

Spring  
2024



# Case-Barlow Farm

*2023 Was an Exciting Year at CBF*

A fun-filled year has just passed, and another one is on its way at Case-Barlow Farm. Looking back at 2023, our highlights and accomplishments were many:

- Celebrated the completion of a wonderful brick walkway from the parking lot to the barn with an outdoor education patio featuring a gas firepit.
- The front and back yards had drains installed to eliminate the soggy grounds and large puddles around the farmyard.
- Easter Bunny joined in the fun at CBF's annual Easter egg hunt. Children ages two to twelve enjoyed hunting for over 1,000 plastic eggs scattered and hidden on the property. Even the cold weather and rain could not dampen the spirits of the children.
- Case-Barlow Farm was featured on the milestone 75th Hudson Garden Club Home & Garden Tour.
- A self-guided tour booklet was created for all visitors telling the history of CBF along with descriptions of each room in the century farmhouse, the importance of the unique white block garage and historical white milk house, plus "Big Red" and the other outdoor buildings.



- Newly installed raised garden beds are now protected by a split rail fence that joins the apple orchard fencing.
- The apple orchard and grapevines saw the hands of many volunteers give them a much needed pruning and trimming to help the trees and vines bear more fruit.
- The garden stand was a huge success again this year. With the added vegetables from the gardens and fruits from the trees and vines, customers were delighted to stop each Wednesday afternoon and purchase fresh produce.
- Heaters were installed in the barn to take the chill off early spring and late fall barn events.
- September 17th Fall Harvest Fest welcomed over 1500 guests and more than 150 volunteers, who enjoyed the day filled with special events, farm animals, the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad display and family games.
- Saturday before Thanksgiving found over 100 children running around the grounds for its annual Turkey Tot Trot. Acme generously donated five 20 lbs. frozen turkeys which were awarded as prizes for the various age groups.
- Exciting and charming Christmas teas (1 adult and 2 children) welcomed in the holiday season for many families in the beautifully decorated 1831 farmhouse. New this year, a "Holiday Cheer" wine tasting party was enjoyed by many. Santa arrived at "Big Red" for two weekends; sweet smiles and excited anticipation were felt by all.
- "Big Red" was host to Winter Wonderland. With over 50 holiday decorated lighted trees sponsored by various non-profit organizations, it was a sparkling event to behold.
- **2024 is sure to be another year of fun, exciting improvements, events, and surprises at CBF!**

[CaseBarlow.com](http://CaseBarlow.com)

Be sure to log into [Casebarlow.com](http://Casebarlow.com) to see what is happening and keep up-to-date on all that is going on at the farm. Our website has been recently updated. It will be announcing all the upcoming events while offering pictures of many of our past events. It offers details of CBF history from Chauncey and Cleopatra Case until today; 200+ years on the farm is highlighted. There are also 13 years of past newsletters that can be reviewed. See how we have grown, the improvements made and the fun that so many families have had at Case-Barlow Farm!

## Hudson's Calvinistic Congregational Church by Grace Goulder Izant, "Hudson Heritage"

"As Hudson's population grew so did membership in the Calvinistic Congregational Church. Clearly the village had outgrown the little log church on the green. A small group of citizens, affiliates of denominations less rigid in doctrine, formed the Union Church. It was short lived and little data about it survived. But it nudged the Congregationalists to action; becoming clear to them a new edifice was needed. The lot where the Village Hall (Visitor Center) now stands was selected as the site. After a two year impasse over the issue of obtaining the property from Heman Oviatt, David Hudson and Owen Brown called on him and, by each paying him five dollars, secured the deed to the property. Oviatt stipulated that the timber, long cut for the proposed church and piled beside his store on Main Street, must be removed before midnight on a specified day. Dr. Moses Thompson, generally considered "an infidel", with the help of his son managed to get the lumber to the church site just within the appointed hour."

"The doctor, whether an unbeliever or not, seems to have been on the building committee and wanted the church to have a belfry. Accordingly he loaded his wagon with cheese, in which he dealt extensively along with his physician's duties, and drove to Pittsburgh. There he exchanged the cheese for a bell with a pleasant tone in the key of B. When the church building was demolished more than forty years later, the bell was sold for \$1,000 to a church in Independence, Ohio. As the church was going up there were numerous gifts-in kind by Hudson citizens. Among the most helpful were long strings of flax spun by Cleopatra Case and used by the builders in taking measurements."

