



Friends of Minnesota Barns  
www.mnbarns.org

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Quarter 1, 2019

Volume 15, Issue 1

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## Message from the Chairman

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### Greetings to all members and friends of FoMB in our winter wonderland!

As I write this, we are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February and have already set a new snowfall record for the month. It is nice to see snow pile up in drifts as you look out the window but then comes the reality of shoveling, plowing and if you have animals, dealing with their issues. FoMB started the year's activities with a model barn raising in the indoor amphitheater at the Central Park Complex in Woodbury. It was a great venue and it was done to promote the efforts of the Woodbury Historical Society in saving of the Miller Barn, which has much local significance to the area. The Miller Barn is a timber frame barn very similar to our model. Thanks to all who helped with the project, especially the FoMB members that came. There was quite a bit of audience participation and there were many people who came to enjoy the ice cream and watch the building of the barn. FoMB also received a bit of publicity with an article in the Woodbury Bulletin and an article on the Minnesota Historical Society blog on preservation efforts.

The next event is a "Coffee Chat" at Troy and Lisa Redieh's barn near Alexandria on April 7<sup>th</sup>. This visit is out of the metro but is a nice drive plus we have members in this area that will be happy to see an event close to home. See further details in this issue. Thanks to Lisa for responding to the appeal that was extended to members and friends looking for sites where FoMB can hold a chat. FoMB carries insurance and supplies the drinks and treats. If you have

a site or know of one, contact any of our board members.

On May 19<sup>th</sup> the FoMB Annual Meeting will be held at the Bruentrup Heritage Farm in Maplewood. The farm is at 2170 East County Road D, Maplewood, MN 55109. Lets hope the snow will be gone! There are some interesting exhibits to see: 3-M and Gladstone exhibits in the basement of the 1905 timber frame bank barn, the milk house exhibit, the Gladstone Fire Department exhibit that features a 1923 Pirsch Fire Truck and the 1912 farm house will be open for tours. There are more details in this issue.

There are a couple of other Coffee Chats in the works in the coming months. Watch the FoMB Website and future issues of the Barn Door for upcoming events.

A special thank you to board member Clare Hoelderle for the fine job she is doing editing the Barn Door. Let's help Clare by sending her interesting barn photos and articles that can be included in future newsletters for all members to enjoy.

**PLEASE NOTE:  
MARCH – APRIL IS THE TIME FOR  
ANNUAL DUES RENEWAL**

**IF YOU JOINED AFTER 11-1-2018  
YOUR RENEWAL DATE WILL BE  
IN 2020**

Bill Bruentrup Chairman

### In this issue:

Chairman's Message	1
Online Sources	2-4
Coffee Chat	5
John Kuester	5
FoMB Member: Pete	6-7
New Board Member: Jon	7
Barn Home Conversion	8
Brandtjen Farm	9-11
Annual Meeting & General Announcements	12

# Online Sources of Free and Low Cost Vintage Barn Catalogs and Books

By Jon Nelson

A few years ago, as my interest was growing in learning about my barn, barn construction and preservation in general, I came across a couple of online sources for vintage barn literature available for free or very low cost. I would like to share the information required to access these sources and their content.

**Vintage media “stores” on eBay** – There are at least a couple of eBay stores that specialize in reproductions, such as rare antique catalogs, how-to books, advertising, radio programs, and other nostalgic items. Most of the titles are digital and are provided on CD or DVD.

**Open Library** – “Our goal is to provide a page on the web for every book ever published. At its heart, Open Library is a catalog. The project began in November 2007 and has been inhaling catalog records from some of the biggest libraries in the world ever since. We have well over 20 million edition records online, provide access to 1.7 million scanned versions of books, and link to external sources like WorldCat and Amazon when we can.”

Because of the vast amount of documents and variety of subjects available on these sources, performing a search within their websites is recommended as a first step. I’ll give examples using the search term “barn” for both of these sources.

