



# 2017 Barn of the Year

21 YEARS  
76 BARNES



## **MBPN'S mission**

**Promote the appreciation, preservation,  
and rehabilitation of Michigan's barns**

**Our compliments to the thirteen,  
"2017 BARN OF THE YEAR"  
applicants. We think this year's  
applicants truly understand our  
mission.**

# 2017 BARN OF THE YEAR

## LOCATION OF AWARDEES

➤ ALLEGAN

➤ GRAND TRAVERSE

➤ GRATIOT

➤ KENT

➤ INGHAM

➤ IONIA

➤ LEELANAU

➤ MACOMB

➤ MONTCALM

➤ TUSCOLA

➤ WASHTENAW

# 2017 BARN OF THE YEAR CATEGORIES

- **Continued Family/Private Ag Use**
- **Family/Private Adaptive Use**
- **Non-profit Ag or Adaptive Use**
- **Commercial Ag or Adaptive use**



# Barn of the Year

## Criteria for Evaluating for Award

- **Photogenicity**—How good does it look? Quality of Photos?
- **Integrity**—Has the original integrity of the barn been preserved?
- **Uniqueness**—Is there something distinctive about the age, size, design or architecture?
- **Heroic Effort of Rehabilitation**—How much work did it take to save, restore and preserve it?
- **Thoroughness of Rehabilitation**—Is the rehabilitation and restoration complete?
- **Creativity of Rehabilitation**—How creative were the rehab steps taken in solving the barn's problems?
- **Merit**—Extra points—Quality and completeness of the application. All parts covered? , Etc.

# MICHIGAN BARN PRESERVATION NETWORK

## BARN OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE

- Tom Nehil
- Ina Hanel-Gerdenich
- Tim Wiles
- Ruth Stahl (2016 Awardee)
- Keith Kehlbeck
- Jerry Damon
- Keith Anderson

## METHODS TO REACH SUBMITTERS

- MBPN Newsletter
- Constant Contact (e-mail)
- Radio Stations
- Regional Newspapers
- Local Newspapers
- Farm Magazines
- Personal Appeals

# Features of Awardee # 1

- **Barn is 105 years old (1912)**
- **Situated in a beautiful location on Old Mission Peninsula**
- **Gambrel-roofed, 3 bay with walkout basement**
- **Lumber was cut from nearby timberland and hauled to barn site by horses**
- **From dairy barn to equipment storage to migrant cherry picker housing**
- **Contained bunk beds large enough for 8 people (end to end and side by side)**
- **Barn Quilt representing owners heritage, faith, patriotism, and favorite tractor logo**
- **Part of Old Mission Barn Quilt Tour**
- **Early 1990s, galvanized roof installed and painted red**
- **Family uses barn for equipment storage**



**1912**

**CONTINUING FAMILY AGRICULTURAL USE**

**LEHTO BARN**



## Features of Awardee #2

- Barn dates back to 1910 (107 years old)
- Largest barn situated on Leelanau Peninsula West of Grand Traverse Bay
- Been in the family since 1969. Owners name in large white letters on freshly painted red barn
- Use of this barn has not changed from its origin in 1910 to present
- Always used for general farming and marketing cattle
- Now in fourth generation of current owners.
- 180 head of Holstein steers hand fed twice daily using corn and silage manually shoveled into wheelbarrows and wheeled down to the mangers
- 10,000 round bales of hay and straw in the loft of the 100' by 60' main barn
- Original gambrel roof of 50 feet high is now 45 feet high
- 1979 collapse of barn roof due to rain and snow mix replaced by roof 5 foot lower

**1910**



**CONTINUING FAMILY AGRICULTURAL USE  
NOONAN BARN**

## Features of Awardee #3

- Barn constructed in 1835 (Now 182 years old!)
- Moved to new location August 2010 (7 years ago)
- Built as a 30 x 40 gable-roofed barn of hand hewn beams covered with a cedar-shake roof and plank wood sides, and a rubble stone foundation
- When current owners rescued it, it was in total disrepair. “It seemed to be melting into the earth”
- Moved ½ mile to new location and completely restored
- Complete with milkhouse and white picket fence
- Now site of barn and home tours, club meetings, family and friends gatherings, and even a wedding reception
- A delightful, heartwarming story for anyone who loves barns

**1830 - 1840**



**PRIVATE ADAPTIVE USE  
TAFT BARN**



## Features of Awardee #4

- Barn built during last decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Now 125-135 years old)
- 40 x 60 gambrel-roofed rectangular 2-story bank barn built into the side of a hill
- Originally fitted with stanchions as a dairy barn, it later became a beef barn
- Current owners purchased it, along with 80 acres, in 1981 at a farm auction.
- The farm, located on Fruit Ridge, a productive orchard-growing region, was planted to 6 varieties of apples
- A modest roadside stand for selling apples and pumpkins begun by the owner was moved into the barn in the early years of this century
- A 40' x 24' addition completed the restoration in 2011
- Now a farm market open in the fall selling apples, pumpkins and related items
- Barn now sports a painted mural of a big red and yellow apple on its original white painted wood
- Owner's mother conducts school tours including life cycle of apples and pumpkins as well as the barn and its structure



**1880 - 1900**

**COMMERCIAL ADAPTIVE USE  
STEFFENS ORCHARDS BARN**



# THANK YOU



**To the “MICHIGAN BARN PRESERVATION NETWORK” members, for without your support this program would not be possible**