



VILLAGE NEWS AND VIEWS

Volume 48 Issue 1

Village of Decorative Painters

Southeastern Michigan

January/February 2025

Web page <https://villagepainters.net>

Village of Decorative Painters 2025 Board

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President - Diane Stiller

Welcome 2025! Start thinking of fun and creative things that we can do this year at our Member Meetings and share these ideas with Nancy Silver. We are off to a great start with the February heart project.

The **Year 2024 in Review** report is included in this newsletter. Please take the time to read about all of our amazing accomplishments! For a small group, we get a lot done.

Thank You Ladies!

You Ladies really know how to keep a secret! I can't thank you enough for the incredibly generous gift that was presented to me by Darlene Greenwood and Denise Robert on behalf of VDP's members at the Holiday Luncheon. Cheri Rol is one of my very favorite artists and to receive a gift certificate to register for one of her classes was awesome and to then receive one of her original paintings and yet another gift to have it framed was outstanding! It has been my pleasure to serve as your President. Thanks everyone!



2025 Calendar of Events

April 6, Spring Fling
May 17, 18 David Bailey—LSC
June 21, 22 Paulette DiGesare
Sept 20, 21 Lydia Steves, zoom

EDUCATION

We will vote on projects for David Bailey, Paulette DiGesare, and Lydia Steeves at the February Member meeting. All the artists are working on new patterns which will be available in January for Member vote at the February Member meeting.

Paint with Us

I want to thank Sally Thirjung, Michelle Handley, Judy Ribitch, and Nancy Silver for volunteering to form a committee to put this event together. The plan is to announce this event at the Spring Fling and provide a registration form to each guest. We will keep you posted.

Changes to Member Meetings in 2025

Please note that there are two changes to the Member Meetings for next year.

The meetings will be held from 10 am – 1 pm. Since members have been leaving anywhere between noon and 1:00, we will end the meetings at 1 pm saving us \$25/meeting. The savings from 4 meetings will pay for the 5th meeting. In the event that a meeting runs over, we can stay a little later.

The meeting in April will be held on Tuesday the 8th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. The first Saturday is the day before Spring Fling and hopefully we will be setting up for the event. The following Saturday is the weekend for Greater Cincinnati's annual Retreat; a large number of our members attend and will be driving there Thursday. The Tuesday after Spring Fling works well for Linda Christopher to distribute the unsold Boutique items back to members without having a storage issue herself as she'll just leave them in the car until the meeting.

2025

At Livonia Senior Center

Saturdays, 10 am—1 pm

February 1, Tuesday April 8,

June 7, August 2,

October 4, Dec 4 luncheon

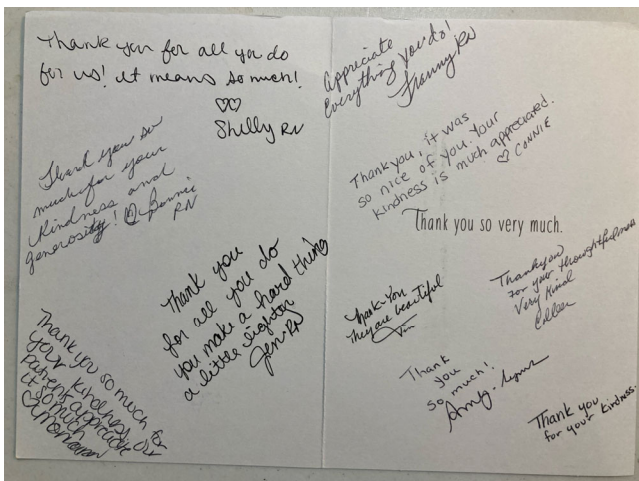
Board Meetings 2025

6:30 pm Thursdays by ZOOM

Jan 2, March 6,

May 1, July 3 if needed,

Sept 4, Nov 6



This was sent to me from Amy Shrum, Bereavement Coordinator, Maternal Child Health, Corewell Health Family Birth Center, Farmington Hills.

This is in response to Memory Boxes I delivered in October.

Happy New Year! See you in 2025,

Rondi

February After Meeting Activity



At our next meeting, we will be painting and penciling Erika Joanne's hearts if you purchased the heart and pattern through Nancy. You will need your regular painting supplies. Sam and Paula are supplying the JoSonja paint, and you will need **2 Prismacolor pencils.....a Chocolate Brown one and a Black one.** (I usually order or buy my pencils from Dick Blick). I will have a couple of pencils

for sharing if you can't get them. If you prefer not to paint the hearts, you are welcome to bring anything you would like to work on. It could be a great time to paint Memory or Treasure Boxes, or items for the Spring Fling.



