



MI BARN

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

Join us at the MBPN Annual Meeting and Conference, May 4-5, 2018

Don't Miss This Event!

It's once again time for the spring Michigan Barn Preservation Network Conference and Tour, which this year will be held on May 4-5, 2018 in St. Johns, Michigan. As with last year's conference, Friday will be the bus tour (see below), followed by dinner at the Agro-Culture Liquid Fertilizers World Headquarters and Museum (AgroLiquid) located at 1130 South Dewitt Road, St. Johns, MI, where speaker Keith Bruder will entertain us with a collection of Michigan barn photos...and some stories behind the photos.

Saturday will feature speakers, auctions, and presentations, as well as the awards luncheon, when the coveted 2018 Barn of the Year Awards will be announced.

With something for everyone, the Annual Conference is an event not to be missed! In addition to camaraderie with fellow barn enthusiasts, the conference provides a wonderful opportunity to share information and to inspire barn preservation efforts throughout the state.

- Vera Wiltse, MBPN Program Chair, and Tom Irrer, Treasurer



AgroLiquid Headquarters, site for the 2018 MBPN Annual Conference.

Photos by Keith Kehlbeck



AgroLiquid Museum.

MBPN 2018 Annual Conference Site

Our 2018 Annual Meeting will be held at the AgroLiquid world headquarters located one mile west of St Johns Michigan on May 4 and 5.

This 57,000 square foot building was constructed by the Wieland-Davco Corporation in 2013. The building features a futuristic design with touches of agriculture's past. It includes recycled barn wood in its decoration, as well as displaying other artifacts. The building is designed to be environmentally friendly, and AgroLiquid

achieved a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Certification as a result. This facility has almost no carbon footprint. More information about the building can be found online at the AgroLiquid and Wieland-Davco websites.

A highlight of the building is the IQ Hub Learning Center. This museum tells the story of agriculture through the eyes of plant nutrition. Many busloads of school children visit it each year.



Conference Schedule



The MBPN's annual membership meeting will be held on Saturday morning, May 5th, at AgroLiquid, and the membership will be asked to vote on the proposed MBPN Bylaws revisions, the draft for which is included later in this newsletter (pages 6 - 8 for your review).

Here's the full schedule:

Michigan Barn Preservation Network
Annual Meeting and Conference
May 4-5, 2018 - AgroLiquid

Friday - Barn Tour - 8:30am - 5:00pm

Friday Evening

6:00-9:00pm Dinner and presentation by **Keith Bruder**, "Wow! What was that barn I just passed?"
Silent auction begins

Saturday

8:30am Registration

9:00-9:45am Annual membership meeting - door prizes

Speakers

- 10:00-11:00 **Steve Stier** - Barn School
MBPN technical committee chair and retired contractor, Steve will present guidelines for assessing the condition of Michigan traditional barns to identify structural needs and set priorities for rehabilitation.
- 11:00-12:00 **Barnstorming a Vision - Ron Campbell**,
Preservation Architect, Oakland County Economic Development and Community Affairs
Experience the process of creating a vision for adaptive use of buildings and barns. The process, methods and some case studies will be shared.
- 12:15-1:30 **Lunch**
Live Auction
Barn of the Year Award presentations
- 1:45-3:00 **Rick Collins** of Trillium Dell will share the work they did to move and reconstruct the famous Star Barn of Pennsylvania.
- 3:00pm End silent auction
- 3:00-4:00pm **Historic Barn Models: Shirley Wajda**, MSU Museum Curator of History and researcher **Eric Gollanek** will discuss a collection of historic barn models from the 1920s-1950s. The development and use of scale model barns and other agricultural structures were used by the Extension to influence farmers and builders in modernizing agriculture. For more information on this exciting presentation, see the abstract on the following page.

Suggested Lodging for MBPN 2018 Tour & Conference:

A block of rooms at a special price of \$74 per night has been reserved for May 3 and May 4 at the Sleep Inn, 1101 Commerce Park Drive, Dewitt, MI 48820 (phone: 517-669-8823). The block of rooms for MBPN will be held until April 1, 2018. Be sure to mention that you are with the Michigan Barn Preservation Network.

