

# Perspectives



grandvalleyartists.com

October 2020

## Art Swap Fun!

Submitted by Mary Marin

The first (and annual???) "Art Swap" on September 19 was a fun time! The parking lot was full of folks buying and selling, talking and laughing, swapping and giving away. My stack of canvas sheets, pastel paper, and sketch pads found new homes where hopefully they will see more use than I gave them. I came home with a painting and some lovely photo cards thanks to swapping, and I sold two paintings. I think that during this Covid-19 era many of us came to the swap hoping to get rid of things more than adding to our stack of material possessions, as there were lots of free piles still "standing" when the dust cleared. If you wanted frames, you sure did miss an opportunity to load up! Thanks, **Carol Friend**, **Randy Nyhof**, and **Diane Haworth**, for the pics! More on the last page.

For me, the best part of the Swap was seeing so many familiar faces...or should I say eyes? Thank you, all, for practicing social distancing and wearing your masks. We want to see everybody's entire face next year and trust that the event was safe as a result of your willingness to comply with the recommendations of our knowledgeable health care leaders.

If you have suggestions for this event, we would love to hear them! As this first try was more or less "winging it," there are probably lots of ways we can make it better a year or so from now. From my perspective, it was great, since nobody really had to do anything or be "in charge." We just DID it! When Covid is no longer a threat, we may even be able to invite the public! I bet those free piles would disappear in a heartbeat if we could.

Send your ideas to me, please, and I'll be sure to share them with the board. (My email is [marymarin1285@gmail.com](mailto:marymarin1285@gmail.com).)



## GVA Gallery

### Artwork Created During the Quarantine Submitted by Jim Johnson

Some of our artists are already sharing current artwork on social media, of course, and that's great. But whenever we get the ALL CLEAR, let's put this work up on the wall. One of the wonderful things about creating original art is that the artist always remembers what he/she was thinking and feeling during the creation of the art. I think for this period of time it will be that to the tenth power. Be well, fellow artists.

## Program Night

### Submitted by Randy Nyhof

No program report for October. The closest thing to a program was the Art Swap on Saturday, September 19. Any ideas about doing online programs would be greatly appreciated.

Thursday, October 1, GVA will again have an on-line Zoom Critique meeting at 7:00 p.m. The GVA facilities are still closed for larger group gatherings. Randy Nyhof will be the Zoom host. If you would like to show your work for Critique, email photos to me of your artwork ASAP. If you do not have photos or digital files of your artwork, you could display your artwork in front of your webcam. I think we had around 20 participants online in September.

