

Perspectives



grandvalleyartists.com

June 2020

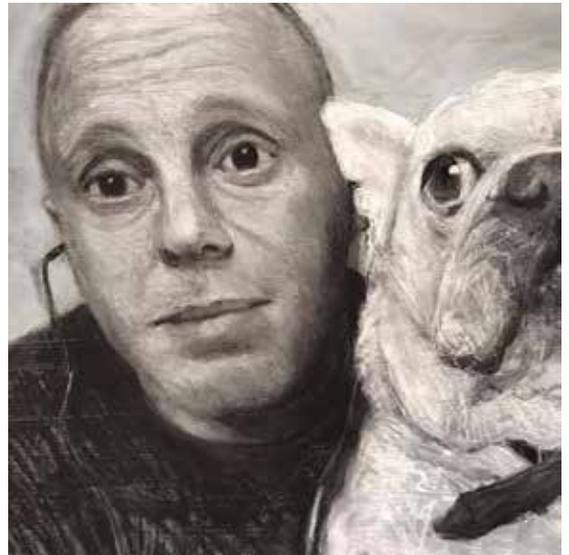
Live Models?

Several GVA artists have been participating in the weekly portrait challenge online. Live models sit in front of the camera for several hours, and artists can draw/paint them from the comforts of their own living room or studio.

Diane, Bob, and DeLaine have shared some of the portraits they have done while following the weekly "Portrait Artist of the Week" challenge.

Jeremy Kuhn has shared sketches he has done while watching gestures on YouTube. [Here](#) is a great YouTube model session to get you started:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sio9KRgRUSY>



by DeLaine Klar



by Diane Haworth



by Bob MacDonald



by Jeremy Kuhn

Please share your work on our private Facebook group page: "GVA Artists Hunkering DOWN and MAKING ART!"

Note from the editor: Since we don't really have much "news" for the newsletter at this point in time, I've taken the liberty of doing whatever I want in order to fill the minimum # of pages, which is 8. Actually, I guess it could have been 4. Any multiple of 4 would work at the printer, but this isn't going to be printed, only distributed online. As Cyndi Lauper famously has said, "[Girls Just Wanna Have Fun](#)"!

Amazon Smile!

Submitted by **Mary Marin**

Are you ordering a lot of stuff online these days? I am. I'm currently waiting for a new patio umbrella to arrive. Because I buy a lot of stuff on Amazon, I am happy to know that Amazon (because I use "Amazon Smile") always makes a small donation to the charity of my choice every single time I buy something. Although the % is small, the cumulative effect is nice!

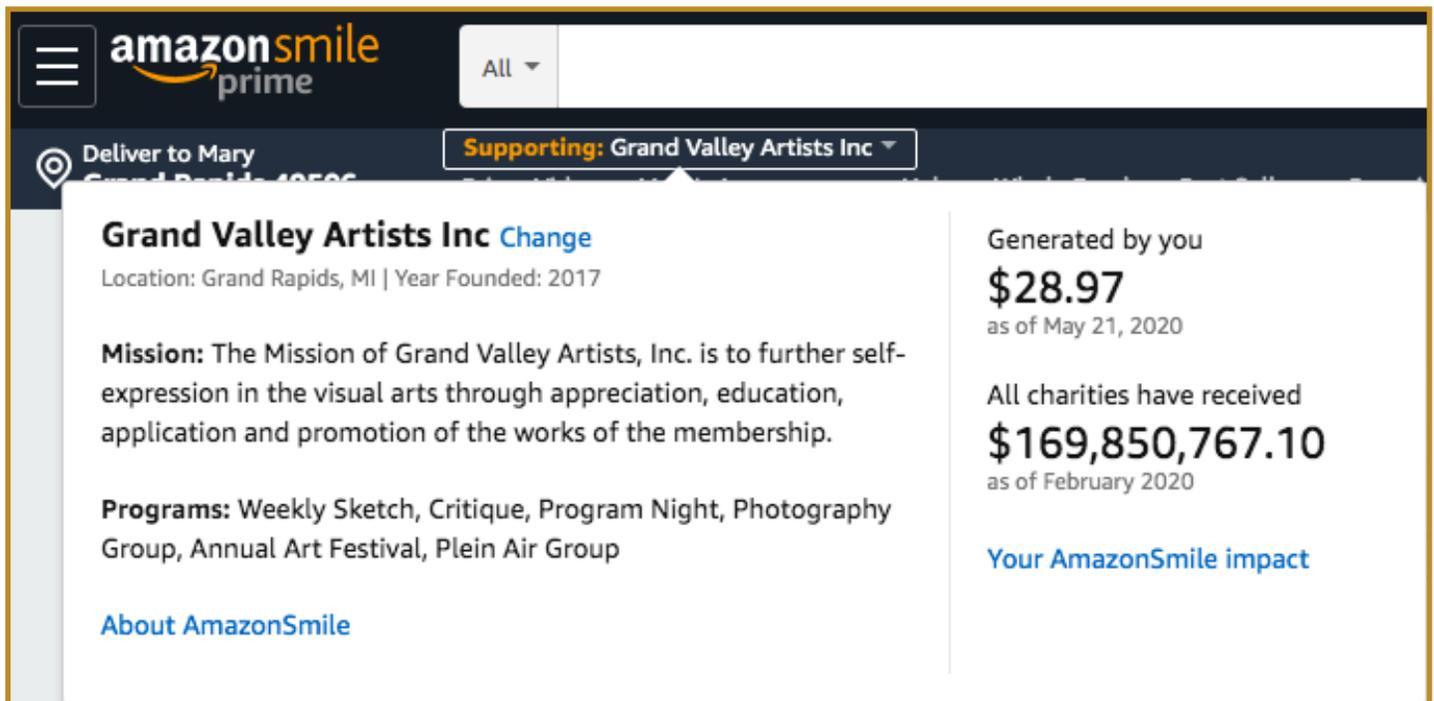
Imagine if everybody in GVA who orders stuff on Amazon would simply sign up for Amazon Smile! It is exactly the same as plain ol' Amazon. Or as Amazon Prime (which I use). It is just a little added feature. The customer designates the charity of their choice, and the donations Amazon makes go to that charity.

