

County's 267th Barn Quilt Called Country Treasures

Shawano County's 267th barn quilt is now on display on a farm owned by Red and Nancy Kaczorowski at Kaczorowski's Three Way Acres, N1430 Highway 55, Seymour. The quilt, called Country Treasures, was given to Red for his latest birthday by his children, son Craig and daughters Terry and Julie.

Red's grandparents, Lawrence and Martha, homesteaded the original 120-acre farm in 1907. The barn was built out of logs, with pins. Although it has been remodeled and added onto, the original barn still stands. Red's parents, Peter and Lottie, purchased the farm in the 1940s and made many improvements over the years.

After Red and Nancy took over ownership of the farm in 1978, they added onto the barn, tiled the land and bought more land. They also built two Harvestore silos and added three new sheds. The farm now totals over 1000 acres.

Red's grandparents and parents always had Allis-Chalmers tractors and their dairy herd always consisted of Registered Dutch Belted cattle. So when Red took over the farm, he continued those traditions. The milking herd now numbers 65 to 70 head plus about that many young stock. The number of Allis-Chalmers tractors has grown significantly, from three in 1978 to over 55 today. The collection includes the last Agco Allis tractor manufactured in 2012. The tractor silhouette on the barn quilt is of a 1951 Allis-Chalmers WD.

The cow in the barn quilt pattern represents the Dutch Belted cattle on the farm. Over the years, the Kaczorowskis have exhibited their cattle at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis., the International Dairy Show in Louisville, Ky., and the All American Dairy Show in Harrisburg, Pa., as well as the Shawano, Brown and Outagamie County fairs.

Red and Nancy have been married for 52 years and are very happy to be among those farmers in Shawano County who have a barn quilt on their farm. "It's just a wonderful project and we think our quilt looks just great," Nancy said. The 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. 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.