and inspiring, what with a lofty goal of 100 barn restorations over the next 20 years! He and his wife Beth were also gracious hosts for one of the barn tour stops, where we got to see firsthand all Doug (and Beth's) handiwork. If you get a chance be sure and check out Doug's website!

Two of our very own, Dan Troth and Tom O'Grady gave some interesting and very entertaining presentations. Dan talked and showed slides in the hectic fashion that Dan is known for regarding the saving of the Cellar Barn from certain demise for the sake of more urban sprawl near where Dan lives. His drive to save the 1830's barn and farm house was very inspirational!

Tom O'Grady is another that you just love to listen to. Get him started on a subject his heart is close to, and look out! Tom pulled up some very cool images of Knox County past, both in people and architecture. The history of Knox County and its contributions to Ohio are fascinating, and Tom did a remarkable job of telling us the tale.

New to the Barn Detectives annual humorous look at all things barn, mostly from Friday's tour, was Mr. Vice President filling in for Larry Sulzer. Even though he started off a little hesitantly, Veteran actor and barn god, Rudy Christian brought him along just fine.

Rudy and his fabulous partner Laura Sager finished up the day with another great talk about restoration and adaptation of a cool bank barn in need of some major TLC. The pictures of the restoration process detailed the type of dedicated artisans these two are. The new life for this barn is to be a public structure for many to enjoy thank to Rudy and Laura!

It wouldn't be a great conference without the silent auction and most importantly the gals that make it such a great success. Thanks to Kendal Taylor, Beryl Beckett and Judy Hendershot for helping us raise over \$1000.00 again!

Next up, Hancock County for 2015, so stay tuned...

— Ric Beck

## Random Thoughts

Well, I've managed to catch my breath now that the spring conference is in the books. It was another marvelous success and once again thanks go out to all that made it happen, from the presenters, to the food, to the barn tour hosts and stops, to the event center, and to our local hero, Pam!

Your board is going to be busy again this summer with the documentary and upcoming mini barn stops as well as a few driving barn tours and, oh yes, a probable work shop at Slate Run Metro Park, so look for more info in this newsletter and our website.

By now I hope you have had an opportunity to check out the new website! We welcome your thoughts on it...the ease of navigation, sign up abilities, content, pictures etc. I also encourage you all to send us some photos of your barn or your neighbor's, as we would love to add more photos.

Our little merchandise snafu is pretty well corrected and we will have things out for sale at the upcoming events so look for them there and of course, bring money!!

Finally, a shout out once again goes to our missed board member at the spring conference; Larry Sulzer. We are thinking about you pal, and hope you have an opportunity to get back with us as soon as you can!

— Ric Beck

**“Traditional skilled craftsmanship  
has not been lost. What has been lost  
is the willingness to pay for it.”**

— Vincent Kuntz

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# Ohio Barn Tour 2014



Photo by Tom O'Grady

Tour buses squeeze into the barnyard at the Broerman Farm.

Barn tour day dawned cloudy and rainy but the members of Friends of Ohio Barns remained undaunted as they piled into sold out buses for a day of touring Knox County barns.

The first stop was the Cassell barn on Route 13 northwest of Mt Vernon. It is the only Sweitzer barn in Knox County and its beautiful fieldstone foundation, and cupola make this one of the most picturesque in the area. It has been lovingly cared for by the seven generations that have lived on and cultivated the land since 1835. Once inside the barn it can be seen that the original siding is horizontal but when resided vertical siding was put over the original siding. And it drizzled.

Second on the list was the Levengood barn and was the Rudy stumper of the day. And Rudy started by saying he had never seen this before but from there continued to unravel the mystery of this unusual timber frame. Although the original barn has long since been gone there are still three barns left on the property. The oldest was built in the 1890 to house and milk a Jersey herd. The other we viewed is a plank barn built in 1916 for the storage of hay. The face block house is a Sears kit built in 1909. This 210 acre farm was split by the Route 13 by-pass around Fredericktown in 1964. Although the Levengoods continued the dairy operation until 1999 after the split large sections were sold off and the farmstead is now left with 60 acres. And the drizzle turned to rain.

