



Highlights

www.grandvalleyartists.com

June 2018

“En Plein Air”

Painting “en plein air” is not for the faint of heart. Wind. Sun. Rain. Cold. Or maybe, just maybe, a gentle breeze, temps in the 70s, plenty of shade, and the most important thing of all: a nearby bathroom!

GVA artists venture out every Wednesday during the spring, summer, and fall, weather permitting (more or less), to locations in and around Grand Rapids. Urban settings, farmland, quaint small towns, fairgrounds, gardens, the zoo, and members’ homes have been among the many targets Jim Johnson, our courageous organizer (see below) has chosen for our pastels, pencils, and brushes.

The chosen destination is posted on our website calendar every Tuesday night, so you’ll know which way to point your car. We usually gather afterward for a bite to eat somewhere near the paint out, and we’d love to have you join us. In the meantime, you can see what we are up to. Images are peppered throughout this newsletter.



“Cherry Street” by Jim Johnson



“Luminescence” by Kristian Matthews



“The Pond at John Ball Park” by Mary Marin



“Spring Street Sun and Shadow” by Diane Haworth

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Thursday, June 7th is the close of Artist Registrations for ArtPrize 10 - Artists who are interested in showing in our venue please register before that date. Artists and venues will have until June 28 to connect with each other.

A Very Special Program Night, June 14

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

You won't want to miss this! For our June Program on the 14th, Sid Jansma Junior, who has an artwork collection of many Merizons, Altens, and others that hang in the Wolverine Gas and Oil Space will host a tour for Grand Valley Artists. We will **meet at GVA around 6:30** and carpool from there to meet with Sid at the Wolverine Gas and Oil Space where he will introduce himself and welcome us, after which we will tour the art in the facility for an hour and then meet back in their lunch room for questions.

No Sketch on June 16

As is the case every year, we will not be having sketch on the day of the Reeds Lake Art Festival. Join with your friends to help make this festival the best one ever! See below.



Photo Group

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on May 1 with their usual critique. For our meeting on Tuesday May 15, I presented a short PowerPoint Program on Nighttime and Lowlight Photography. Afterward a number of us went downtown to do nighttime cityscape photography. It was great fun for everyone involved. We meet again on June 5 for our regular critique.

In other news, several of us in the Photo Group were accepted into the GR Festival of the Arts Show. Steve Scarborough and myself won awards.

Several members of the Photo Group are in the Lowell Show "Location, Location, Location," too.

On a final note my work "Dutch Heritage" got 3rd place in the People's Choice Awards in the Holland Tulip Time Festival.

REEDS LAKE ART FESTIVAL

JUNE 16

Our biggest event of the year!

GVA Needs Your Help

Please give Bob Kraai a call or write to him at rkraai@ameritech.net to volunteer at Reeds Lake Art Festival. We all need to pitch in to make this, our main fundraiser of the year, a success!



Many Hands Make **LIGHT** Work

Reeds Lake Art Festival

Submitted by Steve Scarborough

This month is our big event of the year—the Reeds Lake Art Festival! This year we are celebrating our 53rd art extravaganza! It takes place as usual in the Gaslight district of East Grand Rapids, one day only: **Saturday, June 16th, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

We have over a hundred artists from all over the country participating in the art festival. From paintings to photographs, ceramic work to jewelry, wood working to our own local novelist—there will be something for everyone!

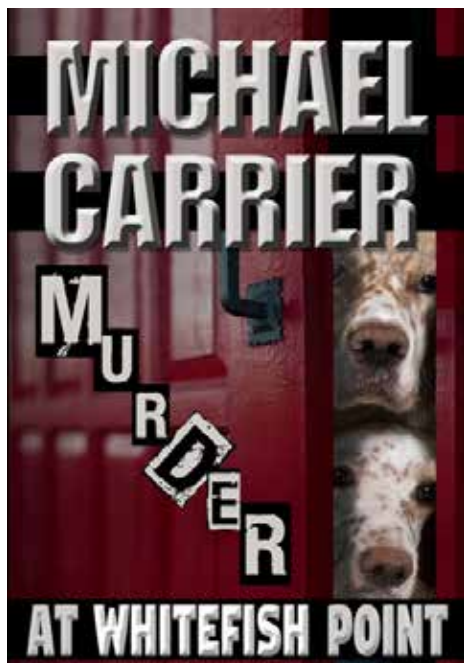
The most important aspect of the festival is how diverse it is. The Gaslight district, which goes from Croswell Ave. to Lakeside Dr. on Wealthy Street, is a fun place to explore. Reeds Lake is one of the most beautiful spots in the Grand Rapids area, and the GVA sponsored art show is on Wealthy, which is closed to car traffic for the day.



