



www.grandvalleyartists.com

Highlights

December 2019

HOLIDAY PARTY TIME!

December 12 at 6 p.m.!

The GVA Holiday Party is a fun opportunity to mix and mingle. We extend this invitation to all members and particularly to those who are new to GVA. Our holiday get-together is a chance to become acquainted with our new and seasoned members in a relaxed social setting. Bring your spouse or a friend to share the merriment!

The party will be held in place of Program at 6 p.m. on December 12 at our Service Road studio. Please bring an appetizer, entrée, salad, or dessert to share.

The evening celebration will include a short program. Randy Nyhof will run a video during the evening that captures the many special GVA events throughout 2019.

You won't want to miss the big excitement: Our Annual Holiday Exhibit. Each GVA member is invited to submit up to two pieces to the show, and you will play a part in determining the winning pieces. To enter, see the guidelines and entry form inside this newsletter.

Planning for the party takes some work. Our hospitality chairperson, Peg McKeown, would appreciate help setting up the food and drink tables. Please contact her to offer your assistance. Her email is mcperfitt@me.com.

Time for a Change?

Submitted by Mary Marin

I don't know about you, but I know I'm ready for a new masthead on this newsletter, and, while we are at it, how about a NEW NAME???? "Highlights" has been around for a long time, but maybe we can do better. If you have a suggestion for a new name, 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 some great ideas!!!!

A Letter from Our President

Dear Grand Valley Artists,

The holidays are fast approaching. This is also a time when our charities and nonprofit organizations ask for donations. These donations are what help to keep their doors open and their operations functioning.

Should you be willing to give a donation to GVA, please send it to:

**Nonprofit Director
Grand Valley Artists
1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106
Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

You will receive notification of your donation for tax purposes.

Best wishes to all,
Carol Lurn



GVA Gallery in December

Submitted by Jim Johnson

Our annual holiday competition is right around the corner. Please bring your entry/entries to the studio on or before December 2. The cost to enter is \$10 for one piece and \$15 for two. Please include the entry form with your work. (Form found on page 4.)

LowellArts Holiday

Artists Market

November 14–December 23

The annual LowellArts Holiday Artists Market features artwork by over 50 area artists. Artwork and other handmade items by Michigan artists are available for purchase during the gift-giving season. Gift items include pottery, paintings, photography, jewelry, textiles, glasswork, handbags, woodwork, metalwork, basketry, ornaments, soaps, and more. Market hours are Tues–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sunday & Monday 12–5 p.m.

Website: LowellArtsMi.org

LowellArts, 223 W Main St, Lowell, MI 49331



Photo Group

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on November 5 with their usual critique and announcements.

Our next meeting will be on December 3 for the usual critique and announcements. We also plan on meeting December 10, and Mike Mitchell will conduct a photography workshop on oil and water.

Program Night

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

For our November Program on Thursday the 14th, Randy presented a PowerPoint program titled “Some Tips on Improving Your Landscapes.”

December’s “Program Night” will be our annual Winter Holiday Party. Awards will be presented to the winners of the Holiday competition. Voting begins December 2 and goes until 7 p.m. on December 12, the evening of the party. Please bring an appetizer, entrée, salad, or dessert to share.

POSTER CONTEST ENTRIES DUE DECEMBER 20!

Once again, Grand Valley Artists will be choosing the design for the Reeds Lake Art Festival from members' original artwork submissions. Winning posters will be chosen based on how well they capture the viewer's attention and motivate them to participate in or attend the Reeds Lake Art Festival. Artwork will be judged on creativity, originality, vibrancy of images, and a strong marketing message that promotes both GVA and the Reeds Lake Festival.

The entries can be printed and ready for display or submitted as a digital file, in either a JPEG, PDF or PNG format. The file is recommended to be 1080 pixels to show the judges, but must be at least 3900 x 5700 to print as a 13" wide x19" tall poster.

Send your digital images to danabdonnell@gmail.com or drop original artwork off at GVA by December 20, 2019. Voting will be done by GVA members at Critique in January. The poster must include the following words (or space for the words):

**Grand Valley Artists presents the
55th Annual Reeds Lake Art Festival
Gaslight Village, East Grand Rapids
June 20, 2020**

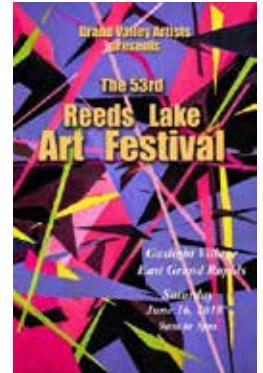
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (rain or shine)

For more information about our organization, go to grandvalleyartists.com

Only original artwork will be considered. Individuals MAY submit multiple entries.

