

MIBARN OF THE YEAR 2007

Nominations must be postmarked by January 5, 2007

Barn Owner/Address: _____

Member MBPN?* Y N

Nominated by : _____

Address : _____

Member MBPN?* Y N

Location of barn : _____

Has this barn been moved from another location? Y N

(If so, from where?) : _____

Has this barn been nominated for, or received other recognition? Y N
(If yes, explain.) : _____

History (Builder, date built, uses past and present, unique features, work undertaken to preserve the barn.) *Attach additional pages if needed.*

Category: continuing ag or adaptive family use
 adaptive reuse for commercial or nonprofit use

* *Membership is not an eligibility requirement.*
See page 1 for more information or go to www.mibarn.net.

Send completed form and pictures to:
Keith Bruder, 10520 Willis Rd., Willis, MI 48191

MBPN ANNUAL CONFERENCE March 9 & 10, 2007

Individual Name (for name tag) _____

Individual Name (for name tag) _____

Phone _____ e-mail address _____

MBPN Member registration for :

- _____ Full conference (2 days): \$80
- _____ Friday: barn tour & lunch only..... \$35
- _____ Friday: tour, lunch & dinner..... \$55
- _____ Saturday (full day with lunch)..... \$40

Total Amount Paid _____

Please note if you have special dietary needs:

Non-member registration for:

- _____ Full conference (2 days): \$110
- _____ Friday: barn tour & lunch only..... \$45
- _____ Friday: tour, lunch, & dinner..... \$85
- _____ Saturday (full day with lunch)..... \$70

Cash _____ Check # _____

MBPN Time and Talent Sign-Up Form

Please your area of interest or note what talent you can bring to the MBPN that we may not have thought of!

- Annual Conference – Vera Wiltse, vera@wiltse.com, (989) 465-1216
Plan annual conference, seminars and exhibits, barn tours, and local meetings.
- Barn Book – Larry Rizor, architects.inc@progigy.net, (269) 781-2415
Coordinate MBPN interests with publisher and author of a proposed book about Michigan barns.
- Budget and Finance – Rob Foti, Robert.foti@fanucrobotics.com, (810) 632-9248
Develop a budget, pay expenses, deposit revenue.
- By-Laws – Vera Wiltse, vera@wiltse.com, (989) 465-1216
Propose MBPN by-law revisions and amendments.
- Communications – Jan Corey Arnett, coralan@net-link.net, (269) 968-2510 or Aaron Davis, aador@core.com, 269-781-2415
Produce newsletter, website, brochures, open barn list and Barn of the Year awards.
- Endowment Fund – Julie Avery, averyj@msu.edu, (517) 347-3073
Develop and implement endowment.
- Membership – Ina Hanel-Gerdenich, ihanel@aol.com, (734) 996-3676
Recruit, retain and promote membership.
- Nominations – Jack Worthington, worthin4@msu.edu, (517) 627-5763
Provide a list of Board candidates 60 days before annual meeting.
- Technical – Steve Stier, stiers@msu.edu, (517) 347-3073,
coordinate workshop and provide technical advice.
- Other? _____

Submitted by _____ Address _____

Send to: MBPN, P.O. Box 614, Mt. Pleasant, MI. 48804-0614



MIBARN

PROMOTING APPRECIATION, PRESERVATION, AND REHABILITATION OF MICHIGAN BARNS, FARMSTEADS, AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

WORKING TO SAVE MICHIGAN BARNS NETWORK GEARS UP FOR 2007 CONFERENCE MARCH 9 & 10



This Marshall Township barn near I-94 first appeared on the cover of the Winter 2003 issue of this newsletter as a sad, gray ghost. Visit this barn on the 2007 MBPN Barn Tour!

If you've ever wanted to save a barn, this is your chance to learn how. Plan now to attend the 12th annual conference of the MBPN, March 9 and 10, 2007. Set once again for Kellogg Center at Michigan State University, East Lansing, in association with Ag and Natural Resources week on campus, this event just keeps getting better. Members get a great discount on registration fees.