All the businesses will remain open, including Rose's, Jose Barbushka's, Osta's, Olive's Restaurant and Grill, Starbucks, Foo Yen, and many other places that are open for lunch and dinner.

Save room for an ice cream at Jersey Junctionom, too! You'll find a flower shop, shops for apparel, and many more one of a kind specialty shops worth checking out when you're done buying some new artwork.

Many of our favorite local artists will be there, but be on the look out for some talented new artists too, not only at our GVA tent, but in their own booths along Wealthy Street. I was very pleased while viewing photos of the artwork that will be on display this year.



Rain or shine, this year's art festival is going to be great! Please help out if you can, as the event depends upon GVA volunteers. A Volunteer sign-up clipboard is at GVA, or you can call Bob Kraai at 616-956-7734 or email him at rkraai@ameritech.net.



No More Starving Artists at GVA!

Historically, there are numerous examples of artists who have so totally focused their attention on their artistic pursuits that they have neglected their personal needs—some even failing to eat properly. That’s where the term “Starving Artists” originated.



Take Michelangelo for example. He was so preoccupied with his art that he was known to have slept with his boots on. That’s weird! And even though he was a very rich man, at times he liked to snack.



Let’s face it. We all like to nibble. Some of us treat ourselves to an occasional munch—even the would-be “Starving Artists” are not totally impervious to an indulgence now and then. So, think about bringing a snack to Critique and/or Program. It’s okay if you did not sign up. Yes. Just slip the cheese, crackers, and Oreos under your arm on the way out of the door. Or maybe grab the chips and salsa. Some artist will be glad you did. As always, coffee is provided.

Call for Artists in Lake Odessa

The 44th annual Art in the Park will be held on the grounds of Lake Odessa’s shady and picturesque Village Park on Saturday, August 4, 2018, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Learn more at their website:

<http://www.lakeodessaarts.com>



Call for Artists in Rockford

Rogue River Artists Association hopes you can join them as an exhibitor on September 8, 2018.

Download applications at www.rogueriverartists.org. Please fill out and return the application with your exhibitor fee and art photos or link to your web portfolio by August 10, 2018.

Contact and Questions:

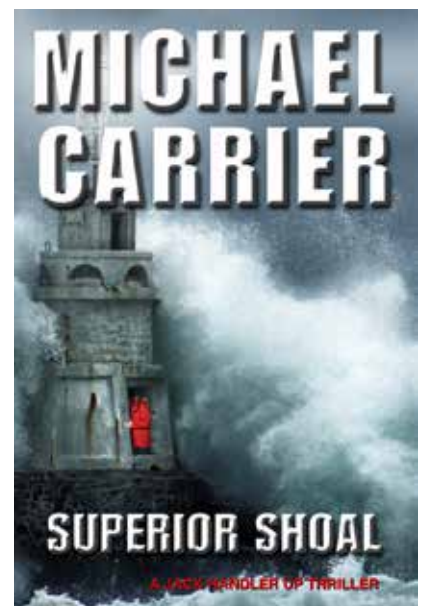
James Falk | falkdesign@me.com | 616 866-3282



Upload Michael’s Latest Novel Today!

Michael Carrier expresses his gratitude to members of Grand Valley Artists for all their help in designing the cover for his new book, “Superior Shoal.” Michael, who also is a member of GVA, submitted his proposed cover designs on numerous occasions to the Photo Group of GVA and to those artists present at Critique. The new book, number twelve in his best selling Michigan-based Jack Handler saga, came out on May 16, 2018. Like all of the earlier Jack Handler books, “Superior Shoal” provides intense levels of excitement—at times electrifying, at other times gut wrenching.

Regular pricing for the download is \$6.95. It is just like the print version (\$19.95), except the electronic version can be read on your eBook device, or on any PC or Apple computer.



