



# FOREVER furniture

BY SHELBY HILSON // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX



Xena and Rusty

**THE PLACE:** Part of the charm at **Country Charm Mennonite Furniture** is the experience of shopping in a refurbished 1800s barn, which beautifully showcases an extensive collection of quality, solid-wood furniture. “We wanted to start a business based on ethics and integrity,” says storeowner Wayne Datema. “So, we sourced out builders we would be proud to represent; ones that offer superb craftsmanship and have the same ideals as ourselves. Our Mennonite builders stand for many of the things that we hope to stand for in our business ethics. Their simplified life and dedication to their craft mean a lot to us.”

**THE STYLE:** Timeless traditional style is a recurrent theme throughout the two-floor showroom, but contemporary and

modern pieces are in the mix, and customers are definitely not limited by what they see. Country Charm offers custom furniture “built to your specifications to fit your needs, style and space,” says Datema. “We are unique because we can offer stained or painted finishes of your choice, or do colour matches, since we do the finishing right here on the premises.”

**WHAT’S HOT:** On trend with bringing the outdoors in, are furniture pieces with a live edge (the outer edge of the tree), with bark and without. Tables with metal bases are also hot items as more people lean toward an industrial look at home.

**SEASONAL:** You’ll find much more than just furniture at Country Charm. There’s a host of home décor items that would make

great holiday and hostess gifts. Choose from a wide selection of chandeliers, soy and beeswax candles, wall art, Italian dinnerware, Polish glassware and a gorgeous quilt line from Quebec.

**FAVOURITES:** Datema cites table and chair sets as his personal favourite “because that is the area that families gather and memories are made.” He also mentions a line of rustic furniture made from beams of old barns or buildings, which bear the original markings in the wood. Xena and Rusty, the furry four-legged staff, have been greeting customers for many years and it goes without saying, they are also part of the charm.

**GET THERE:** 317680 Hwy. 6 & 10, Rockford 519.376.4434, [www.ccharm.com](http://www.ccharm.com) OH

