

County's 210th Barn Quilt is a Seesaw

Tom and Mary Bloomer have sponsored Shawano County's 210th barn quilt. The pattern they chose is called Seesaw and is displayed on their barn at W11354 Stony Hill Road, Marion. "We like the novelty of the barn quilt project," Tom said, "and Mary and I enjoy seeing who can spot one first when we are out driving around. It's really a cool project for Shawano County."

Both Tom and Mary grew up in the country, so after living in town for a while, purchased ten acres from James Krueger in 2004. The house was built in 1881 and the barn on which is quilt is displayed is over 100 years old.

The original 80 acres were purchased by George A. Randall in 1870. August Gehrman purchased the farm from Ford Koslofski in 1894 and it remained in the Gehrman family until 1985 when it was bought by Gerald Ort. Ort sold it that same year to James Krueger.

Tom and Mary have already done a great deal to restore the barn and plan to do more as time and funds allow. Tom currently works at KI in Bonduel as a tool and die maker while Mary works at Pick 'N' Save in Shawano.

The barn quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee and was put on display by LeRoy Raddant and Bruce Teetzen 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 County 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.

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