One Sentence Artist Statements

I love the simplicity of drawing using humble materials, only a pencil and paper; I aspire to create heartfelt images that will connect with the viewer.

—Sue Ellison

It is about my feelings for the subject, and the color blue.

—Peggy Falk

Usually I am saying with my paintbrush that I appreciate the funny, the mundane or the poetic experience of this world.

—Susan Pragaspathy

When my art is true, like love, it is an uncensored expression of my soul.

—Tom Dandridge

The hope that it will create an emotionally uplifting reaction for the viewer.

—DeLaine Klar

Doing art fills me with joy, giving a higher purpose to my everyday life.

—Mary Marin

I try to find comfort in the present moment—using the felt sense and shifts within my body to choose colors, materials, compositions, meaning and the knowing of completion.

—Susy Storm

I just can't quit.

—Sue Buckrey

I strive to engage the world with my art that hopefully expresses my feelings I would not otherwise be fully aware of.

—Leon Lou

Because.

—Bill Andrus

I'm learning.

—Chris Andrus

My art is a selfish endeavor of helping me connect with like minded individuals.

—Ron Shamery

More artist statements to come. Have you submitted your own yet? If not, mail it to marymarin1285@gmail.com so we can include it in a future issue.

ArtPrize Entry Deadline

[Register as an ArtPrize Artist](#) by June 7 at 5 p.m. EST to participate in the event this fall.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates!

Artist Registration: April 16 - June 7

Connections: April 25 - June 28

Preview Week: September 12-18

ArtPrize 10: September 19 - October 7

Questions? ArtPrize is happy to help. Email them at artists@artprize.org.

If you have a photo of work that you'd like to share in an upcoming issue, please email it to marymarin1285@gmail.com. We want to see what you've been doing!



Our “fearless” (???) leader painting “outdoors.” Hmm.

amazon smile



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If you shop online, you are no doubt a fan of Amazon. Did you know that every time you buy something on Amazon, they will make a contribution to your favorite 501c3 organization? This works with regular and also with Amazon Prime. You just need to create an **Amazon Smile** account and then always sign in to **Amazon Smile** to make a purchase. Sign up for Amazon Smile the next time you are about to purchase, and select Grand Valley Artists as your favorite non-profit. Thanks!!!!



Speaking of Smiles...

The Friday still life group had a great time getting outside of their usual styles, shaking it up with a fun day of various artistic exercises introduced by Susan Storm. If you are want to peek at artists at play, check out this video on YouTube! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPgU_kgI8ZU&feature=youtu.be

A New Opportunity to Show Your Art!

We are excited to announce that Trinity United Methodist Church, located at 1000 Lake Drive SE, has invited GVA to provide art for their beautiful community room going forward. The room is used regularly by the congregation and by many other organizations who meet there, so our work will get a lot of attention.

Artists will set prices (or NFS) that will be included with artist name and title of each work, and you will receive 90% of the sale price of your work, with the remaining 10% going to the church as a donation from the purchaser.



We anticipate changing out the exhibit quarterly, although you will be permitted to remove your work/s earlier if you need them to take somewhere else, sell them, etc.

Our current exhibit includes works by Larry Blovits, Florence Truskowski, Barb Johnson, Mary Marin, and Cindy Wojciakowski. If you would like to show your work or have questions, please contact Mary at marymarin1285@gmail.com. The room is very large, so we can include several artists at a time.

Finally, if you would like to assist with the organization of this endeavor, please let Mary know! Thanks!



“Lena’s House” by Sandi Brogger

GVA Gallery in June

Submitted by Jim Johnson

The month of June will be a tribute to life long member Virginia Jaeger, who recently died. A variety of Virginia's abstract and representational watercolors will be on display.

Zentangle:

Another Fun GVA Workshop!

Great fun was had at the recent Zentangle workshop offered by member and certified Zentangle teacher **Dani Ehlenfeldt**. The variety of outcomes using the same simple patterns was astonishing! (See here.)

We are so fortunate to have such talented members who are willing to share their knowledge with us for a very reasonable fee.



What is “En Plein Air”?

