



The Old BARN POST

A publication of Friends of Ohio Barns • February, 2018 • Vol. XVII, Issue 1

Ohio Barn Conference and Barn Tour XIX

This year promises to be a very interesting conference and barn tour in Carroll County. We will kick off the conference with a Thursday afternoon Workshop at the Algonquin Mill Farm complex. There will be a tour of some of the buildings in the complex headed up by Mike Mangan, the resident mill manager. Mike has lived on the premises over 30 years, so I think he will have some stories to tell! Please check out the insert in this newsletter and our website for more information.

Come along with Friends of Ohio Barns as we spend a day stepping back into the past. We will see the very beginnings of settlement in eastern Ohio. Listen and learn as Rudy, Dan, and Ric edify and entertain us with a day of time-travel. We will begin with a crudely constructed log barn with double cribs and a dogtrot all under one roof. Next, in the timeline of barn building, we will view a very fine timber frame barn built by scribe-rule construction, exhibiting hewn members, a principle-rafter roof system, marriage marks, and fine stone foundations. From scribe rule timber framing we then move on to an example of square-rule construction and sawn materials. Gambrel and Gothic roof barns were the next to arrive on the scene as we will see. Finally, we have an example of the plank construction era. By the time the day is over we will have traveled from the late 1700s to the mid-1900s. So, put on your hiking boots, dress for the weather, be it good or bad, leave the driving to the bus driver, relax, and enjoy your travel through time.

Saturday's conference will be held at the Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum. Fun fact: Rudy Christian designed the timber frame in which we will be spending our day. The site is beautiful, and our presentations will not disappoint. We have welcomed back Doug Reed to be our Keynote speaker. Doug has been spending a lot of time

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Photos: Alan Walter

Gable-to-gambrel conversion by Todd & Kim Davis, Cattlecreek Farm.



Algonquin Mill barn, Whispering Wind Farm, site of the Thursday afternoon Barn Detective Workshop.



Here it is February, well into 2018. That means, the board members are in full swing to finalize last minute details for the upcoming 19th Annual Ohio Barn Conference and Barn Tour. As always, they strive to insure your experience is an excellent one. Thursday Workshop plans are being refined. Barns are being spiffed up in readiness for your April visit. Speakers are polishing up their latest presentations. Bus drivers are studying their maps. Caterers are laying in supplies. All will be ready to roll come April 26th. SEE YOU ALL THERE!

However, the FOB Board must take a longer look into the hourglass. This is the time of year for the board's annual Face-to-Face meeting. An all-day affair with an agenda a mile long. This means they must keep their eye on the ball, their shoulder to the wheel, and their ear to the ground. You should see Dan try to work in that position. All kidding aside, the obligation is taken very seriously and that is why over the years a well-oiled machine has developed.

In the coming year FOB hopes to spread their wings just a little more, adding a new event or two while continuing to refine and enhance existing activities. If you have suggestions of something you think would interest the FOB membership or appeal to young people you are encouraged to share it with a board member. FOB is a very active group and is always looking for new people to become members and join the fun. So, if you or someone you know is interested in a seat on the board or becoming involved in the FOB organization please contact one of the board members. You will find a list of contact information in this newsletter.

I am happy to report the barn series in the Ohio Farmer has been well received. I have had the pleasure of talking with people from all over the state about their barns. Sometimes we get a little emotional but mostly we just get excited about sharing our stories and concerns. What excites me most is, the articles are generating requests for Barn Talks. What a wonderful way to meet people and awaken those wonderful or perhaps even terrifying memories. Then there are the people who have never experienced farm life. A perfect opportunity to educate them to the importance of agriculture and the role the barn has played throughout the history of our country. Just remember I will go anywhere to see and talk about barns.

Keep the Barn Doors Closed,
Pamela Whitney Gray, President

Check your Address on the Front of this Issue!

If you have a hashtag (#) by your name then please be aware that we will be removing your name from our mailing list for the conference newsletter after this issue due to high costs of printing and mailing. Our intention was to entice our past members to come to the conference and perhaps rejoin by mailing the conference newsletter to all of you. Please consider becoming a member (there is a form to do so inside this issue) — then you will receive The Old Barn Post plus enjoy other benefits of being a member with Friends of Ohio Barns.