The third stop on Quaker Road north of Fredericktown is the Broerman barn. This barn was constructed with huge timbers and a beautiful swing beam. Rudy also reported that he had never seen a barn with so much bracing as this one. The barn is steeped in the history of the Society of Friends, better known as the Quakers.

This barn was part of the Underground Railroad as it was located adjacent to the railroad and close to the Kokosing River. It once had a hiding room and a tunnel to the local school. And it rained.

On our way to the fourth stop and probably the most important of the day, lunch, we had to stop for a herd of Angus that was moseying down the middle of the road. So it was round-up time. As we inched the buses past the curious creatures they decided we were bigger than they were and headed for the barn.

Lunch was at the Mount Vernon Development Center in the Great Room. A delicious hot meal was catered by Sips of downtown Mt Vernon as we enjoyed the architecture of this beautiful old building. This facility built in 1909 was fully self-sustaining by 1910 with gardens, dairy, hog, and poultry operations. It is unfortunate that all of the barns except the green-houses are now gone.

After lunch we drove through Kenyon College, Gambier Ohio, established in 1824. We also passed by the quaint little stone church built in 1863, Quarry Chapel.

The Clutter barn was next on our list. This farm was quite a looker in its day as can be seen by the remnants of stone fence posts, the gingerbread house, and the barn with fancy louvers, cupola, and date on the roof of 1893. Here again Rudy was finding things he had never seen before. All of the large timbers and scantlings were sawn with a water-powered sash saw. The earthen ramp and covered-bridge entry to the barn were unusual in that there is a room and hand pump to the cistern for watering livestock within the ramp. The bridge was wide enough to drive under but closed-in to form another room. The accompanying shop was built in 1894. Back along the

river was an added bonus. An eagle's nest. The female eagle was feeding the eaglets and the male was perched atop a sycamore tree watching for fish in the river. And more drizzle.

The next two stops were the icing on the tour and reflected the theme for the conference this year. First came the Heywood barn home. An 1890 barn converted to a home in 2005. The back side of the barn has large windows overlooking a beautiful county view. The silo houses the circular staircase to reach all three floors but in addition there is also an elevator! The home has an open concept and country feel with the interior doors being sliding stable doors. And it rained! A sea of shoes filled the entry way as stocking feet padded through this unusual barn home.

Next was the Morgan property. The home is constructed from two early 19th century log houses with an addition for the kitchen. It is beautifully done and well appointed. The carriage house was also moved onto the property and renovated for a garage and storage area downstairs and a hunting lodge upstairs. Another barn was also moved onto the property to become a woodworking shop and gallery. This was a real treat as Doug and Beth Morgan are the owners of Mt Vernon Barn Company and Doug was a speaker at the conference the next day. The rain somewhat cleared but the mud was still with us.

The final stop was the Knox County Agricultural Museum on the Knox County Fairgrounds. This stop was to view and be able to understand the simple tools that were used to construct the huge barnyard castles that are still present in our Knox County landscape. Some of which are still being used for agriculture but most are standing unused and decaying every day.

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# The Barn Raisers: A Documentary