Other Lodging nearby:

American Inn & Suites
1055 Aaron Dr.
Lansing MI 48911
517-374-0000

Holiday Inn Express
2924 West Rd.
East Lansing MI 48823
517-333-0300

**Fairfield Inn & Suites
by Marriott**
Lansing at Eastwood
3320 Preyde Blvd.
Lansing MI 48912
517-374-6500

**Courtyard by Marriott
Lansing**
2710 Lake Lansing Rd.
Lansing MI 48912
517-482-0500

There is also a new boutique hotel with a few rooms recently opened in an old building in Downtown St Johns: Heritage Place, 118 N Clinton Ave, St Johns MI 48879. Reservations can be made at SJHplace.com or by calling 989-303-8822.

Registration for Tour & Conference:

Barn tour: \$50 (member) and \$90 (non-member) - includes lunch

Friday dinner and presentation: \$30 (for everyone)

Saturday (including lunch): \$50 (member) and \$90 (non-member)

Participants can register online at: www.mibarn.net
Participants can register by sending names and contact information along with a check payable to "MBPN" to:

PO Box 614, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0614

Or by going online at: www.mibarn.net



*Photo courtesy, Michigan State University Museum.
Photograph by Pearl Yee Wong.*

Example of model barns from the MSU Museum Collection.

Historic Barn Models Presentation Abstract

“Adjuncts to instruction and extension”: Agricultural Engineering Models at Michigan State College in the 1920s-1950s

A collection of fifty mid-twentieth-century wooden models of agricultural structures constructed by students and faculty at Michigan State University offers insights into the multiple meanings of modeling as public outreach, pedagogy, and experimentation in education and engineering research.

From its founding in 1855, Michigan State University has promoted and advanced research in agriculture in the state, the nation, and the world. Even before the 1914 Smith-Lever Act, which created and funded cooperative extension services through the nation's land-grant colleges, the University had appointed a “Superintendent of Agricultural Extension” to take the knowledge created on campus to Michiganders. By the 1930s, these programs took on greater emphasis through collaborations with New Deal farm relief efforts.

Agricultural models brought together hands-on, project-based learning and farm demonstration in Michigan. In 1933, the Department of Agricultural Engineering described its new practice: “As an adjunct to work in both instruction and extension, emphasis has been placed on model buildings, framing, etc. to assist the student in visualizing the ideas set forth [in the curriculum].”

Students fabricated in these scale models of working farm buildings individual structural elements and joined them together much as they would in building demonstration projects around the state. Cut-away sections offered anatomical views of these new structures, revealing new spatial arrangements and systems for ventilation, insulation, and roofing. In particular, the development of laminated arch roof buildings parallels the work of wartime industrial designers Charles and Ray Eames and R. Buckminster Fuller. Model makers and farmers used recycled materials or “timber which had been cut for pulp wood” to build modern wind-resistant structures in an era of wartime scarcity and ecological depletion of upper Midwest forestlands.

This evidence demonstrates the importance of collaborative public outreach, bringing together students and faculty with farmers and builders to develop innovative engineering solutions to the challenges of agriculture in the 1930s and 1940s. This study provides insight into the ways the handcrafted model served as an essential step in the modernization of agriculture in the mid-twentieth century.

**Join us at the MBPN Conference to hear
a presentation on this amazing collection!**



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Scan our QR code with your
smart phone and visit the
MBPN website!

Working Barns — Tour Details



Thelen Barn

Photo by Jim Mulvany



Old Red Mill and Farmers Market

Photo by Jim Mulvany

Nothing kicks off an Annual Meeting and Conference better than a Barn Tour, and this year is no exception. This year's tour will take place on Friday, May 4th, and will visit a variety of barns in the surrounding area. The bus will depart from AgroLiquid headquarters at 8:30am that day, and it will return in time for everyone to freshen up for dinner.

Old Barns—New Lives. If you are wondering how to fix up your barn you can get plenty of ideas on our barn tour. Many old barns have the same problem areas and you can talk to builders and barn owners who have solved these problems. Here are brief descriptions of the stops on the Tour. Space is limited, so reserve your space now for what will be an exciting day of touring.