A Special Thanks to our 2017 Endowment Fund Donors

We would like to extend a special Thank You to all who donated funds to Friends of Ohio Barns in 2017. The following list of donors is in alphabetical order and bears no association with the amount of the donations received. Donors: Charles Bauer, Ric Beck, Tom Berg, Rudy Christian, Gary Clower, Ed Den-Hann, Suzanne Fisher, Vicki George, Pamela Gray, David Greer, Denny Hendershot, Jim Howard, Rich Kolehmainen, Fred Krift, Rex McConahay, Scott Neild, Ken Noffsinger, Plain Twp. Historical Society, Phillip Pillin, Ivan Reed, Roscoe Village, Laura Saeger, Michael Schmidt, Sarah Sisser, Nathaniel Stizlein, Douglas Terpstra and Mike Wengler. The donations came in the form of extra money sent with renewals, round up of winning bids at the auction, donations from family funds and through the "Big Give" sponsored by the Columbus Foundation.

Thank You for helping to build our Endowment fund!

Laura Saeger, Treasurer

Silent Auction Donations Needed!

Part of the fun we have each year during the Ohio Barn Conference is, of course, the silent auction. Friends of Ohio Barns encourage 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.

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!

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Photo: Alan Walter

Carroll County Golden Age Retreat (County Home) barn.



Photo: Alan Walter

Very old scribe rule Sweitzer bank barn on the tour owned by Scott and Debbie Druhot.



Photo: Sarah Woodall

Exceptional example of a double crib log barn, on site at the Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum.



Paul Knoebel pointing out the extremely tight growth rings on one of the notched ends of the hewn logs in the FFA double crib log barn.

Photo: Sarah Woodall

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overseas and has been contemplating how historical events have changed the way barns have been built. Doug will explain that barns are not only a just a part of history but how and why have they changed as part of the context of history. He will have a slideshow to help uncover some of the changes and explain how and why they came about. Rudy Christian and Laura Saeger will continue with our International Theme and present a slide show of the many interesting structures that they found while in Myanmar. Myanmar is a tropical country which means both farming and the barns and outbuildings farmers use are quite different than what we find in America. During the monsoon seasons crops thrive on the rain but during the dry season the river banks and lake become quite low and farmers take advantage of the riverbanks and lakeshores to plant fast growing crops. The dry seasons also allow crops to be dried and stored in the fields, so farm buildings are typically small and used to feed and water animals and store crops like rice and beans. Then back to Carroll County with a presentation from Amy Rutledge, Director of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce and Convention & Visitor's Bureau, on

the history of Carroll County. Amy will have a slide presentation and talk about the naming of the county, people of interest from the county, and the creation of the lake region. After lunch and our Annual Member Meeting we will be entertained, no doubt, by our very own Barn Detectives, Rudy Christian and Dan Troth. If you miss out on the barn tour then you will be able to get a glimpse of what the lucky ones saw on the Friday tour. And if you go on the tour then you will no doubt get a glimpse of the unusual pieces and parts of the tour! This year we will conduct a Barn Repair Panel with the help of Rudy Christian, Doug Reed, Ric Beck, Caleb Miller, and Mike Wengler. In the last newsletter we asked for submissions on barn repair questions for the panel to handle. Please check the Panel Discussion article in this newsletter for information. And we have welcomed back Nate and Lauren Etler, the first recipients of our Barn Conservation Grant, to give us an update on their barn repairs and the process they went through. As usual we will conduct the Silent Auction and Keith Sommer will be bringing back his fabulous antique tool collection to show.

It will be another great adventure so

mark your calendar, make your hotel arrangements, and get your registrations completed so you don't miss out!

By: Sarah Woodall and
Pamela Whitney Gray

Friday's Barn Tour

Come along with me to the barn.
Let us see the beauty there,
Where time stands still and
Craftsmanship was done with care.

Seven generations this
barn has served.
Look and listen and you will learn,
From traditions passed down
from father to son,
Where we're from and
what we've done.

Now comes another time.
With changes aplenty in
one life time.
Will we snub what we've
been given,
Or will we treasure it or let it
go to rack and ruin.

by Pamela Whitney Gray

Mini-Barn Finds a New Home

While agriculture remains one of the largest industries in Hancock County, Ohio, there is no doubt that the physical and proverbial landscapes of the county have changed significantly in the last century. Eighty percent of the land in the county is still used for agricultural production, but the more than 3,000 farms the county boasted in 1900 have dwindled to just around 800. In 1920, Hancock County had more than 10,000 head of dairy cattle. By the year 2000, that number hovered around 1,200 head and today there are just four dairy farms in the entire county. In many cases, small, diversified family farms have given way to bigger, commercial operations as farmers have felt the demand to specialize and grow ever-larger to stay viable and competitive.

Many residents of Hancock County are now several generations removed from the farm, myself included, with little awareness about the agriculture that still surrounds them or knowledge about how their food gets to a grocery store shelf or their dinner plate. This scenario is far from unique. It can be seen played out in many counties around our state and across the country.