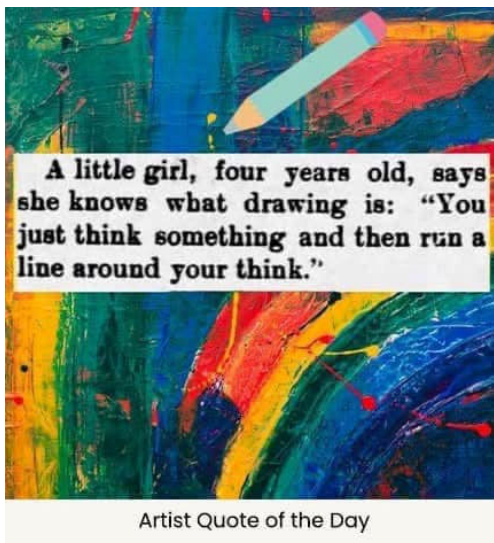
Our February Hospitality Table will be prepared to accept Valentine appetizers and snacks.

Sweet or savory it all works. We always appreciate your donations.

Karen Capshaw

Book, books and more books

If you have used books that you would like to donate to the Little Free Libraries that the Village of Decorative Painters support, please bring them to our February meeting. I'll be happy to take them. If you leave them in your car, we can transfer them to my car, saving us from taking the books in and out of the building. Thank you for your ongoing support of our Community Service project.



A little girl, four years old, says she knows what drawing is: "You just think something and then run a line around your think."

Artist Quote of the Day



January Birthdays

2 Jackie Wright

5 Teresa Palmer

8 Linda Pinneo

11 Sue Drobyshewski

17 Denise Rogers

18 Jeannine Laderach

19 Kathy Fischer

29 Rondi Bur

February Birthdays

19 Diane Stiller

21 Mary Jane Wells

Reminder!

Please remember to take your pence

Thank you, Thank you

Thanks to everyone who donated to our charities at the Christmas Party. Your donations really make a difference. In addition to food, toys and books, we gave \$200 to Toys for Tots, \$60 to Social Services and \$50 to the Salvation Army. Your contributions help children, families and seniors who depend on these donations. As I was delivering the items, the organizers expressed their appreciation for all we gave. Again, you do make a difference.

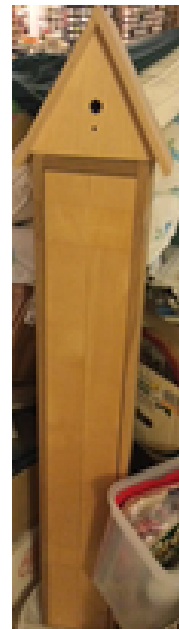
VDP Pence Raffle for the February 2025 Meeting

Bring your pence for the drawing or purchase pence from Margaret 6 for \$5

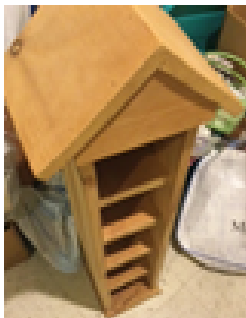
Winners will be drawn near the end of the meeting



Apx 33" L, 12" across
Sleigh wood insert is removable
from the wire frame



Larger Birdhouse with shelves 54" tall.
Removable top.



Smaller Birdhouse 36" tall could
be used for books. Removable top.



New surfaces will be bundled for the raffle drawing. This is a sample.

The Village Painters

Year 2024 in Review

Submitted by: Diane Stiller, President 2024

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, Cathy Uhring
August Picnic, Connie Vasilnek, Sandy Tyo
Holiday Party, Darlene Greenwood, Denise Robert
Hospitality, Karen Capshaw
Fall Retreat, Paula Atkinson
Memory Boxes, Cindy Mullins
Pence, Margaret Pedersen
Sunshine, Connie Vasilnek
Treasure Boxes, Rondi Bur
LSC Liaison, Linda Christopher

Members – 63 (Appendix 1)

Education – A total of 4 classes (Appendix 2)

1 On-site class taught by the following local teacher:

Sam Farah – Partridge Plume pattern by Erika Joanne using acrylic and color pencils

1 Zoom class taught by the following member teacher:

Judy Ribitch – White Asiatic Lilies using acrylic

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

Lonna Lamb – 3 days acrylic: Paintbrush Bag, Delightful Summer Drinks, Snowy Winter Magic

Paulette DiGesare – 2 days acrylic: Coral Bird & Blooms, Cardinal & Holly

Fall Retreat – In the Garden, 8th biannual retreat held at Skyline Camp in Almont, MI. (Appendix 6)

Financial Statement at December 31 (Appendix 3)

Records were audited twice and successfully completed.

