

“Writing Down the Bones.”

From the GVA Newsletter sometime in the mid-1980’s

That is what Natalie Goldberg tells writers who face a blank page who may find themselves caught up trying to produce a masterpiece. “Just write,” she says, “and as you write, don’t edit or change things as you go along.” To sum up her philosophy: if you let it flow, your work will be more honest and less self-conscious.

For artists who face a blank canvas, that is good advice.

I have been taught that one must come EMPTY to the painting and allow it to talk back and cast its spell. That not only applies to taking in the work of others in an art gallery, but also encourages us artists to come EMPTY when we start a painting, create a sculpture, work in fiber, or take a photograph.

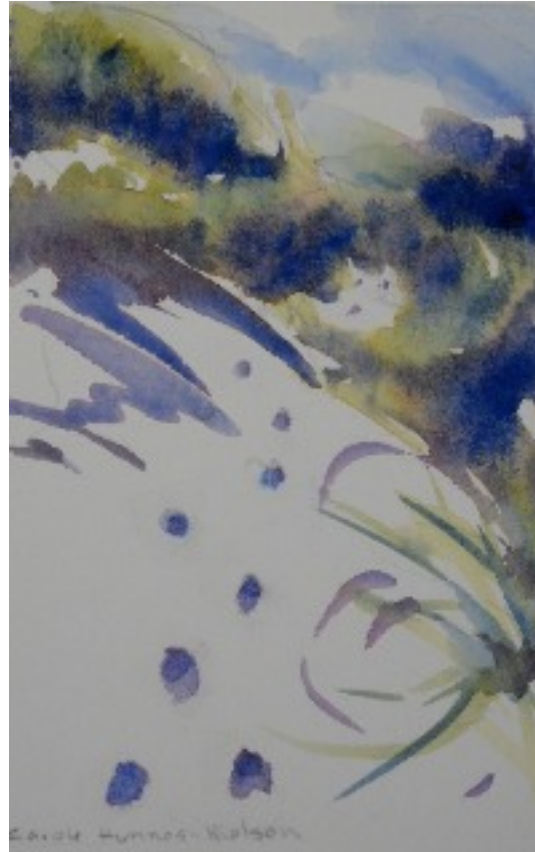
Art is play, so “letting things flow” seems a sensible way to grow as artists. Our work will reflect more honestly who we are and how we see the world around us.

“Writing down the bones” is a technique aimed to get to the ESSENCE of things and do away with self-conscious frills. Painting without a lot of navel-gazing, or inner dialog, will satisfy us more in the long run . . . and (who knows) even lead us to fame.

--John Knight

GVA Summer Picnic

Join us at the Bazen cottage in Grand Haven July 28, any time after 10am. Bring a dish to pass, and a swimsuit if you are so inclined. The address is 19679 North Shore Drive. Maps will be available at the GVA gallery.



“Michigan Dune” watercolor by Carole Nielsen

The 47th Annual Reed’s Lake Art Festival is June 16, 2012:

There are more artist and crafters this year. The general layout of booths has changed to accommodate more vendors and cause less problems for residents in the area. The art and crafts this year are very good quality because of the large number of entries we had to select from. More volunteers to help with the event are welcome.

GVA Membership Tent at Reed's Lake

To all artists who purchased a Screen at Reed's Lake:

By now all of you should have received by email or by regular mail three pieces of information from me. One is a letter of information about the tent and screens, another is an inventory sheet and the third is a page of price tags to be placed on the **BACK** of your pieces. This is so we can identify your art. Also place a removable stick-on price tag on the front of your art. **DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR INVENTORY SHEET TO THE FAIR AND GIVE IT TO ME OR THE CASHIER BY 9:00am.** This sheet will be to record any sales that are made. Be there early enough to be sure that your art is hung by 9:00 AM. It takes some time to hang the art! You should have been contacted by me or Kristen Thornton about a time for you to work. Good luck on your sale.

-- Gene Sampson

Workshops and Classes:

Jim Markle, PSA

- Ada, MI June 20 & 21
PLEIN AIR
Sponsored by: Grand Gallery
Contact: Grand Gallery 616-676-4604
ada@grandgallery.com
- Glen Arbor, MI. July 30, 31, Aug. 1 & 2
PLEIN AIR WORKSHOP
Sponsored by: Glen Arbor Art Association
Contact: GAAA 231-334-6112 or
info@glenarborart.org
- Manchester, VT - Aug. 21, 22, 23 & 24
PASTEL WORKSHOP
Sponsored by Southern Vermont Arts Center
Contact: Sarah Warren 802-362-1405 or
swarren@svac.org

Larry Blovits Workshops:

Larry Blovits' Studio
1835 Luce St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534

