

Case-Barlow Farm

*Grant to Continue Renovation,
Thanks to Ohio State Senator Kristina Roegner*



Pictured left to right: Leah Roth, CBF Trustee, Senator Kristina Roegner, Jack Belby CBF Trustee, Linda Matty, CBF Trustee

CBF will be starting the new year with exciting improvements and renovations on the farm, thanks to a grant from the State of Ohio sponsored by Senator Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson). CBF has been awarded \$75,000.00 as part of Ohio's capital budget, a \$2.1 billion investment in schools, infrastructure, public services and local community projects. Along with other Summit County recipients, Case-Barlow Farm is considered a cultural project of local and regional importance.

“Like the Clocktower, the Case-Barlow Barn is an iconic structure in Hudson. Its historical value is beyond measure,” said Kristina Roegner. “I am so thankful for the community stepping up to preserve this piece of Hudson’s past and am delighted that I was able to direct funding from the state’s capital budget to support this worthy cause.” The Roegner family have been enthusiastic supporters of CBF for many years.

CBF benefits the community in many ways. It shines light on Hudson’s history and brings it to life for visitors. It preserves open space in a farm-like setting, providing a unique and authentic cultural facility that is available to the community. All of this brings economic benefit to Hudson. CBF appreciates Senator Roegner’s passion for the Farm and her work in securing this much needed funding so that this very special barn will stand proudly in Hudson for years to come.

In addition to its presence as a community landmark, CBF offers a variety of programs throughout the year for families. As soon as CBF can safely hold events once again, we will. Check our website Casebarlow.com or like us on face book to keep up with the latest information and activities.

Santa Came to CBF's Barn on December 12 & 13

Santa was a popular fellow at CBF this season. So popular, in fact, that CBF had to offer a second day of Santa in the Barn to accommodate all the children who wanted to share their wishes with him during this socially distanced event.

Visitors were spaced out for Santa, and reservations filled up so quickly, a second day for Santa was offered. More than 150 children visited Santa over the two-day period.

CBF’s large barn offered a spacious area for individual families to wait. Children spoke with Santa and shared their most special Christmas wishes. Parents took photos of their children with Santa, who was seated in his sleigh. Home Depot generously donated wooden toy kits that the families were able to take home to assemble, paint and enjoy. Hot chocolate and cookies were available.

Thank you, Santa, for taking time in your busy schedule to visit CBF!

See you next year.



CBF's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

On Saturday, April 3rd promptly at 11 am, the East Bunny will come to CBF with a cart full of Easter Eggs, just ready for the picking. The farm will be the site of thousands of eggs to collect for Easter Egg hunters, ages 10 and under. Divided into age groups, the kids, armed with their own Easter baskets, can collect eggs, and then trade them in for an Easter Treat Bag. The Egg Hunt will be held rain or shine, Participants should dress for outdoor weather and wet field conditions. The event is free to participants, but advanced registration is encouraged through the website, www.casebarlow.com. Registration will begin on March 15. In addition to the Easter Egg hunt, families can enjoy a picture with the Easter Bunny.



The Barlow Family and Root Beer



Case-Barlow Farm Root Beer had its beginning in the Barlow farmhouse kitchen. Hudson's Fire Chief, Jerry Varnes, recalls that Don Barlow would hire local boys to help with farm chores, and they enjoyed driving the tractors, harvesting of the crops and storing the hay in the barn. Although other crops were grown on the farm, the primary crops were hay and soybeans during Don Barlow's time on the farm.

In 1972 Varnes, at the age of 12, was hired along with several other boys to help out at the farm. He recalls that harvesting the hay was a hot and dusty task for which he was paid \$2.00 per hours (that equates to \$12.68 an hour today). "At the end of a hard day of work, Don might go to the milk house and bring out the bottles of homemade root beer. It was the best treat one could imagine," says Varnes. After enjoying the refreshing break, Don would keep the bottles and the caps. Don hammered the bottle caps flat, washed out the bottles and used them again. Today, on the farmhouse kitchen counter, sits a hand bottle-capping device similar to one that the Barlows might have used.

