

Local Artist, Mark Soenksen to Make Gallery Debut at Peaceful River

Written by Jake Glimco

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McCausland, IA / February 17, 2012 – Peaceful River Trading Co. will feature the work of DeWitt, Iowa native, Mark Soenksen on Thursday, February 23rd from 4pm to 7pm at Peaceful River Trading Co. in McCausland. Mark's show this month will be the first in a series of gallery nights hosted throughout the year by this unique McCausland shop.

Mark Soenksen expressed, "I am honored and thankful for the opportunity to exhibit my work and I appreciate all the support Peaceful River Trading Co. has given me". Soenksen has come a long way from his childhood days of doodling on the walls of the family farm. As a youth, he honed his creative energy by drawing his heroes from Sci-Fi stories and comic books. His passion for art intensified as he grew older, leading him to enroll in as many art classes as he could in high school. Mark later attended Iowa State University and graduated in 1994 with majors in Drawing, Painting and Print Making and a minor in Sociology. Since then, Mark has explored his zeal for painting by focusing on the human figure, usually incorporating Sci-Fi themes into his work. He also enjoys drawing his family farm.

"Mark just needed a little push to start selling his work and we are glad to help. We are so excited to have a place for local artists and crafters to display and sell their beautiful and creative work! We look forward to promoting local artists throughout the year," says Peaceful River Owner, Sheila Bosworth.

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Peaceful River brings visitors back to a simpler time and is housed in a beautiful, circa-1916 bank building, formerly the home of McCausland State Bank. They carry many items from arts and crafts to antiques, gifts, and collectibles. Peaceful River Trading Co. is open from 10am to 5pm Wednesday through Saturday and 11am to 4pm on Sundays. McCausland is located about 20 miles northeast of Davenport, just off Utica Ridge Road on F33 and 5 minutes north of Scott County Park. Explore Peaceful River Trading Co. at www.peacefulrivertradingco.com.

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