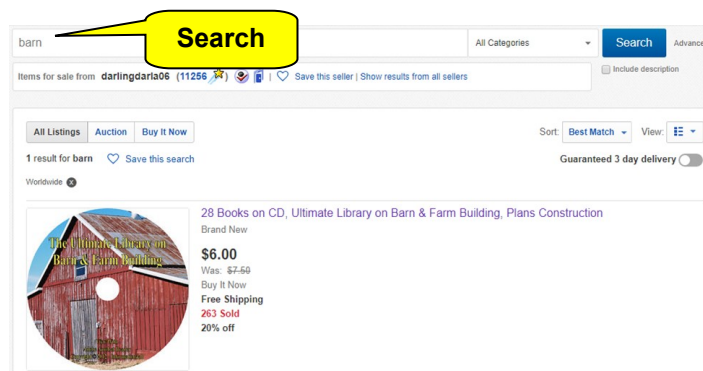
## **Vintage media “stores” on eBay**

Here are links to two stores where I have found vintage barn literature. These links are for their eBay “store home page”.

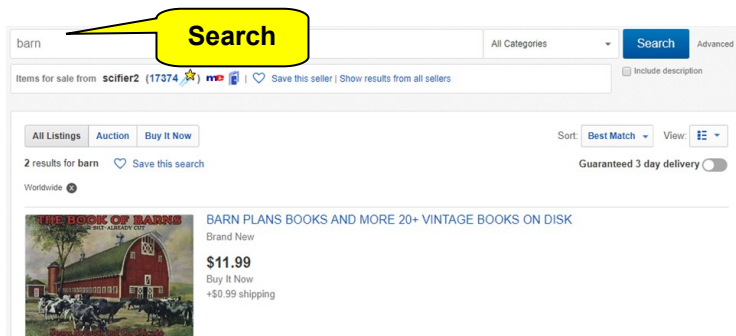
<https://www.ebay.com/str/information4all>

<https://www.ebay.com/str/everything4lessstore>

The screenshot below is the result of a search using keyword “barn” from the **information4all** home page. The search found the CD “The Ultimate Library of Barn and Farm Building”, which contains 28 catalogs and books in PDF format. I recently purchased this CD, and thought it was an excellent value at \$6.



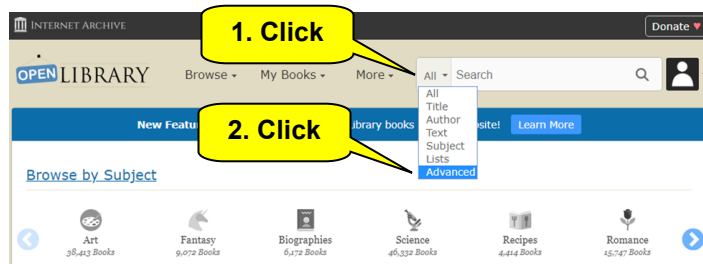
The next screenshot is the result of a search using keyword “barn” from the **everything4lessstore** home page. This search finds the CD “Barn Plans Books and More”, which contains 24 catalogs and books for \$13. Many of the titles are the same as the CD found in the other store.



## Online Sources, continued

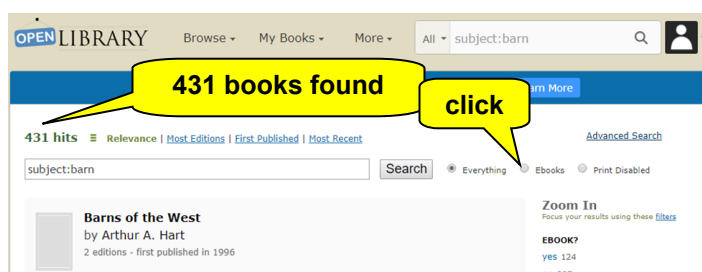
### Open Library

**Open Library** is an accredited California State Library run by the non-profit **Internet Archive**. Its URL is: <https://openlibrary.org/>. In order to identify which books are available to read electronically, open **Advanced Search** from the Open Library homepage – see screenshot below.



Type your search term into the **Subject** field of the **Advanced Search** box – see right

There are 431 total books found. To see just the **Ebooks** (available to read online), click the **Ebooks** radio button – see below.



