

# HOOOSIER BARN

C H R O N I C L E

*Preserving Indiana's Heritage, One Barn at a Time*

A PUBLICATION OF



INDIANA BARN  
FOUNDATION

VOLUME 8, NO. 3  
FALL 2021

## BARN TOUR

2 0 2 1

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 25**

**10 A.M.-4 P.M.**

**ALLEN and DeKALB COUNTIES**

**TICKETS \$20**

*16 and under free with an adult*

## TICKETS

**ORDER ONLINE**

at [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org)

**OR PURCHASE  
DAY OF TOUR**

at Barn 1,  
Acres Land Trust Dustin Barn

We are excited to announce the Indiana Barn Foundation Barn Tour will include **TEN INDIANA HERITAGE BARNs** and a **HOMESTEAD FARM** with multiple historic buildings.

The Barn Tour is one of our largest fund raisers of the year. Get your ticket today and step off the beaten path to discover the beauty of Indiana heritage barns.

This is a rare opportunity to visit privately owned heritage barns in Northeast Indiana. Barn owners and docents will be on hand at each location to teach about the barns' histories and preservation efforts. The start of the tour begins at Barn 1, the Acres Land Trust Dustin Barn in Huntertown, IN. Upon arrival you will receive a map of the self-guided driving barn tour and a commemorative barn tour passport that will be stamped at each location. Barn 1 will feature unique, one of a kind raffles, a silent auction and door prizes. As you meander through Indiana's beautiful countryside, we have arranged a food truck located at Barn 5, the Butler Barn. Who Cut the Cheese food truck will be serving up gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches and sides.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To buy tickets or learn more about the tour, visit our website at [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org) or the Indiana Barn Foundation page on Facebook.

INDIANA BARN FOUNDATION APPRECIATES OUR BARN TOUR SPONSORS:



DAIRYLAND SEED



LOOK INSIDE TO SEE THE HERITAGE BARNs >>>>

# BARN TOUR

☆☆☆ 2021 ☆☆☆

SATURDAY, SEPT. 25



10 A.M.-4 P.M.

## BARN 1

### ACRES LAND TRUST DUSTIN BARN

1958 CHAPMAN ROAD ☆ HUNTERTOWN, IN

This pass-through barn built circa 1919-1920 has a loft on each side of the pass-through.



## BARN 2

### YODER FARM BARN

HUNTERTOWN, IN

The owners of this heritage barn have found new use by adding a working kitchen in the barn to process their garden produce and maple syrup.



## BARN 3

### SCHLATTER BARN

LEO, IN

Two barns circa 1913 will be available to tour. One barn is a bank barn the other is a hog barn. Both barns exhibit pegged timber frame construction.



## BARN 4

### SIDEL BARN

LEO, IN

Two barns are available to tour on this farm. The large barn is a German cantilevered bank barn built in 1889, also known as a Sweitzer barn. Hand-hewn timbers are sizeable. This is a very large and interesting barn. A small gable front shed that was a scale barn building is also open. Howe Scales Company manufactured the scales.





## BARN 5

FOOD TRUCK  
LOCATION

### BUTLER BARN

AUBURN, IN

This circa 1915 structure was historically known as the Rainbow Roof Bank Barn. The unusual roof type and the excellent condition of the barn make this one of the outstanding barns in northeast Indiana.



## BARN 6

### ORT FAMILY BARN

AUBURN, IN

This barn was built in 1907 and has been very well maintained.



## BARN 7

### SIMON HOMESTEAD FARM AND BARN

HUNTERTOWN, IN

Multigenerational farm. The farm includes a number of significant structures: carriage barn, tractor barn, cantilevered bank barn, hog barn and a dairy barn.



## BARN 8

### WATLAND FAMILY BANK BARN

FORT WAYNE, IN

The cantilevered bank barn, built in 1863, at the height of the Civil War, is impressive. The hand-hewn posts and beams are easily seen and appreciated.



**BARN TOUR TICKETS**

Order online at [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org)  
Purchase day of tour at Barn 1, Acres Land Trust Dustin Barn





## DONATING TO THE MAURI WILLIAMSON ENDOWMENT

Indiana Barn Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit, is proud and humbled to carry on the legacy of **MAURI WILLIAMSON** with an endowment in his name.

Mauri, an agriculture preservationist, dedicated his life to farming and educating all people on the history of agriculture. The catalyst behind IBF, his legacy of educating barn owners and preserving farm heritage will continue with this endowment.

In a recent visit with Mauri's daughter, Marsha Mohr, she said "He would be so excited and supportive of this endowment created in his name. Dad was passionate about preserving barn history and educating current and future barn owners."

Before the 2021 IBF Barn Tour details will be announced on how you can give gifts to the endowment that include: stocks, securities, both cash and non-cash assets, including grain and equipment. Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF) has been entrusted with the endowment and will process transactions.

Look for additional information on our website at [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org) or contact Mike Thompson, IBF Vice President at [ibf.mike@gmail.com](mailto:ibf.mike@gmail.com).



## INDIANA LANDMARKS

This is the first in a series of Indiana Landmarks Q&A. We asked the Indiana Landmarks staff to provide us with their favorite public heritage barn in their area. The first in the series is **BRAD MILLER**, the Director of the Northwest Field Office. Brad's answers follow our questions.

