



The Barn Door

Newsletter of the National Barn Alliance

Fall 2011 Volume 5, Issue 2

Old New York Barn Survives & Adapts to join the Hi-Tech World-



This abandoned 19th-century barn was spared as the 1,250 acre high-tech commercial office park grew around it for many years. The developer, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the first engineering college in the US, renovated the 1760's farmhouse for the Park's main office. They had no real use for the farm's barn, but were committed to saving it until a use was found. After twenty years, and twenty-three office buildings were built, a donor, Pat, stepped forward to support Park Director Michael Wacholder's, vision of turning the barn into a meeting and event space. Now, Pat's Barn provides 5,000 square feet of conference space and also hosts weddings and parties of every kind. This Fall, Wacholder received the preservation Award from the Rensselaer County Historical Society which included a collection of artwork and books of historic barns. www.rpitechpark.com



Join the NBA & the NYS Barn Coalition at the National Trust Conference in Buffalo, Oct, 18-22
 The NBA will be in the Exhibit Hall with the NYS Barn Coalition where we will debut of our new Barn-Build film. We will co-host a lunch on Wed. with presentations by both groups. Pre-conference, we will have a Barn-Build barn-raising at the Waterfront Elementary School, Tues. at 9:30am. NYS Barn Coalition leads a Barn Tour on Thurs. Be There!

National Barn Alliance
Educational
Barn-Build Program
www.barnalliance.org



Your Students can build this 8'x12' Timber Frame

'Ode to Barns Past' . May History be as Kind to You, as You have been to Us! Richard Talada

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Meet Our New Administrator –Ann Marie van den Hurk-

Ann Marie van den Hurk has joined the NBA as Administrator to handle the day-to-day workings of our Barn outreach and education efforts.

Ann Marie is an award winning, hybrid public relations counselor bridging the gap between traditional PR and social media. She has over a decade of intensive experience assisting businesses and non-profits in taking leadership in sensitive issues, crisis communications and reputation management and navigating successfully Web 2.0 and PR 2.0. She is a business columnist for Lexington (KY) [Lexington Herald-Leader](#). Her award-winning [column](#) focuses on public relations, marketing, and social media for businesses often addressing topics before they become adapted mainstream. Ann Marie formed the consulting company of Van den Hurk PR with the purpose to provide quality, realistic, sound public relations to grow and protect organizations in 2007. It has evolved into Mind The Gap Public Relations, LLC. Before Van den Hurk PR and now Mind The Gap, she was the Vice President, Communications and Advocacy for the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council located on the Delmarva Peninsula. Ann Marie lives in Tarboro, NC and is married to Jeroen van den Hurk, Ph.D., who is an architectural historian and preservationist. She is a mother to a 4 year old son, and writes about her love of travel and food on her blog, [WellWornApron.com](#).

Join the National Barn Alliance today!

Our Mission:

- Encourage the documentation, through surveys and photography, of historic barns and other rural structures throughout America.
- Encourage and support the creation of statewide and local barn preservation organizations and programs.
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- Facilitate the sharing of information on barns, their history and their maintenance.

Your membership will help us in our efforts to document and protect our vanishing rural heritage. For more information visit our website at www.barnalliance.org

Membership Categories:	\$20.00 Student	\$30.00 Individual
\$50.00 Family	\$100.00 Not-for-profit Affiliate	\$500.00 Corporate Affiliate

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Send your check (payable to NBA) and membership form to:

National Barn Alliance, Inc., c/o Vera Wiltse, 5580 N. Chippewa Rd., Coleman, MI 48618

Or Join online with PayPal at www.barnalliance.org/membership.html

Barn-Build Project Debuts its Educational Film at the National Trust Conference

The NBA Educational Barn-Build Project will deliver its final component this October at the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Annual Conference in Buffalo, NY. The instructional film will be shown at our booth in the Exhibit Hall. The Barn-Build Project was developed by NBA President Charles Leik and funded by Russ and Lou Ann Mawby of Michigan, long-time supporters of agricultural education and the preservation of our historic resources. Two models are currently on the road; a Dutch Barn and Mid-West hay barn.



Building the Dutch Barn- A Film by Brandt Bolding:

Film maker and photographer Brandt Bolding created the promotional and instructional film that will be the public’s introduction to the Barn-Build Project. This film will be sent to teachers and event organizers interested in having the NBA bring our barn models to schools, historic sites, conferences, historic reenactments and county fairs.

Bolding uses graphics and film of real barn-raising to explain the real barn building process and its exact replication by students erecting the Barn-Build model.

