

Olson Sponsors “Shaded Trail” Barn Quilt

Cheryl Olson has sponsored Shawano County’s 141st barn quilt for her barn at W14441 State Highway 29, Bowler. The pattern she chose is called “Shaded Trail.” The buildings on the farm, known as “The Old Spolar Farm,” were erected in 1910 by Fred Schultz. He farmed the property until sometime around World War II. At that time, it was purchased by Joe and Mary Spolar.

Joe used it for usual farming practices while he also had a small hardware store and watch/clock repair store in Tigerton. Joe and Mary’s children, Tony (Cheryl’s uncle) and Margaret (Cheryl’s mother) helped with the farm until Margaret went to college and Tony got married and moved away.

When Joe and Mary died in the early 70s, Margaret became the farm’s owner. Cheryl moved there from Suring in 1988. For several years there was a machine shop and a saddle shop on the farm.

In February 2010, Margaret died and ownership of the farm was retained by Cheryl and her brother Howie, who spends almost every November there deer hunting with his family. Crop land is rented, but horses, chickens, several barn cats and Sparky the dog call the farm their home.

“Margaret would have loved the barn quilt,” Cheryl said. “She was an avid quilter herself and taught quilting at a technical college. She had a Master’s Degree in Art from UW-Madison and really enjoyed art in the community.”

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