

‘HOW-TO’ BARN QUILT CLASS: BASICS FROM INSPIRATION TO INSTALLATION

Presented by Town of Colton Tourism & Beautification Committee
(Ruth McWilliams, Coordinator and Presenter)

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THREE-DAY CLASSES DURING JUNE 2019 AT THE TAUNY CENTER IN CANTON

WHEN? TWO THREE-DAY CLASSES: JUNE 6-8 and JUNE 20-22

DAY 1 (10am – 5pm): SET UP

All first-time barn quilt painters will create 2x2 foot barn quilts in the class; and only designs with straight lines can be done by first-timers. There are thousands of traditional quilt block patterns and Ruth McWilliams will have books and other materials available for participants to select designs. Participants, however, are encouraged to consult with Ruth in advance (ruth@catamountlodge.com) about their interests and possible designs. Participants can depart on Day 1 after completing set up which includes selecting and graphing the design, selecting colors, priming the board, and drawing the design on the board. Actual painting of the design begins on Day 2.

DAY 2 (10am – 5pm): BASICS INFORMATION AND PAINTING

All participants will receive a packet of information and begin painting projects while being coached and assisted as needed. Participants should plan to stay for the entire day which includes a 1-hour presentation in the morning, leaving plenty of time for painting and taking breaks for lunch and otherwise.

DAY 3 (10am – 4pm): PAINTING AND TOUCH-UPS

Participants must plan to attend Day 3 in order to complete their projects. Often participants finish in 4-6 hours on the third day. A photo of each participant with his/her completed project will be taken before departure.

WHERE? THE TAUNY CENTER (53 Main Street in Canton)

The headquarters of Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY) is located in downtown Canton in the middle of a block along Main Street. Check TAUNY's website (tauny.org) to learn more about the organization and/or call (315) 386-4289 for directions. There is free public parking in the rear of The TAUNY Center, easily accessed from Hodskin Street. Participants can use stairs or the elevator to reach the Lower Level where the class will be held.

HOW MANY? 10 PROJECTS MAXIMUM

There is room for no more than ten projects, mostly 2x2 footers for first timers attending the class. Only returning, experienced painters can take on larger projects during the 3-day class if space allows; and are encouraged to consider attending scheduled painting sessions rather than instructional classes. First timers will be given priority for classes. Participants must plan to attend all 3 days to complete projects.

PURPOSE: Overall goal is to introduce participants to barn quilts and to build confidence to paint barn quilts for selves and/or others. Participants will be informed about the history of barn quilts; and will learn the basics of creating a barn quilt (as outlined below) through the presentation of information and hands-on activities. All participants will leave with completed projects.

Overview—Learn about the following through presentations and discussions:

- ✓ History of barn quilts in the United States, St. Lawrence County, and Town of Colton
- ✓ Basic steps from inspiration to installation
- ✓ Painting guidelines and other hints
- ✓ Supplies
- ✓ Installation insights

Hands-on Activities—Learn about the following by working on actual barn quilt projects:

- ✓ Sanding and priming medium density overlay (MDO) plywood (also known as sign board)
- ✓ Drawing design on graph paper, then on primed board
- ✓ Taping design for painting
- ✓ Painting design and doing touch-ups

REGISTRATION: All participants must register with Ruth McWilliams (ruth@catamountlodge.com) and pay at least the Studio Fee to the Town of Colton (explained below). Barn quilts measuring 2x2 feet can easily be done by one person. Two-person teams are allowed for larger projects measuring up to 4x4 feet but both participants must pay the Studio Fee.

FEES: The class fees include two costs—Studio Fee and Materials Fee.

- (1) Studio Fee—The Studio Fee is \$15, payable to the ‘Town of Colton.’ It helps cover the cost of information and training plus it helps support the town’s ‘Art Around Town’ project with the Colton-Pierrepont Central School Art Department which features barn quilts. If the owner of a barn quilt brings an assistant, then the assistant also must pay the \$15 Studio Fee.
- (2) Materials Fee—Owners of barn quilts being painted during the class must pay for their materials (board, primer, paint, and tape) to be supplied by the Town of Colton Tourism & Beautification Committee unless otherwise arranged, including the Benjamin Moore Aura Waterborne Exterior Paints (Low Lustre) from the Affinity Colors palette. Participants will be able to choose from about 80 paint colors in the palette. The fee for materials does not include use of other supplies which will be available free of charge (e.g., rulers, graph paper, brushes, rollers, and more). The cost of a 2x2 foot barn quilt painted with 3 colors is \$50 unless the cost of the sign board and/or other supplies goes up. There is an additional \$5 flat charge if 4 or more paint colors are used. The cost of materials for boards of other sizes painted during the class will be itemized.

Note...if a participant needs extra assistance above and beyond the norm in order to complete a project in three days, then a Helper Fee of at least \$15 may be charged. Paints and other supplies will not be loaned out following the class for participants to complete projects.

The total fee for the owner of a 2x2 foot barn quilt could be \$65 (\$15 Studio Fee + \$50 Materials Fee) which is quite a bit less than the \$125 (plus or minus) price tag to purchase one measuring 2x2 feet, depending on complexity, painted by the Tourism & Beautification Committee or others.

On Day 3 each participant will receive an invoice covering both fees from Ruth McWilliams on behalf of the Town of Colton Tourism & Beautification Committee. Payment is due on Day 3. Only cash or checks made out to ‘Town of Colton’ will be accepted.

FOOD AND DRINKS: Participants must bring their own drinks, snacks, and meals. A refrigerator in the kitchen on the Main Level is available to store items.

FINAL NOTE: During the three days participants should wear clothes for painting; and must be able to stand for several hours at a time and be able to bend over tables to prime and paint boards.