



FALL 2023




THE LOFT ON MAIN

# artbeat

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 STOP IN THE LOFT FOR NEW HOLIDAY DECORATIONS, CARDS AND GIFT ITEMS ARRIVING DAILY!



Pictured (L-R): "Seabreeze" Acrylic painting by new Loft artist Greg Przepiorski; Ceramic Bowl by Teri Wells

*Here's to You, Artists!*

As The Loft on Main begins its seventh year of business, I felt it was a good time to look at just what keeps us going. Is it the Board of Directors, our store volunteers, our patron donors, our customers, or our artists? It is truly a combined effort of all those listed and more! Each newsletter has listed the names of our greatly appreciated patron donors and our Board of Directors. From time to time, we have featured a volunteer or two, although all of them are equally important. In this issue, however, we are focusing on our artists. Included are photos of them along with their current residences. I hope you find it interesting.

With the original hope of getting eight to ten local artists willing to take a chance on displaying and selling in Morrison, it is easy to understand how excited we are to have attracted and retained quite a few more! We currently have **41 artists** exhibiting at The Loft. Many of those have been with us since close to the beginning, while others are new this year. Each artist pays a fee to exhibit and a small commission on any sales.

If you have visited The Loft, you probably noticed the variety: a variety of mediums, sizes, shapes, costs, and subject matters. A constant however, is the creativity and talent of the artists and the quality of their works. Our artists' backgrounds are just as varied, ranging from multiple degrees in formal arts education to no formal arts education or training at all. Many have been creating and selling for years, while others have only recently begun to share their talents outside of friends and family. Some of our artists sell in other galleries and/or have studios open to the public, while others sell exclusively at The Loft. Some have won awards for pieces entered in competitions, while others have never considered entering.

I consider myself fortunate to have personally met all the artists displaying at The Loft on Main, and I truly appreciate the time, effort and inspiration that has gone into each piece. Even more, I appreciate their willingness to share a piece of their lives with all of us. So even though The Loft on Main is a cooperative effort of many...here's to you, artists! Thank you for being a part of what keeps us going!

*Sharon Boyles,*  
Sharon Boyles,  
Loft Board Member



## Meet Our Amazing Loft Artists!

Did you know that all of the art located in The Loft on Main was created by people who have a connection to the area? That's right! Every artist displaying in The Loft on Main has either:

1. Lived in Morrison or the surrounding areas for some part of their life, or
2. They have ties, such as a friend or relative, that currently lives in the area.

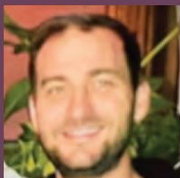
----- To view items available online from each artist, visit [www.theloftonmain.org/artists](http://www.theloftonmain.org/artists) -----



