FoMB has had a busy summer with a number of interesting activities. On June 16th FoMB about a dozen members and guests enjoyed a Coffee Chat at Clyde Kettleson’s small museum which is very neat and organized and filled with interesting items from the horse drawn era of the late 1800s and early 1900s. Clyde has a vast knowledge of the items he has on display and does a great job of explaining how they were used. On June 24th a Coffee Chat was held at the Erickson Farm in Isanti now owned by Dennis and Julie Davis who gave about 30 people a tour of the grounds and buildings and talked about the rich history of the farm and the Erickson Family. This was a large potato farm where they raised about 600 acres of potatoes and had a large number of dairy cattle. The house is a very large 3 story frame house built in 1915 and features five bedrooms and four indoor bathrooms. The house is in amazingly good shape with very impressive woodwork throughout. On July 15th a Coffee Chat was held which was a barn quilt painting session, Scott Temple has a story on this and there is a Coffee Chat coming up in October, details of both are inside.

On September 21st the scale model barn will be assembled at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm in Maplewood at an event called an Old-Time Barn Raising. It is a free event and is done as collaboration between the Maplewood Historical Society, The Friends of Minnesota Barns and Gerald David ‘s company GFD Timber Framing. Gerald will be on site to answer questions and display a few of his tools. Gerald is a member of FoMB and is a German born and trained timber framer that drew the plans from the original Bruentrup Barn, which is located on this site. On the weekend of August 17-19 the 1:5 scale model barn was assembled at the Nowthen Threshing Show. It was a hot humid weekend and I want to thank the many members that helped out throughout the weekend. On Saturday Mike Lamb one of the founding members of FoMB stopped by and we had a nice chat, he agreed to write an article on how the formation of our organization got started.

Near the end of September there is the annual fall barn tour coming up, see the details in his issue. There is also another Coffee Chat coming up later this fall. The Barn Door editor for the past couple of years Nicole DeGuzman has moved to Snyder Texas to take a job as the executive director at a museum there. I would like to thank her for the excellent job she has done and wish her success in the future. Clare Hoelderle has agreed to be the Barn Door editor and I am appealing to all of you to help by sending articles and pictures to her for future issues. Email Clare Hoelderle at redbenchvintage@hotmail.com.

Bill Bruentrup, Chair FoMB
Here are some pictures of the coffee chat at Clyde Kettleson’s. Our coffee chat was June 16, 2018.
Here are some pictures of the Erickson Farmstead in Isanti, MN.
Our coffee chat was June 24, 2018.

This well preserved early 20th century farmstead is important to the Isanti County history as it is associated with the potato growing industry and the Erickson family who started a variety of businesses including Holiday Stations and Super America Service Stations.

Dennis and Julie Davis now own the farmstead and also own The Big Round Barn in Andover which houses an antique and gift store.
A lively 4-hour class with Instructor Cynthia Buchholz was held at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm on August 5, 2018. Nine folks showed up for the class, some FOMB members, others not. We chose a barn quilt pattern from several dozen designs provided by Cynthia. She has a wealth of knowledge regarding barn quilt history, measuring, layout, taping and painting as related to this art form.

The process was quite easy due to the great instruction provided, despite the complexity of some of the designs. That is as long as you have a bit of patience and attention to detail. We taped and painted, taped and painted, and taped and painted some more. Each individual polygon of color got at least three coats, but the fast drying professional paint provided made this go quickly.

We all enjoyed the great venue provided by Bill Bruentrup and the perfect weather he arranged. There were wonderful treats and a fun atmosphere, but, to Cynthia’s consternation, not much dancing. If this article has piqued your interest in making a barn quilt of your very own, FOMB would be very much interested in hosting another event. Please contact a board member, especially if you have an idea for a venue.
Contest categories: Adult Open and Youth/Student Open. Photographs must include an identifiable part of a barn (inside or out).

Photos may be taken with any type of camera, phone, tablet, etc. Filters and other camera accessories may be used. Please make sure photos are high resolution.

