

Shawano County's 140th Barn Quilt is Called "Dancing Pinwheels"

After Lois Selle sold her motorcycle, she had a little money left over, so she decided to buy a barn quilt as a surprise for her husband Mel. So she met with barn quilt project coordinator Jim Leuenberger to pick out a pattern. The one she chose is called "Dancing Pinwheels," and is painted in green and yellow, which is appropriate since the Selles have some 30 tractors, most of which are John Deere.

The barn quilt, Shawano County's 140th, is on the Selle barn at W3226 County S, west of Pulaski. The 120-acre farm was originally homesteaded by K.G. Olson. It was purchased by Adolph Boerst in 1926, who later sold it to his son Hanz. The next owners were Hanz' daughter Faye and her husband Clarence Swiecichowski. Mel and Lois bought it from them in 1988. For most of the years, the farm had a dairy herd, although Mel and Lois decided not to milk cows, even though Lois had grown up on a dairy farm in Kewaunee County.

In 1983, Lois decided to put a personal ad in the national dairy magazine *Hoard's Dairyman*, indicating she was looking for a husband. She got 20 inquiries from the ad, and even dated a few of the men who responded. One of them was Melvin, whom she married in 1986. They have two daughters, Amanda and Tarta.

On August 12, Mel and Lois will be hosting their fourth tractor pull on their farm. "If the weather is good, we'll probably have at least 100 tractors here," Lois said.

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