

County's 218th Barn Quilt Shows Farmer's Pride

Ross Klosterman has sponsored Shawano County's 218th barn quilt that is now on display on his farm on N3745 Broadway Road, Bonduel. The pattern selected for the quilt is called Farmer's Pride. It is painted in John Deere colors and includes a silhouette of a John Deere M tractor in the center.

Ross, who lives on the farm with his wife, Clarisse, and their sons Garrett and Caleb, purchased the farm from his parents in 2000. The farm consists of 235 acres of cropland and a dairy herd of 60 Holstein cows.

The farm traces back to Gerhart Klosterman, a German immigrant who came to the United States in 1891. The farm then passed on to Gerhart's son, Robert. Interestingly, Robert and his brothers, Charlie and Louis, all married sisters. After Robert, the farm went to his son, Herman. Ivan and Sue purchased the farm from Herman, Ivan's uncle, in 1969. With Ross now owning the farm, it has been in the Klosterman family for five generations.

The Klosterman barn quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee with the help of Sue Klosterman. It was put on display by Bruce Teetzen and Keith Raddant of Raddant Electric in Shawano. Ironically, it was put up on July 18, Ivan Klosterman's birthday. "It will be a nice way to remember the day we got our barn quilt," Sue said.

After seeing barn quilts around the county and going on a barn quilt bus tour, Sue thought it would be nice to have a quilt on their farm too. "It really brightens up the barn and adds a neat touch to the farm," Sue said.

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. You can also contact Patti Peterson, tourism manager at the Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce at 715-524-2139 or 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 and click on the barn quilt icon.