The film features students from Albany, NY, whose teacher, Tammy Kaleta, invited the NBA to have a barn-raising in her class in 2007, when the NBA’s Annual Meeting was held in Albany.

Brandt Bolding’s photographs have been exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the Northeast, and appeared in newspapers, journals, and the publications of preservation organizations in New York State. His work on agricultural life will be the subject of a solo exhibition at The Arkell Museum in Canajoharie, NY, in late 2011. Two of his photographs appeared in the book entitled “Old Homes of New England: Historic Houses in Clapboard, Shingle, and Stone” published by Rizzoli, 2010.

Brandt lives in New York City and Upstate in the Hudson Valley. His prime interests are preservation and photographic documentation of the historic agricultural structures and farms in New York, specifically the Hudson, Mohawk, and Schoharie River Valleys. He also travels frequently through Massachusetts, Vermont, and Maine, photographing the farms, barns, and agricultural communities.

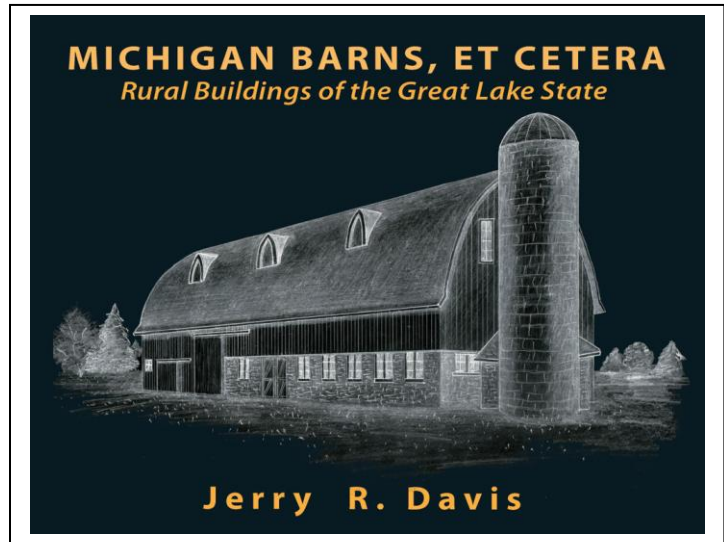
“Now more than ever, we are faced with a daunting task trying to preserve farms, the agricultural landscape, and material culture of farming communities across America. Ninety-one percent of America’s fruit and seventy-eight percent of our vegetables are grown near metro regions, where they are in the path of development...and every hour we lose 125 acres of farm and ranch land (American Farmland Trust).

Through extensive travels across the farms of Northeastern America I am attempting to bring home through photographic document - a small part of just what is at stake. Nowhere is this more of a concern than in the Mid-Hudson Valley, where citizens, and civic organizations large and small rally to preserve the irreplaceable beauty of our landscape from uncircumspect development.

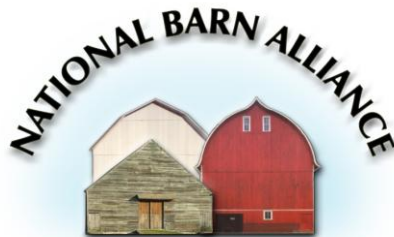
My hope is that these images will cause the viewers to begin to make their own new discoveries and perhaps start to rekindle a love for what is wonderful and truly irreplaceable... in our rural landscape. “

Barn Book Release-

Michigan Barns, Et Cetera: Rural Buildings of the Great Lake State, is a skillfully illustrated book that features fifty images (suitable for framing) of barns, covered bridges, churches and other rural buildings throughout Michigan. Each drawing is enhanced by a short vignette containing interesting facts, figures and anecdotes about the featured structure. Michigan Barns, Et Cetera is an engaging read for anyone interested in art, architecture and the rural history of Michigan and the American Midwest. Anybody interested in the preservation of old barns and buildings will love this book. About the Author: Jerry R. Davis is a Michigan native who immigrated to New Mexico about fourteen years ago. He taught junior high school history and geography in Michigan schools for thirty-one years. He is a member of SouthWest Writers and the New Mexico Book Co-op.



About the Publisher: Artemesia Publishing is a small publishing company located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Currently with 9 titles in print, including Michigan Barns, Et Cetera, Artemesia Publishing works to publish quality books from quality authors that will educate, inform, and entertain the reader.



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NBA barn model at Roxbury Farm CSA Festival. See it at the National Trust Conference in Buffalo.