Plein air painting is about leaving the four walls of your studio behind and experiencing painting and drawing in the landscape. The practice goes back for centuries but was truly made into an art form by the French Impressionists. Their desire to paint light and its changing, ephemeral qualities, coupled with the creation of transportable paint tubes and the box easel—the precursor to the plein air easels of today—allowed artists the freedom to paint “en plein air,” which is the French expression for “in the open air.”

—ArtistsNetwork



“The Crossing” by DeLaine Klar



Peggy Falk painting in Cooperstown.



“Tassel Park” by Jim Johnson



And then there's DeLaine. No. This wasn't staged.



“Untitled” by Kristian Matthews



“The Pathway” by Marty Klar



“Cannonsburg Farm ” by Todd Darling

Join Us!

If you wish to be added to his list of people to contact to divulge our next destination, drop Jim a note at johnsontheartist@gmail.com. You can also check the website calendar on Tuesday evenings to see where we are headed the next day.



“No Laundry Today” by Laurie Lehman



“Rosehip” by Joel Boland

Getting to Know Randy Nyhof

Making images was something that has fascinated me since I was a child. After changing majors several times in college I eventually graduated with a degree in art (Specializing in Painting and Drawing).

My involvement in photography started my junior year in college and I became known as the photographer on campus. The college I attended had no degree or courses in photography so I am basically self-taught as regards to the mechanics of photography, the ascetic values I learned from my art experience and looking at a lot of what was considered good photography.



For over forty years I operated my own photography business. I photographed weddings, families, seniors, underclass school children, and commercial products. I gained renewed interest in fine art photography with the new capabilities that digital offered.



Within the last 10 years I have had images published in Popular Photography Magazine, Canada's PhotoLife Magazine, B&W Magazine, Focus Magazine, Trierenberg Super Circuit Publication, Black River Calendar Publishing and a number of local publications. I also have had my work in many local shows and have won a number of awards. I now offer my fine art photographs to a wider audience on the internet. Copies of my photographs can be purchased on several online store fronts. Here are links to the 2 most popular:



www.randynyhofphotos.com
www.randynyhofphotography.com

I joined Grand Valley Artists 12 years ago and at first only was involved in the Photo Group. Years ago I envisioned being part of an artists community where one could interact creatively and intellectually with other artists. I believe GVA has fulfilled that. GVA is a great place to expand and grow one's artistic vision.

ArtPrize Committee Update

Submitted by Joanne Swann

Thank you to those who responded to the email announcing the need for the various committees for ArtPrize.

Sarabeth Carr is the Hosting Coordinator. She will be putting together a list for members to sign up as the event gets closer. I'm sure she'll be making announcements at our gatherings.

Diane Haworth has graciously offered to be in charge of the Opening Reception.

Several people have offered to help paint the site. We'll have a better idea about the date as soon as we get access to the building. I'm still planning to give each person a space/wall to paint. I don't want to leave it up to just a few people to do this.

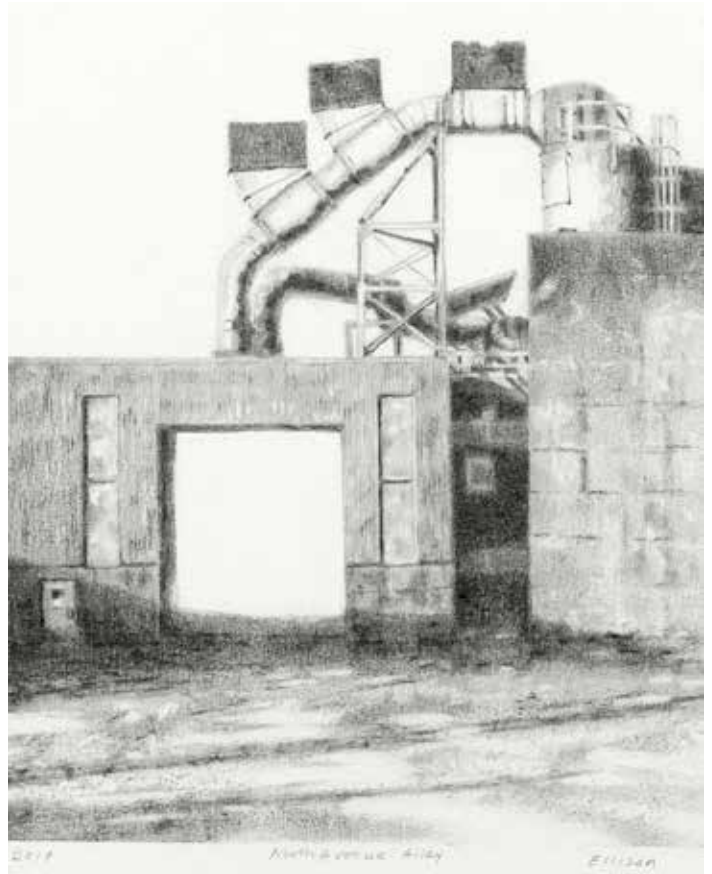
Plus several members have offered to help with intake and hanging. Jim Johnson and his group will be overseeing the basic installation of the work. However since we have so many large pieces we've had to give them temporary wall assignments, plus I'm allowing a week for installation this year since we may have some interesting pieces that will require help. Again we'll know more by the end of the entry and connections period.