Questions?

Contact Linda Scarborough (616) 570-8796 or lindaascarborough@yahoo.com.



ART CHAT TRIP!

Art chat is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 6th at 1:00 p.m. Larry Blovits will open his studio to GVA members and guests to discuss how he designed his studio exterior and interior considering all necessary requirements: light, storage, painting stations, and all other necessary facilities. He will also be open to discussing his artwork present in the studio. Ample parking for about ten cars is available. Carpooling from GVA is also recommended. Meeting time for carpooling is 12:45 in the GVA lot.

Larry's address is 1835 Luce St. SW, Grand Rapids, 49534. Best way to get there is to take Lake Michigan Drive through Standale continuing towards Grand Valley State University, to 8th Avenue (light). Turn left and proceed to the end (Luce), turn right, and go one mile. At the bottom of the hill on the right (white fence), Larry will have a sign saying "Blovits Studio" at the beginning of the driveway. The address and name are also on the mailbox.

Call for Entries: GVA Holiday Party and Exhibit 2019

Members are invited to enter one or two original 2D or 3D artworks for the exhibit. All 2D work must be framed, wired, and ready to hang. Gallery wrapped canvases are acceptable, too. The winners will be determined by GVA member votes. **Previously displayed work is not allowed.**

Deadline: Monday, December 2 between 10 a.m. and noon at the GVA studio. All entries will be exhibited.

Entry Fee: The entry fee is \$10 for one entry and \$15 for two. Fill out the entry form and tape it and your payment to the back of your entry/entries.

Cash Prizes: Cash prizes will be awarded at the party. Voting will begin at Critique on Thursday, December 5 and continue through the following week, ending on Thursday, December 12 at 7 p.m. Members can vote by filling out a ballot, available in our GVA gallery during regular business hours, and then dropping the ballot into the wooden box clearly marked "GVA Holiday Member Competition." Each member can vote for their 3 favorite pieces. Our annual GVA Holiday Party is December 12, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.

Requirements: All work must be dry and ready to hang with proper wires and hangers.

Sale of Works: Works not for sale should be marked NFS. GVA does not take a commission.

Liability: GVA will handle works with all possible care but is not responsible for any loss or damage whatsoever.

Please attach the entry form to your work/s along with your payment.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Name of Artwork _____

Price (or NFS) _____

You won't want to miss our
December 5 Critique Night and
our Holiday Party on December 12!

On the agenda at Critique will be
TWO
important things:

Electing a new GVA president!
Electing a new GVA treasurer!

At the Holiday Party On Decem-
ber 12, we will have a last chance
to vote for our favorite works in
the December show!



GVA Welcomes New Members

Cynthia Lang-Coleman
Mariah West
BJ Johnson
Angelica Hay

Returning Member
Grace Shaarda

Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

President

Carol Lourn
616-437-9365
carollourn@yahoo.com

Vice President

Emily Green
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

Secretary

Dana Donnell
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

Treasurer

Evie Carrier
evie.carrier@gmail.com

Membership

Mary Baine
marymbaine@gmail.com

Photography

Randy Nyhof
r.nyhof@comcast.net

Program

Randy Nyhof
r.nyhof@comcast.net

Reeds Lake Art Festival

Linda Scarborough
lindaascorborough@yahoo.com
616-570-8796

Newsletter and Website

Mary Marin
marymarin1285@gmail.com

Publicity

Steve Scarborough
stevescarb1@yahoo.com

GVA Gallery Shows

Jim Johnson
johnsontheartist@hotmail.com

Sketch/Model Coordinators

Kathy Bechtel
kathleen.bechteler@yahoo.com
Mary Marin
marymarin1285@gmail.com

Hospitality

Peg McKeown
mcperfitt@me.com

GVA Library

Jim Johnson
johnsontheartist@hotmail.com

Facilities Coordinator

Dave Bazen
dbazen@bazenelectric.com

501(c)(3) Coordinator

Position Open

Legacy Liaison

Robert Kraai
rkraai@ameritech.net

Outreach

Doug Klemm
dougklemm@hotmail.com

Social Media

Emily Green
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

Newsletter Distribution

Sallie Zigterman
sallie.zigterman@yahoo.com

Election for Officers on December 5

Candidates for GVA President:

The next President and Treasurer of GVA will be elected by paper ballot at 7:30 pm on Thursday, December 5, 2019. Members who wish to vote must do so in person. The nominating committee presents for your consideration four candidates for the two positions; all have been invited to provide information about their relationships with GVA and their qualifications.

