

Gauthiers Sponsor 112th Shawano County Barn Quilt

Gary and Sharon Gauthier have sponsored Shawano County's 112th barn quilt on their farm at W16592 Wilson Creek Lane just northeast of Wittenberg. The uniquely-shaped multi-colored pattern is called "Castor and Pollux." In Greek mythology, Castor and Pollux were the twin sons of Zeus. "There was no particular reason why we picked this pattern," Gary said, "except we liked how unique it was and wanted something bright that would stand out on our barn."

The barn on which the quilt is displayed was built in 1912. A Hartleben family originally owned the farm, and later it was owned by Matt Bernardi. The Gauthiers purchased the farm from Bernardi in 2006 and spent a lot of time and money restoring the beautiful 100-year-old barn. The farm totals about 90 acres, 30 of which are rented out as cropland.

The original house on the property was torn down and was replaced by a new "hunting" shack, as Gary calls it. "Basically, it's a place where our three married daughters and their families can come to get away from work for a while and unwind," Gary said. The new building can sleep 12 and is especially appreciated during the deer hunting season.