The history of root beer, the sassafras root beverage, began with the indigenous people of the Americas for culinary and medicinal reasons before the arrival of Europeans in North America. The tradition of brewing root beer is thought to have evolved out of other small beer traditions that produced fermented drinks with very low alcohol content. People believed these beers healthier to drink than possibly tainted local sources of water. Root beer has been sold in confectionery stores since the 1840's and written recipes for it have been documented since the 1860's. Emily and Don Barlow may have used one of these written recipes. Philadelphia pharmacist Charles Elmer Hires, was the first to successfully market a commercial brand of root beer. Hires developed his root tea made from sassafras in 1875. A combination of more than 25 herbs, berries and roots that is used to flavor carbonated soda water. Hires was a teetotaler who wanted to call the beverage "root tea." However, his desire to market the product to Pennsylvania coal miners caused him to call his product "root beer" instead.

Today the CBF Root Beer is produced commercially and can be yours to enjoy anytime. The 4-pack of CBF Root Beer is sold at Ace Hardware, 5824 Darrow Road, and also at Destination Hudson, 27 E. Main Street. You need not wait until a hot summer day to enjoy this local delight.

The Case-Barlow Farm snowman with his refreshing bottle of root beer joined dozens of other snowmen and snowwomen in the Hudson Chamber of Commerce Tour of Snowmen to benefit the Hudson Community Service Association.



 Easter Egg Hunt—Saturday, April 3
Second Sunday Open Houses—June 13, July 11, August 8
Annual Fall Harvest Fest—Sunday, September 19

Turkey Tot Trot — Fun at the Farm



Over 50 children participated in Case-Barlow Farm's annual Turkey Tot Trot, a 0.5k run that enabled children aged 3 to 12 years to enjoy a fun run around the farm's grounds. The cold weather on Saturday, November 21, didn't deter the family from coming out to participate in this free event. Winners in 5 age categories were the recipients of a 20-pound turkey courtesy of Acme Fresh Market of Hudson. CBF provided a safe and socially distanced event that was truly an enjoyable experience for everyone who attended. Many families commented on how fun it was to be outdoors and enjoying the beauty of the historic farm. This year more than ever, it was important to cherish the traditions of the holiday season.

CBF added Deck & Safety Railing



In the fall of 2020, the Calhoun Foundation extended to CBF a matching grant challenge to raise the needed funds to install a deck over the uncovered nineteenth century cistern, adding protection and provides a level surface for guests to enter and exit the barn. The project also included safety railings along both sides of the barn bank. The Calhoun Foundation would donate \$5,500 of the needed \$11,000. Thanks to The Taste of Hudson, "Race to the Taste," to the American Endowment Foundation of Hudson and to the many of you who generously donated, CBF reached its matching goal and the deck and railing were installed just in time for the "Santa in the Barn" event.

Thank you to everyone who helped raise the necessary funds by donating throughout the year. We could not have accomplished all the wonderful improvements at the farm throughout the past years without your support.

Thank you so very much!

New Web Site Is Up and Running

CBF is delighted to announce that it has launched its new website: CaseBarlow.com. It is now more user friendly, with a new crisp fresh look. From the history of CBF, and organizations that have been part of the farm, along with past newsletters and pictures, to recent improvements and future events, we know that you will enjoy visiting the website.

Items Found Their Way Back to CBF



In 1996, prior to moving to Laurel Lake, the Barlow's held a yard sale. Patricia Meyer purchased Helen Barlow's sewing basket. It is just as Helen Barlow left it with sewing aids, extra zippers, lace, mending fabric, darning egg, pin cushion and, of course, a button box. Pat thought it is now time to return this keepsake to the farm. She donated to CBF the sewing box along with a milk can, popcorn popper, pots and much more.

Another yard sale item found its way back also, a stool donated by Maura and Lou Ferdinand. The box's shipping label says it was ordered at Montgomery Ward and shipped to H. C. Barlow at Kent Peninsula Road. The road was later renamed to Barlow Road in honor of the Barlow family.

Thank you to the Meyers and the Ferdinands. It is wonderful to have the Barlow family treasurers returned to their home.