### **Advanced Search**

Title

Author

ISBN

Subject

Place

Person

Publisher

There are 124 **Ebooks** found. To read a book immediately on your computer, click its **Read** button. You do not need to create an account on **Open Library** to access books with a **Read** button. If a book has a **Borrow** button, you will need to create an account in order to access the book.



When you click **Read** or **Borrow**, the book opens up in your web browser using the **Open Library BookReader**.

### E-Reader Capabilities

#### Page Controls (lower right)

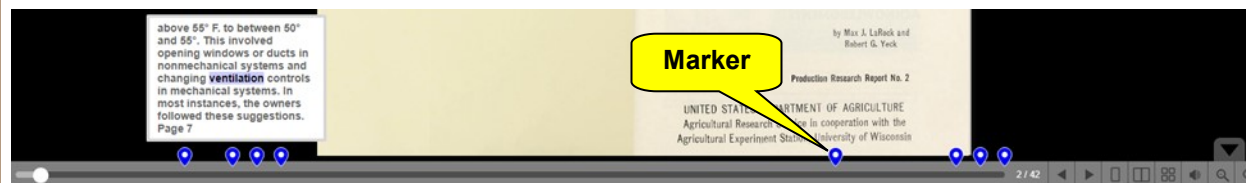


## Online Sources, continued

**Download/Search Controls** (upper right):



Keywords found by searching are indicated graphically everywhere they occur with markers on the book's page line – see below. Hovering the pointer over a marker will display the page# along with some of the text where it occurs. Clicking on the marker will bring you to the page where the search term was found.



**Following are some additional tips regarding use of Open Library:**

There is no cost to use or create an account on **Open Library**, or to access and download **Ebooks**.

Once an **Ebook** is displayed in the **Open Library BookReader**, you can download it to your computer in PDF format, or several other formats. If in PDF format, after downloading to your computer, you can open it up in **Adobe Reader**, then print any portion of the document, if desired.

Since Ebooks do not have embedded videos or high resolution photos, downloaded books take up very little memory. For example, the book in the example above (42 pages) uses 4.8 MB. A 612 page book I downloaded took 59.3 MB.

If you prefer to obtain a physical copy of a book rather than read online, instead of clicking on the **Read** or **Borrow** button, click on the book's title in your search results. A new page will open with links to the **WorldCat** website that will find copies in libraries for the Zip Code you enter. Remember that with the example of "barn" search, there were 431 total listings, so you could likely find many of these in libraries also.

### **History of Kit Barns**

Here is a link to a master's thesis paper written by Joy E. Sears (no connection to Sears, Roebuck Co., I believe) in 2001. I came across this some time ago, and thought it may be of interest to FoMB members:

<https://www.sandcreekpostandbeam.com/company/history/historykitbarns1.pdf>

### **Summary**

If you decide to access either of the sources discussed, I hope the information provided will help you locate books regarding barns, or any other topic of interest. I would invite any member of FoMB that runs into difficulty accessing these sources to email me at the address below, and I will gladly respond and try to help (Jon Nelson, jon.nelson2@comcast.net).

It is truly amazing how much information can be accessed online, and much of it for free. I am sure there are other online sources of information of interest to FoMB members. If you know of any, please consider sharing them in a future newsletter or submit it for inclusion in FoMB's website or FaceBook page.

## Coffee Chat: Sunday, April 7 at 1:30 p.m.



### **COFFEE CHAT** **Sunday, April 7 at 1:30 p.m.**

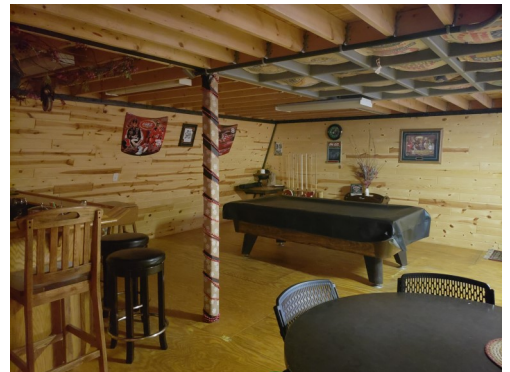
**Hosts: Troy and Lisa Rediehs**  
**9944 State Hwy 29 North, Alexandria, MN 56308**

Our barn was built in 1927. Troy's grandparents owned the farm prior to Troy buying the place in 1986. The barn was used for dairy cattle until sometime in the 70's. Once the cattle were gone, the barn was used for storage (junk) for many years and the hay mow was still half full of old hay.

