

Nominations accepted for Ohio Barn of the Year

Do you know about an outstanding barn in your region of the state? If you do, you have almost no time left to get it nominated for the annual Friends of Ohio Barns "Barn of the Year Award." The deadline is March 15.

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

Before you do anything else, contact Dan Troth at dtroth@columbus.rr.com.

Nominations may be mailed to Dan Troth, 7591 Perry Road, Delaware, Ohio 43015. The award will be presented at the conference on Saturday evening, March 31.

Background photo: The Kettering barn will be one of those visited on this year's barn tour. For more information on the tour and this year's barn conference, see the articles in this special barn conference edition of *The Old Barn Post*.

Photo by Bob Rowland



FRIENDS OF OHIO BARNs

P.O. Box 203
Burbank, Ohio 44214



The Old BARN POST

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Ohio Barn Conference VIII

Here we go again. The eighth annual Ohio Barn Conference is scheduled for Friday, March 30 through Sunday, April 1 at Malabar Farm in Richland County. A full schedule again awaits the barn enthusiasts who have been sitting on the edge of their seats since last year's conference in Trumbull County.

The events will begin with the Barn Tour on Friday morning. Participants will get a taste of at least seven great barns of varying styles and many unique features. The tour will begin with the 2006 Barn of the Year award winner for adaptive re-use.

Lunch will be at Mohican Gardens greenhouse, where we may get a hint of the smell of spring. The landscape in this part of the state is home to many a fine, large barn, several of which sport dates in their slate roofs. The tour will also take us through the village of Jeromesville, which is home to a number of historic buildings.

Saturday's agenda will feature speakers, demonstrations, and exhibits. Speakers will cover topics including photographing barns, restoration and historic preservation, agricultural easements, tax incentives for barn repair, and political support for barns. Trades specialists will cover topics including roofing, lime mortar, and stonemasonry. Attendees will be able to raise questions with experienced representatives on a barn repair panel. The fabulous Barn Detectives will be reviewing some of the interpretive clues and repair challenges in barns

from the previous day's tour.

Saturday evening will be capped off with dinner, a silent auction, presentation of the Barn of the Year Award, and live music.

Participants will have breakfast at Malabar Farm on Sunday morning followed by a presentation on barn typology and distribution, a tour of Malabar's barns, and a discussion on county barn surveys.

All of this farm heritage activity will be taking place in Johnny Appleseed country, rolling over the glaciated landscape and moraine deposits of Ashland and Richland counties. Louis Bromfield's historic home and experimental organic farm will be the backdrop of the best Ohio Barn Conference yet. It would be a mistake of grand proportion to sit this year's conference out. Members of Friends of Ohio Barns look forward to joining you for this memorable event.

Put these dates on your calendar. For more information, go to our website at <http://ohio-barns.osu.edu>. We'll see you there.

This barn on the Taylor farm will be one of the barns visited on Friday's barn tour during Ohio Barn Conference VIII.

Photo by Bob Rowland



Please recycle this newsletter. Share it with a friend.
Printed on recycled paper, of course.

Board positions open

Friends of Ohio Barns is seeking candidates to fill board positions of members whose terms are expiring. Each position is a three-year term with duties as varied as the imaginations of the people filling them. Responsibilities include participating in the annual conference, attending four board meetings each year, participating in conference calls, and representing Friends of Ohio Barns at festivals and events with the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing something worthwhile to help save a part of Ohio's rich agricultural heritage.

Board members can contribute to the quarterly newsletter, help organize the annual

Ohio Barn Conference and Barn Tour, write articles for local and regional publications, help expand the organization's contractors list, help organize barn repair workshops with skilled trades specialists, and help promote countywide barn surveys locally and across the state. There is no end to the way an enthusiastic board member can be helpful to Friends of Ohio Barns.

If you are interested in making a bid for one of the positions on the board, send a short biography with your goals and ideas to Friends of Ohio Barns, P.O. Box 203, Burbank, Ohio 44214, or e-mail friendsohiobarns@aol.com.

Volunteers needed on local level

Friends of Ohio Barns has undertaken an enormous task, and we see quite clearly that we can't do it alone. Therefore, we are seeking volunteers who would be willing to help out in their own regions, educating others about barn conservation and the protection of Ohio's agricultural heritage.

Help is needed to get countywide barn surveys under way in as many counties as possible. We need people who can lead the initiative in their own communities. Barns are associated with an important part of local history. As we get these barns identified, the story of early farm life in Ohio follows. As we learn more about the barns, we also learn about their builders.

Volunteers interested in hosting a booth or table at county fairs, local festivals, and other events can receive assistance from FOB. We can supply you with brochures, newsletters, posters, and other resources if you are willing to promote and help distribute information locally.

Maybe you're an organizer. FOB needs help putting together the next Ohio Barn Conference, the Barn Tour, or an Ohio Barn Workshop to help people understand the techniques and challenges of barn repair. If you have the initiative and the desire to help out, let us know. See a board member at the conference or contact us by e-mail at friendsohiobarns@aol.com.

Your membership helps support FOB's mission

Another year went by and it's time again to renew your membership to Friends of Ohio Barns and your subscription to "The Old Barn Post."

FOB has been busy over the past year. Members have worked with folks in Champaign County who conducted a barn quilt tour and others in Wayne County on a fall farm tour. Board members conducted repair and tool use demonstrations, mini barn-raising, and staffed education/awareness booths at local events like the Algonquin Mill Festival in Carroll County, the Heritage Days event at Malabar Farm in Richland County, and the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Festival in southern Perry County. These events involved school children and other citizens across the state in barn conservation.