Thelen Barn

Lee Thelen wanted to have a place to store fertilizer and more room for farm machinery storage, but maintaining the traditional look of a farmstead was important to him. A brand new grey gambrel barn replicates the traditional farmstead look and provides the clearance needed to dump semi loads of fertilizer. A massive lean-to addition to an old 100 foot long timber frame barn provides machinery storage while still maintaining the traditional barn look.

Klein Barn

If you liked the look of our June calendar barn, you can see it in person on this year's tour. It was built after the original barn was destroyed by fire in 1946, making it one of the youngest barns of this type. Lumber was cut from the farm's own woodlot, and the barn was raised in the traditional manner. The poured concrete silo is filled each year to provide feed for Holstein steers.

Mark Klein is a traditional Master Carpenter and has shown his love of history through his work. Mark purchased a man lift and its first job was to re-side his own barn. Now, it is one of those tools that he just can't get along without.

Pat Feldpausch Farms

Pat Feldpausch Farms added new siding and windows to an existing barn to build a bird proof parts storage for this 3,000-acre farm. In late summer, it holds barbeque and beverages for a corn and soybean plot tour. Many neighbors have thanked the Feldpausch family for maintaining the traditional rural atmosphere. The cost of the rebuild was about the same as a new pole structure, but the results are a piece of "eye candy" for the entire neighborhood.



Spitzley Barn

Photo by Jim Mulvany



Feldpausch Barn

Photo by Tom Irrer



Irrer Barn

Photo by Tom Irrer



Irrer House

Photo by Tom Irrer

Irrer Barn

The barn at the home of MBPN Treasurer Tom Irrer has a 25 foot-high door and is used to store dry fertilizer for this mint farm. With 125-ton capacity, it keeps fertilizer on the farm ready to be spread and is refilled frequently with large semi loads of fertilizer. The mint still on this farm is being readied for this summer's harvest. The mint production process will be explained during the tour, and a new Victorian house will be open for a morning coffee break. The structure contains several antiques and uses split stone reclaimed from an old barn as part of its foundation.

Old Red Mill Pavilion

The Old Red Mill began its life as a cooperative grain elevator along a railroad track. When it became obsolete, Friends of the Red Mill—philanthropists, including longtime barn preservation supporter, MBPN member and National Barn Alliance leader, Charles Leik, his brother Ed and their families—who had spent their early years on a farm nearby, funded a renovation for the mill to be used as a farmers' market. This piece of history was saved.

As the farmers' market outgrew its space, these same philanthropists worked to build a timber frame pavilion. In August of 2015,

volunteers of the Timber Framers Guild converged from all across North America to erect this framework using the same type of construction that we see in our old barns. This example of new timber framing was overseen by Rick Collins of Trillium Dell Timberworks, who will be presenting the story of the gigantic Star Barn in Pennsylvania on Saturday at our conference.

Spitzley Barn

The barn of Dan and Kathy Spitzley is dedicated to the gathering of family and friends and will serve as our lunch stop. It has a nice display of farm antiques and was host to the October meeting of our board of directors.

One of the best take home ideas from this barn is the use of translucent roof panels to brighten up the interior. These substitute for regular steel roofing panels and install the same as a roof panel. The translucent panels really brighten up the interior and showcase the hand hewn timbers and entire interior of the barn—all of this for very little extra cost. Pictures can't do it justice. Come and see it for yourself!

– Jim Mulvany, Board Member

Bylaws Revision

Any living organization needs to revisit and refresh its structural documents and signposts, and the MBPN is no exception. In recent months, the MBPN Board has updated the Bylaws for the organization. The final version of the bylaws will be presented to the membership at the annual meeting. We will be presenting the revisions, which include additions to clarify indemnification and to

allow the board to make decisions electronically. The Bylaws have also added a provision for a finance committee. We encourage members to review this revision prior to the meeting. If you have questions or concerns which can be addressed by the Bylaw committee, please contact Vera Wiltse.

– Keith Kehlbeck, Board Member and Newsletter Editor



Michigan Barn Preservation Network ByLaws



Article I — Name

The name of the organization is the Michigan Barn Preservation Network, hereinafter referred to as MBPN.