• 3 DAY OIL AND PASTEL PORTRAIT WORKSHOP

June 22, 23, 24

9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm daily

Open to beginners through advance

Contact: Larry Blovits 616-677-1765 or

larryblovits@mac.com

• PAINTING A DRAMATIC LANDSCAPE

July 20 - 22, 2012

9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm daily

Oil and pastel - open to beginners thru advanced

• COLOR AND LIGHT WORKSHOP

Application to the Landscape

August 17-19, 2012

9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm daily

Oil and pastel - open to beginners thru advanced

Crooked Tree Arts Center

461 East Mitchell Street, Petoskey, MI 49770

Contact: Valerie St. Pierre Smith

Program Director 231-347-4337

Valerie@crookedtree.org

Rex Tower:

PLEIN AIR WORKSHOP AND PAINTING
EVENT with Rex Tower, Artist and Instructor
Aug. 10, 11, and 12 during Art Walk Central,
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

August 10, 11 and 12 - Workshop 10 am - 3:00 pm

August 12 - Plein Air Painting Event

Plein Air Event will include a continental breakfast, and sack lunch. Sign in between 9 and 10 am at Art Reach on Broadway, 111 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI. There, you will have your canvas or other surface stamped, and be provided with maps suggesting painting locations.

Painting will be from 10 am to 3 pm. Between 3 and 4 pm bring art work, framed and ready to hang, back to Art Reach on Broadway. It will be judged and on display there and offered for sale to the public. We hope to display the work out of doors. Ribbons will be awarded to the top three and the three honorable mentions.

\$75 For Workshop

\$10 for Plein Air Event

Workshop will include demonstrations and personal instruction all three days.

Register online at www.artwalkcentral.com.

Painting Classes with Kathleen Kalinowski:

IMPROVE YOUR LANDSCAPES
IN OIL OR PASTEL

Monday evenings, 6:00-9:00 pm at GVA studio
Sept. 10, Plan better Compositions
Sept. 17, Light, Shadow and Planes
Sept. 24, Handling Edges and color for depth
Oct. 1, Painting Water and Reflections
Oct. 15, Painting Water and Reflections II
Oct. 22, Dunes and Lake
Nov. 5, Farms and Fields, Autumn light
Nov. 12, Winter light and shadow I
Nov. 19, Winter Light and shadow II
Nov. 26, Critique and paint (no demo)

These three hour classes will start with a short demo in oil or pastel (or both). Students may bring their own photo reference or use a photo provided by the instructor. Emphasis will be placed using the photo reference as a creative tool. Painting size will be limited to 8x10.

The classes will allow two hours of painting time after the demo, individual attention and then a class critique. Class size will be limited and a supply list will be e-mailed upon paid registration. E-mail Kathleen with questions regarding the classes or to secure your place in the class(es) of your choice.

Cost: \$27 per class or **\$250** for all ten classes.

e-mail - Kalinowski@chartermi.net

Website - www.KalinowskiFineArt.com



"Island Park" by Rex Tower

One Trick Pony:

Wilma Knoll May 14 - June 25
Elaine Hammink, Oil paintings June 25 - August 6

New artists are needed for One Trick Pony display after the end of Art Prize in October.

This is a great chance to display your art in a popular establishment in the greater downtown Grand Rapids area. For more information please contact Barb Wood at 942-0585.

One Trick Pony	136 Fulton St. SE
Monday - Wednesday	11 am - 11pm
Thursday - Friday	11 am - 12 pm
Saturday	11 am - 12 pm

Program:

Thursday, June 14, 7:30 pm - Sculptor, TJ AITKEN, talks about Understanding Abstract Sculpture. The key is understanding the elements of composition, whether applied to realism or abstraction. From Holland, MI, TJ recently had an exhibit at the Forest Hills Fine Art Center.

Open Studio Sunday Afternoons:

A few GVA members have been meeting Sunday afternoons at 2:30 pm for 2-3 hours to work on our own art projects. If you want to join us, please call Krista at 451-2143 to make sure we are meeting. We meet all year round, especially in the winter.

GVA Gallery:

We are calling upon our membership to organize shows which will highlight their artistic endeavors. These gallery exhibits will be on display for a month, and may be solo or group shows. Please contact Carol Lurn at 616-669-3773 or carollurn@yahoo.com if you are interested in showing your work. This month we are featuring the work of the GVA Photo Group.

Welcome to our new members:

Joe Naimo
Larry Hewartson
Ema Lee Birnie

Area Art Happenings:

2012 Festival of the Arts

June 1, 2 & 3

Grand Rapids Press Building

For more information: www.festivalgr.org

Muskegon Museum of Art

84th Regional Exhibition

Exhibition: May 31 - August 8

296 W. Webster Ave

Muskegon, MI 49440

231-720-2571

www.muskegonartmuseum.org

Lowell Area Arts Council

Check out <http://www.lowellartscouncil.org/> for a list of events happening this summer including classes and concerts.

Art Prize

Artist connections close Thursday June 14

For more information: www.artprize.org.

All For One Festival

Sat., August 4, East Grand Rapids High School Track
Highlighting animals, healthy living, local retailers/
artists/crafter, and non-profit organizations, all in an
effort to celebrate and raise awareness of our
connectedness to one another.

