
Members in the News

Mary Reusch and Margaret Kriegbaum

GVA artists are invited to Mary Reusch and Margaret Kriegbaum's artist reception October 6th, 6 p.m.–7 p.m., at the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center, 600 Forest Hills Ave. SE, Grand Rapids. Their paintings will be exhibited from September 29th through October 21st. Hope to see you at the reception!

Rocks in Blue Sky Stream by Mary Reusch (below)



N. Manitou Island
by Margaret Kriegbaum (above)



Tom Dandridge

Tom is having a one-person show of over 30 of his pastel, ink, and charcoal landscape and portrait artwork at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids. The show runs from August 1st to the end of October.

The church is open Sunday, and Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. It is located on Jefferson two blocks south of Fulton. Enter from the parking lot south of the church.

It's Time to Renew!

Now is the time to renew your GVA membership for the next year. Please visit www.grandvalleyartists.com and click on the Artists Join Here link on the home page. From there, you can fill out the form to renew. We appreciate your paying with PayPal if possible, or send a check made out to GVA to David Bechtel, 1489 40th St SW, Wyoming, MI 49509.

OUTREACH Program Started

by Steve Scarborough

On August 1st, seven excited young people came to our GVA studio for our first Outreach program for autistic youth. Dixie Olin, our instructor, has lots of experience in teaching special needs students. We have found our students with the help of Anne Mary Dykstra, who runs Autism Support of Kent County.

The classes are from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and the next classes are Sept. 12th and 26th and Oct 10th and 24th. We should run every two weeks after that, but there are a few breaks. Dixie needs one or two helpers from GVA every class. You can e-mail Dixie at dixie.olin@gmail.com for more information or to help with any class. Carol Lurn, my wife Linda and I helped on the first class and it was heart-warming how incredible these kids are.



Monet Revisited

by Steve Scarborough

This spring, my wife Linda and I went to Giverny, home of Claude Monet, to see his famous gardens and ponds.

Monet moved to Giverny in 1883 and worked hard to be able to buy it a few years later. The gardens were immediately expanded and were the subject of his work until his passing in 1926. Being a fan of Impressionism, I had to see where some of its most important paintings were done. We



weren't disappointed—to be able to stand in his studio and gardens, to walk across the Japanese bridge and look down at dozens of water lilies in bloom was a dream. Needless to say, I took lots of pictures!



Reading about how this all was still standing today, I found out that Monet's son Michel had inherited the property, but let Blanche, Monet's stepdaughter, continue to take care of things. The son never moved in. Years passed, and the gardens and house slowly deteriorated to the point where Michel decided to leave the property to better hands.

By the time the Academie des Beaux-Arts took it over the garden, things had deteriorated to the point that it took ten years to restore it to its original splendor. A professional gardener who had often visited Monet at his home and studio, Georges Truf-

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Is Photography for You?

by Randy Nyhof

The GVA Photo Group met twice this month with the first meeting being our usual photo critique and info sharing meeting. We also met on the evening of the third Tuesday where we shared information while going over some of Jim Henningsen's unique cameras and books that we brought on photography and photoshop.



For the August program we enjoyed a film on the Life and Work of Man Ray. Program Night in September will be a Forum on the GVA Organization moderated by Robin Bomhof. Also there will be input from the Legacy Long Range Planning Committee. Your input is important on subjects that could range from ArtPrize 2016 to directions and dichotomy in contemporary art. This is your opportunity to lend your voice to a stimulating dialog.



faut, reconstructed the garden to what it was when his friend lived there. Today thousands of people make the easy trip from Paris to see the father of Impressionism's home each year. I was surprised how many people the gardens alone can accommodate—it was packed! But even though we were far from being alone, it was still tranquil and beautiful.

No expense was spared in the garden's construction, with common flowers growing wild and rare species carefully placed. Trees offered lots of shade, and pathways kept everyone from invading the delicate flower beds and ponds. The bridges, carefully crafted reproductions, and rowboats similar to the ones Monet painted from sat at the water's edge, contributing to the illusion that Monet was still there.

