



Highlights

January 2020



Welcome to Grand Valley Artists, 2020!

Submitted by Joanne Swann

As the new President I'm thrilled to be leading this wonderful organization into the new decade. I am grateful to be following the amazing four years under the direction of Carol Lurn. During her presidency, Carol worked hard to improve many of our procedures. She was thoughtful and enthusiastic and encouraged the exchange of ideas within this diverse group. My goal is to continue the structures she was instrumental in putting in place. But with the new decade come new adventures, challenges, and opportunities for all of us to participate in making GVA's legacy grow.

My job would be a lot harder, and this organization would not function well, if it were not for the work of our dedicated board members. You may not be aware of how many of our board members have jobs and/or family obligations while giving their time to help make this organization run smoothly. I've spoken to a few of the former presidents, and they all said the one thing to keep in mind with this job is to learn to delegate. Fortunately, I have a great board to help me make that job easier.

A few events are in place for the coming year:

Thanks to the efforts of Doug Klemm, we'll have our first ever show at the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center in May. Doug will be providing details as the date gets closer.

We also have the 55th Reeds Lake Art Festival in June. This is our major fundraiser. This is how we're able to keep our membership dues reasonable and offer the many benefits that we provide our members. This year, Linda Scarborough has generously offered to take on the duties of Event Organizer. She started the ball rolling several months ago by gathering a group of members to brainstorm ideas on how to keep the festival fresh and vital. There are some new events being considered, a children's area and music to name a few. There are still positions open, so please see the article in this newsletter to see where you can help. Please contact Linda, and she will include you in the meetings going forward.

The first order of business at the January 2nd Critique will be to select an image for the festival poster. I invite all of our members to attend and vote for this important image to promote our festival.

We hope to continue to offer workshops. If you have an idea for a workshop, one you'd like to give or one you'd like GVA to host, please email me with the details on how you propose to organize the workshop. We're here to facilitate ideas. Several of you asked if GVA will participate in the next ArtPrize. All I can say right now is I'm working on it. If any of you have contacts with the city, let me know.

I'm looking forward to leading Grand Valley Artists for the next two years and invite you to join me in helping to continue the tradition to provide artists a safe and a comfortable community to explore their creativity and to increase our visibility in the community.



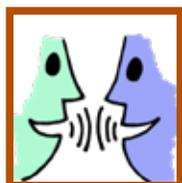
Time for a Facelift?

Submitted by Mary Marin

No, that is NOT a question from me about MY face!!! Those “character lines” are not going anywhere.

I don't know about you, but I know I'm ready for a new masthead graphic instead of the paintbrushes on this newsletter, and, while we are at it, how about a NEW NAME???? “Highlights” has been around for a long time. Another “Highlights” was my favorite magazine when I was a kid. I remember the fun I had, finding the hidden objects while I waited in the pediatrician's office for yet another strep diagnosis. The challenge almost but not quite made the pain of the inevitable penicillon shots worth it!

If you have a suggestion for a new name, perhaps a new graphic instead of the paintbrushes, etc., please send it to marymarin1285@gmail.com. When we have several suggestions submitted, I will send them out to the membership for a vote. Keeping the name will be one of the options, but put on your thinking cap and send me some great ideas!



ART CHAT!

No Art Chat in January, but we look forward to seeing you on February 7 at 1:00 p.m. in our studio. Last month's visit to Larry Blovits' studio was enjoyed by all. Thanks, Larry!



GVA Gallery in January

Submitted by Jim Johnson

FIGURATIVE EXHIBIT

The theme of our first GVA exhibit of the year is the human figure. Figures can be nude or clothed. They can be presented against a neutral background or figures can be engaged in a narrative of some kind. All 2D and 3D art is eligible, including drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, photography, digital works, mixed media, etc. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable. If your entree is a drawing on paper, you can submit just the art on paper and we will stick it to the wall with poster putty.

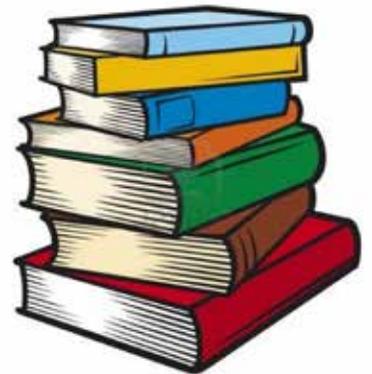
Please remember to sign your work.

