



HOOSIER BARN CHRONICLE

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Indiana Barn Foundation to be joined by National Barn Alliance for Annual Meeting and Conference July 18, 2015



Charles Leik of National Barn Alliance with 1/4 scale dutch barn model

What a nice surprise we had one January morning, when we got word that Indiana Barn Foundation (IBF) had gotten the attention of the National Barn Alliance (NBA). It seems the NBA has been so impressed with the progress and growth we've had, that they asked to partner with IBF and hold their Annual Meeting in conjunction with ours in Indianapolis. Since that morning, our two organizations have worked together to plan a

conference that will bring national-level experts in barn preservation to Indiana for a full day of workshops, networking, barns, food and fun!

Through this joint effort, the National Barn Alliance will provide expert panelists and speakers for the conference, offer discounted memberships to IBF members, and has provided a generous grant to keep registration costs affordable.

Registration is at 8:30 am with the program beginning at 9:00 on July 18th, at the Normandy Barn. The day will include the assembly of a scale model barn, breakout sessions, an introductory meeting for those interested in being County Representatives, a showing of the film "The Resurrection of a Barn", and a presentation by architect Charles Bultman. The event will conclude with a tour of Traders Point Creamery, where four barns were rehomed and reassembled for their farm operation.

Breakout Sessions:

From experts to enthusiasts: people of all backgrounds learning what each of us can do to save barns.

Q&A Session with a panel of barn experts including contractors, architects, and preservationists to answer your barn questions.

County Representative Meeting: Janet Ayres, whose career has focused on developing rural leadership will lead a planning session for those interested in being County Reps for IBF. Share your ideas and get in on the ground level.

Meet the Artists/Crafters. See a display of barn art in a variety of forms. Visit with artist Gwen Gutwein, filmmaker Freddi Stevens-Jacobi, Indiana Artisan Dorrel Harrison and photographer Marsha Williamson-Mohr and more.

Other sessions include Legislative Efforts Affecting Barn Owners, and Barn Models as an Outreach Tool.

Keynote speaker will be architect Charles Bultman, who serves on the board of National Barn Alliance, and has extensive experience in barn restoration and repurposing.

The afternoon will include a presentation by IBF member Freddi Stevens-Jacobi, along with a screening of her film "The Resurrection of a Barn", which details the process of the restoration of her barn, overseen by Amos Schwartz.

Following the film, the conference will move from the Indiana State Fairgrounds to Traders Point Creamery in nearby Zionsville, Indiana for tours of the farm and barns. Attendees should plan to arrange their own transportation to Zionsville. This will be an opportunity to see four barns whose restoration and repurposing was also overseen by Amos Schwartz.

Space is limited, so register today at www.indianabarns.org.

When: July 18, 2015.
9am-5pm.

Where: Normandy Barn,
Indiana State Fairgrounds

Includes: Speakers,
Break-out Sessions, Film
Showing, 1/4 Scale Model
Barn Raising, Lunch, Barn
Tour at Traders Point
Creamery

Registration: \$30 for
members, \$40
nonmembers.
indianabarns.org



The historic Red Barn at Traders Point Creamery, part of the July 18th farm tour

Indiana Round Barns, *by James Penick*

With a documented total of 226 circular barns built in the state, Indiana has more circular barns than any other state. A survey in 1992 had only 111 of these circular barns remaining. Further research would be needed to determine the number of circular barns standing in 2015. Nearly half of all Indiana round barns have been lost since 1960.

Although construction of round barns in Indiana began in the 1870's, most round barns were constructed between 1900 and 1920. Most, but not all, round barns were constructed with a silo in the center of the barn. The silo was used to store forage and feed for the livestock.

The central location of the silo was thought to make the design of the round barn more efficient since the forage and feed needed to be carried, usually by pitchfork, to the livestock in the barn. The shape of the round barn allowed easy access to the silo from any section of the barn.

Steuben County once had three round barns. North of the small town of Orland stood a round barn with a magnificent self-supporting domed roof. The round barn had an internal silo that did not extend through the roof. Unfortunately, this beautiful round barn was demolished in the mid 1990s after years of neglect. A second round barn can be found in Steuben County on US Hwy 20 a little over 5 miles west of Angola. This

barn has been lovingly maintained and is in excellent shape.

The Griffin Round Barn is the third round barn in Steuben County. All true round barns in Indiana are made from wood except the Griffin Round Barn. The Griffin Round Barn is the only round barn in Indiana to be constructed of glazed tile. The tiles are also uniquely Indiana as they were manufactured in Brazil, near Terre Haute. Interestingly the tiles are not square like one would normally encounter, but actually curved to fit the design of the round barn.

The Griffin Round Barn has a 60 foot diameter with a silo of glazed tiles in the center. The cupola is actually the upper portion of the silo with the tiles arranged in a decorative pattern. The roof atop the silo had a small dormer for filling the silo, but unfortunately the silo's roof has collapsed. One of the interesting features of the barn is that some of the tiles have the manufacturer's name stamped on the tile, "Brazil Hollow Brick and Tile Co."



Griffin round barn, Steuben County. The only round barn in Indiana constructed of glazed tile.

Above one of the two curved wagon doors is the name "Griffin" in some type of decorative concrete. The barn itself was built between 1918 and 1920 according to the original owner's son who helped construct the barn.