So far, my purchases have caused Amazon to donate almost \$30 to GVA. That may not seem like much to you, but multiply that times our membership of around 250 and voila! Big bucks!

So...if you want to participate, please take the minute or two to join Amazon Smile! You will designate the charity of your choice, and I'm hoping you choose **Grand Valley Artists Inc!** Because we are a 501(c)(3), thankfully, we qualify for Amazon's list of recipients!

Learn more about Amazon Smile [right here](#).

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/ref=smi_se_rspo_laas_aas



The screenshot shows the Amazon Smile interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the Amazon Smile logo and a search bar. Below that, a dropdown menu shows the current charity selected: "Supporting: Grand Valley Artists Inc". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features the charity's name "Grand Valley Artists Inc" with a "Change" link, its location "Grand Rapids, MI" and founding year "2017". Below this is the "Mission" statement: "The Mission of Grand Valley Artists, Inc. is to further self-expression in the visual arts through appreciation, education, application and promotion of the works of the membership." and a list of "Programs": "Weekly Sketch, Critique, Program Night, Photography Group, Annual Art Festival, Plein Air Group". A link for "About AmazonSmile" is at the bottom of this section. The right column displays the donation amount: "Generated by you \$28.97 as of May 21, 2020". Below that, it states "All charities have received \$169,850,767.10 as of February 2020". At the bottom of the right column is a link for "Your AmazonSmile impact".

Here is a screen shot of my own Amazon Smile donations page. Granted, \$29 isn't a lot of money, but I didn't have to do a thing except to sign up for Amazon Smile! The money is all coming from Jeff Bezos, and lord knows he can afford it!

Scones!

Submitted by **Mary Marin**

I have been making these scones for about three months now. When I was painting with my friends at GVA, I'd started to take a batch almost every time! When COVID-19 arrived, my scone habit didn't go away, so now I make them for myself and take some to my neighbors. The secret to good scones is to keep the dough as cold as possible, so I work fast and get them into the oven while the butter within is still cold.

In a large bowl, mix
2 C flour
1/2 C sugar
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
dash salt

Then blend in 1 stick of cold butter. I use salted butter. If you use unsalted, increase the salt to 1/2 teaspoon.

Then add
1/2 C heavy cream or Half & Half
1 egg
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla

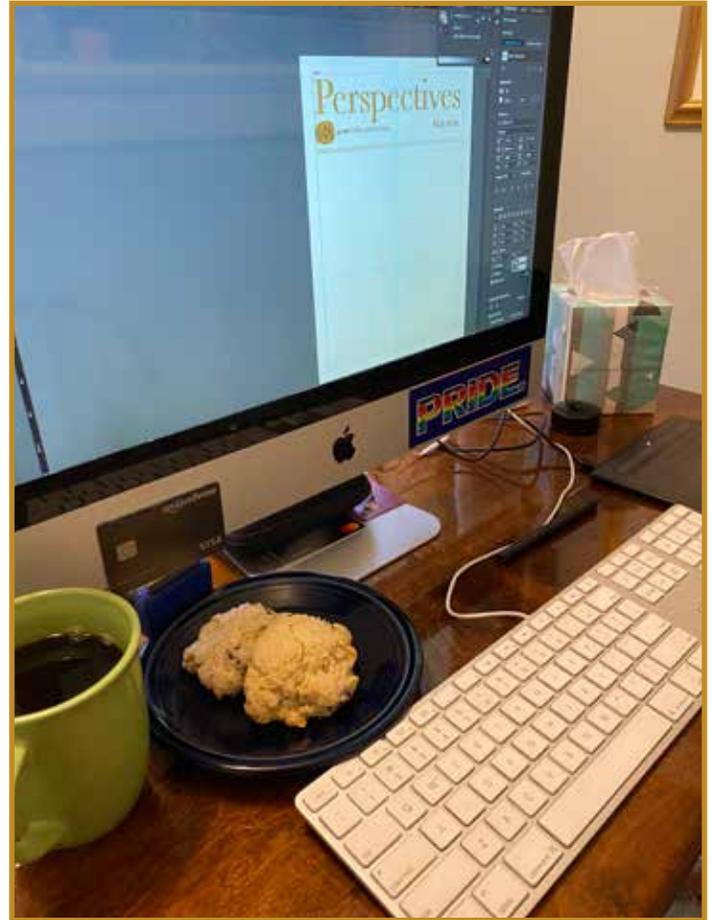
Add any special ingredients, like raisins, craisins, chocolate chips, chopped nuts if you want. Or you can make more savory scones by leaving the vanilla and the sugar OUT and putting shredded cheese or whatever in them instead.

Blend thoroughly with the pastry blender. (I got an awesome pastry blender on Amazon!)

Drop heaping tablespoons of blended dough patted together onto a cookie sheet about 2" apart. The recipe makes about 16 scones this way, so you'll need 2 cookie sheets.

I like to dip the tops into fancy large sugar crystals before baking, or you can frost them with powdered sugar/milk frosting when they cool instead if you prefer. Or neither.

Bake at 375° for about 15 minutes. The actual recipe says longer and hotter (400°F), but my oven must be hot and fast! The bottoms will be slightly browned. Be vigilant, because they can burn quickly if you leave them in too long.



Grasping at straws, the editor allows a recipe into the newsletter. Tough times call for tough measures!



[Link to the BEST pastry blender the world has ever known.](#)

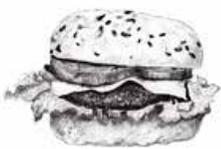
Note: The editor has gained seven pounds in 3 months. Maybe eight.



This is just SOME of the amazing work that our membership has been sharing on our private Facebook group page during the month of May. To participate, get yourself a Facebook account, and then do a search for "GVA Artists Hunkering DOWN and Making Art!"



