

NEWS OF CENTREVILLE SETTLEMENT, INC.

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

Fall 2019 - Winter 2020 Vol 33, Number 2 Editors: Kathy Pearce, Chris Kuehnel

RICK'S RAMBLINGS... From CSI President-Richard Lutze: "Another restoration season is almost over. Just a few more 'work' days left. It was a great summer!"

The historic garden was very productive and provided food for a several of our farm style dinners on work days. This year the grapes were harvested by humans over the course of two weekends. If you remember the last few years: the huge raccoon population took care of most of the harvesting.

Progress has been made on the north-west foundation. It just needs two more sunny, dry, warm, work days to be completed.

The stump puller is finally erect again. Hope to get it set next year so that we can simulate how this device works.

The Housebarn interior has been "jacked up" by Chris Kuehnel a few inches, working towards 'realigning' the second and the third levels; as we work to replace and/or support the disintegrating (170 year old) interior sill timbers.



The German Heritage Day was a HUGE success; the LTC/Housebarn event was attended with over 80 people at each venue. Special thanks to Glenn and Ruth Lutze and Margaret Lutze who planned for nearly two years and supervised the event. Thanks to all the other members that attended and helped.

And a special thanks to Chris for making every work day this summer. Whether he had help or not, he was there ready to lead the projects!

The CSI "work days" are the second and fourth Saturday of every month from April until October. PLEASE find time to come and help to restore one of the most rare buildings in Wisconsin. You just need to bring gloves and sturdy shoes. A great farm style "dinner" (lunch) with great fellowship is always included.

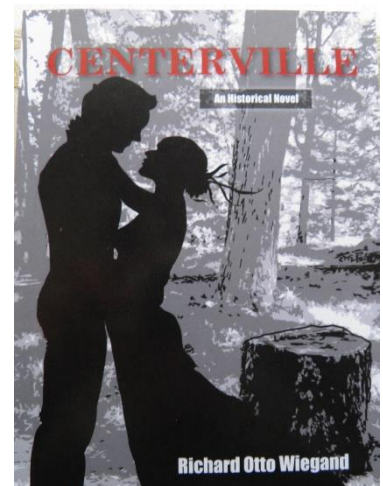
FORMER PRESIDENT OF CSI PUBLISHES LONG ANTICIPATED BOOK ABOUT THE CENTERVILLE AREA!

"Our own" Dr. Richard Otto Wiegand's first published novel is now available on Amazon and Kindle! This fictionalized account of many 'real' events around Centerville may end up a best seller, get your First Edition now!

Per the intro: Centerville is historical fiction based largely on real places, characters and events. It features a powerful love story, and time travel with German culture, immigration stories, religious practices, political thought, clearing forests, early building construction, along with various challenges and tragedies of the time.

Otto writes from his current project in Sri Lanka: "I would add that the book is very much a personal venture into my past." Reading online? [See the full intro here.](#)

Orders taken on-line or through a bookstore. Otto adds too that a portion of the proceeds will be donated to CSI, thanks Dr. Wiegand!



GERMAN HERITAGE DAY 2019 REPORTED BY MARGARET LUTZE

In honor of the many families that immigrated to Wisconsin from Saxony and other states that eventually became Germany in the mid-late 1840s, Centreville Settlement, Inc. held a German Heritage Day. The event was held on August 10, 2019 at Lakeshore Technical College and the Lutze Housebarn.

Over 80 people attended the morning symposium that included four speakers. Dr. Richard Otto Wiegand gave a talk based on his new book titled “Excerpts from Centerville, an Historical Fiction”, Dr. Merry Wiesner-Hanks spoke on “Germany to Wisconsin: Immigrant Families of the Nineteenth Century”, Dr. Eric Yonke gave a talk on “German Lands in the Nineteenth Century—Patterns of Emigration”, and Dr. James E. Schultz talked about “Methods for Researching Your Roots: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.”