Nominate a Barn for MIBARN of the Year

Each year, the MBPN honors well-maintained heritage Michigan barns (pre-1950) to spread awareness of the treasure these structures represent.

In 2006, awards were expanded to create two separate categories: "continuing agricultural or adaptive family use," and "adaptive reuse for commercial purposes."

This decision was made in response to concerns that it was difficult for a family barn to compete against one rehabilitated as part of a business. (Adaptive reuse includes barns now serving a "nonprofit" use, such as part of historic villages, community centers, or parks.)

A nominated barn need not be owned by the person who nominates it. It may have been moved from its original location, but

must remain identifiable as a barn.

To nominate a barn, complete the form on page 4. Provide 35 mm or digital images suitable for reprint. These images will not be returned so do not send originals. Do not write on the photograph with pencil or ballpoint pen or attach paper clips. Use only "post-it" notes or a photo-safe pen on the back of the image. Before and after shots are helpful to illustrate restoration work.

All nominations must be postmarked by January 5, 2007, and sent to Keith Bruder, 10520 Willis Road, Willis, MI, 48191. Questions about the Barn of the Year Awards may be directed to Bruder at (734) 461-2498. More information is available online at www.mibarn.net.

January 5 Deadline!

Buses leave at 9:00 a.m. Friday to stop at outstanding barns in Pottsville, Olivet, Marshall, and Battle Creek.* "Turkeyville," popular with many travelers, will be the mid-tour lunch stop. The day concludes with exhibits, dinner, a lively auction of farm memorabilia and artwork, hosted by auctioneer Chuck Chestnut, and a chance to connect with kindred spirits.

Saturday delivers a superb choice of workshops, browsing in the exhibit room, and the noon presentation of Barn of the Year awards. Chris Sayles, Jackson, talks about his conversion of a barn to a house. Kimberly Mann, an architectural historian with Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore, shares highlights of work being done at various Lakeshore barns. MBPN board member and historic preservationist Kathy Holtz, outlines how to seek historic designation for a building or area. Other MBPN board members providing workshops are Vera Wiltse who has

compiled case studies on barns adapted to homes, stores, and businesses; and Aaron Davis, who restored his own barn and shares tips for do-it-yourselfers.

Accomplished barn artist, Evelyn Raiter shares artistic secrets, responding to the dramatic increase in barn and rural nostalgia nationwide. Other presenters include Bob VonBermuth, discussing new construction and restoration materials; Roger Crane, explaining how to save a barn when eminent domain is an issue; Don Tyler, discussing barn murals in southeast Michigan; Steve Worden, advising on paints and finishes for wood and steel structures; and Frank Farmer, offering alternative types of steel roofing.

For information on being an exhibitor, contact Judy Grant at (989) 426-8129.

**Buses fill fast. Register now. See page 4 for details.*

CALLING ALL BARN CONTRACTORS

The demand for people with the skills, experience, and equipment both to teach and to undertake barn repair and restoration is growing.

"Hardly a day goes by that we don't get one or more calls from barn owners saying, "My barn needs help. Who should I call?" says Jack Worthington, a founding member of the MBPN.

The MBPN began offering some years ago, a **Contractor & Consultant Rehabilitation Reference** to connect those needing work done with those who do it. The reference provides contact information for people working in various aspects of barn preservation, such as straightening, foundations, repairing siding, painting, replacing timbers, and replacing roofs. It also covers interests such as windmill or silo repair, lightning rod installation, or barn moving.

A new directory will be available on-line in 2007 at www.mibarn.net. People can access it at no charge and print out information as desired.

Contractors listed in the directory receive the online summary of services, a one-year MBPN membership, and additional marketing through the MBPN for \$100. The MBPN does not endorse any contractor. Barn owners are encouraged to seek references and examine work contractors have done. For more information, contact Jack Worthington, (517) 627-5763.



