



Highlights

October 2016

Members in the News

Larry Blovits Oil and Pastel Paintings

Sept. 10–Oct. 27, 2016
Design Quest
4181 28th St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49312



Diann Bartnick Watercolors and Mosaics

Diann Bartnick's work will be on display at the Flat River Gallery during the month of October. She would love to see you at her reception on October 13 from 5:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m.

Mary Reusch and Margaret Kriegbaum

Mary and Margaret would like to invite you to their artist reception on October 6th at 6 p.m. at Forest Hills Fine Art Center. Hope to see you!

Kristen Thornton

Arena Place Apartments in downtown Grand Rapids has chosen Kristen Thornton's design "The Grand River" to be placed on their items, such as tote bags, etc. during ArtPrize.





A Letter From Collin Fry

Here are some thoughts I have about GVA, coming from a 40 year art career in Chicago, past member of many art groups, ten years of interviewing and writing about artists, and twenty two GVA years, group and board member.

I would first like to thank those special friends who added so much to our Michigan stay- Armand, Carl, the Jims, Larry, Dave, Kathy, Lisa, and so many others. Without them, the art/life experience for Colleen and myself would have been less rich. We won't forget.

GVA is truly unique. The professionals and gifted part-time artists have always been generous and kind. New people have been welcomed with respect, regardless of experience and training. In my opinion, Critique and Sketch are the heart and soul of GVA. Critique has created a 'family dynamic', exciting, with great opportunities for learning and exposure. It gives the artist that additional desire to create 'good stuff' to show one's

peers. Sketch, still life, plein air and workshop activities offer education and development, working with generous professionals, learning new techniques, styles and materials, and are fun. Real progress is often seen month to month with the dedicated ones. Photography brings interesting new imagery and technique to the audience. Real quality in all of it.

I have seen this developed to a high level over the years, thanks to hard work and dedication of the faithful core of members. I don't know of another art organization that offers so much. Don't take it for granted. Cherish it! I will miss you. Kudos to the board and best wishes for the future. You are special.

From Scottsdale, Collin Fry



Wind Dancer Under Sail...a wonderful memory of the GVA sunset cruise in August.

Photography Group

by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on September 6 and were planning to meet again on Tuesday September 20, but since Lora is out of town due to a death in the family and that Bill & Kris Andrus are in Europe it was decided to cancel this meeting and re-schedule it for Oct. 18.



Dahlia Flower by Randy Nyhof

Also last month Lora Cecola and I were at the Fredrick Meijer Gardens to judge photographs of dahlia flowers submitted as part of the Dahlia Flower Show there. After judging the photographs, we wandered through the rooms where others were judging the hundreds of actual flowers for the show. These flower images are a couple of many we took of the flowers displayed.

Also the Photo Group will be having their group photo show at GVA during the month of November.

Also starting in November, Evie Carrier and I will have a two-person show at ICCF that will run through January.

Other photo group members in the news are Bill Chardon and Randy Nyhof, who are in the First United Methodist Church's "Celebration of the Arts - Fall Preview Art Show" from September 15 until October 9. Other GVA members in that show include Joanne Swann, Nancy Liszewski, Larry Blovits, Janice Paulson, Sister Laurena Alflen, Kathleen Kalinowski, and Darlene Pospolucki.



Dahlia Spinner by Lora Cecola



Photography Group

Artists' Reception

When: Saturday, Nov. 5th, 4:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Where: Grand Valley Artists (GVA) Gallery
1345 Monroe Ave, Suite 140, Grand Rapids, MI

The GVA Photography Group will show an intriguing collection of fine art photography and imaging including photographic composites, hand colored/black and white silver gelatins, tin types, collodions and metallic prints. Refreshments will be served. Free parking. We look forward to seeing you.

My friend has some gourds. What can be done with them?

by Mary Myszka

Since it's harvest season, October 13th, Program Night, seems like a good time to introduce some "out of the box" ideas using gourds as a fine art form.

Gourds have been around for centuries. They are grown all over the world in many types, sizes, and shapes. Archaeological sites world-over have uncovered tools, musical instruments, kitchen utensils and objects of art, all made from gourds.

Today, many gourd art enthusiasts are organizing and joining groups to share and promote activities relating to gourds. The American Gourd Society is one of the largest organized groups with membership throughout the world. The Michigan Chapter has just hosted its Annual Herb and Gourd Festival here in Grand Rapids. The Festival included examples of painting, chip carving, wood burning, filigree work, coiling and weaving. All techniques were done using the gourd as a substrate.

So to answer the question above: I would say, "You'd be surprised, at what is done with gourds."



Chinese Snuffbox.