Edd Kloote is willing to serve GVA as its next President. He has been involved with GVA off and on since the 1980s. He also has an associate's degree in art and has worked 40 years in the picture framing and gallery industry.

Alex Myrhorodsky has volunteered to serve as GVA President. According to our records, he joined GVA in 2018. He has been a fine art and photo printer as well as a photographer for over 20 years and has done considerable printing for members of GVA over the years and for ArtPrize participants. He became interested in GVA after doing a lot of work for Dixie Olin. He loves art and what it does for the soul and mind of people. He thinks we need more young people involved with GVA, as we can learn from each other. According to Alex, the GVA members he has met are a distinguished group of artists and art lovers, and he states that GVA is a gold mine of artists that can add so much to the community. He says, "We cannot do this alone; let us all together form a team for the future of art in our community."

Joanne Swann is a candidate for GVA President. A second-generation GVA member -- who initially accompanied her mother, Emma Grachtrup, and her mother's friend Shirley Hinz when visiting from California -- Joanne officially joined in 2005 when she moved back to Grand Rapids to assist her mother as she aged and lost her eyesight. Joanne has served as Secretary on the GVA board 2008-2012 and as our ArtPrize Coordinator. She is currently part of the Legacy committee and participates in Art Chat. She also promotes GVA by attending Grand Rapids Gallery Association meetings and by organizing workshops and events to be held at our studios.

Candidate for GVA Treasurer:

Lloyd Wheeler is our only candidate for the position of GVA Treasurer. A member of GVA for four years since moving to Grand Rapids, his participation has been limited to sketching sessions and program evenings. His credentials include 30 plus years of accounting and financial experience: Board Member and Treasurer of Applewood Condos (Grand Rapids, MI) and Fairwinds Condos (Annapolis, MD); Chief of Financial Operations for Anne Arundel County, MD; and Lead Accountant for Anne Arundel City Public Schools. Subsequent to his retirement, he has also provided accounting services for several small businesses. Degrees: BS, U of Maryland; MBA, U of Baltimore.

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

PARKING—Dave Bazen

GVA TENT—Dani Ehlenfeldt

FOOD AND BEVERAGE OFFERINGS—Carol Lourn and Steve Scarborough

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES—Mary Baine

PRINT MARKETING— Dana Donnell

NONPRINT MARKETING AND PROMOTION—Steve Scarborough

VENDORS—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

MUSIC—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

SILENT AUCTION OF GVA ARTWORK—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

WRAP UP—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

Area Art News

Dominican Center at Marywood

November/December: Kathleen Kalinowski's students of pastels and oils and Kathleen herself will be displaying their work. Reception is December 8, 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

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. The reception is Friday, December 6 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. Parking is free next to St. Cecilia. Learn more at <http://scmc-online.org/visit-terryberry-gallery>