Photographs can be enhanced using computer software.

By entering the contest, you allow the Friends of Minnesota Barns (FoMB) to use your photograph in the barn calendar as well as in other promotions, advertisements, products, websites, social media sites, and any other way the group sees fit. The photographer will be credited if the photograph is used.

A photographer may enter one (1) unique photograph into each category he/she is eligible for. Youth/students may submit photos to the “Adult” category. The same photograph may not be entered into multiple categories.

A total of 12 winners will be selected and will receive a 2020 calendar.

Winners will be announced in spring 2019 at the FoMB Annual Meeting.

Judges will have the final decision on if a photograph meets the criteria for a specific category.

Updates about the contest will be posted to our website and Facebook page. www.friendsofminnesotabarns.org
Old-Time Barn Raising: September 21, 6-10 pm

Old-Time Barn Raising

at the
Bruentrup Heritage Farm
2170 East County Road D
Maplewood, MN 55109

Friday, Sept 21, 2018
6-10pm
Free admission!

Watch or help build a 7' x 12' scale model timber-framed barn!
Experts onsite.

Family-friendly event with food for sale and cash bar.

Midwest Fiddlers playing from 8 - 10pm with old-time dancing.

Friends of Minnesota Barns
2018 Fall Barn Tour
Sunday, September 30, 2018
9:30 am

Each year, Friends of Minnesota Barns hosts a tour of barns in different areas of the state. This year’s tour will highlight a couple of interesting properties in the Jordan and New Prague area.

We will meet at 9:30 am at McDonald’s in Jordan (260 Triangle Lane North, Jordan, MN 55352). Be sure to dress for the weather!

We’ll visit a large equestrian barn in Jordan, then have our boxed lunch at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park in New Prague and visit the remaining 1-2 barns in the afternoon. Snacks and water will be provided on the tour.

The cost is $15 for FoMB members, $20 for non-members, payable to FoMB and sent to P.O. Box 812, Forest Lake, MN 55025

A box lunch is available to purchase for $8 (or you can bring your own). Sandwich choices are ham, turkey, roast beef, club or vegetarian (2 sides and cookie included). You MUST pre-order your lunch by September 15.

To RSVP to the tour and order lunch contact Kim at ksmhalek@gmail.com or 763-331-1187

Maps and further details will be posted on the website and provided to you in a few weeks.
The Hinshon family found their 1900 year old barn in 2001 when they were looking to build a home in Maplewood. The barn paired with an old farmhouse sat directly behind the lot they purchased. They dreamed of the property going on the market someday. Finally in 2012, that dream became a reality and six years later, the barn has been fully restored.
The Voss Farmstead is near St. James in Watonwan County. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986, the Albert Voss Farmstead represents one of the most extensive and elaborate farmsteads of its era in southern Minnesota. The complex contains several buildings with distinctive design features rarely found in most utilitarian farm buildings.

Albert Voss was one of St. James’ best known farmers and an important figure in the settlement of Watonwan County. At one time he owned 80,000 acres of land and in the 1880s he attracted and sold land to hundreds of farmers who moved to Watonwan County. Albert was one of the state’s leading stock farmers, experimenting and raising imported and domestic breeds of cattle. He experimented with new strains of grains and grasses and used modern planting and tilling techniques.

The stock barn (picture) in particular dominates the farmstead with its size and unusual design. According to the National Register Nomination, the 180 foot long gabled roof structure is one of the largest barns in Minnesota. The barn was constructed with expensive, long-lasting hardwoods which were first soaked in 2,000 gallons of linseed oil. Built between 1893 and 1896, the barn features black Walnut beams, posts of Washington fir, Washington red cedar siding and an original wood shingle roof. The building rests on a three foot thick concrete foundation which extends ten feet into the ground. The roof features three square cupolas and ten gabled dormers.