Eat, Drink, and Be Merry



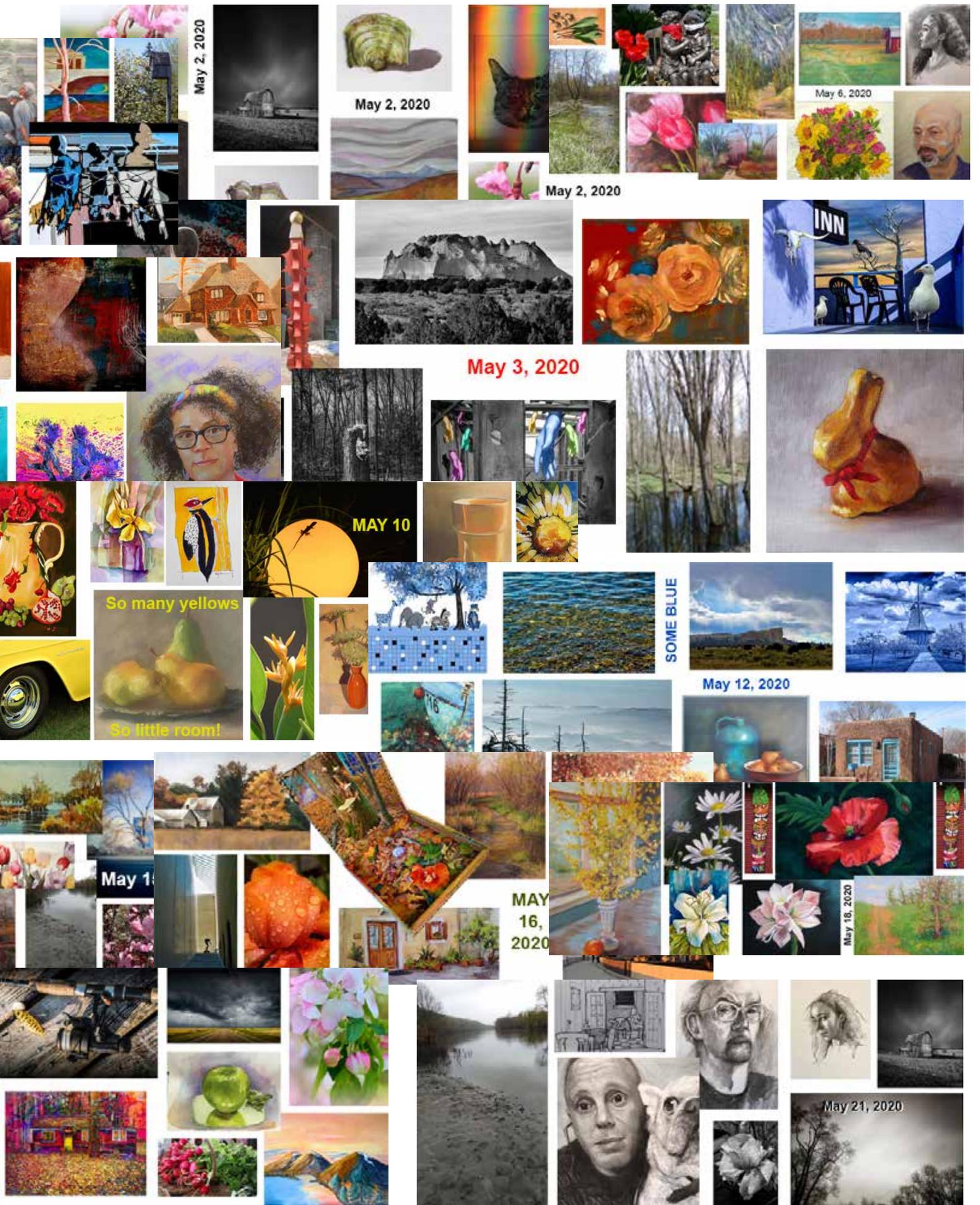
Let's Get Outdoors



May 19, 2020

May 17, 2020





May 2, 2020

May 2, 2020

May 6, 2020

May 2, 2020

May 3, 2020

MAY 10

So many yellows

So little room!

SOME BLUE

May 12, 2020

May 1

MAY 16, 2020

May 18, 2020

May 21, 2020

ArtPrize

ArtPrize plans are still going forward. Artist registration ends Thursday, June 4th (as of now). Venue-artist connections begin June 14th.

GVA Gallery for August 2020 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 in August, **or 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. I look forward to seeing you all this summer.

JUNE CALENDAR

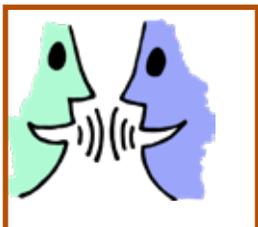
Until we are given the "all clear" for socializing once again, GVA will not be having any events. We encourage you to stay connected with fellow artists and to share your art in our FaceBook group, called GVA Artists Hunkering DOWN and MAKING ART! Only members are permitted to share their art on this page. Even if you aren't usually a Facebook fan, please consider joining FaceBook, if only to "hang out" with other GVA members. Create a basic profile, and then do a search for the page. Ask to "Join" it, and we will let you in. The page is just for us, so please join the fun! If you need help, feel free to call Mary Marin at 616-443-0362. She will walk you through the process.

New Opportunity to Show Your Work (Someday...)

All artists over age 18 are invited to apply to show your work at Trinity Lutheran Church. The church has approximately 108 feet of rail and cable system, and can accommodate 12 to 20 pieces of art depending upon size. At this time they can only show wall-hung pieces as they have no display pedestals for sculpture in the round. Any GVA member interested in this opportunity should email HJ Slider at hjslider51@gamil.com.



Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 Fulton St E, Grand Rapids, MI 49506



ART CHAT!

We will be suspending Art Chat until we are back in the studio once again. Hopefully sooner rather than later. In the meantime, please take the time to contact one another. Your voice IS very important.

Photo Group

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group did not meet at all in May.



We are planning to have our regular critique meeting online with Zoom on June 2 at 7:30 p.m. We will see how that goes.

The show that Randy Nyhof and Evie Carrier had re-scheduled for July at the Terryberry Gallery in St. Cecilia has been canceled. Our show may not take place until next year some time. Stay tuned.

Program Night

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

Not much of a program report for May. The closest thing to a program was my presentation on Monday May 11 with Anna Donahue's Monday Evening's Artist Mastermind Series. The announcement was sent out to all GVA members but only one member tuned in. Any future programs are still in limbo as of now. Waiting to see how this virus situation plays out.

Area Art News

Venues that we usually cover are closed due to COVID-19. We all hope that this situation changes in the near future. For now, please stay home, stay safe, and stay well!

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GVA Library

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Got news??? A favorite art-related website? Video? TV show? Article... clearly we are short on content, and now is your big opportunity to share inspiration. Heck...a cartoon? Favorite quote? Wanna write a poem? How about recording yourself singing, post it to YouTube, and send me a link! Play the accordion? (Nevermind that.)

Seriously! Send me stuff. Make us happy!!!

Send to Mary at marymarin1285@gmail.com.

:-)