## Photo Group

### October 2020

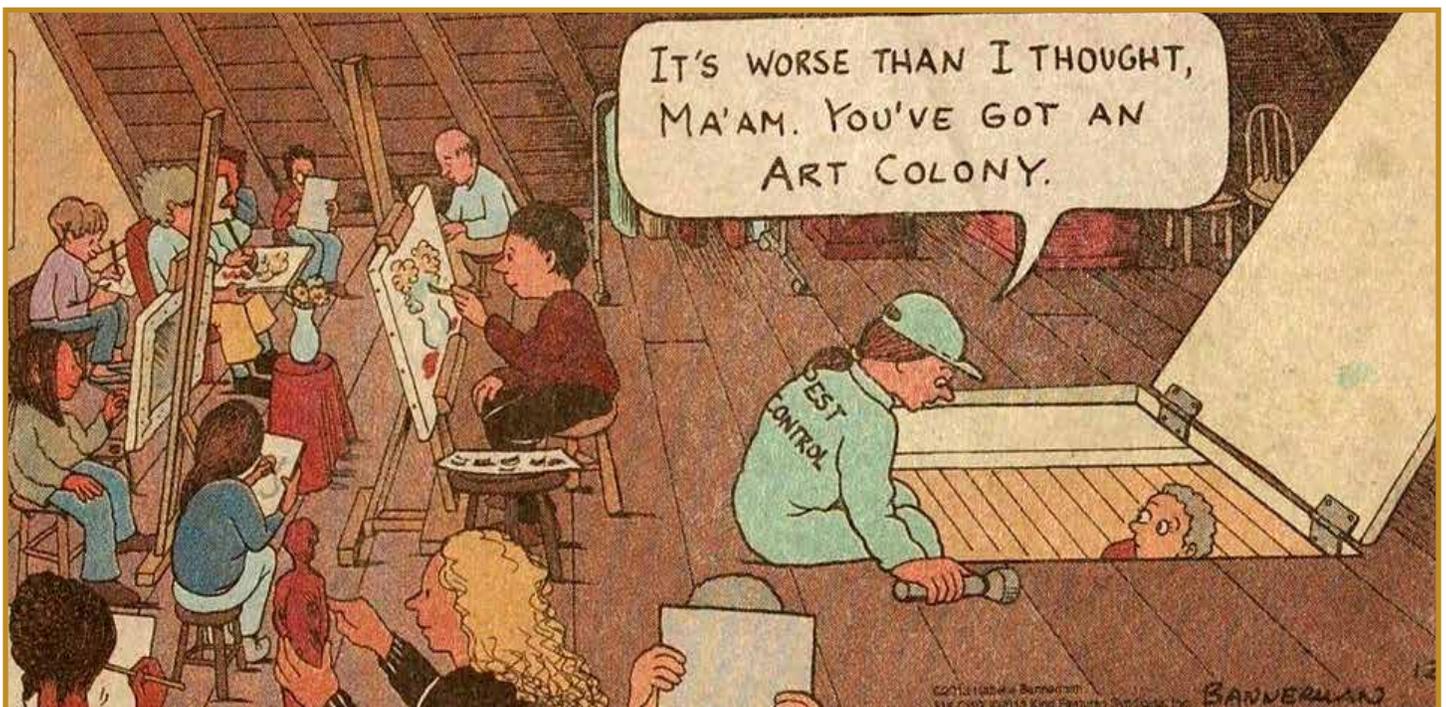
#### Submitted by Randy Nyhof



We had our regular Photo Critique online with Zoom on September 1 at 7:30 p.m. There were nine participants. Our next Zoom Critique is scheduled for October 6. No other events are planned at this time.

Three GVA members are included in the second bi-annual FOTOG Regional Photography Exhibition at the Holland Area Arts Council: Sri McCarthy, Henri Droski, and Randy Nyhof (Honorable Mention). This show runs from Sept. 10 to Nov. 7. You have to call 616-396-3278 to set up a private tour.

I also have a one-person show at the VanSingel Gallery in Byron Center, which is not open to the public at this time (but they do hope to open it up on a limited basis soon). Also they plan on having a virtual online gallery for this show. Stay tuned for more info. This show will run until the end of November.





# GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS

Photography Series



## Order Yours Today!

Submitted by Joanne Swann

GVA's note card sales are going great. Our next series, the photo group cards, will be ready for sale soon. A Mailchimp notification will be sent out.

As with the fine art cards, the images for the photo group cards were selected by a jury of our members from the images posted on our Facebook Hunkering Down site. The artists featured in the set are Annemarie Biernacki, Lora Cecola, Bill Christiansen, Henri Droski, Carol Friend, Joe Goeldel, Mary Harbets, Jim Henningsen, Linda Scarborough, and Steve Scarborough.

Please contact Randy Nyhof about reserving sets for you at [r.nyhof@comcast.net](mailto:r.nyhof@comcast.net). We also hope to sell them at the Downtown Market and at Terri Hanna's Neighborhood Art Hop in October.



## Pat Buist in Salon Re

Watercolor paintings by Pat Buist are being displayed in Salon Re, 940 Fulton St E, Grand Rapids, MI. The show will run through October. Please stop in!

