

## Ornate Star is County's 217<sup>th</sup> Barn Quilt

Shawano County's 217<sup>th</sup> barn quilt, called Ornate Star, now adorns a Century-old barn on a farm owned by brothers William and Thomas Umland, W18384 Church Road, Birnamwood. William and Thomas bought the dairy herd from their parents Lester and Joyce in 1996 and bought the land in 2009. The farm is an active dairy farm, with a milking herd of 100 Holstein cows. It is actually one of three century-old farms owned by the Umlands, which total over 400 acres.

The farm was homesteaded in 1889 by H.W. Krull and the barn built in 1911. In 1965, Lester purchased the farm from his uncle, Herman Krull, who farmed in partnership with Lester's dad, sharing the machinery but having separate dairy herds. Lester and Joyce got married in 1966. Lester's parents, Robert and Hilda (Krull) Umland, owned a farm just a mile down the road, where Lester was born.

The Umlands rent land from Jim and Nancy Maier on Sugarbush Road, who have had a quilt on their barn since September 2011. "We like their quilt and enjoy seeing others around the county when we travel toward Shawano," Lester said. "Joyce thought it would be nice to have one on our barn too, and we couldn't be more pleased with how it turned out. It really brightens up our barn."

The pattern and colors for the barn quilt were selected so that the quilt would stand out well on the barn. And in the center is a silhouette of a 1952 Ford tractor the Umlands own, and which Joyce says is her favorite tractor.

The Umland barn quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee and was put on display by Bruce Teetzen and Keith Raddant of Raddant Electric in Shawano.

Anyone who would like to participate in Shawano County's barn quilt project can contact project coordinator Jim Leuenberger at 715-524-5685 or via email at [jamesmleuenberger@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesmleuenberger@yahoo.com). You can also contact Patti Peterson, tourism manager at the Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce at 715-524-2139 or [tourism@shawano.com](mailto:tourism@shawano.com). A link on the Shawano Chamber Web site includes photos and information on every barn quilt on display in Shawano County. Just go to [www.shawanocountry.com](http://www.shawanocountry.com) and click on the barn quilt icon.