



one hundred friends of old island barns

June 2010 Update

You are receiving this update from the 100 Friends of Old Island Barns, a county-wide group of barn owners, preservationists and barn enthusiasts interested in preserving San Juan County's historic barns. If you prefer not to receive these updates, please send a return message with the word "unsubscribe" in the message box.

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1. SJI Three Meadows Barn: Newest SJC Barn on the WA Heritage Barn Register.

The historic King Barn on San Juan Island, (known locally as the Three Meadows Barn,) has been listed on the Washington State Heritage Barn Register. It joins nine other county barns on the register: 2 on Orcas (Knapp Farm and Pear Island Farm); 1 on Shaw (Yansen Farm); 2 on Lopez (Higgins Farm, Steinbrueck's Place); and 4 others on San Juan Island (Barnswallow Farm, Lazy G Ranch, Sweetwater Farm and Valley View Farm). Congratulations!

2. State Heritage Barn Register Applications **Due Sept. 17, 2010.**

For information about nominating your barn go to <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/HistoricSites/HeritageBarnRegister.htm>.

3. Lopez Barn Awarded Rehab Grant from State Heritage Barn Grant Program.

Cindy Genther, owner of Higgins Barn, located on Lopez Island, has been awarded \$14,000 matching grant from the WA State Heritage Barn grant program. The grant will help make it possible for the barn to receive a new roof. This is the first San Juan County barn to receive a grant. Heritage Barn grants are available only to barns listed on the State's Heritage Barn Register. For more information about the grant program go to: <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/.HistoricSites/BarnGarntsAwarded.htm>.



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4. News from the May 2010 Regional Barn Conference. Last May 6-7, Diane Martindale, Sandy Strehlou, and Boyd Pratt attended the Heritage Barn Conference held in Walla Walla, WA. The experience was a great mix of interesting barn preservation workshops and barn visits. Sandy and Boyd were invited to be workshop presenters, explaining The 100 Friends barn survey project, and barns as bat habitat. Diane's wonderful barn quilt, which illustrates San Juan County's barns, was on display. It was great to meet other people from the state and region interested in historic barns and to hear what they are doing to identify, evaluate and preserve these important structures.

5. Weathered Wood, Stubborn Hope: The Historic Barns of San Juan Island. Tues., June 22, 7pm, San Juan Historical Museum, 405 Price Street.

Barn owners, historians and barn preservation advocates, please join the 100 Friends of Old Island Barns and the San Juan Historical Society for an evening discussion and presentation on the historic barns of San Juan Island, and an update on the current county-wide barn survey.

The talk is being sponsored by the Museum and will include archival and recent photos of island barns, many not visible from county roads.



*The Hudson barn, circa 1930s. San Juan Historical Museum
Photo--Used with permission*

ORCAS, LOPEZ, SHAW ISLANDS... The 100 Friends welcomes barn-related submissions from our readers. If you have an upcoming event or material (photos, stories, questions) or just want to get more involved--contact us!



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6. Barn Profile: *The Hudson Barn, San Juan Island.*

One of the classic scenes of farmland in the islands is the view down San Juan Valley toward the Olympic Mountains, framed by the iconic Hudson Barn. Its distinctive feature is the Dutch Gambrel roof—Gambrel because it has two slopes, or pitches, on each side, allowing for more hay in the loft; Dutch because there is a slight upward-turning eave (sometimes called a “Dutch Knuckle”).

Built by Tommie Davis in 1927 with wood recycled from the old Argyle Mill (once located on Mill Road), this barn has a concrete foundation and floor and brick walls on the lower story. Banked into the slope, the lower portion was used as a milking parlor for dairy cattle, while the vast loft above stored an enormous amount of hay—



originally loose, later square-baled. At one time, there was also a silo and pea viner on the south side of the structure. (See photo on page 2) During the 1970s, new owners Jim and Joan Hudson had the structure repaired and reroofed, which added several more decades to its long life. Today the barn stands as a sentinel over the fields below and a reminder of the rich farming heritage of the islands.

What can you tell us about this barn and its history? If you have information, stories, photographs or other information about the Hudson Barn, please share it with us. The 100 Friends needs help researching and documenting the surveyed barns; your information can help. Send to strehlou@rockisland.com or call 360.378.8337.

8. Contact Us. We want to hear from you. For more information about the 100 Friends of Old Island Barns, and our work to document and preserve San Juan county's historic barns, contact Sandy Strehlou, 360.378.8337, strehlou@rockisland.com; or Boyd Pratt, 360.378.7172, mulnocove@rockisland.com. Or by mail to POB 2053 Friday Harbor, WA, 98250.