I'd read that Monet would load up several canvases in a rowboat and drift out into the

ponds, switching canvases as the light changed, eventually completing one work and starting another in the same day.

The house was massive, and I saw why it had to be. His family was huge. The dining room table could seat a dozen easily. The colors of each room were carefully chosen, and each wall decorated with Monet originals, Japanese prints, and paintings from his friends.

We could have stayed much longer, but we had a schedule to keep and only stayed a few hours. I urge anyone traveling to Paris to take the time to see Giverny—you won't be disappointed.







*Thank You, Dave and Mary Bazen,
for once again hosting a wonderful
gathering!*



Service Reproduction: Half a Century of Service

by Steve Scarborough

When the board decided that GVA needed to conduct a survey to find out more about our membership, they suggested that I ask Bob Norkus at Service Reproduction Company for a couple of gift certificates to inspire our members to take part. He immediately agreed to help us out. He's been giving our members a discount for years and has been very supportive of GVA.

While I was visiting with Bob, I asked him whether he was an artist himself. He smiled and told me he built model airplanes. At first, I thought he was talking about the small plastic kind I put together when I was a boy, but Bob was talking about something entirely different—he built real models, the kind made of wood and fabric and hand painted with minute detail.

I asked how long it took to make a wooden airplane, and he admitted that the last one took him about a year to complete, but if you stick to it, he claimed you can do one in a month. Wow—now that takes patience!



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Collin Fry, Member Extraordinaire



Collin's last visit to GVA, along with an easel he donated to our studio.

Cool guy. He is always smiling and in good humor. His suggestions are helpful as well as encouraging. I'll miss him and wish he and Colleen the best life as Zonies. Perhaps we can plan a plein air paint out in Arizona so we can visit him.

Joanne Swann

I have known the Frys for a very long time, but not through GVA. I met them through my parents at the Muskegon Museum of Art and the West Shore Graphic Arts Society. The Frys were my favorites of my parents' friends and I always looked forward to seeing them, usually at WSGAS meetings. They were always such a pleasure to talk to and so knowledgeable. Collin told some wonderful stories about his adventures with his painting buddies.

Some years later, after joining GVA, I remember the pleasure of unexpectedly seeing Collin's familiar face—we hadn't kept in touch after my parents' deaths and I had forgotten his connection with GVA. It was lovely discovering the group held him in such high esteem!

Sara Youngman

I've known Collin Fry for many, many years, as a dear friend, and colleague. He always greeted me with a warm smile and a twinkle in his eye. It's hard for me to put into words how much he has meant to me, and to all the people who counted Collin as their friend. A truly admirable individual. His presence, and his wonderful artwork will be dearly missed. I thank him for being a wonderful part of my life all these years, and wish him and Coleen many wonderful years ahead.

Love from Larry and Linda Blovits

Collin, thanks so much for sharing your always interesting and beautiful paintings at Critique. Also, for bringing your lovely wife Colleen with you and sharing her with us. And, for sharing the wonderful story about how you met each other. We will miss you both but wish you joy and happiness as you settle into your new home in the Southwest.

Fondly,
Jan McKinnon

Collin, although I didn't get to know you as well as I would have liked, I thoroughly enjoyed your everpresent smile, and I tried to cheat off of you now and then by peeking over your shoulder, too. :-)) I will miss you. Best of luck on this next adventure.

Mary Marin

I met Collin Fry sometime during the 1990's. He was always a teacher and a treasured friend. I always looked up to Collin's work, understanding the amount of art knowledge he had and I didn't. He was a gentle guide at Sketch and when I had a question about art. He has a gentle wisdom about people and life, and has led me through some tough understandings about both. I appreciate Collin as a friend and as an artist, and will always look up to him for both. I can truly say that Collin is someone who made a big and beautiful and important impression on me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, dear friend! I will miss you more than I have words for. Take care of your dear self.

Kathy Bechtel



Collin and I joined GVA at the same time in the early 1990s and we became great friends. We painted en plein air many times, and in 1997 we decided to organize a three-week painting trip to France. That was before workshops to Europe were around, so if you wanted to paint overseas you had to organize it yourself. We wrote an article that appeared in the January 1999 issue of *American Artist* magazine on how we did it and included the cost so other artists could do the same. It was a great trip, full of many painting and non-painting stories. It is an important part of my art career's favorite memories and cemented a life-long friendship for the two of us.

