

## INDIANA BARN PRESERVATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES - 2008

### **BARN AGAIN!! in Indiana**

The BARN AGAIN! in Indiana program began in November 1995 through the work of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (HLFI), its Rural Preservation Council (a standing committee of the Foundation), the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service through the leadership of Janet Ayres, and with the guidance of Bill Kimball. In 1997, HLFi became the first to be licensed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to use the *BARN AGAIN!* trademark in its programs.

**Program Focus:** BARN AGAIN! in Indiana workshops borrowed from Bill Kimball's Michigan program format as well as from the concept developed by the National Trust and *Successful Farming* Magazine. It emphasizes regional barn history, types of barn rehabilitation, technical guidance, and connecting barn owners with appropriate barn experts. These workshops continue to serve as an effective means of reaching a specific audience: owners of old barns.

**Program Alliances and Collaborators:** Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (statewide, not-for-profit, membership organization) coordinates with local hosts – local historic preservation organizations, county extension educators, etc. – in presenting the workshops. HLFi sets the agenda, speakers, and budget items while the local hosts and HLFi's regional staff assist with local logistics (site, food, transportation during tour, and local speakers). In addition to barn rehab contractors in the state, Indiana's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has been represented among the speakers. Valued out-of-state presenters include Bill Kimball (Michigan), Ann Christy (Ohio) and Mike Woodford (New York).

**Workshops and Tours:** Since November of 1995, sixteen full-day workshops have been conducted throughout the state in addition to numerous barn preservation-related programs. After a brief hiatus, planning is well underway for the next BARN AGAIN! in Indiana workshop which is scheduled for November 2, 2008. We strive to present day-long BARN AGAIN! programs twice each year, moving the workshops throughout the state.

**Publications:** For the workshops, packets are assembled containing information published by the National Trust, the National Park Service, the Indiana SHPO, and HLFi on a variety of barn rehabilitation topics: tax credits, National Register, technical matters, etc. Also made available are published countywide inventories (surveys) of historic sites and structures prepared by HLFi through a Historic Preservation Fund grant from the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA), Indiana's SHPO, as part of the agency's statewide historic survey program. Approximately sixty-one of these published in the last twenty years include listings of barns according to type and/or function, as well as intact farmsteads and outbuildings. The published surveys also feature an illustrated guide to the various types of barns and outbuildings, specific to each county.

## **Other Activities and Publicity Efforts:**

**John Arnold Rural Preservation Award:** Since 1992, HLF I and its Rural Preservation Council have presented the John Arnold Rural Preservation Award to Indiana farmers and farm families in recognition of the preservation and continued practical use of a historic farm. The award is named in memory of John Arnold, a Rush County farmer who was killed in a tragic farm accident in 1991. John Arnold, as did several generations of his family before him, combined progressive agricultural practices with a deep respect for the natural and historic features of rural Indiana. Presented annually at Farmers Day at the Indiana State Fair, the 2007 Arnold Award was presented to Wayne & Joann Emigh, owners of Maple Home Farms in Starke County. Members of the Emigh family were present to receive the award from Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman, Eleanor Arnold, mother of John Arnold, Don Villwock, President of Indiana Farm Bureau and Marsh Davis, President of HLF I. The Indiana Farm Bureau agreed in 2006 to once again serve as a co-sponsor of the award.

**Huddleston Farmhouse Inn Museum:** HLF I also maintains and operates a restored barn as part of its Huddleston Farmhouse Inn Museum, an excellent example of adaptive use. The Foundation's Eastern Regional Office, which is housed in the 1841 farmhouse, recently completed significant rehabilitation work on the barn in an effort to ensure expansion of the barn's use in educational and interpretive programs.

**Grants & Funding:** Funding for the BARN AGAIN! workshops is provided by HLF I with costs offset by registration fees and local sponsorship. HLF I has also received grant support for past workshops from the Cornelius O'Brien Lecture Series on Historic Preservation and the Central Indiana Community Foundation.

**Collaboration in Other Barn Programs:** Through the leadership of Indiana's SHPO, the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (SHPO), directed by Dr. Jim Glass, collaborative efforts in barn and rural preservation continue. Most important are the county inventory publications mentioned above. In the inventory publications prepared by HLF I, rural historic districts are routinely proposed. The Foundation and SHPO have also worked closely in the listing of Indiana's two National Register rural historic districts, which contain numerous historic farmsteads, barns and smaller agricultural buildings. Earlier this year, HLF I named the Maple Grove Road Rural Historic District to its 2008 10 Most Endangered Places list. Indiana's first National Register-listed rural historic district, the Maple Grove Road district is threatened by deterioration of its historic resources and new development which continues to diminish its rural historic character.

The Barn at the Indiana State Fairgrounds is the agency now responsible for many of the educational programs formerly conducted by the Center for Agricultural Science & Heritage (CASH). Through classroom lessons, hands-on activities, tours and special events, The Barn educates Hoosier youth, families and teachers about the importance of Indiana agriculture and raise awareness of the state's agricultural heritage. HLF I continues to take advantage of The Barn's educational programs, particularly the "Raising the Barn" program which utilizes a scale model timber frame barn. The Normandy Barn, former home of CASH and formerly located directly south of the state

fairgrounds, was moved in March 2008 by the Indiana State Fair Commission to the north side of the fairgrounds. The barn will house a permanent agricultural exhibit and educational space for The Barn agency.

The Rural Preservation Council (RPC), a broad-based coalition under HLF, promotes the preservation of Indiana's rural historic landscape. The Council pursues creative strategies and seeks to build partnerships and community-based support to foster awareness and protection of our Indiana's agrarian heritage. The RPC consists of representatives from HLF, Purdue University Extension, Senator Richard Lugar's office, The Barn at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, the Indiana State Legislature, the Indiana Land Protection Alliance, the Soil & Water Conservation Society, barn preservation professionals, and local preservation organizations. The Council has been instrumental in guiding rural preservation programs, particularly the BARN AGAIN! in Indiana and Arnold Award programs.

**Other Reference web links:**

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana

<http://www.historiclandmarks.org>

Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (SH)

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/>

The Barn at the Indiana State Fairgrounds

Purdue Extension (Purdue University)

<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/menu.htm>

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