

CSI: Cleveland

By Centreville Settlement, Inc.

News of the Old, the New, the Weird, and the Not-So

Fourth Quarter 2011 Volume 22, Num 1-4?

Dateline: "Arbor Day" at the Land of the Lutze Housebarn

In considering the future of the Housebarn property, the Board of Directors decided a decade ago to plant 250 pine trees. There were about 15 volunteers who were active in digging, tucking in the seedlings, and watering. It was late for planting (mid June?), the 8" seedling trees (which had been donated) were barely still alive, and it was hot and very dry throughout the summer. They were watered with pails of water from the pond once or twice that summer and then were pretty much forgotten. We were surprised to see that a few had survived that first summer, and a few years later on walks would see just a few of

them popping through the grasses.

In April 2011 a walk through showed 121 trees were growing vigorously from that planting!!! They ranged in height from 18" to over 4 feet tall and covered a range of growing conditions. They have become a great match for the other deciduous trees that have sprung up on their own across our approximately 7-acre property.

Our plan is to keep the upper area to the far north of the Housebarn as an evolving unmaintained prairie, and to lightly prune and maintain our evolving forest

on the center third of our property. There will be access to both the prairie and the forest areas via our winding walking trail.

The greening and continued renewal of green space at the Lutze Housebarn helps tell the story of the ecology our First Peoples and European pioneers encountered. Thanks to all those volunteers that helped with the planting!! They included Edith Lutze, Vernon Wernecke, Dorothy Anderson, Gilbert Arends, Sarah Richard, Matt and David Lutze, Kathy Pearce, Kathy Sixel, Janet Lutze, Richard Otto Wiegand, Chris Kuehnel, and Vicky Dargis.

— *Kathy Pearce*

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Join the Fun: Old Fashioned Christmas Dinner, Monday Dec 5

Celebrate Christmas as your grandparents did. Join Centreville Settlement, Inc. in their annual Old Fashioned Christmas Dinner on Monday, December 5, 2011 at Hickory House on Hickory Street in downtown Cleveland, Wisconsin. Festivities begin with social hour at 5:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM.

All members invited to attend. A very brief business meeting will seek future ideas for Centreville

Settlement and highlight the years' accomplishments.

The evening also includes singing German and English Christmas carols, entertainment, and memories of Christmas's past; a holiday celebration to be remembered.

The cost of \$15 per person includes an old fashioned family style Christmas dinner with turkey carved at the table, all the fixin's, and a traditional old family recipe dessert.

Please make reservations by November 28th calling 920-693-8525 and sending a check to Kathy Sixel at 9716 County Rd X, Newton, WI 53063.



Next edition: Stump pullers, how they shaped and enabled farming

Farm Style Lunches Continue to Satisfy Hungry Volunteers

Kathy Sixel, Sarah Lutze, and Kathy Pearce were a trio of cooks supplying the old fashioned “stick to the ribs” meals this year at the Housebarn. Here are a few examples of our menu items: Scaloped potatoes, roasted beets, whipped squash, zucchini soup, garlic stir



Kathy Sixel shows some

fried Swiss chard, mandarin torte, deep dish spaghetti, homemade breads & jellies, butter and honey. German flair was demonstrated in pickled dishes, sauerkraut, bratwurst, creamed cucumbers and a culinary cross section of tasty desserts. The food teams this year continued to receive from volunteers the “5 Star Rating” that

they had bestowed on Edith Lutze for many years.



Stenz gals and Edith Lutze share a laugh

Family style farm meals are served (usually outside) every work day. Volunteers are welcome to help cook and serve... Historic family recipes are encouraged...or check out the Fanny Farmer cookbooks from the 1800s for true old time fare.



Making History!

Centreville Settlement is a non-profit, tax exempt organization dedicated to the cultural and architectural preservation of the farming heritage in the Centreville area. The Lutze Housebarn is an unusual combination of a house and barn all in one building called a housebarn. This summer the place was a destination for a group of teachers from Madison and also the staff of Country magazine who experienced a day of hands-on restoration activities, and enjoyed an old time fresh fish boil.

What is Happening? What can I Do?

