



# VILLAGE NEWS AND VIEWS

Volume 47 Issue 1

Village of Decorative Painters

Southeastern Michigan

January/February 2024

Web page <http://www.villagepainters.net>

## Village of Decorative Painters 2024 Board

### President

Diane Stiller  
313-720-1836  
[dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net)

### Vice President

Nancy Silver  
H 248-478-2537  
C 248-444-9983  
[nsliv@aol.com](mailto:nsliv@aol.com)

### Secretary

Linda Christopher  
734-718-3745  
[lindachristopher60@gmail.com](mailto:lindachristopher60@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Kathy Fischer  
734-429-5328  
[fischerk@umich.edu](mailto:fischerk@umich.edu)

Joan Mueller  
248-349-5889  
[joankmueller@yahoo.com](mailto:joankmueller@yahoo.com)

### Newsletter Editor

Linda Morgan  
734-765-5735  
[morganlj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:morganlj@sbcglobal.net)

### Membership

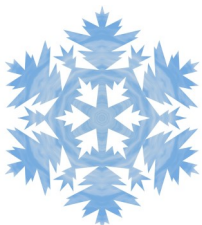
Pat Butler  
734-944-1918  
[patbutler9@gmail.com](mailto:patbutler9@gmail.com)

## President - Diane Stiller

**Good bye 2023** As we close the old year, it's nice to look back and review all that we accomplished. Please check out the Year in Review report. You will be amazed at all that we have done.

**Hello 2024 – Year of the Dragon!** Always nice to have a fresh start with a new year. We will be setting up the new website for Village of Decorative Painters and restarting our Learn to Paint program. The Fall Retreat will be held this September and it's never too early to start working on next year's Spring Fling. We will be plenty busy; so get ready for another fun-filled year.

Please plan to attend the February Member meeting. Kathy Fischer will present the 2024 proposed budget for members to approve and Nancy Silver will have another fun activity for us.



# 2024 Calendar of Events

Mar 13, 10-2?	Michelle Handley—Zoom
Apr 20	Kathy Ziemba—LTP
May 4, 9-4	Sam Farah— Onsite
May 18	Cindy Mullins—LTP
June 8&9,	Lonna Lamb
Sept 7&8,	Paulette DiGesare
Sept 21	Nancy Silver—LTP
Sept 27-29	Fall Retreat
Oct 12	Sally Thirjung—LTP
Oct 19, 9-4	Linda Christopher— Onsite
Nov 6, 10-2?	Judy Ribitch—Zoom



*Please remember to  
take your pence*

Painting Tip—If you don't have a wet palette, try using folded deli paper with a damp paper towel sandwiched inside (no pun intended). It keeps all your paint workable during your painting session.

Also, put a few copper pennies under the wet surface. It keeps the mildew and odors away.

Pat Helwig

## Fall Retreat

Sept. 27,28 & 29 2024

Skyline Camp and Conference Center,  
Almont Mi.

Come join us **“In the Garden”**.

We have a fun time planned for you.



**General Meetings 2024**  
**At Livonia Senior Center**  
**Saturdays 10am-2pm**  
**February 3, April 6, June 1,**  
**August 3, Oct 5,**  
**Holiday Luncheon TBA**

**Board meetings 2024**  
**6:30 pm by ZOOM**  
**Jan 4, March 7, May 2,**  
**July 11 , Sept 5, Nov 7**





## *FEBRUARY MEETING ACTIVITY*

*Nancy will show us some  
fancy lettering.*

*Be on the lookout for an  
email saying what few supplies you  
need to bring*



## *Spring Fling*

The Spring Fling will once again be held at the Italian American Banquet Center on Sunday, April 6. Please let Barb Reinholz know that you will donate a Basket and Pat Helwig that you will donate a Silent Auction item. Karen Capshaw will be accepting items for the Kitchen Basket throughout the year starting with the February Member meeting. Please let Diane Stiller know if you are willing to host a Boutique Paint-In; you don't need to set up a date yet, but it would be nice to plan for in advance. If you and a friend or two would like to attend the Spring Fling, but don't have a table to sit at, Diane will have a sign up sheet at the meeting.