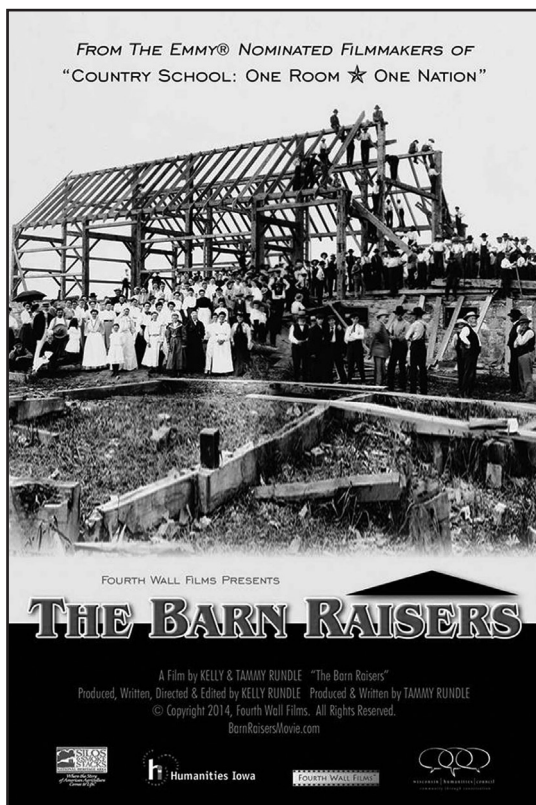
The following article was copied with permission from the Ohio Humanities Council.

Emmy® nominated filmmakers Kelly and Tammy Rundle of Fourth Wall Films have been awarded a major grant from the Ohio Humanities Council (OHC) for their new documentary feature film *The Barn Raisers*. Friends of the Ohio Barns is serving as the fiscal sponsor for the project.

*The Barn Raisers*, a companion film to their Emmy® nominated historical documentary *Country School: One Room – One Nation*, tells the story of barns in the Upper Midwest by examining them through the lens of architecture. The film will explore how barn styles, building methods and materials tell us about the people who built them, the life they lived and the role these “country cathedrals” played in the settling and building of the Nation.

Barns were constructed by farmer-craftsmen, professional builders who traveled from job to job and even architects like Frank Lloyd Wright. *The Barn Raisers* will paint a cinematic portrait of barns and builders, an important way of life that has been largely forgotten, and the film will remind us that these remnants from America’s rural past are still here to be interpreted and experienced.

“This is our first grant received by the Ohio Humanities Council for a media project and we are very grateful for their support on this important story,” said producer Tammy Rundle. “We are looking forward to working with Friends of the Ohio Barns and to documenting many in-



credible structures in Ohio.”

Funding provided by the OHC grant will be used to film on-camera interviews with numerous barn scholars and footage of Ohio barns. Release of *The Barn Raisers* is slated for 2015, with a national DVD release and Midwestern PBS broadcasts to follow.

In addition to the Ohio Humanities Council, *The Barn Raisers* is funded in part by grants from Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area, Humanities Iowa, the Wisconsin Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Human-

ities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in *The Barn Raisers* do not necessarily represent those of the Ohio Humanities Council, HI, WHC, SSNHA or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Ohio Humanities Council is an independent, nonprofit organization funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and private contributions. OHC aims “to increase Ohioans’ appreciation and understanding of the humanities” through the Council’s grantmaking capacity and through programs developed by the Council itself. Based in Columbus but operating statewide, the Council provides assistance to grant applicants, oversees Council-developed programs, and promotes the humanities in Ohio through collaborations with cultural and educational institutions. The Council is governed by a volunteer board which makes decisions on grant awards and sets policy.

Friends of Ohio Barns is a non-profit organization formed to support and promote through education the awareness and understanding of the significance of Ohio’s historic barns within their agricultural and architectural context, and their maintenance requirements. To encourage programs that provide resources for their stewardship and conservation as a lasting icon of our cultural heritage.

Fourth Wall Films is an award-winning independent film and video production company formerly located in Los Angeles, and now based in Moline, Illinois.

— Submitted by:  
Ohio Humanities Council

## Silent Auction Results

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the annual auction held at our conference. Whether you donated quality items or placed a generous bid, your involvement means a lot. It may not be obvious to all attending but the auction could never happen without the volunteer efforts of our auction crew; Beryl Beckett, Judy Hendershot and Kendal Taylor. We certainly hope that you all benefited from the roll out of their new idea for streamlining the checkout process! Our final tally for the auction was \$1156.00. Of that, \$50.00 was the result of folks generously rounding up their auction bid to make a donation. Thank you all for another fun and profitable auction.

