

CRI Sponsors Four Barn Quilts at Stony Hill Facility

Cooperative Resources International (CRI), with world headquarters in Shawano, has sponsored four barn quilts as part of the countywide project that started in earnest this past spring. The four quilts were painted by the Shawano Country Barn Quilt committee with the assistance of members of the Wolf River 4-H club. They are displayed on four barns at the Cooperative's Stony Hill facility about seven miles west of Shawano at W9588 State Highway 29.

Stony Hill is a production facility and is home to the GENESIS Cooperative Herd. On site are 826 bulls and heifers. Heifers in the GENESIS herd produce the next generation of bulls and heifers for CRI. Activities at the Stony Hill GENESIS herd include recipient management, maternity and calf nursery barns and embryo production from elite virgin heifers.

In 1989, Genex, a subsidiary of CRI, purchased the 345-acre farm from Henry Baker. The western side of the property was originally owned by Ed Kunschke.

The barns the quilts are displayed on are 65 feet wide by 303 feet long and were built from 1989 to 1992. Three house bulls and one GENESIS calves (bulls and heifers).

The CRI quilt patterns were designed by the CRI graphic design team, incorporating the company's trademark color, teal. The names of the patterns are Hopscotch, Saw Tooth Square, Electric Fan and New Star. They bring the total number of barn quilts now on display in Shawano County to 96.

"CRI is pleased to support Shawano County's barn quilt project," Doug Wilson, Chief Executive Officer of CRI said. "The project is a great way to highlight agriculture and Shawano County."

When CRI was formed in 1993 as a member-owned holding cooperative, it was the nation's first direct link between a Dairy Herd Improvement (DHI) Cooperative (AgSource) and a cooperative providing artificial insemination of dairy and beef cattle (Genex). CRI's earliest predecessor, Badger Breeders Cooperative of Shawano, was a pioneer in the artificial insemination industry in the late 1940s.

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Photo 1. Members and leaders of the Wolf River 4-H Club are shown with officials of CRI and one of the four barn quilts club members helped paint and CRI sponsored. The four quilts are on display on four bull barns seven miles west of Shawano owned by Genex, a subsidiary of CRI. The quilt pattern in the photo is called "New Star."

Photo 2. Hopscotch

Photo 3. Saw Tooth Square

Photo 4. Electric Fan