Hang: Dec 30 / Monday

Strike: Jan 27 / Monday

We Welcome Our New Librarian

Our new librarian is Wenxi Gu (pronounced-When-See). Though she's only been on the job for a week I've already noticed a change. The books are all neatly stacked and alphabetically arranged and separated by categories. Well done Wenxi.



With special thanks from the former librarian, **Jim Johnson**

(Editor's Note: And thanks to you, Jim, for your willingness to have been our librarian for many moons!)

Important Memo from Membership!

Your email address is our most timely way to communicate with you! We use it to deliver your newsletter and SO MUCH MORE, such as lists of models for sketch enthusiasts and the latest updates concerning our various art-related events. At this time of year, when winter weather can cause us to cancel activities and close the studio, we also warn you via email.

Please make sure that 1) we have your preferred email address on file and 2) that you are receiving regular emails from us. It's easy to unsubscribe by accident. If this happens, Membership will send a confirmation email so you can resubscribe. If you think you might have missed your opportunity to reconnect, or if you simply aren't "in the loop" for whatever reason, please contact Mary Baine (marymbaine@gmail.com) so she can put you back in touch with GVA.

AND ANOTHER THING: Because email is our default delivery system for the newsletter, our 2020 New Year's resolution is to limit our snail mail (USPS) delivery to members who have no email address. Members are also welcome to pick up a copy of the newsletter at GVA. If these proposed changes create a hardship for you, please contact Mary Baine (marymbaine@gmail.com) directly, via the website (grandvalleyartists.com), or by snail mail to Grand Valley Artists, 1695 Service Road, #106, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503. Thank you!



**GVA Welcomes
New Members**
Chuck Lane, Paul Olsen,
Stan Myers, Gary Austin

Program Night

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

In lieu of our December Program we gathered for our Holiday Party. Awards were presented to the winners of the Holiday competition and our new President and Treasurer were announced.

For our January Program on Thursday the 9th a film will be shown called *West Wind, the Vision of Tom Thomson*. Tom Thomson is one of Canada's most famous artists. His vibrant landscape paintings helped define a young nation in the early 20th century and have become iconic symbols of Canada. His mysterious death on Canoe Lake at the ascendancy of his career has made him an object of fascination for many. Shot in the areas of Canada he painted, it includes newly discovered interviews and letters from family and friends. Thomson had a significant influence on Canadian artists known as the Group of Seven. One member wrote that Thomson was "a part of the movement before we pinned a label on it." Although Thomson died before the formal establishment of the Group of Seven, he is often considered an unofficial member.



Photo Group

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on December 3 with their usual critique and announcements.

The GVA Photo Group did not meet for a second meeting in December.

Our next meeting will be on January 7 for the usual critique and announcements.

We also plan on meeting January 21, when Mike Mitchell will conduct a photography workshop with oil & water.



HOLIDAY PARTY



HOLIDAY CHEER



Volunteers Still Needed for Reeds Lake

Additional volunteers are needed to assist each of the committees and to help with vendor relief, setup and clean-up, and other miscellaneous tidbits. Please contact committee heads or Linda Scarborough to find out how you can help: lindaascarborough@yahoo.com

EVENT COORDINATOR— Linda Scarborough

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR—Randy Nyhof

PARKING—Dave Bazen

GVA TENT—Dani Ehlenfeldt

FOOD AND BEVERAGE OFFERINGS—Carol Lurn and Steve Scarborough

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES—Mary Baine

PRINT MARKETING— Dana Donnell

NONPRINT MARKETING AND PROMOTION—Steve Scarborough

WRAP UP—Sara Youngman

MUSIC—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

Area Art News

Donna Chase Gallery at Clark Retirement Community

GVA artist Jim Johnson's work will be shown from January 7 through March 1. The reception is from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on January 15th.

Dominican Center at Marywood

Painting from the Soul: Alan Compo's acrylics will be on display from January 1 until February 29. Reception is February 9, 1–4 p.m. The gallery is located at 2025 E. Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, and is open Monday–Thursday: 8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Friday: 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday: 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Exhibit Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Mon.–Fri. All exhibits are free to the public. Learn more here: <https://www.fhfineartscenter.com>

Frauenthal Reception Gallery in Muskegon

Jim Johnson's watercolors will be on display until January 27. Open Monday–Friday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. with extended hours on show nights. Art exhibits are open to the public with free admission.
425 West Western Ave., Suite 200
Muskegon, MI 49440

Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

Essan Sommersell's work will be shown until February 29. Hours: Monday–Thursday 12 noon–6 p.m. at 654 Davis St., Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

Guardian Gallery Lowell

Holly Sturgis' paintings will be exhibited from October 28 through January 26. The Guardian Gallery is located at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331, (616) 897-7842. Open during regular business hours.

