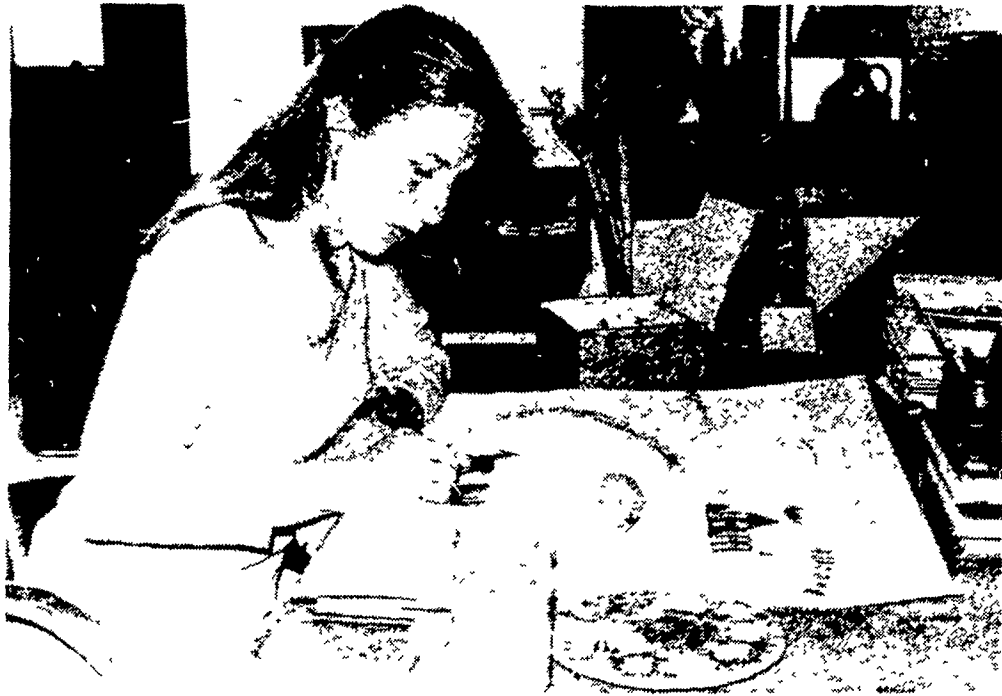


# Don't give up water coloring if you're an adult



Barbara Strawser is busy at work on a water color she has been commissioned to paint for a famous inn, the Golden Lamb, in Ohio. It will be the second painting she has done for the establishment which is credited with being the oldest inn in the state.

By Judy Mitchell  
Berks Co. Reporter  
STOUCHSBURG, Pa. - Do you like to sketch or draw but find that the word "painting" conjures up an image of a dreamy-eyed artist who has somehow uncovered the mysteries of canvas and oils? If so, keep in mind that "arts" and "crafts" go hand in hand - that painting can be approached as simply and inexpensively as many crafts; and if doubts about your ability to produce a painting worth mounting are hanging you up, take courage from the experience of Barbara Strawser.

Barbara is a homemaker and mother who lives in Stouchsburg, Pa. She's never been to art school and says that until recently, she didn't consider her paintings to be "anything that even my high school art teacher might like." Barbara's been doing water colors for at least thirteen years now. Mainly for pleasure, her own and that of friends who admire her work.

Now, with several commissions for what she calls her "naive" or "folk art" to her credit, Barbara finds herself painting for profit as well. Although Barbara thinks she might like to do an oil painting someday, she is still working with water colors and recommends it as the simplest and most economical method for someone who might like to

try his or her hand at painting.

**Equipment**  
Surprisingly enough, your initial excursion into the realm of art will not even require a visit to a speciality craft shop. All the equipment you need to turn out your first painting can be

purchased at most department or variety stores. Although Barbara prefers those that come in a tube, she says that any water colors will do. (If you do select the tube variety, a small tray with cups or indentations for holding small amounts of the paint will be helpful.)

Brushes designated for use with water colors come in a wide range of sizes, and you may wish to select several depending on the details you plan on incorporating into your painting; Barbara's

favorite for general use is a number two. Although Barbara has advanced to the use of rag paper which has a smooth finish, you will get satisfying results with any textured

water color paper. You will also want to select an appropriately sized frame for your painting. Keep in mind that water colors are most attractive framed under

[Continued on Page 59]

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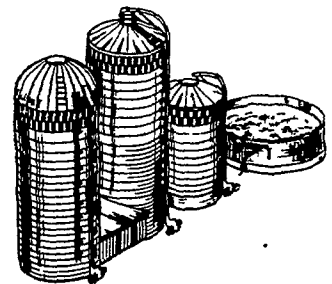
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