## *January Birthdays*

- 2 Jackie Wright*
- 5 Teresa Palmer*
- 11 Sue Drobyshewski*
- 17 Denise Rogers*
- 18 Jeannine Laderach*
- 19 Kathy Fischer*
- 29 Rondi Bur*
- 31 Nancy Forbes*

## *February Birthdays*

- 15 Pam Hypnar*
- 19 Diane Stiller*
- 21 Mary Jane Wells*



# The Village Painters

## Year 2023 in Review

Submitted by: Diane Stiller, President 2023

### Executive Committee

President, Diane Stiller

Vice President, Nancy Silver

Secretary, Linda Christopher

Treasurer, Kathy Fischer and Joan Mueller

### Elected Positions

Education, Diane Stiller

Library, Nancy Silver and Teresa Palmer

Membership, Pat Butler

Newsletter, Linda Morgan

Spring Fling, Paula Atkinson

### Appointed Positions

Audit, Susan Rhodes

August Picnic, Linda Christopher, Linda Morgan

Holiday Party, Dawn Billiau, Jan Kaplan

Hospitality, Cathy Uhring

Fall Retreat, Paula Atkinson

Memory Boxes, Cindy Mullins

Pence, Margaret Pedersen

Sunshine, Connie Vasilnek

Treasure Boxes, Rondi Bur

LSC Liaison, Linda Christopher

### Members – 66 (Appendix 1)

### Education – A total of 7 classes (Appendix 2)

#### 3 Free Paint-In Zoom classes for members only taught by the following members:

Nancy Silver – Hallingdal Strokework pattern by Lise Lorentzen from SDP

Linda Christopher – Intense Eye Study color pencil pattern by Jesse Lane

Judy Ribitch – Snowman by Lynne Andrews from SDP

#### 2 On-site classes taught by the following local teachers:

Nancy Vincent (from Great Cincinnati chapter) – Bird House pattern using acrylic wash and ink

Sam Farah – Dixie Dee pattern by Erika Joanne using acrylic and color pencils

#### 2 On-site classes since Covid taught by the following Big Brushes:

Tracey Moreau – Teacup/pot and Poppy w/dragonfly

Marco Aquilar – At First Light landscape and Dolphins

### Financial Statement at December 31 (Appendix 3)

Records were audited twice and successfully completed.

### Community Service

**Memory Boxes:** The following 93 boxes were delivered during the year:

September 5 - 32 boxes to Beaumont (Botsford)

September 11 - 35 boxes to Children's Hospital

December 14 - 26 boxes to Children's Hospital

**Treasure Boxes:** The following 61 boxes were delivered during the year to Shriner's:

May 3 - 36 boxes (23 Village of Decorative Painters, 13 Brush Benders)

December 15 - 25 boxes (22 Village of Decorative Painters, 3 Brush Benders)

Four of the Treasure Boxes were raffled off by Shriner in July to support the Lucky Finn project. Its purpose is to bring awareness to children that are dealing with limb differences

**Free Little Library** – On September 11, 2023 Pat & Don Butler and Rondi & Jim Bur replaced the old Little Free Library that was previously placed by us at the Cass Community Social Services in Detroit with a new one.

**Spring Fling** – Charity basket for O.A.T.S. raised \$653.

**Holiday Party** - Donated toys, food, and books to Toys for Tots, Social Services, and The Little Free Library.

## **General Meetings**

**February** Create a fairy house using a terracotta pot, 50/50 raffle, pence raffle for 4 ft nutcracker wood surface, newsletter clue contest

**April** No-Pattern Posie taught by Sam Farah, 50/50 raffle, a “Just Because” gift of wooden flower given to all members present, newsletter clue contest. Members picked up their unsold Spring Fling Boutique items; anything left was donated to Salvation Army.

**June** – Nancy Silver demonstrated mudding techniques, newsletter clue contest

**August** - trunk sale and annual picnic. Minute to Win It games.

**October** – Painted a memory or treasure box

**December** – Annual holiday party: What Snowmen Do held at Mama Mia’s in Livonia. (Appendix 4 and Appendix 5 )

**Spring Fling** (Appendix 6) – Held at Italian American Banquet Center in Livonia on April 2, 2023; first one since Covid. Net income = \$7,622.22. 238 Guests (43 members; 195 non-members). Charity Basket = \$653.

