



## Summer Picnic!

Our GVA picnic will be held July 8 from noon till 5 p.m, with food at 1 p.m. Our most gracious hosts, Mary and Dave Bazen, have invited us into their home for this annual event. The Bazen's home is on Fennessey Lake just south of Standale. Their address is O-314 Fennessey SW. The directions are: Take 2nd Avenue [one block west of Wilson] south to Fennessey. Turn right. Their home is about 6 houses down. Bring your swimsuit and towel if you want to take a dip.

The main dish and salads will be catered. Drinks will be supplied. Should you feel inspired to bring a dessert, please do. For those of you who have not tasted our GVA members' desserts, you are in for a spectacular treat.



We hope you will attend this social event. For those of you who are new members, we would love to see you in this very comfortable setting. Many of our GVA members have established strong friendships throughout the years and invite you to this community of artists. See you at the picnic.

## Festival of the Arts

Submitted by Gene Sampson

This year's Festival of the Arts art competition is back at the old Federal Building. The building, which once served as a post office and later as the Grand Rapids Art Museum, was sold to Kendall College of Arts and Design when the current Art Museum was built. It is located at 148 Ionia Ave., Grand Rapids.

GVA members whose work has been accepted into the juried show are as follows: Lynn Anderson, Diane Bartnick, Dana Donnell, Joe Goedel, Diane Haworth, Jim Johnson, Margaret Kriegman, Sri Soekarmoene McCarthy, Darlene Podpolucki, Susan Pragaspathy, Mary Reusch, and Gene Sampson each have one piece in the show. Evie Carrier, Leilei and Beibei Chen, Candice Chovanec, Edward Kloote, Carol Lurn, Randy Nyhof, Jan Paulson, and Patrick Seanor had two pieces accepted and Nona Bushman, Bell Chardon, Sue Ellison, Don Karel, Dennis O'Mara, and Stone Peng each have three pieces in the show.

The show will run through July 25th. The Opening Reception will be held on May 31st, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

## Art Abounds!



**JUNE 24 & JUNE 25, 2017**

**GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN**

The Grand Haven Art Festival is held the last full weekend in June and transforms Washington Avenue into a chic outdoor art gallery. The goal of the Grand Haven Art Festival is to provide the communities and visitors with a unique opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind art directly from the artist while upholding the community valued tradition of the Grand Haven Art Festival. Learn more here: <http://grandhavenchamber.org/grand-haven-art-festival>.



**JULY 1 & 2**

**10 a.m.–5 p.m.**

**LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN**

The 2017 West Shore Art Fair takes place July 1st and 2nd at Rotary Park (formerly known as City Park) in the beautiful Lake Michigan resort community of Ludington, Michigan. Features 110+ jury-selected fine artists across a variety of media, including clay, fiber, glass, jewelry, painting, photography, sculpture, and much more!

## 2017 Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff

Call for Artists! The 56th annual Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff in St. Joseph, MI, takes place on July 8 and 9. With an estimated 50,000 attendees, the Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff is one of the most prestigious and well-attended events in Southwest Michigan. A source of pride for the community, the Krasl Art Fair provides attendees with tremendous exposure to high-quality art. The Art Fair is consistently ranked as one of the top art fairs in the country and has specifically been chosen as one of the Top 20 Art Fairs by Sunshine Artist Magazine for 5 years running. Applications are now being taken via their website: <http://www.krasl.org>.

The 43rd Annual



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2017**

**9 a.m.–4 p.m.**

**LAKE ODESSA, MICHIGAN**

Sign up today for the best chance at your preferred booth location! The Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission invites you to apply to our annual one-day fine arts and crafts festival.

Now in its 43rd year, Art in the Park takes place on the grounds of Lake Odessa's shady and picturesque Village Park. Our show features 70+ unique fine art and craft booths, food booths, a children's craft area, community art exhibit, door prize drawings, live musical entertainment, and the annual ParkPrize! Competition. Attendance is FREE. We promote our event on all regional and many state and national festival and visitor websites, advertise in local print publications, by direct mail, and social media. Learn more at <http://www.lakeodessaarts.com>.



Please stop in for a great salad at Bliss & Vinegar, where you will see Todd Darling's work. If you want to show your work at B&V, make sure to load some images to our website, as that is where the owners go to find art they would like to display. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Thanks, Marty!

