



John W. Heisey in his Barns, Barns, Barns presentation to the Strasburg Heritage Society talked of how barns blend into the landscape, leading an artistic beauty to the area. This Lancaster County barn proves what Heisey was describing, as it seems to have been built to blend in with its surroundings.

Do You Appreciate Your Barn?

BY KIMBERLY HERR

STRASBURG — A man's house is his castle, according to the old adage, but ask John W. Heisey and he may say that a man's (or woman's) barn is his castle.

"A man's barn in the early days was really his castle because this is where all of his money was tied up," said Heisey, who explained that in early days the barns were often built before the home and they were sometimes more luxurious than the farmer's home. Heisey presented his Barns, Barns, Barns presentation to the Strasburg Heritage Society Monday night at the First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg.

Heisey holds a master's degree in American Studies from Penn State and has worked as director of research and library for the Historical Society of York County, York.

He told his audience that in 1934, he and his family moved to a large farm in Adams County.

"That was my first introduction to big barns," Heisey said.

Then, not long after that, he watched as another large barn in that area burned as a result of internal combustion caused by hay.

"That was my first introduction to the death of barns," he said.

And between the birth and the death of barns is a lifetime of

history that Heisey is anxious to preserve.

"There aren't that many people who know how to build barns

anymore," he said. "You can't possibly replace it (an old barn) with one just as good.

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John W. Heisey, lecturer and author, presented his Barns, Barns, Barns presentation to the Strasburg Heritage Society Monday night.



"Enjoy your barns before they are gone," said John W. Heisey, explaining the value of the old barns. A historic barn, like this one in Hockessin, Del., shown here cannot be replaced, according to Heisey.

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