



# Adopt-a-Wheel

## at the Dahmen Barn

### History of the wheel fence



Steve and Junette Dahmen bought the property at the NW corner of Uniontown in the 1950s. What began as a gate building project expanded dramatically when friends and relatives saw Steve's fine example of folk art and kept bringing wheels. Today there are more than 1004 wheels in the fence ranging in size up to 60 inches in diameter. The fence is a landmark whose photo has been featured in publications such as National Geographic Magazine, and artists and photographers come from afar to use it as a subject for their work.

No longer able to maintain the barn and the surrounding fence, Steve and Junette donated the property to non-profit Uniontown Community Development Association in 2004 with the stipulation that the barn be stabilized and put to a public use and the fence be maintained. With input from the community, UCDA decided to provide a showcase for the work of the many local visual and performing artists by transforming the barn into an artisan center. The entire project has been done with grants along with donations of cash and labor from enthusiastic community members. Today, in the state-of-the-art facility called Artisans at the Dahmen Barn, there are ten artist's studios, a retail shop where local art and crafts are sold on consignment, classroom space and an area for exhibits, concerts, performances and dances. All the studios are occupied and traffic through the barn and sales have exceeded our expectations. **We began bursting at the seams in 2010!**

In January 2011 we embarked on a plan to enlarge the facility and its programs. In 2014 we completed a design for an addition to give us more studio space, a larger classroom, and more seating for live music performances. The addition includes a commercial kitchen so we can add culinary arts to our programming and which will allow catering for rentals for family events. A plan for a new driveway with parking and public art installations in the field between the barn and the highway was finalized.

**!! Wheel adoption revenue through 2008 provided match money for our elevator grant !!**

### How the Adopt-a-Wheel Program works

Each wheel can be adopted only once. The donor may select a wheel or one can be assigned. Each wheel is marked with the donor's name and a number. There is a book kept in the barn that shows where each wheel may be found in the fence, so donors may locate their adopted wheels when they visit. Several levels of adoption are available based on size of the wheel.

**Steam Engine Wheel Donor Club** wheels with a diameter 40 to 60 inches **\$100**

Donor receives an 8 x 10 matted photo of their wheel and a certificate with the wheel's number.

**Wagon Wheel Donor Club** wheels with a diameter between 26 and 39 inches **\$50**

Donor receives a 5 x 7 matted photo of their wheel and a certificate with the wheel's number.

**Buggy Wheel Donor Club** wheels with a diameter 25 inches or less **\$25**

Donor receives a certificate with the wheel's number.

*Artisans at the Dahmen Barn is a 501c(3) non profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.*

**Learn more about Artisans at the Dahmen Barn by visiting [www.ArtisanBarn.org](http://www.ArtisanBarn.org)**



Please accept my donation to adopt a wheel in the magnificent fence at Artisans at the Dahmen Barn at the level circled below.

**Steam Engine \$100      Wagon Wheel \$50      Buggy Wheel \$25**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check to: Artisans at the Dahmen Barn      Attn: Adopt a Wheel

Mail to: P O Box 36, Uniontown WA 99179

Office use only: Wheel # \_\_\_\_\_ Fence section \_\_\_\_\_