## In the Gallery

JUNE / GVA GALLERY / ANIMALS will be the theme for our June exhibit. Wild or tame, flying, galloping, crawling or swimming, as long as they're in the animal kingdom, we want to see them. All 2D and 3D art is eligible, including drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, photography, digital works, mixed media, fiber art, mosaic tiles, etc. All work must be original. No prints or reproductions please. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable.

Hang: May 29 / Monday

Strike: June 3 / Saturday



**Reminder: In July, our gallery theme will be SELF PORTRAITS.**

Rembrandt created nearly a hundred self portraits in his lifetime, you can create at least one.

## Program Night

**Submitted by Randy Nyhof**

For May the Program presenters were Mark Reed and Keith Menne from RCP (Reed Consulting Partners) Artist Services. They showed what services they have to offer GVA members concerning printing needs, artwork scanning, etc. These guys are top notch. They can scan large works of art and even works behind glass without any reflections. They can print on all sorts of material and can match exactly the colors in your artwork. They also have an online art gallery where artists can sell their work. Here are links to their websites:

<http://rcp-usa.com>

<http://www.modusartgallery.net>

Fellow GVA member Jim Connelly will present our June 8 program: "My Adventures as an Artist," covering Jim's entire career from custom painting vans to fine art painting and illustrating book covers. The presentation includes over 300 slides (digital) of work, influences and milestones.



## Photo Group

**Submitted by Randy Nyhof**

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on May 2 with their usual critique. We had 2 new visitors of which one

will probably join. We met again on Tuesday, May 16, where I presented a PowerPoint program titled "My Journey in Fine Art Photography from the 1970s to the Present." I will probably be showing this as a regular GVA program sometime in the future.

For June we will have our regular meeting on June 6. The program for our second meeting on June 20 has yet to be decided.

## Last Year's Reeds Lake

### Signs

If you have a 2016 Reeds Lake yard sign at your home, please bring it to the next GVA critique or program so we can place this year's date on it. We appreciate your help in spreading the word about the festival, but let's make certain people attend on the correct date.



# Members in the News

## GLPS Members Show

Five GVA pastelists have had pieces accepted into the Great Lakes Pastel Society 2017 Members' Show being held from May 26th through July 8th at the South Haven Center for the Arts at 600 Phoenix St., South Haven. **Kathleen Kalinowski** and **Marilyn Troutman** each had two paintings chosen and **Larry Blovits**, **Gene Sampson** and **Shirley Haan** each had one painting accepted. On July 8th, from 1:00 to 4:00, the jurist, renowned portraitist William Schneider, will be presenting a portrait demonstration. The fee for that demo will be \$5.00. It will definitely worth the drive to charming South Haven to see him paint and to take in a beautiful pastel show at the same time.



Annie by Marilyn Troutman



The Sun Bather by Marilyn Troutman



Cherries in Silver Bowl by Gene Sampson



Winter's Beautiful Light by Kathleen Kalinowski



Where Forth the Sun Leads by Kathleen Kalinowski



Announcing Evening by Shirley Haan



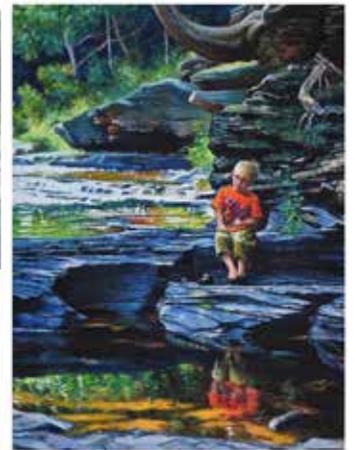
Tide's Out by Larry Blovits

## Special Show at Fountain Street Church

Fountain Street Church is sponsoring a special show in the Keeler Gallery from May 7–June 25. Titled “Everyone’s Downstream,” the show focuses on a most precious resource: water.

Over 20 artists from the West Michigan area are participating. The opening reception is on Sunday, May 7, from 12:00–1:30 p.m.

Two of our new members, **Mary Helmick** and her partner, **Wayne Pierce**, each have works in this show. Mary’s mosaic is entitled “Walking on Thin Ice.” Wayne’s fine art photo is entitled “Power and Grace.” Larry Blovits also has an entry. Congratulaton to all, and welcome to GVA, Mary and Wayne!



Please see this link for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/751291185047665/>

## And...

As well as having a special piece at the Keeler Gallery, **Larry Blovits** has 22 paintings at the Donna Chase Gallery at the Clark Retirement Community, 1551 Franklin SE from May 9th until June 9th, and 20 paintings in the Frauenthal Center in Muskegon from June 6 through July 2nd.

