

## **Wussow Family Has County's 265<sup>th</sup> Barn Quilt**

Milk-n-More Farms and Harvesting, owned by Ron, Nicolle, Kaila and Colin Wussow, is the host farm for Shawano County's 265<sup>th</sup> barn quilt. It is displayed on a shed on their farm at 13209 Deering Lane, Cecil. The barn quilt was sponsored for the Wussows as a memorial for Ron's uncle, Dale, by Dale's wife, Linda. "Dale was very instrumental in my love of farming," Ron said. "He was also a believer in John Deere equipment and had a very successful career as a 4-H member and leader. That's why we decided to include the 4-H emblem and a John Deere tractor as part of the barn quilt pattern." The pattern has been called Family Traditions.

The farm was homesteaded by Nicolle's great grandfather, August, and his wife, Ella (Bahr) in 1893. Later they sold the farm to one of their sons, Paul, and his wife, Emma (Regal), Nicolle's grandparents, in 1947.

In 1971, the farm was purchased by Nicolle's parents, Roy and Mary Ellen (Gunderson) Fischer, who live on the farm.

Nicolle graduated from UW-River Falls with a major in Dairy Science. Ron worked for a prominent Holstein breeder in western Wisconsin, then came back and worked at Mid-County Cooperative as a millworker, sprayer and mill manager before taking over the farm. The Wussow family has always been active in the 4-H tractor program. Ron and Nicolle were active 4-H members and currently serve as club leaders, while Kaila and Colin are also very involved in the Bonduel 4-H Club.

Ron and Nicolle purchased the farm from Nicolle's parents in 1999. At the time they were milking 40 cows. Today, the herd totals 175 cows, consisting of 50 percent registered Jerseys and 50 percent registered Holsteins. They also raise all their herd replacements as well as the bull calves born on the farm.

In 2000, they started a custom harvesting operation for a few neighbors and now the entire immediate family is involved, harvesting 12,000 acres each year along with 4500 acres of corn silage. The original farm totaled 320 acres but a 180-acre adjoining farm was purchased this past year.

The family has been very successful showing their top animals at local, state and national cow shows. They have also received numerous top production awards.

The Wussow 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.

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