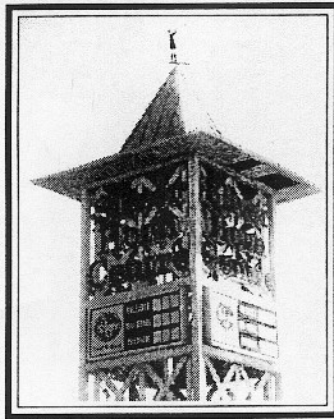


THE NAMING OF SILVER HORN CENTER



In the mid 1950s, Ruth and I, along with our three children, ages six to twelve, had a yen for the open spaces. We also thought that rearing a family in a rural setting would be both enjoyable and productive. At this time, a friend of mine from Washington, D. C. referred a patient, Cap Arnold, to me for follow-up care in that he was returning to the Hilliard area after serving three presidents over a period of 20 years. I shared with him our desire and he said he would be pleased to help in our quest. Together, we found a farm, put down earnest money and Cap said "Now you will need a farmer." He introduced us to Bob King. A deal was made by a handshake and for 35 years Bob and his sons, Glen and Dale, farmed our land. They did the work, we received half the profits. How wonderful to have complete trust in one another without rancor or problems for such a long period.

In 1954 we began a remodeling project on the old house which some say was built in the 1850s. When we came the only water in the house was a pitcher pump - no furnace and no electricity. One day, Charlie Roberts, who lived across the road asked what our plans were for a "two holer". We said "None at all." He asked about allowing him to take it to Wesley Chapel, so off it went.

We had an orchard east of the house. We had to have a mower, so our friend, Harold Hart, purchased four Dorsets for us. Dorsets are unusual in that both ewes and rams have horns. The flock enlarged quickly by purchasing and breeding. Then came 4-H, showing at the county and state fairs. Martha, our youngest daughter and lover of animal so, walked to the far end of the pasture where a ewe had delivered a small ram lamb. She picked him up and with his mother bleating and following, carried him to the safety of the barn. Early in our sheep venture, Martha named all the sheep - Mollie, Ripple, Gertie and this lamb - Silver. Thus the name for our farm was born - Silver for the ram lamb. Horn for the horned sheep and now Silver Horn Centre. It was a beautiful 40 years.

Note: This was written by Dr. E. B. Heisel, 1944. It was found at the Northwest Franklin County Historical Society & Museum, Inc. At the south west corner of Roberts Road and Rome Hilliard Road is a small wood tower that bears some advertising. Above the ads is lattice work which bears the words "Silver Horn Centre" on the box shaped tower.