Castle Farms, Charlevoix, hosted the October meeting of the MBPN board, complete with a free tour for all MBPN members, of the magnificently-restored grounds. Owner Linda Mueller shared numerous stories of the farm and its rebirth as she led the tour. The Farm has a fascinating history and makes a great travel destination. www.castlefarms.com.

MBPN President's Message SAVED A BARN LATELY?



I haven't saved a barn recently and I doubt many of you have either. But, if you purchased land on which to preserve a barn, moved a barn from the path of development, or spent your children's inheritance to keep one standing; congratulations. The rest of us may not be able to say "I saved a barn" but we can say "We've saved barns," because as a member of the Michigan Barn Preservation Network you should be proud of your organization's efforts to preserve this irreplaceable icon of agricultural heritage throughout our beautiful state.

The MBPN has existed more than a decade and grown in membership to 200+ barn owners, contractors, and enthusiasts. Our mission of "promoting appreciation, preservation, and rehabilitation of Michigan barns, farmsteads, and rural communities" summarizes a complex cause. Complex because it's one thing to say "I like barns," another to belong to the MBPN, and yet a third to actively work to save barns. Our strength is in numbers and in action. Help us save more barns!

Besides your "treasure" which keeps this volunteer organization running, we need your "time and talent." A very committed board and a diverse committee structure provide broad opportunities. Much of our committee work is done by e-mail and phone and a little bit of organized, combined effort can accomplish much. Our mission becomes more achievable as we work together for our common goal.

By now, you might be thinking "What can I possibly contribute?" Ten years ago I thought the same thing, and stood by as an amazing group of people with a passion for barns worked to preserve them. Their efforts are paying off as the MBPN has assisted local historic groups with barn preservation, instructed barn owners on repairs and publicized how adaptive reuse is wonderfully possible to stop the tragic loss of these countryside giants.

The MBPN makes a difference and you can too. Please work with any of our committees; Annual Conference, Barn Book, Budget and Finance, By-Laws, Communications, Endowment Fund, Membership, Nominations or Technical Services. Or, if you cannot give time and talent, make a gift of treasure. The more help we get, the more successful our mission. Contact me or a Committee Chair and send in the "Time and Talent" form (on page 4) with your conference registration or membership. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Brad Brogren, Okemos



Don't know what to give someone for Christmas (or another special occasion)? The MBPN has some great ideas. A membership, registration for the barn tour and/or conference, or a gift in their honor to support the work of barn preservation are proven pleasers.

Visit our website for details! (Let us know this is a gift, and we'll send the lucky person a card to tell them how thoughtful you are!)

NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE BIGGEST AND BEST SO FAR

The 2006 National Preservation Conference hosted by the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) was the biggest and best ever. Held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 31-November 5, the entire effort focused superbly on the theme: "Making Preservation Work!"

This 19th NTHP conference was for me, especially relevant for my interests and those of the MBPN. Special attention was given to rural preservation—especially barns—and to conducting surveys to identify rural historic features. These concerns fit right in with Michigan's directions.

In his opening presentation, David McCullough, a Pittsburgh native and Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, reminded us of the importance of having good total community background data and the need for teamwork in making preservation work.

A session, "Surveying Historic Barns and Farmsteads," offered several approaches to and levels of corresponding success, in conducting surveys across the country. Michigan's groundbreaking barn and farmstead survey work has inspired several

other state efforts.

The 12th annual Barn Luncheon was an important part of the national conference. Again, it was my pleasure to serve as moderator. Approximately 50 "barn huggers" from 20 or more states participated. Pennsylvania State Representative Sheila Miller, shared information on the Center for Rural Pennsylvania's new statewide barn survey and legislative leadership to urge barn surveying, rehabilitation and creation of tax benefits.

Jim Lindberg, assistant director of the NTHP's western region office in Colorado, and director of preservation initiatives for the Trust, discussed a new program of the Trust entitled, "The Rural Heritage Development Initiative." The program, funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, is being piloted in Arkansas and Kentucky and features an in-depth study of the link between rural preservation and economic development.