Collin, I will miss your smile and your stories at GVA sketch. Best of luck and good health in the future. Thanks for your years of valuable membership in GVA.

Jim Markle

Dear Collin,

I'm going to miss you, buddy. Time spent with you was always time well spent. What stands out is your good natured humor (usually with a twinkle in your eye), your spot on portrait paintings, and your insightful critiques. I am envious of the art community in Scottsdale, knowing that you'll continue to make wonderful contributions there.

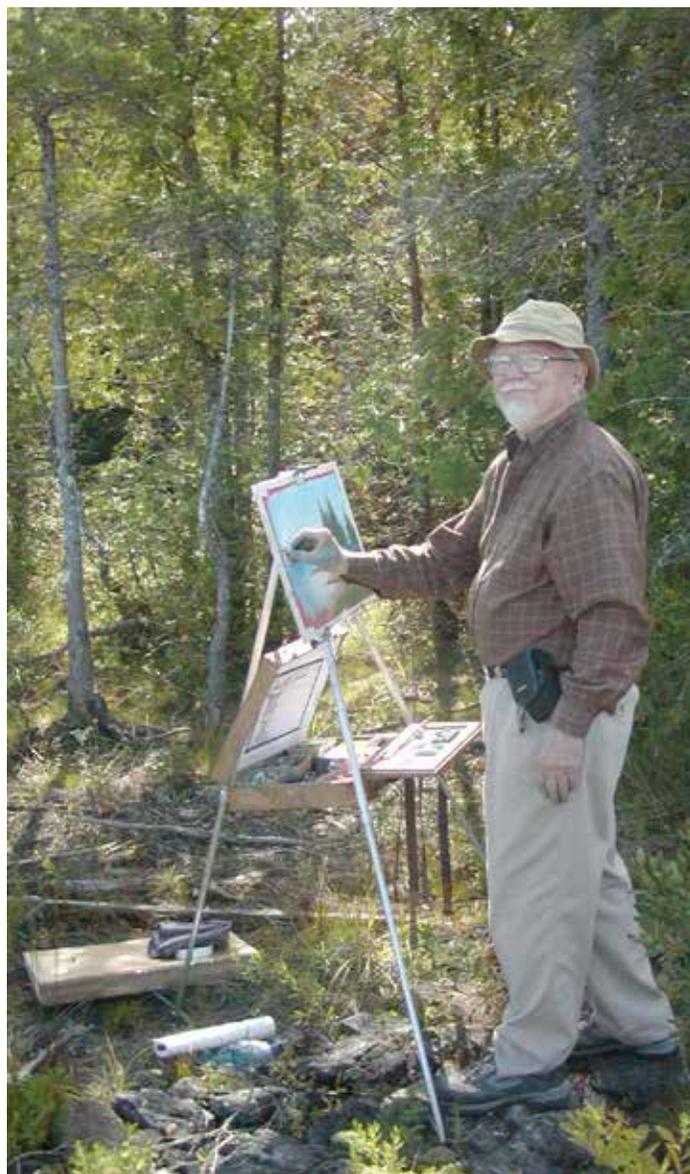
Best Always,
Jim Johnson

Collin has been a supporter of so many artists of GVA. I personally have received many comments and suggestions of ways to improve and indications that I have improved in my art. He has been a warm and joyful personality among us all. His wife Colleen has been a welcome and joyful addition whenever she has joined Collin at meetings. I will miss his gentle smile and support when he moves, but I will always remember his cherub-like face and smile.

In addition, Collin has been an excellent artist and inspiration to many of us who wish to be realistic while story telling in our art. If a painting is large, and has a road curving around a tree, it's a Collin Fry. We know that there is a story to be told about the trip around that tree, and we love to hear Collin tell of the day he painted there.

Collin, we will miss you. But, we hope to make a trip to Arizona and visit in the future!