Community Service

Memory Boxes: 40 boxes were painted by members. Fifteen were delivered to Children's Hospital. Twenty will be delivered in 2025.

Treasure Boxes: 41 boxes were delivered to Shriner's: 23 VDP, 18 Brush Benders

Free Little Library – Donations of books.

Fall Retreat – Raffles raised \$382 for Skyline Camp.

Holiday Party - Donated toys, food, and books to Toys for Tots, Social Services, and The Little Free Library plus \$310 in cash donations.

General Meetings

February – Brush calligraphy taught by Nancy Silver

April – Three demonstrations were held: Diane Stiller – DecoArt Metallic Lustre Waxes, Joan Mueller – Varnishing, and Nancy Silver – Pan Pastels. Pence raffle brought in 26 pence.

June – Two cards taught by Patty Neu. Many members stayed and painted Memory Boxes. A pence raffle was held for painted terracotta pots. Members used 137 pence of which 52 were purchased.

August - Trunk sale and annual picnic. Presentation of retirement gift to Karl Peters (Adirondack chair painted by Linda Morgan.)

October – Notecard taught by Cindy Mullins. Pence raffle for 4 items raised 25 pence. Some painted items left over from the Fall Retreat were sold. Paula Atkinson held a Flower Bingo and winners got to choose some neat leftovers from the Fall Retreat. There were 2 giveaways: Detroit Tiger decals from Joan Mueller and finger lights from Nancy Silver. A drawing was held for a wooden pumpkin surface for members who paid their 2025 dues by this meeting.

December – Annual holiday party: A Cardinal Christmas held at Mama Mia’s in Livonia. (Appendix 4 and Appendix 5)

Organization Changes

Bylaws and Pence Policy - Minor changes to the documents were approved by members at the August 3 Member meeting.

The Operations Manual was reviewed and adopted by the Board on July 25.

20 Job Descriptions were reviewed and adopted by the Board on March 20 and July 25.

Committees

Learn to Paint - classes were cancelled due to lack of interest.

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

April Member Meeting: Announced that the public sections of the website are now accessible. **Calendar of Events** lists all the Board and Member meetings, Education and Learn to Paint classes and the Fall Retreat with the ability to either view or download the registration forms in order to print them. The **Newsletter** section houses all of newsletters (stripped of financial info) for our members and the public to view so they have an idea of what our organization is all about. The **Community Services** section houses Memory and Treasure boxes and also The Little Free Library. The **About Us** section is a brief description of our organization. **Join Us** houses the membership form which can be printed.

Populating the **Members Only** section is the next phase of the project. We are starting to populate it. It has things like the Bylaws, Pence Policy, meeting minutes, financials, operations manual and job descriptions. We will let members know when it is accessible.

Create a VDP Folder!



A lot of information is emailed to our members during the year. It's frustrating when we can't put our hands on it. We know it's somewhere, but can't find it. Don't lose or delete emails! Members are strongly encouraged to create a VDP folder or 2 or 3 on their electronic device of choice (desktop, laptop, ipad, phone) to store documents and any other communications from VDP so that the information is easily accessible. Here are some suggestions: VDP, VDP documents, VDP classes, VDP registrations VDP newsletter. Never lose your information again. Simple!

Website

In lieu of the Members Only section on our website not being available at this time, members were emailed the following: Bylaws, Pence Policy, Board member contact list, and latest Member List in early January. Members will have access to financial reports via the newsletter that Linda Morgan emails them. Note that financial reports are stripped out of the newsletter that is published on our website. Read the article about creating some VDP folders to store this information so it's easy to find when you need it..

The Public Sections of the website are accessible. **Calendar of Events** lists all the Board and Member meetings, Education classes, and other events with the ability to either view or download the registration forms in order to print them. The **Newsletter** section houses current and prior year newsletters (stripped of financial reports) for the public to view so they have an idea of what our organization is all about. The **Community Services** section houses Memory and Treasure boxes and also The Little Free Library. The **About Us** section is a brief description of our organization. **Join Us** houses the membership form which can be printed

Spring Fling - Sunday, April 6 *Mark Your Calendar!*

Please read and be aware of all the deadlines listed in the Spring Fling Announcement which is included in this newsletter. There are quite a number of items **due at the February Member Meeting:** donations to the charity and kitchen baskets, your own individual baskets that you volunteered to donate, Silent Auction, Live Auction, and 52-Card Raffle pieces. Please make every effort to meet this February deadline as those in charge of those areas need time to get everything organized for the event.

Boutique items will be due in March. Time and location will be announced later.