- Use tools from yesteryear
- Experience working on a team
- Get a physical workout
- Connect with the out of doors & natural materials
- Learn “old” woodworking skills
- Try out vintage gardening tools
- Experience a barn and house where animals and people lived together
- Discover geology and the tactile experience of masonry
- Understand the cataloging, recording and preserving of historical records
- Historic Building Restoration
- Timber Framing & Reconstruction
- Hewing, carpentry, framing
- Masonry- fieldstone and mortar
- Gardening- heirloom varieties and 1800s techniques
- Historical Documentation-recording, archiving, interpreting

As the building is restored, we invite you to participate in all aspects of the process with taught hands-on skills by our seasoned volunteers who donate thousands of hours of accumulated work each year. Tours are available on workdays or by special arrangement for groups of 4 to 25.

Workdays begin around 9:30 am and last until about 5:00 pm. Everyone is welcome, arrive or depart anytime based on your schedule. All volunteers are invited to participate in a farm style lunch. Wear work shoes. There are goggles, gloves and hard hats available. Directions: I-43 to Cleveland, WI, 137 exit, west to S. Union Road, turn North past 3rd farm on West side of road-watch for sign.

Centreville Settlement hosts other events throughout the year. Questions call: 920-693-3141 for Chris Kuehnel, project director. More info at www.centrevillesettlement.com

Did you know?

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

Spades - King David
Hearts - Charlemagne
Clubs - Alexander the Great
Diamonds - Julius Caesar

News of Friends of Centreville Settlement

Marie Pfeifer was a long time supporter of Centreville Settlement. She passed on this summer at the age of 93 1/2. She will be long remembered for her quick wit, laughter and "Jill of All Trades" capabilities. We remember her soap making demonstration, fine cooking skills, love of gardening and the outdoors, and particularly when she joined in the sleep-over at the Housebarn in 1998 when she was in her late seventies. She told jokes late into the night along with Richard Wiegand who made all the sleepy heads laugh.

Hail to our past president... Janet Lutze continues to cheer on our organization from afar. Living in Milwaukee we thank her for 25 years of leadership.

Kathy Sixel has provided German style food for nearly 25 years at the Lutze Housebarn. Her contributions are invaluable - hats off to her capabilities!

Edith Lutze has announced she is moving to Milwaukee this month and will be living very close to daughter Janet.

Sleigh Bells; Horse-bell Heyday: 1800s

In the 1800s, horse bells were used for wintertime recreation as well as for work. Winter pleasure drives required fashionably warm clothes, handsome sleighs, well groomed horses, and nicely polished harness and bells. This strong association of horse bells with Christmas and winter fun led people to gradually call them "sleigh bells" instead.

Sleigh bells became a part of popular culture, leading to songs, stories, and poetry about them. The most popular example is the song "One Horse Open Sleigh",

known today as "Jingle Bells".

It was written by James Lord Pierpont in 1857. Another example, not as well known, is the poem "Sleigh Bell" written by Yakov Polonsky in 1854.

The U.S. sleigh bell industry began to grow strongly in the early 1800s. William Barton is credited with starting the sleigh bell industry in East Hampton, Connecticut, USA, about 1810. Barton's willingness to teach the sleigh bell trade to others was a key reason why East Hampton

Featured

Volunteer: Aaron Stenz

Volunteer Aaron Stenz is a junior at Sheboygan South High School. He tells us he joined the Lutze Housebarn project because he enjoyed his experience in helping renovate his own historic home in Hika. He is an active athlete and enjoys running, swimming, and reading.



Charlie and Aaron enjoy an early spring lunch

Welcome

earned worldwide fame as "Belltown" or "Jingletown" in the 1800s.
— Kathy Pearce



Favorite diner and story teller Vernon Wernecke stops for a bite

Future Gazing: What will 2012 and beyond bring us?

Some things you may see happening... Would you like to help make them happen?

