



Proposal for Mariemont DAR Historical Preservation Project by Rebecca Lubitz:

We are considering the following Historical Preservation Project for our group. We would like feedback from members on whether you feel it is a project that represents our group's mission or not. We would also

like to know who is interested in participating. Thanking you in advance for your prompt responses.

The Ohio Barn Project - Dr. Robert Kroeger website is <http://barnart.weebly.com/>

Dr. Kroeger is helping to save the agricultural history of our state by doing paintings of old barns prior to their demolition. He is getting information from the barn owners and writing essays to go along with the paintings in hopes of producing a book to save the history of these barns.

Here are the ways in which we can help Dr. Kroeger accomplish this valuable task. He is in need of "feet on the ground". We would be barns scouts. This entails small groups of 2-4 members driving around, county to county hunting for barns from the 1800s to early 1900s. We would find them, take photos, make contact with the owners and gather as much info from the owners on the history of the barn as possible. We would then give this info to Dr. Kroeger so he can create oil paintings of the barns. He would like 8-12 barns from each county and he would like for us to concentrate on Hamilton, Clermont, Butler and Warren counties initially. We will contact the counties 4H Clubs and FFA Clubs. The oil paintings will be auctioned off with 1/2 the proceeds going to the clubs. He will also be doing a book on the barns and essays in the future. I would like to eventually have him do a presentation to our group, the stories of the various barns are extremely interesting. He did find the following on a Warren County Barn "**Barn at Crossed Keys Tavern**" "Here's another Warren County barn that traces back to the 1700s - in particular to a Revolutionary War captain who commanded a gunboat on Lake Champlain under General Benedict Arnold. The Dayton YMCA, the organization that now owns this property, allowed me to frame the painting with the barn's own rustic wood. " This is a barn where we can do more historical research and create a historical designation sign to place at that site.

Please let us know your thoughts on this proposed project and your interest in participation. I would like to aim for 2 half days (3 hrs), mornings, twice a month initially. We can adjust timing once we see what can be accomplished during this time frame.