In 2007, Troy and I decided that we needed a game room and decided the hay mow was the perfect place to put it. On December 23, 2007, with the help of a few good friends and relatives, we baled up 350 bales of loose hay from the hay mow. The next project was to have someone replace the roof that was just starting to leak. Over the next 2 years, Troy and I spent many hours working in the hay mow. We built a new floor, insulated and installed new walls, and built a loft inside the hay mow. We wanted to make the game room a place to enjoy no matter what the weather was outside.

In 2017 we decided it was time to protect the outside of the barn, so we had steel siding put on. The bottom part of the barn is still a work in process. We have cleaned out the back of the barn and made a room we call the sunroom and is used for summer evenings entertaining friends.

This summer the project is to convert the old milk house to a summer kitchen. When we started the project, we had no idea the amount of time we would spend enjoying the game room we created, and in the process we preserved a part of history that can never be rebuilt.



**Please RSVP to Bill Bruentrup at [billandraydelle@hotmail.com](mailto:billandraydelle@hotmail.com)**



### **John Kuester**

Friends of Minnesota Barns lost a good friend, former board member and strong supporter of FoMB with John Kuester's unexpected death on February 1<sup>st</sup>. John was on the board from the early days until a few years ago when he got very involved with the improvements and building projects at the Oliver Kelly Farm in Elk River.

John was a man that everyone knew. He was a big man with a big heart and he usually had a smile on his face and a joke to tell. There was also the serious side of John as he always had objectives and goals in mind for the organization. He will be missed. The Friends of Minnesota Barns organization sends our condolences to his wife Louise and family.

There will be a celebration of life in remembrance of John at the Oliver Kelly Farm in Elk River on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

## Pete Pinske

By Bill Bruentrup

FoMB has many talented members in the construction and restoration businesses. Recently, my wife Raydelle and I had the pleasure of spending a day with one of them. Pete Pinske, who is in his 80s, is a third generation barn builder in Gaylord, MN and worked in the surrounding area his entire career. His wife, Arlene, has worked with him in the business from the start, all while raising their 5 children. His grandfather, Theo, built his first barn in 1896 and that evolved into a family construction business, Pinske and Sons, that carried on for many years.

Pete's grandfather built a saw rig on a trailer that was powered by a "Model T" engine and had a long wood fence that had a slight V in it so it could cut the radius on one edge of each 8' long 1" X 8" board that would form the pieces for the laminated rafters in the gothic barns they built. The saw blade had a lot of set so it wouldn't bind in the wood. The cut boards would then be nailed together in a jig on the barn floor with the joints staggered, then the completed rafters were raised.



Pete has time sheets from his grandfather Theodor Tador Pinske and Sons Construction Company. The Alfred Templin Barn was built in April and May of 1928 in Glencoe and is approximately 32' X 70'. The time sheets show 11 men worked a total of 2,626 hours with wages of \$1,382.95 paid. The top wage was \$.75 per hour and the lowest \$.35. This barn has been well maintained. It is on a property that was recently sold (see photo on next page). Another is a barn of unknown size built in 1937 with a crew of 9 with the top wage being \$.80. This barn was built under contract for \$1,900, the labor cost was \$228 for 587 hours of labor and the cost for lumber and hardware was \$1,304 for a profit of \$308.