- A brick or clay bake oven near the Housebarn?
- Our stump puller raised and used for pulling a stump?
- Trail through the "prairie" and "woods", accessible and interpreted?
- Construction of a temporary structure to hold Gilbert's log house and Housebarn siding lumber?
- Housebarn siding all around, and windows re-installed?
- Hosting a 'geo-caching' site, see next page

New Room Display At the Housebarn:

Laundry Room- Summer 2011. The Kathys Sixel & Pearce assembled a "laundry artifact" room on the second floor including 2 wooden ironing boards, a hand agitator for a wash tub, an old iron and drying rack, along with Lutze printed feedbags.

To build that interpretive room there were donations from the Robert and Mary Ann Pearce Farm in Walworth WI with items from the turn of the century-1900s including a wooden ironing board, washing agitator, a hand crank small sewing machine, a long farm table, oak table and a 8-foot buffet for the upstairs great rooms at the Housebarn. Edith Lutze has also just donated several other pieces of vintage laundry equipment which will round out this room this November.

Do you have any memories of washing by hand or ever use a hand powered wash machine, or one on a belt with a hit and miss engine? If so, we'd like to hear them and write them up or maybe even get a recording of you talking about it, your memories are valuable!

Moving a barn literally by hand; just pick it up and move it!! ?? Check out a great YouTube video showing how they do these things in Nebraska, probably 300 people pick up a barn and move it a few hundred yards to its new place. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o83W0gj_CRE

Soon we will be a GeoCaching Site!

Geocaching is a world-wide game of treasure hunting using Global Positioning System (GPS) units or GPS functions available in many cellular phones. A small cache (ranging in size from a small toolbox to a film canister) is hidden in an area, marked with specific coordinates, and the location put on a website where seekers can view or download them. Caches are long term locations, which might include log books for successful finders to sign onto, perhaps small treasures to trade, or even "traveling treasures" which are small metal tags that Geocachers are invited to move from one cache to another in their travel to a specific destination, traced as the players log their success into the "geocaching.com" website.

Hosting requires us to periodically check the cache and make sure that it's accessible and in order. Check out the Geocaching.com website or the video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4VFeYZTTYs> for more details, and keep a lookout there for one posted from us! - Lee Koeppen

Historical Oddities?

In the 1400s a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb.

Hence we have 'the rule of thumb'

Coca-Cola was originally green.

The first novel ever written on a typewriter, Tom Sawyer...

The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.

For extra points, what object in the Mid-western US is currently being considered as another mobile National Monument? Email Lee with your correct answer and win a special prize!!!

Challenged by small type?

This newsletter can be read aloud to you on our website. Just go to newsletters, download the PDF and when viewing click on View, then Read Out Loud!

Next edition watch for:

- Lots of information about stump pullers and our plans for raising and using ours.
- Details of the proposed restoration of Centreville Creek through Hika
- CSI on Facebook: highlights
- Basic tools of the German settlers
- Housebarn meals and sharing time
- Log building plans

Bake Oven Bread

The bake oven day scented the spring air with fresh bread on April 30th as Erik Klessig started the burning fire which turned to a tray of heat to warm the beavertail oven for baking...



Charlie, along with Erik and Margaret Klessig sample some bake oven pizza

In addition to baking about 25 loaves of volunteer supplied dough... the group designed and built gourmet pizzas... complete with fresh basil,

caramelized onions, fresh mozzarella & bleu cheese to delight the gustatory pleasures of the chefs that day-- Kathy Sixel, Chris Kuehnel, Charlie Simonds and his bride, along with Kathy Pearce and Richard Otto Wiegand.

Centreville Settlement Grows

Since 2008 an historic garden has been kept using heirloom seeds from 1850s vintage varieties of vegetables. Chard, brussel sprouts, and a cauliflower were featured items this year. The produce is used for the farm style lunches served on work days at the Lutze Housebarn. Our four Concord grape vines are thriving and will have supports installed this spring when the rhubarb will greet us.

Our 2011 Crop report: 1 watermelon, several meals of Swiss chard, about ¼ bushel of green peppers off of 4 plants, 12 cucumbers, ½ bushel tomatoes, 2 meals of green beans, 3 giant kohlrabi, 2# rhubarb. The grapes produced about 3-4# robust concord grapes. The 20' x 20' garden is representative of the early gardens planted in the areas.