In China, artists have developed a way to grow gourds in a split-mold. Once grown, the gourd is removed from the mold, hollowed out, cleaned, dyed and polished. In this photo, piece of jade is rounded and smoothed to serve as a top.

2nd GVA Forum—a Summary

by Carol Laurn

GVA held its 2nd forum meeting with about 25 members in attendance at our September 8 program. At our first forum meeting, Carl Forslund, one of our esteemed GVA members, suggested that for the purpose of keeping our organization viable and a forward-thinking art community, we should form a group to search for ideas to promote and encourage learning in the arts as well as create a comfortable and friendly place for artists to develop friendships with people who share their interests. Carl's words resonated with Louise Bauer, who actively became involved in organizing what is now known as the Legacy Group. The Legacy group has evolved into a kind of "think tank" for long range planning. It has been instrumental in initiating great ideas to further advance our organization. Robyn Bomhof moderated the September program. Because Robyn has the ability to create a relaxed atmosphere, our members felt comfortable making comments and suggestions. A few suggestions included

- offer theme related shows such as a forgery exhibit and a GVA reunion exhibit
- offer more field trips for educational purposes
- educate our members as to promotion and advertising
- develop partnerships with businesses to promote and market our artists' work
- offer community outreach programs
- provide more hands-on workshops
- continue to have critiques to share our work with other artists but also offer a more advanced/technical critique for our more advanced artists

If you joined us at the forum meeting, we are grateful for your interest in the success and longevity of our art organization. Your comments helped us to understand your personal needs as a member. We want to provide you with services that continue your growth as an artist. Should you wish to attend a Legacy meeting, please contact Louise Bauer.

Area Art News

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Mary Reusch & Margaret Kriegbaum would like to invite you to their artist reception on October 6th at 6 p.m. at Forest Hills Fine Art Center. Hope to see you!
600 Forest Hill Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Lowell Arts

You can learn more about LowellArts! at <http://www.lowellartsmi.org>.

The LowellArts! Gallery

149 S. Hudson St.

Lowell, Michigan

Gallery Hours:

Tuesday–Friday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Saturday 1–4 p.m.

ICCF

Jon McDonald is the featured artist at ICCF. The work featuring portraits will be up through October. ICCF is open during regular business hours.

920 Cherry St SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Cascade Library

Jan McKinnon and Dianne Lemmen will be showing their work at the library for the next several weeks.

Larry Goff will also be displaying works he has purchased done by GVA artists. If you wish to show your work at the library, contact Larry at 616-949-1247.

St. Cecilia's Terryberry Gallery

Closed through mid-October for renovations.

Franciscan Life Process Center

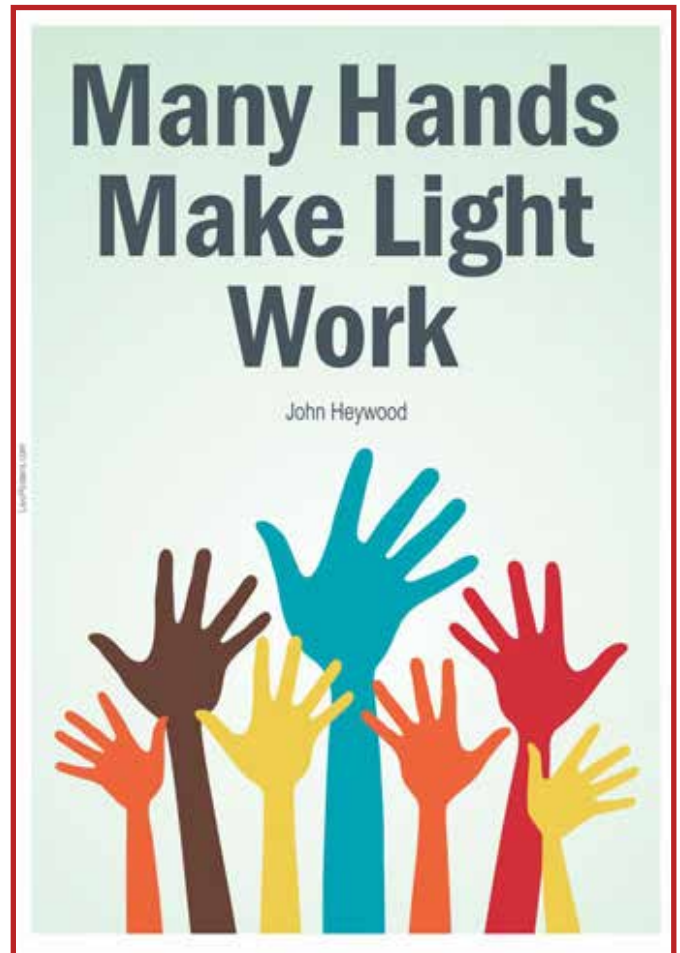
Please check out the workshops at http://lifeprocess-center.org/calendar/cat_ids~3/.

