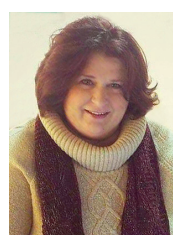


*John Leben from Saugatuck, MI, is the 2018 Peoria Art Guild Fine Art Fair Poster artist!***MEET THE NEW FINE ART FAIR DIRECTORS**

You'll notice their bright orange shirts running all over the riverfront during the 2018 Peoria Art Guild Fine Art Fair! Shannon Cox and Kim Sanders have joined the Peoria Art Guild team to coordinate the 2018 Fair. These two ladies have been working non-stop this year to provide the Peoria Community with another outstanding Fine Art Fair. They have taken over the reins from retiring Director Cathi Hawkinson, who managed the Fair for more than 14 years.



Shannon grew up in Manito, Illinois, and now lives in Pekin with her husband Brian. They have four grown children and two grandchildren.

Shannon was founder and Executive Director of the Pekin Academy of Fine Arts and also owner of The Speakeasy Art Center. Shannon is a big supporter of the benefits of the arts in our community. Her passions is ignited by collaborating with artists and organizations to connect the community. She is excited to be on the planning team for the Fine Art Fair.

Kim was born in Peoria and graduated from Richwoods High School. She and her husband Chuck, still live in Peoria. Their 22-year-old daughter graduated from Richwoods in 2014.



Kim was an insurance agent at Hawk Agency for 25 years, managed InPlay, and then worked at Bard Optical for 12 years. Since retirement, she and her husband have the time to travel and work on a few spectacular projects such as the Fine Art Fair.

The Peoria Art Guild Board of Directors and Fine Art Fair Committee are both thrilled to have Shannon and Kim on board!

**UPCOMING EXHIBIT**

The Peoria Art Guild is thrilled to announce an upcoming exhibit in the first-floor gallery. Barb & Ken Hoffman: Plants & Animals will open with a special reception on Saturday, October 13 from 6-8 p.m. The show will continue through Saturday, November 10.

The gallery will be open special hours for the duration of the show:

Tuesday/Thursday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Wednesday/Friday/Saturday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Or by special appointment (Contact the Peoria Art Guild)

**I BUY ART!**

I BUY ART was launched to reinforce a philosophy that the best way to support the arts is to buy art. I BUY ART buttons are sent across the United States to artists, art collectors, art advocacy organizations, and art buyers in an effort to advocate for artists and emphasize the importance of buying original art. Each person who purchases a piece of art at this year's fair will receive a button with their purchase.

**NEW FRIDAY NIGHT OPENING EVENT!**

This year's Fine Art Fair boasts a variety of new events including a Friday night opening from 6-10 p.m.! A special ribbon cutting by Peoria's city officials will take place at 5:45 p.m. with a few surprises in store.

Friday night will allow art lovers to get the first look at all of this year's fine artists while enjoying a variety of food, beer and wine from local vendors. As the major fundraiser for the Peoria Art Guild, the Friday night event requires a separate nominal fee of \$10, which will go towards programming and exhibits for the Guild. *Peoria Art Guild Members' free tickets are good only on Saturday or Sunday.*

*Local Band Capt. Quirk will perform on CEFCU stage.*

Besides the great artwork, the entry fee includes entertainment on the CEFCU Stage by local band Capt. Quirk from 7-10 p.m. Their music will go from Foreigner to Marc Broussard to Chris Stapleton in the same set. The band focuses on good songs, no matter where they came from. You'll hear tunes you know from bands you love.

So come on out Friday night to experience a fun-filled evening on Peoria's beautiful riverfront — and support the Peoria Art Guild!

**BRETT MALY AT THE GUILD**

Brett Maly (as seen on the History Channel's Pawn Stars), owner of *Art encounter Gallery* in Las Vegas, made a visit to the Peoria Art Guild August 10-11 for two events.

*Brett Maly & Kathy Ma*

Art patrons joined Brett for a social event on Friday night. The evening included food and beverages, a talk by Brett on "How to Value Fine Art," and valuation of a piece of artwork. Books were available for purchase.

Saturday's event allowed the public to bring in items for valuation from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. by appointment.

*Patrons lined up for valuations**Stephanie Deiters views Warhol*

The Peoria Art Guild held a special 2-day *Peoria Collects* exhibition during the Maly events. Art lovers could view original works loaned by Peoria Art Guild members including Picasso, Warhol, Nevelson, Lautrec, Dali, Basquiat, Chagall, Thiebaud and many others, while attending the events. Brett Maly commented that this show was the quality level of exhibits you'd see in galleries in New York and Chicago.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Volunteers are still needed for the Peoria Art Guild Fine Art Fair. All volunteers receive a free t-shirt! Sign up at: [peoriaartguild.org/volunteers](http://peoriaartguild.org/volunteers)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Next year's Fine Art Fair is scheduled for the last full weekend in September! You won't want to miss it!

**NEW PEORIA ART GUILD WEBSITE DEBUT!**

If you haven't had a chance to check out the new Peoria Art Guild website, you're missing out. Thanks to Abby Gettys and Board Member Allison Walsh for their help in getting our new look up and functioning at: [peoriaartguild.org](http://peoriaartguild.org)