Booth Space: \$25 non-profit group. \$50 regular

Returning Vendors: \$20 non-profit. \$40 regular

Application deadline: Friday, July 20

For more information: Bettina Demetz

bettina.cousineau@nara.gov

FB - Bettina Demetz

616-560-6215 or 616-254-0372

Proceeds from this year's event benefit SASHA

FARM - www.sashafarm.org

**There is a new gallery and music hall offering
space for artists to sell work:**

<http://lansing.craigslist.org/ats/2985593964.html>

**Plainwell, MI is having a "Walk for the Art of it"
Art Hop/Exhibition event with prizes:**

<http://www.plainwell.org/pdfs/>

[InsideOutArtistRegistrationForm.pdf](#)

Information: Emilie Shada 269-685-6821

**Artists can show and sell your work for free at a
new restaurant in Old Town, Lansing, MI**

<http://lansing.craigslist.org/ats/3005859968.html>

Dominican Center

Marywood Gallery:

Dee Versluth; Photographs May - June 28th

Gallery Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 7:30 am to 9 pm

Friday 7:30 am to 8 pm

Sat. & Sun. 8:00 am to 6 pm

Address: 2025 Fulton NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49503



"Portal Series. Number 1" by Robyn Bomhof

Members in the News:

Diann Reicherts-Lemmen has two paintings in the St. Joseph competition called Michiana Annual Competition. She also had two paintings accepted at the Art Festival in Grand Rapids. Diann's painting "Vision of Heaven" is hanging in its permanent home at LifeStream Church in Allendale. It was bought and hung there as a memorial for a deceased daughter of one of the members. Diann has an exhibition at the Ostego Library until the end of May.

Robyn Bomhof sold four paintings to St. Mary's hospital. She had one painting accepted at the Muskegon Regional Show. E-mail Robyn for information about studio "stuff" for sale.
robynbombhof@gmail.com

Kathleen Kalinowski had two pastel paintings and two oil paintings accepted in the 2012 Festival Regional Arts Exhibition. Also an oil painting, "Dune and Porter Creek" was accepted into the 84th Regional Exhibition at the Muskegon Museum of Art.

From Mary-Ann Perry (Founding member):
 I am still working in Florida at the Mary Robinson's Treetop studio every Tuesday painting portraits, and doing plein air with art friends, or painting with the "Light Chasers Plein air" group that has a new venue sight to paint each Thursday at 9am.



These are three pastel 2 1/2 hour studies of Arthur Card from the Island of Nevis, Carribean., a Marine Coast Guard from WW1, and model at Treetop Studio.

Book Review by Gene Sampson:

In November, 1981 a joint exhibit was held by the Grand Rapids Art Museum and the Grand Rapids Public Museum called Artists of Grand Rapids, 1840-1980. I recently came across the catalogue of this exhibit in the Kent District Library. The book contains articles on 25 of Grand Rapids' most famous artists along with 74 black and white or color pictures of the various pieces in the exhibit. Some of the more well-known artists in the exhibit were, of course, Mathias Alten, "Grand Rapids Impressionist", whose works can currently be seen on the third floor of the GRAM, Gerritt Beneker, often referred to as America's "foremost painter of industry", and Reynold Weidenaar, one of Grand Rapids' most loved but also one of its most controversial artists because of his strong resistance

to abstract art. Also included is Armand Merizon, one of the founders of Grand Valley Artists, whose beautiful, brilliantly colored semi-abstract landscapes can be seen at MercuryHead Gallery on Fulton St. The still-living artists in the exhibit are Joseph Kinnebrew, known in Grand Rapids as the designer of the "fish ladder", but also a very fine painter of beautiful florals, (see his website www.josephkinnebrew.com.) and of course, Paul Collins, internationally known painter who owns Paul Collins Fine Art Gallery in downtown Grand Rapids. One of the surprises in the book was the fact that Eulabee Dix, the painter of exquisite watercolor-on-ivory miniatures started her painting career in Grand Rapids. I highly recommend that you get the book from the Kent District Library and learn about many more famous artists who resided in our fair city.

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	cbodbyl@att.net	
Librarian & VSA Liaison	Sarabeth Carr	608-5588

GVA Website www.grandvalleyartists.com



1345 Monroe Ave. NW Suite 130
Grand Rapids, 49505-4609



Calendar

June

Saturday	June 2	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	June 4	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Tuesday	June 5	7:30 PM	Photo Group
Thursday	June 7	7:30 PM	Critique
Saturday	June 9	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	June 11	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	June 14	7:30 PM	Life Sketch
Saturday	June 16	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	June 18	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	June 21	7:30 PM	Life Sketch
Saturday	June 23	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	June 25	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	June 28	7:30 PM	Life Sketch
Saturday	June 30	10:00 AM	Life Sketch

July

Monday	July 2	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Tuesday	July 3	7:30 PM	Photo Group
Thursday	July 5	7:30 PM	Critique
Saturday	July 7	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	July 9	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	July 12	7:30 PM	Program
Saturday	July 14	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	July 16	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	July 19	7:30 PM	Life Sketch
Saturday	July 21	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	July 23	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	July 26	7:30 PM	Life Sketch
Saturday	July 28	10:00 AM	Life Sketch
Monday	July 30	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch