

# GVA



# Highlights

NOVEMBER 2015

The Monthly Publication of Grand Valley Artists

## Members IN the NEWS

**Congratulations to our Marilyn Troutman,** who has received the Roger Tory Peterson Award at the Susan K Black Foundation Workshop in Dubois, Wyoming in September for her pastel painting "Yellow Weaver."

Marilyn Troutman's pastel, Yellow Weaver



**From August 17th until August 31st, James Johnson resided at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore** serving as artist-in-residence for the National Park Service. For two weeks I painted,

ate, and slept Indiana Dunes and it was the best two weeks of the summer. After shipping one of my completed watercolors to The Park per the agreement, Jim received this email from Ranger Jeff Manuszak: "James, The watercolor is a spectacular addition to the Indiana Dunes Lakeshore Collection. Without a doubt you have been the most self-sufficient artist I've had. Thank you for your support and professionalism during your visit. If you're ever in the area again please visit."



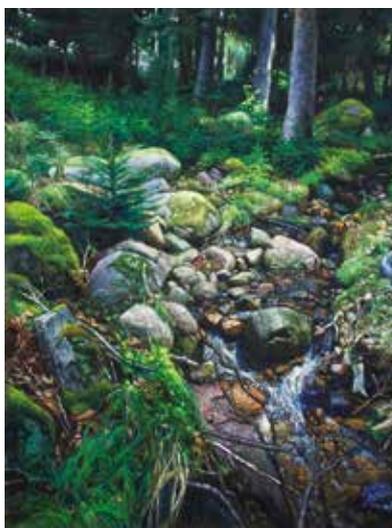
Jim Johnson with two of his paintings.

**Bill Alexander has a show at First Church Gallery** (at First United Methodist Church, 227 Fulton St. East) through November 30. Hours are 10am-6pm; Thurs, 10am-4pm Fri, Sat. Free Parking.



Bill Alexander's work, Sunrise.

**Larry Blovits' Trickle Down Effect won the Gold Medal Award** at the Great Lakes Pastel Society Members Show at the Shiawassee Art Center in Owosso.



Larry Blovits' winning pastel, Trickle Down Effect.

## A Message from our President

Dear Membership of Grand Valley Artists,

The Board of Directors and I would like to announce to the entire membership that we are working on revising the Constitution of GVA. This document has had several adjustments in its life and it is time to update it again. We are mostly looking at bringing it into line with more standard layouts, but as well are looking at the structure of the Board and the rules that we need to have in place and those that do not belong in the Constitution. We are meeting at the end of October to (hopefully) finalize it and will be sending a copy to all the members to review. **This is IMPORTANT, as it defines who GVA is!**

If the time line remains on schedule, we should have a copy sent out in early November and will plan to vote on it at the December Annual Membership Meeting, which itself is a new thing we need to have: Annual Meetings. This year's meeting will be held in conjunction with Critique, the first Thursday of December. As this is an important meeting with the membership electing the President and Treasurer and whether to approve the revised Constitution, we hope as many as possible can attend.

Yours Very Truly,

David Bechtel  
President

## Hello from Carol Lurn

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Carol Lurn and I want to serve as President of GVA.

I am pleased the Grand Valley Artist Board revisited their Constitution to review the bylaws and make changes to amendments which no longer prove relevant in today's organization. In addition, their decision to abide by the bylaws of our constitution, particularly the board election process formulated by our founders, will give our membership a voice in who represents them.

I believe I have the qualifications to serve as your president. Please allow me to list a few: organizational skills, people skills, and past volunteer experiences within GVA. I have a BA in Art Education and taught in the secondary public school system for thirty-five years. Organizational skills within the classroom are mandatory, and without them I could not have survived in the classroom.

While Jeremy Kuhn served as President, I served as his Vice-President. I thoroughly enjoyed working with Jeremy. I believe we considered ourselves partners and worked together with the board and our members to continue to make GVA a strong and viable art organization. Because the GVA organization has been such an important part of my retirement years, I wanted to be of service. Being part of ArtPrize for two years and helping to organize activities related to that adventure was exciting. Volunteering to organize exhibits for the Christmas and Spring shows as well as throughout the year kept me active within the organization.