**IBF:** What is your favorite public barn in your area?

**Brad:** 1916 Bank Barn at the Buckley Homestead (National Register-listed).

**IBF:** Where is this barn located?

**Brad:** Buckley Homestead is a Lake County Parks site located in Lowell, IN; open seasonally.

**IBF:** Why is this your favorite public barn?

**Brad:** A complete farmstead that is becoming increasingly rare in Lake County.

**IBF:** What is the best time to visit this public barn?

**Brad:** Summer months are best.



**BUCKLEY HOMESTEAD** is a living history farm that sits on 575 acres that has been in the care of Lake County Parks since 1983. The 100+ year old barn Buckley Barn is one of several historical barns on the property. There are live animals throughout the park to showcase a living history farm.

### WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://WWW.LAKECOUNTYPARKS.COM/149/BUCKLEY-HOMESTEAD](https://www.lakecountyparks.com/149/BUCKLEY-HOMESTEAD)



# ASK INDIANA BARN FOUNDATION

## *Deterioration and Repair of the Structural Framework*

### STRUCTURAL FRAMEWORK

When assessing the condition of a barn frame it is helpful to understand the construction techniques associated with the particular structural framework you are assessing, but not essential. Looking for signs of deterioration is more important — knowing what to look for and where to look.

Your structure could be built from logs, hewn or sawn timber, dimensional lumber, masonry, or some combination of these. Each is distinct and displays its own particular details of construction, whether log notches, pegged mortise and tenon joinery, or nailed dimensional frames. But when investigating deterioration, they have much in common, and all, unless purely brick or stone, are built from wood. And all wood, wet for too long, can mold and subsequently rot.

### SOURCES OF WATER

Take a long look around the interior, paying particular attention to wood that is close to or in contact with the ground — the bottoms of posts, log, timber, or dimensional sills, and siding. Where you see mold or rot try to determine the source of any dampness. Often the roof is leaking, but water can come in open doors and windows too, through hayloft doors, or through missing or broken siding, so look for muddy or damp spots as hints of the source. Wet manure, too, is a recipe for rot. It is also common to see deterioration in the hayloft floor, usually indicating a roof leak that has rotted the floor and found its way to the framework below.

### COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Once wood frames start to deteriorate, especially at ground level or in the connective joinery, structural damage may follow. Rotten posts slip off their

foundations, stressing connective joinery that is holding the framework together. Members move out of plumb or level, placing additional stress on the joinery and weakening the framework, often to the point of cracking or shattering the timber or breaking floor joists. Moisture in the wood also attracts termites, beetles, and other insects that drill into the wood, dig tunnels, lay eggs, and advance decay. Fungi, too, are attracted to moist wood, and contribute to deterioration.

### OVERLOADING & TAMPERING

In our previous issue I discussed uneven loading and overloading and their effects on foundation failure, but they can also wreak havoc on the structural framework, stressing floor joists, diagonal bracing, and other horizontal members. Look for broken floor joists in particular. Also assure yourself that the structural frame has not been tampered with. Many past barn owners have removed crossties, braces, and even posts and beams in order to make room for new activities, larger machinery, or loft space. Inevitably these alterations, if not remedied, lead to structural displacement and a barn that is leaning or sagging and on its way to failure. Check for plumb and level.

### REPAIR PROTOCOLS

Historic preservation approaches suggest retaining as much of the original building fabric as possible, and replacing failing materials in-kind. This is laudable, but not within the reach of everyone's skill or wallet. Retaining original material is economically sound, of course, and should be a priority. But not all repairs need to match original materials or, for that matter, original techniques. In fact, some believe that all repairs should be frank and of their own time so that future observers will know the difference between original and subsequent work.



**DUNCAN CAMPBELL**  
FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER OF  
INDIANA BARN FOUNDATION

I share this view in general, but also believe that ailing barns require adequate repair, most of which can be achieved with basic carpentry skills, contemporary materials like pressure treated wood, and extra care. If you can stabilize your barn by nailing a 2 x 4 where a corner brace is missing, by all means do it.



### FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS?

Submit to  
[info@indianabarns.org](mailto:info@indianabarns.org)

### IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

More on  
structural repairs



## INDIANA BARN FOUNDATION

INDIANA BARN FOUNDATION  
1201 Central Avenue  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

EMAIL: [info@indianabarns.org](mailto:info@indianabarns.org)

WEB: [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org)

PROUD AFFILIATE OF



INDIANA LANDMARKS

### SAVE THE DATE

### HOOSIER HERITAGE BARN WEEK

SEPTEMBER

20-26

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### CONNECT WITH US



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[info@indianabarns.org](mailto:info@indianabarns.org)



[www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org)

## Barn Booklet Announced at Annual Meeting

Around 50 people enjoyed a morning at Maplelawn Farmstead in Zionsville, the location for the 2021 Forum and Annual Meeting on July 17th. Following tours of the historic site and lessons on how to evaluate the physical condition of a barn for rehabilitation needs, the group gathered for lunch followed by the annual meeting.

As part of the presentation, board president Kent Yeager unveiled the cover image of what was at the time the soon-to-be-printed barn booklet, *Indiana's Heritage Barns: Their History, Uses, and Preservation*. The piece was made possible by a Historic Preservation Education Grant from Indiana Landmarks, Indiana Humanities, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The matching grant has assisted IBF in

producing an educational brochure in booklet format about historic Indiana barn types and their uses and evolutionary history. Additional funding for the booklet has been provided by Farm Credit Mid-America.

The printed booklet was fully unveiled at the Hoosier Homestead presentation at the Indiana State Fair on August 18th. It will next be available at the Indiana Barn Foundation Barn Tour in Allen and Dekalb Counties on September 25th and additional locations in the coming weeks. The booklet is now available to the public and all interested parties. Email [info@indianabarns.org](mailto:info@indianabarns.org) for details.



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