Dave Bechtel



Smooth Sailing

by Steve Scarborough

Going into the weekend, it didn't look good for our sailing adventure for GVA members. It was rainy and hot, but when Sunday evening came around—the weather was perfect!

At 7 p.m. on the dot, the first mate untied us and Captain Chip headed out the channel. I have to say that riding on a sixty foot schooner draws a little attention, and we were busy waving to everyone along the channel on the way out and on the way back in that evening.

Once we were on Lake Michigan, the sails were hoisted and we took off, moving quickly away from the beach and the lighthouse. Immediately, everyone on board felt relaxed and we all started trading adventure stories. I think everyone agreed that, given the chance, we were all going to do this again. Thanks much to Mary Sayre and Captain Chip for the chance to go sailing. You can contact them for your own cruise at 616-560-1929.



September Program

September 8, 7:30 p.m.

ART FORUM II

From the last art forum (October 10, 2013) evolved the Legacy Group (a long range planning committee) within GVA. Please join us on September 8 to again discuss exciting, inspiring, and fun topics you have contributed or about which you have concerns.

Your input is important on subjects that could range from ArtPrize 2016 to directions and dichotomy in contemporary art. This is your opportunity to lend your voice to a stimulating dialog. Please help us by making some of your thoughts known via the GVA little wooden suggestion box and by participating in Art Forum II. Robyn Bomhof will again preside as our distinguished moderator.

Gallery in September and October

By **Jim Johnson, the Gallery Guy**

SEPTEMBER / DRAWINGS AND SKETCHBOOKS

For many artists, our first love was drawing. Many of us have also kept sketchbooks from time to time over the years. There's something about going through an artist's sketchbook that takes us on a bit of an adventure. For this exhibit, we're calling for drawings (either framed or just mounted and ready to hang) or sketchbooks that contain drawings. The sketchbooks will be presented on a display table located in the gallery. Drawings do not have to be complete. Sometimes sketchy and incomplete drawings are the most interesting. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable.

Hang: Aug 29 / Monday

Strike: Oct 1 / Saturday

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. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable.

Hang: Oct 1 / Saturday

Strike: Oct 31 / Monday (Halloween)

Board News

Survey

Thank you for responding to our survey request. A drawing from the names of those who responded will be held at September Critique, and two fabulous prizes will be awarded. There just might be one or two additional surprises, so get your survey in ASAP to marymarin@comcast.net. A link to the survey can be found at our website, www.grandvalleyartists.com.

Area Art News

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.

48th Annual Fallasburg Festival for the Arts

September 17 & 18

The 48th Annual Fallasburg Festival for the Arts is a 2-day festival held in picturesque Fallasburg Park, located approximately 20 miles east of Grand Rapids.

The event features 100 unique fine art and fine crafts booths, food booths, and a children's craft area.

Timeless craft demonstrations take place inside a large pavilion while musicians perform on an outdoor stage both days. Annual attendance estimates are 25,000.

Admission is free. Festival Dates: Saturday, September 17 & Sunday, September 18, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. both days. Address: 1124 Fallasburg Park Dr. NE, Lowell, MI 49331. www.lowellartsmi.org

Moving to Main Art Auction

September 13–October 1

Over 40 pieces of fine art in a variety of media will be on display in the LowellArts! gallery. The artwork was donated by select artists to benefit the *Moving to Main* campaign for the new LowellArts! building on Main Street. Artwork is available for sale through an on-line silent auction. For more details on the auction and the *Moving to Main* campaign, visit www.lowellartsmi.org. Gallery Hours: Tues–Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sat 1–4 p.m. LowellArts is located at 149 S. Hudson St., Lowell, MI 49331.

ICCF

Jon McDonald is the featured artist at ICCF. There will be a collection of 20 of Jon's beautiful portrait paintings. The work will be up through October. ICCF is open during regular business hours.