# WANTED

Someone to head up the most important event Grand Valley Artists hosts, our Reeds Lake Art Festival. This is our major fundraiser which allows us to keep our membership dues low and our doors open.

It's a time consuming job but we have written guidelines as well as a team of people who are willing and able to take on many of the tasks involved to help get through the process.

If you're energetic, brave and willing to take on this position, please contact Joanne Swann at [joswann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joswann@sbcglobal.net).

**“You must realize that a drawing is not a copy. A drawing is an invention.”**

**—Robert Henri**

# Shining Through Art Show & Auction Goes Virtual

Submitted by Mary Helmic

Unsurprisingly, this year's annual fall fundraiser for The Mental Health Foundation of West Michigan has transitioned from an in-person event to an online platform. Instead of one evening of food and fun, this year's bidding will occur over a four day period. The work of many local artists will be featured, with a portion of the proceeds going to each artist. This marks my 3rd year of participating in this exciting event and I'm grateful to be included in this year's show.

The kick-off event with a LIVE component will occur via their Facebook site: themhf. Bidding begins Monday, November 2 and runs through Thursday, November 5. Once the link for bidding is established, it will be accessible through their website: benice.org

This organization provides vital services to people of all ages through their programming. Consider checking out the art for sale as well as other fun items to bid on!



*Sunflower Field*, Mary Helmic

## Cadwallader Painting Class Offered in October

Ken Cadwallader will be teaching a once-a-week four week class starting on Thursday, October 8 and ending on Thursday, October 29, 10 a.m. till 5 p.m. at GVA.

Ken will start out the day with a demo and students will then paint till 4, so you'll want to bring a lunch. From 4 p.m.–5p.m. there will be a critique. Two classes will be with a model and two will be a still life set up. The cost for all four full-day sessions is very reasonable \$220, which includes the model fee. Masks will be required, and you will need to sign a paper as you come into the class that you are not currently experiencing any of the symptoms of the virus. Contact Kathy Bechtel to sign up. Kathy's email is kbechtel@lifeprocesscenter.org. 10 people will be allowed. First come, first in!



Peg McKeown found this cartoon online. Since it is repurposed all over the internet already, I'm taking the liberty of sharing it here, too. Perspective is everything, isn't it. (That's rhetorical.)

**“I am interested in art as a means of living a life; not as a means of making a living.”**

**—Robert Henri**

# Meet Randy Nyhof

**Submitted by Randy, our Photography Chair and Program Coordinator**

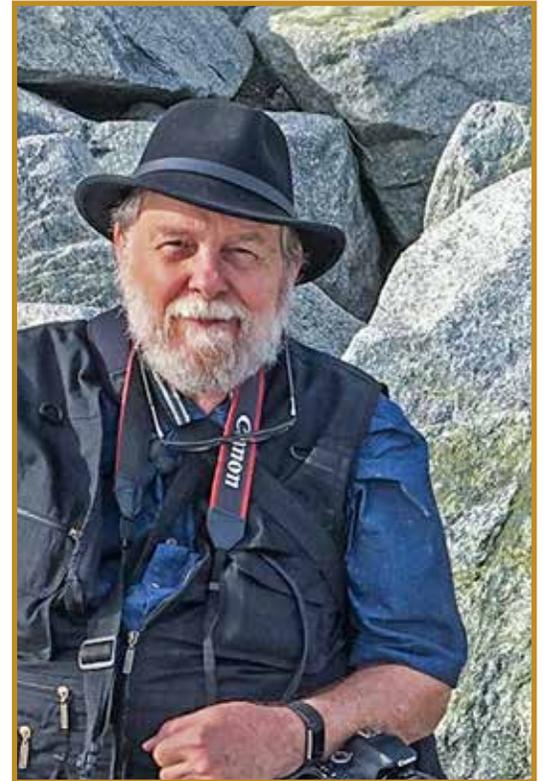
I have been involved in photography for over 50 years. I am self-taught as regards to the mechanics of photography. The aesthetic values I learned from my art experience and looking at what was considered good photography. My approach to fine art photography to a great extent has been influenced by my education in college, majoring in studio art. I have been influenced by many artists and photographers too numerous to mention.

