

# October Highlights

## Barn Quilts of Grundy County



### 2008 Calendar Are Here!

Be the first to own the 2008 Barn Quilts of Grundy County calendar. The '08 calendar features 13 new locations and quilt blocks. Calendars are available for sale now for \$10/each. If you'd like to order yours now, contact Kelly at 319.825.3606 or email [barnquilts@gcmuni.net](mailto:barnquilts@gcmuni.net) for more details.

You can also purchase your 2008 calendars and Barn Quilt cookbooks at:

Brick Bungalow (504 W. 4th St., Wellsburg)  
Conrad General Store (101 N. Main St., Conrad)  
Grundy County Development Alliance (705 F. Ave.)  
Grundy County Extension (703 F. Ave.)  
Grundy County Farm Bureau (602 8th St.)  
Grundy Shoebox (617 G Ave., Grundy Center)  
Manly's Drug Store (625 G Ave., Grundy Center)  
Grundy County Heritage Museum (204 4th St., Morrison)  
Simple Pleasures (202 Broad St., Reinbeck)  
Country Closet (427 Main St., Reinbeck)  
Waterloo/Cedar Falls Visitors Bureau

Each month highlights one barn with full landscape photo of each quilt block. This year's calendar design revolves around the 13 new quilt blocks located throughout Grundy County. Each photo showcases beautifully unique quilt blocks and encompasses the rich and artistic rural life that is the backdrop to the Barn Quilts of Grundy County project.

Don't forget the calendars (\$10) and cookbooks (\$15) make great Christmas gifts for friends and family!

### October Tours

October has brought two more bus tours into Grundy County to view the Barn Quilts of Grundy County. The buses, all bringing 30+ people on each trip, viewed the quilt blocks on the "Loop" and traveled through Wellsburg, Conrad, Beaman, Grundy Center, Morrison, Reinbeck and Dike. The first group visiting the county on October 3 came from Michigan and were an avid group of quilters. These ladies could tell what the blocks were before hearing their name and were always awaiting the next stop to check out the shopping. They were extremely impressed with the Conrad General Store, the only quilt shop in Grundy County. These ladies bought fabric like it was going out of style! There even were a few that were making projects while on the bus trip.

The second group, hailing from the Prairie City area in Iowa, visited us on October 16. Although the rain and clouds followed us around, it didn't dampen their moods to view the countryside. The trip was initially a "Mystery Trip" and they had no idea where we were heading during the day or what we would see next.

These large group tours are a great way to get people acquainted with the communities and county with museum visits, short stops for pictures and of course shopping, and much more. If they visit once and enjoyed themselves, there is a greater chance that they will return for a second or even third time. We strive to make their Barn Quilt Day informational, relaxing and fun. And don't forget about self-guided tours. They are almost better because you have the ability to stop when and where you want and for as long as desired. For information on self-guided tours, contact Kelly at 319.825.3606 or email [barnquilts@gcmuni.net](mailto:barnquilts@gcmuni.net).



Pictured here are the quilters from Michigan. They enjoyed lunch at Karen's Country Tea Room in Wellsburg.

## New Barn Quilts ... Again!

Two new quilt blocks have recently popped up, bringing the Barn Quilt total to 39! We have definitely had a successful year in getting 15 new blocks up around the county.



The newest blocks are located just outside of Grundy Center (22583 M Ave.), just across from the Grundy County Engineers Office. This block, "Hovering Hawks", was put on a newly re-painted corncrib.

The second block, also finished this month, is located at 101 Market Street in Holland and belongs to Loren & Jodi Meyer. This block is called "Sawtooth Star" was chosen because Jodi's grandmother and great-grandmother were avid quilters & farm women. It was their favorite pattern. Jodi is also a quilter and she designed the quilt pattern using the Sawtooth Star and patriotic theme with stenciled stars in the center of the block.



It is great to see continued support and work on the Barn Quilt project, and even better to see the finished products up and on display for everyone to see!



## A Dog's Blog

Beauregard H. Hugmuffin, a 9 year old yellow lab who travels with his two legged gal pals Kae and Cokie has recently visited Iowa and took notice of the Barn Quilts of Grundy County and some other Barn Quilt Projects throughout the state. Beauregard also has a Blog that he updates every so often to journal their travels.

The three travelers stopped in Grundy County at Gary & Karen DeVries' alpaca farm for part of the day. Karen DeVries weaves and creates gorgeous hats, shawls and scarves from her flock's wool in her studio, which is right on the farm.

To read more trip information about their stay in Iowa and their experience seeing the Barn Quilts of Grundy County and of course making friends with the alpacas, check out Bo's Blog.

[www.bokaecoblog.blogspot.com](http://www.bokaecoblog.blogspot.com) Blog #41

## Travel Iowa Marketplace

In September, over 100 Bank Club Directors, tour planners, bus companies, etc. gathered for the 2007 Travel Iowa Marketplace. This event was hosted by the Central Iowa Tourism Region and took place at Hilton Coliseum in Ames, Iowa. The tour planners had a morning of seminars and then an afternoon of visiting with over 80 tourist attraction/county/town representatives. Grundy County Tourism and the Barn Quilts of Grundy County had a booth to help promote the activities of each town in the county. Our booth consisted of a Barn Quilt Loop Map and sample tour itineraries, county brochures, individual town information, coupons for the many specialty shops in Grundy County and theatre tickets.

This was great exposure for the Barn Quilts of Grundy County and we plan on being at the Travel Iowa Marketplace next year. We spoke with many tour planners about the possibilities of coming to Grundy County for an afternoon or a whole day, and that being a small, rural county doesn't mean there isn't anything to do. Hopefully 2008 will bring in some of the tour planners and Bank Club Directors that we met that day and have more opportunities to showcase Grundy County and the Barn Quilts of Grundy County.



### Want More Info?

Please visit our website at <http://www.grundycountyia.com> and click on the Barn Quilt logo to learn more about the Barn Quilts of Grundy County. If you have any questions, or would like more information about any aspect of the Barn Quilt Project, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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