# More Area Art News

## Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Valentina Grigorieva Exhibit

June 1–26, 2017

Reception: Wednesday, June 7, 2017, 6 p.m.–7 p.m. in the lobby. Everyone is welcome!

## Guardian Gallery Lowell

The beautiful collection of paintings commissioned by Larry and Mary Gerbens are up at the Franciscan Life Process Center at 11650 Downes, Lowell, MI, through the month of June. Larry was so inspired by the Biblical story of the prodigal son that he commissioned many different artists to do their own interpretation of it. Come and see the beautiful artwork that came from that challenge.

## Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

We're excited to invite you to an exhibit of work of young artists sharing their ability and showing new techniques they've learned as they expand their art education. This show is in collaboration with Autism Support of Kent County and the Franciscan Life Process Center. The group is composed of young adults in the Puzzle Partner Group – a wonderful group that meets in Grand Rapids. They would like to share with you that even though they are on the spectrum that their art has no spectrum. This show is an example of how art unites us, giving us the opportunity to express ideas and emotions. Come and see for yourself the joy and empowerment that art brings to us all. This show is up through the month of June. The address is 654 Davis Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504. Go to the brick building farthest north where there is an arched entryway. Next to that is a handicapped entrance. Go down the handicapped entrance to about 10 feet back from the door on the half wall on the right side. There will be three buttons. Push the one that says "Franciscan Life Process Center." You'll hear a click. Go through the door to the elevator and take it up to the third floor. Off the elevator go right and then left to see these beautiful artworks. Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids is open Tuesday–Friday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

## Terryberry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

IN THE MOMENT showcases the work of local artists Kathleen Kalinowski and Kristian Matthews. Through the use of oil paint, pastels and charcoal, they strive to capture the essence of their chosen subjects, which include landscapes, still lifes, and the human figure. IN THE MOMENT will feature more than thirty paintings and drawings that will be on display during the month of June. Terryberry Gallery is located at the St. Cecilia Music Center, 24 Ransom NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Come and help us celebrate at their reception on June 2 from 5:30 p.m.–7:30. Terryberry is open during regular business hours.

## ICCF

Don't miss the last month of Connie Kuhnle and Jim Johnson's beautiful show at ICCF. The name of the show, "Home Sweet Home," is a beautiful collection of homes done in pastel, oil and watercolor. This show is up through the end of June. ICCF is open during regular business hours.

## Dominican Center at Marywood

Heartside Ministry artists will be showing their work through the month of June.

## Frauenthal Center

The month of June hosts the beautiful pastel and oil paintings of our own Larry Blovits. Treat yourself to a trip out to the lakeshore and see his beautiful landscapes and portraits. Come and help us celebrate at his reception on June 9 from 6 to 8 p.m. The Frauenthal Center for the Arts is located at 425 W. Western Ave #200, Muskegon, MI. The Frauenthal is open during regular business hours.

## Lowell Arts

June 17–August 12

FLIGHT: An Exhibition of Art of Things that Fly, Float or Soar

At LowellArts

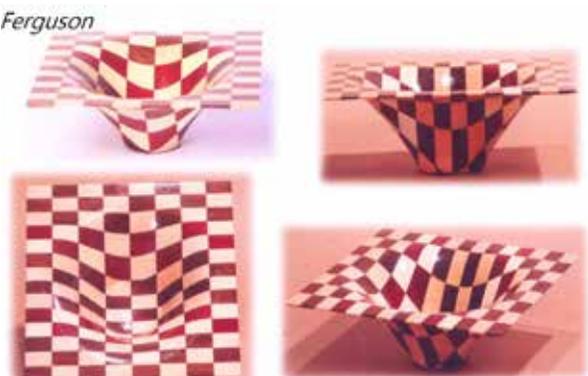
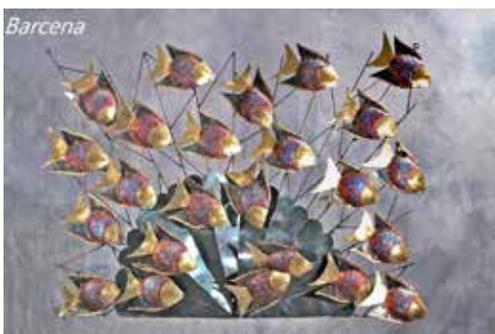
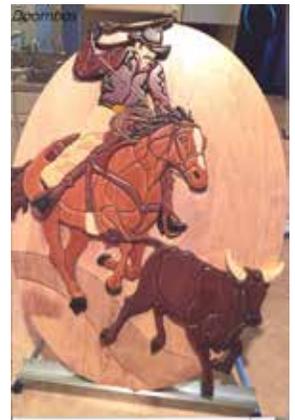
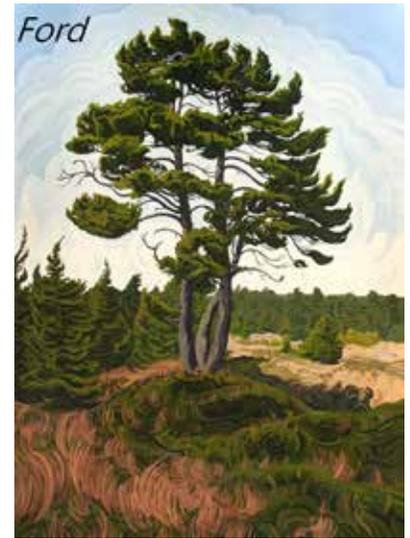
223 W Main St, Lowell, MI 49331