SPRING FLING

2025 DUE DATES

Boutique Items: Will be collected at a time and placed to be determined soon.

Theme Baskets and Charity Basket items: February Member meeting

Guests Names and Luncheon Ticket Money: March 1st or earlier

Silent Auction: February Member meeting

Live Auction: February Member meeting

52 Card Raffle: February Member meeting



VISA and Mastercard credit cards will be accepted for purchases of a minimum of \$20 for Boutique and Silent/Live Auctions.



1:00 pm - Social Time

View uniquely themed tables, baskets, silent and live auction pieces, and shop the Boutique. Raffle Ticket Sales and Silent Auction bidding will begin at 1:00 pm.

2:15 pm - Lunch and Program

Winners of the Raffles, Silent and Live Auction to follow

Lunch menu: Choice of Chicken Marsala or Vegetable Lasagna, redskin potatoes, green bean almandine, Italian bread, garden salad, and chocolate mousse.
Soda, iced tea, and a coffee station.

\$35 per Ticket

Will entitle you to lunch, a chance to win the table centerpiece, a table favor, and one chance for the basket raffle. Additional basket raffle tickets are 11 for \$10.

Members Information

The Spring Fling Committee presents our bi-annual luncheon. The size of the event will be dictated by the involvement of all of our members. It is an awesome event and is great fun!

Spring Fling Chair – Diane Stiller dianestiller@sbcglobal.net or call 313-720-1836 for information.

We will need all members help for set up. We are anticipating that we may need to set up everything the day of the event. All deadlines need to be met so that we can set up in a very organized and timely manner so things run smoothly. We are still hoping to be able to set up the day before the event, but we won't know until a day or two before the event. Set up times TBA.

Basket – Barbara Reinholz Myrole_rl23@yahoo.com We are limiting the number of baskets to 20. You can set the theme for your basket. The only requirement is that there be at least one painted item in the basket and that all items be new or unused and look new. The unwrapped baskets will be due at the February Member Meeting, unless specific arrangements are made with Barbara. The Committee will inventory, wrap and give them a bow. **Please email Barbara a list of your basket items in a word document** to assist in the preparation of the inventory. The items don't have to be expensive. Just use your imagination and your painting talents. For that matter, you don't have to use a basket just some sort of a container to hold all your wonderful "stuff." Maybe the container will be your painted item. Contact Barbara if you are willing to donate a basket. *It's never too early.* The 2025 Charity Basket is Shriners Children's Hospital. The **Basket theme is "Wings in my Garden"**. Karen Capshaw will make up a Village of Decorative Painters' **Kitchen Basket** if you would like to donate item(s) to it.

Basket Ideas:

Coffee-Lover	Chocolate	Tea-Drinker	Michigan	Easter	Gardening
Wine/Cheese	Americana	Books	Scrap-Book	Mother's Day	Candy
Cards/Games	Chef	Frogs	Angels	Painters	Body & Bath
Theater	Sports	Children	Beach	Bird Houses	Nautical
Birds	Sewing	Butterflies	Light Houses	Golf	Fish

Silent Auction Chair – Pat Helwig helwisp@gmail.com We will have 10-11 items with a value of \$50 or more. Please bring the painted item no later than the February Member meeting or make other arrangements with Pat. Pat is accepting items now to store at her home.

Live Auction – Diane Stiller dianestiller@sbcglobal.net This is definitely a fun part of our day. There will be three hand painted items. Please bring the painted item no later than the February Member meeting. Diane is accepting items now to store at her home.

52 Card Raffle – Diane Stiller dianestiller@sbcglobal.net There will be one hand painted item. Please bring the painted item no later than the February Member meeting. Diane is accepting items now to store at her home.

Boutique Chair - Linda Christopher lindachristopher60@gmail.com Our guests will be looking for items for teachers, holidays, such as Mother's Day and Easter, home decorations, and gifts. We encourage you to paint extra favors to sell in the boutique. The boutique sales are essential to our success. We are starting with a zero inventory, so we need everyone to help fill our shelves. Linda is going to have all of the donations organized in boxes, tagged, priced, and stored at her house. **Starting March 24** she is going to schedule about seven days for members to drop off their donations at her home in Plymouth where both of you will tag and price the items. You may want to make arrangements to have someone else deliver your donations. No donations will be accepted before or after this period.

Table Chair – Diane Stiller dianestiller@sbcglobal.net Each hostess will choose the theme for their table. We will also maintain a waiting list for guests who would be able to come at the last minute. Please email the names of your guests to Diane **no later than March 1st** so name tags can be printed. **A check made payable to the Village of Decorative Painters** for the guests at your table will be due **no later than March 1st**. Please mail the check to Diane Stiller, 674 W. Canfield St., Detroit MI 48201.