Article II — Mission

To promote the appreciation, preservation, and rehabilitation of Michigan's barns, farmsteads, and rural communities

Article III — Object

MBPN is a non-profit, non-sectarian, non-partisan, voluntary organization incorporated under the provisions of Act 162 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1982 and is subject to the terms and the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. MBPN has the following purposes:

1. To provide opportunities for the exchange of information and technology regarding the preservation of barns in Michigan
2. To develop programs and projects to educate and illustrate methods and techniques for saving Michigan's barns and to make such information available to citizens in quest of preservation or rehabilitation of barns and related structures
3. To collaborate and enter into cooperative arrangements with selected organizations or individuals in Michigan engaged in similar efforts as MBPN
4. To acquire and manage assets instrumental to conducting the activities of MBPN
5. To perform such financial and administrative activities as deemed appropriate to serve the membership and to conform to applicable laws

Article IV — Membership and Dues

Section A. Membership is open to individuals and organizations upon payment of annual dues set by the Board of Directors of MBPN.

Section B. There will be five (5) membership categories.

1. **Member:** An individual with dues paid for the current year is a member. A member is eligible to hold a position on the board of directors, to serve on any committees of the MBPN, and to vote at the annual meeting.
2. **Family Membership:** This membership category allows a family to pay lower dues than it would if each person in the family paid for an individual membership. A family must name the two individuals covered by the family membership at the time dues are paid. A family is entitled to two votes at membership meetings, and a family member may serve as a director and serve on any committees.

3. **Contractor/Business Membership:** This category is open to businesses and service providers whose functions are related to the purposes of MBPN. A contractor/business membership is entitled to two votes at membership meetings, and its representatives may serve on any committees. Only one representative may serve as a director at any given time.

4. **Affiliate Membership:** This membership is open to any duly constituted corporate body or organization wishing to promote and support the purposes of MBPN. An affiliate membership is entitled to two votes at membership meetings, and its representatives may serve on any committees. Only one representative may serve as a director at any given time.

5. **Special Membership:** This membership may be given to individuals or organizations as deemed appropriate by the board of directors for the purpose of giving special tribute or recognition. Special members will be nonvoting, nonpaying members and will receive all other benefits of membership for a period of one year.

Section C. The amount of annual membership dues will be established by the board of directors no later than three (3) months prior to the beginning of the next calendar year and notice will be sent to all members prior to the end of the current year.

1. Failure to remit payment of dues within the time frame specified on the billing statement will result in removal from the membership list.
2. Reinstatement of membership shall be made upon application for membership and payment of annual dues.

Article V — Membership Meetings

Section A. An annual meeting of the MBPN membership will be held at a time, date, and place determined by the board of directors, and all members will be notified in writing.

Section B. Special business meetings of the total membership may be called by the board of directors or by signed petition of at least fifteen percent (15%) of the membership. Written notice will be given to all members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Section C. A quorum for an annual or special meeting shall consist of those present and eligible to vote, provided that a majority of the board of directors is present.

Article VI — Board of Directors

Section A. Number

1. The board of directors will consist of twelve (12) members elected from the membership at the annual meeting.

2. Four (4) directors will be elected each year to serve a three-year term.
3. Subject to the approval of the board of directors, the president will appoint someone to fill a vacancy for the remainder of the vacated term.
4. The board may remove a director from their position on the board if the director is unable or unwilling to fulfill the responsibilities and expectations of board membership.

Section B. The duties of the board of directors are to direct and conduct the affairs of the MBPN consistent with the purposes of MBPN and these by-laws.

Section C. Officers

1. Officers will be elected from the board of directors by the board.
2. Officers will include a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer.
3. Officers will serve for one year and may be eligible for reelection.

Section D.

1. Meetings of the board of directors will be held quarterly at the call of the president or two (2) board members.
2. The directors may use electronic communication to conduct business. The time frame for decision-making will be specified by the president.

Section E. A quorum for all regular, special, and electronic meetings of the board of directors will be fifty percent (50%) of the elected board.

Section F. Staff may be selected and appointed as deemed necessary by the board of directors. Employment policies will be determined by the board of directors.

Section G. Board members will not receive any compensation for their services, but they may receive reimbursement for expenses authorized by the board.

Article VII — Fiscal Operations

Section A. The fiscal year of MBPN will be January 1 to December 31.

Section B. The board of directors will adopt an annual budget to cover all needs and activities of MBPN. This budget is to be approved prior to the fiscal year to which it applies.