The purpose of the historic garden is to showcase what they would be growing in the area in the 1850s-1900s. The historic garden is part of the long range educational plans and compliments the heirloom variety apple trees which were planted in the 1990s on the Housebarn property to perpetuate the landscape.

Our Board of Directors

Co-Presidents:	Lee Koeppen	207-2070	leekoeppen@sbcglobal.net
	Kathy Sixel	693-8525	kdsixel@lakefield.net
Vice President:	Richard Wiegand	715-416-0513	rowiegand@compuserve.com
Secretary:	Janet Lutze	414-828-4942	janetlutze@ameritech.net
Treasurer:	Open- Acting Treasurer, Kathy Sixel		

Board (A)

Gerald Heimerl, 693-8300 saxoncreamery@tds.net
 Girrard Jost, 726-4474, 693-8311 (wk), gdjost@hotmail.com
 Brian Kraemer, 693-8935 bck76@tds.net
 Sarah Lutze, 693-3454 lutze@tds.net

Board (B)

Reick Beiersdorf, 693-8000
 Edward Heckman, 693-8632
 Erik Klessig, 693-3849
 Cindy Kraemer, 693-8935 bck76@tds.net
 Christopher Kuehnel, 693-3141 cqnel@centrevillesettlement.com
 Richard Lutze, 693-3454 lutze@tds.net
 Kathy Pearce, 920-946-1036 kpear2002@yahoo.com

(A) Board of Directors terms expires in January of the even numbered years.

(B) Board members terms expire in January of the odd numbered years.

Term expires January meeting. All phones are area 920 unless listed differently.

We would enjoy getting your email address so we can email you our newsletter, saving postage and reducing our carbon footprint for mailings!

We can send you newsletters as well as general news and announcements, please send an email with your info to

leekoeppen@sbcglobal.net

, thanks!

CSI Membership: the Perfect Gift!

Looking for the perfect gift for friends who have everything?

Consider making a donation to Centreville Settlement in their honor. It's the perfect gift for relatives who don't 'need' anything. Or consider having your co-workers make a donation to CSI rather than doing a Secret Santa exchange, yielding a dozen trinkets that will only clutter your lives.

As a holiday special, we will package an acknowledgement of your donation with a warm, wooly pair of Wigwam socks – all wrapped in a bright red ribbon. What better way to ease your holiday shopping while giving a gift that has meaning?

Hand Tools for Timber Framing

(Lifted from the Timber Framers Guild. Thanks Charlie and TFG!)

Tape measure: 25 ft. min.

Framing square: steel with etched markings.

Combination square: 45 and 90 degree head.

Steel rule: flexible stainless steel.

Framing chisels: 1 1/2" and 2"; socket handle with shock ring.

Large (3-4") slick for paring.

Mallet: hardwood or rawhide.

Block plane: small.

Hand saws: Crosscut and rip.

No. 2 pencil with red eraser.

Razor knife.

Centreville Settlement Membership Application

Membership and your membership in particular are key components of our funding, please join or renew today.

- Individual \$25
- Family \$40
- Contributing \$125
- Supporting \$1000
- Benefactor \$5000

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Email Address

Phone

Please make checks payable to:
Centreville Settlement, Inc.
P.O. Box 247
Cleveland, WI 53015

For 2012, please consider becoming a volunteer for:

- Special Events Committee
- Artifact inventory and recording
- Timber and carpentry
- Interior restoration and decorating
- Stone masonry

SPECIAL OFFER!

Just to show top management how many people attentively read their CSI: Cleveland newsletter; for any memberships received by Dec 20th, 2011, per the above article, your newsletter editor will provide you with a free pair of Christmas socks, just by your writing the word 'socks' anywhere on this membership response letter. Thanks!!!



Lutze Housebarn 2011 Happenings.....

This year has seen great progress on the east lower wall of the Housebarn. While our number of 'novice' volunteer restoration hours is down from last year, the experience of those coming to workdays has let us proceed with a great team.