As Executive Director at the Hancock Historical Museum in Findlay, Ohio, the staff and I began to notice that the schoolchildren visiting the museum on field trips had virtually no reference for agriculture as they would view the farming implements on display. At the same time, many senior residents of the county visiting the museum for other programming seemed eager to share their experiences and memories of life on the farm. As a result, in 2013, the museum set out to celebrate the county's agricultural heritage in a variety of new ways. We invited retired farmers to speak to hundreds of elementary school students as they visited the museum in late spring, providing a unique opportunity for intergenerational storytelling. That same year, the museum hosted its inaugural Historic Barn Tour — a self-guided tour of six historic barns dating from the 1840s to the 1910s. The museum reached out to Friends of Ohio Barns for guidance and research assistance. In its first year, more than 700 people attended the tour and the event received media attention from around the region. The tour won the Ohio State



Photos by: Sarah Sisser

Kindergarten students in the Museum's Barn. More than 4,000 Hancock County schoolchildren visit the Hancock Historical Museum every year.



Mini-barn raising at the Hancock Historical Museum on December 2nd with Paul Knoebel.

Historic Preservation Office's Public Education and Awareness Award as one of the best preservation programs in the state. From that first year, it was obvious that the tour resonated with the people of Hancock County, serving as a means to remember the area's farming history and to bring generations together.

Over the next few years, the museum's efforts to preserve local agricultural

heritage continued to snowball. In collaboration with the University of Findlay and with funding assistance from Ohio Humanities, I began to record the oral histories of Century Farm owners in the county in 2014. With new-found support and connections in the agriculture community, the museum started a biennial

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Farm-to-Table Dinner fundraiser, highlighting all local products and culinary talent. And, in 2017, the museum hosted its fourth Historic Barn Tour and its inaugural Breakfast in the Barn, with a combined total attendance of nearly 1,000 people. The tour continues to grow in popularity each year and has proven to be a vital tool in the preservation of historic barns in the area. Farmers and barn owners invest tens of thousands of dollars to prepare their barns for the tour, and guests visiting from as far away as Indiana and Pennsylvania request additional information from the museum on barn preservation. Friends of Ohio Barns has continued their support of the Hancock County Historic Barn Tour by lending expert advice to the barn owners and assisting museum staff in their research of the structures.

Most recently, the Hancock Historical Museum has embarked on an effort to remodel and improve its Agriculture Exhibit Center, affectionately known as “The Barn.” The Barn was added to the museum’s campus in the 1980s and welcomes thousands of visitors annually. In late 2017, with funds raised from the local farming community, we began work on new and engaging exhibits for the Barn, and pulled many never-before-seen artifacts from storage to be displayed. Larger implements that will go on display in the Barn when it reopens this year include a 1915 U.S. Standard Corn Husker, 1922 Fordson Tractor, Studebaker farm wagon, San-A-Pure Dairy milk wagon, and 1913 Buckeye Traction Ditcher.

One of the more significant recent additions to the museum’s renovated Agriculture Exhibit Center is Paul Knoebel’s “mini-barn”. A longtime FOB member, Paul devised the concept for the mini-barn from his knowledge of timber-framing and his desire to teach Ohio’s youth more about barns. He constructed the transportable wooden frame and raised it for the first time at the Wayne County Fair in 2003. For more than a decade, the barn was raised across the state, by kids ages 5-15, more than 165 times. When Paul announced his “retirement” in 2017, FOB and the Hancock Historical Museum came together to ensure that the mini-barn would continue to serve as a hands-on educational tool for Ohio’s youth.

In 2017, Paul Knoebel generously donated the mini-barn to Friends of Ohio



Paul Knoebel helping youngster guide a mini timber into its correct position.

Barns. FOB will house the mini-barn at the Hancock Historical Museum where it will have a semi-permanent home on display in the Agriculture Exhibit Center. Here, more than 4,000 Hancock County schoolchildren and countless visitors of all ages each year will have the opportunity to view the mini-barn and learn more about timber framing techniques and Ohio’s culturally significant and rapidly-vanishing barns.

Paul visited the Hancock Historical Museum on December 2nd to bring the mini-barn to its new home. With assistance from FOB Past President, Ric Beck, FOB member, Doug Tackett, and a group of Hancock County youth ranging in age from 5-13, the mini-barn was raised once more in the exhibit center. I will be working with the museum staff to add additional signage and artifacts to the mini-barn display, including several timber framing tools, before the exhibit center’s reopening this spring. Friends of Ohio Barns will maintain the ability to transport the mini-barn to functions and events outside of Hancock County whenever they like.