Chuck Law, Wisconsin, president of the National Barn Alliance (NBA), made available a summary of progress being made with the NBA. Michigan

State University is assisting the NBA in upgrading its website.

Pennsylvania is creating a formal barn preservation organization and has invited Rod Scott, an Iowa member of the NBA, and myself to assist them. At several points during the conference the MBPN was recognized as having set a good standard for preservation efforts in other states.

One of the highlights of the preservation conferences is always the tours of significant preservation efforts in the host area. Pennsylvania treated conferees to a tour of some of its huge old barns, now being rehabilitated, as well as urban preservation initiatives that are rejuvenating Pittsburgh.

I'm looking forward to the 2007 National Preservation Conference at St. Paul, Minnesota, October 2-6. I urge you to attend this conference which will be even more relevant to Michigan preservation efforts.

Bill Kimball, Lansing, member, MBPN,

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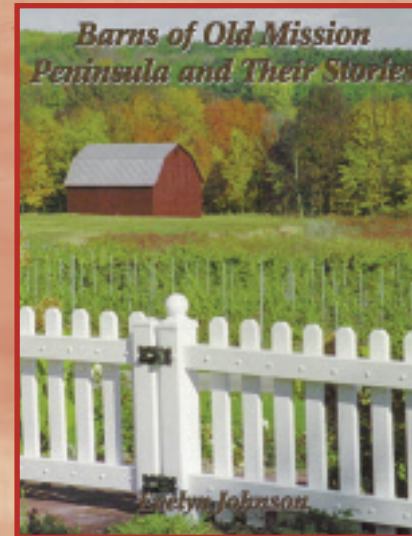
often filled with undocumented assumptions, hearsay, and incorrect explanations and terminology. **Barns of Old Mission Peninsula** rises above that. Good quality photographs accurately portray architectural features and show the barn in context. This book documents nearly all of the barns on Old Mission Peninsula versus providing a sampling of the prettiest or most diverse and earned Johnson the Historical Society of Michigan's Award of Merit for 2006.

Readers will find variety – a causal

history of early settlement, reminiscences of individual and family life experiences, the evolution of farming practices of a region, and a survey and physical description of the barns of Old Mission Peninsula.

Barns of Old Mission Peninsula and their Stories is available for \$35 (includes s&h) from ELadybug Publications: EladybugTC@cs.com. (Write "Barn Book" in the subject line.)

Julie Avery, East Lansing, member, MBPN



BOOK REVIEW Mission Peninsula Barns

In **Barns of Old Mission Peninsula and their Stories**, author Evelyn Johnson makes the connection between barns on the landscape—pretty or in ruins—and what they can tell us about the people and activities around them year after year. To someone interested in learning about barns, a majority of the new publications are disappointing picture books

Gifts & Memberships August 1, 2006 – October 31, 2006

Frame (\$50-\$499)

Arbor Building Company, Ann Arbor
Crawford, Bill and Anita, Grand Rapids
Highland Equestrian Conservancy, Highland

Renewing Members

Friends of the Octagon House, Washington, MI
Hadley, Kathleen, Novi
Johnson, Evelyn, Traverse City
Kinsella, Jeanette, Chicago, IL

Gifts In-Kind

Saebler, Don, Ann Arbor (for newsletter)

New Fieldstone (\$30) and Mortar (\$40) Members

Carstens, Matt, Battle Creek
Dhaseleer, Carl and Cornelia, Charlevoix
Gans, Marvin, Northville
Garvey, Robert, Grosse Pointe
Kahn, Joseph, and Mulroy, Brigid, Milford
Kreykes, Anne, Ann Arbor
McCale, Timothy, Garden City
Murphy, John and Karen, Mt. Clemens
Schneider, Diane, Lapeer
Upright, Paul, Charlotte
Westphal, Joann, East Lansing

Membership renewals will be in the mail soon