His father Edward H and later his son Pete (Edward J) and Pete's brother Bob would join the company. While still a young man in his early 30s, Pete decided he wanted to start his own general contracting business and after having built over 75 barns, houses and apartments, found his niche building churches and church additions as well as houses, commercial buildings and other projects. We saw his photo albums of his projects and we drove around and visited some of his projects. His craftsmanship really stood out as he not only built the building but the baptismal fonts, lectern stands, railings and some of the furniture. Pete had a couple employees Myron Nelson and Marvin Krentz that spent their entire careers working for him. We also visited a beautiful home where he installed a lot of barn beam trim including some very tall 12 X 12 entrance posts that had been barn sills, a 6 X 6 grid on the kitchen ceiling that is solid 6 X 6s with mortise and tenon joints and integral parts of a huge fireplace.

Pete has been active in the Rotary for many years and helped develop Personal Energy Transportation Vehicles for people who have walking problems. It resembles a tricycle but is hand powered by a pedal system. Pete makes the wood parts and another company welds the frames. Then they assemble them and are shipped to poverty stricken areas with the latest shipment of 250 going to Sierra Leone in Africa. To see more on the P.E.T. vehicles, go to [mobilityworldwide.org](http://mobilityworldwide.org).



Theo Pinske & Sons 1928 barn

## Pete Pinske, continued

He also makes beautiful walnut doll chairs that he donates to the Rotary to auction off in conjunction with their fund raising events. Pete also makes a chest of drawers for each of his grandchildren and I believe he said he is working on his 10<sup>th</sup> one now. Pete took me to the shop he ran his business out of for many years and as a novice woodworker, I was blown away by the equipment there. Much of the machinery is old but this old machinery was bullet proof and made to last. There are several pieces of machinery driven by a line shaft including a chain saw mortiser, a tenon cutter and a couple of other machines driven by belts. There is also a huge sliding table saw and all the other machines required for a complete woodworking shop. They even fabricated their own panel doors. Pete showed me a jig that was probably made by a blacksmith to shape pegs used to lock mortise and tenon joints and it looks like it may have been made from a plowshare.



It has a 1" diameter hole that is embossed up and sharpened then an oversized piece of Oak tapered on one end is driven through to shape the peg. The jig is nailed to a large block with an oversized hole that acts as a guide. See photo above.



Thank you to both Pete and Arlene for sharing their very interesting story.

Saw rig on a trailer that was powered by a "Model T" engine

## New Board Member Spotlight



My name is Jon Nelson, and I am happy to be FoMB's newest board member. My wife Sue and I live in Maple Grove, MN, which is a NW suburb of the Twin Cities. I am retired from a career in engineering. I first became aware of the FoMB when I met Raydelle Bruentrup at the Nowthen Threshing show in August of 2016, and I joined shortly thereafter.

My brother Rod and I are 4<sup>th</sup> generation owners of our family farm, which is 90 miles west of Minneapolis in southern Kandiyohi county. Since my brother lives in the Seattle area, I am the default caretaker of the property, which includes a farmstead with typical legacy buildings including farmhouse and gothic roof dairy barn built in

1937. None of the buildings have had any significant restoration work. The maintenance they received through the generations has kept them in very good condition. My brother and I are committed to continuing this caretaking tradition.

The property is 255 acres and we cash rent the farmland to two local farmers. I enjoy spending time at the farm during the spring, summer, and fall to do maintenance, improvements, and play with the antiques left by our ancestors. Among other items, these include two Model-T vehicles and two Model-B John Deere tractors which were purchased new and have always been on the farm.

Away from the farm, my activities include teaching computer and smartphone classes to seniors, woodworking, and doing short and extended driving tours with my wife in our 2003 retro Thunderbird convertible.

# Barn Home Conversion

By Mark Johnson



I met Steve and Janea Bell in the fall of 2016 at a barn home conversion project in Columbus, MN. I had just completed turning my grandparents barn into a new home. We started working together and after explaining the different styles of barns, they decided on a gambrel roofed barn because it would give them more usable space on the second floor and they liked its iconic shape. In order to find the ideal barn for them, I placed a “barn wanted” ad in the local shopper magazine which most farmers read more than the newspaper (probably because there is no fake news in it). After a summer of looking at different barns, they chose a 34x64 barn that was built 25 miles SE of Mankato, sometime around

1914. It was made with northern pine timbers, which were hauled down from northern MN by train, while native lumber was used to complete the hay mow floor.