The Hancock Historical Museum has made many advances in the preservation of local agricultural heritage in the last five years, thanks in part to the continued support of Friends of Ohio Barns. Both organizations are proud to continue the legacy started by Paul Knoebel nearly 15 years ago. The new partnership formed

between the two entities with the display of the mini-barn illustrates their mutual desire to foster awareness and appreciation for Ohio’s barns, particularly among the state’s youngest residents.

Sarah Sisser

Board Member Elections

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

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, PO Box 203, Burbank, OH 44214 or email us at friendsohiobarns@gmail.com. Remember, new blood brings fresh ideas and keeps the organization alive with promise!

A stop on the Barn Tour



Workers tending chicken flock at Carroll County Home circa 1950's. The barn we're touring is in the background.

Membership Renewal Time is here!

Each year we are excited to send out our Ohio Barn Conference newsletter to all our past members. We do so to invite all Ohio stewards of our magnificent barns to see more excellent examples of barns in the state and be better informed of what is being done by Friends of Ohio Barns and our current members to help preserve the Ohio barn heritage.

We also do this in the hopes that you consider re-joining us by renewing your membership with Friends of Ohio Barns. Your membership helps us maintain valuable programs such as the barn survey, the Barn Detective program, the Barn Conservation Grant program and, most importantly, all the educational and awareness programs that arm enthusiasts with information and aid in their preservation efforts.

Please note that if there is a hashtag (#) by your name on the front of this issue you are in danger of being dropped from this mailing list due to high costs of printing and mailing. So please consider renewing your membership! Check out our website for costs and our secure online payment method. Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you in April!



Barn Tour Restrictions

The Barn Tour is a day-long event that requires some physical activity on your part. Please sign up and enjoy the tour if you are able to abide by the following stipulations:

You must be:

- physically able to get on and off a bus several times during the day
- able to walk on uneven terrain in potentially slippery conditions inside and outside the barns and around the property
- able to go up and down barn stairs and ramps/banks
- aware of possible dangerous conditions inside the barn and be able to move in tight spaces
- aware that low light conditions could exist inside the barns
- aware of the weather conditions for the day and dress accordingly

Panel Discussion set for Carroll County Ohio Barn Conference!

Do you have questions on barn repair? Or maybe you want to know what kind of barn you have on your property? Or possibly interested in finding out what kind of barn is down the road from you? Maybe you just have questions on barn history or just want to know what Vice President Dan is up to these days. Whatever your questions are we might be able to answer a few of them at the 2018 Ohio Barn Conference that will be held in Carroll County in April on Saturday the 28th. The Board is putting together a panel of qualified barn experts that will answer your pre submitted questions with the usual flare that we have all come to expect. So, if you have a question please submit it to Ric Beck before March 31st by emailing Ric at rbeck7736@gmail.com or sending him a cd or thumb drive to Ric at 7736 SR 42 S, Lexington, OH 44904. Please include your specific questions, all the information that you already have on the barn and several pictures that we can use on the big screen to help show your issues. If you have any questions please email Ric at the above address.

The American Civil War Touches Carroll County

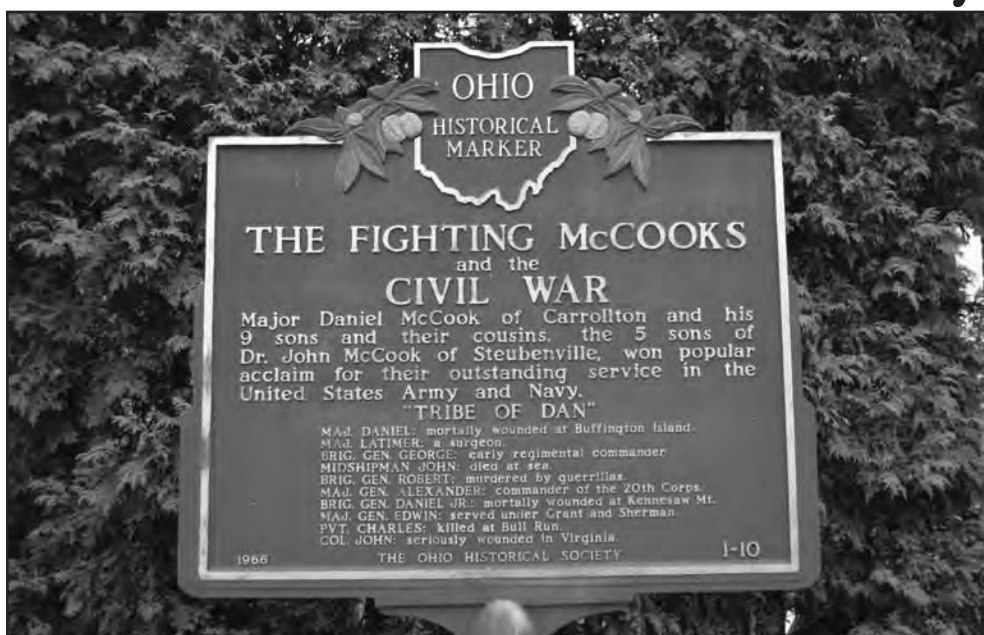
When the first generation of timber frames dotted the hilly landscapes of Carroll County many of the farmers were called away from their fields to take up arms in defense of an ideal — liberty. When the civil strife broke out in the east young men from Carroll County left their families, crops, and barns behind. The American Civil War touched Carroll County in a profound way.

