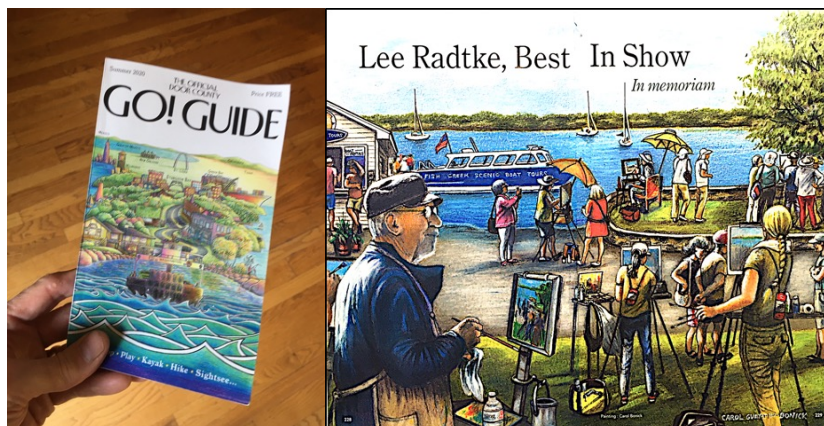


LCAL Member News, October 2020

Radtke Tribute



On a gloriously warm day in May 2018, my wife Colleen, and I leisurely strolled through a one man art exhibition at the Door County Maritime Museum in Sturgeon Bay that featured the work of impressionist painter Lee Radtke. I had admired Radtke's modern take on the 19th century representational art movement for some time. His mastery of seamlessly blending the dichotomy of soft, glowing light against a backdrop of harsh industrial grit was appealing.

Never was this more superbly defined than in Lee's unique paintings of Fincantieri Bay Shipyard during winter lay-up. While studying one intricate piece, a voice chirped behind me: "That's the Tregurtha. The Paul Tregurtha, largest ship on the Great Lakes. You see here?" An index finger darted close, past my temple.

"Yes, I know. I love it," I replied, a bit perturbed by his gesture.

I turned around and immediately recognized Lee Radtke, a warm smile washing over his cherubic face. Behind oversized wire-rimmed frames his eyes danced across the painting as if he had just seen it for the first time. He was shorter than I had imagined, and distinguished looking. We exchanged introductions and pleasantries. Like long-lost friends we spoke about art, music, and ore boats for over an hour. I bought a shipyard painting, the first of many of his works.

A week later, Lee called to chat. It was again a bout of mutual admiration. The phone calls became a weekly thing. On his many visits to Door County, Lee always made time to stop by. He eventually would stay with us in Clay Banks whenever he came north for business or painting.

What developed over the next two years, until his tragic death in an auto accident this past December 23, was a friendship that outpaced any I'd experienced. Lee would bemoan the fact that we had not met earlier, since we had so much in common, knew many of the same people, socialized in many of the same

circles, and lived for years within a few miles of each other, before Colleen and I settled into Door County retirement. Over some 60 years we never once crossed paths. It was as if we were making up for lost time.

Although Lee had no formal art training, he had taken the most difficult path for a beginning artist, as a plein air painter. He learned to paint quickly, capturing the essence of scenes by creating an impression of what he saw. Lee's compositions are visually elusive. Avoiding realism, what appears to be very detailed is in fact a few colorful and intuitively placed brush strokes. His goal was to not interfere with the viewer's imagination.



Photo ©2020 Kevin O'Donnell

Many of Lee's works were selected in juried exhibits, including two prestigious national organizations, the Oil Painters of America (OPA) and American Impressionist Society (API). He attained the rarified status of becoming an elected

signature member of the latter. 2020 was going to be Lee's break-out year. He was hitting his artistic stride, the recipient of growing respect, recognition and consignments. He said it took him 81 years to become an overnight success.

Lee never made friends in passing. He made friends for life, a diverse collection of people who were as loyal to him as he was to them: painters, fishing and army buddies, architects, businessmen, childhood friends from the Chicago of his youth—astonishing, since he had been gone from the city since the early 1970s. They all loved Lee for his honesty, humility, kindness. What unified them was his art, vivid reminders of his talent, love of family, loyalty to friends. — by Kevin O'Donnell

From The Official Door County Go Guide, 2020, Art by Carol Guertin-Bonick, writing by Kevin O'Donnell

Michael Mc Conville show at the Dandelion Gallery

Michael's show, "Into the Looking Glass," will showcase his eye-catching Batik paintings and astounding colored wax mono prints.