Gallery Hours:

Tues-Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sat 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

# Reeds Lake 2017

What better way to spend a summer day than to attend our Reeds Lake Art Festival June 17th, anytime from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The festival is held in the Gaslight Village in East Grand Rapids. Reeds Lake is the perfect ambiance against the art lining Wealthy street between Lakeside Dr. and Croswell Street. Several ice cream shops and places to get lunch or dinner and many one-of-a-kind shops to explore. Did I mention the art? This year, we have some terrific artists –painting, photography, mixed media, printmaking, drawing, ceramics, jewelry, fiber art, etc. Don't miss this once a year event, sponsored by Grand Valley Artists.



# Wrap Up a Honda at ArtPrize

ArtPrize is partnering with West Michigan Honda Dealers on the third annual Design & Drive Contest. It's a unique opportunity for artists to show their work in the heart of the ArtPrize district this fall. Submissions are open through July 31. Entrants are asked to create an original design that can be applied to a vinyl wrapped Honda vehicle for outdoor display on Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids during the 19 days of ArtPrize (September 20-October 8). Six designs will be selected to participate, and their designs put to a public vote organized by WM Honda. The winner will receive a two-year lease on a new 2017 Honda Civic.



Learn more here: <http://www.westmichiganhondadealers.com/design-drive/>.

## Ai Weiwei

His name is pronounced "I - Way - Way". His last name is Ai, his first name, Weiwei. Confusing, I know.



His work is currently featured at Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, but he first exhibited there in 2015. His massive sculpture, "Iron Tree," was dedicated on a cold, rainy, fall day, and I was lucky enough to be present for it.

It's a very striking sculpture of metal limbs held together with giant bolts. It's 22 feet high and just as wide. After the dedication, everyone was treated to a program inside, and a speaker (I believe it was the museum's director) explained to us why this artist was so important and how he came to exhibit there. At the time of its completion, "Iron Tree" was Ai Weiwei's largest and most complex outdoor sculpture ever. He's considered a conceptual artist – an idea man. His projects are usually completed by respected craftsmen and women.

Mr. Ai is from China, and he uses his popularity to address his thoughts on oppression, history, culture, personal injustice, and freedom of speech. Sometimes it seems he's as much a political activist as he is an

artist. He uses a large list of materials and subject matter to make his statements, and all of this changes regularly.

He's one of the most popular and controversial artists in the world, and has studios in London and China. One such polarizing art project involved him dropping an antique Chinese vase. He filmed it shattering into countless pieces as he calmly observed its destruction. Now, I still don't get this one. Make your own judgment about his work, it can lead to some interesting conversations, like the one I had with Jim Johnson one day at sketch class. Jim gets more of Ai Weiwei's art than I do, and I gained

understanding by talking to someone who did – Thanks, Jim! I guess that's the beauty of art, how it touches us in different ways. There are times we are just not going to get a particular artist's work though, and I guess that's OK too.



Iron Tree by Ai Weiwei

One thing is true: We are lucky to have this major exhibit so close by, so don't miss it! It runs through August 20 at Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park.

## Classified Ads

Roll of unprimed canvas 5'x20'. Contact Patrick at 616-717-1711.

**Gorilla Pochade Box**, 9"x12" (large size), used only once or twice. This beautifully constructed box attaches to tripod, carries paint, brushes and medium beneath sliding palette. Holds panel for plein air painting. Paid \$200 new. Will sell for \$100 firm. Contact marymarin@comcast.net or call 616-443-0362.