At first I used 35mm & medium format film cameras, but now all my images are captured with various digital cameras. I owned and operated a photography business for over 40 years engaging in wedding photography, senior portraits, family portraits, underclass school day portraits, and commercial product photography. Lately I have become more involved in producing photographic fine art images.

In addition to participating in local art shows and competitions within the last 20 years, I have had images published in *Popular Photography Magazine*, *Canada's PhotoLife Magazine*, *B&W Magazine*, *Focus Magazine*, *Austria's Trierenberg Super Circuit Publications*, *Photographer's Forum Best of Photography Annuals*, *Black River Calendar Publishing*, local publications, and an article about me in Burrell's Pro Color Lab trade magazine. I have also licensed a few photographs for several book covers, music CD covers, and even a background screen for a British Rock Group.

Recently I have licensed a number of my images to be sold on products at the Hobby Lobby Stores and on fabric with Northcott Silk.

Now in my supposed retirement I keep busy with steady fine art photography, online sales in several shop sites, and local art & photography organizations, most notably with Grand Valley Artists. I have been a member of GVA now for 15 years. At first I was not involved that much as I was still running my photo corporation, which consumed a lot of time. After I shut down my business I became more involved at GVA and am now the committee chair for the photography group and also coordinate our monthly programs. I am always open to ideas and suggestions for enhancing the GVA experience.



# Thank You Very Much

**Submitted by Lloyd Wheeler, GVA Treasurer**

Each year for the past 55 years, Grand Valley Artists hosted the Reeds Lake Art Festival in East Grand Rapids. This was a major fundraising event for GVA. However, this year, once it was known that the Reeds Lake Art Festival needed to be cancelled, an appeal was made to members for contributions to carry us through these unusual times. The generosity of GVA members and the community has been overwhelming. This support, through donations, has truly mitigated a potentially financially disastrous year and turned it into a year of hope. At this time, over 70 individuals have donated to GVA bringing in over \$7,000. We cannot adequately express our gratitude to everyone who contributed.

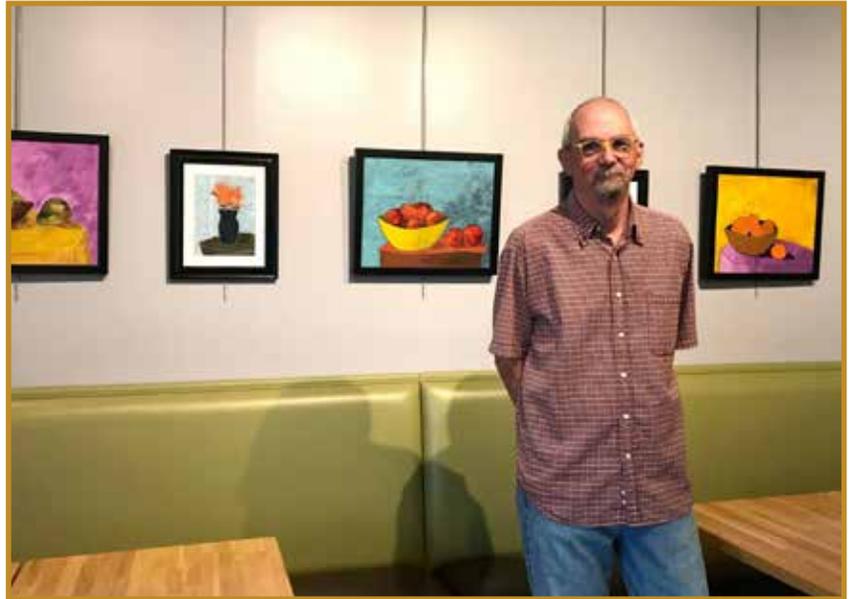
Additionally, we would like to acknowledge our landlord, Eastview Service, for their contribution. They offered to rent our space for their activities thereby reducing our monthly payment significantly. This is greatly appreciated.

