

Barn Quilt Exhibit

Hosted by the Western Corridor Alliance

The Elgin, Oxford and Norfolk Association of Museums (EON) was awarded a grant in 2011 to establish a barn quilt trail through the five counties of the Sand Plains region (Elgin, Oxford, Norfolk, Middlesex and Brant). Along with our partners in Middlesex, Brantford and Brant County, the museums, archives and galleries of EON have assembled 100 quilt locations along historic highways and road of our region.

A wide variety of historic sites, long established farms and museums have been assembled to act as hosts for the quilt blocks. For the past year, hundreds of volunteers including quilters, historians and many community groups have laboured to produce the stories and blocks that now stretch along the Southwest Ontario barn Quilt Trails.

Barn quilt trails use colourful, decorative murals based on quilt designs as markers to signal historical and other points of interest. The quilt blocks are painted on an eight foot square wooden frame hung on the side of a barn, farm building or set free on standing posts. They tell the stories of the communities, families and events that comprise the region's rich heritage. The quilt blocks highlight not only this history in a refreshing way but also, in the beauty of the quilt design themselves, the creativity of our many communities.

From Friday June 28th to Sunday June 30th, 2013 the quilters from Ancaster, Middlesex, Six Nations and Stoney Creek will be attending the Tall Ships event in Hamilton. The event is taking place at Pier 8, all weekend. Enjoy a parade of Sails, great live music nightly, free activities and a chance to tour and sail the tall ships. Look for the Barn Quilt Exhibit located outside to visit the many quilters from our region with their barn quilts and a special demonstration of quilting. Kids' activities include colouring and canvas bags for purchase to decorate. Linda Stanley from Canadian Art Cards will also have a booth set up to purchase souvenirs such as art cards, posters, books, magnets and more! Visit her website at <http://www.canadianartcards.com/> for more information and ordering.

As the trail continues to grow with new sites and blocks, we look forward to welcoming you back to revisit the Southwest Ontario Barn Quilt Trails and many attractions and experiences along their routes. Visit <http://www.barnquilttrails.ca/> for more information on the Southwest Barn Quilt Trail.