



## **NEWS OF CENTREVILLE SETTLEMENT, INC.**

*A non-profit, tax exempt organization dedicated to the preservation of the architectural and cultural farming heritage in the Centerville area.*

**Vol 34, Number 3**

*Editor: Janet Lutze*

**Fall 2020 - Winter 2021**

### **Rick's Ramblings...**

Hello CSI friends and family.

The 2020 work season is almost behind us and I would like to thank all of you that have come to one or more of our work days.

The biggest feat that we accomplished this summer was the finishing of the foundation on the north-west corner of the Lutze Housebarn. The foundation should be good for another 150 years.

The big "dish to pass" work day dinners have been dampened, due to the virus, but the lunch hours are still fun and informative.

Thanks to Covid we didn't have a fundraiser this year, but plan on having a BIG one next year.

We will also have a spring brat fry May 2nd at the Piggly Wiggly in Plymouth.

Our new website should be up and running soon, so keep checking our current website for updates.

Unfortunately, the Old Fashioned Dinner also has been canceled for this year.

Thanks to all of you for your time, efforts and donations: 2020 will go into the books as a good year.

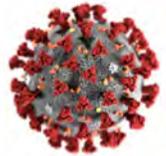
My best to all of you.

Richard Lutze, President

### **Covid-19 Precautions**

For the safety of our volunteers and visitors, CSI is practicing Covid-19 precautions for those attending Lutze Housebarn workdays. Masks must be worn inside the building. Six feet social distancing is expected and a bring your own lunch instead of our usual potluck lunch. A hand washing station is available for frequent hand washing.

All other CSI special events have been canceled until further notice.



### **Wooden Shoes**

*From Commissioner of Patents, Agriculture, 1859*

Experience has shown that a number of diseases, often resulting in impaired constitutions, and even in the loss of life, have been contracted by a portion of the farming and laboring population in consequence of wearing leather shoes, when engaged in their operations during cold weather, or in wet situations. To prevent those evils to some extent, wooden shoes are extensively worn in France and Germany. They are highly recommended by the agricultural societies and governments of Europe. Impressed with their importance, the board of commerce and trade of Württemberg called a practical workman from France to give instruction in their manufacture. ....



Not allowing water to penetrate, as leather shoes do, they are naturally dryer, capable of keeping the feet warmer, prevent diseases by promoting the requisite and salutary perspiration, and are regarded, to a great extent, as life preservers, even in such cases where salt baths, the use of wheys, and other medicaments, proved quite ineffectual. There is hardly an operation on the farm and about the farm house in which they could not be profitably used. They are most economical about stables, where leather shoes are exposed to the destructive attacks of dung-water, in plowing, mowing, harvesting, in doing earth-work in vineyards, chopping wood, and in marketing. *Cont. page 2*

*Cont. from page 1* With these advantages, in a salutary point of view, they combine such durability as to last almost a lifetime. They are light and easy to wear, being provided with small cushion on the upper side, within, so as to obviate any pressure on that part of the foot. They are of a neat and pleasant appearance, either of their natural color, or blackened or varnished. Their size is large enough to allow the wearing of comfortable stockings; in additions to which thy are provided with leather straps. Their price ranges from fourteen to thirty six cents, shoes for children being still less. These advantages will certainly entitle them to the attention of a portion of the farming, manufacturing, and laboring population of the country.

## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

**Please mark your calendars for the upcoming events:**

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| November 2020        | Membership renewals begin for 2021   |
| January 16, 2021     | Centreville Settlement Annual Meeting. Date and time to be announced.                  |
| February 20, 2021    | Board Meeting Centreville Settlement. Members invited. Time and place to be announced. |
| March 27, 2021       | First workday of the season at the Lutze Housebarn                                     |
| April 10 & 24        | Work days at the Lutze Housebarn. Start 9:30 am  |
| May 2, 2021          | Brat Fry Fundraiser at the Piggly Wiggly in Plymouth                                   |
| May 8 & 22, 2021     | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn. Start at 9:30 am                                      |
| June 12 & 26, 2021   | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn. Start at 9:30 am                                      |
| July 10 & 24, 2021   | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn. Start at 9:30 am                                      |
| July 24, 2021        | Board of Directors meeting. Members invited. Time and place to be announced.           |
| August 14 & 28, 2021 | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn. Start at 9:30 am                                      |
| Sept. 11 & 25, 2021  | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn. Start at 9:30 am                                      |
| October 9 & 23, 2021 | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn. Start at 9:30 am                                      |
| October 23, 2021     | Centreville Settlement Board meeting. Members invited. Time and place to be announced. |
| November 6, 2021     | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn. Start at 9:30 am                                      |
| December 5, 2021     | Old Fashioned Christmas Dinner. Time and place to be announced.                        |