I am fortunate to be one of 20 artists whose work is shown at Flat River Gallery and Framing located in Lowell Michigan. My life has been so enriched by this supportive group. My experience on the FRG&F board has brought me into the challenging and often frustrating business of art marketing. I make art and experience the same struggles, frustrations, as many of you in trying to perfect my craft. GVA gives me the structure, information, support and comraderie to learn and achieve.

I have such respect for the founding members of our organization as well as our present membership. It would be an honor to serve as your president.

Respectfully,  
Carol Lurn

# LOWELLARTS! HOLIDAY MARKET

**November 13–December 23**

The LowellArts! gallery is transformed into a unique holiday shopping destination featuring artwork by over 40 area artists. Handmade gift items include pottery, paintings, photography, jewelry, textiles, glass-work, handbags, mittens, woodwork, metalwork, wreaths, basketry, ornaments, gourds, candles, and soaps.

The LowellArts! Gallery

149 S. Hudson St.

Lowell, Michigan

Gallery Hours: Tues - Fri 10am-6pm and Sat 1-4pm



Carol Lourn's pastel entitled  
The Good Life



Jon Hunter's  
Coy

## THE PINK: AN AWARENESS EXHIBITION

October 3 – December 23, 2015

A selected group of artists are exhibiting works dominated by the color pink in all its hues and tones. to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Our Jon Hunter has four pieces in this exhibit.

Midland Center for the Arts

Alden B. Dow Museum

1801 W. Saint Andrews Rd.

Midland, MI



## Please Wear Your Name Tags

Members are encouraged to wear the provided name tags at Critique and Program so we can get better acquainted with each other, and they make introductions easier, too! You'll notice that we now also have colored name tags with the word GUEST on them. Please invite your guests to wear a GUEST name tag, and be sure to say hello to those you see wearing the GUEST tags, too! We want them to feel welcome and comfortable. If you cannot find your name tag, let Mary Marin know and she will make you a new one.

[marymarin@comcast.net](mailto:marymarin@comcast.net)

## Do You Have Any Suggestions?

The suggestion box welcomes your ideas! Things don't just 'magically' happen. So please take a few minutes and let us know of any suggestions you have about making GVA an even nicer place with which to be associated.

*Respectfully submitted by Louise Bauer*

You are also invited to email your suggestions to [marymarin@comcast.net](mailto:marymarin@comcast.net). The board considers all suggestions, and we thank you for your input!

## Workshops

### Jim Markle, PSA

#### 2015 Workshops and Classes

Jim Markle is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America and a Master Member of the Great Lakes Plein air Painters Association. He has over fifteen years of experience teaching all levels of participants in the U.S., Canada, France and Italy. He's the inventor of the Jim Markle Pastel Easelbox and travels extensively throughout Europe and the United States painting en plein air. Great American Art Works markets his North American Landscape Set of pastels.

#### **Grand Rapids, MI**

Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, & 16, 2015

Landscape Classes

Location: Grand Valley Artist, Inc.

Contact: Jim Markle

616-458-8559 or

[jimcmarkle@earthlink.net](mailto:jimcmarkle@earthlink.net)

Say HELLO to  
New & Returning  
Members!

John Birnie II  
[ebirnie47@gmail.com](mailto:ebirnie47@gmail.com)

Douglas Schwentor  
[schwentor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schwentor@sbcglobal.net)

Judith Batts  
[judithbatts@gmail.com](mailto:judithbatts@gmail.com)

## Program Night

**November 12, 7:30 pm**

Joanne Swann will demonstrate her print-making process of reduction printing and then spend the majority of the time helping attendees to do a simple reduction print themselves. All materials will be supplied, but you are welcome to bring linoleum cutting tools if you have any, and you may want to bring an apron to protect your clothing. To keep things moving, please bring a simple 4"x4" drawing on tissue or paper and keep your image to 3 colors, one each of a light, a medium, and a dark hue. The paper itself will supply the white color of the image. This promises to be an interesting and fun evening, and we hope you can join us!