The Dandelion Gallery show, at 109 S. Genesee St. in Waukegan, will run from October 16, 2020, until November 17, 2020, with an **opening reception on October 17, 2020, from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.**

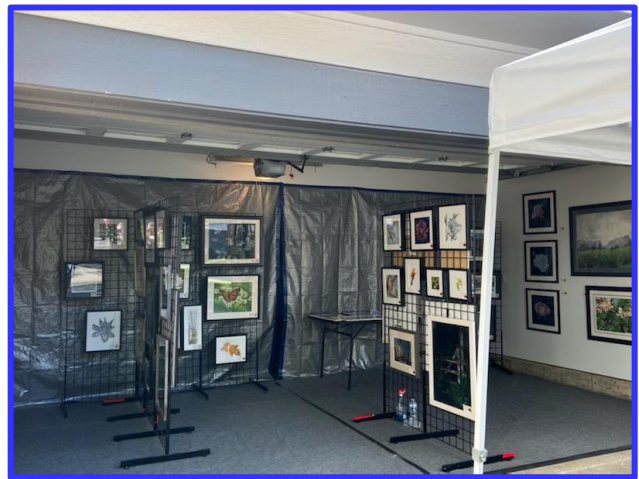
"I am fascinated by plants. It's not about the smell, the feel or the textures. It's about the colors, the patterns, the shapes, and how light enhances and complements an innovative composition. My training, as an acrylic painter, combined with the wax and dye process of Batik, creates an intense mood. One thing about my method in using colored wax is the option to make a colored wax mono print."

Michael Mc Conville was a Graphic Designer for nearly 20 years in advertising agencies that specialized in the Automotive Industry. He worked with several major dealerships, created work for several District campaigns, along with a variety of newspaper clients in-and-out of state.

Contact Michael at 872-227-1146 or mccon66@gmail.com.

Phil Schorn's Upcoming Happenings

Phil will be doing his own **Fall Art Show** at his house (garage) 1494 Leeward Ct., Grayslake, Corner of Leeward & Lexington, across the street from Meadowview School. Look for the White Tent in the driveway. Phil will follow proper safety precautions, **masks required**, **Saturday, Oct 17th, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.**



October 24th – 31st, Phil will be displaying at **The Vine - Martini & Wine Bar, 101 Center St. , Grayslake, IL 60030, 847.543.0900, <https://www.thevineofgrayslake.com/>**. Phil's also offering several color pencil classes for **October**. The full schedule is on his website <https://www.pschorstudio.com/books-online-classes.html>.

Contact Phil at 847.548.1724 or phil@pschorstudio.com

Call for Hispanic Artists at CLC

CLC has two online events at the **Wright Gallery** scheduled for this fall. Below is the schedule for Hispanic Artists. Later this fall the gallery will host the annual Recent works exhibit.

Live Art Events: The Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art In an effort to provide in-person visual art experiences to students and community at the College of Lake County, the Robert T. Wright Gallery is curating shows with minimal submission contact for Fall 2020. The pandemic has forced us to think differently so we are tapping into the CLC Permanent Collection for feature exhibitions this semester. CLC fine art and digital media instructors will also contribute to our real-life shows through a faculty show and by selecting student work for Hispanic Heritage Month. ***Due to COVID, all in-person events in the gallery are available ONLY to students and employees already approved to be on campus. Events are NOT open to the general public.*** Highlights of Classwork from CLC's LatinX Art Students **The Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art Esper Peterson Reading Room September 23 - October 14** - A body of student work, selected by CLC Art faculty, presented to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. This show marks the inaugural exhibition for the Reading Room. CLC Faculty Exhibition **The Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art October 15 - November 13** - A collection of up-to-the-moment masterpieces from the college's fine art and digital media faculty. About Color **The Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art November 19 - January 14** - Art's most exciting element expresses beauty, creates a mood and expresses emotion. The power of color rarely goes unnoticed and has a profound effect on the viewer. The fall season's final exhibition features rarely seen color forward paintings, drawings, prints, ceramics and sculpture from the CLC Permanent Collection. Virtual Art Events www.clcillinois.edu/gallery The Robert T. Wright Gallery will present several exciting online exhibitions this term. From honoring diversity to keeping community favorites, the gallery continues its tradition in our new virtual space! **Showcasing Black Artists from the CLC Permanent Art Collection** <https://www.clcillinois.edu/campus-life/arts/wright-gallery/black-artists-showcase> **August 7 - September 15** - Art stimulates its own contemplation. Our wish is to use our platform to share work created by Black artists from the CLC Permanent Collection for this online show. Because art has the unique ability to educate the public and inspire change, we hope to strengthen Black voices and make them better heard. **Hispanic Heritage Month** www.clcillinois.edu/gallery **September 21 - October 19** - A celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month features LatinX artists from the community surrounding