We're still looking for ideas for events to hold and publicity ideas.

We will be holding a second ArtPrize meeting Monday, June 12th at noon at GVA. Bring a lunch.

WELCOME TO ART CHAT

Come join us for fascinating topical discussions on and about our changing art scene locally, nationally, and beyond. Your ideas are important and welcome in this informal and comfortable setting. We plan to meet Friday June 8th in the GVA library at 1 p.m. and hopefully make this a regular event. We look forward to seeing and hearing you there!



“North Avenue Alley” by Sue Ellison

Taking Pause

“Taking Pause” is the name of the June show for Sue Ellison and Kathy Jones at the Terryberry Gallery at St. Cecilia's. Sue, a GVA member, is a graphite artist.

She shared a studio in Midland, Michigan for five years with abstract artist Kathy Jones. They have been friends for twenty-five years and this is the first time they have had a show since Sue moved to the west side of Michigan a couple of years ago. Please join them at the reception on Friday June 1



“Along the Trail” by Sue Ellison

from 5:30 – 7:30. The show will be up until June 30 if you can't make the reception. Parking is free in St. Cecilia's parking lot.



“Bazen House” by Todd Darling

Festival of the Arts Artists Selected

The Festival of the Arts Regional Arts Competition has selected the artists for their annual show which will be held at the Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University (KCAD) gallery at 17 Pearl Street, Grand Rapids. The show will run from May 30th until June 23rd. The Opening Reception for this fine show will be on May 30th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The following artists from GVA have had work accepted: Lynn Anderson, James Bleeker, Evie Carrier, Lora Cecola, Sue Ellison, Steven Heyser-Honig, Kathleen Kalinowski, Carol Lurn, Doug Neuman, Dennis O’Mara, Janice Paulson, Gene Sampson, and Ruth Vandermeulen all had one piece juried into the show. Steve Barclift, Larry Blovits, Randy Nyhof, Diann Lemmen, Linda Scarborough, Holly Sturges and Joanne Swann each had two pieces accepted, and Nona Bushman, Steve Scarborough, and Jim Johnson each had three pieces chosen! Again, Grand Valley Artists is well represented in one of the city’s best loved competitions. Congratulations to all!

“Coopersville” by Jim Johnson

Wayne Pierce at KIA

Our own Wayne Pierce has had his photograph entitled “Power and Grace” accepted into the West Michigan Area Show at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts.

This annual exhibition showcases the work of artists from 14 Michigan counties. A guest juror will select work to be awarded more than \$6,000 in prizes.



The KIA will announce award

winners, including a \$1,000 grand prize, on Thursday, May 24, at an opening reception for the exhibition. Congratulations, Wayne!

Candice featured in Southwest Art Magazine

June’s issue of Southwest Art Magazine features our own Candice Chovanec as their “artist to watch.” A full page article has been devoted to Candice. You can read the whole article here: <http://grandvalleyartists.com/sites/default/files/Southwest%20Art%20Artists%20to%20Watch%20June%20202018.pdf>





It's GVA Party Time!!!

GVA's annual picnic has been planned for Saturday, July 14th from noon until 5 p.m. with food served at 1 p.m. This year, it's going to be held at Peg McKeown's home on the Thornapple River to give Dave and Mary Bazen a break.

