

Zernicke barn quilt salutes Old Glory

Tom and Betsy Zernicke have sponsored Shawano County's 29th barn quilt. The pattern they chose is called "Old Glory Chevron" and now adorns a barn built by the Zernicke family at 420 North Cecil St. in Bonduel.

The patriotic pattern was chosen because it is two identical halves that are mounted side by side on doors of the barn so that, regardless of whether the doors are open or shut, the pattern stays intact.

The Zernicke barn was built in 1919 by Tom's great grandfather Frederick Zernicke, a carpenter by trade, on land once owned by his great great grandfather David. Louis Zernicke, Tom's grandfather, farmed there all his life.

He had two sons, George, Tom's dad, and Clarence, who was a dairy farmer. Tom bought the farm from Clarence in 1985 and has cash-cropped the land since then as well as raising some steers until 10 years ago.

"I am happy and proud to be the fifth generation of the Zernicke family tree on this farm," Tom said.