## TOUR, Continued from Page 3

Most will be gone by 2050 unless we take our stewardship seriously or put them to alternative uses. The Museum was started in 1984 in an unused building. Since then it has grown by leaps and bounds. There have been three expansions and planning for a fourth. It is devoted to farm and home lifestyles of the 1800s and early 1900s and houses over 5,000 items. All items have been donated by farmers and local citizens who are passionate about preserving the history of the building of Knox County. Despite the rain, wind, and drizzle, all had a great time.

If anyone would like to purchase a copy of the beautiful full-color booklet with pictures and descriptions of this year’s tour, please send \$5.00 to Friends of Ohio Barns, c/o Pam Gray, 5 Teryl Drive, Mt Vernon, OH 43050.

— Pam Gray



# *Buckeye Trail Association Grateful for Award*

The Buckeye Trail Association is proud to accept the 2014 Barn of the Year Award for Adaptive Re-use from the Friends of Ohio's Barns! It means a lot to us to have all of our volunteer work recognized by our Friends who care about the past and future of Ohio's barns. Tom O'Grady delivered the beautiful award to the BTA at our annual Buckeye Trail-Fest, the very same day as the FOB meeting. We are sorry that with our event at the same time we were not able to be present to meet all of you. We presented the award to our membership the very next day and a round of applause was shared for the volunteers who have devoted so much time.



**Buckeye Trail Association Barn in Harrison County near Tappan Lake serves multiple uses.**

The BTA Century Barn is an 1888 English three bay ground barn with louvered ventilation. The Barn was part of the Beal Family Farm and used to support sheep and cattle operations and for hay storage. The barn is 40' x 50' in measurement with approximately 2,000 square feet of space inside. The Barn has been cleaned up and rehabilitated for community use and by Buckeye Trail Association volunteers. In 2003, The BTA signed a 30 year lease with the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District for the Barn, a stone's throw from the waters of Tappan Lake. Since that time, volunteers have been cleaning up the barn and surrounding area, preparing the site as a meeting and event location for BTA members and trail-side bunk house for Ohio's Buckeye Trail and North Country National Scenic Trail. The Barn is ready for use for annual meetings, board meetings, group picnics, and other events.

The Barn is available to the community for use by donation only. The Barn is often used as a base camp for canoeists and kayakers accessing Tappan Lake as well as hikers along the trail stopping for a time to access the historic community of Deersville, Ohio along the Moravian Trail. The Barn also provides a place to take in the exceptional birding opportunities that the combination of surrounding open fields, ponds, lake shore, and forested hillsides create. The Barn is also a part of the Harrison County Quilt Barn Project, sporting a "basket" quilt square on the side. The BTA Century Barn is the only facility of its kind along the entire 1,400+ miles of the BT. The BTA is proud of the partnership between the non-profit and the public agency, the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, to bring this historic asset to life and available to the general public.

All of the renovations to the barn have been by volunteers of the BTA and by making the best use of Scouting and church group projects. BTA volunteers have invested several thousand hours to install a new metal roof, pressure wash the interior woodwork revealing the original handiwork of the Barn's creators, paint the exterior, and more. Volunteers also installed electricity and plumbing, new rough cut wooden floors in the main room and loft, men's and women's restrooms and showers, an office for administrative use, a full service kitchen, and new stairs to new loft bunk rooms able to accommodate 40. The BTA took care to gently discourage bats by installing twelve large bat houses nearby and screened rebuilt louvered windows. Drainage tile has been installed to carry water away from the back of the barn.

Come visit our barn! We would love you to use it and provide us with suggestions on the ongoing maintenance, use and promotion of such an irreplaceable part of Ohio's history.

Thank you Friends of Ohio's Barns for appreciating and honoring the hard work of a bunch of trail volunteers with a soft spot in their hearts for an old barn.