Peg's address is 7231 Kilmer, SE, Grand Rapids. Kilmer is south of Cascade, off Thornapple River Drive, between 48th and 60th streets, behind the airport. As you take Kilmer east, Peg's house is at the "bottom of the hill" and a slight turn to the left. Car-pooling is highly recommended, since parking will be on the street.

Like last year, the main dish and salads will be catered; and for those who feel motivated, please bring a dessert. Drinks will be provided.

What to bring: lawn chairs and yard games—e.g. corn hole, bocce ball, croquet. And, since Peg's home is on the river, kayaks are welcome. She has two for anyone who would like to give it a try. Peg's gardens are extensive with many interesting views of the river. So, if you like, come early and bring your painting supplies.

See you at the picnic!



Area Art News

Lowell Arts

Gallery Hours: Tues–Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sat 10–5 p.m.
www.lowellartsmi.org.

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Jillian Dickson May 25 - June 22, 2018

Artist Reception, everyone welcome:

Wednesday, June 6, 2018 | 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

Summer Exhibit Hours: 9am - 5pm Mon. - Thu.

Guardian Gallery Lowell

Kathleen Mooney's exhibit "Acrylics and Abstracts" at the Guardian Gallery at Franciscan Life Process Center in Lowell featuring her signature multi-layered acrylic paintings on canvas will be on display through June 30, 2018. See more information at www.KathleenMooney.com. The Guardian Gallery Lowell is open during regular business hours. Any questions please call (616) 897-7842. Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331.

Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

March through June hosts the work of William Alexander. It's located on the third floor at St. Adalberts: 654 Davis Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, 49504.

Terryberry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

The name of this show is "Taking Pause." Sue Ellison's preferred medium is graphite. Kathy K. Jones is an abstract oil painter. Longtime friends, they shared a studio in Midland, Michigan for many years. Using graphite pencils and paper, Sue works from both life and her own photos. Kathy's work is about color, energy and emotion. Using abstraction she is constantly exploring various color combinations to create visual energy. This show runs from June 1 to June 30. The reception for this show is Friday, June 1 from 5:30–7:30.

Dominican Center at Marywood

A Group Show: Spirituality through the Camera Lens, will be exhibited during the month of June. Reception on June 10, 1 p.m.–4 p.m. In July and August, see the pastels of GVA member Nancy Liszewski. Reception will be held on Sunday, July 12, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Frauenthal Center, Reception Gallery

"Out of the Woods" Landscape oil paintings and intaglio prints by Jean Allemeier Boot. Jean resides in Alto, Michigan and her work is represented locally by LaFontsee Galleries.

Bliss & Vinegar

Stop in to B&V to see the works of Mary Marin, currently on display. If you want to show your work at B&V, make sure to 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.

Classifieds

Soltek easel in good shape. \$175 (\$495 new). Contact Janice Paulson at jangiftedlady@hotmail.com or 616-293-3766.

When In Doubt About What to Paint...



Marty's idea of plein air painting is a little different.... at a recent plein air gathering.



GVA Welcomes

New Member David Hast

Rejoining Member Diane Deremo

Officers and Board of GVA

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Carol Lurn

Vice President
Emily Green

Secretary
Dana Donnell

Treasurer
Evie Carrier

Membership
Mary Myszka

Photography Program
Lora Cecola
Randy Nyhof

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

Newsletter and Website
Mary Marin

Newsletter Distribution
Sallie Zigterman

Publicity
Steve Scarborough

GVA Gallery Shows
Jim Johnson

Sketch/Model Coordinators
Kathy Bechtel
Dave Bazen
Mary Marin

Hospitality
Peg McKeown

GVA Library
Jim Johnson

Facilities Coordinator
Dave Bazen

501(c)(3) Coordinators
Mary Helmic

Legacy Liaison
Joanne Swann

Outreach
Doug Klemm



Board Meeting June 7 at 6:00 p.m.

EVERY WEEK

Sundays Closed

Mondays 10:00 a.m. until noon Model Sketch*

Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Model Sketch*
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m. Photo Group

Wednesdays 2:00 until 5:00 p.m. Plein Air or Open Studio
(check website calendar for location)

Thursdays First Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Critique
Second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Program

Fridays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Still Life

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Figure Sketch*

* Model fee \$5

Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



It's GVA Party Time!!! Details Inside!!!