This year we started with the final placement and fit-up of the new big (11"x12"x 28') white oak sill on the east end. It is hand hewn and had 8 joints to align with the existing building suspended over us. While installing it and aligning those joints, along with three new vertical posts and three cross braces all virtually all at the same time, it was sort of like assembling a Lincoln Log building from the top down. Charlie Simond's timber skills, and attention to detail from his architecturing (is that a word?) past helped us get every-



Autumn 2010

thing aligned with tight joints and ready to hold the full weight of the building. Then after putting some stonework under the sill, we removed the jacks and wedges from under it. When the building still stood, we decided we could consider removing two inside screw jack posts that were there at the east end of the room holding up the second floor for almost 15 years... The place looks really different without them!



Supports gone! November 2011

You may recall Grandpa Lutze (not sure which one) removed about 1/2 the east wall supports and cut out portions of the wall so he could have sliding shed doors and room for small tractors, the buggy, and eventually a car I've heard. Replacements for those missing ash post timbers

have all been hand hewn, and tenons and mortises cut.

Problem though when he installed the track for the sliding doors he nailed some big planks onto the side of the building frame. Those planks trapped water behind them, and that moisture in turn caused the timber behind them to severely rot away. So next summer's project is replacing the outer half of that timber. It will be fun because the still solid inner half will stay in place holding up the second floor, as we remove the rotted outer half and install solid ash in it's place. Ric Puls and possibly a structural engineer will be involved to help us fine tune the procedure, hope you can come and help, or at least see it in progress!



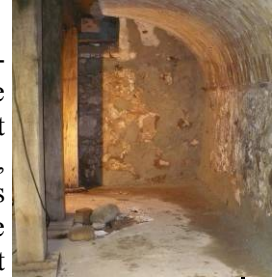
East wall north end staves in place

Aaron Stenz learned some good chisel technique as he added the stave 'pockets' to the diagonal brace. We decided to install staves in all portions of the living quarters first floor rooms that have both sides of the wall available to us. A great day was enjoyed this fall when a large group came for



the day from Country magazine as part of their anniversary. They learned how to use the two person

hand saw and then split large cedar logs into the staves used in the Housebarn walls. Then using a collection of axes, many of them cut, trimmed, and installed the staves for the perfect fit.



We had some concerns about the stonework in the east wall of the basement, which has had its mortar dissolve rather badly the past few years. The arch is protected with bracing, and the sides can no longer buckle out (which was a concern the past two years), but we thought the east end might be bad enough to collapse without some work..... so we "rebuilt" that stonework. We weren't sure how far we would have to take things, in the end it was mostly a matter of inserting mortar and small stones into the existing work. We went with our same mix for high lime mortar, which includes some Portland cement suitable for better stability below grade and in high moisture conditions. The brown die we use lets the set product have an older look (otherwise it is bright white) and should give us a good color match as it matures over the winter. We were also able to fill in mortar and stone on the bottom of the south basement wall, almost completing it. We will do the rest and the north wall when we reopen in the spring.

Once the basement stonework was solid, we knew it was time to take out the big I-beam that was running diagonally through our '5 star dining room' in the southeast corner of the building..... we put it there ten years ago to keep weight off the basement when we rebuilt the south wall..... so we got to take that out and voila! A like new looking building view from the south east! Well not new, old, but solid and all the structural work done. We celebrated! We hope you can too, stop and visit and tour our progress in the spring!! -Chris Kuehnel



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A not for profit, tax exempt organization dedicated to the preservation of the architectural and cultural heritage of the farming community in the Centerville area.

**Find us on the web at:
centrevillesettlement.com**

Lots of news inside!!!

What is Centreville Settlement All About??

Centerville Township, along with the Village of Cleveland and the surrounding area, are a unique capsule of American German immigrant heritage. Many of the residents are descendants of Saxon Germany. They continue to farm the land their ancestors settled, and the architectural and cultural heritage remains.

Within this unique environment, the goals of Centreville Settlement, Inc. include:

- To conserve, preserve and restore the architecture of the area
- To provide educational programs and classes in the traditional arts, crafts and trades, to encourage recognition and restoration of our historical heritage as well as native and pioneer self-sufficiency
- We strive to reach out to all levels of academia
- To collaborate, promote, and organize other local cultural and preservation groups
- Detailing a cultural and architectural survey of the local historic and pre-historic community
- Promote an appreciation of sustainable land use and natural resources in the Centerville area.