— Andrew Bashaw, Director  
Buckeye Trail Association

## **55 MPH, Continued from Page 1**

developed and The Ohio Statehouse and most downtown Columbus office buildings are located within this tract.

Directly north of the Refugee Tract is the U.S. Military District. In Licking County, with a fairly strong New England settlement around Granville and a healthy Middle Atlantic and southern in-migration by 1850 one can see a mixture of mostly New England and Southern barns. Many people of German descent were pacifists and chose not to participate in the Revolutionary War and did not qualify for land warrants at the conclusion of the hostilities. Their presence in this district is scarce. More bank barns with the forebay start showing up in Knox County amid numerous New England and southern barns as this district's northern region abuts the Congress Lands.

St. Rt. 13 travels through the Congress Lands of Richland County. Pennsylvania German farmers migrated westward along the Great Trail from Pittsburg and bought much of this land in Richland and adjacent Ashland and Wayne counties. One sees plenty of bank barns with the forebay throughout this region. While several New Englanders and a few southerners settled in Richland County the Pennsylvania German bank barns dominate these Congressional Lands.

Following Rt. 13 northward toward Lake Erie through Norwalk in Huron County we arrive at the lakeshore town of Huron in Erie County. These two counties are located in what is known as the Firelands, a tract set aside as restitution for the residents of several Connecticut towns whose homes had been burned by the British forces during the American Revolution. The Firelands are the western end of the Connecticut Western Reserve. Barns throughout the Firelands and the Western Reserve tend to be based on the three bay New England bank barn style. Built on the lake plain most tend to be ground barns and the Pennsylvania bank barn and the southern barn are less likely to be present.

As people migrated into the Ohio country after the Revolutionary War they headed for districts especially set

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FOB President, Ric Beck, left and Mr. Vice President, Dan Troth, right join Marjorie and Gary Baumberger as they receive the 2014 Barn of the Year Award for Agricultural Use.



Photos by Pamela Whitney Gray

Mr. Vice President, Dan Troth left joins Gary and Janice Schlagbaum as they accept the 2014 Barn of the Year Award for Stewardship. President, Ric Beck at right, falls asleep during the award presentation.

## Barn of the Year Winners for the 2014 OBC

It was an honor to once again present two very deserving families and one volunteer organization the Friends of Ohio Barns annual Barn of the Year Award at the recent Ohio Barn Conference in Knox County, April 26, 2014.

In attendance were Marjorie and Gary Baumberger of the Kindelberger Stone Barn, winner of the Agricultural Use award. Also there was the Schlagbaum Family; Janice, Gary and kids, to accept the award for Stewardship. The Adaptive Re-Use winner was the Buckeye Trail Association, but unfortunately Andrew Bashaw, the representative for BTA had another commitment at a function of their own and was unable to attend.

The Baumberger's told us their beautiful stone barn that was built in 1883 with stone quarried from the farm of Frederick Baumberger. The heavy timber interior frame provided strength and storage for hay and grain, and shelter for the beef cattle raised there. In fact, the Baumbergers still proudly continue to work livestock on the farm, as well as care for the other

wonderful stone outbuildings and stone house. Mrs. Baumberger even said the spring house is still functional and many of the stone, timber and old farming tools are still in the barn! Plan on coming down to Monroe County this fall for the Friends of Ohio Barns Picnic, and get a chance to look at this magnificent farm yourself!

It was a family affair for the Schlagbaums to accept the Stewardship Award. Russell, a son, submitted the nomination for consideration. He wrote of how Clara Helmkamp, (Russell's Great Grand Mother), and her Husband, Bernard started the farm around 1870. Mr. Helmkamp passed away and Clara remarried Bernard Schlagbaum in 1874 and so started the Schlagbaum family farm.

