Barn Quilt History

Many believe that barn painting/quilting originated in Pennsylvania with immigrants from the central regions of Europe. Paint was very expensive in those days and painting a decorative and distinctive quilt pattern on their barns was a wonderful way of allowing for decoration. It also became an excellent way for travelers to find particular families or cross roads as townspeople would just tell them which pattern to look for.

Today barn quilts have become popular again. Quilt trails have been developed in many states. After a number of barn quilts have been displayed in an area, a map is developed that guides the viewers to the location. The map will have an address, a picture of the square and a name or explanation of its meaning. Go to the Shawano Chamber of Commerce website to read about the barn quilts in Shawano County.

A special thanks to:

Mielke Family Foundation Inc. Making a Difference.
The Mielke Family Foundation acts as a catalyst for change, seeking to fund organizations or programs that are innovative and effective.

Little Rapids Corp. Egan Family Fondation Inc.

For more information about the Barn Quilt Project please visit the Shawano County Chamber of Commerce website at www.shawanocounty.com.

A few of the quilts you will see on your ride:

* W550 Oak Ave Pattern: Triquetra Star Host/Sponsor: Kieler/Shawano Optims
  - Continue STRAIGHT (SOUTH) onto LOCUST for 0.6 miles.
  - Use caution while crossing the railroad tracks.
  - At the stop sign, look behind and to the right.
  - Turn RIGHT (EAST) onto MAIN STREET for 0.5 miles back to 420 South Main Street to complete your ride.

* W557 Locust Road Pattern: Sunflower Host/Sponsor: Arocler/Bridge Beauties
  - Turn LEFT (EAST) onto COUNTY ROAD MM (Old Highway 26) for 1.6 miles into Shawano.
  - You will cross the bridge and pass the hospital and break on your left.
  - Turn RIGHT (SOUTH) onto MAIN STREET for 0.5 miles back to 420 South Main Street to complete your ride.

* W556 Birch Road Pattern: Nine Patch Star Host/Sponsor: Boyles/Aukermann
  - Turn RIGHT (EAST) onto BROADWAY ROAD for 0.24 miles.
  - You will pass the old Kranke Saw Mill and The Potting Shed.
  - In 0.6 miles on your right.

* W561 Broadway Road Pattern: Patriotic Star Host/Sponsor: Mabeck
  - Turn RIGHT (SOUTH) onto ELM ROAD for 0.75 miles.
  - Turn LEFT (EAST) onto COUNTY ROAD A for 0.25 miles.

* W560 Maple Ave Pattern: Patchwork Heart Host/Sponsor: Ewald

* W561 Maple Ave Pattern: Ascending Cross Host/Sponsor: Opperman

* W538 Butternut Rd Pattern: Director’s Dream Host/Sponsor: Paker/Nielsen
  - Turn RIGHT (WEST) onto BUTTERNUT ROAD for 0.4 miles.

* W516 Locust Drive Pattern: Southern Star Host/Sponsor: Eggert/Matthow & Pygnus
  - Continue down the hill, across the bridge and back up a hill.

* W2755 Old Ave Pattern: Twisted Star Host/Sponsor: Kieler/Shawano Optims
  - Continue STRAIGHT (SOUTH) onto LOCUST for 0.6 miles.
  - Use caution while crossing the railroad tracks.
  - At the stop sign, look behind and to the right.

* N567 Locust Road Pattern: Sunflower Host/Sponsor: Arocler/Bridge Beauties
  - Turn LEFT (EAST) onto COUNTY ROAD MM (Old Highway 26) for 1.6 miles into Shawano.
  - You will cross the bridge and pass the hospital and break on your left.
  - Turn RIGHT (SOUTH) onto MAIN STREET for 0.5 miles back to 420 South Main Street to complete your ride.

* W556 Birch Rd Pattern: Nine Patch Star Host/Sponsor: Boyles/Aukermann
  - Turn RIGHT (EAST) onto BROADWAY ROAD for 0.24 miles.
  - You will pass the old Kranke Saw Mill and The Potting Shed.
  - In 0.6 miles on your right.

* W561 Broadway Rd Pattern: Patriotic Star Host/Sponsor: Mabeck
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  - Turn LEFT (EAST) onto COUNTY ROAD A for 0.25 miles.

* W560 Maple Ave Pattern: Patchwork Heart Host/Sponsor: Ewald

* W561 Maple Ave Pattern: Ascending Cross Host/Sponsor: Opperman

* W538 Butternut Rd Pattern: Director’s Dream Host/Sponsor: Paker/Nielsen
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* W2755 Old Ave Pattern: Twisted Star Host/Sponsor: Kieler/Shawano Optims
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