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

A group of works entitled "Dominican Center Marywood Artists Staff and Sisters" will be on exhibit through September 30. Reception is September 11, 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Plein Air Painters of West Michigan Offering 7-day Retreat This Month

To learn about this wonderful opportunity to paint outdoors every day, enjoy fantastic meals, and spend time with other plein air painters, check out this fall's retreat at Pierce Cedar Creek Institute, near Hastings, MI. Demos and critiques will be on the agenda, too. Very reasonable, too! You can attend all or just part of the week. Learn more about this organization at their website: <http://www.paawm.org/index.html>.

Service Reproduction, continued from page 5

When we walked from his office across the street to the retail store, I stared up at about twenty models, most easily three feet across. They were mostly World War I or II models, and if you blurred out the background of the store, you could easily imagine they had just punched through the clouds and were all on some major war mission. I was impressed.

Bob then showed me a variety of kits for sale. I mentioned that I'd love to build something like that with one of my grandkids, but Bob told me that when he tried that, his grandkids lasted about five minutes tops. I laughed and said five minutes was probably wishful thinking, and he agreed.

As we walked around his store, Bob showed me all his inventory. I asked him how an artist chooses a particular brand over another. He said artists make their choice based on habit, and they can only be persuaded to try a different brand by trying samples or borrowing something from another artist. I guess I fall into that category as well and tend to stick to the brand I've always used.

After saying goodbye to Bob, I decided to shop myself and found several things I needed, a sketch pad with more colors and textures to spice up my portrait sketches on Mondays, a new brand of colored pencils, and a few tubes of oil paint. I even found a canvas in a very unusual size that I'd about given up finding. When I went up to the cashier, I found that the discount Service Reproduction gives to our members was pretty generous. It was then that I swore I wasn't going back to Michaels or Hobby Lobby again—this place had good prices, a much better selection, and a far superior layout to anyplace I'd been before. I could actually find what I was looking for. Also, I don't know about you, but I much prefer touching something before buying it as opposed to buying online.



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.

Bob has been in this business for over a half of century and has a deep concern for quality and its relationship to price. Many changes have happened in his shop over the years, but they still cater to professionals and hobbyists alike. He works closely with schools and colleges and has customers all over the United States.

Service Reproduction also does archival printing. You can e-mail PDFs or JPGs to printroom@serviceproduction.com and you can expect a professional job.

Thank you, Bob Norkus and Service Reproduction Company, for the two \$25 gift certificates to be given out at Critique in September. Remember, you can only win one if you fill out the survey, so best stop procrastinating.



**GVA welcomes new member
Debbie Burgtorf**

Contact Listings for Grand Valley Artists

President
Carol Laurn
616-437-9365
carollaurn@yahoo.com

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

Vice President
Emily Green
616-617-1548
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

Photography
Lora Cecola
loracecola@mac.com

Secretary
Dana Donnell
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

Program
Randy Nyhof
616-745-1486
r.nyhof@comcast.net

Treasurer
Evie Carrier
616-648-6858
evie.carrier@gmail.com

Reeds Lake Art Festival
Bob Kraai
616-956-7734
rkraai@ameritech.net

Newsletter and Website
Mary Marin
616-443-0362
marymarin@comcast.net

Publicity
Steve Scarborough
stevescarb1@yahoo.com

GVA Gallery Shows
Jim Johnson
616-451-2211
johntheartist@hotmail.com

Sketch Coordinators
Kathy Bechtel
616-540-5744
kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com
Dave Bazen
dbazen@bazenelectric.com
Larry Goff
lawrencegoff@comcast.net
Jim Johnson
616-451-2211
johnsontheartist@hotmail.com

Hospitality
Peg McKeown
616-656-9210
mcperfitt@me.com

Library
Jim Johnson
616-451-2211
johntheartist@hotmail.com



Board Meeting September 1 at 6:15 p.m.

EVERY WEEK

Sundays	Closed	
Mondays	10:00 a.m. until noon	Sketch
Tuesdays	1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.	Photo
Wednesdays	2:00 until 5:00 p.m. (check website for location)	Plein Air
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.	Critique Program Sketch
Fridays	10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.	Still Life
Saturdays	10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.	Sketch

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

2017 Reeds Lake Poster Contest

2017 Reeds Lake Poster Contest Details

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 AM – 5 PM

Have questions? Call Bob Kraai at 616-956-7734.