Lowell Arts

Gallery Hours: Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

TerryBerry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

Come celebrate the journey of Kathleen Bechtel, Connie Kuhnle and Barbara Schilling. Primarily focused on landscape, there will be other creative offerings as well. This show goes from December 3 to January 24. Parking is free next to St. Cecilia. Learn more at <http://scmc-online.org/visit-terryberry-gallery>



Bliss & Vinegar

Stop in to see GVA member **Kathleen Kalinowski's** work. If you want to show your work at B&V, load some images to our website, as that is where the owners go to find artists whose work they would like to display. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Please do not contact the restaurant directly. Questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.



Englehardt Public Library in Lowell

GVA member **Sallie Zigterman** is showing 30 pieces of art in a variety of mediums. They are a mixture of landscapes, stills, and portraits which will be on display through January. If you are interested in displaying your work at the library, contact Sandi Brogger at rsbrogger@gmail.com.



Marty Klar and **Dana Donnell** are currently showing their work at Trinity United Methodist Church on Lake Drive. The church is open Monday through Thursday during regular business hours, so stop in and check out this beautiful show! If you want to display your work at Trinity, contact Sara Youngman at sycre8@gmail.com.

Show Your Work at First Congregational Church in Rockford

Currently **Mary Marin** is showing her work in the church's oft-visited community room. The large space can accommodate about 15 medium-sized paintings.

The church is located at 192 E. Bridge Street, Rockford, MI 49341.

If you want to show your work here, please let Lynn Anderson know. You can email her at Lynn5anderson@aol.com.





Thursday Creative Pose

Submitted by Bill Andrus

At our Thursday 4-hour sessions, we strive to introduce something new and creative to the pose, as these are not portrait sessions. For example:

- Head – tilt, direction, turned
- Eyes – closed, open, looking up, looking down
- Hands – on the face,

open, closed, on the body

- Body position – up, down, seated, standing, turned, rear/back views, reclining, leaning

- Theme – may help the model pose, such as getting ready for a party
- Tension – pose could have obvious tension to show weight and center of gravity
- Lighting – generally from one direction for distinct shadowing
- Props – if used, should not obstruct the view of the body

The poses we strive for offer some suggestion of “doing something.” Bring your ideas, as we want to offer an opportunity to put more excitement into our work. You’ll find us at GVA from 10 until 2 every Thursday.



Thank You Evie and Carol!

Evie Carrier has served as GVA treasurer for, I think, EIGHT years! Carol Lurn has been president for FOUR! We cannot thank you both enough for your many years of service to GVA!

Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

President

Joanne Swann
616-406-8648
joswann@sbcglobal.net

Vice President

Emily Green
www.emilyg@gmail.com

Secretary

Dana Donnell
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

Treasurer

Lloyd Wheeler
lbwheeler518@gmail.com

Membership

Mary Baine
marybaine@gmail.com

Photography

Randy Nyhof
r.nyhof@comcast.net

Program

Randy Nyhof
r.nyhof@comcast.net

Reeds Lake Art Festival

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616-570-8796

Newsletter and Website

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Publicity

Steve Scarborough
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GVA Gallery Shows

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Mary Marin
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Hospitality

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GVA Library

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johnsontheartist@hotmail.com

Facilities Coordinator

Dave Bazen
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501(c)(3) Coordinator

Position Open

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Outreach

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Social Media

Emily Green
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Newsletter Distribution

Sallie Zigterman
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Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

JANUARY CALENDAR

Board Meeting January 2 at 6:00 p.m.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sundays Closed

Mondays 10:00 a.m. until noon

Portrait Sketch*

Tuesdays Every Tuesday 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Figure Sketch*
Photo Group

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Open Studio

Thursdays First Thursday of this month at 7:30 p.m.
Every Thursday 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
Second Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Critique
Creative Pose Figure**
Program Night

Fridays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
First Friday of the month at 1 p.m.

Still Life
Art Chat

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

Figure Sketch*

*Member Model fee \$5, Non-Member \$10 , **Members \$10, Non-Members \$15