In the fall of 2017, we dismantled the barn after it was carefully measured and tagged. I suggested that the customer choose an architect to help them through the design phase and come up with a floor plan for the conversion. I recommended Jeff Stromgren of Rice Stromgren Architects. During the next few months, the plans evolved to include using structural insulated (SIP) panels to enclose the barn and transform it into an energy efficient home. These foam filled panels not only insulate the home, but they fit so tightly that air infiltration is all but eliminated.

The building site was in Spicer so I also suggested that the customer find a local general contractor to get the project ready for us to put up the shell and complete it when we were done. While the contractor was putting in the basement, we pressure washed and treated all the materials with a boron based preservative. Boron works as a fungicide to prevent decay and an insecticide to kill insects. In addition to this, we also used a kiln to heat treat the wood and kill any remaining insects. Some of the century old timbers were already decayed so the height was shortened by about 10 inches to get rid of the rot at the bottom of the posts. At one point we had to re-assemble a portion of the roof to obtain some missing measurements because my laptop was stolen out of my truck a few weeks before. Of course, I didn't have all the info backed up but the most frustrating part was that my dog was sleeping in the truck. Lesson learned...back up your info and if you want a guard dog, don't buy a springer spaniel!!

The final assembly began by putting together the bents with the original oak pegs and erecting them with the help of a large crane. After the frame was up, the original 3x8 floor joists were installed on the cross beams 10 ft higher than their original location on the hay mow floor and covered with barnwood. The roof framing was completed with 2x6 rafters and covered with barn boards so the inside looks just like it did when it was built 100 years ago. The SIP panels for the walls finally arrived on the first week of November and we began the work by fastening several of them together to speed the assembly and make the best use of the crane time. The roof panels were ganged together the same as the walls and set in place to complete the shell just before Christmas. To complete the project we are making the stair treads from some 3x14 salvaged from an old building in Eveleth and trim for the interior made out of old barn wood.

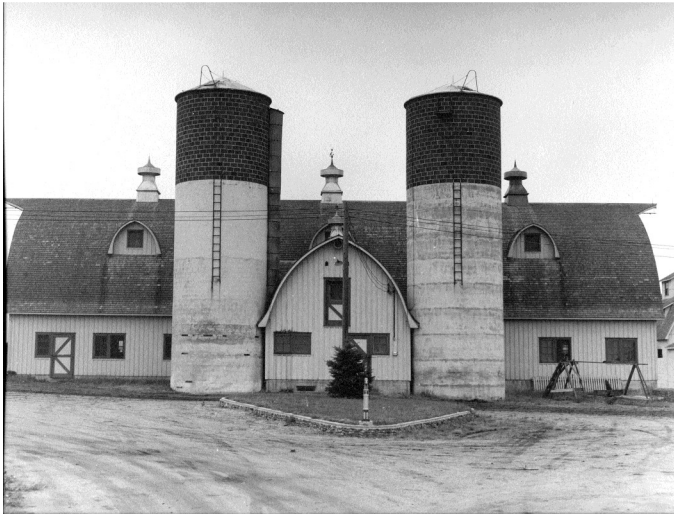
When this barn home is finished, it will have 3,188 square feet of living space plus an attached sunroom and garage. It will have taken over two and a half years from start to finish, which may sound like a long time, but to me it's not when you consider I started converting barns into homes in 1975 when I took down a hand hewn barn near Mankato and designed it into our home. I'm still not finished with it! If you know someone who is thinking about a barn home and would like some advice, I'll be happy to share information on how NOT to do it by dropping me a line at: [info@artisanrestorationmn.com](mailto:info@artisanrestorationmn.com).





# Brandtjen Farm

By Clare Hoelderle



Brandtjen Farm in Dakota County was the largest farm in Minnesota and by many measures, was considered the best. They created a dynasty in agriculture. The Brandtjen Farm legend has been gathering dust since the family moved away about 55 years ago. But it's been revived by a Brandtjen-size dream — a \$1 billion, 520-acre, 2,100 home development that seeks to be as innovative as the Brandtjen Farm was in its day—Spirit of Brandtjen Farm.