The hungry crowd was welcomed and serenaded by accordion master Ryan Kautzer and Centreville’s own-Kathy Pearce on upright bass. A delicious German style catered lunch of sausages (head cheese, summer sausage, liverwurst), assorted cheeses, fresh veggies, sourdough pretzels, and various dark hearty breads along with traditional desserts were enjoyed.

The afternoon events at the Lutze Housebarn included a church service delivered in German as services were held in the 1800s-led by Rev. George Enderle, a presentation by John Barbeau on “The History of Sheepshead (Schafkopf)”, a presentation by Dr. Richard Otto Wiegand titled, “Housebarn—A Brief History of S. Union Road” based on his upcoming book “Centerville”. Tours of the Lutze Housebarn, German waltzes and polkas on accordion, spinning and weaving demonstrations, quilt and antique toy displays, a talk on genealogy by Dr. James E. Schultz and photo displays of Centerville families.

The goals of Centreville Settlement, Inc. are to preserve the historic and unique buildings that exist in the Centerville area and are in need of preservation, developing educational programming focused on ethnic arts and crafts, understanding German immigrant heritage and settler sufficiency skills, genealogy and local historical research, promoting and stimulating local economic development related to this immigrant history, recording an oral history of the Centerville families, insuring the serenity of the area that attracted the original settlers, and restoring the Lutze Housebarn. The German Heritage Day of August 2019 certainly met these goals and hopefully more German Heritage Days in the future will help to insure and expand the fulfillment of these goals

FUN AND FUND RAISING SUCCESS: On May 5 & 6th the Brat Fry Fund Raiser headed off to a strong start with Richard Lutze setting up and coordinating the efforts of the grill masters-including himself and Glenn Lutze. Kathy Pearce organized the event and encouraged the helpers-Ruth Lutze, Liz Burchinal, Nathan Chisholm and Margaret Lutze. Greg Zahn reported an addition of over \$400 to the treasury. Thanks to Centreville Settlement members for bakery donations which helped make the event a big success. We have set the 2020 Brat Fry for May 9 & 10 at the Piggly Wiggly in Plymouth.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON CENTREVILLE SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES?

Our Facebook page is coordinated by Nathan Chisholm and features up-to-date information about workdays, activities and events related to history and Centreville Settlement. Lots of great pictures! Check it out (and like us!) at www.facebook.com/centrevillesettlement

Our website is managed by Christopher Kuehnel, running since 1999 to showcase photos, links to videos, activities, news, and our continuously updated Google connected calendar- find it at www.centrevillesettlement.com

For a little extra fun Google search on Lutze Housebarn or Centreville Settlement and see what you find, there’s lots of fun stuff out there awaiting your view!

LUTZE HOUSEBARN BUILDING REPORT 2019

& SITE PROJECTS FOR 2020:

- Our one-of-a-kind outhouse roof is almost finished being re-shingled with hand split cedar shakes
- We finished a few more details on the stump puller, and raised it 'by hand' with our 'tree crane' in October!
- Progress was made on the stone foundation on the north side of the west addition



- <<<< Over the winter we plan to be slowly raising the inner first floor walls and sills back to their original bearing height>>>>
- We look forward to enhanced interpretive displays on the second floor in 2020
- Two small timbers remain to be replaced in 2020, one in the addition, and one in the south 2nd floor 'chicken coop' wall
- Our chimney is in need of stabilization and/or weatherizing. For 2020 we look to covering it and providing attic ventilation through a 'spinner', want to help make that happen??
- Windows and doors continue to look for our attention in 2020, we are looking for a finish carpenter with an eye for detail to assist and lead in that area, are you the one?