the college. **Recent Works October 23 - November 17 - The 40th Annual Juried Exhibition for Lake County Artists at the College of Lake County, Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art** includes all fine art media from artists who reside or work in Lake County. Our virtual platform makes it possible to keep our commitment to Lake County community members by moving Recent Works online this year. **Ceramics Showcase November 23 - December 18** - Presenting unique, handmade pieces created by students from the CLC Ceramics Department. See the work online and purchase from individual artists. **For more information, see the web page at: <https://www.clcillinois.edu/campus-life/arts/wright-gallery/submissions>.**

Dia de los Muertos Art Classes Offered by Linda Rodriguez



Linda Rodriguez will be teaching a class at the **Adler Gallery in October. It is a four week class on Zoom.**

FRIDAYS 4:00 - 5:30PM

OCTOBER 2 - OCTOBER 23

(AGES 9-12) \$125

The subject is Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead. It culminates with a family workshop on **October 24th.**

“Dia de los Muertos is an ancient holiday that began in Mexico as a way to memorialize family members who have passed away. It

begins on November 1st with a tribute to the 'angelicas' or babies, who have died, and culminates on November 2nd with a parade to the cemetery.

Families make 'offrendas' or altars, to honor their loved ones. Several elements are essential to the family altar; candles, flowers, salt and water, a picture of the loved one, papel picado, or paper banners, 'pan de muertos, or bread of the dead, and the food and mementos that the departed loved one enjoyed.”

Dia de los Muertos Family Workshop

“We will be making crafts to put on our 'ofrenda' for the holiday,” said **Linda Rodriguez**. Take a tour of Spanish-speaking countries as you explore Dia de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead) with your family. Together you’ll work to create a colorful ofrenda, a family altar that will honor your ancestors and the people who most inspire you. Make picture frames, streamers, candle-holders, skeletons, and more in a colorful workshop that celebrates all the things that make your family unique! **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 10:30AM - 11:30AM, (AGES 5+ WITH PARENT) \$35,** Come join us at the Adler! <https://adlercenter.org/>



Kapheim Studio News

Carol and Thom Kapheim purchased 122 Washington in May 2019. The building has 3 floors, 2 floors of raw space. Construction lasted through March 2020. A grand reopening was planned for March. Along came the pandemic and everything STOPPED. The studio is just beginning to be open by appointment.

The new studio has wonderful working space for big paintings and sculpture. There is a weaving studio suitable for teaching. (Classes start October 4th.)

Plus there is a loft with a lounge for relaxing.

Not sure when they will have a grand re-opening, but they look forward to that happening. *Best wishes from Carol and Thom Kapheim.*

<https://www.kapheimstudio.com/>



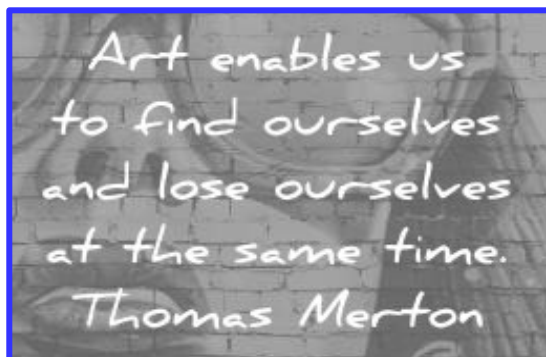
Jeff Harold's Work at the Las Laguna Art Gallery

Jeff Harold was one of the national artists that had a work selected for the



"Botanical In Gallery" show at the **Las Laguna Art Gallery**. They selected one entry from each of the 249 national artists that entered to be shown on their website. You can see all of the entries at <https://www.laslagunagallery.com/botanical>. The show runs from **Oct 1st to Nov 3rd**.

Artist Quote



For inclusion in a future *Member News*, please send your news of exhibits, classes, awards and art-related comments to: **Anne-Marie Bracken**, amabracken@gmail.com.