Section C. The board of directors may acquire and hold property and assets through gifts, donations, or purchases to further the purposes of MBPN. The board will establish written policies and procedures, to be ratified by the membership, to govern the management of such properties or assets.

Section D. The board of directors will provide for an annual financial review of MBPN records and operations. The annual review may be conducted by a credible auditor or by a member of MBPN appointed by the board of directors who has auditing or accounting qualifications and who is not a member of the board of directors. The findings of the review will be provided in writing to the board of directors for review and any corrective action deemed necessary.

Section E. A finance committee may be appointed to oversee an endowment fund and implement an ongoing campaign to increase the principal of the fund. This committee will work with the treasurer to insure funds are available to conduct business of the organization.

Article VIII — Committees

Section A. The executive committee will consist of the officers of the board of directors and the most recent past president of the board. It will meet at the call of the president to do the following:

1. Discuss business in support of the mission of MBPN, and it will report accordingly to the board.
2. Review mini-grants submitted for funding and approve or disapprove grants for funding.
3. Review and propose by-law changes to the board.
4. Review strategic plan and propose actions or revisions to the board.

Section B. Standing committees will be appointed by the president subject to approval by the board of directors. At least one member of each committee will be a board member and will serve as a liaison to the board. The president of the board will appoint the chair of each committee. The current standing committees are as follows:

1. The communications committee is responsible for advising the newsletter editor, creating promotional displays, drafting press releases, compiling information for the web site, advising the web master, and performing other duties as assigned by the board.
2. The programs committee is responsible for planning and promoting educational events on behalf of the board, such as the annual conference, workshops, and tours.
3. The budget and finance committee is responsible for conducting audits, for preparing annual budgets, and for any other fiscal duties assigned by the board.
4. The membership committee is responsible for the recruitment and retention of members, for the development of programs aimed at member services and benefits, and for other duties as assigned by the board.
5. The technical committee is responsible for oversight of the contractors' list and technical workshops as well as other duties assigned by the board.
6. The awards committee is responsible for the Barn of the Year Award and for the Pride of Ownership Award, for their promotion and publicity, and for other duties as assigned by the board.
7. The nominating committee is responsible for identifying and maintaining a list of potential board candidates to be presented to the board for approval at the last regular board meeting prior to the annual meeting. A slate of nominees will be prepared by the nominating committee for approval at the annual meeting.

Section C: Special committees may be appointed by the president at any time for a specific purpose with a limited duration.

Article IX — Parliamentary Authority

The latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* is the authority governing the proceedings and meetings of MBPN so far as such rules are not in conflict with the bylaws of MBPN.

Article X — Amendments

1. These by-laws may be amended at the annual business meeting of the membership by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the membership present.
2. Written notice will be given to MBPN members detailing the proposed changes and the reasons for the proposal of such changes.

continued on next page



**MICHIGAN
BARN
PRESERVATION
NETWORK**

P.O. Box 614
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2018 Preconference Edition- No. 83

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Article XI — Indemnification

Section A. To the full extent permitted under the provisions of Act 162 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1982 as amended by Act 170 of the Public Acts of 1987 (the Act), a member of the executive committee shall not be personally liable to the corporation or its members for monetary damages or for a breach of the executive committee's fiduciary duty.

Section B. To the full extent permitted by law, the corporation shall indemnify any person who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative and whether formal or informal, other than an action by or in the right of the corporation, by reason of the fact that the person is, or was, a director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation against any and all expenses, including attorney fees, judgments, penalties, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the action, suit, or proceedings if that person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation or its members, and with respect to any criminal action or proceedings, if the person had no reasonable cause to believe that the relevant conduct was unlawful.

Section C. The termination of any action, suit, or proceedings by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not of itself create a presumption that the per-

son did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation or its members and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct was unlawful.

Section D. All determinations as to the propriety of indemnification will be conducted pursuant to Section 563 of the Act.

Article XII — Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of MBPN, the assets, both real and personal, after provision for payment or discharge of all liabilities, will not become the property of any member of the MBPN but shall be distributed to such organizations as are qualified as tax exempt under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code or any corresponding provisions of a future United States Internal Revenue Code.

Adopted March 2007

Amended March 14, 2009

(Revised May 2018)

