

4-H Barn Owl Day in Schenectady County, New York

In June, DBPS Board Member Keith Cramer lead a workshop for Schenectady County 4-H in building nesting boxes for barn owls. Fourteen 4-H'ers each built an owl box. The boxes will be exhibited this summer at the County Fair.

Later, we had a presentation by Wes Laraway, Director of New York Wildlife Rescue Center, about "Bringing Barn Owls Back to Eastern NY State". The stars were two beautiful owls that had been healed of injuries at the Wildlife Rescue Center. Mr. Laraway explained the important role barn owls have in controlling rodents on a farm, and that if our farms had a place for the owls to nest, they would return. All these boxes will eventually be mounted at the 4-H'ers farms, so we will see if it works.

The workshop was a success and we already have some orders to sell more owl boxes. We hope to turn this into an annual event and help bring these wonderful birds back to our area farms.

Site Sponsor & Host: The Mabee Farm Historic Site, <http://www.schist.org/mabee.htm>

Co-Sponsors: National Barn Alliance (NBA) www.barnalliance.org

Dutch Barn Preservation Society (DBPS) www.dutchbarns.org