### **Bring Your Spouse**

In case you've ever wondered, spouses are always welcome at GVA programs and Critique.



# IN THE GVA GALLERY

## Are you interested in displaying your work in the GVA Gallery?

We would love to see what you are doing! To set up a month to display your work, contact Mary at [marymarin@comcast.net](mailto:marymarin@comcast.net). You don't need to fill the whole gallery. We can accommodate several artists each month.

The Plein Air group will be displaying their work from November 7 until December 5. Be sure to stop in during gallery hours to see how they've spent their summer!

**GVA Holiday Competition**  
**It's time for our GVA Holiday Competition. All the details and application forms can be obtained on the GVA website home page:**  
**[www.grandvalleyartists.com](http://www.grandvalleyartists.com)**  
**and at GVA.**

### Newsletter Deadline Reminder

The 20th of the month is the cut off for any article, notice, calendar items, etc., you would like to see in the next newsletter. Submit information to Mary Marin at [marymarin@comcast.net](mailto:marymarin@comcast.net).

## Contact Listings for Grand Valley Artists

President: Dave Bechtel  
616-818-9618  
[davidbechtel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davidbechtel@sbcglobal.net)

Vice President: Mary Marin  
616-443-0362  
[marymarin@comcast.net](mailto:marymarin@comcast.net)

Secretary: Dana Donnell  
[danaBdonnell@gmail.com](mailto:danaBdonnell@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Evie Carrier  
616-648-6858  
[evie.carrier@gmail.com](mailto:evie.carrier@gmail.com)

Membership Chair:  
Marty Klar  
616-813-7921  
[martyklar@comcast.net](mailto:martyklar@comcast.net)

Photography:  
Lora Cecola  
[loracecola@mac.com](mailto:loracecola@mac.com)

Program:  
Randy Nyhof  
616-745-1486  
[r.nyhof@comcast.net](mailto:r.nyhof@comcast.net)

Publicity/Reed's Lake Art Festival:  
Bob Kraai  
616-956-7734  
[rkraai@ameritech.net](mailto:rkraai@ameritech.net)

Newsletter:  
Mary Marin  
[marymarin@comcast.net](mailto:marymarin@comcast.net)  
Ross McCrory

Sketch Coordinators:  
Kathy Bechtel  
616-540-5744  
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Library: Jim Johnson  
616-451-2211  
[johnheartist@hotmail.com](mailto:johnheartist@hotmail.com)



## November

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2 10:00 am Portrait	3 7:30 pm Photo	4	5 6:00 Board Meet 7:30 pm Critique	6 10:00 am Still Life	7 10:00 am Figure
8	9 10:00 am Portrait	10	11	12 7:30 pm Program	13 10:00 am Still Life	14 10:00 am Figure
15	16 10:00 am Portrait	17	18	19 7:30 pm Figure	20 10:00 am Still Life	21 10:00 am Figure
22	23 10:00 am Portrait	24	25	26 7:30 pm Figure	27 10:00 am Still Life	28 10:00 am Figure
29	30 10:00 am Portrait					

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## December

		1 7:30 pm Photo	2	3 7:30 pm Critique	4 10:00 am Still Life	5 10:00 am Figure
6	7 10:00 am Portrait	8	9	10 7:30 pm Program	11 10:00 am Still Life	12 10:00 am Figure
13	14 10:00 am Portrait	15	16	17 7:30 pm Figure	18 10:00 am Still Life	19 10:00 am Figure
20	21 10:00 am Portrait	22	23	24 7:30 pm Figure	25 10:00 am Still Life	26 10:00 am Figure
27	28 10:00 am Portrait	29	30	31 7:30 pm Figure		

# Grand Valley Artists

1345 Monroe Ave. NW Suite 130

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