LE ROY PENNYSAVER & NEWS - OCTOBER 21, 2012

by Lynne Belluscio

Success is not always profitable. There is no question that the barn quilt project has been a success. We know of 115 barn quilts that have been completed (or will be soon) through the efforts of the Historical Society. That's pretty good considering that I only expected to have three dozen this year. But with success has come some challenges.

First I knew that it was important to make a little money so we could pay for the fireworks and the Bicentennial event in June - which we did. There was \$1,000 that was transferred to the Bicentennial event. My intention of only charging \$50 for a 4x4 and \$150 for an 8x8 was to make them affordable to the folks that wanted a barn quilt. I didn't factor in my time, because I figured everyone would want to paint their own, which turned out not to be the case – at least not in most cases.

In most communities that have barn quilts, the cost is much higher, but that's not what we intended. It wasn't a money maker. It was a community project. In the meantime, we started doing bus tours, and thanks to Mike Wilcox at Wilcox Bus Company, who extended a reduced rate - even when the price of gas has gone up, we were able to break even.

We were thankful that the Genesee County Chamber of Commerce was willing to underwrite the cost of the maps and they printed 3,000. Those have flown off the shelves, so we decided to do another printing of 2,000, knowing that we would have to find the \$600 to pay for the new printing.

Now we are offering the 2013 LeRoy Barn Quilt Calendar. Many thanks to Andy Oleneck for letting us use several of his photographs for the calendar and a special thanks to Rachel at the *Pennysaver*, who came up with a terrific design.

We hope the profit we make on the calendars will defray the cost of the reprinting of the free maps. When we say we are in the "notfor-profit" business, it's definitely true. So if you are looking for a 2013 Calendar or need some Christmas presents, take a look at the LeRoy Barn Quilt Calendar. The price is \$10 (plus tax). The photographs are "suitable for framing." The calendars are on sale at the Town Hall, the Jell-O Gallery, Crnkovich Farm Market, *LeRoy Pennysaver*, D & R Depot, and Crocker's Ace Hardware.

And I should take a moment to thank the Genesee Orleans Art Council for awarding the LeRoy Barn Quilt Project a Community Award. We are most appreciative. And thanks to all the volunteers who either primed, painted, sawed, moved, put up, took down, delivered and encouraged. The project could not have been a success without them. And to Potter Lumber and Crocker's Ace Hardware for discounts on plywood and paint. This truly was a community project that LeRoy can be proud of.



Autumn Ist In The Air