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.”

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.”

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.

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.
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 Laurn

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Carol Laurn 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 Laurn
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

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 Laurn’s pastel entitled The Good Life

Jon Hunter’s Coy
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

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. The board considers all suggestions, and we thank you for your input!

Say HELLO to New & Returning Members!

John Birnie II
ebirnie47@gmail.com

Douglas Schwentor
schwentor@sbcglobal.net

Judith Batts
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.

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
Lending Library at GVA

Did you know that GVA has quite an excellent variety of art books for the borrowing? Stop in and see what is there, and feel free to sign out whatever interests you.

Bliss & Vinegar Restaurant

If you want to have your artwork displayed at Bliss & Vinegar (888 forest Hills Ave SE) it must first be displayed on the GVA website (www.grandvalleyartists.com). The owners of the restaurant are interested in artwork of varying subjects and styles, but lean towards nature, fruits and vegetables. Your work will be on display for approximately six weeks.

If you have any questions about how to post your work on the GVA website, contact Mary Marin (616-443-0362) Please direct all Bliss and Vinegar questions to Marty Klar (616-813-7921). Please do not contact the restaurant directly.

We Listened!

If you haven’t visited the GVA website lately, you should! You’ll notice a few changes that make the site more interesting and of greater value, thanks to suggestions from you, the members. For example, if you click on an image in the banner now, you will be taken directly to that artist’s gallery bio and additional art. Also, whenever you visit a particular artist’s gallery, you can now click from image to image rather than needing to close one photo before opening another. Have other ideas for improvement? Please put them into the suggestion box or email them to any board member.

CASCADE LIBRARY

Show from November 5th through February 4th will be:

Jim Johnson
Bonnie Lindke
Kristen Thornton.

Come and see this wonderful art from local artists!

Any questions: Contact Larry Goff @ 949-1247 or lawrencegoff@comcast.net
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. 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 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.
### November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thur</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Activities:
- **7:30 pm Photo**
- **7:30 pm Critique**
- **10:00 am Still Life**
- **10:00 am Portrait**
- **6:00 Board Meet**
- **7:30 pm Figure**
- **10:00 am Program**

### December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thur</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Activities:
- **7:30 pm Photo**
- **7:30 pm Critique**
- **10:00 am Still Life**
- **10:00 am Portrait**
- **7:30 pm Program**
- **7:30 pm Figure**
- **10:00 am Program**
Grand Valley Artists
1345 Monroe Ave. NW Suite 130
Grand Rapids, MI 49505