Marywood Dominican Center

Gallery will be closed during October.

The Fruenthal Center in Muskegon

There will be a show up of photographs taken by 6 children of their city. These children belong to the Boys and Girls Club. This exhibit will hang through the end of October. The reception is October 7 from 6 to 7 p.m.



All Hands On Deck!

Here at GVA there are many ways to pitch in, and each of them means a little less for somebody else to do. For example, if you attend sketch and enjoy a cup of coffee, maybe take a minute to unplug that coffee pot and rinse it out before leaving. It doesn't just unplug and clean itself...somebody has to do it. And somebody has to take the trash to the dumpster when it is full...maybe that somebody sometimes could be you. Enjoy Critique? How about arriving a tad early to help make the coffee or set up the studio for displaying the art? Or you could bring a snack!

GVA is fortunate to have many people who are willing to pitch in. It is a great way to feel more connected to the organization and to each other. Thank you so much to all who keep this wonderful organization thriving by doing the mundane chores the rest of us take for granted.

Program Night

The program for October will be presented by GVA Member Mary Myszka on her sculpture technique working with 3 dimensional objects.

The Program for November will be presented by Charles LaRue with his newest Powerpoint Presentation on Art, Artists, and Visual Perception. Charles' presentation is highly visual, moves along smoothly and quickly, and is easily absorbed as it entertains.

For December in place of the regular program we will have a Holiday Reception Party on the 8th and will be able to view the juried GVA Holiday Show.

Gallery in October and November

By Jim Johnson, the Gallery Guy

OCTOBER / ART THAT'S STRANGE OR WEIRD

In keeping with Halloween tradition, in October, we're looking for art that is disturbing, grotesque, shocking, or downright creepy. Anything that makes the viewer a little uncomfortable.

Hang: Oct 1 / Saturday

Strike: Oct 31/ Monday (Halloween)

NOVEMBER

The Photo Group will be having their group photo show at GVA during the month of November.



Stop in to see the artwork of **Sri McCarthy**, now on display at Bliss & Vinegar, and grab a delicious salad while you are at it!

If you are interested in showing your work at B&V, you must first place your work in the Gallery on our GVA website. Marty Klar coordinates the displays at B&V. Please do not contact the restaurant directly. Contact Marty with Bliss-specific questions: martyklar@comcast.net, (616) 813-7921.



Sri with Jennifer McNamara, owner of B&V.

2017 Reeds Lake Poster Contest

Time to start thinking about your submission for the 2017 Poster Contest! Entries can be either original art or digital file. If you choose to submit a digital file, please provide an image measuring 8"x12" at 300 ppi (2400x3600 pixels) to rkraai@ameritech.net no later than November 10th. If you will be submitting an original piece of art, it should measure 12"x18". You will need to bring your poster to the GVA board room on Program Night, November 10th. Images do not need to include wording, as that can be added electronically to the image you provide. However, if you wish to include the information yourself, the poster should include the following:

**Grand Valley Artists presents
The 52nd Reeds Lake Art Festival
In Gaslight Village, East Grand Rapids
Saturday, June 17, 2017, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**

Have questions? Call Bob Kraii at 616-956-7734

Contact Listings for Grand Valley Artists

President
Carol Laurn
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carollaurn@yahoo.com

Vice President
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Secretary
Dana Donnell
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

Treasurer
Evie Carrier
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evie.carrier@gmail.com

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

Photography
Lora Cecola
loracecola@mac.com

Program
Randy Nyhof
616-745-1486
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Reeds Lake Art Festival
Bob Kraai
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Newsletter and Website
Mary Marin
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GVA Gallery Shows
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616-451-2211
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Sketch Coordinators
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Hospitality
Peg McKeown
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Library
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Board Meeting October 6 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.
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

ADD TO YOUR NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Photography Group Reception
November 5, 4:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Do You Have Any Suggestions?

Our suggestion box welcomes your ideas. You can also drop information for the GVA newsletter in the box if you are unable to send it via email, although email is preferred (send to marymarin@comcast.net).

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.

Grand Valley Artists

1345 Monroe Ave. NW Suite 130

Grand Rapids, MI 49505

It's Time to Renew!

A message from Dave Bechtel

Thank you for the members who have renewed their membership online and via letters to my address. We are still very short on renewals and I would request that you remind your friends and fellow artists to renew at their earliest convenience.

We appreciate your paying via the website with PayPal if possible, or you can send a check made out to GVA to David Bechtel, 1489 40th St SW, Wyoming, MI 49509.