Pence earned 908. 24 tables (\$6720) ; 14 hostesses; 18 baskets (\$3415), 11 Silent Auction (\$1174) , 3 Live Auction (\$470), 1 52-card raffle (\$340); Boutique (\$4256). Purchased 2 Square devices so people could pay with credit cards for the first time; 62 transactions (\$2,778).

## **Organization Changes due to dissolution of Society of Decorative Painters**

Date of incorporation as a Nonprofit corporation in Michigan is May 3, 2023 for Village of Decorative Painters. See attached paperwork from State of Michigan.

The new bylaws for Village of Decorative Painters were approved by members at June 3 Member meeting.

Assigned new EIN from IRS Dept of Treasury for Village of Decorative Painters on June 30, 2023. We filed as a 501(c)(7) social club, nonprofit. See attached letter from IRS.

We are not intending to formally apply for recognition of tax exempt status from the IRS based on this section of the [IRS's publication 557](#). At the very bottom of the publication under the heading, "Publication 557 - Additional Material"; after the table listing the various 501(c) organizations there is this note:

**1 Most 501(c) organizations**, other than those described in sections 501(c)(3) (exceptions apply), (9), and (17), **may, but are not required to, submit an application for recognition of tax-exempt status from the IRS. These organizations may self-declare their tax exempt status by operating within the requirements of the applicable code section and filing the required annual returns or notices.**

If we did file an application, which we are not required to do, it would cost \$600.

We also found a helpful article which supports this position: [wagenmakerlaw.com/blog/social-club-q-section-501c7-tax-exempt-organizations](http://wagenmakerlaw.com/blog/social-club-q-section-501c7-tax-exempt-organizations)

#### **4. Do we need to apply to the IRS for tax-exempt recognition?**

One of the desirable features of IRC Section 501(c)(7) organizations is that they do not need to apply for initial tax exemption with the IRS; but simply identify themselves as such and provide notice to the IRS through annual Form 990s, as discussed below. Of course, formally applying for recognition of tax-exempt status may provide helpful clarity, but doing so is not legally required. Social clubs that choose to request formal recognition from the IRS may do so by filing an IRS Form 1024 application for recognition of tax-exempt status.

Kathy contacted the State of Michigan about filing for a sales tax exemption. They responded that since Village of Decorative Painters is a 501(c)(7) that we would **not** be allowed to claim exemption from Michigan sales or use tax. Therefore we will need to pay sales tax related to the Spring Fling, Holiday Party, and Fall Retreat. We will need to cover the cost in the fees we charge for these events. See attached email dated October 24, 2023 from State of Michigan

Diane Stiller reported that Kathy Fischer filed paperwork with the State of Michigan to dissolve **The Village Painters** and received a letter stating that before they could process the dissolution, that **Village of Decorative Painters** needed to register with the Charitable Trust Section. On October 30, Diane spoke to Cassi Beebe, an auditor in the Charity Trust Section. After reviewing our information, Cassi emailed Diane a decision stating that Village of Decorative Painters is exempt from registering under COSA (Charitable Organizations and Solicitations Act) as well as under STCPA (Supervision of Trustees for Charitable Purposes Act). Cassi then emailed a letter to Kathy Fischer stating that the Department of Attorney General does not object to the dissolution of The Village Painters. See attached letters dated October 9 and 30 from State of Michigan.

**The Village Painters** was dissolved on November 8, 2023. See attached from State of Michigan.

## **Committees**

**Education:** Diane Stiller, Connie Vasilnek, Dawn Billiau, Linda Morgan, Darlene Greenwood.

Decided to wait for Lonna Lamb and Paulette DiGesare to submit their new patterns to us in January 2024 for members to vote on at the February 2024 Member Meeting.

**Learn to Paint:** Diane Stiller, Karen Capshaw, Sally Thirjung, Nancy Silver, Connie Vasilnek. The LTP program will start up again in 2024. The purpose is two-fold; 1. To gain new members and 2. To entice people to attend the Spring Fling. Will be self sustaining.