We are always looking for folks of any age interested in learning 'the trades' of the 1800's in the upcoming year, come join us for one day or a season! We may have a few weekday workshops in 2020, let us know if you are interested in learning/helping with timber framing, stonework, clay infill systems, or carpentry? Also looking for anyone 16+ who might be able to mow lawn with our ride-on during the summer, once a week in May/June and every two weeks July thru September, volunteer or paid? Give Chris or Richard Lutze a call if you or someone you know is interested.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS TO THE LUTZE HOUSEBARN

CSI member Peter Lutze stopped at the Lutze Housebarn last spring with his wife, Cui Jie, and her parents from China. Peter and Cui Jie live in Chicago and her parents are from Guzhen in AnHui province. They were on a tour of Wisconsin and when they stopped at the Housebarn they were lucky enough to have Greg Zahn working there so they could be given a tour. They were impressed with the effort to preserve such an historic structure and the interest the local families have in exploring their ancestry and family culture. Greg mentions they spoke of a similar style of now historic half timber structures being built in China!





WHAT IS IT? This is a “One Man Grain Bagger” After harvest the stored grain was often hauled to the mill by wagon load in burlap bags. It took two people to bag the grain—a shoveler and a bag holder. If you did not have one of these baggers you or someone else would be left “holding the bag”. This artifact (and many others) were donated in December 2016 by John and Diane Schuchardt now of Elkhorn WI. It is shown here in the Housebarn granary area on workday, November 10, 2018.

Along with the original donation of the Lutze Housebarn to CSI we received hundreds of artifacts, tools, and early farm implements. Since then we have received hundreds more artifacts of all types from members and friends. The majority of our collection has been cataloged and we hope to soon make that collection more available to the public via the internet with photos and details for scholars, members, and students.

If you have any ‘odd item’ that you think is a farm related antique, but you’re not sure what it was used for and want to share a photo or description of it with us, we’d enjoy helping you identify it and are offering a \$25 gift certificate for CSI merchandise or tours if we choose it as ‘antique of the month’!

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming events:

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|---------------------|--|
| November 20, 2019 | Membership renewals for 2020 and RSVP/payment for Christmas Dinner |
| December 1, 2019 | Old Fashioned Christmas Dinner at Sheboygan’s Historical Museum |
| January 18, 2020 | Centreville Settlement Annual Meeting at LTC 8:30 coffee, milk, cookies 9:00-11:30 AM |
| February 22, 2020 | Board Meeting Centreville Settlement (location to be posted/emailed) |
| March 30, 2020 | First workday of the season at the Lutze Housebarn |
| April 11, 25 | Workdays at the Lutze Housebarn |
| May 8 & 9 | Brat Fry Fundraiser Weekend at the Piggly Wiggly in Plymouth |
| May 9 & 23 | Workdays (continuing the second and fourth Saturdays of month until Nov 10) |
| July or August 2020 | Special Historic Event |

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

- Richard Lutze (President) lutze@tds.net 920.627.4145
Chris Kuehnel (Restoration) cqnel@centrevillesettlement.com 920.918.2405
Kathy Pearce (Marketing) kpear@yahoo.com 920.946.1036

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 2020 by November 20, 2019.

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

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.

COME ONE , COME ALL TO THE ANNUAL OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH CENTREVILLE SETTLEMENT!

This festive event will be held Sunday December 1 at the Sheboygan Historical Museum 3110 Erie Ave in Sheboygan. The museum is open to our members and guests at 4:00 pm, then starting 5:30 pm with a cocktail time, followed by a delicious holiday meal served at 6:00pm catered by the Smiling Moose of Osman.

Participants will have the extra benefit of seeing the animated historic Prange's Christmas Window display. The Ryan Kautzer will play a selection of polkas. Ryan Kautzer is a virtuoso who plays a multitude of instruments, specializing on the accordion and is known as the local "Polka King" as featured in Our Wisconsin magazine. Memories of past Christmases will be shared along with a sing-along with traditional favorite carols, with a brief review of the successes for the year.

To reserve your place please make your check to Centreville Settlement and send by November 20 to:

Centreville Settlement, attn. Greg Zahn 13658 S Union Road, Newton, WI 53063

Name(s): _____ email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Number/persons: _____ @ \$25.00 per person = _____

If we are not sold out, reservations after Nov 20 are \$35