Visiting the Smoky Mountains

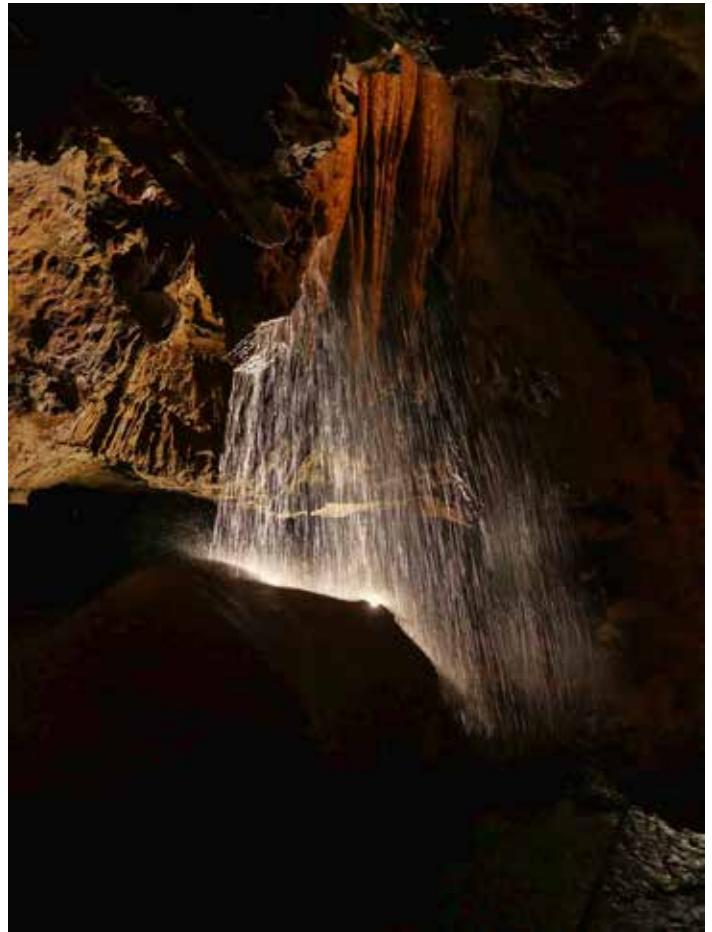
by Steve Scarborough

Looking for a good halfway point to meet our son and his family, Linda and I chose Townsend, Tennessee, for a quick visit. It would be early November and we hoped there would still be some fall colors on display and we weren't disappointed. Being in the Smoky Mountains in the fall was a real treat for everyone.

Linda and our daughter-in-law picked out a cabin using Airbnb, right at the entrance of the National Park. It slept twelve, and it had a nice kitchen, so we didn't have to eat out every meal, which can be pricey for a family of six. Being in bear country, we had to clean out our cars of everything with a scent, including Tic-Tacs, hand wipes, gum—you name it. The security guard told us that bears break into cars all the time to get treats, so we were extra careful. I like my SUV with the doors intact!

We made Cades Cove our first stop. It's an area in the Smoky Mountains that settlers first occupied in 1822. There's an eleven mile road that loops through this beautiful valley, which is also shared by elk, deer, bear, and various other wildlife. Two million visitors drive, bike, or hike through it every year. No one in our family had seen it before, so we all had fun exploring it.

I especially liked all the old buildings, including log cabins, several churches, and even a working water



Linda Scarborough's photo of some falls in Townsend.

powered mill. Linda bought a bag of corn meal processed at the John Cable Grist Mill that she made into corn bread when we got back home. (It was outstanding!)

Everywhere we explored was filled with history of



Linda's photo of a creek in Townsend, Tennessee.

the area where simple farmers carved out a life in the middle of this incredible beauty. Such hardships they endured! We documented our trip with photos. It's always hard to juggle taking a family shot one second and an artistic shot the next, but we are learning how to do it successfully.



Autumn colors in Tennessee, captured by Linda.

The next thing on our list of adventures was the Tuckaleechee Caverns (right in Townsend), which has a series of large rooms, stalagmites twenty-some feet long, other eerie rock formations, and even a 200-foot multi-tier underground waterfall, the Silver Falls! Do not miss this extraordinary natural wonder when you're in Tennessee. It was an hour and half tour we would have repeated if we'd had time.

We also visited Laurel Falls, which is at the end of a very long uneven and treacherous hiking trail (OK, maybe I'm exaggerating a bit) that ascends Cove Mountain. It was beautiful but so busy, it was hard to get a good photograph of it. Well worth the several mile hike though, especially if you have two little kids that need to be carried most of the way up and down.

Thank goodness for the backpack infant carriers they have now.

Driving through mountainous areas is very tiring because of all the winding switchbacks, but the views of mountains, buildings and wildlife are worth it as long as one takes a few breaks. If you ever have a chance, visit the Smoky Mountains. You will enjoy it!



These two photos by Steve, a farmer making molasses above and a grist mill below, take the viewer back in time.





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 **Colin Plank's** work is currently showing. Up next, **Sallie Zigterman**, early in December. If you are interested in displaying your work at the library, contact Sandi Brogger at rsbrogger@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.



DECEMBER CALENDAR

Board Meeting December 5 at 6:00 p.m.

EVERY WEEK

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 6:00 p.m.

Critique and **ELECTION**
Long Pose**
HOLIDAY PARTY

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



Show Your Work at Trinity United Methodist Church

Be sure to stop by any Monday through Thursday at Trinity, located at 1100 Lake Drive SE, during regular business hours. You'll enjoy seeing works by **Sara Youngman** on display until the end of November. **Marty Klar** and **Dana Donnell's** work will be displayed December through January. If you want to show your work at Trinity in February/March, please let Sara Youngman know. You can email her at sycre8@gmail.com.



Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106

Grand Rapids, MI 49503