### Love is in the Air



Such a Sweet Smile! Recently discovered in the archives at CBF, this 1941 picture of Emily Fisk Pierce and Don Barlow was taken on their wedding day in front of the Mt. Union College Chapel.

Emily sadly passed away in 1990 after sharing a long

and happy married life at Case-Barlow Farm.

### 2024 Improvements in the plans!

It is never too early to begin thinking ahead, and at CBF there are so many thoughts in the planning stages for 2024.

A new storage shed will be built behind the wagon barn to house garden equipment, including items with motors to remove the danger of fire from the barn where the items are now being stored. The new storage shed will replicate our barn on a much smaller scale, and will use some wood now on the property.

A variety of berry bushes will be planted within the fenced apple orchard. A mixture of blackberry, raspberry and blueberry bushes will enhance the orchard area. Hopefully the bushes will mature enough within two years, allowing the berries to be ready to sell at the Wednesday afternoon produce cart during the summer and fall months.



### Diary of Hattie Case Barlow

A few excerpts from her pages

Before Don Barlow left CBF farm, he discovered a thick pamphlet in the attic of the farmhouse. The pamphlet was filled from cover to cover, 44 sheets—88 pages, with a few lines written everyday by his Grandmother Hattie, from January 17, 1877 through July 11, 1898. The entries ended less than four months before her death on November 4, 1898.

"April 8 Thursday. We had quite a fright last night. Just as we were going to bed someone shot in front of the house. We were just getting quieted when someone came yelling and half wild—but it proved to be Mr. Brown. He went for Charley. Mark was drunk and was going to kill all of them. I went upstairs with Maggie but we did not go to sleep until 3 o'clock.

"12, Monday. A bright pleasant day. I washed 3 quilts this A.M. The man that bought the "walnut tree" was here for dinner. I ironed this P.M. and went up to Mother's for a few minutes.

"13, Tuesday. They are chopping wood. I did my mending this forenoon. A cold wind. Worked on my dress the P.M.

"14, Wed. I finished my dress at last. Frank was over to see some cows at Mr. Call's this A.M. Will chopped wood this P.M. He took up feed to be ground. Frank & I went up to Meeting tonight.

"17, Sat. Cold & stormy some snow. Allie went home this A.M. Henry went up too. I finished my calico dress. Have rested some today. They piled wood this P.M.

"18. Easter Sunday. Bright but cold wind. We all went to church. Had chicken for dinner — ever so many spring suits were out. We all went up again this eve."

## 2024 Upcoming Improvements to Case-Barlow Farm



The white brick on the exterior of the farmhouse has been a major concern for sometime.

The journey from Granby, Ct., by Chauncey Case, his wife, Cleopatra, and their five children began on May 23, 1814. They walked to Hudson arriving on July 4, 1814. A log cabin across the street from the present home was waiting for them, but Chauncey put on the finishing touches (door and windows) just in time for the birth of their 6th child on August 15, 1814. They eventually had a total of ten children. The family worked hard; they cleared the land and began a prosperous dairy farm. The dream was to build a brick home, so Chauncey and his sons made and fired their own bricks to build the family home in 1831. It is stated that this was the first brick home west of Pittsburgh. The rear wooden addition was added about 1846.

According to John Burnell, a historical mason, firing brick in the 1800 was not a scientific process but more of a “guesstimate”. Some of the bricks are softer than others. Over the years the house bricks were “whitewashed”, protecting them

from spalling and allowing the brick to breathe. Later the farmhouse was painted with white paint made for bricks. It is a wonderful product for today’s bricks that are fired at exact temperatures, but painters now realize it was not good on old bricks.

Through your generous donations, the funding drives, many events, and carefully managing monies, CBF has raised enough funds to have the bricks repaired. It is necessary to remove existing paint by hand; power washing and sand blasting is too harsh on the soft bricks. Masonry repairs, repointing, repair/replace spalled bricks, and properly dispose of paint residue in accordance with EPA regulations regarding lead content will need to be done. Then a breathable masonry white paint will be applied to the stripped surface. Many of the WRA bricks were fired by the Cases and have had to do the same procedure over the years.

All the farmhouse windows will also be repaired, the bottom sashes made operable, scrape and paint sills and frames to prevent future deterioration. The interior walls of the farmhouse need to be repaired and painted also.

