

A Modern Wedding Barn

*Bittners Designer
Crystal Smith transformed
a local barn into a
picturesque wedding venue*

By **ELIZABETH SCINTA**

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Cue the wedding bells! There’s a new wedding venue in town. The Woods at Cedar Springs is a luxury wedding and event venue half an hour outside the city of Louisville. Mark and Jacky Young, owners of the venue, initially built the barn for their daughter, who is soon to be wed. After starting the project, the Youngs decided it was too lovely not to share with everyone else. “Our daughter had a definite direction of her own. She wanted the concept of being outside, a barn vibe, but she wanted everything to feel more modern. So we are calling it her modern barn,” explained Crystal Smith, a designer at Bittners.

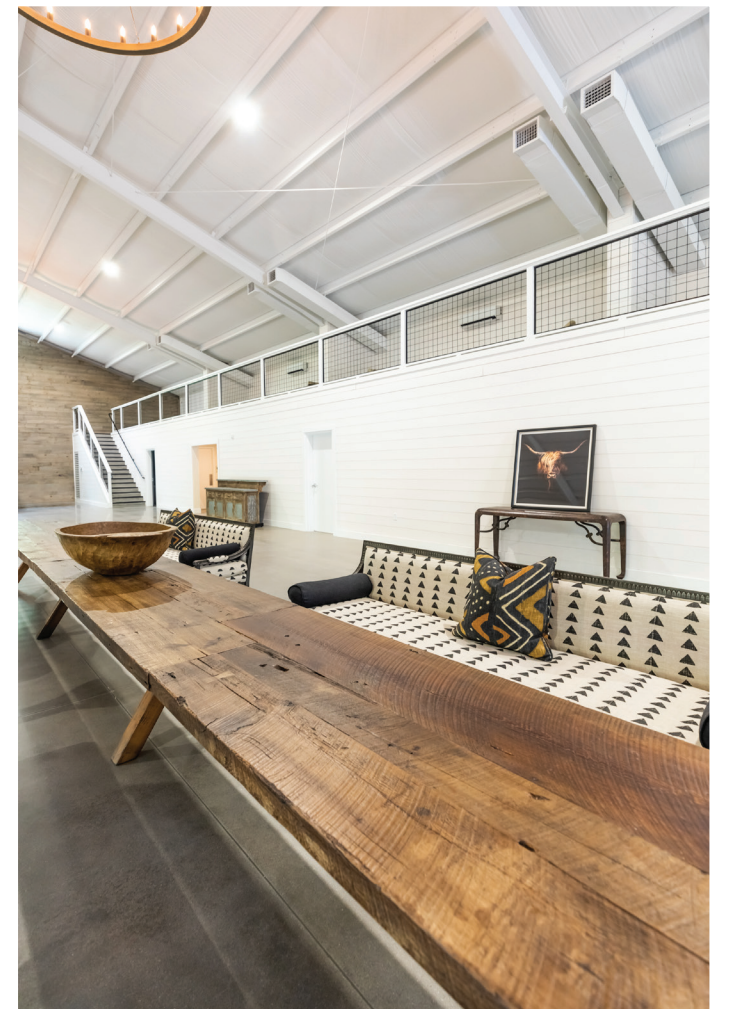
Smith took on this project to make their daughter’s dream wedding venue a reality and versatile for others to use. “It’s very simple. We were careful when designing it to make it appealing to a large group of people. Everything is pretty much white or neutral. There are two emerald green sofas that we popped in to have a fun punch of color, but for the most part, we kept everything very neutral.” Keeping the design simple allows for versatility with wedding photos. “Sometimes, when you’re taking photos, you wish it was more neutral. We designed it in a way that’s so simple that it would be easy for a photographer to come in and find multiple places to take good shots,” explained Smith.





Two of the walls that run the barn's length are white shiplap, and the other two are reclaimed wood. These create two different spaces for photos to take place. There's a balcony overlooking the main space where people can sit or watch from above. There's also a bridal suite and groom's suite inside the building. All of the furniture is designed to withstand heavy usage, so the fabric is either wipeable or stain-resistant, according to Smith. Bittners made a 27-foot table that the wedding party could use as the head table, for desserts or anything else as needed. The barn can hold 600 people standing and can seat 350 guests on the main floor.

The picturesque experience doesn't stop there. The property has a lovely outdoor space, landscaped by Jack Hatfield of Kentuckiana Lawn and Landscaping, with multiple locations for a ceremony to take place. One notable space for the ceremony is in front of one of the waterfalls. "What I love about it is the location. It's right outside the city but when you go down the long windy road, it feels like you're way farther out of the city than you are," said Smith.







Smith had never designed a barn before but explained that it was similar to other projects she previously worked on. She expects to see more projects like this on her docket as many people are transforming barns into entertainment spaces. For anyone taking on this task, Smith suggests considering how guests move in and out of the area, the building's overall function and to think outside of the box. Check out The Woods at Cedar Springs if you're planning your dream wedding on Facebook @thewoodsatcedarsprings. ♥

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