

## County's 199<sup>th</sup> Barn Quilt has Navy Theme

John and Cheryl Weister have sponsored Shawano County's 199<sup>th</sup> barn quilt for their barn at N6153 Highway 32, Oconto Falls. The pattern they chose for their barn quilt has a patriotic theme with an anchor in the center, representing the 20 years John spent in the Navy. They have named their quilt pattern "Anchors Aweigh."

"We had seen many of the barn quilts in Shawano County and John kept saying we should get one, so I decided to surprise him and give one to him as a Christmas present," Cheryl said. "We really like it and think it looks great." They chose the Navy theme because John served 20 years in the Navy as a boiler technician, 10 on active duty and 10 in the Navy Reserve. He was deployed three times for six months at a time, the first time in the Persian Gulf.

John and Cheryl purchased their property from James and Nancy Hendrickson 16 years ago. The Hendricksons had owned the farm since 1985. The farm was originally homesteaded by Ephraim Mariner, Guido Pfister and James Spencer in 1882. It is believed the barn on which the quilt is displayed was built in the late 1800s.

Cheryl currently works for Unity Hospice out of the Shawano office and John is employed by Wisconsin Public Service. They have a son, Joshua, a daughter, Jenna and a granddaughter, Adalyn.

The Weisters' 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 [jamesmleuenberger@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesmleuenberger@yahoo.com) or by phone at 715-524-5685. You can also contact Patti Peterson, tourism manager at the Shawano Chamber of Commerce at [tourism@shawano.com](mailto:tourism@shawano.com) or 715-524-2139. 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.