



Milking 180 Holsteins and operating 550 acres planted to corn, soybeans, wheat and alfalfa is the life work of Darrell and Kathy Baumeister, owners of Blue Ridge Farm, Inc. in the town of Lyons, Walworth County. Kathy, a UW-LaCrosse graduate majoring in physical education and biology, taught at Kansasville grade school and St. Mary's Burlington. Darrell, certified in welding from Gateway, still does welding repair, as well as custom combining and harvesting. Together they started farming in 1973.

Their oldest son, Kevin, 25, works full-time on the farm. Brian, 15, and Darren, 13, help out after school and on weekends. Francy, 22, helps with milking chores on weekends. Stacy, 26 and Vicki, 24, live off the farm, but frequently return home to be of assistance.

Historically, the David/Warren/Baumeister farm transfer dates back to 1864. Note that Elizabeth David (Kathy's grandmother, could not claim her farm inheritance until she was 30.)

*Darrell & Kathy Baumeister, Owners*



July 15, 1864 - Joseph David purchased 120 acres on the north side of Warren Rd. and 20 acres on the south side of Warren Rd. from Wm. Rittman.

Jan. 3, 1882 - Joseph David sold to his son Henry David the same parcels.

July 3, 1885 - Henry David transferred the farm to Joseph Vos, then to Caroline Vos David (Elizabeth Warren's mother).

Nov. 1902 - Caroline David willed her estate to Elizabeth David when Elizabeth reached age 30.

Aug. 1, 1916 - Elizabeth reaches age 30 and becomes owner of the farm. James and Elizabeth build the first barn.

1950 - Built center section of the barn.

Jan., 1958 - James and Elizabeth Warren sell the farm to Julian and Catherine Warren.

1959 - Julian and Catherine built a brick house.

1960-1970 - Put an addition on the barn, built silos and heifer sheds.

1977 - Built the Slurrystore.

1980 - Julian and Catherine Warren hosted the Walworth Co. Dairy Breakfast.

1989 - Rented the farm to Darrell and Kathleen Warren Baumeister with the option to buy.

1991 - Julian and Catherine Warren sold the farm to Darrel and Kathleen Baumeister.

1994 - Heated workshop was built for repair and welding work.

1996 - Freestall barn housing 160 cows was built and the dairy barn was remodeled to a milking parlor and holding area.

1998 - The Baumeisters construct a new, brick house.