At the same time the historic, circa 1920, white block garage made of rock-faced block, sometimes called cast stone, will have its paint stripped. Minor masonry repairs will be made and the block repainted with breathable masonry paint.

Many of you may or may not know, at some point in the past, the Barlow’s had aluminum siding put on the exterior of the west side of the house, the dining room, kitchen and bathroom walls. At this point, we do not have enough saved funds to remove the siding and see if the wood beneath needs to be replaced. A project for the future!

### Beautiful & Charming Dollhouse

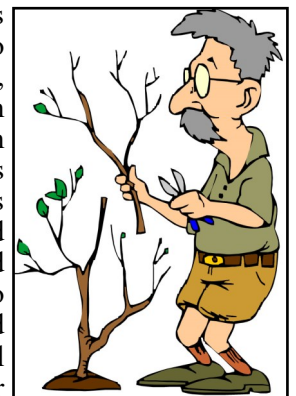
This amazing dollhouse includes special touches of electrical lights, wallpaper and elegant miniature furnishings. Margaret McVay and her family recently donated their mother’s dollhouse to CBF. Her mother’s dollhouse was a love that took years to complete and furnish with tiny and special details. Margaret’s father custom-designed the house so that it opens and can be viewed and enjoyed on both sides, including the 3rd floor attic which opens. This special gift is proudly being displayed on the second floor of the CBF farm house for everyone to enjoy. It is a small farmhouse inside a large farmhouse!

Thank you to the McVay family for their generous donation.



### CBF Tree & Vine Pruning

This class was a great success thanks to a group of hearty adults who joined Charlie Robinson, botanist, and Curt VanBlarcum, arborist, on Saturday morning, March 23, to learn the art of pruning dormant fruit trees and grapevines. The free class covered proper techniques and pruning timelines for fruit trees and grapevines. A great discussion also took place regarding the care and planting of the attendees’ personal trees. A demonstration of the proper selection of site and variety of trees with a hands-on planting of fruit trees enhanced everyone’s knowledge. The attendees not only learned techniques for their personal yard and gardens, but also helped CBF prepare its trees and vines for the coming spring growing season. Thank you to everyone who attended. We hope you enjoyed your morning with our experts.



Spring 2024  
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### CBF Herb and Medicinal Garden

As folks in the 19th century did not have ready access to medical care as we do today, a medicinal garden was a necessity. When illness or accidents occurred, the appropriate fresh or dried remedy needed to be available. At Case-Barlow Farm, some of the plants grown in that era are being cultivated today in the kitchen garden including true licorice, betony, echinacea, soapwort, feverfew, horehound and costmary.



One commonly used herb was horehound. It is an indigenous European plant but its easy growing way has allowed it to become naturalized in most of North and South America. It is often seen growing in open meadows, and along roads and railroad tracks. The square, woolly stems grow about two feet tall with wrinkled, hairy green leaves. It is a good companion plant for tomatoes, as it increases both the yield and growing time for the tomato.

Horehound is used to treat respiratory concerns. Either as a tea or candy, it calms sore throats, sinus infections and allergies. As there was no vaccination for whooping cough until 1940, horehound was used to treat children suffering from whooping cough.

Another herb growing is called costmary, which came to CBF from its native home of India, brought to the New World from Europe and traveled west with settlers. Leaves of fresh costmary are used to make teas or added to salads and cold drinks. Dried costmary is used in potpourri. It is sometimes referred to as the Bible Leaf. Leaves were often used as a bookmark in Bibles and prayer books. The minty smell of the dried leaf was thought to repel the silversmith insect and book lice. Legend has it that if the sermon grew too long for a sleepy listener, the sweet aroma and minty taste would help the parishioner stay tuned in.

If you are interested in learning more about CBF's heirloom garden or helping with the garden, please call 330.650.0591 or check the volunteer tab on Casebarlow.com.

**Save  
the  
Date!**

Sunday, June 9, 1-3 pm Liz Murphy & Debbi Classen, authors of "A Picture of Hudson", will be discussing the research for this book,. A children's discovery game will also take place.

Sunday, July 14, 1-3 pm. Watch mesmerizing magician, Rick Smith, and tour the CBF property.

Sunday, August 11, 4-7 pm. Car Show –open to all car lovers! If you would like to join in the fun and display your "gem", call Tom 330.715.8363.