The English ground barn has seen many changes to its original beginnings including gable end sheds, louvered windows and of course new doors, paint and roofs. All in all, it has weathered the change beautifully because of the loving care the Schlagbaums have given the barn over the years. Primarily used for storage

of family things, antiques, machinery, and some occasional firewood, the barn is still in pristine condition; a true testament to the family that owns it.

The Buckeye Trail Association has worked very hard through strictly volunteer efforts to clean, repair and breathe new life into a ground barn once owned by a local farm family. The original use of this 40x50 structure was to house cattle, sheep and store hay. In 2003 the BTA signed a 30 year lease with the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District to utilize the barn for member meetings, picnics, and community use. The North Country National Scenic Trail is being re-routed right by the barn so more folks can admire the fantastic work the volunteers have done to give this hard working barn a new career.

Thanks to all of you that submit nominations for Barn of the Year. Every year we see new and fantastic examples of the stewardship of Ohioans and we whole heartedly applaud the efforts!

— Pamela Whitney Gray

## *Watch for Upcoming Knox County Barn Tour*

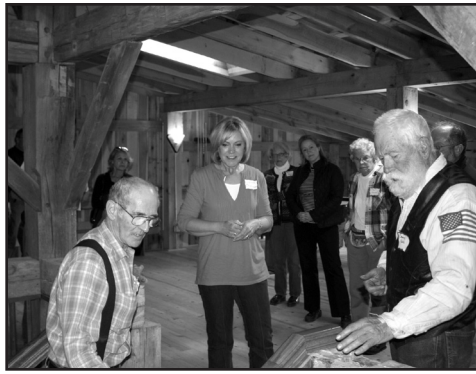
The Knox County Barn Tour will be held September 13, 2014 and sponsored by the Knox County Renaissance Foundation. The tour route will be mostly west and north of Mt. Vernon and will include the Randall Farm on Sparta Road. The Randall's received the 2014 Barn of the Year Award for Stewardship from Friends of Ohio Barns. Paul Knoebel of Friends of Ohio Barns will be present to raise the mini barn again. There will be other attractions at all the stops for the whole family to enjoy.

# Adaptive Reuse Focus of Barn Workshop

A nice spring Thursday afternoon welcomed members of Friends of Ohio Barns and guests to Knox County. Arriving at The Barn we were greeted by the owners Janet and Steve Thompson. Over thirty people were in attendance as the afternoon workshop commenced. Janet and Steve recapped their journey of rescuing and rehabilitating an old, dilapidated ground-barn that had been an icon on Rts. 3 & 36 south of Mt. Vernon for many years.

After purchasing the property the barn was slated to be demolished and burned. But their large extended family had other ideas and the plans for a family gathering place began to take form. Janet and Steve did their homework. Working closely with the township and county departments they made plans to have the barn moved back from the road 125ft. They talked with and received quotes from several contractors for the actual moving of the original timber frame structure.

A new foundation was constructed



**Paul Knoebel, left, and Janet Thompson listen to George Ellis, during the barn workshop on Thursday afternoon before the annual Barn Tour at the The Barn owned by Steve and Janet Thompson.**

and the frame would be raised several feet to allow for more head-room and a feeling of spaciousness. Several rotted timbers were replaced and other repairs were made. A new roof and cupola, new siding, and a beautiful paint job put the finishing touches on the outside. Inside, a wide

open stairway was installed from the hay-loft to the ground floor. A catering kitchen and restroom facilities were added.

Soon after the barn was ready for family use requests started coming from other families and organizations to rent it for their events. So the family barn soon morphed into a business that has increased with each year.

After the presentation by the Thompsons a lively discussion followed with questions and answers about various aspects of the renovation. When asked for advice they said that working with the local officials was key. Even though, in the beginning the barn was only intended for personal and family use, following their guide lines was a great help when the decision was made to rent it out.

The Thompsons then led us on a tour of the barn pointing out various things that they had done. Refreshments and networking were enjoyed by all.