Two brothers, Daniel and John McCook, and fourteen of their sons were involved in the army and navy, making that family one of the most prolific in American military history. Six of the McCooks reached the rank of brigadier general or higher. Several family members were killed in action or eventually died from their wounds.

Another Carroll County native, William Hunter Campbell, was an Ohio civilian who worked for the Union Army during the early years of the American Civil War. Campbell was born in Fox Township to Samuel and Sarah Hunter Campbell. Ohio historian, Henry Howe, states that Campbell's mother was named Jane Morgan, a cousin of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan whose cavalry penetrated further north than any other southern effort. Morgan's raiders were confronted first in Meigs County, Ohio at the Battle of Buffington Island where his 1,700 troops suffered significant casualties. Losses included 52 killed, 100 wounded, and 750 captured. About 700 escaped and were eventually captured in eastern Carroll County after the brief battle of Salineville in July 1863.

William Hunter Campbell was visiting friends in the Ohio Infantry in Kentucky in 1862 when he was recruited to participate in a raid to steal a Confederate locomotive and bring it north toward Federal lines. James J. Andrews, a civilian from Kentucky, recruited Campbell and 22 men from three Ohio regiments.

The raiders were to make their way south in civilian clothing and rendezvous in Marietta, Georgia. It was a challenge for men of military age to hide their northern accents and have a defensible explanation of why they were not in uniform serving the Confederacy. All made it to Marietta but two overslept. The others boarded a train pulled by the locomotive named General on April 12, 1862. The train trav-



Ohio Historical Marker listing some of the McCook family members that served in the war.



William Hunter Campbell (1839-1862), born in Carroll County and hanged in Atlanta, Georgia for his role in the Great Locomotive Chase during the American Civil War.

eled north. When the locomotive stopped in Big Shanty, Georgia for breakfast, the raiders stole the General and a few cars. They intended to tear up track, burn bridges behind them, and meet advancing Federal troops. The goal was the sever the north-south connection between the two important east west railroads that served the South and which were so important in supplying the war effort. After a harrowing chase, the raiders ran out of fuel and they abandoned the train fleeing into woods and fields south of Chattanooga. All were captured. All were tried and convicted as

spies and sentenced to death. At length everyone escaped. All were recaptured.

Leader James Andrews, and seven fellow raiders, including William Hunt Campbell, age 22, were hanged by Confederates on the charge of spying. Eventually six escaped again and made it to northern lines or to the Gulf of Mexico. Another six were eventually exchanged for southerners held in northern prisons.

This dramatic enterprise was immortalized in the early silent film with Buster Keaton called, *The General* (1926), and again in the Walt Disney classic, *The Great Locomotive Chase*, with Fess Parker (1956).

The first Congressional Medals of Honor ever awarded went to the soldiers who participated in the Andrews Raid. Many were given posthumously. Of the 22 Andrews Raiders only two of them did not receive the Medal of Honor, James Andrews and William Hunter Campbell. As civilians, they were not eligible.

William Hunter Campbell, a northerner from the hills of Carroll County, Ohio, joined Andrews Raiders and as an insurgent penetrated deep into the South where he was captured. His distant cousin, John Hunt Morgan, from the hills of Kentucky, led Morgan's Raiders, pushing his Confederate troops to the furthest point ever reached in the north where he was captured in Carroll County, Ohio. Neither cousin made it home from the war.

By: Tom O'Grady

Barn identification challenge met by reader

In the last issue we posted an image of a barn visited by FOB on an Ohio Barn Tour some years earlier. We challenged readers to try and identify the barn. We received one submission — from Mike Wengler, who correctly identified the octagonal stone barn (below) in Clark County.

Next: In which Ohio county does this double overhang Pennsylvania German barn (right) reside? FOB barn tour participants explored this uncommon type of barn within the past decade.



Octagonal stone barn in Clark County



Double overhang Pennsylvania German barn

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



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