We continue to support Miami, Champaign, and Ashland counties with their barn inventories and awareness efforts. FOB encourages other counties to

join in this undertaking.

Another annual FOB picnic was held last fall, and more barns were toured. FOB members have managed to poke around in a record number of barns this past year, partly to offer guidance to barn owners with their ongoing stewardship efforts and partly to feed their insatiable appetites to see and learn more about the endless variations on barn-building.

Rudy Christian and Laura Saeger have represented FOB at the National Trust Conference and have been active with the formation and guidance of the National Barn Alliance, helping that effort to file papers and become a 501c3 organization. Needless to say, Rudy and Laura continue to work tirelessly (it probably is somewhat tiring) networking with other barn conservation efforts including the Michigan Barn Preservation Network, the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Barn Again!, and their connections with the Timber Framers

Silent auction items needed

Last years silent auction was fun. In some cases it was personal. But it was fun. A lot of very nice donated items helped raise a little money to offset some of the costs of the conference.

FOB encourages all attendees to bring some items as a donation to the silent auction fund raiser. We hope you can contribute an item or two—something handmade, collectible, store-bought, or something interesting you may have found in your travels.

Whatever you bring, the more items, and the better the items, the more exciting the auction and the better the results. In any case, if you can't find any items to donate, at least come prepared to make someone else bid a little higher before walking off with an item of your fancy.

Guild and the Preservation Trades Network. They say they've been building a house, too, out of timbers salvaged from an eighteenth century New York church.

So FOB has been one busy group of volunteers. But it takes financial support to pull this off. With your support we can become a stronger and more effective organization. We need your participation and financial contributions. If you are unable to contribute your time, your membership dues will help support our mission to protect Ohio's barns. Please renew today and invite a friend or two to join as well. You will receive discounts on conference fees and workshops and have "The Old Barn Post" delivered to your home.

To renew your membership or to newly subscribe please complete the form on the insert in this newsletter. May as well register for the conference while you're at it.

Thanks for your past and continued support for Friends of Ohio Barns.

2007 conference schedule

Friday, March 30

Barn Tour

Saturday, March 31

- 7:15 a.m. Registration opens; continental breakfast
- 8:15-8:30 Welcome, opening remarks
- 8:30-9:30 Featured Speaker (Rudy Christian)
- 9:30-10:15 Photographing barns for pleasure and preservation (Dan Troth & Larry Sulzer)
- 10:15-10:45 Morning break (wood identification, bookstore, and exhibits)
- 10:45-12:15 Breakout sessions
 - Tom Ambrose (barn restoration through historic preservation project)
 - Fred Cannon—Agricultural easements
 - Extension Office representative—Tax incentives for barn repair
 - Bob Gibbs—Political support for barns
- 12:15-1:45 Lunch—Annual meeting, officer election, FOB year in review, next year's conference location and theme
- 1:45-3:30 Breakout sessions
 - Jim Scott—Roofer
 - Jeffrey Price—Lime mortar
 - Keith Sommer—Stonemason
- 3:30-4:00 Afternoon break (submit wood identification forms, bookstore and exhibits)
- 4:00-4:45 Barn Detectives
- 4:45-5:30?? Barn Repair panel (trades people and board members)
- 6:30-Dinner Silent auction, Barn of the Year Award, live music

Sunday, April 1

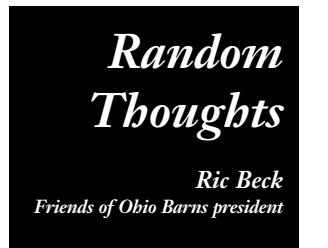
- 8 a.m. Breakfast at Malabar Farms (award for wood identification contest, lifetime member plaques)
- 9:00-9:45 Tim Anderson
- 9:45-noon Rotating tour of Malabar barns (Rudy on restoration, Nancy and Bob on barn surveys, and Louie Andres on Malabar)

Friends of Ohio Barns Board of Directors

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Please join us ...

Now that the glow of the holiday season is behind us, it is time to look forward to 2007 and what it will bring. Your board members at Friends of Ohio Barns are busy preparing for what looks to be another exciting Barn Conference in Mansfield March 30 through April 1.



We have a full slate of presenters, demonstrations, and tours this year with an emphasis on the trades and some opportunities for hands-on interaction. The morning and afternoon breakout sessions should be especially helpful to members wanting to learn about repair and restoration techniques as well as ways to preserve your barn through state and local incentives.

The board is also asking for your involvement, questions, and donations to make this year's conference another rousing success.

We will have four openings on the board and would like anyone who is interested in joining the board to submit a short biography along with a picture and reasons for consideration to be elected to the three-year post. Elections will be held at the Saturday lunch session. Send your information to our post office box address, or e-mail us at friendsohiobarns@aol.com.

The Barn Repair Panel will assemble again to answer questions about your barn during the afternoon session on Saturday. Please bring questions and pictures if possible to share with us and we will do our best to help. Better yet, send them in ahead of time, on a disc if possible, and we will be able to project it for a better view by the whole audience.

Finally, we are looking for donations for the silent auction, scheduled for Saturday evening at the conference. We have had great success with this in years past, in large part because of you! Barn- and farm-related goods and edibles sell well, so get your donation items together and bring them on down.

I look forward to the possibilities of 2007—to serving as your president, and to meeting with you at the upcoming conference. Let's make it another great year!

"If a building makes us light up, it is not because we see order; any row of file cabinets is ordered. What we recognize and love is the same kind of pattern we see in every face, the pattern of our own life form. The same principles apply to buildings that apply to mollusks, birds, or trees. Architecture is the play of patterns derived from nature and ourselves."

— Jonathan Hale