The interior of the barn is equally elaborate. It contains stalls and boxes of polished white oak, floor of paving brick and concrete, and a sewage and waterworks system. The barn housed several hundred head of cattle and horses, and has the capacity for storing 1,000 tons of hay.

Currently, Voss Livestock is a partnership between the Eischen and Gaines families.

*Information taken from the Preservation Matters article (July 1989, Volume 5, Number 7)*
It is with a mix of sadness and excitement that I let you all know that this will be my last newsletter for the FoMB. I moved to West Texas in late June and have been very busy ever since. I accepted a job as the Executive Director of the Scurry County Museum and moved to a ranch in the country. My driveway is a mile long and I have my own cowboy onsite to care for the cows and bulls.

I hit the ground running as they say. I have Angus bulls in the front yard and enjoy treating them as pets. West Texas life is very different than living on the Bruentrup Heritage Farm in suburban Maplewood. There are many luxuries that I’m getting used to not having. Such as walking to restaurants, Uber, and groceries 3 minutes away. Now, the nearest town is 30 minutes away and I have to bring a cooler to keep my food cold on the drive home. Also, if I want to do my real errands, I need to make the 1.5 hour trip to either Lubbock, Midland, or Abilene. All are equal distance.

I settled in a small town named Snyder. The museum is on a college campus and it’s nice to be surrounded by so much enthusiasm. Snyder has 11,000 people in it, and countless Mexican food restaurants. I often find one with an only Spanish menu and have to point my way through the ordering process. There is also quite a bit of BBQ down here as well. Oil and wind turbines rule the economy. I’ve never seen so many wind turbines in one place.

What I’m most getting used to is the overabundance of snakes and poisonous bugs. Locals are full of advice on how to deal with them and I take it all in. Some are silly suggestions, such as play rock music outside to deter rattlesnakes. And others are working.

Ranch life is really satisfying though. The peace and stillness at night is breathtaking. And the stars are glorious. The sunsets are large and showy. The dust storms and 113 degree heat can stay home! The picture above is my windmill.

On a very positive note, your board member, Clare Hoelderle, has agreed to take over the Barn Door after my absence. So you won’t see a lapse in the great news. Thank you for stepping in Clare.

Nicole DeGuzman, Barn Door Editor
Email subscriptions

Please email Bill Bruentrup at billandraydelle@hotmail.com to confirm your email subscription to the Barn Door. Sorry about the confusion. This edition is being postal mailed to everyone because there was a mix-up between lists. So please confirm your interest in receiving emails. Thank you!

Side note

In 2016, the story of the Bebeau Farm was featured in the FoMB newsletter. That lovely property and refurbished barn are now for sale. Go online to Zillow.com and search for Dayton, MN. if you are interested:

https://www.zillow.com/homes/for_sale/Dayton-MN/82643807_zpid/51667_1d4f4d251204,-93.379841,45.151416,-93.564377_rect/12_zm/

We’re looking for a site to hold a restoration workshop

For more information contact Mark Johnson at 507-469-0474 or email Artisanrestoration@gmail.com

Wind vane drawing by LeRoy Kuta.
Friends of Minnesota Barns
10605 Joliet Avenue North
Stillwater, MN 55082

Telephone:
612-338-BARN (2276)

E-mail:
info@friendsofminnesotabarns.org

Website:
www.mnbarns.org

Our mission is to educate the public and raise awareness to the importance of historic barns and farmsteads in Minnesota, and to help advocate for barn preservation. We offer educational workshops and assist others in finding resources for preservation and/or restoration of historic barns and farmsteads.

### Upcoming Friends of Minnesota Barns Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 21, 2018</td>
<td>Old-time Barn Raising</td>
<td>Bruentrup Heritage Farm</td>
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<td>6:00 -10:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30, 2018</td>
<td>Fall Barn Tour:</td>
<td>Jordan, MN</td>
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<td>October 28, 2018</td>
<td>Coffee chat:</td>
<td>Hinshon Barn</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
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<td>781 Century Avenue South, Maplewood, MN</td>
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