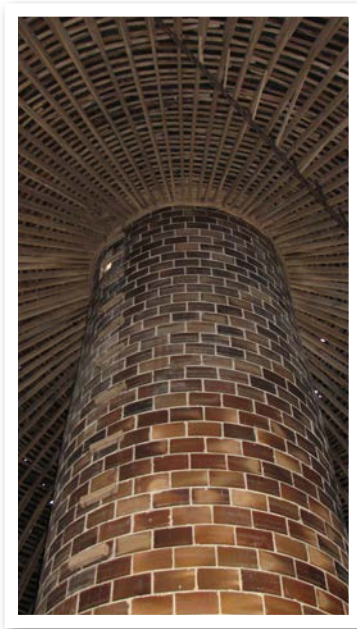
The future of the Griffin Round Barn is in doubt. Although the wall of the barn is structurally sound, the roof is ready to collapse. The silo's roof has already collapsed. The current owners of the barn do not have the financial resources to undertake the restoration work. Numerous fund raising efforts have fallen well short of their goal. The barn itself continues to deteriorate at an alarming rate. Pictures found on the internet are somewhat dated and do not show the alarming damage to the interior roof structure. Without some kind of restoration work in the next few years, the roof will collapse and the rest of the barn is sure to follow. Donations for the Griffin Round Barn are being accepted by Wood-Land-Lakes Resource Conservation and Development Council at Wood-Land-Lakes.org.

Have Brush-Will Travel!

Artist, Gwen Gutwein has been traveling around the state of Indiana searching out eye-appealing old barns, setting up a portable easel, and doing paintings right there looking at the barn, sometimes surrounded by the watchful eyes of barnyard animals!

Gwen started this painting odyssey over ten years ago. The whole endeavor sprang out of Gwen's desire to fulfill a calling...a passion to save the beautiful old barn structures...on canvas.

Her love of barns started with the family barn she played in as a child. Through her artistic life Gwen watched as treasured barn landmarks quietly closed their eyes, bowed their heads and vanished. The demise facing the barns prompted Gwen to use her talents as a vehicle to help draw attention to our Indiana treasures. Her goal is to complete a painting of two historic barns from each



Interior silo of Griffin round barn

Have Brush-Will Travel! (continued)

of Indiana's 92 counties. The number of paintings continues to grow; at this moment the count is at 156. Currently there is an exhibit of Gwen's paintings



Lake County, Amy and David Dance round barn.

entitled HERITAGE BARNs: An Artist's Passion, installed in the Fort Wayne Museum of Art through June 1, 2015. This Fall, there will be exhibitions at the Brown County Art Gallery and Switzerland County History Museum. Installations of the paintings with the barn's history hung with each will be traveling throughout Indiana into 2017.

To see more of the completed Indiana barn paintings visit Gwen's web site: www.gwengutwein.com.



Henry County, All Hands family barn

Also posted there is the current and growing touring schedule. Please feel free to contact Gwen if you have a comment or question. Her e-mail address is: gwen@gwengutwein.com

Note: Gutwein was instrumental in the founding of Indiana Barn Foundation. It was after her story was told in the Indianapolis Star that she was approached about forming a foundation to save Indiana's barns. She continues to dedicate much of her time to IBF as well as her Heritage Barn Series.

Barns Are In the Spotlight as Indiana Turns 200

IBF's Indiana Bicentennial Barn Quilt Project Endorsed by Bicentennial Commission

IBF members--congratulations to us! Next year Indiana celebrates its 200th birthday as a state, and IBF has been chosen to become an official participant in the Hoosier birthday celebration. The Indiana Bicentennial Commission has designated, as a Legacy Project, IBF's Indiana Bicentennial Barn Quilt.

What, you may ask, is the Indiana Bicentennial Barn Quilt? With help from our two partners, the Indiana State Quilt Guild and Indiana Landmarks, IBF is now reaching out to quilters across Indiana--living in every one of our 92 counties, calling on them to create and submit quilt blocks picturing an historic barn (or interesting feature) standing in their home county. (See the submission form at www.indianabarns.org.) Once the representative squares are selected, they'll be pieced together and the 92 county quilt blocks transformed into a striking 78"x78" display of color, form and pride in our Hoosier heritage.

This great quilt, to be finished early next Spring, will then tour Indiana throughout 2016. On display, it will be an emblem celebrating our historic barns, spurring their appreciation and strengthening resolve that these should--for old or new uses--be saved. At year's end, the great quilt will be auctioned--hopefully purchased for permanent public display--with the funds helping endow IBF's mission of Preserving Indiana's Heritage, One Barn at a Time. Deadline for submission of squares is Sept. 1, 2015. Quilters--start your needles!

Does Your Barn Have a Story?

Have you entered it into Bicentennial Barns of Indiana? A contest to honor Indiana's rural heritage and its future is now open. Any Indiana barn that was built prior to 1950 is eligible. Indiana celebrates its 200th anniversary as the nineteenth state in 2016 and to insure that agriculture is celebrated, the Bicentennial Barns of Indiana program was conceived in hopes of bringing attention to barns as icons of the past and future. This project has been endorsed by the Indiana Bicentennial Commission and is free and open to the public. For information on how to enter a barn, visit www.200indianabarns.com. Like us on Facebook at "Bicentennial Barns of Indiana."



Thank You

Welcome new member and donors!
Dunham Farms
Sara Edgerton
Halderman Farm Management Svc.
Pamela Pfrang

Calendar

Send submissions to info@indianabarns.org for consideration.

July 18, 2015 - Indiana Barn Foundation and National Barn Foundation Annual Meeting and Conference- Normandy Barn at Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indiana

August 7-23, 2015 - Indiana State Fair (volunteers still needed)

September 19, 2015 - 2nd Annual Northern Indiana Historic Barn Tour

October 1, 2015 - Bicentennial Barns Deadline for contest entries.

October 3, 2015 - Southern Indiana Barn Tour

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