**Logo:** Sam Farah (chair), Eileen Carroll, Pat Butler, Rondi Bur, Paula Atkinson, Linda Morgan, Kathy Fischer, Margaret Pedersen, Nancy Silver, and Joan Mueller

The logo that is painted on the banner will continue to be used as our logo using the new name of our organization, Village of Decorative Painters.

**Pence:** Diane Stiller, Connie Vasilnek, Nancy Silver, Linda Christopher, Cathy Uhring, Paula Atkinson, Margaret Pedersen, Dawn Billiau, Sandy Tyo, Susan Rhodes, and Mary Jane Wells

Members voted to approve the updated Pence Policy for Village of Decorative Painters at the August 5 Member Meeting to be effective January 1, 2024.

**Website:** Diane Stiller, Kathy Fischer, Linda Christopher, Linda Morgan, Nancy Silver, Jennifer Leonard (webmaster).

To modernize our website from the Dreamweaver platform to Word Press. More user friendly, ability to have multiple access rights and ability to pay online.

## Education – Diane Stiller

I have asked Lonna Lamb and Paulette DiGesare to send me their new patterns. Members will vote on the patterns at the February meeting so that I can then get the registration forms out.

### *Coming up next*

March 13: Michelle Handley; Zoom on Wednesday 10 am - 2 pm

May 4: Sam Farah; On-site 9 am – 4 pm

June 8 & 9: Lonna Lamb; On-site 9am – 4 pm

## Learn to Paint – Diane Stiller

Our Learn to Paint program will start back up in April with Kathy Ziemba teaching a Bluebird and Cindy Mullins teaching a Hummingbird in May. The Learn to Paint program is for beginner painters with a two-fold purpose: to attract 1) new members and 2) guests for the Spring Fling.

Members may attend at no charge provided they bring a beginner painter and will assist them with the project. Members will need to bring their own supplies and surface.

We are still collecting used brushes in reasonable condition and large plastic containers for the water, such as used for yogurt or cottage cheese. You can give these items to Diane at the meeting.

April 20: Kathy Ziemba; On-site 9am – noon

Sept 21: Nancy Silver; On-site 9am—noon

May 18: Cindy Mullins; On-site 9am - noon

Oct 12: Sally Thirjung, On-site 9am—noon

Nature's barcode... Photo by Ash O'Malley



# Village of Decorative Painters

## Membership Application for January 1 – December 31, 2024

Please check the appropriate box: [ ] New Application [ ] Renewal

Renewing member: Use \* to indicate any information that has changed from last year.

Annual dues for Village of Decorative Painters (VDP) are \$15.00, due no later than December 31, 2023.

Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters

Send application and check for membership to: Pat Butler, 7870 Parker Rd, Saline, MI 48176

### Please Print

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relation \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### Health Advisory

Village of Decorative Painters (VDP) hereby gives notice that various paints, finishes and solvents will be used during meetings and seminars. Each participant is responsible for assessing their own potential risk of exposure to these products and their components before electing to participate in any event. Village of Decorative Painters, its teachers, and agents assume no liability for the participant's use or exposure to these paints, finishes and solvents, the same to be specifically assumed by the participant.

My signature on this application signifies that in accepting membership, I ratify, accept and agree to abide by the Bylaws, Operations Manual, Health Advisory and any other governing documents of the Village of Decorative Painters.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Form received by VDP Membership Chair, Pat Butler, on \_\_\_\_\_



# Scrapbook Memories

December 7, 2023 Holiday Party at Mama Mia's in Livonia

## Centerpieces



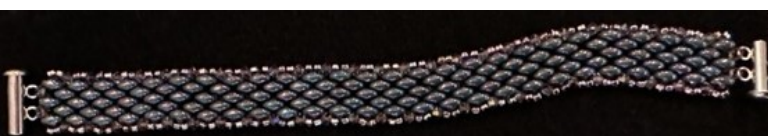
## Ornament Exchange



## Pence Raffle







Village of Decorative Painters proudly presents  
Michelle Handley: You are my Sunshine free pattern by Sandy Malone  
Via Zoom on Wednesday, March 13, 2024  
Medium: Acrylic



Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Where: Zoom

Instructor provides pattern  
Student provides surface, paints, mediums, and  
usual painting supplies

Cost: Member \$30 (\$25 limit on pence); Non-Member \$40  
Deadline: March 1, 2024

**Please remember that all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

---

**Michelle Handley, You are my Sunshine, Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

\$30 Member; \$40 Non Member

Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters***

***Mail to: c/o Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48201***

---

**Village of Decorative Painters presents a Learn to Paint Class for Adult Beginners**

**Come join us for a fun learning experience!**

**Instructor: Kathy Ziemba, Spring Blue Bird: Saturday, April 20, 2024**

**Medium: Acrylic Paint**



Time: 9:00 am – Noon  
Where: Livonia Senior Center  
15218 Farmington Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48154

All painting supplies will be provided on loan.