All tables are 68" diameter and will seat up to 11. A white fabric tablecloth and napkins will be on each table. Over-layer colored tablecloths look wonderful on the tables if you would like to bring your own. White or Sea Foam green napkins are available.

1. It will be a sit-down, served lunch.
2. As a hostess, the minimum requirement is that you must have a painted centerpiece and /or favors. The centerpiece will be raffled off at the end of the luncheon for the guests at your table. Please provide a favor to each of the guests at your table. The favor can be a purchased item or something hand-painted. Only dry snacks in your own containers can be brought in. You can create any design and get as detailed or elaborate as you wish. It is an awesome sight to see each different table. Let your imagination run wild!
3. Being a hostess for your table entitles you to 10 pence and a free admission.
4. Each hostess for a table will be responsible for inviting anyone she wishes. If you do not fill your table, overflow guests or Village members will be added. Please be sure to email Diane to keep her advised of the needs of your guests. Minimum of 10 guests per table. Please be sure to make 10 favors for all guests seated at the table.
5. Each guest will receive one free ticket for the basket raffle. Obviously they will have more chances to win by purchasing additional Basket Raffle tickets which will be sold before the luncheon begins. Basket Raffle tickets will be sold for \$10 with 11 ticket stubs. Let your guests know that they can pay in cash or check made out to Village of Decorative Painters. **We cannot accept credit cards for Basket and 52-Card raffle tickets.**
6. VISA and Mastercard credit cards will be accepted for purchases of a minimum of \$20 for Boutique and Silent/Live Auctions.

2025 DUE DATES



Boutique Items: Starting on March 24 on scheduled dates at Linda's home

Theme Baskets and Charity Basket items: No later than the February Member meeting

Guests Names and Luncheon Ticket Money: March 1st or earlier

Silent Auction: No later than the February Member meeting

Live Auction: No later than the February Member meeting

52 Card Raffle: No later than the February Member meeting

Spring Fling

There will be a **Boutique Paint-In** at Sally Thirjung's house located in Canton. It is on Saturday, September 21, from 10 am – 2 pm. Bring your own patterns, surfaces and paints. Sally will provide something for us to eat. Email Diane Stiller if you would like to come; there's still room to fit more people. We would love to have you there!

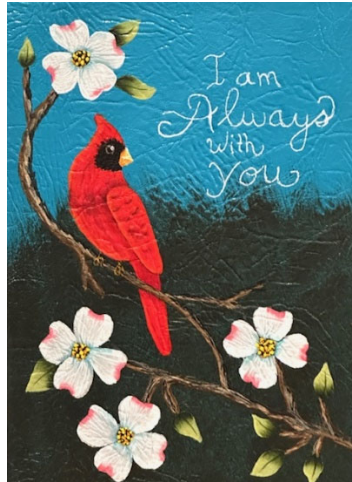
At every meeting Barb Reinholz will be collecting items for the **Charity basket**. Likewise, Karen Capshaw will be collecting items for the **Kitchen basket**. The theme for the Charity basket is *Wings in My Garden*. Pat Helwig is accepting **Silent Auction** items to store at her house and Diane Stiller likewise for **Live Auction and 52-Card Raffle**. So if you have finished painting your items and would like to make some room in your house, please bring them to the meeting. Just a reminder that items for the **Boutique will be collected in March due to storage issues**. Read the **Spring Fling Announcement** for more details

Scrapbook Memories

Holiday Party: A Cardinal Christmas at Mama Mia's

Chaired by Darlene Greenwood and Denise Robert

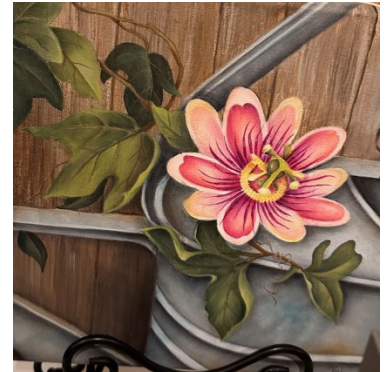
Centerpieces



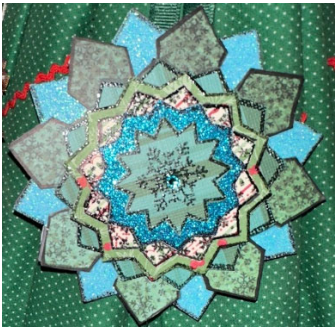
Pence Raffle







Ornament Exchange



Village of Decorative Painters

Membership Application for January 1 – December 31, 2025

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, 2024.

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 _____