**French Easel**. Full size and almost new. \$100. Contact Jim Markle at jimcmarkle@earthlink.net.



French Easel \$50. Not worn. Contact Patrick at 616-717-1711.

New **Dulce Lyptus Wood H Frame Easel** by Jack Richeson. Bought in January 2017 and it is in new condition only used once or twice. \$100. It's sturdy. Contact Susan at susanpragaspathy@gmail.com.



## Cascade Library

The Cascade Library is a beautiful venue that provides a great deal of exposure to GVA artists. Don't miss the beautiful work of Bonnie Lindke, Carol Lurn, Kristen Thornton, Sri Oetjoen Soekarmoen, and Gene Sampson, showing from May through July. In addition, library personnel are promoting GVA on their Facebook page.

Special thanks to our new and energetic GVA member, Candice Chovanec, for stepping up to the task of managing this venue. If you want to share your work at the library, contact Candice at candicechovanec@yahoo.com.



Do you have items to sell? Send an email to marymarin@comcast.net so we can publish your item/s here. Photos are helpful but not necessary.

## Workshop Ideas?

Do you have ideas for Saturday afternoon workshops you'd like GVA to sponsor? Or do you have a workshop you'd like to put on? If so, contact Joanne Swann at joswann@sbcglobal.net.

## Longer Pose Opportunity Coming to GVA on Thursdays

Have you wished you had more time to work on a painting? That the same model, same pose, was available 3 sessions in a row?

GVA will now be offering long pose sessions featuring the same model 3 weeks in a row in the same pose, same outfit (or nude), for 4 hours/three sessions.

The first series will take place on these dates: Thursdays, June 22, June 29, and July 6, from 10 until 2 p.m.

This opportunity is open to members and non-members. The cost will be the model fee, which will depend on the number of artists present each day. Anyone is welcome to come to all or one day.

Note: Artists who come to multiple days will have priority in seating. If you do not come to the first day, please allow other artists to set up first.

Contact Candice Chovanec through telephone or via email for additional information or to reserve a spot. (949)228-4220 / candicechovanec@yahoo.com.

**SPECIAL REMINDER:  
NO SKETCH ON  
JUNE 17.  
SEE YOU AT REEDS  
LAKE!!!!!!**

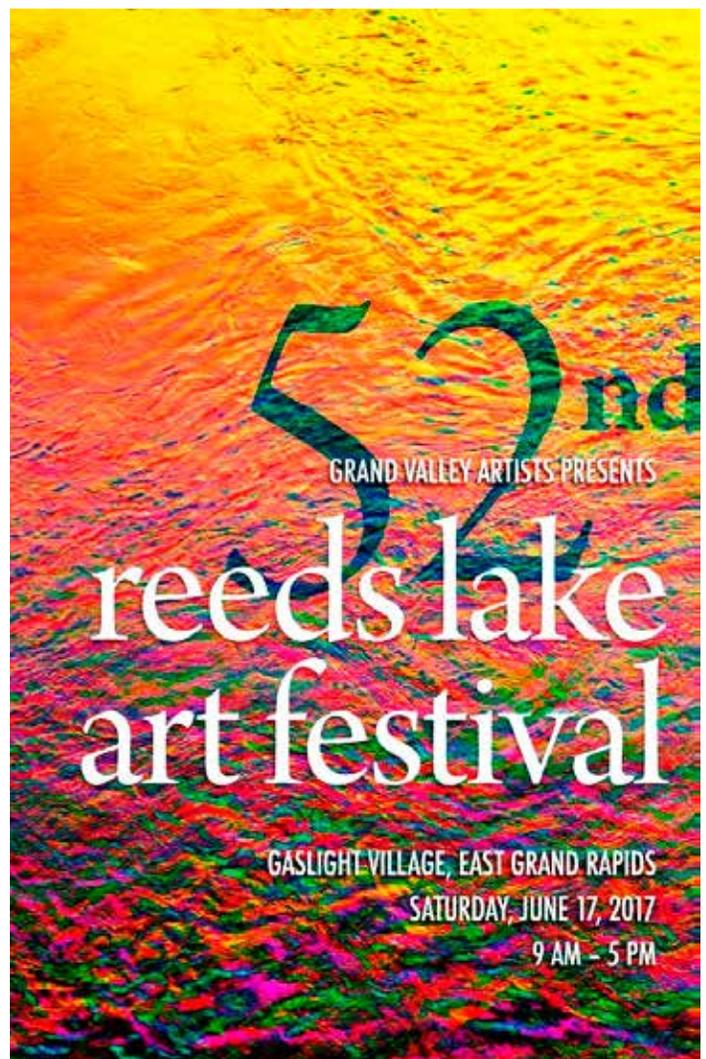
## Reeds Lake Promotional Materials Now Available ...And Your Help Needed!