— Pamela Whitney Gray

## 55 MPH, Continued from Page 5

aside for them or they were drawn to regions where relatives had settled or where language, religion, land use, or some other cultural affinity attracted them. Evidence of this is visible in the traditional structures these ethnic or folk groups built on the land.

When traveling across Ohio from east to west along the National Road one passes through the Seven Ranges into the U.S. Military District. These regions were settled largely by Middle Atlantic and Southern migrants. It might be expected that the southern barns and Pennsylvania barns would be predominant. The National Road then passes into the northern region of the Virginia Military District, land set aside to compensate soldiers from Virginia for their service during the revolution. Southern barns with the gable end entry and hay hood are prevalent along roadways in this region. West of the Virginia Military District the National Road passes through the Congress Lands once again. Sold on the market to all comers Clark, Montgomery, Miami, Preble, and Darke counties were peopled by a large number of Middle Atlantic settlers from Pennsylvania and Maryland and a significant number of German immigrants.

These Congress Lands were also heavily populated by southerners but very few New Englanders. One could then expect to see an abundance of Pennsylvania barns and southern barns and only a small number of the New England barns.

As Dr. Hubert Wilhelm, professor of Geography and Ohio Settlement says, one is more likely to see hybrid barns in the western part of the state, especially the northwest in the Great Black Swamp region. Settled later than eastern parts of the state the barnbuilders were either influenced by other barn types they had encountered or they may have worked alongside of itinerant craftsmen who had built barns in these other regions. Barns with a strong Pennsylvania German influence may be seen to sport a hay hood or a pent roof or some other feature common to one of the other traditions in barn-building.

Travelers following the 3 C Highway from Cleveland to Columbus and Cincinnati would watch the barn styles evolve as they crossed out of the Connecticut Western Reserve into the Congress Lands, the U.S. Military District, the Refugee Tract, the Virginia Military District and back into the Congress Lands. Taking U.S. Route 33 diagonally across Ohio from

the southeast to the northwest one would transition through yet a different sequence of the same barn types.

While it is possible to see all three traditional types in many counties of Ohio, some regions are devoid of some barn styles while others are predominant. One can expect to see some overlap of cultural groups on the margins of their respective settlement regions. One is reinforced in this observation with the regular appearance of the New England town square throughout the Western Reserve and other New England settlements in Ohio. The Pennsylvania diamond square seen in towns along the Zane's Trace and other areas heavily populated by settlers from southeastern Pennsylvania around Philadelphia.

A smattering of round and octagonal barns, Dutch barns, and other less common types may be found throughout the state but they are not predominant anywhere. Ohio is a fine cross-section of American culture and the early subdivision of the Ohio country following the American Revolution played a key role in the distribution of the traditional barns one encounters traveling across the state.

— Tom O'Grady



# Mini Barn Schedule is packed again!

Paul Knoebel and the mini barn have a busy schedule this summer/fall. Here are the dates. Please contact us or Paul, if you can help out. (Paul's contact is on our website in the member section). It is always educational and lots of fun! There is set up and tear down on the single days, and assis-

tance with Paul helping the kids or answering questions of the parents, all very easy stuff. Paul is the old pro who will gladly walk you through the fun.

This is one our longest standing programs and our best way to interact with kids, hoping to educate them in the process!



Kids can't resist jumping in on a barnraising with the well-traveled mini barn. No barn in America has been raised and razed as many times as this gem.

**July 19** - Portage Lakes State Park (contact Paul for details)

**September 13** - Knox County Driving Barn Tour (details coming soon on website)

**Sept. 14** - Cleveland Metro Parks (contact Paul for details)

**Sept. 20** - Hancock County Driving Barn Tour (details forthcoming on website)

**Sept. 27-28** - Malabar Farm Heritage Days (check out [www.malabarfarm.org](http://www.malabarfarm.org) for details)

**October 10-12** - Algonquin Fall Festival (check out [www.carrollcountyohio.com](http://www.carrollcountyohio.com) for details)

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