The loss of the Reeds Lake Art Festival has also pushed the board to start thinking about alternatives for moneymaking activities to keep GVA a vitally active part of the Grand Rapids and the larger Michigan art community. Your ideas are welcome!

## Bliss & Vinegar

We have enjoyed a wonderful relationship with B&V for a few years already, which has been a great opportunity for our artists to share their work. For the next month or so, Marty Klar's unique work will be gracing the wall. Be sure to swing by, grab a fantastic salad, and check it out!

If you want to show your work at Bliss & Vinegar, you will need to share some of it in the gallery on our website, [www.grandvalleyartists.com](http://www.grandvalleyartists.com), so the owners of B&V can see what you do. They decide whose work they want to feature. Please don't contact them directly. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Please do not contact the restaurant directly. Questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.



Marty Klar is currently showing his work at B&V. Stop in!

## Sketch...the Rules

The GVA board wants to ensure that the studio remains a safe and clean environment for our members upon reopening. Our current plans for sketch groups include but are not limited to the following:

- We will have regular deep cleaning of the space, but we request your help in sanitizing the areas you come in contact with; door handles, light switches, easels, tables, counter tops, equipment, restrooms, etc. Disinfectant wipes are provided around the studio.
- Before and after using the space, wipe down all frequently touched surfaces. See above.
- A disinfectant spray is in the bathroom. Please use it on all surfaces before and after using the room.
- Wash your hands frequently and/or use hand sanitizer. There are several bottles provided around the studio.
- If you have some sort of gloves, e.g., latex, wear them.
- We will limit the number of artists in sketch sessions to provide proper distancing. 6' between easels.
- We will have an online sign-up site set up for you to sign up for a sketch session. Information will be sent on how to access it. Sessions will be limited to 10 plus the model. When that limit is reached, no one else will be allowed into the session. If we find that a specific session is very popular, we will consider adding sessions. Please be considerate of your fellow members. If you sign up for a session and later find you can't make it, please take your name off the list.
- A mask is weird and hard to wear, but it is required.
- Don't share tools or supplies.
- Don't use the coffeemakers or tea kettles. Bring your own beverage in its own container.
- Don't bring food to be shared.
- Books and magazines in our library should not be used or shared at this time.
- If you're sick, stay home.
- Be respectful of your fellow members. We are all in this together.

Thank you for understanding.

Welcome Back, Mary Stek!

# Membership Update

Submitted by Mary Baine, Membership Chair

September is the month to pay GVA dues: \$45 for a typical member, \$67.50 (\$22.50 plus \$45) for two members living in the same household, and \$25 for students ages 18+. Dues are expected by the end of September. Individual reminders will be issued in October for those who seem to have unwittingly allowed their GVA memberships to lapse. Paying dues is as easy as using the link on our website or writing a check to Grand Valley Artists and mailing it to Mary Baine, Membership, 2280 Leonard Street, Marne, MI 49435. If you don't fill out a form (form on following page), please include a note if any of your contact information has changed.

## FAQ

What if you don't plan to renew? Please contact [marymbaine@gmail.com](mailto:marymbaine@gmail.com) so she will know not to pursue the matter further. You can even unsubscribe from our email list and offer that as the reason.

Not sure if you have already paid? Please contact [marymbaine@gmail.com](mailto:marymbaine@gmail.com). She will be delighted to let you know either way.

Any other questions concerning your membership status? Please contact [marymbaine@gmail.com](mailto:marymbaine@gmail.com).

## Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

### President

Joanne Swann  
[joswann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joswann@sbcglobal.net)

### Vice President

Emily Green  
[ww.emilyg@gmail.com](mailto:ww.emilyg@gmail.com)

### Secretary

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

### Treasurer

Lloyd Wheeler  
[lbwheeler518@gmail.com](mailto:lbwheeler518@gmail.com)

### Membership

Mary Baine  
[marymbaine@gmail.com](mailto:marymbaine@gmail.com)

### Photography

Randy Nyhof  
[r.nyhof@comcast.net](mailto:r.nyhof@comcast.net)

### Program

Randy Nyhof  
[r.nyhof@comcast.net](mailto:r.nyhof@comcast.net)

### 501(c)(3) Coordinator

Open Position

### Reeds Lake Art Festival

Open Position

### Newsletter and Website

Mary Marin  
[marymarin1285@gmail.com](mailto:marymarin1285@gmail.com)

### Publicity

Steve Scarborough  
[stevescarb1@yahoo.com](mailto:stevescarb1@yahoo.com)

### GVA Gallery Shows

Jim Johnson  
[johnsontheartist@hotmail.com](mailto:johnsontheartist@hotmail.com)

### Sketch/Model Coordinators

Kathy Bechtel  
[kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com)

### Hospitality

Open Position

### Facilities Coordinator

Dave Bazen  
[dbazen@bazenelectric.com](mailto:dbazen@bazenelectric.com)

### Legacy Liaison

Robert Kraai  
[rkraai@ameritech.net](mailto:rkraai@ameritech.net)

### Outreach

Doug Klemm  
[dougklemm@hotmail.com](mailto:dougklemm@hotmail.com)

### Facebook

Emily Green  
[ww.emilyg@gmail.com](mailto:ww.emilyg@gmail.com)

### Instagram

Open Position

### GVA Library

Wenxi Gu

**Note from the editor:** Until we are back in full swing, we will only be distributing the newsletter online. If you have any news to share, please always feel free to send it to [marymarin1285@gmail.com](mailto:marymarin1285@gmail.com) for inclusion.



# GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS

## Membership Application: Membership Year is September 1st through August 31st.

Note: All memberships expire on August 31st and require renewal on September 1st; the annual membership fee is due every September 1st and remains the same regardless of collection date.

The information on this form is used for contact purposes and member services; please provide as many details as you feel comfortable sharing.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Your e-mail address is used to distribute the monthly newsletter as well as important announcements and updates; regarding this service, every member is able to "unsubscribe". If you do not have a valid e-mail address, please check the GVA website for news—and newsletters. Printed copies of the newsletter are available at the studio as well.

Annual dues are \$45 for all new, renewing, or rejoining members except as otherwise noted; payment may be made as follows:

By PayPal—Log onto [grandvalleyartists.com](http://grandvalleyartists.com) and choose the link "Artists: Join here!", then follow the prompts until payment is complete.

By check—Make the check payable to GVA or Grand Valley Artists, then mail it to Grand Valley Artists  
% Mary M. Baine, Membership Chair  
2280 Leonard Street  
Marne, Michigan 49435

### Charitable contributions may be added to your dues.

>The William (Bill) Kubiak fund was established to offer assistance to artists coping with financial hardship.

>Grand Valley Artists is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations made to support GVA are tax-deductible; you will receive a receipt for your records.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please check one:

New member \_\_\_\_\_

Returning member \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal of current membership \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please select one:

>Lifetime membership (20 consecutive years in good standing): \$0

>Individual adult membership: \$45

>Student membership (age 18+): \$25

>Family membership: \$45 for the first adult; \$22.50 per spouse/partner/child (18+) Please list:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please confirm amounts:

Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Donation(s):

Kubiak Fund—\$ \_\_\_\_\_

GVA 501(c) (3)—\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please choose method of payment:

PayPal: \_\_\_\_\_

Check: # \_\_\_\_\_

Cash: \_\_\_\_\_

# Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

# Art Swap 2020