How did an ordinary corner of Dakota County become legendary?

## ***BRANDTJEN FARM STOOD FOR THE AMERICAN DREAM***

Henry A. Brandtjen Sr. was born in 1890, the son of German immigrants. He grew up in St. Paul and graduated from the University of Minnesota. He enlisted in the Army in 1917 and fought in France in World War I. Brandtjen's father ran a small printing equipment company in St. Paul, which led to an invention that launched the family fortune. At that time, printers had to rely on

sticky gum to move pages during the printing process. It was a constant bother, because the gum quickly became covered with lint. According to family lore, Brandtjen and two brothers, Abel and Eneval Kluge, were on a train to a trade show in Iowa when — eureka! They envisioned a hollow pipe with holes on one side that would suck air to grab a piece of paper and then quickly release it. It was the first automatic printing press feeder. To make and sell them, they formed Brandtjen and Kluge in 1919. Within a few years, the devices were indispensable in printing plants around the world. Money rolled in. Henry and his wife, Gladys, moved to 1936 Summit Ave. — the neighborhood of the rich and famous of the time. The Brandtjens had two sons, John and Henry Jr., and began what they thought would be years of peaceful child-raising.

## ***BRANDTJEN FARM STOOD FOR FAMILY***

The farm was founded to protect the family. In 1932, five blocks from the Brandtjen home, kidnapers stalked Haskell Bohn, the 20-year-old son of refrigerator magnate Gerhard Bohn. They blindfolded him at gunpoint, tossed a ransom note for \$35,000 to the horrified chauffeur, and roared away in a getaway car. They kept Bohn for a week, his eyes taped shut, near Wayzata.

The Brandtjens were aghast. They worried there was more to come. Brandtjen left one morning shortly after the Bohn kidnapping, his wife's instructions ringing in his ears: Buy lakeshore property outside St. Paul for a safe haven for the boys. He returned that night with an announcement. He had bought a dairy farm. The printing millionaire who had never touched an udder in his life suddenly owned cattle, a milking barn and 200 acres of land, one hour's drive from their home.

Henry Jr. and John spent summers there, and lived there full-time starting in 1938 — commuting daily to St. Paul Academy.

In many ways, it was an idyllic childhood. The boys worked hard, alongside the farm hands, at their father's insistence.

"He was the strict German type — not a lot of partying," recalled granddaughter Julia Mitchell Fink.

## ***BRANDTJEN FARM STOOD FOR INNOVATION***

At the time, farming was cool. In the 1930s, America hadn't yet evolved from a rural nation to an urban one. Local food production was critical — the Twin Cities were fed with food from local farms, not produce trucked in from California. So when Henry Brandtjen Sr. bought the farm, society-watchers didn't expect much. They were wrong. Brandtjen hired college-trained livestock managers from the University of Minnesota, at a time when most farms were operated by the uneducated. He built barns out of redwood, imported by rail from California. He demanded excellence from everyone.



## Brandtjen Farm, continued

For the next 30 years, the Brandtjen name dominated farm animal contests. In 1934, the farm broke a record for egg production — 41,423 eggs from 375 laying hens in five months. In 1935, the farm won every available prize open to Guernsey cows at the Dakota County Fair. In horses, too, the farm excelled, winning prize after prize for breeds such as Percherons and Saddlebreds. In 1949, Henry Jr. and a horse named Top Sergeant were featured in a Wheaties ad.

Brandtjen loved new technology. The farm was one of the first to have electricity — at least, some electricity. When the Brandtjens turned on one 3-foot-wide motor used for chores, it drained the power grid. “It stopped clocks in Rosemount,” Henry Jr. said. And the cows enjoyed another one of technology’s fruits — the radio. From speakers in the barn, WCCO’s soothing music specifically designed to help milking would wash over the Brandtjen stalls.