Cost: \$40.00

**Deadline: April 6, 2024**

**Please remember that all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

---

**Kathy Ziemba, Spring Blue Bird, LTP, Saturday, April 20, 2024**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\$40

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters***

***Mail to: c/o Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48201***

Village of Decorative Painters proudly presents  
Sam Farah: Partridge Plume pattern by Erika Joanne: Saturday, May 4, 2024  
Medium: Acrylic paint and color pencils



Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Where: Livonia Senior Center  
15218 Farmington Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48154

Instructor provides embellishments, paint, and mediums.  
Student provides 6" x 12" x 3/4" wood panel surface, 9 Prismacolor pencils and usual painting supplies

Cost: Member \$30 (\$20 limit on pence); Non-Member \$40

**Deadline: April 20, 2024**

**Please remember that all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

---

**Sam Farah, Partridge, Saturday, May 4, 2024**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

\$30 Member; \$40 Non Member

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters**

**Mail to: c/o Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48201**

---

**Village of Decorative Painters presents a Learn to Paint Class for Adult Beginners**

**Come join us for a fun learning experience!**

**Instructor: Cindy Mullins: Hummingbird: Saturday, May 18, 2024**

**Medium: Acrylic Paint**



Time: 9:00 am – Noon  
Where: Livonia Senior Center  
15218 Farmington Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48154

All painting supplies will be provided on loan.

Cost: \$40.00  
**Deadline: May 4, 2024**

**Please remember that all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

---

**Cindy Mullins, Hummingbird, LTP, Saturday, May 18, 2024**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\$40

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters**  
**Mail to: c/o Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48201**



**Village of Decorative Painters presents a Learn to Paint Class for Adult Beginners**

**Come join us for a fun learning experience!**

**Instructor: Nancy Silver, Pears: Saturday, September 21, 2024**

**Medium: Acrylic Paint**



Time: 9:00 am – Noon  
Where: Livonia Senior Center  
15218 Farmington Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48154

All painting supplies will be provided on loan.

Cost: \$40.00

**Deadline: September 7, 2024**

**Please remember that all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

---

**Nancy Silver, Pears, LTP, Saturday, September 21, 2024**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters***

***Mail to: c/o Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48201***

---

**Village of Decorative Painters presents a Learn to Paint Class for Adult Beginners**

**Come join us for a fun learning experience!**

**Instructor: Sally Thirjung, Snowman: Saturday, October 12, 2024**

**Medium: Acrylic Paint**



Time: 9:00 am – Noon  
Where: Livonia Senior Center  
15218 Farmington Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48154

All painting supplies will be provided on loan.

Cost: \$40.00

**Deadline: September 28, 2024**

**Please remember that all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

---

**Sally Thirjung, Snowman, LTP, Saturday, October 12, 2024**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\$40

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters***

***Mail to: c/o Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48201***

**Village of Decorative Painters proudly presents  
Judy Ribitch, White Asiatic Lilies  
Via Zoom on Wednesday, November 6, 2024  
Medium: Acrylic**



Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Where: Zoom

Instructor provides pattern  
Student provides surface, paints, and  
usual painting supplies

Cost: Member \$30 (\$22 limit on pence); Non-Member \$40  
**Deadline: October 23, 2024**

**Please remember that all fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.**

Contact Diane Stiller (313) 720-1836 or [dianestiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianestiller@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

---

**Judy Ribitch, White Asiatic Lilies, Via Zoom on Wednesday, November 6, 2024**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

\$30 Member; \$40 Non Member

Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Make check payable to: Village of Decorative Painters  
Mail to: c/o Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48201***

---