**David Alan Badger**  
Illustrator  
Havana, IL



**Lloyd Beckman**  
Wood, Sculpture  
Sterling, IL



**Benjamin Boyles**  
Drawing, Cut Paper  
Sanford, FL



**Sharon Boyles**  
Mosaic, Textile  
Morrison, IL



**Theresa Brandon**  
Collage, Mixed Media,  
Photography-Color  
Morrison, IL



**Jim Cronk**  
Ceramics/Pottery/  
Porcelain, Sculpture  
Davenport, IA



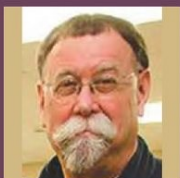
**Jeff DeGroot**  
Wood  
Morrison, IL



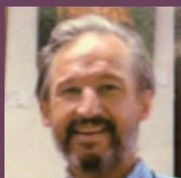
**Carol Diebert**  
Sterling, IL



**Daryl Drennen**  
Metal, Sculpture  
Prophetstown, IL



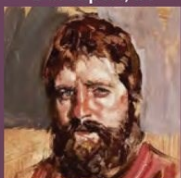
**Jim Duis**  
Drawing  
Rock Falls, IL



**Mike Dunbar**  
Drawing,  
Photography-Color  
Prophetstown, IL



**Ed Hammelman**  
Wood  
Rock Falls, IL



**Andrew Holt**  
Painting-Oil  
Lena, IL



**Dave Johnson**  
Sculpture, Wood  
Cedar Falls, IA



**Mary Katos**  
Photography-Color  
Elizabeth, IL



**Adam Kuehl**  
Photography-Color  
Montgomery, IL



**Leon Lange**  
Glass, Mosaic  
Thomson, IL



**Phillip Maxfield**  
Drawing, Sculpture  
Leesburg, GA



**Sheryl McMinimee**  
Carroll, IA



**Pat & Sharon Moore**  
Photography-B&W  
Morrison, IL



**Erin Orlowski**  
Mixed Media, Painting-  
Acrylic, Water Color  
Metairie, LA



**Everett Pannier**  
Sculpture, Wood  
Morrison, IL



**Fran Plude**  
Painting-Oil, Water Color  
Morrison, IL



**Rick Prestley**  
Photography-  
B&W, Color  
Sterling, IL



**Greg Stanley Przepiorski**  
Painting-Acrylic  
Morrison, IL



**Hannah Rillie**  
Mixed Media  
Morrison, IL



**Vernon Schaver**  
Painting-Water Color,  
Sculpture, Wood  
Garden Place, IL



**Paul Schmidt**  
Drawing  
Puriscal, Costa Rica



**Mari Jo Schuneman**  
Sculpture, Textile,  
Wearable Art  
Rock Falls, IL



**Dan Sitzmore**  
Painting-Acrylic  
Morrison, IL



**Greg Steele**  
Painting-Oil  
Princeton, IA



**Suzanne Stewart**  
Collage, Drawing, Mixed  
Media, Painting-Acrylic  
Tipton, IA



**Joe Stuart**  
Drawing, Painting-Oil,  
Water Color, Print Making  
Galena, IL



**Gary Taylor**  
Wood  
Crossville, TN



**Kelli Thompson**  
Mixed Media,  
Painting-Acrylic  
Chicago, IL



**Joan Vander Bleek**  
Painting-Oil  
Morrison, IL



**Sara Vanderkleed**  
Collage, Drawing, Mixed Media,  
Painting-Acrylic, Watercolor  
Lafayette, IN



**Terri Villa Engelkens**  
Jewelry, Metal,  
Wearable Art  
Morrison, IL



**Teri Wells**  
Ceramics/Pottery/  
Porcelain, Sculpture  
Sterling, IL



**Charles Yost**  
Metal, Sculpture  
Morrison, IL



**Sandy Zilz**  
Glass, Sculpture  
Morrison, IL

Thank  
You!



## Fall Fun at The Loft



**At left:** Volunteer Pat McGarvey creating clay decorations to be used as part of Morrison's Fall Festival.



**Below left:** The first group to come in and paint fall/Halloween decorations.



**Below right:** As the back room filled, some painters were moved to the gallery and patiently waited for supplies to be brought to them.



**Thank you to John Van Osdol for including a visit to The Loft in the activities of former MHS graduates returning to town for their 60th reunion!**

# CALENDAR

*Upcoming Events*

## DECEMBER

**10**

.....

**21**

**OPEN 8am-2pm**

**GIRL SCOUT NECKLACE MAKING ACTIVITY**  
4:30 PM @ THE LOFT  
Supplies courtesy of Mary Katos

**THIRD THURSDAY**  
8 - 10 am: FREE coffee, conversation and homemade treats (at The Loft on Main)

**JANUARY**  
**18**

**OPEN 8am-2pm**

**THIRD THURSDAY**  
8 - 10 am: FREE coffee, conversation and homemade treats (at The Loft on Main)

**THIRD THURSDAY**  
8 - 10 am: FREE coffee, conversation and homemade treats (at The Loft on Main)

## FEBRUARY

**15**

**OPEN 8am-2pm**

**MARCH**  
**21**

**OPEN 8am-2pm**

**THIRD THURSDAY**  
8 - 10 am: FREE coffee, conversation and homemade treats (at The Loft on Main)

**WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE!**

## Brushstrokes of News

Loft Board Member and Artist **Gary Taylor** (pictured on previous page) has resigned from the Board of Directors due to his move to the State of Tennessee.

"Gary is an incredibly talented artist and woodworker," said Jim Mertes, President of the Board of Directors. "I personally own several of his creations, and I continue to look at them and wonder just how on earth he was able to create them so beautifully."

Taylor, 73, recently moved from his home in Morrison, Illinois to his retirement home in the State of Tennessee.

"Gary was a devoted member of our Board of Directors," Mertes added. "He was kind, soft-spoken, and contributed greatly to our decisions. He will be deeply missed by all of us."

The Board of Directors is an all-volunteer Board, comprised of **Mertes, Sharon Boyles, Everett Pannier, Joan Vander Bleek, Marcia Haag** and **Scott Vandermyde**. Taylor's departure from the Board has created a Board vacancy. "We are always eager and excited to welcome new leadership to our Board of Directors," Mertes said. "Anyone interested in joining the Board of Directors will be warmly received and greatly appreciated."

Persons interested in joining the Loft's Board of Directors should contact Mertes at [jmertes@mertesandmertes.com](mailto:jmertes@mertesandmertes.com) or Sharon Boyles at [theloftonmain112@gmail.com](mailto:theloftonmain112@gmail.com).



The Loft on Main is an entirely volunteer run non-profit organization. There is opportunity to join in as a volunteer in several capacities ranging from being a Board member or committee member, to recording sales and helping keep the gallery clean. If you would like to volunteer at The Loft on Main, contact Sharon Boyles at (815) 718-3682. For questions or information, feel free to email us at:

[theloftonmain112@gmail.com](mailto:theloftonmain112@gmail.com)

Shop by artwork or artist at:  
**[theloftonmain.org](http://theloftonmain.org)**

## The Loft on Main

112 E. Main Street, Morrison, IL 61270

Phone: (815) 772-4005

Website: [www.theloftonmain.org](http://www.theloftonmain.org)

Hours: Thursday 10 am - 2 pm

Friday & Saturday 10 am - 4 pm



The Loft on Main, NFP



## The Loft on Main Board of Directors

**Jim Mertes, President**

**Everett Pannier,  
Vice-President**

**Sharon Boyles, Treasurer,  
Manager and Volunteer  
Coordinator**

**Marcia Haag,  
Secretary**

**Ned J. Nesti Jr, Curator**

**Joan Vander Bleek**

**Scott Vandermyde**



Cover (top left): Woodturned trees by Lloyd Beckman; Above (top to bottom): Segmented Woodturned Ornament by Lloyd Beckman; "Old World Pear" by Joan Vander Bleek; "Pink Splash" by Erin Orlowski; Metal Wall Sculpture by Charles Yost; "Peony" from Kelli Thompson

## Special Thank You to Our Patron Donors

Jane Ann Ardapple &  
Marc Adami  
James Benko  
Michael & Marcia Blean  
Sue Bond  
Sharon Boyles  
Mike & Colleen Buckwalter  
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Trent & Heather Bush  
Gary & Mary Kay Campbell  
Terry & Sue Costello  
Andrea Dalton  
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Morrison Meditation Center  
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Ned J. Nesti, Jr.  
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John & Barb Van Osdol  
Stephanie Vavra  
Mike & Kelly Vegter  
Ted & Wendy Volckmann  
Mick Welding  
Charles (Chick) & Becky West  
Josh & Kelly West  
Dr. Mark & Liz Woods  
Yoga with Martina  
Mark & Jean Zinnen

**We consider you partners in helping us fulfill our mission.  
Thank you for your continued support!**

If we have erroneously omitted your name from the donor list above, please contact Sharon Boyles at 815-718-3682, and we will correct our list as soon as possible! In addition, if you or someone you know would like information on becoming a patron donor, please contact Sharon at the number above. We are a non-profit organization and donations are eligible for deduction.