We would appreciate member assistance to get the word out about Reeds Lake Art Festival. Signs and postcards are available at GVA, and lawn signs will be available shortly.

Volunteers are still needed, too. There is a sign-up sheet at GVA, or you can contact Bob Kraai to see what else is needed. Call him at 616-956-7734.

Please pick up some signs and display them at your neighborhood retail locations (e.g., the grocery store bulletin board) and businesses as you are able.

Your efforts will save us the expense of extra media advertising.





**GVA welcomes  
Mary Helmic, Wayne Pierce,  
Lisa Shaw and Karen Thauer**

**Contact Listings for Grand Valley Artists**

**President**  
Carol Lourn  
616-437-9365  
carollourn@yahoo.com

**Vice President**  
Emily Green  
616-617-1548  
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

**Secretary**  
Dana Donnell  
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

**Treasurer**  
Evie Carrier  
616-648-6858  
evie.carrier@gmail.com

**Membership**  
Dave Bechtel  
616-818-9618  
davidbechtel@sbcglobal.net

**Photography**  
Lora Cecola  
loracecola@mac.com

**Program**  
Randy Nyhof  
616-745-1486  
r.nyhof@comcast.net

**Reeds Lake Art Festival**  
Bob Kraai  
616-956-7734  
rkraai@ameritech.net

**Newsletter and Website**  
Mary Marin  
616-443-0362  
marymarin@comcast.net

**Publicity**  
Steve Scarborough  
stevescarb1@yahoo.com

**GVA Gallery Shows**  
Jim Johnson  
616-451-2211  
johntheartist@hotmail.com

**Sketch Coordinators**  
Kathy Bechtel  
616-540-5744  
kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com  
Dave Bazen  
dbazen@bazenelectric.com  
Mary Marin  
616-443-0362  
marymarin@comcast.net  
Candice Chovanec  
candicechovanec@yahoo.com

**Hospitality**  
Peg McKeown  
616-656-9210  
mcperfitt@me.com

**GVA Library**  
Jim Johnson  
616-451-2211  
johntheartist@hotmail.com

**Facilities Coordinator**  
Dave Bazen  
616-453-6706  
dbazen@bazenelectric.com

**Cascade Library**  
Candice Chovanec  
candicechovanec@yahoo.com

**CALENDAR**



**Board Meeting June 1 at 6:15 p.m.**

**EVERY WEEK**

**Sundays** Closed

**Mondays** 10:00 a.m. until noon

**Tuesdays** 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesdays** 2:00 until 5:00 p.m. (check website for location)

**Thursdays\*** First Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

(Note: Program in December is replaced by the Holiday Party from 6 till 8)

Remaining Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

**Fridays** 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

**Saturdays** 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Model Sketch

Photo Group

Plein Air or

Still Life

Critique

Program

Model Sketch

Still Life

Model Sketch

\*See newsletter and website for info on new long-pose sessions on Thursdays

**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.

## If You Use Amazon Smile...GVA Wins!

We are now listed as a non-profit in the AmazonSmile list, which means that any time you order from Amazon, assuming you choose to order via AmazonSmile instead of plain old Amazon (it doesn't cost you anything...it is just another way to buy from Amazon), your purchase will result in a small donation to GVA if you choose to make GVA your Amazon Smile charity. If you are an Amazon Prime member, you can still choose to order via AmazonSmile and still get the same free shipping and other benefits that come with Amazon Prime membership.



Learn more here: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=201365340>

## Your Work at Reeds Lake?

Reeds Lake Art Festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2017, from 9 a.m to 5 p.m. We are excited about this years event. We will have our GVA display area for members to show their work. We hope you are busy working on your masterpieces. The cost of \$15 will get you a 3'x5.5' wire mesh panel upon which you can hang 2 dimensional artwork, which should be framed and ready for hanging. Please make certain your frames and matting show good craftsmanship. If you have questions or wish to reserve a panel, contact Mary Myszka, who will be managing our Reeds Lake GVA display. Her phone is 616-822-4074. Her email is [mysz312@comcast.net](mailto:mysz312@comcast.net).



Studio of Intuition, by Paul Levellie.

# **Grand Valley Artists**

1345 Monroe Ave. NW, Suite 140

Grand Rapids, MI 49505