Dairy of a Young Girl, Summer 1899, Hudson, Ohio By Marie Foster Barnes

In 1999 Hudsonite Joan May Maher edited the diary of Marie Foster Barnes of Hudson. The introduction is very interesting, quoting Joan:

"By the end of the nineteenth century, the population of Hudson was nearing one thousand. In the summer of 1899, when the thirteen-year old girl was writing her diary, the once prosperous business and trading center had regressed to a quiet town of shop owners, professionals and retired farmers as the cities of Cleveland and Akron grew.

"The once booming town had lost its prestigious "Yale of the West" when Western Reserve College moved to Cleveland in 1882. The college left behind its preparatory school, Western Reserve Academy, which in the late 1890's was struggling with lack of funds. In spite of the rebuilding of shops of Clinton Street, destroyed by the great fire of 1892, Hudson's buildings and homes, including those on the Academy campus, were showing signs of age. In short, the community was in a somewhat dismal state.

"It was a time of unpaved roads, often muddy and riddled with holes, tough on horses and carriages—and the ladies' long skirts. The diarist, Marie Foster, thought nothing of riding her bicycle over rough dirt roads to Peninsula or Twinsburg or to the Boston Ledges, all five miles away. When she walked to the stores on Main Street, she used the plank sidewalks which were often loose or broken. Marie also trod these precarious walks to attend services at the Congregational, Episcopal, Catholic and Disciple (now the Christian) Churches.

"There was no indoor plumbing, central heating nor electricity in Hudson at this time. A lamplighter, George Gannon, would make his rounds, lighting the lamps from his one-horse cart. In the wintertime, he plowed the paths to school. He also served as town constable and would use the "lockup" at the Town Hall when necessary. There were several saloons in the village amid periodic protests. Peddlers stopped at houses to offer wares such as ice and baked goods.

"It was a time of gradual transition. By 1894, the village began paving its streets with slag. The coal magnate and Hudson's benefactor in the early 1900's, James W. Ellsworth, furnished the slag for Aurora Street, where his estate of Evamere had been built. Telephone poles, erected in 1897, allowed some residents a new way to communicate besides the front porch. Residents could travel by train on the Cleveland and Pittsburgh (C&P) from Railroad Street, now renamed Maple Drive. In the 1900's the company became the Pennsylvania Railroad. On the spur to the south was the Cleveland, Akron and Columbus Railway (C.A. & C).

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Winter 2021

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Dairy of a Young Girl

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“Marie was the only daughter of Horace and Mary Foster. The family lived at 92 College Street, next to what is now Hayden Hall of WRA. A respected lawyer and classical scholar of the Western Reserve, Marie’s father was a graduate of Western Reserve College in Hudson, served as principal of the college’s preparatory school, superintendent of the Akron Public Schools for one year and as mayor of Hudson from 1880 until 1887. Marie’s mother was a founding member of the Hudson Library Board of Trustees.

“By the end of Marie’s diary, in September, 1899, she is preparing to enter WRA. In 1903, the doors of the school were closed because of lack of funds, not to be reopened until 1916 through the efforts of James W. Ellsworth who helped transform Hudson into a model town.

“Marie would later marry Arthur T. Barnes and had three sons. She was a respected piano teacher in Hudson for many years and could be seen driving her yellow Volkswagen Beetle around town. At the time of her death in 1968, she was living at 278 Streetsboro Street in Hudson.”

Mildred Klindworth’s Painting

Thank you to Kristine Keller who recently donated a painting of Case-Barlow Farm by Ohio artist Mildred Klindworth and framed by William Breedon. Kathy Johnson of Hudson Fine Art and Framing was invaluable in determining the artists. Mildred was a renown Ohio artist who loved to paint the rural landscape of Ohio in the 1970’s and evidently visited with Don and Helen Barlow.



It's Time to Party at the Barn

Are you planning a wedding, shower, reunion, graduation party, corporate event or anniversary in the next couple of years? Now is the time to start planning. Come tour the newly renovated historical 1890 barn with its authentic beams, iron chandeliers, unique atmosphere and towering roof line, and decide for yourself what a special setting CBF can offer.

For more information about *Big Red* as well as to book events, visit casebarlow.com or email casebarlowevents@gmail.com.