

## A Little Light: Daily Musings with Mary Sue



### Welcome to June 22!

Do you have a special memory about a barn? I remember visiting my great uncles potato farm in Indiana. I loved the barn and the haymow swing was such a treat! Much more fun than a playground swing.

When we moved to Wisconsin 21 years ago, my husband Tim and I would take bike rides through the countryside and marvel at these stunning barns. One after another of these, sturdy beautiful structures that held livestock and a livelihood. Perhaps symbols of a simpler American life.

I was recently reminded of my awe of barns when Mary Jackson, Administrative Assistant at St. Catherine, showed me this beautiful photo of the barn her brother built in Jefferson, WI.

Whether on a bike or a ride in the car, spend some time looking at the many barns that frame our countryside in Wisconsin. Some are red and long, others round, some are of wood and stone, each telling a story. Make sure to share your barn stories with your children. If they don't have a barn memory, it might be time to make certain they have one! **See Links below for Wisconsin barn photos and a wonderful clip of an Amish barn raising from the movie, *Witness* (Harrison Ford).**

**FACT:** New England settlers didn't have enough money to **paint** their farms. They needed a cheap way to protect the **barns'** wood. They mixed skimmed milk, lime, and **red** iron oxide to make a **red**, plastic-like coating. **Red** became the most famous among farmers **because** it was the cheapest

**LINKS:**

**Barns of Wisconsin:**

<https://www.pinterest.com/CranberryMornin/barns-of-wisconsin/>

**UW- Continuing Education on the Barns of Wisconsin**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sb1E4Z4\\_udw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sb1E4Z4_udw)

**Amish Barn Raising from the movie, Witness with Harrison Ford**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BL\\_X7GelX5Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BL_X7GelX5Q)

Until Tomorrow,

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