

Barn Quilt Interview

Host Family: Pat (Allen) and Nancy Risler

Address of Barn Quilt: N6193 County Rd. H, Mondovi, WI 54755

Name of Barn Quilt: Compass Star Quilt

Date Completed: Saturday, August 16, 2014

4-H Club who made it: Hilltop Climbers

Interviewed by: Abby George

Why was the barn quilt pattern chosen?

The family loved the idea of the pattern with the right colors. "It represents 4-H in rural America", says Nancy. It also satisfies them with being a part of 4-H.

What is the significance of the quilt pattern?

Being a 4-H leader and having a 4-H farm family involved in 4-H for over four generations.

What colors is the barn quilt painted?

Two shades of green and white.

Why were the colors selected?

They represent 4-H. "The many dedicated years of experience with leadership and learning which last a life-time.

Why was the site of the barn quilt selected?

On a 100 year old barn building.

How long has the barn been in the family?

Over 50 years.

When was the barn built and by who?

It was built in the early 1900's by Shirley Olson's father, Ed Olson.

What was the original function of the barn and what is it used for now?

It was originally a corn crib and oat storage building that has a drive thru to store machinery. It is now a farm shop to fix things.

What materials was it constructed with?

It was constructed with oak boards and old Indian Rocks.

Why is the family interested in having a barn quilt?

As a remembrance of the generations of 4-H in their family.

How do they support agriculture?

They buy locally raised food and products and grow products and raise animals. They also donate the products to 4-H, church, and the community.

What do they say about the barn (quote) and how does it represent them?

“Many experiences of farming in a rural area and raising a family on values and respect. Best place (rural Wisconsin) to raise a family, knowing farmers feed America and other countries.”

Who painted the barn quilt?

The Hilltop Climbers 4-H Club members and parents.

Who else contributed to the project, how?

There was a bunch of adult volunteers that bought the supplies and some of the other clubs in the county supplied their extra paint.

What are some interesting facts about the 4-H club?

The Hilltop Climbers was started by Nancy and her neighbor Wanda Evans. The club was then discontinued for a few years when no one wanted to take it over. In the fall of 2009, Patty George, Pat and Nancy's oldest daughter, took over the club. It started with 12 families and now has extended to 32 families.

How did the club make it unique?

The club let each family pick which pattern they wanted and what colors they wanted.

What did the members learn?

The members learned a lot while participating in this project. They learned how to transfer a picture onto a grid. They also learned how to put it to a scale. They learned how to take the transferred pattern and draw it onto the actual piece it was going on and they had to be exact so the two pieces would match up.