Antique Corn Dryer Bunches of corn cobs would be hung on the pegs to dry for shucking (taking the kernels off)

**If you have any questions or need more info; maybe schedule a special tour or corporate workday? Please don't hesitate to contact us:**

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## HISTORIC MILESTONE

Centreville Settlement reached an enormous milestone on August 8, 2020. Kathy Pearce and Chris Kuehnel put in the final stones in the north west corner of the Lutze Housebarn foundation.

This journey started with research in 1995 and in 1996 work began on the north side foundation. What was amazing was the sturdiness of the building. The north wall was just hanging from the second floor wall and it had bowed out 3 feet from the foundation. Mr. Hercules, aka Chris Kuehnel, jacked up the wall around it, and weekly, gave the jacks one rotation. Jacking too fast an adjustment could have ramification throughout the building. Then, one day when he went out to turn the screws, he was leaning on the wall with one arm trying to decide how to pull the wall back into alignment, the wall went “ergre” and slide back into place.

Now that the building was stabilized the damaged foundation could be removed with the use of a backhoe. Many of the stones from small to hundreds of pounds were saved and with the help of a volunteer mason company, a 10 inch base of cement 2 feet wide and 80 feet long was laid 6 feet down with rebar in it.

Again, our illustrious project manager, Chris, had spent 2 summers building little walls with different mortar mixes to find just the right recipe of sand, lime and cement and the right color.

In July, we started mixing mortar and laying stones by hand. Many volunteers participated through work days, workshops and internships. There were people from age 6 to 90 who signed their stone and put it in place. Kathy Pearce also gave a class and tour of stone foundation masonry around the Centerville Township.

Stone by stone, mortar batch by mortar batch, the progress continued. It was hard work as not only were the stones heavy, but a bag of lime was 70 pounds and cement was 50 pounds. Extra stones were brought in from surrounding farms so as to use what Gottlieb and Fredricka would have used. Many kids growing up on farms knew what it was to pick rocks from the field. There’s a new crop every year.

Hard hats off to all who contributed to mixing mortar, laying stones working from the inside wall as well as the outside, in and under beams and wearing protective gear to help us finish the monumental project.

Janet and Chris were resting on a sill at the end of a day and Janet commented, “You can feel the life coming back into the building”.

This historical moment is to be celebrated.



Kathy & Chris laying the final stones in the foundation.



Hats off to everyone who contributed.



Lest you think we are only about preserving the Lutze Housebarn. Kathy Pearce, Kathy Sixel, Vern Wernecke, Janet Lutze volunteered at "Old Fashioned Movie Night."



This is the red oak tree to be used as the base beam on the south side of the Lutze Housebarn. 2005



Base beam ready to be laid. 2007

"I love volunteering at the Lutze housebarn, helping wherever I'm able, and hearing their stories of what it was like there in the mid 1840's. It's great being outdoors in the country and meeting and learning from others who have the same interests. My dad was an architect who also worked for historical preservation. One day we were hiking the Ozark hills and came across old dilapidated cabin. A few things were still in the cabin like some old dishes on a table, as if from a last meal. Made me wonder about their story." Liz Burchinal

## TIME TO RENEW OR START YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR CENTREVILLE SETTLEMENT, INC.

Help support our historic mission, a key part of our budget comes from memberships, and yours is appreciated!

**Please renew for 2021 by November 20, 2020.**

Please print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Main Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Do you text at phone # above? \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletters will be sent to the email address unless otherwise indicated:

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not have an email address and prefer postal mailing for the additional fee of \$5.

Individual (\$30) \_\_\_\_\_

Family (\$45) \_\_\_\_\_

Contributing (\$125) \_\_\_\_\_

Supporting (\$1000 & over) \_\_\_\_\_

Benefactor (\$5000 & over) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and mail with check to:

**Centreville Settlement, Inc.**

**Attn: Greg Zahn**

**13658 South Union Road**

**Newton, WI 53063**

**Membership expires December 31 of each year.**