

Barbara Lindstrom – For many years Barbara was Volunteer Extraordinaire, especially when working on the Auction, now called the Benefit. She used to volunteer or work at the hospital gift shop, and she donated many items from there and of her own to the Bonifas Auction (Benefit for the Bonifas, now Derby Days). She seemed to have endless energy and was so willing to use it at the Bonifas.

Larry Godfrey – Larry is an artist, instructor and a veteran, consistent supporter, member, and volunteer at the Bonifas. Larry has taken part in many exhibits at the Bonifas and created some notable public art—Native American Dreamcatcher statues displayed at the Bonifas garden and at Bay College campus. Larry has taught many classes at the Bonifas, including the free series for veterans, he also has been a Bonifas volunteer helping to put up gallery shows and working with the youth programs. Larry is engaged in the larger community as well—him and his wife Mary Penet developed and put together the Native American part of the Veteran’s museum at the Delta Chamber of Commerce.

Beth Peterson – Beth is an art teacher at Lemmer Elementary school in Escanaba with the passion for teaching art that is clear when she speaks about her students and the influence that art has on children. Beth encourages her students to use their individual creativity and makes art exciting and engaging. Works of her students always stand out in our annual Youth in Art Exhibit, and she also does other art projects (painting murals and storytelling) in other area schools.

Wildlife Unlimited of Delta County -- This organization supports the Fourth Grade Afield programs held by the Bonifas every fall. This program is a field trip that involves up to 400 fourth graders from four local schools in the full day of outdoor learning. Students are taught about the natural environment and ways to study and observe it using journaling and drawing all following the appropriate state curriculum. Wildlife Unlimited has been supporters of the program since 2018 supplying funders and volunteer docents and their steadfast support has ensured that the program that is so beneficial and loved by the schools has endured.

Anne Schaaf (deceased) – Anne was a talented artist who was a member of both the East Ludington Gallery and the Bonifas Fine Arts Center. In previous years, Anne was a dedicated Girl Scout Troop Leader and Cub Scout Den Leader and was also a camp counselor for 20 different scout camps throughout the U.S. Anne was a Players de Noc season ticket holder, a member of the Escanaba Elks Auxiliary, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the American Association of University Women, and St. Joseph and St. Patrick Church in Escanaba. Anne’s art is part of Bonifas Arts Center’s permanent collection.

Janie Paulin (deceased) – Janie Paulin was a creative, productive artist for many years. She took the fine craft of basket weaving to its highest form by using objects from nature (antlers, cones, pods, etc.) with original patterns to create one-of-a-kind basketry. Her work would be seen in Bonifas' membership Shows, our annual regional competition (Northern Exposure) and twice a year at our sales events (Waterfront Art Festival and the Holiday Arts Sales). Janie's distinguished work was also available at East Ludington Gallery, Escanaba's artist cooperative. Not only was she an active member here at the Bonifas and at East Ludington Gallery, but she also supported arts through volunteering as President of Bay Area Arts and Chair of their Waterfront Art Festival. Janie volunteered on the gallery crew and taught classes for many years at the Bonifas.