### **BRANDTJEN FARM STOOD FOR KINDESS**

In 1941, Brandtjen heard about the bombing of Pearl Harbor on the radio. The news hit like a thunderbolt. As the war dragged on, about 100 German prisoners were sent to live on the farm. Henry Brandtjen Sr. decided not to fence them in with barbed wire, but to treat them as other workers. Brandtjen even insisted they be fed a hot meal daily, a luxury for prisoners. In return for their humane treatment, the prisoners worked hard.

### **BRANDTJEN FARM STOOD FOR COMMUNITY**

In the Great Depression, hunger stalked the countryside. Even wealthy families noticed. Across the country, family farms were going bankrupt. The Brandtjen farm never made a dime, but it didn’t need to. It was supported by the printing equipment business.

Brandtjen quietly bought neighboring farms as they collapsed.

Instead of razing the small farmhouses, he let the families remain and work for him. On the surface, nothing had changed. But local people knew what Brandtjen had done.

As the farm expanded, Brandtjen built a row of houses for his workers along 170th Street. About 100 men worked there during harvest time. “It was his own WPA project, is what it amounts to,” said Robert Brandtjen, referring to the Depression-era employment program.

### **THE BRANDTJEN FARM STOOD FOR LEGACY**

But Minnesota had changed by the 1950s. Breeding stock wasn’t front-page news any more. Brandtjen was getting old, and his sons had little interest in farming. In 1959, he sold off his 125 dairy cattle. The first cow sold was named “Brandtjen’s R. Ultimate,” but the auction was too painful for him to watch. There was no more need for alfalfa or feed grain for the cows, so the land was turned over to corn and soybeans.

Henry Brandtjen Sr. died on the farm in 1962.

Without his careful attention, the golden era of the farm was over. The family trust began to rent out fields to neighboring farmers. Through the 1970s, the only person on the farm with a family connection was the caretaker — a German POW who never returned to his homeland.

One son, John, pursued his own business interests and moved to Oregon. The other, Henry Brandtjen III, is the fourth generation owner of the printing business, Brandtjen and Kluge, now based in St. Croix Falls, Wis.



The barn today as a community center at Spirit of Brandtjen Farm



The core of the farm — the 200-acre parcel that includes the farmstead — was sold in 2007. Family members who control the family trust were thrilled at the reincarnation of the farm as a first-class development. But grandson Robert, who hadn’t been part of the planning process, took the news differently. “It’s heart-breaking,” he said, after hearing about the sale last summer. “One of the neighbors asked me why I looked so down. I said, ‘I am saying goodbye.’”

*Information from article: “Last harvest to herald unique suburb” from the Pioneer Press on June 29, 2007*

## Brandtjen Farm, continued



Inside of the barn at Spirit of Brandtjen Farm. The barn is used as the neighborhood community center.



This statue is of a Brandtjen Percheron horse named Top Sergeant. Henry Brandtjen, Jr. Top Sergeant, showed by Henry Brandtjen, Jr., made a sweep at the International Livestock Show in 1948. In doing so, Brandtjen Farms broke all records for Minnesota winnings in the 48 year history of the show. In the Summer of 1949, both were featured in a Wheaties cereal ad campaign and together they were displayed on the box of Wheaties.



In mid-November 2017, a statue was installed outside the neighborhood community center honoring the history of the land. This is the 2nd statue to be installed in the Spirit of Brandtjen Farm community.

## Friends of Minnesota Barns

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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.

## SAVE THE DATE

Friends of MN Barns Annual Meeting  
Sunday, May 19, 2019

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

More details and program to be provided  
in the coming weeks



## General Announcements

See you in  
**2019!**  
St. Cloud  
Welcomes you to the  
**2019**  
Statewide Historic  
Preservation Conference  
September 11 - 13, 2019

\* The Statewide Historic Preservation Conference will be in St. Cloud on September 11-13, 2019.

\* The next Friends of MN Barns Board Meeting will be on April 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Davanni's in Eden Prairie. All are welcome to attend.

\* We are always looking for barn articles, pictures and interesting facts to be used in upcoming newsletters. If you would like to contribute, please contact newsletter editor and board member, Clare Hoelderle at [redbenchvintage@hotmail.com](mailto:redbenchvintage@hotmail.com).

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